

2020



drishti

CURRENT AFFAIRS

WEEKLY PRACTICE QUESTIONS

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1. Consider the following pairs:

Pass	State
1. Naku La	Arunachal Pradesh
2. Shipki La	Himachal Pradesh
3. Mana Pass	Uttarakhand

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

- 1 and 2 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

Answer- (b)

Explanation:

Pass	State
1. Naku La	Sikkim
2. Shipki La	Himachal Pradesh
3. Mana Pass	Uttarakhand

Hence, Option (b) is correct.

2. Consider the following statements:

- The Kali river is an example of antecedent drainage pattern.
- It joins Ghagra river in Uttar Pradesh, which is a tributary of Ganga.
- Tanakpur hydro-electric project is constructed on the Kali River.

Select the correct answer using code given below:

- 1 and 2 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

Answer- (d)

Explanation:

- The Rivers that existed before the upheaval of the Himalayas and cut their courses southward by making gorges in the mountains are known as the antecedent rivers.
- Kali is an antecedent river. **Hence, Statement 1 is correct.**
- It is also known as Sharda river or Kali Ganga in Uttarakhand.
- It joins Ghagra river in Uttar Pradesh, which is a tributary of Ganga. **Hence, Statement 2 is correct.**
- River Projects:** Tanakpur hydro-electric project, Chameliya hydro-electric project, Sharda Barrage. **Hence, Statement 3 is correct.**

3. With reference to 'Geographical Indication Status', consider the following statements:

1. It is a part of the World Trade Organisation's Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS).
2. The Geographical Indications Registry is located in New Delhi.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer- (a)

Explanation:

Geographical Indication Status

- GI is an indication used to identify goods having special characteristics originating from a definite geographical territory.
- The Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999 seeks to provide for the registration and better protection of geographical indications relating to goods in India.
 - The Act is administered by the Controller General of Patents, Designs and TradeMarks, who is the Registrar of Geographical Indications.
 - The **Geographical Indications Registry is located at Chennai.**
Hence, Statement 2 is not correct.
- It is also a part of the World Trade Organisation's Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS). **Hence, Statement 1 is correct.**

4. Consider the following statements:

1. Population of Gharials is a good indicator of clean river water.
2. Gharials are listed under Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
3. Gharials are vulnerable in the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List of Species.

Select the correct answer using code given below:

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 1 and 3 only
- c. 2 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

Answer- (a)

Explanation:

Gharials

- Gharials are a type of Crocodylians that also include crocodiles, alligators, caimans, etc. India has three species of Crocodylians namely:

- Gharial (*Gavialis gangeticus*): International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)- Critically Endangered.
- Mugger crocodile (*Crocodylus palustris*): IUCN- Vulnerable
- Saltwater crocodile (*Crocodylus porosus*): IUCN- Least Concern
- Population of Gharials is a good indicator of clean river water. **Hence , Statement 1 is correct.**
- **Status:** Gharials are **critically endangered** in the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List of Species. **Hence , Statement 3 is not correct.**
 - Listed under Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
Hence, Statement 2 is correct.

5. With reference to ‘GOAL Programme’ consider the following statements:
1. GOAL is a joint initiative of Google and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
 2. It focuses on digital literacy, life skills and leadership and entrepreneurship.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer- (b)

Explanation:

- **“GOAL (Going Online As Leaders)”** programme is a joint initiative of **Facebook** and the **Ministry of Tribal Affairs**. **Hence, Statement 1 is not correct.**
- The GOAL programme is designed to provide **mentorship to tribal youth through digital mode.**
- The program will focus on **three core areas** - Digital Literacy, Life Skills and Leadership and Entrepreneurship. **Hence, Statement 2 is correct.**
- **All the mentees will be provided with smartphones and Internet access (for one year) by Facebook** along with exposure to various external forums that will give opportunity to the participants to showcase their entrepreneurial skills and leadership abilities.

6. Consider the following statements:
1. Under the Sagarmala Project, India seeks to deepen economic and security cooperation with its maritime neighbours.
 2. Under SAGAR initiative, India aims at holistic port infrastructure development along its coastline.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only

- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- Sagarmala project aims at holistic port infrastructure development along the 7,500-km long coastline through modernisation, mechanisation and computerisation. **Hence, Statement 1 is not correct.**
- Through SAGAR, India seeks to deepen economic and security cooperation with its maritime neighbours and assist in building their maritime security capabilities. **Hence, Statement 2 is not correct.**

7. With reference to the Ultraviolet radiations, consider the following statements:

1. They can be classified into UV-A, UV-B and UV-C rays according to their wavelength.
2. UV radiation is more harmful when their wavelength is longer.
3. UV-C is not absorbed by the Earth's atmosphere.

Which of the statements given above is/are **NOT** correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 1 and 2 only
- c. 2 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- Ultraviolet (UV) radiation's full spectrum is sourced from the sun and can be classified into UV-A, UV-B and UV-C rays according to their wavelength. **Hence, Statement 1 is correct.**
- The UV radiations are more harmful when the wavelength is shorter. **Hence, Statement 2 is not correct.**
- UV-C is completely absorbed by the Earth's atmosphere and does not reach the Earth's surface. **Hence, Statement 3 is not correct.**

8. Consider the following statements with reference to e-NAM:

1. It has an objective to create a unified national market for agricultural commodities.
2. Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC) is implementing e-NAM.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- e-NAM was launched with the objective of integrating the existing Mandis to “One Nation One Market” for agricultural commodities in India. **Hence, Statement 1 is correct.**
- Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC) is the lead agency for implementing e-NAM. **Hence, Statement 2 is correct.**

9. Consider the following statements regarding Atal Pension Yojana:
1. It addresses old age income security among the workers in the organised sector.
 2. It is open to all bank account holders who are not members of any statutory social security scheme.
 3. It is administered by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1, 2 and 3 only
- d. 3 only

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- Atal Pension Yojana (APY) launched in 2015 addresses the old age income security of the working poor and the longevity risks among the workers in the unorganised sector. **Hence, Statement 1 is incorrect.**
- It is open to all bank account holders who are not members of any statutory social security scheme. **Hence, Statement 2 is correct.**
- It is administered by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority. **Hence, Statement 3 is correct.**

10. With reference to the ‘Central Insecticides Board’, consider the following statements:

1. It is a statutory body under the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers.
2. To import or manufacture any insecticide, registration is required at the Board.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- Central Insecticides Board is a statutory body under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. **Hence, Statement 1 is not correct.**
- To import or manufacture any insecticide, registration is required at the Registration Committee set up under the Insecticides Act, 1968. **Hence, Statement 2 is not correct.**

11. With reference to the 'Energy Efficiency Services Limited', consider the following Statements:

1. It is a joint venture of Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.
2. It implements the Smart Meter National Programme.

Which of the Statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- The **Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL)** is a joint venture of Public Sector Undertakings under the **Ministry of Power**. **Hence, Statement 1 is not correct.**
- The Smart Meter National Programme is being implemented by the EESL. **Hence, Statement 2 is correct.**

12. With reference to Operation Greens, consider the following Statements:

1. It focuses on organized marketing of Tomatoes, Onions and Potatoes only.
2. It provides subsidy on the transportation and storage of the produce.
3. It is based on the lines of Operation Flood.

Which of the Statements given above is/are NOT correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. 2 and 3 only
- d. 1 and 3 only

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- It focused on organized marketing of Tomatoes, Onions and Potatoes (TOP vegetables) but now has been extended to all vegetables and fruits. **Hence, Statement 1 is not correct.**
- Apart from price fixation, it also provides subsidy on the transportation and the storage of the vegetables and fruits. **Hence, Statement 2 is correct.**

- It is based on the lines of Operation Flood (also known as white revolution) which aimed to create a nationwide milk grid and raise milk production in the country. **Hence, Statement 3 is correct.**

13. Consider the following statements:

1. Under the Strict Liability Principle, a party/company in a hazardous industry has to mandatorily pay compensation, whether or not the disaster was caused by its negligence.
2. Under the Absolute Liability Principle, a party/company is not liable and need not pay compensation if a hazardous substance escapes its premises by accident.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- Under the Strict **Liability Principle**, a party/company is **not liable** and **need not pay compensation** if a hazardous substance escapes its premises **by accident** or by an ‘**act of God**’ (**Force Majeure**) among other circumstances. **Hence, Statement 1 is not correct.**
- Under the **Absolute Liability Principle**, a party/company in a hazardous industry **cannot claim any exemption**. It has to **mandatorily pay compensation**, whether or not the disaster was caused by its negligence. **Hence, Statement 2 is not correct.**

14. Energy Transition Index is published by which of the following?

- a. United Nations Environment Programme
- b. World Economic Forum
- c. International Atomic Energy Agency
- d. NITI Aayog

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Recently, the World Economic Forum (WEF) has released the annual rankings of the global Energy Transition Index.

15. Which of the following countries is NOT a member of Indian Ocean Commission?

- a. Comoros
- b. Madagascar
- c. Seychelles
- d. India

Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- The **Indian Ocean Commission** is an intergovernmental organization that links African Indian Ocean nations:
 - Comoros,
 - Madagascar,
 - Mauritius,
 - Réunion (an overseas region of France), and
 - Seychelles.
- There are also six observers: China, **India**, Japan, the Sovereign Order of Malta, the European Union and the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie.
- **India** is not a member but an **observer** state.
Hence, Option (d) is correct.

16. Consider the following statements about Gopal Krishna Gokhale:

1. Gokhale played a key role in framing the Morley-Minto reforms of 1909.
2. He was associated with the Sarvajanik Sabha journal started by Govind Ranade.
3. He started English weekly newspaper, The Hitavada.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 3 only
- d. All of the above

Answer- (d)

Explanation:

- At the Imperial legislature, Gokhale played a key role in framing the Morley-Minto reforms of 1909. **Hence, Statement 1 is correct.**
- He established the **Servants of India Society** in 1905 for the expansion of Indian education.
- He was also associated with the **Sarvajanik Sabha** journal started by **Govind Ranade**. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- In 1908, Gokhale founded the Ranade Institute of Economics.
- He started English weekly newspaper, The Hitavada (The people's paper). Hence, Statement 3 is correct

17. Consider the following statements regarding Registrar General of India:
1. Registrar General of India was founded in 1961 by the Government of India under the Ministry of Culture.
 2. It arranges, conducts and analyses the results of the demographic surveys of India including Census of India and Linguistic Survey of India.
 3. The position of Registrar is usually held by a retired High Court Judge.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 2 only
- d. All of the above

Answer- (c)

Explanation:

- Registrar General of India was founded in 1961 by the Government of India under the **Ministry of Home Affairs**. Hence, **Statement 1 is incorrect**.
- It arranges, conducts and analyses the results of the demographic surveys of India including **Census of India and Linguistic Survey of India**. Hence **Statement 2 is correct**.
- The position of Registrar is usually held by a civil servant holding the rank of Joint Secretary. Hence **statement 3 is incorrect**.

18. Consider the following statements about Sal Forest Tortoise:

1. It is widely distributed over western as well as southern India and Southeast Asia.
2. Its IUCN Red List status is Critically Endangered.
3. A recent study by ecologists in the Wildlife Institute of India (Dehradun), have found that over 90% of the potential distribution of the Sal forest tortoise falls outside the current protected area's network.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 3 only
- b. 2 only
- c. 2 and 3 only
- d. All of the above

Answer- (c)

Explanation:

- Sal Forest Tortoise is also known as the **elongated tortoise (Indotestudo elongata)**.
- **Habitat:** It is widely distributed over **eastern as well as northern India and Southeast Asia**. Hence, **Statement 1 is incorrect**

- **IUCN Red List:** Critically Endangered. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- A recent study by ecologists in the Wildlife Institute of India (Dehradun), finds that over **90% of the potential distribution of the Sal forest tortoise falls outside the current protected area's network.** Hence, **statement 3 is correct.**

19. Consider the following statement:

1. Recently Telangana's Sohrai Khovar paintings have been given the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
2. It is being practised by local tribal women during local harvest and marriage seasons using local, naturally available soils of different colours.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer- (b)

Explanation:

- Recently, **Jharkhand's Sohrai Khovar paintings** have been given the Geographical Indication (GI) tag. **Hence, Statement 1 is incorrect**
- It is being practised by local tribal women during local harvest and marriage seasons using **local, naturally available soils of different colours** in the area of **Hazaribagh district of Jharkhand.** Hence, **Statement 2 is correct.**

20. CHAMPIONS portal has been launched by which of the following?

- a. Ministry of Consumer Affairs
- b. Ministry of MSME
- c. NITI AAYOG
- d. Jal Shakti Ministry

Answer(b)

Explanation:

- Recently, the **Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME)** has launched **CHAMPIONS portal.**The CHAMPIONS stands here for **Creation and Harmonious Application of Modern Processes for Increasing the Output and National Strength.**

Mains Questions:

1. “If the global community has to come out stronger in the face of any crisis, there is a need to establish a multilateral global order”. Evaluate.
2. Self reliance is the key to a robust and shock free economic system. Critically analyse the significance of Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan (or Self-reliant India Mission)’ in wake of Covid 19 Pandemic to stimulate the Indian economy.



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