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DAILY QUIZ

JUNE & JULY 2016

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1. The provisions in the Constitution that relate to establishing India as a secular state have been made in
1. Preamble
2. Directive Principles of State Policy
3. Fundamental Rights
4. Fundamental Duties

Select the correct answer using the code given below

(a) 1 and 3 Only
(b) 1, 2 and 4 Only
(c) 1, 2 and 3 Only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Solution: d

The term ‘secular’ is present in the Preamble. Articles 25 to 28 (Fundamental Rights) relate to Secularism. Article 44 is the Uniform Civil Code.

Article 51A (e) states, “to promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India transcending religious, linguistic and regional or sectional diversities; to renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women;”

2. Consider the following statements:
1. His book of travels was called ‘Rihla’
2. He suggested that social divisions were not unique to India, but the concept of social pollution according to him was contrary to the laws of nature
3. He frequently compared what he saw in India with the situation in Morocco

Which of the statements above is/are correct with reference to the traveller Ibn Battuta?

(a) 1 Only
(b) 1 and 2 Only
(c) 1 and 3 Only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Solution: a.

“A traveller from a distant land in mashriq-al-aqsa comes to Maghrib-al Aqsa and marvels at his good fortune. His sense of history quickly reminds him that centuries earlier a great name from this land had travelled to India and recorded in some detail his impressions about the governance, manner and customs of Indians. He attained high office and also had his share of minor misfortunes. I refer, of course, to Sheikh Abdullah Mohammad ibn Abdullah ibn Mohammad ibn Ibralim al Lawati, better known as Ibn Batuta of Tanja.”

Statement 2 refers to Al-Biruni. And Francois Bernier was far more preoccupied with comparing and contrasting what he saw in India with the situation in Europe in general and France in particular, focusing on situations which he considered depressing. Ibn Battuta did not frequently compare the situation in India with Morocco.

http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=145847
3. Which of the following statements with reference to the traveler Al-Biruni is/are incorrect?

(a) He depended almost exclusively on the works of Brahmanas
(b) His work ‘Kitab-ul-Hind’ highlighted the differences between Indian and other cultures and was careful enough ‘to relate, not criticize’
(c) He adopted a distinctive structure in each chapter, beginning with a question and following this up with a description based on Sanskritic traditions
(d) He was appointed qazi or judge of Delhi by the Sultan of Delhi, Muhammad bin Tughlaq

Solution: d.

“Alberuni, who studied India and Indians more thoroughly than most, produced a virtual encyclopedia on religion, rituals, manners and customs, philosophy, mathematics and astronomy. He commenced his great work by highlighting differences, but was careful enough ‘to relate, not criticize’.

Ibn Battuta was appointed qazi or judge of Delhi by the Sultan of Delhi, Muhammad bin Tughlaq.

4. With reference to ‘Citrus Indica’ or the Indian Wild Orange, recently seen in the news, which of the following statements is/are incorrect?

1. It is also known as ‘Arunachal Orange’
2. It has been accorded the Geographical Indication tag
3. The species is considered to be the ancestor of all cultivated citrus fruits in the world

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 2 and 3 Only
(b) 1 and 2 Only
(c) 1 and 3 Only
(d) 1 Only

Solution: b.

It does not have the GI status yet. “A rare, endemic and endangered species of wild citrus fruit having medicinal properties which was so far reported only from Meghalaya, has now been found in a remote village of Manipur. “The species is considered to be the most primitive and ancestors of all cultivated citrus fruits in the world and endemic to north-east India. Earlier the species was reported only from Nokrek Biosphere Reserve in the Garo Hills of Meghalaya,” said lead researcher and environmentalist R K Birjit Singh. The species is known to local villagers as ‘Biurengthai’ and is known to have medicinal properties.”

http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=145847

Page 22, ‘LIFE’ page, the Hindu, 1st June 2016
5. With reference to the recently released National Disaster Management Plan (NDMP), consider the following statements:

1. This is the first ever national plan prepared in the country
2. The plan is based on the four priority themes outlined in the “Sendai Framework”

Which of the statements above is/are correct?

(a) 1 Only
(b) 2 Only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: c.

“Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi today released the National Disaster Management Plan (NDMP). This is the first ever national plan prepared in the country. It aims to make India disaster resilient and significantly reduce the loss of lives and assets. The plan is based on the four priority themes of the “Sendai Framework,” namely: understanding disaster risk, improving disaster risk governance, investing in disaster risk reduction (through structural and non-structural measures) and disaster preparedness, early warning and building back better in the aftermath of a disaster.”
1. This year’s theme of the World Environment Day is
   (a) Seven Billion Dreams; One Planet; Consume with Care
   (b) One World, One Environment
   (c) Go Wild for Life
   (d) Small Islands and Climate Change

   Solution: c.

   http://www.wed2016.com
   http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?reid=145985

2. Consider the following pairs:

   Tiger Reserve – State
   1. Bandhavgarh – Maharashtra
   2. Kanha – Madhya Pradesh
   3. Achanakmar – Chattisgarh

   Which of the pairs above is/are incorrectly matched?

   (a) 1 only
   (b) 1 and 2 only
   (c) 2 and 3 only
   (d) 1 and 3 only

   Solution: a.

   Bandhavgarh – Madhya Pradesh

   https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tiger_reserves_of_India#List_of_Tiger_reserves_in_India
   http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?reid=145983

3. Consider the following statements:
   1. Akbar visited it fourteen times
   2. Muhammad bin Tughlaq (14th Century) was the first Sultan to visit it
   3. It was located on the trade route linking Delhi and Gujarat

   The statements above refer to the Dargah of which of the following Sufi Saints, who was also known as “Gharib Nawaz”?

   (a) Shaikh Nizamuddin Auliya
   (b) Khwaja Muinuddin Chishti
   (c) Shaikh Nasiruddin Chiragh-i Delhi
   (d) Qutbuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki

   Solution: b.

   “Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti, the first of the Chishti saints in India, said that human beings must have the affection of the sun, the generosity of the river and the hospitality of the earth. He not only had the magnificent landscape of his ancestral land in mind, he could also be describing the Afghan people.”

   Bhakti and Sufi Traditions, History Class XII NCERT

   Improvisation:
   http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?reid=145970

4. For the first time, under the impetus of the Indian Space Research Organisation and which other nation’s space organisation, space agencies of more than 60 countries agreed to engage their satellites to coordinate their methods and data to
monitor human-induced greenhouse gas emissions?

(a) French Space Agency (CNES)
(b) National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
(c) Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)
(d) Russian Federal Space Agency (Roscosmos)

Solution: a.

“The key to effectively implementing the Paris Agreement lies in the ability to verify that nations are fulfilling their commitments to curb greenhouse gas emissions. Only satellites can do that. Invited to New Delhi by ISRO and CNES on April 3, 2016, the world’s space agencies decided to establish “an independent, international system” to centralise data from their Earth-observing satellites through the ‘New Delhi Declaration’ that officially came into effect on May 16, 2016.”

http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=145974

5. Which of the following statements about the security forum Shangri-La Dialogue is/are incorrect?

1. It is a “Track One” inter-governmental security forum
2. It is held annually by an independent think tank, the International Institute for Strategic Studies

Select the correct answer using codes given below:

(a) A and R both are true, and R is the correct explanation for A
(b) A and R both are true, and R is the NOT the correct explanation for A
(c) A is correct, R is incorrect
(d) A is incorrect, R is correct

Solution: d.


http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=145975

6. With reference to the ‘High Risk Area’ (HRA) in the Indian Ocean, consider the following statements:

Assertion (A): Additional War Risk Premiums imposed by Insurance providers on vessels carrying Indian EXIM (export-import) along the west coast has reduced, resulting in lower costs to consumers

Reason (R): International Chamber of Shipping and other international bodies agreed to push back the HRA from 78° W longitude to the to the 65° W longitude

Select the correct answer using codes given below:

(a) A and R both are true, and R is the correct explanation for A
(b) A and R both are true, and R is the NOT the correct explanation for A
(c) A is correct, R is incorrect
(d) A is incorrect, R is correct
Solution: c.

Question being repeated.

India lies in the Eastern Hemisphere. International Chamber of Shipping and other international bodies agreed to shift the HRA from $78^\circ \text{E}$ longitude to the to the $65^\circ \text{E}$ longitude.

http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=145976

7. What are some of the challenges that the India Post Payments Bank would have to overcome in order for it to run successfully?

1. Lack of experience of staff in handling insurance products
2. Inadequate presence to target the vast unbanked population in rural areas
3. Inadequate experience in the domestic remittance business

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 Only
(c) 3 Only
(d) None of the above

Solution: a.

“The business correspondents model has not worked well and banks simply do not have the kind of presence required to target the vast unbanked population in the rural areas and even urban poor. However, India Post with its vast network of more than 1.5 lakh offices, 90 per cent of which are in rural areas, can aid in financial inclusion. This should be compared with about 1.05 lakh branches of all the banks in the country. Further India Post is a significant player in the domestic remittance business with experience in managing small savings deposits. The staff need extensive training in handling these products – especially insurance and pension products – as they are different from the current financial products in India Post’s portfolio.”


8. In the International Banking landscape, what does the term ‘SWIFT’ – sometimes seen in the news – imply?

(a) A Bank for International Settlements (BIS) programme to help member country–banks improve the quality and speed of Credit Appraisal Procedures
(b) A messaging network that financial institutions use to securely transmit information and instructions
(c) A model policy of the International Monetary Fund which provides guidelines on processes for loan recovery
(d) None of the above

Solution: b.

“The cyber theft from Bangladesh’s central bank – and recent disclosures of other similar fraud attempts – have brought scrutiny on the SWIFT messaging system. SWIFT is a cooperative of global banks formally known as the Society for
Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication, and its transaction system was used as a conduit for one of the largest cyber bank heists in history.”

“SWIFT stands for the Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunications. It is a messaging network that financial institutions use to securely transmit information and instructions through a standardized system of codes.”

Page 16, Business Page, The Hindu

10. Consider the following pairs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>River</th>
<th>Originating Glacier</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Alakananda</td>
<td>Gaumukh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Satluj</td>
<td>Chemayungdung</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Yamuna</td>
<td>Satopanth</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Which of the pairs above is/are correctly matched?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 2 only
(d) None of the above

Solution: d.

- Alakananda – Satopanth
- Brahmaputra – Chemayungdung
- Bhagirathi – Gaumukh
- Yamuna – Yamunotri
- Satluj – Rakas lake

Explanation same as for the previous question.

Improvisation:

http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/gangotri-glacier-retreated-by-3-km-in-two-centuries/article8691196.ece

9. Which of the following does a ‘Glacial Retreat’ imply?

(a) Lesser ice formation each year than its current rate of melting
(b) The intermittent depression-formations on a glacier, often seen in large glaciers
(c) More ice formation each year than its current rate of melting
(d) The intermittent mound-formations on a glacier, often seen in glaciers of young fold

Solution: a.

“Gaumukh, the snout of the Gangotri glacier, named after its shape like the mouth of a cow, has retreated by over 3 kilometres since 1817, says glaciologist Milap Chand Sharma of Jawaharlal Nehru University.”
11. The International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources has listed the Eurasian Otter (Lutra Lutra) as

(a) Endangered
(b) Critically Endangered
(c) Extinct in the Wild
(d) None of the above

Solution: d.

“Based on indirect evidences and ancient records, Eurasian Otter is believed to be found in the Himalay as and in some parts of the Western Ghats. These records of the Eurasian otter from the Satpura Tiger Reserve and Kanha-Pench Corridor not only extends their geographical range to central India but also provides the first-ever photographic evidence of the species in India. The Eurasian otter has a wide distribution covering Europe, Africa and Asia. The species is listed as Near Threatened as per the IUCN Red List (2004, 2008).”


12. Consider the following list of species:
1. Eastern Gorilla
2. Himalayan Griffon
3. Long-billed Vulture (or Gyps Vulture)

Which of the above species is/are not listed as ‘Critically Endangered’ by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN)?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) None of the above

Solution: b.

You don’t have to remember option 1; this was a trick option which may have tricked you if you read about the Cincinnati Zoo case. You should, however, remember that the ‘Western Lowland Gorilla’, the species which was recently shot in the zoo (Click HERE), is a Critically Endangered species (Click HERE).

Himalayan Griffon is not a CE species, whereas the Gyps Vulture is.

http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=145965

13. The ‘Afghan-India Friendship Dam’ or Salma Dam, which was recently inaugurated, dams the river

(a) Kunar
(b) Hari Rud
(c) Pech
(d) Kabul

Solution: b.

“Afghan-India Friendship Dam is a Multipurpose project planned for generating 42 MW of power, irrigating 75000 hectares of land, water supply and other benefits to the people of
Afghanistan. Salma Dam is a landmark infrastructure project undertaken by Government of India on river Hari Rud, in Herat province of Afghanistan. The project was executed and implemented by WAPCOS Ltd., a Government of India Undertaking under Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.

http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=145967

14. The Long Range Forecast Update for the 2016 Southwest Monsoon Rainfall predicts rainfall over the country as a whole is most likely to be Above Normal. This means that the rainfall range – as a percentage of the Long Period Average – will be

(a) >110
(b) 100-104
(c) 96-104
(d) 104-110

Solution: d.

“The Forecast predicts rainfall over the country as a whole, for the 2016 southwest monsoon season (June to September), is most likely to be Above Normal (>104% to 110% of long period average (LPA)).”

See the Table: http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=145920

15. India has been a member of The ‘Clean Energy Ministerial’ or CEM since its inception. Which of the following CEM initiatives does India lead and/or support?

1. Solar and Wind
2. Super-Efficient Equipment and Appliance Deployment
3. 21st Century Power
4. Global Lighting Challenge

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 4 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Solution: c.

“Union Minister for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences, Dr. Harsh Vardhan led the Indian delegation at the 7th Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM7) and the Inaugural Mission Innovation Meet at San Francisco, held on 1st and 2nd of June, 2016. India has been a member of CEM since its inception and has joined 8 out of 13 CEM initiatives.” However, according to the CEM Website, there are 10 initiatives running at present of which India is a participant in 8, and leads/supports two of these 8.

http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=145930
16. Guiyang – the capital of Guizhou province of Southwest China – recently seen in the news, is

(a) China’s ‘Big Data’ hub
(b) An oasis town along the ancient Silk Road which houses hundreds of caves detailing the journey of Buddhism
(c) The starting point of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor
(d) Bengaluru’s sister city

Solution: a.

Several factors have gone Guiyang’s way to emerge as China’s ‘Big Data’ core. The climate here is mild, power is plentiful and cost of establishing businesses lower than in China’s more developed parts along the coast. Besides, the local government has been relentless in pushing the hi-tech industry.

The provincial economy has so far been dependent on the production of coal, fertilisers, tyres and the renowned Maotai liquor. “China is accumulating massive amount of hardware and on account of the proposed scale, major shortages of trained programmers are inevitable. That is where we, as digital trainers, come in,” says Kamal Dhuper, NIIT’s country head, in a conversation with The Hindu.

http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-international/indias-niit-to-train-50000-china-students-on-big-data/article8678909.ece

17. With reference to Birsa Munda, which of the following statements is/are incorrect?

1. His movement initially was aimed at urging the Mundas to give up drinking liquor and cleaning their villages
2. He saw Christian missionaries and Hindu landlords as outside forces that were ruining the Munda way of life
3. Birsa Munda has hitherto been depicted as an image of a youth in chains

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) None of the above

Solution: d.

“The Jharkhand government’s order that Birsa Munda should not hereafter be represented in chains is another instance of the BJP’s unnatural obsession with history. Munda, who led an Adivasi rebellion against the colonial administration in the 19th century, died in prison at age 25. His iconic image has been that of a youth in chains, raging against all forms of exploitation and urging his people to stand up and fight. It keeps alive a fiery memory and recalls the quest for freedom. Birsa in chains, in the context of modern Jharkhand and Adivasi iconography elsewhere, is a powerful and disturbing image that is representative of a people who have been failed by independent India.”

NCERT
18. With reference to The Hague Code of Conduct which India recently joined, which of the following statements is/are incorrect?

1. It is a legally non-binding multilateral body which calls for a ban on ballistic missiles that can deliver weapons of mass destruction
2. A ballistic missile is one whose trajectory is largely guided by gravity and friction

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 Only
(b) 2 Only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: a.

It is a legally non-binding multilateral body aimed at preventing the spread (and not calling for a ban) of ballistic missiles (What is a Ballistic Missile?) that can deliver weapons of mass destruction.

The HCOC (Click HERE) is the result of international efforts to regulate access to ballistic missiles which can potentially deliver weapons of mass destruction. The HCOC is the only multilateral code in the area of disarmament which has been adopted over the last years. It is the only normative instrument to verify the spread of ballistic missiles. The HCOC does not ban ballistic missiles, but it does call for restraint in their production, testing, and export.

19. Which of the following entities have not been granted “in-principle” approvals to set up payment banks by the Reserve Bank of India?

1. State Bank of India
2. Canara Bank
3. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited
4. India Post

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 4 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Solution: a.

RBI List

http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=145892
1. With reference to Tejas fighter jet, consider the following statements:
   1. It is solely developed by DRDO
   2. It is a Multi-Role Supersonic Fighter Aircraft
   3. It is inducted into the Indian Air Force
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 Only
(b) 2 and 3 Only
(c) 1 and 3 Only
(d) 3 Only

Solution: b)


India’s Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) together with its variants, is the smallest and lightest Multi-Role Supersonic Fighter Aircraft of its class. This single engine, Compound-Delta-Wing, Tailless Aircraft is designed and developed by ADA with HAL as the principal partner along with DRDO, CSIR, BEL, DGAQA, IAF & IN to meet diverse needs of the Indian Air Force (IAF) and Indian Navy (IN).

2. Triacetone triperoxide (TATP) was recently in news. Why?
   (a) It was used by ISIS to make improvised explosive device in recent Brussels attack
   (b) It was found in more than stipulated amount in breads used in McDonalds and Pizza stores
   (c) It was found in excessive amount in polluted water sources around Delhi
   (d) None of the above

Solution: a)

http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/chemicals-similar-to-brussels-bomb-seized-from-hyderabad-isis-suspects/article8794187.ece

TATP and the other explosive forms of acetone peroxide belong to the few high explosives that do not contain nitrogen, and so can pass undetected through explosive detection scanners designed to detect nitrogenous explosives. Because of its high susceptibility to accidental detonation (and resulting “workplace accidents” in bomb-making shops), TATP has been referred to as the “Mother of Satan.” It is used by terrorists for its ability to evade detection aimed at nitrogenous explosives, and due to its low cost and the ease with which its precursors can be obtained. It has been described in popular media as easily prepared from readily available retail ingredients, such as hair bleach and nail polish remover.

3. Recently, the World Bank announced $1 billion in support of India’s ambitious solar generation plans. With reference to this loan and the project, consider the following statements:
   1. The project will be implemented by the government of India
   2. It will be used to install 40 GW of Grid Connected Rooftop Solar Photovoltaic (GRPV) across India
   3. India is the largest recipient of loans from the World Bank in the world
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 3 Only
(b) 2 and 3 Only
(c) 2 Only
(d) All
Solution: b)


• It's implemented by SBI
• India is the largest recipient of loans from the World Bank, amounting to $102.1 billion, between 1945 and 2015 (as on July 21, 2015), according to the Bank’s lending report.

While the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), a part of the World Bank group, has lent $52.7 billion, the International Development Association (IDA), a multilateral concessional lender of World Bank, has loaned $49.4 billion to India over the last 70 years.

4. The Logistics Performance Index 2016 is prepared by
   (a) World Bank
   (b) WTO
   (c) UNDP
   (d) IMF

Solution: a)


India has improved its ranking in the World Bank Group’s bi-annual “Logistics Performance Index 2016”, jumping from 54th in 2014 to 35th in 2016. This was announced by the World Bank Group in its recent launch of the report. In the latest ranking India has gone past countries like New Zealand, Thailand, Saudi Arabia, Iceland, Latvia and Indonesia who were ahead of it in the index.

5. Amarnath Yatra for 2016 will be commenced from 2nd of July. According to legend, in which of the place did Shiva leave his Nandi (the Bull which He used to ride) and traveled to Amarnath cave?
   (a) Srinagar
   (b) Anantnag
   (c) Pahalgam
   (d) Dachigam

Solution: c)


http://www.shriamarnathji Shri Amarnathji Shrin m/the-holy-shrine.html

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amarnath_Temple#History

6. With reference to provisions of the Model Shops and Establishments (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Bill, 2016, consider the following statements:
   1. The women will be permitted during night shift
   2. The Bill aims at improving the working conditions of workers
   3. Its provisions will be implemented by the union government
   4. It allows malls to operate 24×7 for 365 days

Which of the above is/are correct?
   (a) 1, 2 and 3 Only
   (b) 2, 3 and 4 Only
   (c) 1, 3 and 4 Only
   (d) 1, 2 and 4 Only

Solution: d)

http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=146627
1. The Sri Rama Sagar Project, which is described as lifeline for a large part of Telangana, is constructed across which of the following rivers?
   
   (a) River Krishna  
   (b) River Godavari  
   (c) River Musi  
   (d) River Manira

Solution: b)

http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/14-gates-of-babli-project-lifted/article8799757.ece  
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sriram_Sagar_Project

2. Babli Project, which was in news recently, is a disputed project between which of the following two states?

   (a) Maharashtra and Karnataka  
   (b) Telangana and Karnataka  
   (c) Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh  
   (d) Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka

Solution: c)

http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/14-gates-of-babli-project-lifted/article8799757.ece

But it’s Telangana which will be affected most if Babli project gates are not opened during monsoon.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Babli_project

3. With reference to the Law Commission of India, consider the following statements:

1. It is created to reform laws in India  
2. Its default chairman is the retired Chief Justice of India appointed by the Government of India  
3. It acts as an advisory body to the Ministry of Law and Justice  
4. It’s established by a law passed by the Parliament

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

   (a) 1, 2 and 3 Only  
   (b) 1 and 3 Only  
   (c) 1, 3 and 4 Only  
   (d) All

Solution: b)

http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/law-panels-views-sought-on-uniform-civil-code/article8799007.ece

Law Commission of India is an executive body established by an order of the Government of India. Its major function is to work for legal reform. Its membership primarily comprises legal experts, who are entrusted a mandate by the Government. The Commission is established for a fixed tenure and works as an advisory body to the Ministry of Law and Justice.

Its chairman need not be Chief Justice of Supreme Court.

4. With reference to the Medium Range Surface to Air Missile (MRSAM) which was successfully launched recently by India, consider the following statements:

1. It is jointly developed by India and Israel  
2. It is also known as Barak 8
3. It is part of India’s air defence system

4. MRSAM is the navy version of air defence system

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(a) 1,2 and 3 Only
(b) 1 and 3 Only
(c) 1,3 and 4 Only
(d) All

Solution: a)

MRSAM is the land version and LRSAM (Long Range) is the navy version. Both are the variants of Barak 8.


http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/indias-air-defence-system-achieves-a-hattrick/article8799024.ece

5. India and Cyprus are poised to sign a new tax treaty which, like in the case of a similar pact with Mauritius. With reference to this new tax treaty, consider the following statements:

1. India will impose capital gains tax on companies investing in India from Cyprus
2. The treaty will be applicable to past investments too
3. New treaty will result in loss of tax revenue to Cyprus

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 3 Only
(b) 1 Only
(c) 1 and 2 Only
(d) All

Solution: b)

The treaty is basically the Double Taxation Agreement for the Avoidance of Double Taxation. Mauritius and Cyprus have almost zero taxation, hence they will not incur tax loss.

Treaty is not retrospective i.e. not applicable to past investments.

http://www.livemint.com/Politics/G9phzU0Otuelles1BKJ9Cav7I/After-Mauritius-Cyprus-set-to-ink-new-tax-treaty-with-India.html

Please read following article to understand this issue:

1. Recently, the Five hundred meter Aperture Spherical Telescope (FAST), became the world’s largest radio telescope built to explore space and help in looking for extraterrestrial life. It is built in which country/region?

(a) Chile
(b) Puerto Rico
(c) China
(d) Hawaii

Solution: c)


2. Juno, an unmanned NASA spacecraft, is sent to explore which of the following planets?

(a) Uranus
(b) Jupiter
(c) Neptune
(d) Venus

Solution: b)


http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/nasa-spacecraft-on-course-for-its-date-with-jupiter/article8806101.ece

3. Why the thinning of ozone was occurring mainly over Antarctica?

(a) Because of the extreme cold and large amounts of light that helped produce Polar Stratospheric Clouds
(b) Because of harmful gases released by experiments conducted by research stations in the region
(c) Because of harm done by covert military exercises conducted by superpowers during cold war period
(d) None of the above

Solution: a)


http://www.theozonehole.com/psc.htm

Polar stratospheric clouds help in creating conducive environment for chlorine radicals to act on ozone molecules.

4. Consider the following hints:

1. It is an island nation in the central Pacific Ocean made up of coral reefs and atolls
2. Its capital city is South Tarawa
3. Its 33 islands are spread over at the intersection of equator and 180 degree meridian
4. This island republic which gained freedom from UK, is threatened by rising sea levels

To which of the following countries does above description refer?

(a) Marshall Islands
(b) Nauru
(c) Tuvalu
(d) Kiribati

Solution: d) Kiribati


http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/nasa-spacecraft-on-course-for-its-date-with-jupiter/article8806101.ece
5. Recently India’s first insurance policy covering public liability to an atomic power plant operator has been issued to Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd (NPCIL). Which of the following insurance companies have issued this insurance?

(a) General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC re)
(b) National Insurance Co. Ltd.
(c) New India Assurance Company Ltd.
(d) United India Insurance Co. Ltd

Solution: c)

The insurance policy was issued by the country’s largest non-life insurer New India Assurance Company Ltd

Another important point: The Central government had announced in June 2015 the setting up of the Rs. 1,500-crore India Nuclear Insurance Pool to be managed by national reinsurer GIC Re

6. What is Batesian mimicry?

(a) It’s a form of biological resemblance mimicked by two dangerous predators to avoid their common predator

(b) It’s a form of biological resemblance mimicked by an harmless organism similar to its predator to avoid being preyed

7. Which of the following states is one only one in India to run paperless legislature sessions?

(a) Karnataka
(b) Himachal Pradesh
(c) Tamil Nadu
(d) Maharashtra

Solution: b)
1. Consider the following statements:

1. It is a country in Southeast Africa bordered by the Indian Ocean to the east, Tanzania to the north
2. Recently Indian government agreed to sign long term contract with this country to import pulses
3. The capital and largest city is Maputo

Which is this country?
(a) Madagascar
(b) Zambia
(c) Zimbabwe
(d) Mozambique

Solution: d)


2. The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its ‘in-principle’ approval for setting up India’s 13th Major port at Enayam near Colachel. It is located in which state?
(a) Telangana
(b) Kerala
(c) Tamil Nadu
(d) Karnataka

Solution: c)

http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/government-

3. Consider the following statements:

1. The Indian pharmaceutical industry is the largest supplier of cost effective generic medicines to the developed world
2. India is heavily dependent on countries like China for the raw materials used in the pharma products
3. India’s pharma products exports have moved ahead of China in all important markets such as US, European Union and Africa

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 Only
(b) 2 and 3 Only
(c) 1 and 3 Only
(d) All

Solution: d)

4. Recently, the National Highway connecting Rudraparayag-Joshimath-Mana Pass was subjected to numerous landslides due to cloudburst. Which is the National Highway that connects these important places?

(a) NH - 58
(b) NH - 44
(c) NH - 7
(d) NH - 5

Solution: a)

http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintReleas e.aspx?relid=146823

5. Cape Canaveral from where NASA has sent many space probes, is located in which US state?

(a) California
(b) Florida
(c) Maryland
(d) Georgia

Solution: b)


6. Who was the Minister for Industry and Supply in Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru’s first cabinet?

(a) Jawaharlal Nehru
(b) Baldev Singh
(c) Syama Prasad Mukherjee
(d) Jagjivan Ram

Solution: c)

He served as Minister for Industry and Supply in Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru’s cabinet. After falling out with Nehru, Mukherjee quit the Indian National Congress and founded the right wing nationalist Bharatiya Jana Sangh (which would later evolve into BJP) in 1951.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Nehru_ministry