



INSIGHTSIAS

SIMPLIFYING IAS EXAM PREPARATION

INSTA CURRENT AFFAIRS QUIZ QUESTIONS

DECEMBER 2020

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1. Economy

1. Consider the following statements regarding recent trend in India's external debt.

1. US dollar denominated debt continued to be the largest component of India's external debt.
2. Non-resident deposits remained the largest component of the external debt.
3. The long-term debt constitutes more than twice the short-term debt in total external debt.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 2, 3
- c) 1, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3

2. Consider the following statements regarding Anti-Dumping Duty.

1. An anti-dumping duty is a protectionist tariff that a domestic government imposes on foreign imports that it believes are priced below fair market value.

2. In India, Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR), under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry conducts anti-dumping investigations.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

3. Teaser loan, sometimes seen in news means

a) Loans which charge lower rates of interest in the first few years after which the rates are increased.

b) Loans provided to weaker sections of the society with interest rate below the repo rate.

c) Loans provided to high net worth individuals.

d) None of the above

4. Consider the following statements.

1. Recession is defined as a fall in the overall economic activity for two consecutive quarters accompanied by a decline in income, sales and employment.

2. India's economy has now formally entered into a technical recession.

3. Gross Value Added (GVA) data provides a measure of national income by looking at the value-added by different sectors of the economy.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3

5. Zombie firms, sometimes seen in news implies

a) Firms which earn sufficient profit to finance their debts

b) Firms which create more employment opportunities

c) Firms which are not able to cover their debt-servicing costs with current earnings.

d) Firms supported by the government without taxing on its profits

6. Which of the following are the functions of Banks Board Bureau (BBB)?

1. Improve the governance of Public Sector Banks.

2. Advise the government on top-level bank appointments.

3. Provide adequate capital to the Public Sector Banks to deal with bad loans.

Select the correct answer code:

- a) 1, 3
- b) 1, 2
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3

7. Consider the following statements regarding Special economic zones (SEZs) in India.

1. The SEZ Act 2005 envisages key role for the State Governments in Export Promotion and creation of related infrastructure in SEZs.

2. All laws of India are applicable in SEZs unless specifically exempted as per the SEZ Act/ Rules.

3. SEZs are exempted from Minimum Alternate tax (MAT).

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 3
- b) 2, 3
- c) 1, 2
- d) 1, 2, 3

8. Consider the following statements regarding Negative-yield bonds.

1. These are debt instruments that offer to pay the investor a maturity amount lower than the purchase price of the bond.

2. These are generally issued by central banks or governments.

3. Negative-yield bonds attract investments during times of stress and uncertainty as investors look to protect their capital from significant erosion.

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Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3

9. National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) hears appeals from the orders of

- 1. National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)
- 2. Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India
- 3. Competition Commission of India (CCI)

Select the correct answer code:

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3

10. Geographical Indication tags are typically given for

- 1. Agricultural products
- 2. Foodstuffs
- 3. Handicrafts
- 4. Industrial products
- 5. Wines and spirit drinks

Select the correct answer code:

- a) 1, 2, 3, 4
- b) 1, 2, 3, 5
- c) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- d) 1, 2, 4, 5

11. Consider the following statements.

1. Disinvestment involves Selling minority shares of Public Enterprises, to public or private entity.

2. When the government sells majority shares in a public sector entity, that is strategic disinvestment.

3. Under strategic disinvestment, the government transfers the ownership and control of a public sector entity to another public entity and the private sector is not involved here.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 3
- b) 1, 2
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1 only

12. Which of the following are considered as tax revenue for the Union Government?

- 1. Personal income tax
- 2. Excise Duty
- 3. Dividends on investments
- 4. Income through Spectrum Auctions

Select the correct answer code:

- a) 1, 2, 3
- b) 1, 3, 4
- c) 1, 2
- d) 1, 2, 4

13. Consider the following statements regarding Municipal Bonds.

1. A municipal bond is a kind of debt instrument where investors offer loans to local governments.

2. They are issued by civic bodies for specific projects and usually have a tenure of 10 years.

3. In India, Municipal bonds were introduced for the first time under the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) scheme.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 1, 2, 3

14. Consider the following statements regarding London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR).

1. The London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) is a benchmark interest rate at which major global banks lend to one another in the international interbank market for short-term loans.

2. It is managed by *European Central Bank* (ECB).

3. LIBOR will not be published any more after end-2021.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3

15. Consider the following statements regarding zero-coupon bond.

1. A zero-coupon bond is a debt security that not pay interest but instead trades at a deep discount, rendering a profit at maturity, when the bond is redeemed for its full-face value.

2. These are special types of bonds issued only by the Central government specifically to a particular institution.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

2. Ecology and Environment

1. Consider the following statements regarding Cyclones.

1. In the absence of warm sea surface conditions, cyclone will not intensify further while at sea.

2. The conditions favourable for the formation of consecutive cyclones in the Indian Ocean requires a gap of at least 1 week.

3. Upwelling is the process in which cooler waters from lower ocean surfaces are pushed towards upper ocean surfaces.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3

2. Consider the following statements.

1. As trees grow, they incorporate information about the environmental conditions they are living in in their annual growth rings.

2. Tree rings grow wider in years when soil moisture is high.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

3. Consider the following statements regarding Greater one-horned rhinoceros.

1. Greater one-horned rhinoceros is native to the Indian subcontinent.

2. It is listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List.

3. Kaziranga National Park has the highest density of Greater one-horned rhinos in the world.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3

4. In India, which of the following are considered as 'exotic wildlife species'

1. Animals named under Appendices I, II and III of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) of Wild Fauna and Flora.

2. Species from the Schedules of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

Select the correct answer code:

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

5. Consider the following statements regarding Wetlands.

1. In India, Wetlands are regulated under the *Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986*.

2. Wetlands International is an independent, not-for-profit, global organisation that works to sustain and restore wetlands and their resources for people and biodiversity.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

6. Consider the following statements regarding Global Tiger Initiative (GTI).

1. Global Tiger Initiative (GTI) is a global alliance of governments, international organizations, civil society, the conservation and scientific communities and the private sector, with the aim of working together to save wild tigers from extinction.

2. The initiative is led by all tiger range countries (TRCs).

3. The scope of GTI also includes Asiatic Lions.

4. World Bank is one of the founding partners of GTI.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2, 3, 4
- b) 1, 2, 4
- c) 1, 3, 4
- d) 1, 4

7. Consider the following statements.

1. Northern Lights, also known as aurora borealis, are witnessed only in the polar regions.

2. Auroras occur when charged particles ejected from the Sun's surface called the solar wind enter the Earth's atmosphere.

3. Solar flares can hamper flight operations, power grids and space exploration programmes.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3

8. Which of the following states in North-East India have Tiger Reserves.

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1. Assam
2. Nagaland
3. Arunachal Pradesh
4. Mizoram
5. Manipur

Select the correct answer code:

- a) 1, 3, 4
- b) 1, 2, 3, 4
- c) 1, 3, 4, 5
- d) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

9. Consider the following statements regarding Coalbed methane (CBM).

1. Coalbed methane like Shale gas is extracted directly from the rock that is the source of the gas.

2. CBM can be used for power generation, as compressed natural gas (CNG) auto fuel and as feedstock for fertilisers.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

10. The minimum or night time temperature in New Delhi dropped to 4.1 degrees Celsius recently. Which of the following factors can lead to a dip in the temperature in Delhi and surrounding areas?

1. Snowfall in the Western Himalayan range
2. Active Western Disturbances
3. Intensive cloud cover
4. Active La Niña climate pattern

Select the correct answer code:

- a) 1, 2, 3
- b) 1, 3, 4
- c) 1, 2, 4
- d) 1, 2, 3, 4

11. Consider the following statements regarding Himalayan serow, recently seen in news

1. Himalayan serow is described as resembling a cross between a goat, a donkey, a cow, and a pig.

2. It is restricted to the Himalayan region.

3. It is listed under Schedule V of The

Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 1 only
- d) 2, 3

12. Consider the following statements regarding Meteor shower.

1. A series of meteorites, when encountered at once, is termed a meteor shower.

2. Meteor showers are witnessed when Earth passes through the trail of debris left behind by a comet or an asteroid.

3. According to NASA, meteor shower is a very rare event which happens once in 100 years. Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 3
- b) 2, 3
- c) 1, 2
- d) 1, 2, 3

13. Consider the following statements regarding 'Zombie fires' recently seen in news

1. A zombie fire is a fire that continues to burn underground and then reignites on the surface after a period of time.

2. It burrow deep in organic soils such as peat lands.

3. There are evidences of zombie fires scattered across the Arctic region.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3

14. Consider the following statements regarding Keoladeo National Park.

1. Keoladeo National Park is a famous avifauna sanctuary that hosts thousands of birds, especially during the winter season.

2. It is a natural wetland and also a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

3. It is located in the middle of Central Asian migratory flyway.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3

15. Zero Mass Water, sometimes in news is related to

- a) Converting human waste into water and other by-products
- b) Purifying seawater using renewable energy
- c) Creating potable drinking water from the atmosphere
- d) Purifying rainwater for drinking

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16. Consider the following statements.

1. Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) tracks countries' efforts to combat climate change and is published annually by UNEP.

2. UNFCCC can impose penalty if a country fails to meet Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Climate Pact.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

17. Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) and Forest Investment Program (FIP) are the initiatives by

- a) UN Environment
- b) World Bank
- c) United Nations Development Programme
- d) Food and Agriculture Organisation

18. Apart from Teesta, India and Bangladesh have been engaged in discussions to share the water of which of these rivers?

- 1. Muhuri
- 2. Khowai
- 3. Gomti
- 4. Dharla

Select the correct answer code:

- a) 1, 2, 3
- b) 1, 3, 4
- c) 2, 3, 4
- d) 1, 2, 3, 4

19. Which of the following rivers originate outside the Indian Territory?

- 1. Brahmaputra
- 2. Sutlej
- 3. Chenab
- 4. Ravi

Select the correct answer code:

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3, 4
- c) 1, 2, 3
- d) 3, 4

20. Consider the following statements.

1. Developing an inventory of exotic live species by India will ensure better compliance under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

2. Recently Supreme Court ordered an investigation and prosecution if one declared illegal acquisition or possession of exotic wildlife species.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

21. Consider the following statements.

1. Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) is an international agreement between governments to ensure that international trade in wild animals, birds and plants does not endanger them.

2. Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) enforces anti-smuggling laws in India.

3. Government launched PARIVESH portal for Affordable Credit and Interest Subvention Access.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 1 only
- d) 1, 2, 3

22. Consider the following statements.

1. In the last two years, more than 50% of all the rice and wheat procured by government agencies came from three States – Punjab, Haryana and Madhya Pradesh.

2. The carbon footprint for Rice is higher than that of wheat.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

23. Consider the following statements regarding Conjunction related to Solar System.

1. Conjunction is the name given to any event where planets or asteroids appear to be very close together in the sky when viewed from the Earth.

2. Conjunction always coincides with the winter solstice or the summer solstice.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

24. Consider the following statements.

1. Maitri and Himadri are two Indian permanent stations in Antarctica.

2. National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR) is the nodal agency for India's scientific expeditions in Antarctica and the Arctic.

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Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

25. Consider the following statements regarding Ammonia.

1. Ammonia can be stored both in liquid and gaseous form.
2. Ammonia is highly soluble in water, and is found in soil and air.
3. It is naturally present in the human body and secreted by the kidneys to neutralise excess acid.
4. Ammonia is critical in the manufacturing of fertilizers, and is one of the largest-volume synthetic chemicals produced in the world.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2, 3
- b) 1, 3, 4
- c) 2, 3, 4
- d) 1, 2, 3, 4

26. Consider the following statements regarding Climate emergency declarations.

1. In declaring a climate emergency, a government admits that climate change exists and that the measures taken up to this point are not enough to limit the changes brought by it.
2. Climate Emergency Declarations are based on the guidelines of UNFCCC.
3. Recently India declared Climate Emergency.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

27. Consider the following statements regarding Wetlands International.

1. Wetlands International is the only global not-for-profit organisation dedicated to the conservation and restoration of wetlands.
2. It has been an observer in the UN Environment Programme.
3. It Promotes the protection of wetlands along the flyway routes of migratory waterbirds.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 3 only

28. Consider the following statements regarding Green Climate Fund (GCF).

1. The Green Climate Fund (GCF) is the world's largest dedicated fund helping developing countries reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and enhance their ability to respond to climate change.
2. It was set up by the World Bank.
3. The Fund pays particular attention to the needs of societies that are highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change, in particular Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Small Island Developing States (SIDS), and African States.
4. The entire support through GCF mechanism is through grants and the countries are not required to pay back.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2, 3
- b) 1, 3
- c) 1, 3, 4
- d) 1, 2, 3, 4

29. Consider the following statements regarding Icebergs.

1. An iceberg is a large piece of freshwater ice that has broken off a glacier or an ice shelf and is floating freely in open water.
2. The ocean currents does not influence the movement of icebergs.
3. Icebergs carry dust which fertilises ocean plankton.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1 only

30. Consider the following statements regarding Rare Earth elements.

1. Rare Earth elements are not radioactive in nature.
2. These elements are used in clean energy, healthcare, environmental mitigation, and national defence.
3. China's Rare Earths deposits account for 80% of identified global reserves.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3

31. Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary, recently seen in news is located in

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Gujarat

- c) Uttarakhand
- d) Andhra Pradesh

32. Consider the following statements regarding transgenic crop.

1. In India, Bt cotton was the first transgenic crop used for commercial cultivation.
2. Transgenic crops are more toxic and always proliferate in the environment.
3. In India, transgenic crops are regulated under Environment Protection Act, 1986 and Seed Policy, 2002.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1 only

3. Government Schemes and Programmes

1. National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) is an investment vehicle that can fund in which of the following sectors?

1. Green energy
2. Affordable and mid-income housing
3. Social infrastructure
4. Manufacturing and logistics
5. Infrastructure services

Select the correct answer code:

- a) 1, 2, 3, 4
- b) 1, 2, 4, 5
- c) 1, 2, 4
- d) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

2. Consider the following statements regarding Dedicated Freight Corridor.

1. Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited (DFCCIL) run by the Ministry of Railways undertakes the operation of the "Dedicated Freight Corridors" (DFC).
2. The Western DFC is lengthier than the Eastern DFC.
3. Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (WDFC) runs from Uttar Pradesh to Mumbai.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3

3. An Agricultural produce market committee (APMC) is established by the

- a) Local Government
- b) Farmer Produce Organizations (FPOs)
- c) State Government
- d) Authorized Local area Vendors (ALAVs)

4. Invest India, set up in 2009, is a non-profit venture under the

- a) Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade
- b) Department of Finance
- c) Department of Expenditure
- d) Ministry of External Affairs

5. Consider the following statements:

1. Minimum Support Price (MSP) may be both lower or higher than the prevailing market price of the particular crop.
2. All food grain procurement operations in India are undertaken by the Food Corporation of India (FCI).

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

6. Which of the following are considered as 'indirect farm subsidies' extended by the government?

1. Farmer training
2. Investment in agricultural research
3. Farm loan waivers
4. Cheaper credit facilities for farmers

Select the correct answer code:

- a) 1, 2
- b) 2, 3, 4
- c) 3, 4
- d) 1, 2, 3, 4

7. APMC Model Act 2003 include which of the following features

1. Facilitating contract farming model.
2. Special market for perishables
3. Allowing farmers and private persons to set up their own market.
4. APMC revenue to be used for improving market infrastructure.

Select the correct answer code:

- a) 1, 2, 3
- b) 1, 3, 4
- c) 2, 3, 4
- d) 1, 2, 3, 4

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8. Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), sometimes seen in news is under which ministry
- Ministry of External Affairs
 - Ministry of Commerce and Industry
 - Ministry of Finance
 - Ministry of Home Affairs

9. Consider the following statements regarding Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP).

1. The Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) is an attached office of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

2. It does not recommend minimum support price for any commercial crop.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

10. Nikshay Poshan Yojana, sometimes seen in news is related to

- Reduce child mortality due to pneumonia
- Provision of free dialysis services to the poor
- National TB Elimination Program
- National AIDS Control Program

11. Consider the following statements regarding POSHAN Abhiyaan.

1. POSHAN Abhiyaan is Government of India's flagship programme to improve nutritional outcomes for children, pregnant women and lactating mothers.

2. NITI Aayog is the monitoring authority for POSHAN Abhiyaan.

3. The target of the mission is to eliminate stunting among children in the age group 0-6 years by 2022.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- 1, 3
- 1, 2
- 2, 3
- 1, 2, 3

12. Consider the following statements regarding Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE).

1. Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) is a statutory body whose primary objective is of reducing energy intensity of the Indian economy.

2. BEE give financial assistance to institutions for promoting efficient use of energy and its conservation.

3. The items covered under the Star Labeling Programme includes Deep Freezers, Light Commercial Air Conditioners, Domestic Gas Stove, Ballast and Microwave Oven.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- 1, 2
- 1, 3
- 2, 3
- 1, 2, 3

13. Consider the following statements regarding District Mineral Foundation (DMF) Funds.

1. Though District Mineral Foundation's operation is under state governments, the Central Government retains the power to prescribe the rates of contribution.

2. DMF funds are treated as extra-budgetary resources for the States.

3. Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana is meant to provide for the welfare of areas and people affected by mining related operations, using the funds generated by District Mineral Foundations (DMFs).

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- 1, 2
- 1, 3
- 2, 3
- 1, 2, 3

14. Consider the following statements regarding National Mission on Transformative Mobility and Storage.

1. National Mission on Transformative Mobility and Storage is chaired by the Union Minister of New and Renewable Energy.

2. It focuses on manufacturing of Electric Vehicles, Electric Vehicle Components and Batteries.

3. The Mission aims to make India complete self dependent on manufacturing Electric Vehicle Batteries by 2030.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

15. Consider the following statements.

1. National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID) acts as a link between intelligence and investigation agencies.

2. National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) maintains an online database on FIRs and stolen vehicles.

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3. National Crime Records Bureau implements the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS) project.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3

16. Consider the following statements regarding National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF).

1. NDRF is located in the "Public Accounts" of Government of India under "Reserve Funds not bearing interest".

2. The relief activities for all the calamities are monitored by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

3. NDRF amount can be spent only towards meeting the expenses for emergency response, relief and rehabilitation.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1 only

17. Consider the following statements regarding PM SVANidhi scheme.

1. The PM SVANidhi scheme, is a credit facility that provides street vendors a collateral-free loan of Rs 1,00,000 with low rates of interest for a period of one year.

2. The scheme is part of the AtmaNirbhar Bharat package.

3. Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) is the implementing agency for the scheme.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 2 only

4. Science and Technology

1. Consider the following statements regarding Kala-azar.

1. Kala-azar is a tropical disease characterised by irregular fever, weight loss, anaemia and swelling of the spleen and liver.

2. It is caused by a protozoan Leishmania parasite and is transmitted to humans by the bite of infected female sandflies.

3. India has been successful in controlling the disease outbreak and accounts for about one-tenth of the total global cases.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3

2. At any time after the expiration of three years from the date of the grant of a patent, any person interested may make an application for grant of compulsory licence on patent on which of the following grounds?

1. The reasonable requirements of the public with respect to the patented invention have not been satisfied.

2. The patented invention is not available to the public at a reasonably affordable price.

3. The patented invention is worked in the territory of India by a non-Indian pharmaceutical company.

Select the correct answer code:

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3

3. Hayabusa2 project, recently seen in news is related to

a) Developing fuel cell that finds commercial applications

b) Asteroid sample-return mission

c) an orbiting spacecraft which seeks to become the first to be propelled solely by sunlight

d) Astronomical observatory with an extremely large telescope

4. The three-drug Bedaquiline, Pretomanid and Linezolid (BPaL) regimen is used to treat

a) *Coronavirus* disease

b) Hepatitis B

c) Tuberculosis

d) Measles

5. The Internet is expanding everyday necessitating the development of new storage. Among the following, what is the correct ascending order of data size or data storage?

1. Terabyte

2. Exabyte

3. Petabyte

4. Zettabyte

Select the correct answer code:

- a) 1-2-3-4

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- b) 1-3-4-2
c) 1-3-2-4
d) 1-2-4-3
6. Edge computing enables data to be analysed, processed, and transferred at the edge of a network. Here 'Edge' implies
- Local
 - Global
 - Cloud computing
 - Nodal
7. Consider the following statements regarding Machine to Machine communications (M2M).
- Machine to Machine communications refer to automated applications which involve machines or devices communicating through a network without human intervention.
 - It enables data to be transmitted from one device to another device through wired and wireless communications networks.
 - Machine to machine communications can be used for the development of smart cities and grids, transportation systems and healthcare.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- 1, 2
 - 1, 3
 - 2, 3
 - 1, 2, 3
8. Consider the following statements regarding Thirty Meter Telescope.
- It is an astronomical observatory with an extremely large telescope.
 - India is one of the funding partners for the project.
 - TMT is designed for near-ultraviolet to mid-infrared observations.
 - It will enable scientists to study gravitational waves from massive objects far away.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- 1, 2, 4
 - 1, 2, 3
 - 1, 3, 4
 - 1, 2, 3, 4
9. Australian Square Kilometre Array Pathfinder (ASKAP), recently seen in news is primarily intended to
- Map the structure and evolution of the Universe
 - Discover evidence of water molecules on the moon
 - Spacecraft which seeks to become the first to be propelled solely by sunlight
 - Study Electrodynamics of Moon's Interaction with the Sun
10. A quantum computer stores information in
- Hexadecimal systems
 - Qubits
 - Binary digits
 - A network of disengaged computer clouds
11. Consider the following statements regarding Nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy (NMR).
- Nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy (NMR) technique is used for determining the structure of organic compounds.
 - It is used in various food systems for quality control and research.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- 1 only
 - 2 only
 - Both 1 and 2
 - Neither 1 nor 2
12. Consider the following statements regarding Desalination.
- The most commonly used technology in Desalination plants is the process of reverse osmosis.
 - In reverse osmosis, an external pressure is applied to push solvents from an area of high-solute concentration to an area of low-solute concentration through a membrane.
 - In India desalination plants have been installed in all the coastal states.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- 1, 2
 - 1, 3
 - 2, 3
 - 1, 2, 3
13. Quantum dots (QDs) are man-made nanoscale crystals that can transport electrons. Potential applications of quantum dots include
- Solar Cells
 - LEDs
 - Quantum Computing
 - Medical Imaging
 - Cell Biology Research
- Select the correct answer code:
- 1, 2, 3, 5
 - 1, 3, 4, 5
 - 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
 - 2, 3, 4, 5

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14. Havana syndrome, recently seen in news is related to
- Non-Communicable Diseases
 - Neurological illness
 - Tuberculosis
 - Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS)

15. Consider the following statements regarding Black Carbon.

1. Black carbon is a component of fine particulate matter, formed through the incomplete combustion of fossil fuels, biofuel, and biomass.

2. Black carbon increases the albedo when deposited on snow and ice.

3. In the tropics, black carbon in soils significantly contributes to the soil fertility.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

16. Near Field Communications (NFC) technology is used in which among the following applications?

- Baggage identification in Airports
- Contactless card payment
- Healthcare
- Metro train cards

Select the correct answer code:

- 1, 2, 3
- 2, 3, 4
- 1, 2, 4
- 1, 2, 3, 4

17. Consider the following statements regarding "Innate immunity" in human beings.

1. It is present at the time of birth.

2. It is disease specific due to its memory of disease attack and response.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

18. Consider the following statements regarding Herd immunity.

- It is the resistance to the spread of a contagious disease within a population.
- It occurs when high proportion of individuals are resistant to the disease.
- It may occur due to immunization or naturally.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

19. Ailments caused by Virus are

- Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS)
- Typhoid
- Dysentery
- Influenza

Select the correct answer code:

- 1, 2
- 2, 4
- 1, 4
- 1, 3

20. The terms "Pratyush and Mihir" sometimes seen in the news are related to

- Fuel cells that finds commercial applications
- High Performance Computing (HPC) Systems
- Quantum supercomputers of ISRO
- Quick Reaction Surface-to-Air missiles

21. Astronauts have to wear special protective space suits filled with air when they go to the moon or outer space. This is because of

- Lack of air pressure in these regions
- Very cold temperature in these regions
- Dangerous radiation in these regions

Select the correct answer code:

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

22. Glyphosate, Atrazine and Butachlor, recently seen in news is

- Anti-malarial drug
- Antibiotic resistant bacteria
- Weedicide
- None of the above

23. Plasmodium ovale, recently in news causes

- Measles
- Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)
- Malaria
- Pneumonia

24. Prime editing, sometimes seen in news is related to

- 3D printing Technology

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- b) Editing subatomic particles in Quantum communication
c) Blockchain Technology
d) Genome editing technology

25. National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR) and the Goa University (GU) have successfully synthesized gold nanoparticles (GNPs). What are the applications of gold nanoparticles (GNPs)?

1. They have greater solar radiation absorbing ability.
2. Detection and diagnosis of diseases.
3. Targeted drug delivery

Select the correct answer code:

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 2, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1, 3

26. Which of the following services generally use encryption to secure data transmission?

1. Payment gateways
2. Messaging services
3. Wireless microphones and bluetooth devices
4. Bank automatic teller machines

Select the correct answer code:

- a) 1, 2, 3
- b) 1, 3, 4
- c) 2, 3, 4
- d) 1, 2, 3, 4

27. Dry ice is the solid form of carbon dioxide. Which of the following are the applications of Dry ice?

1. It is useful for preserving frozen foods where mechanical cooling is unavailable.
2. Prevent insect activity in closed containers of grains and grain products.
3. Used for cleaning industrial equipments.

Select the correct answer code:

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3

28. Consider the following statements.

1. Cross pathy is a practice in which homeopathic and ayurvedic drugs are prescribed along with allopathic medicines.
 2. Central Council of Indian Medicine (CCIM) is a statutory body under *Ministry of Health and Family Welfare* that monitors higher education in Indian systems of medicine.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

29. Consider the following statements regarding Goldilocks zone.

1. Goldilocks zone, is the area around a star where it is not too hot and not too cold for liquid water to exist on the surface of surrounding planets.
2. Earth is the only planet in the Sun's Goldilocks zone.
3. If a planet is in the Goldilocks Zone of a star, it necessarily means the planet is going to have life or liquid water.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 1, 2
- c) 1, 3
- d) 2, 3

30. Consider the following statements regarding Pneumococcal disease.

1. Pneumococcal disease is a bacterial disease and is a significant contributor for under-five mortality rate worldwide.
2. Pneumococcal disease is spread from infected person to others by direct contact with respiratory secretions, like saliva or mucus.
3. Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine is included in India's Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP).

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3

31. Proxima Centauri, sometimes seen in news is

- a) Closest Star to the Sun
- b) An exoplanet in habitable zone
- c) Nuclear powered submarine
- d) Electronic surveillance satellite

32. Consider the following statements regarding Sun Spots.

1. Sunspots are regions where the solar magnetic field is very strong
2. Sunspots appear darker than their surroundings because they are a few thousand degrees cooler than their surroundings.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2

d) Neither 1 nor 2

5. International Relations and Organisations

1. Consider the following statements regarding Singapore Convention on Mediation.
1. It is the first UN treaty to be named after Singapore.
 2. It settles disputes between the members at the Government level and does not involve corporate disputes.
 3. India is a signatory to the Convention.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 2, 3
- c) 1, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3

2. ASEAN Plus Three (APT) includes which of the following countries?

1. China
2. India
3. Japan
4. Australia

Select the correct answer code:

- a) 1, 2, 3
- b) 1, 3, 4
- c) 2, 3, 4
- d) 1, 3

3. Consider the following statements regarding 'Contract for the Web' sometimes seen in news.
1. It is a legal document, endorsed by the United Nations.

2. It is an attempt to address issues of political manipulation, fake news, privacy violations, and other malign forces on the internet.

3. Protecting people's privacy and personal data to build online trust is one of the principles of it.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3

4. Consider the following statements regarding United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC).
1. United Nations Alliance of Civilization (UNAOC) aims to improve understanding and

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cooperative relations among nations and peoples across cultures and religions.

2. It helps to counter the forces that fuel polarization and extremism.

3. UNAOC was established at the initiative of the Governments of India and USA.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3

5. Which of the following is/are some of the goals of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)?

1. Promoting effective cooperation between members in politics, trade, the economy, research, technology and culture
2. Maintaining peacekeeping forces in member nations on the request of an individual member country
3. Guarding disputed borders between member nations and settling international border disputes concerning member nations

Select the correct answer code:

- a) 1, 2
- b) 2, 3
- c) 1 only
- d) 1, 3

6. UN convention on the Rights of persons with disabilities includes which of these rights for the differently abled?

1. Rights to accessibility including the information technology
2. Rights to live independently and be included in the community
3. Rights to habitation and rehabilitation

Select the correct answer code:

- a) 1, 3
- b) 2, 3
- c) 1, 2
- d) 1, 2, 3

7. Consider the following statements regarding Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism.

1. It is a United Nations treaty which intends to criminalize all forms of international terrorism and deny terrorists, their financiers and supporters access to funds, arms, and safe havens.

2. All the members of the United Nations General Assembly have signed the Convention.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

8. S-400 air defence missile system, recently seen in news is developed by

- a) United States
- b) China
- c) Israel
- d) Russia

9. Consider the following statements regarding Countering America's Adversaries through Sanctions Act (CAATSA).

1. Its core objective is to counter Iran, Russia and North Korea through punitive measures.
2. It empowers the US President to impose some sanctions on persons engaged in a "significant transaction" with Russian defence and intelligence sectors.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

10. Consider the following statements regarding Leadership Group on Industry Transition.

1. The Leadership Group for Industry Transition (LeadIT) gathers countries and companies that are committed to reaching net zero carbon emissions from industry by 2050.
2. India is a part of this Grouping.
3. It was launched with the support from the World Economic Forum (WEF).

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3

11. Consider the following statements regarding Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA).

1. Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) is an intergovernmental organization that resolve disputes that arise out of international agreements between member states, international organizations or private parties.
2. Human Rights Issues are the exclusive domain of United Nations Commission on Human Rights, therefore PCA does not involve in Human Rights issues.
3. Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) is an official United Nations Observer.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1 only

12. Consider the following statements regarding International Court of Justice.

1. International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations and was established by the United Nations Charter.
2. It settles legal dispute between States submitted to it by them and deal with applications from individuals and non-governmental organizations.
3. It gives advisory opinion on legal matters referred to it by duly authorized United Nations organs and specialized agencies.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 1, 2
- c) 1, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3

13. Consider the following statements regarding International Court of Justice.

1. The International Court of Justice has no jurisdiction to try individuals accused of war crimes or crimes against humanity.
2. ICJ acts as an appeal court for any international tribunal.
3. The judgements of the ICJ are final and without appeal.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 2, 3
- c) 1, 3
- d) 1 only

6. Polity

1. Consider the following statements.

1. At present, postal ballots are allowed for certain categories of voters living in India.
2. Election Commission of India (ECI) is the deciding authority to permit NRIs to cast their votes from overseas through postal ballots.
3. For allowing voting rights to NRIs, amendments were done to Representation of the People Act 1950.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 3 only

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- b) 1, 3
- c) 1, 2
- d) 2, 3

2. Attorney General's consent is mandatory for initiating contempt of court in which of the following circumstances?

1. When a private citizen wants to initiate a case of contempt of court against a person.
2. When the Supreme court want to initiate a contempt of court case.

Select the correct answer code:

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

3. Consider the following statements regarding Article 32 of the Indian Constitution.

1. Article 32 affirms the right to move the Supreme Court for the enforcement of the rights conferred in Part III of the Indian Constitution.
2. The right guaranteed under Article 32 is absolute and shall not be suspended.
3. An individual approaching the High Court under Article 226 for the violation of fundamental rights is itself a fundamental right.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 3 only

4. Consider the following statements regarding the Sessions of Parliament in India.

1. India does have a fixed parliamentary calendar and meets for three sessions in a year.
2. Usually the Budget session has the longest period.

2. The summoning of Parliament is based on the provisions of the Government of India Act, 1935.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 2 only

5. Consider the following statements.

1. Voting rights for NRIs were introduced in India soon after Economic Liberalisation in 1991, through an amendment to the Representation of the People Act 1950.

2. To extend the postal voting facility to NRI voters, the Government doesn't require the Parliament's nod.

3. Kerala has the largest number of registered NRI Voters.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 2, 3
- c) 1, 3
- d) 3 only

6. Consider the following statements.

1. According to the Constitution of India, The Governor shall from time to time summon the House or each House of the Legislature of the State to meet at such time and place as he thinks fit.

2. The Governor always has to act on the aid and advice of the cabinet and cannot decide on his or her own on summoning the House.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

7. History, Art and Culture

1. The Pagri Sambhal Jatta Movement, during the British period is related to

- a) Socio-religious reform movement
- b) Restrictions on sell of forest produce by the British.
- c) Farmers' agitation against British laws.
- d) None of the above

2. The iconic Bamyam Buddha, was located in

- a) Bhutan
- b) Sri Lanka
- c) Afghanistan
- d) Vietnam

8. States

1. Roshni Act, sometimes seen in news is related to

- a) New Delhi
- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) Punjab
- d) None of the Above

9. Reports and Indices

1. Global Biodiversity Outlook report is published by

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- a) UN Environment Programme (UNEP)
b) UN Convention of Biological Diversity
(CBD)
c) World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)
d) World Economic Forum
2. Emissions Gap Report 2020, recently seen in news is released by
a) World Wide Fund for Nature
b) United Nations Environment Programme
(UNEP)
c) World Economic Forum
d) Germanwatch
3. Planetary pressures-adjusted Human Development Index (PHDI) that reflect the impact caused by each country's per-capita carbon emissions and its material footprint, is released by
a) World Economic Forum
b) United Nations Development Programme
c) World Bank
d) United Nations Environment Programme
(UNEP)
4. Global Economic Freedom Index 2020, is released by
a) World Bank
b) World Economic Forum
c) International Monetary Fund
d) None of the above

10. Maps / Places

1. Which of the following Central Asian countries border China?
1. Kazakhstan
2. Turkmenistan
3. Uzbekistan
4. Kyrgyzstan
Select the correct answer code:
a) 1, 2, 3
b) 2, 3, 4
c) 1, 4
d) 1, 2, 3
2. Which among the following countries in South-East Asia is land locked?
1. Laos
2. Cambodia
3. Thailand
Select the correct answer code:
a) 2 only

- b) 1 only
c) 3 only
d) None of the above
3. Dead Sea is a Salt Lake sandwiched between
a) Israel and Jordan
b) Israel and Syria
c) Jordan and Syria
d) Syria and Lebanon
4. Bhasan Char, an Island recently in news is located in
a) Arabian Sea
b) Bay of Bengal
c) South China Sea
d) Sea of Japan
5. Which of these water bodies witnesses sun rise at the earliest?
a) Black Sea
b) Mediterranean Sea
c) Caspian Sea
d) Red Sea
6. The Horn of Africa is a term used to denote the region containing
1. Djibouti
2. Eritrea
3. Ethiopia
4. Somalia
Select the correct answer code:
a) 1, 2, 3
b) 1, 3, 4
c) 2, 3, 4
d) 1, 2, 3, 4

7. Arrange these places from North to South.
1. Chagos Islands
2. Reunion Island
3. Maldives
4. Lakshadweep
Select the correct answer code:
a) 2-1-3-2
b) 4-3-1-2
c) 4-1-2-3
d) 4-3-2-1
8. The Indian states bordering Bangladesh are
1. Tripura
2. Sikkim
3. Assam
4. Mizoram
Select the correct answer code:
a) 1, 2, 3
b) 1, 3, 4

- c) 1, 4
- d) 1, 2, 3, 4

9. The place Swabhiman Anchal, recently seen in news is located in
- a) Kerala
 - b) Odisha
 - b) Tamil Nadu
 - d) West Bengal

10. The Water bodies bordering Turkey are
- 1. Mediterranean Sea
 - 2. Aegean Sea
 - 3. Black Sea
 - 4. Caspian Sea

Select the correct answer code:

- a) 1, 2, 4
- b) 1, 3, 4
- c) 1, 2, 3
- c) 1, 3

11. Arrange the following places from South to North:

- 1. Spratly islands
- 2. Paracel islands
- 3. Java Sea
- 4. Strait of Malacca

Select the correct answer codes

- a) 4321
- b) 3421
- c) 3412
- d) 4312

11. Miscellaneous

1. Tharu tribals, recently seen in news, primarily belongs to
- a) Terai Lowlands
 - b) Western Ghats
 - c) North-eastern India
 - d) Bastar region
2. Consider the following statements.
- 1. Replacement level fertility is the level of fertility at which a population exactly replaces itself from one generation to the next.
 - 2. When a country reaches replacement level fertility, it attains zero population growth.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- a) 1 only
 - b) 2 only
 - c) Both 1 and 2
 - d) Neither 1 nor 2