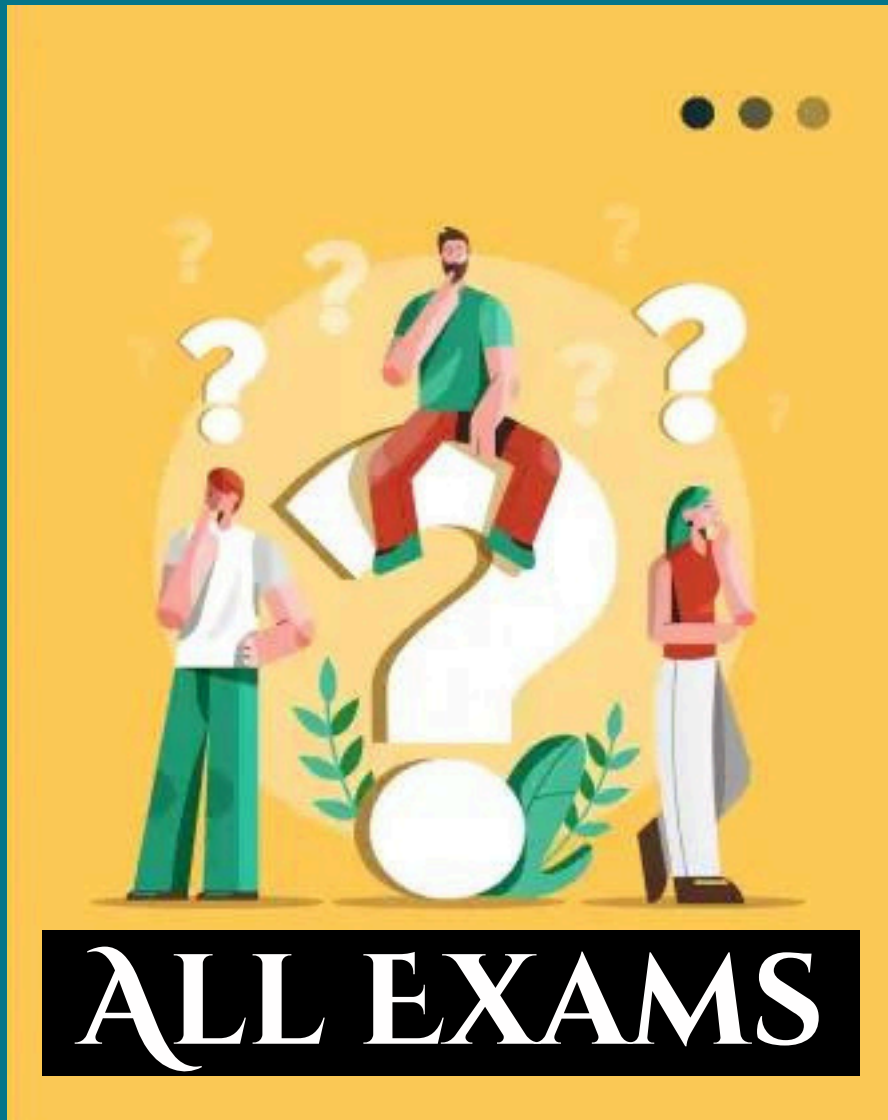


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Q.1

Which initiative, launched by the Indian Army in collaboration with the United Service Institution of India (USI), aims to incorporate ancient strategic wisdom into modern military practices?

- Project Meghdoot
- Project Udbhav
- Project Vishwas
- Project Aarambh

Answer:

B

Sol:

- Project Udbhav, an initiative by the Indian Army, aims to integrate ancient strategic wisdom into modern military practices.
- The project is a joint initiative between the Indian Army and the United Service Institution of India (USI).
- Launched last year, this project delves into the Vedas, Puranas, Mahabharata, Upanishads, and Arthashastra, drawing insights to enhance contemporary military strategies.

Q.2

What is the primary focus of Project Udbhav, launched last year by the Indian Army?

- Integrating modern technology into military practices
- Enhancing physical fitness of soldiers
- Incorporating ancient strategic wisdom into modern military practices
- Establishing diplomatic relations with neighboring countries

Answer:

C

Sol:

- Project Udbhav, an initiative by the Indian Army, aims to integrate ancient strategic wisdom into modern military practices.
- The project is a joint initiative between the Indian Army and the United Service Institution of India (USI).
- Launched last year, this project delves into the Vedas, Puranas, Mahabharata, Upanishads, and Arthashastra, drawing insights to enhance contemporary military strategies.

Q.3

Cyclone Laly, which recently affected East Africa, is an example of:

Mesoscale convective system

- Extratropical cyclone
- Tropical cyclone
- Subtropical cyclone

Answer:

C

Sol:

Barely two weeks after Cyclone Hidaya struck the East African coastline, Cyclone Laly wreaked havoc in the region, killing two people in Kenya and impacting dozens in Somalia.

Key points:

- The cyclone, a rare occurrence in its latitude range, intensified from a tropical storm and unleashed strong winds, heavy rain, and high waves across the West Indian Ocean region.
- In Somalia, it made landfall in the southwestern and southern regions, including the capital, Mogadishu.
- In Kenya's Kilifi County, the cyclone caused the death of a four-year-old schoolgirl when strong winds tore off a classroom roof, and a warehouse worker perished when a wall collapsed on her, injuring others.

Q.4

Which of the following statements about cyclones is correct?

- Cyclones are low-pressure systems that form over warm ocean waters.
- Cyclones rotate clockwise in the Northern Hemisphere and counterclockwise in the Southern Hemisphere.
- Cyclones are typically characterized by clear skies and calm winds at the center.
- Cyclones are only a threat to coastal regions and do not impact inland areas.

Answer:

A

Sol:

- Cyclones are large-scale systems characterized by low-pressure centers, which form over warm ocean waters, typically between 5 and 30 degrees latitude. The warm ocean waters provide the energy needed for cyclone formation and intensification. As air rises over these warm waters, it cools and condenses, releasing latent heat and further fueling the storm.
- Cyclones are known by different names in different regions. For example, they are called hurricanes in the Atlantic and eastern Pacific, typhoons in the

western Pacific, and cyclones in the Indian Ocean and South Pacific.

Q.5

Where is the potentially habitable exoplanet Gliese 12 b located?

- 4 light-years away from Earth
- 14 light-years away from Earth
- 24 light-years away from Earth
- 40 light-years away from Earth

Answer:

D

Sol:

- Astronomers have discovered a potentially habitable exoplanet, Gliese 12 b, located about 40 light-years away from Earth.
- This exciting find, detailed in a study published in the Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society, marks one of the closest exoplanets discovered so far.

Q.6

What is a notable characteristic of Gliese 12 b compared to most other exoplanets discovered so far?

- It has a higher average surface temperature.
- It is larger in size than Earth.
- It is located in a binary star system.
- It has a lower average surface temperature.

Answer:

D

Sol:

Key points:

- Gliese 12 b's average surface temperature is 42°C, which is lower than most of the 5,000 or so exoplanets discovered to date.
- Despite being warmer than Earth's average surface temperature of 15°C, its size is comparable to Venus and is slightly smaller than Earth.

Q.7

According to the Consumer Protection Act, 2019, what is mandatory before making advertisements public?

- Approval from the Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI)
- Due diligence
- Approval from the Ministry of Consumer Affairs
- Certification from a legal authority

Answer:

B

Q.8

What is the primary role of the Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI)?

- To create advertisements for Indian companies
- To regulate and monitor advertising content in India
- To provide legal advice to advertising agencies
- To conduct market research on consumer behavior

Answer:

B

Sol:

The Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) is a self-regulatory organization that regulates and monitors advertising content in India. Its primary role is to ensure that advertisements are truthful, not misleading, and adhere to the ASCI Code for Self-Regulation in Advertising.

Q.9

What is the distinctive feature of proboscis monkeys of Borneo, particularly prominent in males?

- Long tails
- Elongated noses
- Large ears
- Brightly colored fur

Answer:

B

Sol:

- The proboscis monkeys of Borneo are known for their distinctive, elongated noses, which are particularly prominent in males.
- In a recent study published in Scientific Reports, scientists delved into the evolutionary significance of these noses, shedding light on their dual role as both visual and acoustic signals.

Q.10

According to a recent study published in Scientific Reports, what dual role do the elongated noses of proboscis monkeys serve?

- Thermoregulation and camouflage
- Visual and acoustic signals
- Food storage and protection
- Mating display and intimidation

Answer:

B

Sol:

• In a recent study published in Scientific Reports, scientists delved into the evolutionary significance of these noses, shedding light on their dual role as both visual and acoustic signals.

About:

- Proboscis monkeys, or *Nasalis larvatus*, are one of the largest monkey species in Asia and are native to Borneo.
- They inhabit various environments, including coastal mangroves, peat swamps, and riverine forests, and have a diet predominantly consisting of leaves.
- Notably, they possess webbed fingers and toes, enabling them to swim proficiently.
- Male proboscis monkeys exhibit a hierarchical social structure, with dominant males typically leading harem groups consisting of females and their offspring.
- These males, characterized by their large noses, use deep honks and "nasal roars" to assert dominance and deter rival males.

Q.11

How can a landslide be described in terms of the movement of a slope?

- Movement upward
- Movement downward
- Movement outward
- Movement downward and outward

Answer:

D

Sol:

A landslide involves the movement of a mass of rock, earth, or debris down a slope. This movement is primarily due to the force of gravity. In many cases, the material moves both downward and outward, following the path of least resistance.

Q.12

Which of the following factors contribute to the occurrence of landslides?

- Rainfall
- Steep slopes
- Deforestation
- All of the above

Answer:

D

Sol:

Landslides can be triggered by a variety of factors, including:

Rainfall: Heavy rainfall can saturate the soil, reducing its stability and leading to landslides.

Steep slopes: Natural or man-made slopes that are too steep can be unstable and prone to landslides.

Deforestation: The removal of vegetation, which helps to anchor the soil, can increase the likelihood of landslides.

All of these factors combined can significantly increase the risk of landslides.

Q.13

What recent milestone did the National High Speed Rail Corporation Ltd (NHSRCL) achieve in the Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train project?

- Completion of the entire rail line
- Inauguration of the first station
- Completion of a 394-meter-long tunnel in Navi Mumbai
- Launch of the first bullet train

Answer:

C

Sol:

• The National High Speed Rail Corporation Ltd (NHSRCL) achieved a milestone in the Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train project.

Key points:

- They completed excavation of a 394-meter-long tunnel in Navi Mumbai.
- This tunnel, called an ADIT (Additionally Driven Intermediate Tunnel), will expedite construction of the main 21 km long tunnel between Bandra-Kurla Complex and Shilphata in Maharashtra.

Q.14

What is the primary aim of the proposed changes to Maharashtra's cultural policy by an expert committee?

- To increase funding for the arts
- To enhance the technological infrastructure of theaters
- To promote a more inclusive representation of society in art forms like films and plays
- To preserve traditional art forms

Answer:

C

Sol:

• An expert committee in Maharashtra has proposed changes to the state's cultural policy.

• The aim is to promote a more inclusive representation of society in art forms like films and plays.

Key points:

- Traditionally, these art forms have focused on the experiences and stories of upper castes.
- The proposed policy includes over 100 recommendations, with a focus on ensuring all sections of society are reflected in cultural productions.

Q.15

Which of the following individuals currently holds the position of CEO of Maharashtra?

- Bhushan Gagrani
- Sanjay Khandare
- Pravin Pardeshi
- Shri S. Chockalingam

Answer:

D

Sol:

Shri S. Chockalingam is the Principal Secretary and Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) of Maharashtra. He is responsible for overseeing the state's electoral processes, ensuring that elections are conducted in a fair and transparent manner, and upholding the democratic principles enshrined in the Constitution of India.

Q.1

When was DD Kisan originally established?

1. May 26, 2014
2. May 26, 2015
3. May 26, 2016
4. May 26, 2017

Answer:

B

Sol:

- Established on May 26, 2015, DD Kisan is India's sole television channel dedicated to serving the agricultural community.
- It aims to provide farmers with timely information on weather, markets, and other factors to help them make informed decisions.
- The channel also highlights the efforts of innovative farmers, promoting agricultural and rural development through education.

Q.2

What are the names of the AI anchors introduced by DD Kisan?

1. Rohan and Saanvi
2. Krish and Bhoomi
3. Raj and Meera
4. Arjun and Priya

Answer:

B

Sol:

- DD Kisan is all set to achieve a significant milestone by relaunching with a fresh look and style on May 26, 2024, after a successful nine-year run.
 - The channel aims to enhance engagement and better serve India's farming community.
- Key points:
- This relaunch introduces AI anchors, Krish and Bhoomi, making DD Kisan the country's first government TV channel to adopt AI technology.
 - Krish and Bhoomi are not mere computer programs; they are sophisticated entities designed to mimic human behavior, capable of delivering news round the clock, 365 days a year, without fatigue.

Q.3

What recent advisory opinion did the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) deliver?

1. Obligations on international trade
2. Obligations to combat marine pollution and safeguard the marine environment amid climate impacts
3. Regulations on deep-sea mining
4. Guidelines on marine tourism

Answer:

B

Sol:

• The International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) recently delivered an advisory opinion on climate change, clarifying countries' obligations to combat marine pollution and safeguard the marine environment amid climate impacts.

Q.4

Where is the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) based?

1. New York, USA
2. Geneva, Switzerland
3. Hamburg, Germany
4. Vienna, Austria

Answer:

C

Sol:

• ITLOS is an independent judicial body established by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) to resolve disputes related to the interpretation and application of the Convention.

• It is based in Hamburg, Germany.

Q.5

In which location was the novel plant species *Stellaria mcclintockiae* discovered?

1. Nilgiri hills
2. Western Ghats
3. Nelliampathy hills
4. Eastern Ghats

Answer:

C

Sol:

• Researchers have recently identified a novel plant species in the Nelliampathy hills, Kerala belonging to the *Stellaria* (Caryophyllaceae species) group.

• This newly discovered species has been named *Stellaria mcclintockiae*, in tribute to the eminent geneticist Barbara McClintock.

Q.6

What notable differences does *Stellaria mcclintockiae* exhibit compared to other species in the *S. media* group?

1. Leaf shape and stem color
2. Bracts, sepals, petals, pollen morphology, and seed surface architecture
3. Root structure and growth rate
4. Flowering time and fruit size

Answer:

B

Sol:

• Researchers have recently identified a novel plant species in the Nelliampathy hills, belonging to the *Stellaria* (Caryophyllaceae species) group.

• This newly discovered species has been named *Stellaria mcclintockiae*, in tribute to the eminent geneticist Barbara McClintock.

Key points:

• Described in the journal *Phytotaxa*, the newly found species is classified as part of the *S. media* group but exhibits notable differences in bracts, sepals, petals, pollen morphology, and seed surface architecture when compared to other species.

• Molecular analyses (ITS) have confirmed the new

taxon's validity, distinguishing it from its close relatives.

Q.7

What is the theme of the Fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS-4)?

1. Building Sustainable Economies
2. Promoting Environmental Conservation
3. Charting the course toward resilient prosperity
4. Ensuring Political Stability

Answer:

C

Sol:

• The Fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS-4) is scheduled to be held from May 27-30, 2024.

Key points:

- The conference, themed "Charting the course toward resilient prosperity," aims to evaluate SIDS' progress toward sustainable development, including the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals.
- It intends to produce a politically agreed, focused, forward-looking, and action-oriented outcome document.

Q.8

How many UN member nations are included in the category of Small Island Developing States (SIDS)?

1. 37
2. 50
3. 20
4. 60

Answer:

A

Sol:

Small Island Developing States (SIDS)

- Small Island Developing States (SIDS) comprise 37 UN member nations and 20 associate members of regional commissions, uniquely and unfortunately positioned at the forefront of multiple global crises, notably climate change.
- These remote economies, prone to natural disasters were formally recognized as a special case both for their environment and development at the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- Occupying less than 0.5 per cent of the world's surface, these nations are spread across three key regions: the Caribbean, the Pacific and the Atlantic, Indian Ocean and South China Sea (AIS).

Q.9

Which of the following statements about ITLOS is INCORRECT?

1. ITLOS is based in Hamburg, Germany.
2. ITLOS was established in 1994 by the United Nations General Assembly.
3. ITLOS can only hear disputes brought by States Parties to UNCLOS.
4. ITLOS has mandatory jurisdiction over disputes brought before it.

Answer:

D

Sol:

• The International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) is an international court that deals with legal disputes concerning the interpretation and

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application of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

- ITLOS is based in Hamburg, Germany, and was established in 1994 by the United Nations General Assembly.
- ITLOS can only hear disputes between States Parties to UNCLOS, but it does not have mandatory jurisdiction over disputes brought before it.

Q.10

When is the Fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS-4) scheduled to be held?

1. May 27-30, 2022
2. May 27-30, 2023
3. May 27-30, 2024
4. May 27-30, 2025

Answer:

C

Sol:

- The Fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS-4) is scheduled to be held from May 27-30, 2024.

Key points:

- The conference, themed "Charting the course toward resilient prosperity," aims to evaluate SIDS' progress toward sustainable development, including the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals.
- It intends to produce a politically agreed, focused, forward-looking, and action-oriented outcome document.
- Global Environment Facility (GEF) has provided \$1.9 billion in grant finance to SIDS through national, global, and regional projects.

Q.1

In which state did GAIL commission its first 10 MW green hydrogen plant in India?

1. Maharashtra
2. Madhya Pradesh
3. Gujarat
4. Andhra Pradesh

Answer:

B

Sol:

GAIL (India) Ltd., the nation's leading natural gas transmission and distribution company, has taken a significant step towards clean energy by commissioning its first-ever green hydrogen plant. This plant is located in Vijaipur, Madhya Pradesh.
Location: Vijaipur, Madhya Pradesh, India
Capacity: 10 MW (megawatt)
Daily Production: Approximately 4.3 tonnes of green hydrogen

Q.2

What is the estimated daily production capacity of green hydrogen from GAIL's new plant?

1. 2.5 tonnes
2. 4.3 tonnes
3. 6.1 tonnes
4. 8.7 tonnes

Answer:

B

Sol:

GAIL (India) Ltd., the nation's leading natural gas transmission and distribution company, has taken a significant step towards clean energy by commissioning its first-ever green hydrogen plant. This plant is located in Vijaipur, Madhya Pradesh. Here's a breakdown of the key details:

- Location: Vijaipur, Madhya Pradesh, India
- Capacity: 10 MW (megawatt)
- Daily Production: Approximately 4.3 tonnes of green hydrogen

Q.3

Which organization awards the "Military Gender Advocate of the Year" award?

1. International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
2. United Nations (UN)
3. North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
4. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

Answer:

B

Sol:

• Major Radhika Sen, an Indian military peacekeeper serving with MONUSCO, has been awarded the 2023 United Nations Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award.

Key points:

• Created in 2016, the United Nations "Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award" recognizes the dedication and efforts of an individual military peacekeeper in promoting the principles of UN Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security.

Q.4

What is the significance of the "Community Alert Networks" established by Major Radhika Sen?

1. They provided educational opportunities for children in conflict zones.

2. They were all-female patrols designed to increase trust with local communities.
3. They served as a platform for inclusive security and humanitarian discussions.
4. They offered vocational training programs for displaced adults.

Answer:

B

Sol:

Major Sen established "Community Alert Networks" which included "community leaders, young people and women." This network served as a platform for these diverse groups to "voice their security and humanitarian concerns," fostering inclusive discussions on critical issues.

Q.5

Which organization/entity received the "Sustainability Champion – Editor's Choice Award" at the Outlook Planet Sustainability Summit & Awards 2024?

1. Indian Ministry of Power
2. IIT Goa
3. REC Limited
4. Outlook Group

Answer:

C

Sol:

• REC Limited, a leading power sector financier, received the "Sustainability Champion – Editor's Choice Award" at the Outlook Planet Sustainability Summit & Awards 2024.

• This award acknowledges REC's commitment to environmental responsibility and its role in driving

India's transition to clean energy.

REC's Sustainability Initiatives:

- REC's loan portfolio prioritizes renewable energy projects, currently sitting at ₹ 38,971 crores.
- The company aims to increase the renewable energy share of its projected ₹ 10 lakh crore loan book to 30% by 2030.

Q.6

What criteria does the "Sustainability Champion – Editor's Choice Award" likely recognize?

1. Innovation in developing sustainable technologies.
2. Commitment to environmental protection initiatives.
3. Leadership in promoting social responsibility practices.
4. All of the above

Answer:

B

Sol:

• REC Limited, a leading power sector financier, received the "Sustainability Champion – Editor's Choice Award" at the Outlook Planet Sustainability Summit & Awards 2024.

• This award acknowledges REC's commitment to environmental responsibility and its role in driving India's transition to clean energy.

About the Outlook Planet Sustainability Summit & Awards:

- This prestigious event recognizes organizations demonstrating leadership in sustainable practices.
- Industry leaders, policymakers, and sustainability advocates gather at the summit for discussions, innovation exchange, and recognition of sustainability achievements.

Q.7

PRAGATI-2024 (Pharma Research in AyurGyan And Techno Innovation) is an initiative launched by which government ministry?

1. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
2. Ministry of Science and Technology
3. Ministry of Ayush
4. Ministry of Education

Answer:

C

Sol:

- The Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), under the Ministry of Ayush, launched PRAGATI-2024 (Pharma Research in AyurGyan And Techno Innovation) on May 28, 2024.
- This initiative aims to propel Ayurveda's future through industry collaboration in research.

Q.8

What is the PRIMARY objective of PRAGATI-2024?

1. To provide research scholarships for students interested in Ayurveda.
2. To raise global awareness about the benefits of Ayurvedic products.
3. To foster collaborative research between the Ayurvedic industry and CCRAS.
4. To acknowledge the contributions of new practitioners and startups in Ayurveda.

Answer:

C

Sol:

- The Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), under the Ministry of Ayush, launched PRAGATI-2024 (Pharma Research in

AyurGyan And Techno Innovation) on May 28, 2024.

• This initiative aims to propel Ayurveda's future through industry collaboration in research.

Key Points:

• Focus on Collaborative Research: PRAGATI-2024 fosters teamwork between CCRAS and the Ayurvedic drug industry to explore research avenues in Ayurveda.

Q.9

On what date did Prime Minister launch the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM)

1. May 28, 2024
2. September 27, 2021
3. August 15, 2020
4. October 2nd, 2023

Answer:

B

Sol:

Prime Minister launched the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) via video conferencing on 27th September 2021, in the presence of Shri Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare and Dr Bharati Pravin Pawar, Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, among other dignitaries.

Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission will connect the digital health solutions of hospitals across the country with each other. The Mission will not only make the processes of hospitals simplified but also will increase ease of living. The Digital Ecosystem will also enable a host of other facilities like Digital Consultation, Consent of patients in letting medical practitioners access their records, etc. With the implementation of this scheme, old medical records cannot get lost as every record will be stored digitally.

Q.10

The National Health Policy 2017 (NHP 2017) outlines various targets for improving health outcomes in India. Which of the following is NOT a target explicitly mentioned in the NHP 2017?

1. Increase life expectancy at birth to 72 by 2025.
2. Reduce infant mortality rate to 28 by 2019.
3. Achieve the global 2020 target of 90-90-90 for HIV/AIDS.
4. Reduce mortality of children under-five years of age to 23 by 2025.

Answer:

C

Sol:

The National Health Policy 2017 Sets Ambitious Health Goals

The policy outlines several key targets to improve health outcomes for all citizens:

Increased Life Expectancy: Aiming to raise life expectancy at birth from 67.5 years to 70 years by 2025.

Reduced Infant Mortality: Setting a goal to decrease the infant mortality rate to 28 per 1,000 live births by 2019.

Improved Child Survival: Targeting a further reduction in mortality rates for children under five years of age, aiming to reach 23 per 1,000 live births by 2025.

Strengthened Primary Care: Prioritizing primary healthcare by allocating a significant portion of resources to this area.

Enhanced Emergency Care: Ensuring access to critical emergency services by guaranteeing the availability of two hospital beds per 1,000 people, strategically distributed to enable reaching care within the "golden hour" (the first hour after a traumatic injury).

Combating HIV/AIDS: Aligning with the global 2020 UNAIDS 90-90-90 target for HIV/AIDS management. This target aims to achieve:

90% of all people living with HIV knowing their status.

90% of diagnosed HIV-positive individuals receiving sustained antiretroviral therapy.

90% of those receiving therapy achieving viral suppression (significantly reducing the risk of transmission).

Q.11

Which of the following is true regarding Juvenile Justice Board (JJB).

Statement 1: A six-member committee can be formed to investigate the functioning of a Juvenile Justice Board (JJB)

Statement 2: The committee will include only legal professionals (judges, lawyers)

Which of the following statements is true.

1. Only 1
2. Only 2
3. Both 1 and 2 are right
4. Both 1 and 2 are wrong

Answer:

D

Sol:

- A four-member committee can be formed to investigate the functioning of a Juvenile Justice Board (JJB).
- This committee's purpose is to assess the JJB's adherence to proper procedures, particularly in areas like:
 - Following due process during bail hearings
 - Making judgments in accordance with the Juvenile Justice Act
 - The committee is a mix of legal professionals and social workers.

Q.12

What is the current water storage level in dams across Maharashtra?

1. 10%
2. 23%
3. 32%
4. 40%

Answer:

B

Sol:

- Water storage in Maharashtra's dams has significantly declined, dropping to a critical level of 23% as of May 2024.
- This is considerably lower compared to 32% during the same period last year.
- The situation is particularly severe in the Marathwada region, where dams are only at 9% capacity.

Q.13

In which city was the Forest Survey of India's (FSI) forest cover mapping unit previously located?

1. Shimla
2. Dehradun
3. Kolkata
4. Nagpur

Answer:

D

Sol:

- The Forest Survey of India (FSI) has centralized its forest cover mapping unit by shifting it from its Nagpur regional office to its headquarters in Dehradun.

- Possible reasons for the shift include consolidating expertise and resources at the FSI headquarters.

Q.14

What is the primary purpose of UN Peacekeeping Missions?

1. To provide humanitarian aid to war-torn regions.
2. To mediate conflicts between nations.
3. To monitor and supervise ceasefire agreements.
4. To enforce international law through military action.

Answer:

C

Sol:

- International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers is observed annually on May 29th
- This day honors the establishment of the first UN peacekeeping mission in 1948
- The primary purpose of UN Peacekeeping Missions is to monitor and supervise ceasefire agreements.

Q.15

What is the theme for International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers 2024?

1. Role of Women in Peacekeeping
2. Fit for the Future: Building Better Together.
3. Strengthening Peacekeeping
4. Honoring Peacekeepers

Answer:

B

Sol:

- Theme for 2024 International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers is "Fit for the Future: Building Better Together"
- It emphasizes adapting to evolving challenges and collaboration for effective peacekeeping..

Q.1

What was the primary goal of the Magellan Mission?

1. To explore Mars
2. To study the Sun
3. To map the surface of Venus using radar imaging
4. To explore Jupiter's moons

Answer:

C

Sol:

Magellan Mission:

- Launch Date and Mission: • NASA's deep space mission launched on May 4, 1989, to explore Venus.
- The first interplanetary mission launched from the Space Shuttle.

- Naming: Named after Ferdinand Magellan, the Portuguese explorer who first circumnavigated the Earth.
- Primary Goal: To map the surface of Venus using radar imaging due to the planet's thick atmosphere obstructing visual observation.

Q.2

Which planet did the Magellan Mission explore?

1. Mercury
2. Mars

3. Jupiter
4. Venus

Answer:

D

Sol:

Magellan Mission:

- **Launch Date and Mission:** • NASA's deep space mission launched on May 4, 1989, to explore Venus.
- **The first interplanetary mission launched from the Space Shuttle.**

- **Naming:** Named after Ferdinand Magellan, the Portuguese explorer who first circumnavigated the Earth.
- **Primary Goal:** To map the surface of Venus using radar imaging due to the planet's thick atmosphere obstructing visual observation.

Q.3

What is the primary purpose of the Pravaah Portal?

1. To provide a platform for individuals or entities to seek authorizations, licenses, or regulatory approvals from the RBI.
2. To facilitate online banking transactions.
3. To enable the purchase of Government Securities by retail investors.
4. To provide information about FinTech activities in India.

Answer:

A

Sol:

- **Pravaah Portal:** • **Purpose:** A secure, centralized web-based platform for individuals or entities to seek authorizations, licenses, or regulatory approvals

from the RBI.

- **Retail Direct Mobile App:** • **Purpose:** Facilitate retail investors to open Retail Direct Gilt accounts with the RBI

- **Features:** • Allows retail investors to buy Government Securities (G-Secs) in primary auctions.

- **FinTech:** • **Objective:** • Capture essential information about FinTech entities, their activities, and technology uses.

- Provide a comprehensive understanding of the Indian FinTech sector for policymakers and industry participants.

- **Coverage:** Includes both regulated and unregulated FinTech entities.

- **Management:** Managed by the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH), a wholly-owned subsidiary of RBI.

Q.4

Who manages the FinTech initiative aimed at capturing essential information about FinTech entities?

1. Ministry of Finance
2. Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH)
3. Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
4. National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)

Answer:

B

Sol:

- **Pravaah Portal:** • **Purpose:** A secure, centralized web-based platform for individuals or entities to seek authorizations, licenses, or regulatory approvals from the RBI.

- Retail Direct Mobile App: • Purpose: Facilitate retail investors to open Retail Direct Gilt accounts with the RBI
- Features: • Allows retail investors to buy Government Securities (G-Secs) in primary auctions.
- FinTech: • Objective: • Capture essential information about FinTech entities, their activities, and technology uses.
- Provide a comprehensive understanding of the Indian FinTech sector for policymakers and industry participants.
- Coverage: Includes both regulated and unregulated FinTech entities.
- Management: Managed by the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH), a wholly-owned subsidiary of RBI.

Q.5

Which of the following best describes the appearance of a Himalayan serow?

1. Resembles a cross between a lion, a tiger, a bear, and a wolf
2. Resembles a cross between a goat, a donkey, a cow, and a pig
3. Resembles a cross between a deer, a horse, a cow, and a sheep
4. Resembles a cross between a rabbit, a fox, a cow, and a pig

Answer:

B

Sol:

Himalayan serow:

- Appearance: Resembles a cross between a goat, a donkey, a cow, and a pig.
- Types: Several species of serows exist, all found in

- Asia. The Himalayan serow is a subspecies of the mainland serow (*Capricornis sumatraensis*).
- Diet: Herbivorous.
- Distribution:
 - Regions: Found in eastern, central, and western Himalayas; not in the Trans Himalayan region.
 - Conservation Status: • IUCN Red List: Vulnerable
 - CITES: Appendix I
 - The Wildlife Protection Act, 1972: Schedule I

Q.6

What is the IUCN Red List status of the Himalayan serow?

1. Endangered
2. Critically Endangered
3. Vulnerable
4. Extinct

Answer:

C

Sol:

Himalayan serow:

- Appearance: Resembles a cross between a goat, a donkey, a cow, and a pig.
- Types: Several species of serows exist, all found in Asia. The Himalayan serow is a subspecies of the mainland serow (*Capricornis sumatraensis*).
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 - Conservation Status: • IUCN Red List: Vulnerable
 - CITES: Appendix I
 - The Wildlife Protection Act, 1972: Schedule I

Q.7

Where is the mosquito species *Anopheles stephensi* originally from?

1. Africa
2. South America
3. South Asia
4. Europe

Answer:

A

Sol:

- The spread of the mosquito species *Anopheles stephensi* across Africa exacerbates the continent's malaria burden, where 90% of the world's malaria deaths occur.
- *Anopheles stephensi*: • Native Region: South Asia.
- Disease Transmission: Transmits both *Plasmodium falciparum* and *P. vivax*.
- Comparison with African Vectors: Unlike African malaria vectors, which are typically found in rural areas, *An. stephensi* thrives in urban environments.
- Public Health Concerns: • Poses a significant threat in urban areas.
- The invasion of *An. stephensi* into Africa threatens malaria elimination efforts, especially with 42.5% of Africa's population living in urban areas.

Q.8

How does *Anopheles stephensi* differ from traditional African malaria vectors in terms of habitat?

1. Prefers urban environments over rural area
2. Prefers rural areas over urban areas
3. Prefers coastal areas over inland areas
4. Prefers forests over open fields

Answer:

A

Sol:

- The spread of the mosquito species *Anopheles stephensi* across Africa exacerbates the continent's malaria burden, where 90% of the world's malaria deaths occur.
- *Anopheles stephensi*: • Native Region: South Asia.
- Disease Transmission: Transmits both *Plasmodium falciparum* and *P. vivax*.
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- Public Health Concerns: • Poses a significant threat in urban areas.
- The invasion of *An. stephensi* into Africa threatens malaria elimination efforts, especially with 42.5% of Africa's population living in urban areas.

Q.9

Where is the Virupaksha Temple located?

1. Mysore
2. Bangalore
3. Hampi
4. Udupi

Answer:

C

Sol:

Virupaksha temple:

- Location: Hampi, Karnataka.
- Historical Significance: • Part of the Group of Monuments at Hampi, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Built during the Vijayanagara Empire in the 7th century.
- Deity: Dedicated to Lord Virupaksha, a form of Shiva.

- Architecture: • Dravidian style.
- Notable features include a towering gopuram (entrance tower) approximately 50 meters high.
- Intricately carved pillars and ornate ceilings.

Q.10

During which empire was the Virupaksha Temple built?

1. Vijayanagara Empire
2. Mughal Empire
3. Chola Empire
4. Maurya Empire

Answer:

A

Sol:

Virupaksha temple:

- Location: Hampi, Karnataka.
- Historical Significance: • Part of the Group of Monuments at Hampi, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Built during the Vijayanagara Empire in the 7th century.
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- Intricately carved pillars and ornate ceilings.

Q.11

What is the scientific family name of flamingos?

1. Phoenicopteridae

2. Phoenicopterus
3. Flamingonidae
4. Phoenidae

Answer:

A

Sol:

Flamingo:

- Scientific Name: Phoenicopteridae (Family)
- Species: Six recognized species: Greater Flamingo, Lesser Flamingo, Chilean Flamingo, Andean Flamingo, James's Flamingo, and American Flamingo.
- Diet: • Primarily feed on algae, small crustaceans, and plankton.
- Their diet is rich in carotenoid pigments, which gives them their pink color.
- Habitat: • Found in shallow lakes, lagoons, mangrove swamps, and mudflats.
- Prefer alkaline or saline water bodies.
- Distribution: Native to parts of Africa, Asia, the Americas, and Europe.
- Conservation Status: Varies by species, but some are classified as Near Threatened or Vulnerable due to habitat loss and environmental changes.
- Interesting Fact: Flamingos filter-feed by stirring up the mud with their feet and then sucking water through their bills to filter out food.

Q.12

When was the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) constituted?

1. 2000
2. 2002
3. 2004
4. 2006

Answer:

C

Sol:

NCST:

- Establishment: Constituted on 19 February 2004.
- Constitutional Basis: Article 338A of the Indian Constitution.
- Purpose: Safeguard the interests of the Scheduled Tribes (STs) in India.
- Functions:
 - Investigate and monitor all matters relating to the safeguards provided for STs under the Constitution or under any other law.
 - Evaluate the working of such safeguards.
 - Inquire into specific complaints with respect to the deprivation of rights and safeguards of STs.
 - Participate and advise in the planning process of socio-economic development of STs.
 - Present reports to the President annually and at other times as necessary.
- Composition:
 - Chairperson
 - Vice-Chairperson
 - Three other members
- Tenure: Members hold office for a term of three years from the date they assume office.

Q.13

Which company is collaborating with Maharashtra on a \$1.5 billion 'Ultra Mega Project' for enhancing EV infrastructure?

1. Ola Electric
2. Tesla
3. Gogoro
4. Adani Electric motor

Answer:

C

Sol:

- Maharashtra is leading the way in the adoption of electric vehicles, particularly electric two-wheelers.
- The state has over 4 lakh electric two-wheelers, contributing to 17% of the national sales.
- Additionally, Maharashtra's collaboration with Gogoro on a \$1.5 billion 'Ultra Mega Project' will further enhance the state's EV infrastructure.
- This project includes manufacturing electric vehicles, smart battery packs, and battery swap stations, aiming to deploy Gogoro's battery-swapping infrastructure across the state.

Q.14

Where is the 72nd Maharashtra State Senior Athletics Championship being held?

1. Pune
2. Nagpur
3. Kolhapur
4. Mumbai

Answer:

B

Sol:

- The 72nd Maharashtra State Senior Athletics Championship is being held in Nagpur at the Rashtrasant Tukdoji Maharaj Nagpur University Sports Complex.
- It's a crucial event for athletes aspiring to qualify for the 2024 Paris Olympics, as well as other national and international championships.
- The Nagpur District Athletics Association (NDAA) is hosting the championship.
- The outcomes of this championship are crucial as they will determine the athletes representing Maharashtra in the upcoming 63rd National Inter State Senior Athletics Championships to be held at Panchkula.

Q.15

In which district is Dnyanganga Wildlife Sanctuary located?

1. Buldhana
2. Dhule
3. Ratnagiri
4. Hingoli

Answer:

A

Sol:

Dnyanganga wildlife sanctuary:

- **Location:** Buldhana district, Maharashtra.
- **Established:** Declared a sanctuary in 1997.
- **Flora:** • Dominated by Southern tropical dry deciduous forests.
- **Key tree species include** Teak, Babul, Moha, Tendu, and Bel.
- **Fauna:** • **Mammals:** Includes species like Bengal tiger, Indian leopard, sloth bear, wild boar, and several deer species such as sambar and chital.
- **Birds:** Rich avifauna with species like peafowl, jungle fowl, and various species of eagles and vultures.
- **Rivers:** The Dnyanganga river flow through the sanctuary.
- **Conservation Status:** Managed by the Maharashtra State Forest Department to protect and preserve the biodiversity of the region.

Q.1

What was the theme of the 77th World Health Assembly?

1. Health for All: Protect Everyone
2. Universal Health Coverage for All
3. Global Health Security

4. Combating Health Inequities

Answer:

A

Sol:

- **77th World Health Assembly:** • **Date and Venue:** Held from 21 to 30 May 2024, in Geneva, Switzerland.
- **Participants:** Attended by delegations from all WHO Member States, health ministers, and other senior health officials.
- **Theme:** Focused on "Health for All: Protect Everyone".
- **Agenda:** • Global health emergencies, including the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Universal Health Coverage (UHC).
- Health workforce issues.
- Non-communicable diseases (NCDs).
- Mental health and substance use.
- **Key Discussions:** • Strengthening health systems.
- Financing for health.
- Improving access to medicines and vaccines.
- Addressing health inequities.
- **Resolutions and Decisions:** • Adoption of resolutions on primary health care.
- Strategies to combat antimicrobial resistance.
- Global strategies on digital health.

Q.2

The 77th World Health Assembly held at

1. New York
2. New Delhi
3. Geneva
4. Vienna

Answer:

C

Sol:

- 77th World Health Assembly: • Date and Venue: Held from 21 to 30 May 2024, in Geneva, Switzerland.
- Participants: Attended by delegations from all WHO Member States, health ministers, and other senior health officials.
- Theme: Focused on "Health for All: Protect Everyone".
- Agenda: • Global health emergencies, including the COVID-19 pandemic.
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- Key Discussions: • Strengthening health systems.
- Financing for health.
- Improving access to medicines and vaccines.
- Addressing health inequities.

- Resolutions and Decisions: • Adoption of resolutions on primary health care.
- Strategies to combat antimicrobial resistance.
- Global strategies on digital health.

Q.3

What is the primary objective of PRAGATI-2024?

1. To increase sales of Ayurvedic products
2. To explore research opportunities and foster collaboration between CCRAS and the Ayurveda drug industry
3. To provide training to Ayurvedic practitioners
4. To promote Ayurvedic tourism

Answer:

B

Sol:

PRAGATI-2024:

- Full Name: Pharma Research in AyurGyan And Techno Innovation (PRAGATI-2024)
- Objective: To explore research opportunities and foster collaboration between the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) and the Ayurveda drug industry.
- Focus Areas: • Advanced research in Ayurveda
- Development of new Ayurvedic drugs
- Innovation in Ayurvedic drug manufacturing processes

- Key Participants: • Researchers from CCRAS
- Industry experts from the Ayurveda drug sector
- Academic institutions specializing in Ayurvedic studies

Q.4

Which of the following is NOT a focus area of PRAGATI-2024?

1. Advanced research in Ayurveda
2. Development of new Ayurvedic drugs
3. Promotion of Ayurvedic tourism
4. Innovation in Ayurvedic drug manufacturing processes

Answer:

C

Sol:

PRAGATI-2024:

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- Objective: To explore research opportunities and foster collaboration between the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) and the Ayurveda drug industry.
- Focus Areas: • Advanced research in Ayurveda

- Development of new Ayurvedic drugs
- Innovation in Ayurvedic drug manufacturing processes

- Key Participants: • Researchers from CCRAS
- Industry experts from the Ayurveda drug sector
- Academic institutions specializing in Ayurvedic studies

Q.5

What is the objective of the eMigrate project?

1. To provide educational services to rural areas
2. To promote tourism in India
3. To enhance agricultural productivity
4. To assist blue-collar workers going to ECR countries by making the emigration process seamless and online

Answer:

D

Sol:

eMigrate project:

- The project aims to assist blue-collar workers going to Emigration Check Required (ECR) countries by making the emigration process seamless and online.
- It addresses issues faced by migrant workers and brings foreign employers, registered recruitment agents, and insurance companies onto a common platform to promote safe and legal migration.
- Under this MoU, the eMigrate Portal of MEA will be integrated with the CSC's portal to provide the following eMigrate services to citizens through CSCs: • Facilitate registration of applicants on the eMigrate portal.
- Assist with uploading and processing required documents on the eMigrate portal.
- Support booking medical and other services required by migrant workers or applicants registered on the eMigrate portal.
- Create awareness about eMigrate services across

India.

Q.6

Which of the following is NOT a service provided through the eMigrate Portal integration with CSC's portal?

1. Facilitating registration of applicants
2. Assisting with uploading and processing documents
3. Booking travel tickets for migrant workers
4. Supporting booking of medical services

Answer:

C

Sol:

eMigrate project:

- The project aims to assist blue-collar workers going to Emigration Check Required (ECR) countries by making the emigration process seamless and online.
- It addresses issues faced by migrant workers and brings foreign employers, registered recruitment agents, and insurance companies onto a common platform to promote safe and legal migration.
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- Assist with uploading and processing required documents on the eMigrate portal.
- Support booking medical and other services required by migrant workers or applicants registered on the eMigrate portal.
- Create awareness about eMigrate services across India.

Q.7

When was the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) established?

1. 2000
2. 2004
3. 2007
4. 2014

Answer:

B

Sol:

CERT-In:

- Establishment: CERT-In was established in 2004.
- Objective: Its primary objective is to enhance the security of India's communications and information infrastructure.
- Function: Acts as the national nodal agency for responding to computer security incidents.
- Responsibilities: • Incident Response: Handles and coordinates responses to cybersecurity incidents.
- Alerts and Advisories: Issues alerts and advisories on latest cyber threats and vulnerabilities.
- Awareness: Conducts training and awareness programs on cybersecurity.
- Collaboration: Works in collaboration with various stakeholders, including government departments, private sectors, and international agencies.
- Research and Development: Engages in research to develop tools and techniques for enhancing cybersecurity.
- Legislation: Operates under the Information Technology Act, 2000.
- Services: Provides services such as early warning, vulnerability handling, incident response, and security quality management services.

Q.8

Under which act does the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) operate?

1. Information Technology Act, 2000
2. Cybersecurity Act, 2005
3. Digital India Act, 2015
4. National Security Act, 2002

Answer:

A

Sol:

CERT-In:

- Establishment: CERT-In was established in 2004.
- Objective: Its primary objective is to enhance the security of India's communications and information infrastructure.
- Function: Acts as the national nodal agency for responding to computer security incidents.
- Responsibilities: • Incident Response: Handles and coordinates responses to cybersecurity incidents.
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- Collaboration: Works in collaboration with various stakeholders, including government departments, private sectors, and international agencies.
- Research and Development: Engages in research to develop tools and techniques for enhancing cybersecurity.
- Legislation: Operates under the Information Technology Act, 2000.
- Services: Provides services such as early warning, vulnerability handling, incident response, and security quality management services.

Q.9

What type of missile is the RudraM-II?

1. Air-to-surface missile
2. Surface-to-air missile
3. Surface-to-surface missile
4. Air-to-air missile

Answer:

A

Sol:

RudraM-II missile:

- Type: Air-to-surface missile
- Developed by: Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
- Purpose: Designed for precision strikes against enemy targets
- Range: Capable of engaging targets at around 350 km

Q.10

Which organization developed the RudraM-II missile?

1. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
2. Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)
3. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
4. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)

Answer:

C

Sol:

RudraM-II missile:

- Type: Air-to-surface missile
- Developed by: Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
- Purpose: Designed for precision strikes against enemy targets
- Range: Capable of engaging targets at around 350 km

Q.11

Which organization will prepare the draft development plan for the new Mahabaleshwar Hill Station?

1. Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation (MTDC)
2. Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation (MSRDC)
3. Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC)
4. Maharashtra Housing and Area Development Authority (MHADA)

Answer:

B

Sol:

• The project to build a new Mahabaleshwar Hill Station near the famous cold spot in Satara district has gained momentum.

Key points:

- The new Mahabaleshwar will be created with the development of Koyna BackWater.
- The scheme is being prepared for an area of about 748 sq km in Satara district, extending from the limits of Sangli district to Mahabaleshwar.
- The proposed hill station is located at an altitude of about 1200 meters above sea level in the north-south of the Sahyadri range.
- Development Goals: • Protection, conservation, and restoration of the Sahyadri Tiger Reserve and eco-sensitive areas.
- Creating buffer zones or connectors and migration corridors around reserves, wildlife sanctuaries, and sensitive sites to conserve rare species.
- Enhancing the beauty of areas like Shiv Sagar Lake, Urmodi, Tapola, and Koyna BackWater to make them fertile, green and picturesque.

- Villages Included: • Satara Taluka: 34 villages
- Patan Taluka: 95 villages
- Jawali Taluka: 46 villages
- Mahabaleshwar Taluka: 60 villages

• As soon as the model code of conduct ends, the Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation

(MSRDC) will start preparing a draft development plan.

Q.12

What is the name of the non-profit organization founded by Safeena Husain?

1. Teach for India
2. Pratham
3. Akanksha Foundation
4. Educate Girls

Answer:

D

Sol:

- Safeena Husain, an educationist and the founder of a non-profit named Educate Girls, has been awarded an honorary doctorate by the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) for her exemplary contribution to girls' education in India.
- This makes her the first Indian woman to receive this prestigious honor.
- Educate Girls, founded in 2007, is dedicated to expanding access to girls' education in India's underserved villages.
- Safeena joins a distinguished group of recipients, including • Prof. Muhammad Yunus (founder of Grameen Bank and Nobel Peace Prize laureate),
- Prof. Tim Berners-Lee (inventor of the internet),
- Prof. Klaus Schwab (executive chairman of the World Economic Forum) and
- Esteemed Indian figures like Raghuram Rajan and Jagdish Bhagwati are also among the recipients.

Q.13

What is the approximate length of the Samruddhi Expressway?

1. 500 kilometers
2. 601 kilometers
3. 701 kilometers
4. 801 kilometers

Answer:

C

Sol:

Samruddhi Expressway:

- Official Name: Mumbai–Nagpur Super Communication Expressway
- The expressway is also known as the Hindu Hrudaysamrat Balasaheb Thackeray Maharashtra Samruddhi Mahamarg.
- Length: Approximately 701 kilometers
- Route: Connects Mumbai and Nagpur in Maharashtra
- Key Features: • 8-lane access-controlled expressway
- Designed for a speed limit of 150 km/h
- Includes service roads and underpasses
- The expressway will pass through 10 districts, 26 talukas, and 392 villages.
- The Samruddhi Expressway will ensure travel between Nagpur and Mumbai in just 8 hours.
- 18 agriculture-oriented new townships will be developed at strategic intersections.
- It will be the country's most extensive 'Greenfield' route alignment with the proposal to plant more than 11 lakh trees on both sides along the expressway.

Q.14

The Indrayani River is a tributary of which river?

1. Godavari River
2. Bhima River
3. Krishna River
4. Tapi River

Answer:

B

Sol:

Indrayani river:

- Location: Indrayani River flows in the state of Maharashtra.
 - Origin: The river originates in the Western Ghats near Lonavala, specifically from the Karla hills.
 - Length: The river has a length of approximately 65 kilometers.
 - Tributary: Indrayani is a tributary of the Bhima River.
 - Path: It flows through towns such as Dehu and Alandi before merging with the Bhima River near Tulapur.
 - Religious Significance: • The river is considered sacred by the followers of the Varkari sect.
-
- Dehu and Alandi, two important pilgrimage sites, are located on its banks. Dehu is the birthplace of Saint Tukaram, and Alandi is where Saint Dnyaneshwar took samadhi.

Q.15

Under which Act is the Juvenile Justice Board (JJB) established in India?

1. The Child Protection Act, 2005
2. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015
3. The Juvenile Welfare Act, 2010
4. The Children's Rights Act, 2012

Answer:

B

Sol:

JJB:

- Establishment: The Juvenile Justice Board (JJB) is established under the Juvenile Justice (Care and

Protection of Children) Act, 2015 in India.

- Purpose: The primary purpose of the JJB is to handle cases involving juveniles (children below the age of 18) who are in conflict with the law.
 - Composition: • The JJB is composed of a Principal Magistrate and two social workers, with at least one woman member.
 - The social workers should have expertise in child psychology, child welfare, or other related fields.
-
- Functions: • Inquiry and adjudication of cases involving juveniles in conflict with the law.
 - Ensure the legal rights and protections of juveniles are upheld during legal proceedings.
-
- Provide guidance and rehabilitative services to juveniles.