



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

1. Consider the following statements

1. India is a founding member of Indian Ocean Commission
2. Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) is only UN body specialised in ocean sciences and services
3. IOC is serves as a global tsunami warning centre

How many statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) None

Ans: b (Only two)

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Indian Ocean Commission is an intergovernmental organisation that links African Indian Ocean nations: Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Réunion and Seychelles. The founding 40 member states were: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Cuba, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Finland, Federal Republic of Germany, France, Ghana, India, Zionists Israel and many more.

There are also seven observers: China, the European Union, the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie, the Sovereign Order of Malta, India, Japan and the United Nations.

Statement 2 & 3 are correct: The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (IOC/UNESCO) was established by resolution 2.31 adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The IOC is the only UN body specialized in ocean science and services. It provides a focus for other UN organizations and agencies with regard to ocean science, observations and data exchange, and services such as global tsunami warning systems.

2. Consider the following statements about World Trade Organisation (WTO)

1. WTO is the only global international organization dealing with the rules of trade between nations.

2. WTO's top-level decision-making body is the General Council, which usually meets every two years.

3. Decisions in the WTO require a two-thirds majority, which must be ratified by members' parliaments.

4. The Quorum required in WTO Appellate Body is 4 members

How many statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Ans: a (Only one)

Statement 1 is correct: The World Trade Organization (WTO) is the only global international organization dealing trade rules between nations. At its heart are the WTO agreements, negotiated and signed by most of the world's trading nations and ratified in their parliaments. The goal is to help producers of goods and services, exporters, and importers conduct their business. It is a forum for governments to negotiate trade agreements and a place for them to settle trade disputes and operate a system of trade rules. The WTO is a place where member governments try to sort out the trade problems they face with each other.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The WTO's top-level decision-making body is the Ministerial Conference, which usually meets every two years. The Ministerial Conference can make decisions on all matters under multilateral trade agreements. Below this is the General Council (normally ambassadors and heads of delegation in Geneva, and sometimes officials sent from members' capitals), day-to-day decision-making body and it meets several times a year in the Geneva headquarters. The General Council also meets as the Trade Policy Review Body and the Dispute Settlement Body.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Its member governments run the WTO. All major decisions are made by the membership, either by ministers (who meet at least once every two years) or by their ambassadors or delegates (who meet regularly in Geneva). Decisions are normally taken by consensus. The trade agreements are signed by representatives of member

PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

governments and ratified by their parliaments. Where consensus is impossible, the WTO agreement allows for voting — a vote being won with a majority of the votes cast and .” the basis of “one country, one vote.” The WTO Agreement envisages four specific situations involving voting, and not all require a two-thirds majority.

Statement 4 is incorrect: WTO Appellate body (WTOAB) consists of 7 members and to hear any disputes it requires a quorum of 3 members and not the 4 members. The WTOAB can uphold, modify or reverse the legal findings and conclusions of a panel, and Appellate Body Reports, once adopted by the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB), must be accepted by the parties to the dispute.

3. Consider the following pairs

Straight	Location/Geography
Bab al-Mandab strait	Connects/separates Gulf of Aden and Red Sea
Bass straight	Connects/separates East and South China sea
Bosphorous strait	Connects/separates Black sea and Sea of Azov
Magellan strait	Connects/Separates Atlantic and Pacific Ocean

How many pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Ans: b (Only two)

Pair 1 is correctly matched: Bab-al-Mandab strait connects Red sea with Gulf Aden



Pair 2 is incorrectly matched: Bass Strait is a strait in the pacific ocean separating the island state of

Tasmania from the Australian mainland, more specifically, the coast of Victoria.



Pair 3 is incorrectly matched: Bosphorus Strait is a natural strait and an internationally significant waterway located in Istanbul in north-western Turkey. It forms part of the continental boundary between Asia and Europe and divides Turkey by separating Anatolia from Thrace. It is the world's narrowest strait used for international navigation. It is located near the Black Sea and Sea of Marmara, not in the Red sea. The Bab el-Mandeb Strait is a sea route between the Horn of Africa and the Middle East, connecting the Red Sea to the Gulf of Aden and Arabian Sea



Pair 4 is correctly matched: The Strait of Magellan is a navigable sea route in southern Chile, separating mainland South America to the north and Tierra del Fuego to the south. The strait is considered the most important natural passage between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. It is an important route for steam and sailing ships travelling between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans

PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION



4. Which of the following statements best describes the 'Staff Level Agreement'?

- It is an agreement between USA Defence Staff and Chinese authorities.
- It is an agreement by the Reserve Bank of India with the Bank for International Settlements.
- It is an agreement between IMF and Sri Lanka under the Extended Fund Facility
- It is an agreement between IMF and Sri Lanka under the Extended Fund Facility

Ans: c (It is an agreement between IMF and Sri Lanka under the Extended Fund Facility)

Explanation: The International Monetary Fund (IMF) recently announced a staff-level agreement on Extended Fund Facility Arrangement with Sri Lanka. Staff-level agreement is a formal arrangement by which IMF staff and Sri Lankan authorities agree on a \$2.9-billion package that will support Sri Lanka's economic policies with a 48-month arrangement under the Extended Fund Facility (EFF).

The EFF was established to assist countries experiencing serious payment imbalances because of structural impediments or slow growth and an inherently weak balance of payments. An EFF supports comprehensive programs, including the policies needed to correct structural imbalances over an extended period.

5. Consider the following statements

- International Maritime Organisation (IMO) is a specialised agency of United Nations

- IMO is one of the universally ratified authority under UN
- International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW) even applies to ships of non-party states also
- International Seabed Authority, a body under IMO authorises deep sea mining

How many statements given above are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- Only three
- All Four

Ans: b (Only two)

Statement 1 is correct: The International Maritime Organization is a specialised agency of the United Nations responsible for regulating shipping. The IMO was established following agreement at a UN conference held in Geneva in 1948 and the IMO came into existence ten years later, meeting for the first time on 17 March 1958. Headquartered in London, United Kingdom, IMO currently has 175 Member States and three Associate Members

Statement 2 is incorrect: Most UN member states that are not members of IMO are landlocked countries. These include Afghanistan, Andorra, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Eswatini, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Mali, Niger, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. The Federated States of Micronesia, an island-nation in the Pacific Ocean, is also a non-member. Taiwan is neither a member of the IMO nor of the UN, although it has a major shipping industry.

Statement 3 is correct: International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW) sets minimum qualification standards for masters, officers and watch personnel on seagoing merchant ships and large yachts. STCW was adopted in 1978 by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) conference in London, and entered into force in 1984. One especially important feature of the Convention is that it applies to ships of non-party states when visiting ports of States which are Parties to the Convention. Article X requires Parties to apply the



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

control measures to ships of all flags to the extent necessary to ensure that no more favourable treatment is given to ships entitled to fly the flag of a State which is not a Party than is given to ships entitled to fly the flag of a State that is a Party.

Statement 4 is incorrect: The International Seabed Authority (ISA) is a Kingston, Jamaica-based intergovernmental body of 167 member states and the European Union established under the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and its 1994 Agreement on Implementation. The ISA's dual mission is to authorize and control development of mineral related operations in the international seabed considered the "common heritage of all mankind."

6. Consider the following countries

1. India
2. Japan
3. Australia
4. Israel
5. UAE
6. Saudi Arabia
7. USA

Which of the above countries are part of West Asian Quad?

- (a) 1, 2, 3 and 7
- (b) 1, 2, 4 and 5
- (c) 1, 4, 5 and 7
- (d) 1, 3, 4 and 5

Ans: c (1, 4, 5 and 7)

Explanation: The "West Asian Quad" was established as the International Forum for Economic Cooperation of the four nations India, Israel, the U.S. and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). It will be called I2U2 for India and Israel, whose names begin with the letter 'I,' and the U.S. and the UAE begin with the letter 'U,' which will focus on West Asia.

7. It is a global development cooperative owned by 189 member countries. It is the largest development bank in the world. It supports the World Bank Group's mission by providing loans, guarantees, risk management products, and advisory services to middle-income and creditworthy low-income countries. The above-mentioned information deals with which of the below Financial Institutions?

- (a) International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)
- (b) International Developmental Association (IDA)
- (c) International Financial Corporation (IFC)
- (d) Multi-lateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA)

Ans: a (International Bank for Reconstruction and Development)

Explanation: Recently, the World Bank approved a \$250 million loan for a road safety programme that addresses India's high road accident fatality rate. The variable spread loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) has a maturity of 18 years, including a grace period of 5.5 years. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) supports the World Bank Group's mission by providing loans, guarantees, risk management products, and advisory services to middle income and creditworthy low-income countries and coordinating responses to regional and global challenges.

Subsidiary organs of the World Bank Group Includes

- International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)
- International Development Association (IDA)
- International Financial Corporation (IFC)
- Multi-Lateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA)
- International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID)

8. Consider the following pairs

Exercise Name	Participating Countries
Al-Najah	India-Saudi Arabia
Zayed Talwar	India-UAE
Al Mohed Al Hindi	India-Oman
Harimau Shakti	India-Malaysia

How many pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Ans: b (Only two)

Pair 1 is incorrectly matched: Al-Najah is a joint military exercise between India and Oman



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

Pair 2 is correctly matched: Zayed Talwar is the joint naval exercise between India and UAE

Pair 3 is incorrectly matched: Al Mohed Al Hindi is a joint naval exercise between India and Saudi Arabia

Pair 4 is correctly matched: Harimau Shakti is a joint military exercise between India and Malaysia.

9. Consider the following statements about International Monetary Fund (IMF)

1. IMF issues SDR, a non-interest-bearing international reserve asset, which can supplement the member country's other reserve assets
2. Bilateral borrowing agreements are the primary source of IMF funding
3. The recently established Resilience Sustainability Trust (RST) helps in financing low-income and vulnerable middle-income countries with zero interest rates

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Only 3
- (d) None

Ans: d (None)

Statement 1 incorrect: The Special Drawing Right (SDR) is an interest-bearing international reserve asset created by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in 1969 to supplement the official reserves of its member countries. The SDR is not a currency. It is a potential claim on the freely usable currencies of IMF members. As such, SDRs can provide a country with liquidity. The value of the SDR is set daily by the IMF based on fixed currency amounts of the currencies included in the SDR basket and the daily market exchange rates between the currencies included in the SDR basket.

Statement 2 is incorrect: IMF funds come from three sources: member quotas, multilateral and bilateral borrowing agreements. The primary source of IMF funding mainly comes from the money that countries pay as their capital subscription (quotas) when they become members, called member quotas. A member country's quota reflects its size and position in the world economy. IMF regularly

reviews quotas. Bilateral Borrowing Agreements serve as a third line of defense after quotas and the New Arrangements to Borrow (NAB).

Statement 3 is incorrect: The IMF's Resilience and Sustainability Trust (RST) helps low-income and vulnerable middle-income countries build resilience to external shocks and ensure sustainable growth, contributing to their longer term balance of payments stability. The RST will be a loan-based trust, with resources mobilized voluntarily. About three-quarters of the IMF's membership will be eligible for longer-term affordable financing from the RST, including all low income countries, all developing and vulnerable small states, and lower-middle-income countries. The loans will have a 20-year maturity and a 10½-year grace period, with borrowers paying an interest rate with a modest margin over the three-month SDR rate, with the most concessional financing terms provided to the poorest countries.

10. Consider the following statements about UN Peace Keeping Missions

1. India deployed the first-ever All women contingent from the Central Reserve Police Force in the Abyei region in Sudan
2. The UN Peacekeepers provide only peace and security in the conflict zones
3. The UN began its Peacekeeping efforts in 1948 when it deployed military observers to West Asia.
4. UNITE Aware is technological platform developed by India to help peace keepers in conflict zones

How many statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Ans: c (Only three)

Statement 1 is correct: In January 2023, India deployed a platoon of Women Peacekeepers in Sudan's Abyei region as part of the Indian Battalion in the United Nations Interim Security Force (UNISFA). This is said to be India's largest single unit of women Peacekeepers in a UN Mission since it



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

deployed the first-ever all-women contingent in Liberia in 2007.

Statement 2 is incorrect: UN peacekeepers provide not only peace and security in the conflict zones but also political stability to help countries make the difficult, early transition from conflict to peace. They protect civilians, actively prevent conflict, reduce violence, strengthen security and empower national authorities to assume these responsibilities. U.N. military personnel can be tasked with the following:

- Protecting civilians and other U.N. personnel
- Monitoring disputed borders
- Observing peace processes in post-conflict areas
- Providing security in conflict zones
- Providing security during elections
- Assisting in-country military personnel with training and support
- Assisting ex-combatants in implementing the peace agreements

Statement 3 is correct: The United Nations' first peacekeeping mission was established in May 1948, when the UN Security Council authorized the deployment of a small number of UN military observers to the Middle East to form the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) to monitor the Armistice Agreement between Israel and its Arab neighbours.

Statement 4 is correct: UNITE Aware is a technological platform developed by India in partnership with the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Operational Support.

Situational Awareness Software Programme: It utilises modern surveillance technology for real time threat assessments to peacekeepers in maintaining security. This will access live video and satellite imagery, and in very volatile circumstances can also deliver early warnings to peacekeepers. It can also record data on critical incidents and events and follow daily operational activities. Using the platform, the entire peacekeeping operation can be visualised, coordinated, and monitored on a real time basis.

11. 'Geneva Package' recently in the news is related to which of the following?

- (a) Ongoing Russia-Ukraine peace deal at Geneva
- (b) U.S.A-China negotiations on the trade war
- (c) High ambition coalition signed by UN Countries to end Plastic Pollution
- (d) Agreements made by the WTO members in its 12th Ministerial conference

Ans: d (Agreements made by the WTO members in its 12th Ministerial conference)

Explanation: Recently, the 12th Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization was held and agreed to a series of deals relating to the temporary waivers on Covid-19 vaccines, a moratorium on e-commerce trade, food security, and setting limits on harmful fishing subsidies. The primary purpose of the World Trade Organization is to open trade for the benefit of all. The package of agreements secured at the 12th Ministerial Conference (MC12) held in Geneva, Switzerland, was the culmination of efforts by WTO members to provide concrete trade-related responses to the world today's important challenges.

12. Consider the following statements about Non-Aligned Movement

1. It is the second largest grouping of states after the United Nations.
2. Non-Aligned Movement was formally established at Bandung Conference in 1955.
3. Russia is one of the observers of the organization.
4. Theme for the 2024 summit was 'Deepening Cooperation for Shared Global Affluence'

How many statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Ans: c (Only three)

Statement 1 is correct: In the beginning, NAM consisted of 25 members in 1961; it has now expanded to include 115 developing countries, constituting nearly two-thirds of the United Nations and containing 55% of the world population, which is considered the second largest grouping of states after the United Nations



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Non-Aligned Movement was formed during the Cold War, largely on the initiative of the then Yugoslav President Joseph Broz Tito, as an organization of States that did not seek to formally align themselves with either the United States or the Soviet Union but sought to remain independent or neutral. The basic concept for the group originated in 1955 during discussions at the Asia-Africa Bandung Conference held in Indonesia. The First NAM Summit Conference took place in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, in September 1961, and this was when NAM was formally established.

Statement 3 is correct: In 1970, guest status was introduced, granting the right to participate in all NAM's open meetings and events. Russia received this status in 1995. Russia received Observer status of NAM in July 2021.

Statement 4 is correct: The 19th Conference was held recently in 15-20 January 2024 at Kampala, Uganda with a theme Deepening Cooperation for Shared Global Affluence.

13. Which of the following country led the 'Middle East Green Initiative'?

- (a) Saudi Arabia
- (b) UAE
- (c) Iran
- (d) Israel

Ans: a (Saudi Arabia)

Explanation: The Middle East Green Initiative (MGI) is a regional effort led by Saudi Arabia to mitigate the impact of climate change on the region and to collaborate to meet global climate targets. By increasing regional cooperation and creating the infrastructure needed to reduce emissions and protect the environment, MGI can amplify its impact in the global fight against climate change while creating far-reaching economic opportunities for the region. The MGI is a first-of-its-kind regional alliance. MGI has provided an ambitious and clearly defined roadmap for regional climate action. MGI will deliver the largest reforestation program in the world and significantly contribute to achieving the emissions reduction targets under the Paris Agreement.

14. Consider the following pairs

Agreement/Protocol	Purpose/Deals with
Madrid convention	International Trademark system
Sendai framework	Biological diversity
Cartagena protocol	Disaster Risk Reduction
Budapest treaty	Patent for Micro-organisms

How many pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Ans: b (Only two)

Pair 1 is correctly matched: The Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks is governed by the Madrid Agreement, concluded in 1891, and the Protocol relating to that Agreement concluded in 1989.

Pair 2 is incorrectly matched: The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (Sendai Framework) was the first major agreement of the post-2015 development agenda and provides Member States with concrete actions to protect development gains from the risk of disaster.

Pair 3 is incorrectly matched: The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity is an international agreement that aims to ensure the safe handling; transport and use of living-modified organisms (LMOs)

Pair 4 is correctly matched: The Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure, or Budapest Treaty, is an international treaty signed in Budapest, Hungary, on April 28, 1977. It entered into force on August 19, 1980, and was later amended on September 26, 1980. The treaty is administered by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

15. Consider the following countries

- 1. Russia
- 2. Bahrain
- 3. Kuwait
- 4. Oman
- 5. Sudan



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

Which of the above countries are not part of OPEC but part of OPEC +?

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

Ans: b (1, 2, 4 and 5)

Explanation: OPEC Plus countries is an alliance between the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and other major oil producers are formed in 2016. OPEC Plus refers to a group of 23 oil-producing countries that includes 13 members of OPEC (Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Algeria, Angola, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Libya, Nigeria, the Republic of the Congo, and Venezuela) and 10 other oil-producing countries (Russia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Brunei, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mexico, Oman, South Sudan and Sudan). Saudi Arabia is the largest oil producer among OPEC members. Russia, which produces more oil than even Saudi Arabia, plays a crucial role, along with OPEC, in influencing global crude oil prices.

16. Consider the following statements about the UN Convention on the Law of Sea (UNCLOS)

1. States willing to operate in the Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) shall comply with all the laws and regulations adopted by the coastal states of such EEZs
2. Coastal states cannot restrict the freedom of Navigation in the EEZs and shall comply with all the provisions of the Convention
3. Coastal States cannot construct Artificial Islands or such other installations in the EEZs

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: a (1 and 2 only)

Statement 1 is correct: An "Exclusive Economic Zone," or "EEZ," is an area of the ocean, generally extending 200 nautical miles (230 miles) beyond a nation's territorial sea, within which a coastal nation has jurisdiction over both living and non-living resources. The concept of an exclusive economic

zone (EEZ) was adopted through the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. Under international law, within its defined EEZ, a coastal nation has:

- Sovereign rights to explore, exploit, conserve, and manage natural resources of the seabed, subsoil, and waters above it.
- Other rights and duties are provided for under international law.

In the exclusive economic zone, States shall have due regard to the rights and duties of the coastal State and shall comply with the laws and regulations adopted by the coastal State under the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and other rules of international law.

Statement 2 is correct: As per the UNCLOS, EEZ is an area adjacent to the territorial waters of a coastal state where the sovereign coastal State enjoys the rights and duties. Article 58 (1) of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) provides that in the EEZ, all States, whether coastal or landlocked, enjoy, subject to the relevant provisions of this Convention, the freedoms referred to in Article 87 of Navigation and overflight and of the laying of submarine cables and pipelines as well as other internationally lawful uses of the sea. Article 87 provides freedom of the high seas under which all states have the freedom of Navigation. However, the freedom of Navigation is subject to the conditions laid down under the UNCLOS and other rules of international law. All States shall exercise these freedoms with due regard for the interests of other States in their exercise of the freedom of the high seas and also with due regard for the rights under this Convention with respect to activities in the Area.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The coastal State shall have exclusive jurisdiction over such artificial islands, installations and structures, including jurisdiction with regard to customs, fiscal, health, safety and immigration laws and regulations. The exclusive economic zone provides an exclusive right to the coastal State to construct and authorize and regulate the construction, operation and use of:

- Artificial islands



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

- Installations and structures for the purposes provided for in article 56 of and other economic purposes
- Installations and structures may interfere with the exercise of the coastal State's rights in the zone

17. Consider the following statements

1. WTO proposed a 'Blue Deal' for global trade, investment and innovation development.
2. Blue deal refers to the sustainable use of Ocean resources for economic growth.
3. The ocean economy includes fisheries, maritime transport, marine genetic resources etc.
4. Digital Economy Report is published by United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

How many statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Ans: c (Only three)

Statement 1 is incorrect: "Blue Deal" is being promoted at the 2022 United Nations Ocean Conference to enable the sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth by the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

Statement 2 is correct: It includes global trade, investment and innovation to create a sustainable and resilient ocean economy that benefits all, according to the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

Statement 3 is correct: The ocean economy offers significant development opportunities and promotes the sectors such as sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, renewable marine energy, marine bio-prospecting, maritime transport and marine and coastal tourism. The concept of an ocean economy also embodies economic and trade activities that integrate the conservation and sustainable use and management of biodiversity, maritime ecosystems, and genetic resources.

Statement 4 is correct: Digital Economy Report is published by United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

18. Which of the crimes are investigated by the International Criminal Court?

1. Genocide
2. Corruption
3. War Crimes
4. Crimes Against Humanity

How many pairs given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Ans: c (Only three)

Explanation: The International Criminal Court (ICC) investigates and, where warranted, tries individuals charged with the gravest crimes of concern to the international community: genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and the crime of aggression. War crimes include torture, mutilation, corporal punishment, hostage-taking and acts of terrorism. This category also covers violations of human dignity such as rape and forced prostitution, looting and execution without trial. Unlike crimes against humanity, war crimes are always committed in times of war. Genocide includes all acts committed to destroying a national, ethnic or religious group. Crimes against humanity are acts committed as part of a widespread or systematic attack directed against any civilian population, such as murder, deportation, torture and rape. The ICC would prosecute the perpetrators even if the crimes were not committed during the war. Since ethnic cleansing has not been defined, it is not recognized as a crime under international law. According to the U.N., the lines between ethnic cleansing and genocide are often blurred.

19. Consider the following countries that are part of European Free Trade Association (EFTA)

1. Iceland
2. Norway
3. Denmark
4. Switzerland



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

How many of the above statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Ans: c (Only three)

Explanation: The European Free Trade Association (EFTA) is a regional trade organization and free trade area consisting of four European states: Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland. The organization operates in parallel with the European Union (EU), and all four member states participate in the European Single Market and are part of the Schengen Area. They are not, however, party to the European Union Customs Union.

It was established on 3 May 1960 to serve as an alternative trade bloc for those European states that were unable or unwilling to join the then European Economic Community (EEC), the main predecessor of the EU. The Stockholm Convention (1960), to establish the EFTA, was signed on 4 January 1960 in the Swedish capital by seven countries (known as the "outer seven": Austria, Denmark, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom). A revised Convention, the **Vaduz Convention**, was signed on 21 June 2001 and entered into force on 1 June 2002

Whilst the EFTA is not a customs union and member states have full rights to enter into bilateral third-country trade arrangements, it does have a coordinated trade policy.

20. Consider the following statements about Indus Water Treaty (IWT)

1. Article 9 of IWT provides for a two-step resolution mechanism, comprising the Permanent commission at the inter-government level, and the Court of Arbitration
2. The commission is required to meet regularly, at least once a year, alternatively in India and Pakistan.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2

- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: b (Only 2)

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Indus Water Treaty defines three levels of disputes (questions, differences, disputes) under Article 9 of IWT, between the parties and provides three corresponding resolution mechanisms. Initially, the Permanent Indus Commission consisting of two commissioners, one from India and one from Pakistan, is tasked with resolving any "question" arising between the Parties relating to the provisions of the IWT or the existence of a fact.

Statement 2 is correct: Under Article VIII (5) of the Indus Waters Treaty, the Permanent Indus Commission must meet regularly at least once a year, alternately in India and Pakistan

21. Consider the following statements about Istanbul Convention

1. It is the most comprehensive legal framework to tackle violence against women and girls, covering domestic violence, sexual abuse, and female genital mutilation, among others.
2. India is not a party to the convention.
3. It does not cover boys and men as victims in cases of Domestic violence and forced marriage.

How many statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) None

Ans: b (Only two)

Statement 1 is correct: The Council of Europe established the Istanbul Convention, which recognizes violence against women as a violation of human rights and discrimination against women. It covers various forms of genderbased violence against women, which refers to violence directed against women because they are women or violence affecting them. The Istanbul Convention is a major step towards a comprehensive and harmonized response to ensuring a life free of violence for all women and girls across and beyond Europe. It specifies several forms of gender-based violence against women that are to



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

be criminalized (or, where applicable, otherwise sanctioned). These are:

- Psychological Violence
- Stalking
- Physical Violence
- Sexual Violence (Including Rape) and etc

Statement 2 is correct: The Istanbul Convention has adopted a number of resolutions and recommendations calling for legally binding standards on preventing, protecting against and prosecuting the most severe and widespread forms of gender-based violence. The treaty was opened for ratification in May 2011. However, India is not a party to the convention

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Convention sends a clear message to the whole of society that violence is never the right way to solve difficulties and cannot lead to a state of peace – either in private or public life. It reinforces the importance of understanding that violence against women is not acceptable and will not be tolerated. While the focus of the Convention is on all forms of violence against women, including domestic violence, it also recognizes that there are other victims of domestic violence, such as boys and men. This may include gay men, transgender men or men who do not conform to what society considers appropriate behaviour.

22. Consider the following statements about European Union

1. A country must meet the Copenhagen criteria, which requires a stable democracy that respects human rights, to become a member of the European Union.
2. European Commission acts as the legislature of the union.
3. European Court of Justice was established by the Treaty of Lisbon
4. European Council comprises the heads of state or government of the EU member states.

How many statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Ans: b (Only two)

Statement 1 is correct: A country must fulfill the "Copenhagen criteria" to become a member of the European Union. The Copenhagen criteria are the rules that define whether a country is eligible to join the European Union. The criteria require that a state has the institutions to preserve democratic governance and human rights, has a functioning market economy, and accepts the obligations and intent of the European Union were defined in general terms by the Copenhagen European Council in June 1993

Statement 2 is incorrect: The European Parliament has legislative power in the great majority of EU legislation and one of the main EU law-making institutions, debating and passing European laws. The Council of European Union acts together with European Parliament as a Legislature. It also plays a key role in approving and monitoring the EU's budget, including investments to support external aid programs. The European Commission is the executive of the European Union. It is responsible for initiating laws, enforcing the laws of the EU and managing the EU's policies.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The European Court of Justice was set up under the Treaty of Paris in 1951 to implement the legal framework of the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC). The Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) interprets EU law to ensure it is applied in the same way in all EU countries and settles legal disputes between national governments and EU institutions.

Statement 4 is correct: The European Council comprises the heads of state or government of all EU countries, the European Council President, and the European Commission President. It is convened and chaired by its President, who the European Council itself elects for a once-renewable two-and-a-half-year term.

23. World Social Protection Report is released by?

- (a) World Bank
- (b) United Nations Development Programme
- (c) Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
- (d) International Labour Organisation

Ans: d (International Labour Organisation)



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

Explanation: World Social Protection Report is published by the International Labour Organization (ILO). It gives a global overview of recent developments in social protection systems, including social protection floors, and covers the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Social protection includes access to health care and income security measures related especially to old age, unemployment, sickness, disability, work injury, maternity or the loss of the main breadwinner in a family, as well as extra support for families with children.

24. Consider the following statements about ‘Warsaw Pact’

1. Warsaw pact led to the signing of the North Atlantic treaty as a counter measure.
2. Warsaw pact is not operational today as it was formally declared nonexistent in 1991.
3. Eastern European countries like Hungary, Poland, Albania and Yugoslavia were a part of Warsaw pact
4. Article 5 of Warsaw pact establishes collective security mechanism among member countries

How many statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Ans: a (Only one)

Statement 1 is incorrect: Warsaw Pact, formally the Warsaw Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance (May 14, 1955–July 1, 1991) treaty established a mutual-defense organization that provided for a unified military command and the maintenance of Soviet military units on the territories of the other participating states. It was formed as a counterbalance to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), a collective security alliance concluded between the United States, Canada and Western European nations in 1949.

Statement 2 is correct: The Warsaw Pact is not operational today. After the democratic revolutions of 1989 in eastern Europe, the Warsaw Pact became non-functional. It was formally declared “non

existent” on July 1, 1991, at a final summit meeting of Warsaw Pact leaders in Prague, Czechoslovakia.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Warsaw Pact embodied what was referred to as the Eastern bloc, while NATO and its member countries represented the Western bloc. Apart from the Soviet Union, the Warsaw Pact had seven other Soviet satellite states in Central and Eastern Europe: Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Poland and Romania (Albania withdrew in 1968). Yugoslavia was not a part of the Warsaw pact.

Statement 4 is incorrect: Similar to Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty and the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance, Article 4 of the Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO) establishes that an aggression against one signatory would be perceived as an aggression against all.

25. ‘New START Treaty’, recently seen in news is signed between?

- (a) India-Pakistan
- (b) Israel-Palestine
- (c) Russia-Ukraine
- (d) Russia-USA

Ans: d (Russia-USA)

Explanation: New START is a nuclear arms reduction treaty between the United States and the Russian Federation with the formal name of Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms. It was signed on 8 April 2010 in Prague, and after ratification it entered into force on 5 February 2011.

26. Consider the following statements about the initiatives of BRICS

1. Contingent Reserve Arrangement to protect against global liquidity pressures was established by BRICS.
2. New Development Bank is an initiative of BRICS established by the Brasilia declaration

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: a (Only 1)



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

Statement 1 is correct: Contingent Reserve Arrangement (CRA), established in 2015 by BRICS member nations Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, is a framework for providing support through liquidity and precautionary instruments in response to the actual or potential short-term balance of payments pressures. It will provide members with currency swaps to help mitigate the BOP crisis in case such a situation arises. The BRICS CRA will help India and other signatory countries to forestall short-term liquidity pressures, provide mutual support and further strengthen financial stability. It would also strengthen the global financial safety net and complement existing international arrangements (from IMF) as an additional line of defence.

Statement 2 is incorrect: During the sixth BRICS Summit in Fortaleza (2014), the leaders signed the Agreement establishing the New Development Bank (NDB) under the Fortaleza declaration. In the Fortaleza Declaration, the leaders stressed that the NDB aims to mobilize resources for infrastructure and sustainable development projects in BRICS countries and other emerging economies and developing countries to complement the existing efforts of multilateral and regional financial institutions for global growth and development.

27. Consider the following countries

1. Denmark
2. Greenland
3. Russia
4. USA
5. Sweden

Which of the above countries are part of Arctic Council?

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

Ans: b (1, 3, 4 and 5)

Explanation: The Arctic Council is the leading intergovernmental forum promoting cooperation, coordination and interaction among the Arctic States, Arctic Indigenous peoples and other Arctic inhabitants on common Arctic issues, particularly on issues of sustainable development and environmental

protection in the Arctic. The Arctic Council comprises the eight Arctic states and six international Indigenous peoples' organizations as Permanent Participants.

- Denmark
- Sweden
- Norway
- Finland
- Russia
- Iceland
- USA
- Canada

28. 'E9 initiative' recently seen in news, is related to?

- (a) Environment Protection
- (b) Electric Vehicle Adoption
- (c) Protection of Elephants
- (d) Education for All

Ans: d (Education for All)

Explanation: The "E" stands for education, and the "9" represents the following nine countries: Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria and Pakistan, representing over half of the world's population and 70% of the world's illiterate adults. According to UNESCO, the cultural education body of the UN, the Covid-19 crisis and its learning offer a once-in-a-generation opportunity to leap-frog children and youth into fast-moving, competitive, interconnected and digitalised economies. It is a United Nations initiative with a motto of fulfilling Sustainable Development Goal- 4 (which aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all).

29. Consider the following statements about Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication (SWIFT)

1. It is a messaging network used by banks and financial institutions across the world.
2. If a country is excluded from SWIFT, its domestic market will collapse, making it almost entirely dependent on foreign funding.
3. As an alliance of multi-financial institutions, it does not comply with any of the Sanctions laws



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

4. Apart of messaging services it also manages accounts on behalf of individuals

How many statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Ans: a (Only one)

Statement 1 is correct: SWIFT is a messaging network used by banks and financial institutions globally for quick and faultless exchange of information on financial transactions. The Belgium-headquartered SWIFT connects more than 11,000 banking and securities organizations in over 200 countries and territories.

Statement 2 is incorrect: If a country is excluded from the most participatory financial facilitating platform, its foreign funding will take a hit, making it entirely reliant on domestic investors. This exclusion is particularly troublesome when institutional investors constantly seek new markets in newer territories.

Statement 3 is incorrect: SWIFT complies fully with all applicable sanctions laws. However, the responsibility for ensuring that individual financial transactions comply with sanctions laws rests with the financial institutions handling them and their competent authorities. Swift is only a messaging service provider with no involvement in or control over the underlying financial transactions that its financial institution customers mention in their messages.

Statement 4 is incorrect: The Swift messaging network is a component of the global payments system. Swift acts as a carrier of the "messages containing the payment instructions between financial institutions involved in a transaction". However, the organisation does not manage accounts on behalf of individuals or financial institutions, and it does not hold funds from third parties. It also does not perform clearing or settlement functions.

30. 'Tree Cities of the World' is an initiative of

- (a) International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- (b) Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)

(c) United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

(d) World Health Organisation (WHO)

Ans: b (Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO))

Explanation: Recently, Hyderabad and Mumbai has been recognized as the '2021 Tree City of the World' by the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (UN) jointly with Arbor Day Foundation for its "commitment to growing and maintaining urban trees and greenery in building healthy, resilient and happy cities." The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations' Tree City of the World programme provides direction, assistance, and worldwide recognition for communities' dedication to its urban forest. It provides a framework for healthy, sustainable urban forestry.

31. 'Windsor framework' recently seen in news is signed between

- (a) India-EU
- (b) India-UK
- (c) UK-EU
- (d) UK-Republic of Ireland

Ans: c (UK-EU)

Explanation: The Northern Ireland Protocol, which allowed EU customs rules to apply in Northern Ireland. This was to avoid a hard customs border between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. Specifically, under the Protocol, Northern Ireland would formally be outside the EU single market, yet EU rules on the free movement of goods and customs union would continue to apply. While the Protocol promoted peace and harmony on the island, it de facto cut Northern Ireland off from the UK in terms of trade by imposing, in effect, a hard customs border in the Irish Sea. This aggravated Northern Ireland unionists who argued that it was unfair that goods could not flow freely between the province and the rest of the UK.

The Windsor framework seeks to address the aforementioned disruptions to trade between Northern Ireland and the rest of the U.K. caused by the Northern Ireland Protocol. It does so by permitting free trade between Great Britain and Northern Ireland through the use of green and red



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

lanes for goods flowing into Northern Ireland. Green lane goods will have fewer checks and controls, including no customs checks or rules of origin. Red lane goods under the framework will be subject to full checks and controls to preserve the EU's single market. In a bid to ease the impact on farmers, agri-food goods such as meat and dairy will have reduced checks and controls, and food retailers, including supermarkets, wholesalers, and caterers, will be able to move agri-food via the green lane. The prohibition on certain chilled meats from Great Britain being sold in Northern Ireland will be removed. The U.K. and EU leaders are hoping that this would lead to greater availability of British goods in Northern Ireland markets, including both foods and medicines.

32. Consider the following objectives set under European Union Green Deal

1. Climate-Neutral block by 2060
2. Revision of Emission Trading System
3. Complete elimination of fossil fuel subsidies
4. Sustainable and Smart mobility strategy

How many statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Ans: b (Only two)

Statement 1 is incorrect: The overarching aim of the European Green Deal is for the European Union to become the world's first "climate-neutral bloc" by 2050. It has goals extending to many different sectors, including construction, biodiversity, energy, transport and food

Statement 2 is correct: a review and possible revision (where needed) of the all relevant climate-related policy instruments, including the Emissions Trading System. The European Union Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) is a carbon emission trading scheme (or cap and trade scheme) which began in 2005 and is intended to lower greenhouse gas emissions by the European Union countries. Cap and trade schemes limit emissions of specified pollutants over an area and allow companies to trade emissions rights within that area. The EU ETS covers around 45% of the EUs greenhouse gas emissions.

Statement 3 is incorrect: A revision of the Energy Taxation Directive which is looking closely at fossil fuel subsidies and tax exemptions (aviation, shipping)

Statement 4 is correct: a sustainable and smart mobility strategy is also part of it. 30-30 strategy is part of this component.

33. 'Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment' is an initiative of?

- (a) G20
- (b) G7
- (c) OECD
- (d) European Union

Ans: b (G7)

Explanation: U.S. President Joe Biden along with his G7 allies unveiled the ambitious Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGII), announcing the collective mobilisation of \$600 billion by 2027 to deliver "game-changing" and "transparent" infrastructure projects to developing and middle-income countries. The PGII is being seen as the G7's counter to China's multi-trillion dollar Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) to build connectivity, infrastructure, and trade projects in Asia, Europe, Africa, and Latin America.

34. Consider the following countries, which are part of 'Chip4' alliance

1. India
2. USA
3. Japan
4. South Korea

How many statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Ans: c (Only three)

Explanation: he "Chip 4" or "Fab 4" alliance includes four of the world's top producers of semiconductors: the U.S., Japan, Taiwan, and South Korea. It represents more than 70 percent of the value of the global semiconductor industry. It was first proposed by the US in March 2022 as part of wider plans aimed at enhancing the "security" and "resilience" of semiconductor supply chains,



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

including by reducing the world's reliance on chips made in China. It is intended to cooperate on policy implementation that would support sustainable semiconductor manufacturing in the member states' home countries.

Goals:

- Support industry efforts to diversify their manufacturing base in semiconductor production.
- Protect the Intellectual Property (IP) of companies in member countries.
- Develop policies regarding the export of the most advanced semiconductors and equipment.

35. Consider the following statements about the 5-point consensus adopted by ASEAN for Myanmar

1. Immediate end of Violence in the country
2. Dialogue among all parties concerned
3. Humanitarian Assistance by United Nations Peace Keeping forces
4. Appointment of bloc level special envoy to Myanmar

How many statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Ans: c (Only three)

Explanation: The five steps the regime agreed to with the ASEAN leaders are: an immediate end to violence in the country; dialogue among all parties concerned; the appointment of a special envoy; provision of humanitarian assistance by ASEAN; and a visit by the bloc's special envoy to Myanmar to meet with all parties. However, the military junta never implemented any of these commitments.

36. With which of the following countries India had signed "Comprehensive Migration and Mobility partnership Agreement (MMPA)

1. France
2. UK
3. Germany
4. Finland

How many statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Ans: d (All four)

Explanation: India has signed Migration and Mobility Partnership Agreements with the following countries:

1. France: The Migration and Mobility Partnership Agreement between India and France was signed on December 6, 2010. This agreement emphasizes the importance of migration and mobility between the two countries.
2. Italy: India and Italy signed a Mobility and Migration Partnership Agreement in November 2023. This agreement aims to facilitate the smooth movement of workers, students, and professionals between the two countries.
3. Germany: India and Germany entered into a Comprehensive Migration and Mobility Partnership Agreement on December 5, 2022. The agreement encourages the citizens of both countries to engage in migration and mobility activities.
4. UK: India has a Migration and Mobility Partnership Agreement with the United Kingdom. The agreement was signed on May 4, 2021. This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and the United Kingdom aims to promote migration and mobility between the two countries. It includes collaboration between the UK's Office for Talent and relevant bodies in India to encourage prospective migrants to take advantage of the opportunities provided by the agreement. Additionally, the agreement also includes provisions for cooperation in returning migrants who are not eligible to stay in either country.
5. Finland: India and Finland have signed a joint declaration of Intent on migration and mobility. This agreement aims to develop a mutually beneficial arrangement on migration and mobility between the two countries. The



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

joint declaration emphasizes the importance of cooperation and collaboration in this area. However, it's important to note that the specific details and provisions of the agreement may not be available in the real-time information provided. For more detailed information, it would be best to refer to official government sources or news articles.

These agreements are aimed at promoting cooperation and facilitating the movement of people between India and these countries.

37. Consider the following countries

1. Slovakia
2. Austria
3. Croatia
4. Serbia

How many of the above are part of 'Slavkov trilateral'?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Ans: b (Only two)

Explanation: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar had a meeting with Foreign Ministers Alexander Schallenberg of Austria, Jan Lipavsky of the Czech Republic, and Rastislav Kacer of the Slovak Republic on Monday afternoon in the Slavkov format and said that it was very useful.

The Slavkov format, also known as "Slavkov Trilateral" is a loose cooperation between the Central European countries Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Austria. The regular exchange takes place at all political levels.

Focused on regional cooperation, it is also referred to as the Austerlitz format, based on the place where it was set up in 2015.

38. Consider the following statements about Global Compact for Migration

1. It is a legally binding intergovernmental agreement under United Nations
2. Its main objective is to develop a evidence based migration policy, tracking missing migrants and saving lives

3. USA is not a party to this agreement

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: c (2 and 3 only)

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) is an intergovernmental negotiated agreement, prepared under the auspices of the United Nations, that describes itself as covering "all dimensions of international migration in a holistic and comprehensive manner". The compact was formally endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly on 19 December 2018. The Compact is a "non-binding cooperative framework", meaning it has limited weight under International Law.

Statement 2 is correct: There are 23 objectives and commitments listed in the draft agreement. These include collecting and using accurate and anonymized data to develop evidence-based migration policy, ensuring that all migrants have proof of identity, enhancing availability and flexibility for regular migration, encouraging cooperation for tracking missing migrants and saving lives, ensuring migrants can access basic services, and making provisions for both full inclusion of migrants and social cohesion.

Statement 3 is correct: On 19 December 2018, the United Nations General Assembly endorsed the compact through a vote. 152 countries voted in favour of the resolution to endorse it, while the United States, Hungary, Israel, Czech Republic and Poland voted against it. 12 countries abstained from the vote and USA is never be a part of this agreement

39. 'Battle of Bakhmut' recently seen in news is fought between?

- (a) Israel-Palestine
- (b) Iran-Syria
- (c) Armenia-Azerbaijan
- (d) Russia-Ukraine

Ans: d (Russia-Ukraine)

Explanation: The battle of Bakhmut was a major battle in and around the city of Bakhmut between the



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

Russian Armed Forces and Ukrainian defenders for capture of the city during the larger eastern Ukraine campaign. It was one of the longest and bloodiest battles of the war so far.

While the shelling of Bakhmut began in May 2022, the main assault towards the city started on 1 August after Russian forces advanced from the direction of Popasna following a Ukrainian withdrawal from that front. The main assault force consisted primarily of mercenaries from the Russian paramilitary organization Wagner Group, supported by regular Russian troops and reportedly Donetsk People's Republic militia elements.

40. Consider the following statements about “G20 Common Framework”

1. It is an initiative endorsed by G20 together with Paris Club
2. The major objective is to support low-income countries with unsustainable debt

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: c (Both 1 and 2)

Explanation: G20 Common Framework is the Common Framework for Debt Treatments beyond the Debt Service Suspension Initiative (DSSI). It was announced in November 2020 to deal with the issue of unsustainable debts faced by various countries as an impact of COVID-19.

Paris Club is a club or group of officials from major creditor countries. It was established in the year 1956. It aims to find sustainable solutions to the difficulties faced by debtor countries in payments.

Chad has become the first country to officially request a debt restructuring under a new common framework “G20 Common Framework” introduced by China and other Group of 20 countries last year with the help of the Paris Club.

41. Consider the following statements about International Monetary Fund (IMF)

1. The Extended Credit Facility (ECF) provides financial assistance to countries with protracted balance of payments problems
2. Extended Fund Facility (EFF) provides financial assistance to meet the medium-term balance of payment crisis
3. Standby Credit Facility (SCF) provides financial assistance to low-income countries to overcome short term balance of payment crisis

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: d (1, 2 and 3)

Statement 1 is correct: The Extended Credit Facility (ECF) provides financial assistance to countries with protracted balance of payments problems. The ECF was created under the Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust (PRGT) as part of a broader reform to make the Fund's financial support more flexible and better tailored to the diverse needs of low-income countries (LICs), including in times of crisis. The ECF is the Fund's main tool for providing medium-term support to LICs. Under the ECF, member countries agree to implement policies to help them progress toward a stable and sustainable macroeconomic position over the medium term.

Statement 2 is correct: When a country faces serious medium-term balance of payments problems because of structural weaknesses that require time to address, the IMF can assist through an Extended Fund Facility (EFF). Compared to assistance provided under the Stand-by Arrangement, assistance under an extended arrangement features longer program engagement—to help countries implement medium-term structural reforms—and a longer repayment period.

Statement 3 is correct: The Standby Credit Facility (SCF) provides financial assistance to low-income countries (LICs) with short-term balance of payments needs. The SCF was created under the Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust (PRGT) as part of a broader reform to make the Fund's financial support more flexible and better tailored to the diverse needs of LICs, including in times of shocks or crisis.



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

42. Which of the following statements best describes “Delhi Dialogue”?

- (a) An event to discuss political, economic and socio-cultural engagement between India and ASEAN
- (b) India’s premier conference on geopolitics and geo-economics committed to address the most challenging issues facing the global community
- (c) A process that would help countries implement their Intended National Determined Contributions by the end of 2020
- (d) Flagship initiative of the Indian Ocean Rim Association

Ans: a (An event to discuss political, economic and socio-cultural engagement between India and ASEAN)

Explanation: Delhi Dialogue is an annual Track 1.5 forum for discussing politico-security, economic and socio-cultural issues between ASEAN and India. Since 2009 when the conference was first held, Delhi Dialogue has emerged as an important forum where political leaders, policymakers, researchers, academicians, business leaders and media persons converge to brainstorm on various issues on ASEAN-India relations. The Delhi Dialogue mechanism allows the participation of think tanks, academics and prominent civil society persons from India and the ASEAN region, and government representatives to contribute ideas and perspectives to furthering the India-ASEAN strategic partnership.

43. Consider the following statements about Indo-Pacific Economic Framework

- 1. It is a US-led initiative that aims to strengthen economic partnerships among 14 countries
- 2. It is an exclusive Free Trade Agreement among the member countries.
- 3. Fair & resilient trade, Supply chain resilience, Clean energy, decarbonisation & Infrastructure are the key pillars of this treaty
- 4. India is a party to all the four pillars of EPEF

How many statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three

(d) All four

Ans: b (Only two)

Statement 1 is correct: The United States launched the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) with 14 countries such as Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam. IPEF partners aim to contribute to cooperation, stability, prosperity, development, and peace within the region. This framework will advance resilience, sustainability, inclusiveness, economic growth, fairness, and competitiveness for our economies. Further, it will offer tangible benefits that fuel economic activity and investment, promote sustainable and inclusive economic growth, and benefit regional workers and consumers.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The IPEF is not a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) but allows members to negotiate the parts which are based on the following four pillars such as Trade, Supply Chains, Clean Energy, Decarbonisation, and Infrastructure and Tax and Anti-Corruption. The IPEF is more about standard setting and facilitating trade and will not involve more market access for its members. The IPEF is designed to be flexible, and IPEF partners are not required to join all four pillars. IPEF is not a regular trade pact, and all the 14 members so far are not obligated by all the four pillars despite being signatories.

Statement 3 is correct: IPEF was based on 4 pillars. They are

- Supply-chain resilience
- Clean energy, decarbonisation & infrastructure
- Taxation & anti-corruption
- Fair & resilient trade.

Statement 4 is incorrect: In September 2022, Minister of Commerce & Industry Piyush Goyal said at a press conference in the United States that India had agreed to three pillars relating to supply chains: tax, anti-corruption and clean energy, but that the fourth pillar on trade, involving labour, environment, digital data and public procurement, had not been agreed yet. The US expressed concerns about potential Indian demands for data localisation to



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

ensure that data about Indian users is held and processed only in India and not in the US.

44. Recently India abstained from voting on a Russia-sponsored draft resolution at the UNSC for a probe into Ukraine's alleged use of Bioweapons. In this context, consider the following statements about The Biological Weapons Convention (BWC)

1. It is the first multilateral disarmament treaty banning an entire category of biological weapons of mass destruction (WMD)
2. The convention is in line with the resolution of the UNSC 1540, in which India is a member state.
3. Individual countries can request the UNSC to investigate the alleged breaches of BWC.
4. The convention provides for a verification process to conduct visits and confirm that the member parties have done away with their bio-weapon arsenal.

How many statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Ans: c (Only three)

Statement 1 is correct: The Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) effectively prohibits the development, production, acquisition, transfer, stockpiling and use of biological and toxin weapons. It was the first multilateral non-discriminatory disarmament treaty banning an entire category of weapons of mass destruction (WMD). The Convention was negotiated by the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament in Geneva, Switzerland. It opened for signature on 10 April 1972 and entered into force on 26 March 1975.

Statement 2 is correct: In resolution 1540 (2004), the Security Council decided that all States shall refrain from providing any form of support to non-State actors that attempt to develop, acquire, manufacture, possess, transport, transfer or use nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery, in particular for terrorist purposes. The resolution requires all States to adopt and enforce appropriate laws to this effect and other effective

measures to prevent the proliferation of these weapons and their means of delivery to non-State actors, particularly for terrorist purposes. The Biological Weapons Convention is in line with the resolution of the UNSC 1540, in which India is a member state.

Statement 3 is correct: Article VI of the Biological Weapons Convention allows any member state to request that the United Nations Security Council investigate an alleged breach of the BWC and cooperate in carrying out any investigation initiated by the Security Council.

Statement 4 is incorrect: Biological Weapons Convention did not provide for a verification process, meaning it did not have a body to conduct visits or confirm whether the member parties had done away with their bio-weapon arsenal.

45. Consider the following statements about International Court of Justice (ICJ)

1. It is one of the specialised agency of United Nations
2. All members of the United Nations (UN) are parties to the statute of the ICJ
3. Any non-members of the UN can also become parties to the ICJ.
4. No two judges out of the total 15 can be nationals of the same state.

How many statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Ans: c (Only three)

Statement 1 is incorrect: International Court of Justice is one of the principle organ of United Nations. It is not a specialised agency

Statement 2 is correct: The International Court of Justice shall be the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. It shall function in accordance with the Statute of the International Court of Justice, which is annexed to the UN Charter and forms an integral part of it. According to Article 93 of the United Nations (U.N.), All United Nations members are ipso facto (by the fact itself) parties to the International Court of Justice Statute.



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

Statement 3 is correct: According to Article 93 of the United Nations (U.N.), a state/country which is not a Member of the United Nations may become a party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice on conditions to be determined in each case by the General Assembly upon the recommendation of the Security Council. Switzerland (as of 28 July 1948), Liechtenstein (as of 29 March 1950), San Marino (as of 18 February 1954), Japan (as of 2 April 1954) and Nauru (as of 29 January 1988) fell into this category before joining the United Nations.

Statement 4 is correct: The International Court of Justice, established by the Charter of the United Nations as the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, shall be constituted and shall function in accordance with the provisions of the present Statute. According to Article 3 of the United Nations (U.N.), The Court shall consist of fifteen members, no two of whom may be nationals of the same state. A person who, for membership in the Court, could be regarded as a national of more than one state shall be deemed a national of the one in which he ordinarily exercises civil and political rights.

46. Consider the following statements

1. Global Shield against Climate Risks is a joint initiative launched by G7 and V20 countries.
2. Global Shield Financing Facility is set up by IMF to help countries recover from climate shocks and natural disasters

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: a (Only 1)

Statement 1 is correct: The Global Shield Against Climate Risks is a joint initiative launched today at COP27 by the Vulnerable 20 Group (V20) of Finance Ministers and the Group of Seven (G7). The Global Shield, launched during the Sharm El-Sheikh Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC COP 27) on 14 November 2022, addresses weaknesses in the financial protection structure in climate-vulnerable economies through pre-arranged finance disbursed before or just after disasters happen.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Global Shield Financing Facility is a financing mechanism to support developing countries set up by World Bank. It channelizes monetary grants through World Bank projects and helps developing countries access more financing for recovery from natural disasters and climate shocks. Global Shield Financing Facility will support the Global Shield Against Climate Risks to better protect poor and vulnerable people from disasters by pre-arranging more financing before disasters strike. The Global Shield Financing Facility will finance integrated financial protection packages that offer coordinated and consolidated financial support to those vulnerable to climate shocks and disasters. These financial packages will complement investments in climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction. Therefore, Global Shield Financing Facility was not set up by IMF.

47. Consider the following statements about L69 Group

1. It is a group of developing countries bound by the firm conviction that expansion of the UNSC is needed.
2. The group currently has 42 countries as its members, including India.
3. They are also known as "The Coffee Club".

How many statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) None

Ans: b (Only two)

Statement 1 & 2 are correct: The L.69 (known by the Resolution Number-L69 of 2008) group of nations includes 42 member countries from across Asia, Africa, and Latin America. L.69 Group also includes India as a member. L.69 group of nations form a major bloc united by the common cause of achieving the lasting and comprehensive reform of the United Nations Security Council. The firm conviction binds the Group that expansion in the permanent and non-permanent categories of membership of the UNSC is imperative to reflect contemporary world realities better.



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Uniting for Consensus (UfC), nicknamed the Coffee Club, is a movement that developed in the 1990s in opposition to the possible expansion of permanent seats in the United Nations Security Council. It was in 1995 formed to jointly oppose the expansion, which aims to counter the bids for permanent seats proposed by G4 nations (Brazil, Germany, India, and Japan) and calls for a consensus before any decision is reached on the form and size of the United Nations Security Council. It consists of 12 countries, Italy, Spain, Malta, San Marino, Pakistan, South Korea, Canada, Mexico, Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, and Turkey. Therefore, The Coffee Club is not known as L69 Group.

48. Bucharest Nine, recently seen in the news, is a group of nine countries in which region of the world?

- (a) West Asia
- (b) Africa
- (c) South America
- (d) Eastern Europe

Ans: d (Eastern Europe)

Explanation: The "Bucharest Nine" is a group of nine NATO countries in Eastern Europe that became part of the US-led military alliance after the end of the Cold War. The Bucharest Nine or Bucharest Format, often abbreviated as the B9, was founded on November 2015 and took its name from Bucharest, the capital of Romania. All members of the B9 are part of the European Union (EU) and North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO).

Members of Bucharest 9 includes Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania and the Slovak Republic.

49. Consider the following statements about Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)

1. The NPT is the only binding commitment to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons
2. India and Pakistan never signed the treaty, while Israel and North Korea, which were once the signatories, withdrew from the treaty
3. The International Atomic Energy Association (IAEA), being a part of NPT, is entrusted with

the verification responsibilities as enshrined in the treaty.

4. North Korea is the only state, who assented and then withdrawn from the convention

How many statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) Only four

Ans: b (Only two)

Statement 1 is correct: The Treaty on the Nonproliferation of nuclear weapons (NPT) is a landmark international treaty whose objective is to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and weapons technology, to promote cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and to further the goal of achieving nuclear disarmament and general and complete disarmament. The NPT represents the only binding commitment in a multilateral treaty to the goal of disarmament by the nuclear-weapon States.

Statement 2 is incorrect: India and Pakistan, which didn't join the NPT, went on to get the bomb. So did North Korea, which ratified the pact but later withdrew it in 2003. Non-signatory Israel is believed to have a nuclear arsenal, but neither confirms nor denies it. Nonetheless, the Treaty has been credited with limiting the number of nuclear newcomers as a framework for international cooperation on disarmament. Thus, Israel is never a signatory of this Treaty.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The International Atomic Energy Association (IAEA) is not a party to the NPT; it is entrusted with key verification responsibilities under the Treaty. Each non-nuclear-weapon State party is required under Article III of the NPT to conclude a comprehensive safeguards agreement (CSA) with the IAEA to enable the IAEA to verify the fulfillment of their obligation under the Treaty with a view to preventing the diversion of nuclear energy from peaceful uses to nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.

Statement 4 is correct: North Korea is the only state that assented and then withdrawn from the convention.



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

50. The World Bank's Gender Toolkit is aimed at which of the following?

- (a) Bridging the gender gap in the labor market
- (b) Multi-sectoral approach to empower girls and young women through a quality education
- (c) Aims to address the issues of the declining sex ratio in developing countries
- (d) Enabling Gender responsive urban mobility and public spaces

Ans: d (Enabling Gender responsive urban mobility and public spaces)

Explanation: Recently, The World Bank has launched a "Toolkit on Enabling Gender Responsive Urban Mobility and Public Spaces in India" to guide Indian cities in designing public transport more inclusive of women's travelling requirements.

51. "Fit for 55" refers to the target of reducing net greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030. This is an initiative of which of the following countries/Organizations?

- (a) G20
- (b) ASEAN
- (c) European Union
- (d) OECD.

Answer : (c) European Union

Explanation:

Option c is correct: The EU submitted a revised Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) under the Paris Agreement.

Aim:

Climate neutrality is achieved when a country's emissions are balanced by absorptions and removal of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere. It is also expressed as a state of net-zero emissions

-The new package "Fit for 55"; attempts to deliver the NDC and carbon neutrality goal through proposed changes that would impact the economy, society and industry, as well as ensure a fair, competitive and green transition by 2030 and beyond.

-It claims to achieve a balance between "regulatory policies" and market-based carbon pricing to avoid the pitfalls of each.

-It proposes to increase the binding target of renewable sources in the EU's energy mix to 40%

(from 32% earlier) and improve energy efficiency by 36% (from 32.5% earlier) by 2030.

-Vehicular Carbon Emissions must be cut by 55% by 2030 and by 100% by 2035, which means a phaseout of petrol and diesel vehicles by 2035.

-It calls for the creation of an Emissions Trading System (ETS) for buildings and road transport.

Fit for 55 Package could put Europe at the forefront of new technologies like electric car batteries, offshore wind generation or aircraft engines that run on hydrogen.

52. Consider the following statements with respect to "Markets in Crypto Assets (MiCA)" regulations.

1. The rules require every crypto asset service provider (CASPs) to get incorporated as a legal entity in the EU.
2. It will apply to any crypto assets which may be transferred and stored electronically, using distributed ledger technology

Which of the above given statements are correct?

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

Answer: (c) Both 1 and 2.

Explanation: Recently, the European Parliament has approved the Markets in Crypto Assets (MiCA) regulation, the world's first comprehensive set of rules that aims to bring largely unregulated cryptocurrency markets under government regulation. MiCA will bring governance practices to crypto firms. By regulating the crypto industry, MiCA can prevent financial sector- like routs and contagions that could affect the wider economy.

Statement 1 is correct: CASPs must be incorporated as a legal entity in the EU.

They can get authorized in any one member country and operate across all 27 countries.

Regulators such as the European Banking Authority will supervise CASPs.

Statement 2 is correct: The MiCA legislation will apply to crypto assets, which are broadly defined as "a digital representation of a value or a right that uses cryptography for security and is in the form of a coin or a token or any other digital medium which may be



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

transferred and stored electronically, using distributed ledger technology or similar technology". This definition implies that it will apply not only to traditional cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin and Ethereum but also to newer ones like stablecoins.

53. Bangkok vision 2030, recently seen in news is related to:

- (a) ASEAN
- (b) RCEP
- (c) SAARC
- (d) BIMSTEC

Answer: (d) BIMSTEC

Option d is correct:

Explanation:

-Bangkok Vision 2030 shall be adopted by the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) at its summit in Thailand this year according to the Secretary of the East in the Ministry of External Affairs.

About Bangkok Vision 2030:

-The Bangkok Vision 2030 was put forth by Thailand that aims to propel the BIMSTEC towards a region that is prosperous, resilient and open.

-The vision aims in moving a forward-looking trajectory for sustainable and balanced growth.

-The 19th BIMSTEC ministerial meeting hosted by Thailand in March 2023 has discussed the draft text of the BIMSTEC.

-The document aims to further promote BIMSTEC as a region of peace, stability and economic sustainability. The goals found in the vision 2030 are in line with the United Nations Sustainable - Development Goals and Thailand's bio-circular green Economic model.

About BIMSTEC-

The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is a regional organization established by the Bangkok Declaration in 1997.

-The grouping comprises member nations such as Bhutan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

-In the year 2022, the BIMSTEC charter was adopted that laid the foundation for the BIMSTEC to function as a full-fledged organization.

-Currently Thailand being the current chair has been working to strengthen the organization in three aspects: enhancing regional interconnectedness (with maritime transport corporation), involvement of all stakeholders and promoting BIMSTEC's internal strength.

Currently Thailand as the lead country has been promoting projects under the BIMSTEC master plan for connectivity that is a 10-year master plan that covers roads, railways, civil aviation, maritime transport and multi- modular infrastructure along with opportunities for the Blue economy.

54. Consider the following statements.

1. All the members of Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) are littoral states.
2. Bay of Bengal Maritime Dialogue (BOBMD) is organized by BIMSTEC.

Which of the above given statements are incorrect?

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

Answer : (c) Both 1 and 2.

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is a regional organization comprising seven Member States lying in the littoral and adjacent areas of the Bay of Bengal constituting a contiguous regional unity. It constitutes seven Member States: five deriving from South Asia, including Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and two from Southeast Asia, including Myanmar and Thailand.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Bay of Bengal Maritime Dialogue (BOBMD) is organized by the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue and the Pathfinder Foundation. The participants called for stepped up efforts in areas such as environmental protection; scientific research; curtailing illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, as well as the development of standard operating procedures with maritime law enforcement agencies.



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

55. Consider the following statements.

1. Trade in goods and services
2. Investment
3. Intellectual property rights
4. E-commerce

How many of the mentioned sectors are included within the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement?

- (a) One only
- (b) Two only
- (c) Three only
- (d) All four

Answer : (d) All four.

Option d is correct:

Explanation:

-The RCEP is a significant economic agreement between ASEAN members and Free Trade Agreement (FTA) partners.

- RCEP is the world's largest trading bloc. It is designed to promote economic integration, trade liberalization, and cooperation among member nations.

- The RCEP negotiations began in 2012. It was officially signed in November 2020, marking a major milestone in regional trade. It was entered into force on January 1, 2022.

Member Countries:

-15 member countries, such as China, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, Australia, and ASEAN nations (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam).

Coverage Areas:

The RCEP negotiation includes: trade in goods, trade in services, investment, economic and technical cooperation, intellectual property, competition, dispute settlement, e-commerce, small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and other issues.

Objectives of RCEP:

-Facilitate trade and investment among member nations.

-Reduce or eliminate tariffs and non-tariff barriers to trade.

-Enhance economic cooperation and regional supply chains.

Benefits of RCEP:

- Promotes economic growth and regional stability.
- Streamlines trade procedures and regulations.
- Encourages foreign investment.
- Enhances competitiveness and innovation.

56. Consider the following statements with reference to Asia Energy Transition Initiative (AETI).

1. It aims to achieve both sustainable growth and carbon neutrality in Asia.
2. The initiative is supported by Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries.
3. Countries like India and Bangladesh have a deficit in hydropower potential.

Which of the above given statements are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) All are correct

Answer: (b) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: To achieve both sustainable growth and carbon neutrality in Asia, where energy demand will continue to grow, various and pragmatic energy transitions, that reflect different circumstances of each country, and utilize all energy sources and all technologies, are essential. The Government of Japan announced the "Asia Energy Transition Initiative (AETI)", which includes a variety of support for realizing energy transitions in Asia.

Statement 2 is correct: Japan's AETI, launched in 2021, initially supported the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries towards achieving net zero emissions, including financial assistance of USD 10 billion for renewable energy.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Indian subcontinent's massive renewable energy potential can boost green hydrogen (GH₂) production and immense potential for a GH₂ economy.

Nepal, Bhutan, India and Bangladesh also have surplus hydropower potential, and green hydrogen electrolyzers can tap this in countries like these.

57. Consider the following statements

Statement I: India, Brazil and the US are the founding members of the Global Biofuels Alliance.

PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

Statement II: Global Biofuels Alliance was launched on the side-lines of COP26 Glasgow Summit with an aim to intensify the use of sustainable biofuels.

Which of the following statements is/are correct.

- (a) Statement I is true, Statement II is false
- (b) Statement I is true, Statement II is true, Statement II is the correct explanation of statement I.
- (c) Statement I is false; statement II is true.
- (d) Statement I is true, Statement II is true, Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I

Answer :(a) Statement I is true, Statement II is false
Explanation:

Statement I is true: Global Biofuel Alliance (GBA) was recently launched by world leaders to expedite the global uptake of biofuels. The alliance brings together major biofuel producers and consumers, such as the US, Brazil, and India.

-Nineteen countries and 12 international organizations have already agreed to join or support the GBA. The GBA aims to strengthen global biofuels trade for a greener sustainable future.

Statement II is false: GBA was recently launched by world leaders to, under India's G20 presidency.

58. Other than Venezuela which one among the following from South America was a member of OPEC.

- (a) Colombia
- (b) Ecuador
- (c) Chile
- (d) Argentina

Answer: (b) Ecuador

Explanation:

Option c is correct: The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is a permanent, Intergovernmental Organization, created at the Baghdad Conference held in Iraq in 1960 by Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela.

-It initially had its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland which was then moved to Vienna, Austria in 1965.

It accounts for an estimated 44 percent of global oil production and 81.5 percent of the world's "proven" oil reserves.

Objective of OPEC

-Coordinate and unify petroleum policies among Member Countries

-In order to secure fair and stable prices for petroleum producers

-The efficient, economic and regular supply of petroleum to consuming nations

-A fair return on capital to those investing in the industry

Members of OPEC

-Currently, the Organization has a total of 13 Member Countries – Algeria, Angola, Congo, - Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, and Venezuela.

-Qatar terminated its membership on 1 January 2019. Ecuador suspended its membership in - December 1992, rejoined the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries in October 2007, but decided to withdraw its membership of OPEC effective 1 January 2020.

59. Consider the following statements.

1. Argentina, Bolivia, and Chile are known as 'Lithium Triangle'.
2. Hard rock lithium, typically found in the Eastern hemisphere, requires much more water and electricity to mine and process than the lithium produced from brine.

Which of the above given statements are incorrect?

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

Answer :(d) Neither 1 nor 2.





PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

Statement 1 is correct: Lithium is an alkali mineral, also called ‘white gold’. It is soft, silvery-white metal, the lightest metal of the periodic table.

-Lithium triangle made up of Argentina, Chile, and Bolivia—contain roughly half the world’s known lithium.

Statement 2 is correct:

HARD ROCK VS. BRINE

-Hard rock lithium mining involves extracting lithium from rocks that contain the metal. This is typically done through open-pit mining, which can involve blasting and excavating large amounts of rock. The process is energy-intensive, and can result in significant amounts of waste rock and tailings, which can contain toxic chemicals and heavy metals. Additionally, hard rock mining can require large amounts of water. This can be a problem in regions where water resources are already scarce. It is estimated that 60% of the total global mined lithium supply comes from using this method.

-On the other hand, lithium can also be extracted from brine sources. This involves extracting lithium from underground brine pools. These can be found in areas such as salt flats and dry lake beds, where water has evaporated over time, leaving behind mineral deposits. The brine can be pumped to the surface and then processed to extract the lithium. This typically requires less water and produces less waste than hard rock mining.

60. Investment Protection Agreement (IPA) was seen in the news recently, is an agreement between:

- (a) India and US
- (b) India and Russia
- (c) India and EU
- (d) India and France

Answer: (c) India and EU

Option c is correct: On 17 June 2022, the European Union relaunched negotiations with India for a Free Trade Agreement, and launched separate negotiations for an Investment Protection Agreement and an Agreement on Geographical Indications (GIs).

-The EU is India’s third largest trading partner, accounting for €88 billion worth of trade in goods in 2021 or 10.8% of total Indian trade. India is the EU’s 10th largest trading partner, accounting for 2.1% of

EU total trade in goods. Trade in services between the EU and India reached €30.4 billion in 2020.

The investment protection negotiations aim to provide investors from both sides with a predictable and secure investment environment, through commitments on:

- Non-discrimination.
- Protection against expropriation without compensation and unfair treatment of investors and their investments, while preserving the right to regulate, and transfer of returns.
- The investment protection negotiations also seek to put in place an effective and state-of-the-art dispute settlement mechanism to enforce such rules.

61. Match the following

List-I	List-II
1. Beidou	China
2. Galileo	Russia
3. Navic	Japan
4. Glonass	Europe

How many of the above pairs are incorrectly matched?

- (a) 1 pair only
- (b) 2 pairs only
- (c) 3 pairs only
- (d) None

Answers: c

Global navigation satellite system (GNSS) is a general term describing any satellite constellation that provides positioning, navigation, and timing (PNT) services on a global or regional basis. While GPS is the most prevalent GNSS, other nations are fielding, or have fielded, their own systems to provide complementary, independent PNT capability.

BeiDou, or BDS, is a global GNSS owned and operated by the People’s Republic of China Galileo is a global GNSS owned and operated by the European Union.

GLONASS (Globalnaya Navigazionnaya Sputnikovaya Sistema, or Global Navigation Satellite System) is a global GNSS owned and operated by the Russian Federation IRNSS/NavIC is a regional GNSS owned and operated by the Government of India. IRNSS is an autonomous system designed to

PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

cover the Indian region and 1500 km around the Indian mainland.

QZSS is a regional GNSS owned by the Government of Japan and operated by QZS System Service Inc. (QSS)

62. Consider the following statements with respect to World intellectual property organization:

1. WIPO is self-funding agency of the United Nations, that act as global forum for intellectual property (IP) services, policy, information and cooperation.
2. Its membership is open to United Nation members only.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: a

Statement 1 is correct: WIPO is the global forum for intellectual property (IP) services, policy, information and cooperation. It is a self-funding agency of the United Nations, with 193 member states.

Its mission is to lead the development of a balanced and effective international IP system that enables innovation and creativity for the benefit of all. Our mandate, governing bodies and procedures are set out in the WIPO Convention, which established WIPO in 1967.

Statement 2 is incorrect: To become a member, a state must deposit an instrument of ratification or accession with the Director General. The WIPO Convention provides that membership is open to any state that is: a member of the Paris Union for the Protection of Industrial Property, or member of the Berne Union for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works; or a member of the United Nations, or of any of the United Nations' Specialized Agencies, or of the International Atomic Energy Agency, or that is a party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice; or invited by the WIPO General Assembly to become a member state of the Organization.

63. Which of the following countries are part of both G7 and G8?

1. China
2. Canada
3. Germany
4. Russia
5. Japan
6. European Union
7. India

Select the correct code given below:

- (a) 2,3,4,5 and 6 only
- (b) 2,3 and 5 only
- (c) 1,3,5,6 and 7 only
- (d) 1,2,3,4,5,6 and 7

Ans: b



64. The place Kherson is in news, it is located in

- (a) Ukraine
- (b) Russia
- (c) Iraq
- (d) Turkmenistan

Ans: a

About Kherson:





PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

Kherson is a city in the south of Ukraine. It is strategically located at the mouth of the Dneiper River's exit into the Black Sea. It is home of a major ship-building industry

65. Rules of origin (ROO) are the criteria needed to determine the of a product for purposes of international trade. In this context, identify the use of rules of origin:

1. to implement anti-dumping duty
2. to determine whether imported products shall receive most-favoured-nation (MFN) treatment
3. for application of labelling and marking requirements
4. for government procurement

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

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

Ans: c

- Rules of origin (ROO) are the criteria needed to determine the of a product for purposes of international trade. Their importance is derived from the fact that duties and restrictions in several cases depend upon the source of imports. Rules of origin are used:

- to implement measures and instruments of commercial policy such as antidumping duties and safeguard measures;
- to determine whether imported products shall receive most-favoured-nation (MFN) treatment or preferential treatment;
- for the purpose of trade statistics;
- for the application of labelling and marking requirements; and
- for government procurement.

66.Consider the following statements regarding the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) 1967

1. Offences under Unlawful Activities Prevention Act 1967 are non-cognizable.
2. Declaration of an association unlawful can be done by the respective states through an

official gazette notification, by specifying the grounds.

Which of the following statements are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2 only
- (d) None

Answer: (b) 2 only

Ministry Of Home Affairs declared the 'Jammu and Kashmir Democratic -Freedom Party' as an 'Unlawful Association' under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) 1967.

-UAPA was enacted for effective prevention of certain unlawful activities of individuals and associations, for dealing with terrorist activities, and for matters connected therewith.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Offenses are cognizable (arrest could be made without a warrant).

-Penalty: Death or imprisonment for life, and shall also be liable to a fine if such act has resulted in the death of any person

Statement 2 is correct: Declaration of an association unlawful: By the Centre through an official gazette notification, by specifying the grounds.

-Reference to Tribunal: On the declaration of being unlawful, the notification should be referred to the Tribunal within 30 days.

-The Tribunal consists of one person (a Judge of a High Court).

Other powers to center:

-To prohibit the use of funds of an unlawful association

-To notify places used for the purpose of an unlawful association.

67.'Scarborough Shoal', recently seen in the news, is located in which sea?

- (a) Andaman Sea
- (b) East China Sea
- (c) South China Sea
- (d) Java Sea

Answer: (c) South China Sea.

Option C is correct:

Scarborough Shoal, the atoll is a disputed territory claimed by the Republic of the Philippines through the 1734 Velarde map, while the People's Republic

PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

of China and the Republic of China (Taiwan) claim it through the disputed, nine-dash line (originally an eleven-dash line which included waters in the Gulf of Tonkin.

-Located in the middle of the South China Sea and near shipping lanes carrying an estimated \$3.4 trillion of annual commerce, its position is strategic for Beijing.

-The Philippines and China lay claim to the shoal but sovereignty has never been established and it remains effectively under Beijing's control.



68. Consider the following statements.

1. Sonobuoy is a small device used for underground acoustic surveillance.
2. These are deployed from aircraft or ships and transmit real-time acoustic data, helping pin-point potential threats.

Which of the following statements are correct?

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

Answer: (b) 2 only

Statement 1 is incorrect: Sonobuoys are small, expendable devices used in underwater acoustics and sonar systems to detect and analyze sound in the ocean, particularly for tracking submarines and other underwater objects.

-Sonobuoys are deployed by dropping them into the ocean from aircraft or launching them from ships or submarines.

-They sink to a predetermined depth and begin listening for acoustic signals, helping pin-point potential submarine threats.

Statement 2 is correct: It contains hydrophones that detect underwater sounds, especially those made by submarines.

-These devices are deployed from aircraft or ships and transmit real-time acoustic data, helping pin-point potential submarine threats.

69. Consider the following statements about Conocarpus

1. It is an invasive mangrove species, native to temperate regions of the world.
2. It is widely used in public spaces for its ornamental looks.
3. It has been banned by governments of a few states due to its harmful effects.

Which of the following statements are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) All are correct

Answer: (c) 2 and 3 only

Statement 1 is incorrect: Conocarpus is a genus of two species of flowering plants in the family of Combretaceae, native to tropical regions of the world. Statement 2 is correct: It is widely used in public spaces for its ornamental looks.

Flowering in this tree takes place in Winter and the particles spreading from it causes cold, coughing, asthma, allergy etc. harms human beings nearby.

-Roots of this species go deep inside soil and develop extensively, damaging telecommunication lines, drainage lines and freshwater systems.

Statement 3 is correct: It is an invasive mangrove species, recently banned by the Gujarat government. Earlier, the Telangana government had also banned it.



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

70. Consider the following statements regarding National Judicial Data Grid Portal

1. It is developed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC).
2. It helps identify specific bottlenecks in judicial processes.
3. It is used by the government to monitor the performance of judges and their transfers.

Select the correct answer:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) All are correct

Answer: (b) 1 and 2 only

Statement 1 is correct: The platform has been developed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC) in close coordination with the in-house software development team of the Computer Cell, Registry of the Supreme Court (SC) with an interactive interface and analytics dashboard.

Statement 2 is correct: NJDG works as a monitoring tool to identify, manage & reduce pendency of cases. It helps identify specific bottlenecks in judicial processes. For example, if the number of land disputes in a particular state shoots up, it helps policymakers look into whether the law needs to be strengthened.

-It also helps generate inputs related to particular areas of law. For example, to track cases related to land disputes, Land Records data of 26 States have been linked with NJDG.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The NJDG portal is a national repository of data relating to cases instituted, pending, and disposed of by the courts across the country. It is a database of orders, judgments and case details of 18,735 District and subordinate Courts and High Courts created as an online platform under the e-Courts Project.

-Its key feature is that the data is updated in real-time and has granular data up to the Taluka level.

71. Consider the following statements regarding Bomb Cyclones.

1. A bomb cyclone is a large, intense midlatitude storm that has very high pressure at its center.

2. They form when a warm air mass meets a cold air mass.

3. Bomb cyclones generally occur during summer months.

Which of the following statements are correct.

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) All are correct

Answer: (b) 2 only

Statement 1 is incorrect: A bomb cyclone is a large, intense midlatitude storm that has low pressure at its center, weather fronts and an array of associated weather, from blizzards to severe thunderstorms to heavy precipitation.

Bomb cyclones put forecasters on high alert because they can produce significant harmful impacts.

Statement 2 is correct: Storms form when a mass of low-pressure air (warm air mass) meets a high-pressure mass (cold air mass). The air flows from high pressure to low, creating winds.

It occurs when a midlatitude cyclone rapidly intensifies, dropping at least 24 millibars over 24 hours.

This quickly increases the pressure difference, or gradient, between the two air masses, therefore making the winds stronger.

The formation of this rapidly strengthening weather system is a process called bombogenesis.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Bomb cyclones generally occur during colder months because cyclones occur due to cold and warm air meeting.

During the summer, there's generally not much cold air across the atmosphere; this means a bomb cyclone is much less likely to occur.

72. Consider the following statements

1. Direct tax is a tax which an individual or organization pays taxes directly to the imposing body.
2. Direct taxes are generally considered to be more regressive than indirect taxes.

Select the correct statements

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



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

(d) Neither 1 nor 2.

Answer: (a) 1 only

Statement 1 is correct: A direct tax is one that is paid directly to the imposing entity by an individual or company. A direct tax cannot be transferred to another person or business. The person or entity who is subjected to the tax is responsible for making sure the tax is paid.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Direct taxes are generally progressive, meaning those with higher incomes pay higher rates than those with lower incomes. This allows the government to collect more revenue from those who can afford to pay more. Direct taxes are typically earmarked for specific purposes, such as education or infrastructure development.

73. Consider the following statements with respect to Galactic Tides

1. They are caused by gravitational forces within a galaxy arising in interactions between celestial objects like stars and gas clouds.
2. They cannot impact supermassive black holes located at the centers of galaxies.

Select the correct answer:

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

Answer: (a) 1 only

Statement 1 is correct: Galactic tides, similar to the tides in Earth's oceans but on a much larger scale, are caused by gravitational forces within galaxies, resulting from interactions between celestial objects like stars and gas clouds.

Statement 2 is incorrect: These tidal forces play a significant role in shaping the evolution of galaxies. They can alter a galaxy's structure by creating features like tidal tails and bridges, stimulating star formation, and disrupting smaller star systems.

-Over vast stretches of time, galactic tides also perturb the orbits of stars, leading to long-term changes in the structure of galaxies. Galactic tides even influence how neighboring galaxies interact with each other.

-Galactic tides also impact supermassive black holes located at the centers of galaxies, resulting in events

that alter how these cosmic giants interact with nearby stars.

74. Which of the following is a commonly used food additive to preserve the freshness and quality of processed foods?

- (a) Aspartame
- (b) Sodium Benzoate
- (c) Calcium Carbide
- (d) Monosodium glutamate

Answer: (b) Sodium Benzoate

Option a is incorrect: Aspartame is an artificial non-saccharide sweetener 200 times sweeter than sucrose and is commonly used as a sugar substitute in foods and beverages. The sweetness of aspartame lasts longer than that of sucrose, so it is often blended with other artificial sweeteners such as acesulfame potassium to produce an overall taste more like that of sugar.

Option b is correct: Sodium benzoate is used as a preservative to prevent food from molding. It's added to a wide variety of foods, including mayonnaise, margarine, carbonated drinks, jams and jellies, sauces, and tomato paste.

-It helps keep products shelf-stable for at least 2 years from the date of purchase and is used in concentrations of less than 0.5% by volume.

-It's used in other household products, too, including mouthwash, lotion, and as a preservative in some medicines.

Option c is incorrect: Calcium carbide is used for the artificial ripening of fruits. Actually, the fruit ripens because of the heat evolved while calcium carbide reacts with moisture. During the reaction, calcium hydroxide and acetylene gas is formed

Option d is incorrect: Monosodium glutamate (MSG) is a flavor enhancer often added to restaurant foods, canned vegetables, soups, deli meats and other foods. MSG is found naturally in some foods including tomatoes and cheese in this glutamic acid form.

75. Consider the following statements, with reference to Toto language.

1. It is an Indo-Mongoloid language.
2. It is spoken in states of Assam, Nagaland and some parts of Tripura.



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

3. It is written in Assamese script.

How many of the statements are correct?

- (a) One pair
- (b) Two pairs
- (c) Three pairs
- (d) None

Answer:(d) None

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Toto language is a Sino-Tibetan language.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Spoken by the Toto tribal people in parts of West Bengal bordering Bhutan.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Toto language is primarily spoken orally and even though prominent community member Padma Shri-decorated Dhaniram Toto developed a script as recently as in 2015, most people either write it in Bengali script or write in Bengali language.

Toto People:

-The Toto is a primitive and isolated tribal group residing only in a small enclave called Totopara in the Jalpaiguri of West Bengal, India.

-The total population of Totos is less than 2000 according to the 2001 census, all living in Totopara.

-The Totos are considered Mongoloid people.

-They are generally endogamous and marry within their own tribe.

-The Toto family is patrilocal(social system in which a married couple resides with the husband's parents) in nature and dominated by nuclear type. However, joint families are not rare. Monogamy is a common form of marriage among the Toto but polygamy is not prohibited. There is no custom of divorce among the Totos.

76. With respect to Sovereign Wealth Fund, consider the following statements

1. It is a state-owned investment fund comprised of money generated by the government, often derived from a country's surplus reserves.
2. The National Infrastructure and Investment Fund (NIIF) is India's first-ever sovereign wealth fund.

Select the correct answer

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

(d) Neither 1 nor 2.

Answer: (c) Both 1 and 2.

Statement 1 is correct: Sovereign wealth fund – It is a state-owned investment fund comprised of money generated by the government, often derived from a country's surplus reserves.

An SWF is used to invest in capital assets such as real estate, metals, stocks, and bonds.

SWFs also invest in alternative investments such as private equity funds and hedge funds.

The main objective of the SWFs is to allocate funds for the betterment of the country's economy.

Statement 2 is correct: The National Infrastructure and Investment Fund (NIIF) is India's first-ever sovereign wealth fund (SWF).

The funding for a SWF can come from a variety of sources.

Sources:

-Balance of payments surpluses

-Official foreign currency operations

-The proceeds of privatizations

Governmental transfer payments

Fiscal surpluses

Receipts resulting from resource exports

77.The “doctrine of essentiality” is often used by the courts in relation to which of the following Articles of Indian Constitution?

- (a) Article 15
- (b) Article 21
- (c) Article 25
- (d) Article 29

Answer: (c) Article 25

Option c is correct: The doctrine of “essentiality” was invented by a seven-judge Bench of the Supreme Court in the ‘Shirur Mutt’ case in 1954. The court held that the term “religion” will cover all rituals and practices “integral” to a religion, and took upon itself the responsibility of determining the essential and non-essential practices of a religion.

-Essential religious practice test is a contentious doctrine evolved by the court to protect only such religious practices which were essential and integral to the religion.

-In the legal framework, the doctrine of essentiality is a doctrine that has evolved to protect the religious



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

practices that are essential or integral and does not violate any fundamental right. India being a secular country has discrete religious beliefs and to deny any is to violate the freedom of religion.

78. Consider the following statements with respect to United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crimes

1. It is also known as the Palermo Convention.
2. The Convention is the first comprehensive and global legally binding instrument to fight transnational organized crime.

Select the correct answer

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

Answer: (c) Both 1 and 2.

Statement 1 is correct: It is a multinational treaty against transnational organized crime that was established by the United Nations in 2000.

-It is often known as Palermo Convention.

-The Convention is further supplemented by three Protocols

-The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children;

-The Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air; and

-The Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition.

Statement 2 is correct: The UNTOC is the first comprehensive and global legally binding instrument to fight transnational organized crime and as such has provided for a universally accepted definition of "organized criminal group" and also lists the offenses which are transnational in nature.

79. With respect to Coral Reef Breakthrough Initiative, consider the following statements

1. It aims to genetically modify a particular species of coral reefs to make them more resistant to pollution and climate change.

2. It is grounded in science-based, measurable, achievable goals for both state and non-state actors.

Select the correct answer

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

Answer : (b) 2 only

Statement 1 is incorrect: The International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI), in collaboration with the Global Fund for Coral Reefs (GFCR) and the High-Level Climate Champions (HLCC), has launched the Coral Reef Breakthrough.

-This initiative aims to safeguard at least 125,000 square kilometers of shallow-water tropical coral reefs by 2030 through investments of at least US\$12 billion.

Statement 2 is correct: The Coral Reef Breakthrough is a science-based initiative with clear goals for the state and non-state actors to collectively conserve, protect, and restore coral reefs, safeguarding their vital contributions to humanity's future.

The initiative is based on four action points:

1. Mitigate local drivers of loss including land-based sources of pollution, destructive coastal development, and overfishing.
2. Double the area of coral reefs under effective protection: Bolster resilience-based coral reef conservation efforts by aligning with and transcending global coastal protection targets including 30 by 30.
3. Assist the development and implementation of innovative solutions at scale and climate-smart designs that support coral adaptation to impact 30% of degraded reefs by 2030.
4. Secure investments of at least USD 12 billion by 2030 from public and private sources to conserve and restore these crucial ecosystems.

80. Consider the following statements.

1. Genome sequencing is the process of determining the DNA sequence of an organism's genome.



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

2. Metagenome sequencing is a technique that directly analyzes genetic material from samples

without prior knowledge of the organisms present.

Which of the following statements are correct?

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

Answer: (c) Both 1 and 2

Statement 1 is correct: Genome sequencing is the process of determining the DNA sequence of an organism's genome—the order of Adenine, Cytosine, Guanines, and Thymine that make up an organism's DNA.

- A genome is a complete set of DNA that contains all of the genes of an organism. -Genome sequencing involves figuring out the order of bases in an organism's entire genome.

-CSIR (Council of Scientific and Industrial Research) plans to undertake genome sequencing of a sample of nearly 1000 Indian rural youth to determine unique genetic traits, susceptibility (and resilience) to disease.

-This is the first time that such a large sample of Indians will be recruited for a detailed study.

-Whole-genome sequencing (WGS) is a comprehensive method for analyzing entire genomes. Genomic information has been instrumental in identifying inherited disorders, characterizing the mutations that drive cancer progression, and tracking disease outbreaks.

Statement 2 is correct: Metagenome sequencing is a technique that directly analyzes genetic material from samples without prior knowledge of the organisms present.

-It's used to identify and study the entire genetic diversity of microbial communities, enabling the detection of known and unknown pathogens in a high-throughput manner.

-This genomic approach, termed metagenomics, has revolutionized pathogen identification and surveillance. The widespread adoption of genome sequencing techniques birthed numerous technologies, including the CovidSeq assay, which

facilitated national and international genome surveillance efforts.

81. Consider the following.

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| A. Hakki-Pikki | 1. Nagaland |
| B. Tharu | 2. Uttarakhand |
| C. Toda | 3. Tamil Nadu |
| D. Gujjar | 4. Odisha |

How many of the following tribes are correctly matched with the places they reside in?

- (a) One pair only.
- (b) Two pairs only.
- (c) Three pairs only.
- (d) All are correct.

Answer: (b) Two pairs only.

Option A is incorrectly matched: The Hakki Pikkis are traditionally a semi-nomadic tribe of bird catchers and hunters, who settled down in several parts of Karnataka. In the last 20 years the community left bird catching and hunting, and have started to prepare traditional medicines, especially hair oils.

Option B is correctly matched: Tharu is a scheduled tribe in the states of Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. Occupation: Most of them are forest dwellers, and some practice agriculture.

Culture: They speak various dialects of Tharu, a language of the Indo-Aryan subgroup, and variants of Hindi, Urdu, and Awadhi.

Option C is correctly matched: Toda Tribes are found in the South Indian state of Tamil Nadu. In Nilgiri district, there are six particularly vulnerable tribal groups they are Todas, Irulars, Kotas, Kurumbas, Paniyas, and Kattunayakans. The Todas are inhabitants of the Nilgiri Hills and are pastoral humans.

Option D is incorrectly matched: Gurjar or Gujjar are an Aryan, agricultural ethnic community, residing mainly in India, Pakistan, Nepal, and Afghanistan, divided internally into 1788 to 2000 clan groups. They are an agricultural and pastoral group of Jammu and Kashmir, Northwestern India, northern and central Pakistan, Azad Kashmir and northeastern Afghanistan.

-Today, Gujjars are found in the Indian states of Rajasthan, Haryana, Western Uttar Pradesh and to a smaller extent Punjab. Muslim Gujjars are found in



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

the Indian states of Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir

82. Choose correct one with respect to “Five-Eyes Alliance”.

Assertion: Is both surveillance-based and tracks signals intelligence.

Reason: Objective has shifted following collapse of Soviet Union and emergence of new global challenges like terrorism and growing influence of China.

Select the correct answer:

- (a) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is a correct explanation of Assertion (A).
- (b) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but Reason (R) is not a correct explanation of Assertion (A).
- (c) Assertion (A) is true and Reason (R) is false.
- (d) Assertion (A) is false and Reason (R) is true

Answer : (a) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is a correct explanation of Assertion (A).

A: The Five Eyes is an intelligence alliance comprising nations including Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the US. These countries are parties to the multilateral UK-USA Agreement, a treaty for joint cooperation in signals intelligence.

R: Objective has shifted, following the collapse of Soviet Union and the emergence of new global challenges like terrorism and growing influence of China.

83. Consider the following statements.

A. Term used to describe a situation where a government spends more than it can afford, leading to unsustainable levels of debt and deficits.	1. Fiscal Cliff.
B. It is a situation in which sudden changes in government spending and tax have a big and sudden effect on a country's economy.	2. Fiscal Drag.
C. It is an economic term that describes how income growth or	3. Fiscal Profligacy.

inflation forces taxpayers into higher tax brackets.

Match the following statements with correct pairs.

- (a) A-2, B-1, C-3
- (b) A-2, B-3, C-1
- (c) A-3, B-2, C-1
- (d) A-3, B-1, C-2

Answer: (d) A-3, B-1, C-2

Fiscal Profligacy: Fiscal profligacy is the opposite of fiscal prudence. Fiscal profligacy refers to a situation where a government spends beyond its means, leading to unsustainable levels of debt and deficits. It can occur when a government engages in excessive spending on programs, projects, or initiatives that may not be necessary or may not generate sufficient revenue to cover their costs.

Fiscal profligacy can result in a range of negative consequences, including inflation, reduced economic growth, and financial instability. It is often associated with a lack of fiscal discipline and can lead to a country's long-term economic decline.

Fiscal Cliff: A fiscal cliff is a situation in which sudden changes in government spending and tax have a big and sudden effect on a country's economy, also refers to a combination of tax cuts about expiring and general government expenditure reductions that must be reversed to prevent a crisis.

Fiscal Drag: Fiscal drag is an economic term whereby inflation or income growth moves taxpayers into higher tax brackets. This in effect increases government tax revenue without actually increasing tax rates. The increase in taxes reduces aggregate demand and consumer spending from taxpayers as a larger share of their income now goes to taxes, which leads to deflationary policies, or drag, on the economy.

84. Market-based solutions for carbon mitigation are policies that use market forces to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In this context, which of the following are used for carbon mitigation in India?

- (a) Energy Efficiency Certificates (EEC).
- (b) Perform-Achieve-Trade (PAT)
- (c) Renewable Energy Subsidies.
- (d) All of the above.

Answer: (d) All of the above.



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

-The Renewable Energy Certificate and Perform Achieve Trade mechanisms in India are designed to target energy generation and saving, respectively, in line with Clean Development Mechanism implemented by United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

-The Renewable Energy Certificate System is a voluntary regulation in India for renewable energy generators and is designed for effective implementation of inter-state transactions by introducing the Renewable Purchase Obligation regulation for consumers and a flexible trading platform for transactions across the country.

- Perform Achieve Trade scheme: is an enhanced energy efficiency trading mechanism based on consumption targets that require large energy user sectors to improve efficiency by 1–2% per year.

The Perform Achieve Trade programme has introduced mechanisms for the identification of industry sector, designated customer, specific energy consumption and target setting.

Energy Efficiency Certificates (EEC): The Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) is an agency established by the Government of India under the Ministry of Energy. It was established in 2001 under the provisions of the Energy Conservation Act 2001. The aim of the BEE certification is to monitor the energy and cost savings targets and issue Energy Efficiency Certification. In India certain products are required to carry ratings and labels that indicate the product's energy efficiency and to help customers to make purchasing decisions.

85. With reference to carbon nanotubes, consider the following statements:

1. They can be used as carriers of drugs and antigens in the human body.
2. They can be made into artificial blood capillaries for an injured part of the human body.
3. They can be used in biochemical sensors.
4. Carbon nanotubes are biodegradable.

How many of the following statements are correct?

- (a) One only.
- (b) Two only.
- (c) Three only.

(d) All are correct.

Answer : (d) All are correct.

Carbon nanotubes (CNTs) are cylindrical molecules that consist of rolled-up sheets of single-layer carbon atoms (graphene). They can be single-walled (SWCNT) with a diameter measured to less than 1 nanometer (nm).

They are very lightweight, almost 1/6th of the steel with a mechanical tensile strength of almost 400 times that of steel.

Statement 1 is correct: Carbon nanotubes are promising drug delivery platforms that can be functionalized with a variety of biomolecules, such as antibodies, proteins, or DNA. This allows for specific, targeted payload delivery to particular tissues, organs, or cells

Statement 2 is correct: Carbon Nanotubes can be made into artificial blood capillaries for an injured part of the human body.

Statement 3 is correct: Carbon nanotube (CNT) based biosensors are recognized to be a next generation building block for ultra-sensitive and ultra-fast biosensing systems. Comparing with the most of the commercially available sensors, based usually on metal oxides, silicon and other materials, the CNT-based biosensors have the following great advantages:

(i) high sensitivity, because of the large surface area ratio and hollow pipe, CNTs can be used to immobilized enzyme which keep high biological activity

(ii) fast response time, mediate fast electron-transfer

(iii) high stability and longer lifetime.

These improved characteristics have stimulated the increasing research interest in the applications of CNTs as components for biosensors.

Statement 4 is correct: Carbon nanotubes were once considered to be resistant to chemical damage due to their rigid and perfect chemical structure, which rendered them immune to biodegradation.

However, enzymes like peroxidase were found to play an important role in the process of biodegradation of carbon nanotubes.

86. The number of days required by A, B and C to work individually is 6, 12 and 8 respectively. They



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

started a work doing it alternatively, A started the work followed by B and then C and so on, how many days required required to complete the whole work

- (a) 8
- (b) 7.5
- (c) 8.5
- (d) $9\frac{1}{2}$

Ans: a

87. Kareena can do a piece of work in 9 days and Karishma can do the same work in 18 days. They started the work. After 3 days Shahid joined them. Who can complete the same whole work alone in 3 days. What is the total number of days in which they have completed the work ?

- (a) 12
- (b) 8
- (c) 4
- (d) 6

Ans: c

88. If 6 men and 8 boys can do a piece of work in 10 days while 26 men and 48 boys can do the same in 2 days, the time taken by 15 men and 20 boys in doing the same type of work will be:

- (a) 4 days
- (b) 5 days
- (c) 6 days
- (d) 7 days

Ans: a

89. A, B and C can complete a work in 30 days working together. A and C together have twice efficiency as B, A and B together work thrice as fast as C. then in how many days A alone can complete the work

- (a) 72 days
- (b) 84 days
- (c) 90 days
- (d) 64 days

Ans: a

90. A sum of money is sufficient to pay A's wages for 21 days and B's wages for 28 days. The same money is sufficient to pay the wages of both for?

- (a) 12days

(b) $12\frac{1}{4}$ days

(c) 16 days

(d) $24\frac{1}{2}$ days

Ans: a

91. A person crosses a 600 m long street in 5 minutes. What is his speed in km per hour?

- (a) 3.6
- (b) 7.2
- (c) 8.4
- (d) 10

Ans: b

92. A, B and C are on the trip by car. A drive during the first hour at an average speed of 50 km/hr. B drives during the next 2 hours at an average speed of 48 Km/hr. C drives for the next 3 hours at an average speed of 52 km/hr. they reached their destination after exactly 6 hours. Their mean speed was.

- (a) 50 km/hr.
- (b) $50\frac{1}{3}$ km/hr.
- (c) 51 km/hr.
- (d) 52 km/hr.

Ans: b

93. A can give B a 40 m start and C 70m start in a km race. How many meters start can B give C in a km race?

- (a) 31m start.
- (b) $31\frac{1}{2}$ meters start.
- (c) $31\frac{1}{4}$ meters start.
- (d) $31\frac{1}{7}$ meters start.

Ans: c

94. The distance between 2 cities A and B is 330 km. The train leaves from A at 8 am. And travels towards B at 60 km/hr. Another train leaves from B at 9 am. And travel towards A at 75 km /hr. at what time do they meet?

- (a) 10 am
- (b) 10:30 am
- (c) 11am
- (d) 11:30 am

Ans: c



PRELIMS MISSION TEST-08 (21-02-2024)

EXPLANATION

95. Two guns were fired from the same place at an interval of 10 minutes and 30 seconds, but a person in the train approaching the place hears the second shot 10 minutes after the first. The speed of the train in km/hr, supposing that sound travels at 330 meters per second is:

- (a) 19.8
- (b) 58.9
- (c) 59.4
- (d) 111.80

Ans: c

96. A 100-meter-long train is going at a speed of 60 km/hr. it will cross a 140 m long railway bridge in

- (a) 3.6 sec
- (b) 7.2 sec
- (c) 14.4 sec
- (d) 21.6 sec

Ans: c

97. A train 200 meters long passes a stone in 15 seconds and passes another train of same length by 12 sec coming from opposite direction. The speed of the second train is ?

- (a) 72km/hr.
- (b) 56km/hr.
- (c) 85km/hr.
- (d) 65km/hr.

Ans: a

98. A jogger running at 9 km/hr alongside a railway track is 240 meters ahead of the engine of a 120-meter long train running at 45km/hr in the same direction. In how much time will train pass the jogger?

- (a) 38 sec
- (b) 20 sec
- (c) 36 sec
- (d) 72 sec

Ans: c

99. A man sitting in a train which is travelling at 50 km/hr. observes that a goods train, travelling in opposite direction, takes 9 seconds to pass him. If the goods train is 280 m long, find its speed.

- (a) 62 km/hr.
- (b) 72km/hr.

- (c) 112km/hr.
- (d) None of these

Ans: a

100. Sabarmati express takes 18 second to pass completely through a station 162 m long and 15 seconds through another station 120m long. The length in Sabarmati express is:

- (a) 132m
- (b) 100m
- (c) 80m
- (d) 90m

Ans: d