

1. Centre has decided that the people over 80 years of age and person with disability can now cast their votes through postal ballot. Which of the following statements regarding the same stands true?
  1. On the recommendations of the Election Commission, the Ministry of Law and Justice has amended the Conduct of Election Rules, 1961 to implement the above said provision.
  2. The people over 80 years of age and Persons with Disability can now cast their votes through postal ballot. Such voters can have only one of the choices of either voting through postal ballot or by going to the polling station on polling day for voting.
  3. As per the amended Rule, the person will make an application in a new Form 12 D, which will reach the Returning Officer within 5 days following the date of notification of election.

Choose the correct option :

- (a) 1 & 2 only                      (b) 2 & 3 only
  - (c) 1 & 3 only                      (d) All the above
2. Consider the following pairs of Ramsar wetlands in India and their corresponding location states :
    1. Chandertal wetland : Assam
    2. Rudrasagar lake : Tripura
    3. Deepor bheel : Himachal Pradesh
    4. Kanjli : Punjab
    5. Hokera : Kashmir

Which of the above pairs are correctly matched ?

- (a) 1, 2 & 3 only                      (b) 1, 3 & 5 only
  - (c) 2, 4 & 5 only                      (d) All the above
3. The World Trade Organization agreed to establish a panel (The Dispute Settlement Body) to settle a disagreement over India's decision to impose retaliatory import tariffs on 28 US products. Which of the following statements regarding the same stands true?
    1. The Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) of the World Trade Organization (WTO) makes decisions on trade disputes between governments that are adjudicated by the Organization. Its decisions generally match those of the Dispute Panel.
    2. Once it has decided on the case, i.e., whether the complaint had been shown to be right or wrong, the DSB may direct the 'losing' Member to take action to bring its laws, regulations or policies into conformity with the WTO Agreements.
    3. All WTO members are required to mandatorily implement DSB decisions within the stipulated time.

Choose the correct option :

- (a) 1 & 2 only                      (b) 2 & 3 only
  - (c) 1 & 3 only                      (d) All the above
4. Consider the following statements :
    1. India banned the export of onions after excessive droughts damaged the crop in September this year.
    2. Bangladesh is heavily dependent on India for onion and is now importing from Turkey, Myanmar and Egypt to meet the requirement of onion in the country.
    3. India is the second top onion producing country in the world after China.

Which of the above statements are true ?

- (a) 1 & 2 only                      (b) 2 & 3 only
- (c) 1 & 3 only                      (d) All the above

5. Recently in a unique gesture to mark 550th birth anniversary of which of the famous personalities , Air India had depicted Sikh religious symbol 'Ik Onkar' on the tail of one of its aircraft ?
- Guru Baba Ram Dev
  - Guru Nanak Dev ji
  - Guru Gobind singh
  - Guru Ranjit Singh ji
6. Consider the following statements regarding Black Carbon :
- Black carbon is the sooty black material emitted from gas and diesel engines, coal-fired power plants, and other sources that burn fossil fuel.
  - Black carbon has an atmospheric lifetime of more than 100 years.
  - Black carbon deposits in the Arctic increases the Earth's ability to reflect the warming rays of the sun.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- 1, 2
  - 1 only
  - 1, 3
  - 1, 2, 3
7. Consider the following statements regarding Interpol :
- It is a part of United Nations that facilitates worldwide police cooperation and crime control.
  - India joined the organisation before independence, and is one of its oldest members.
  - Its mandate covers virtually every kind of crime, including crimes against humanity, child pornography, drug trafficking, political corruption, copyright infringement, and white-collar crime.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- 1 and 2
  - 2 and 3
  - 3 only
  - 1, 3
8. Consider the following statements regarding Lignin :
- Lignin is found in almost all dry plants including crop residues and the woody bark of trees.
  - Lignin-based nanomaterial can act as additive in coating and packaging materials.
  - Abundant quantities of lignin are generated as post-harvest agro-biomass.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- 1, 2
  - 1, 3
  - 2, 3
  - 1, 2, 3
9. Consider the following statements about India-Africa Institute of Agriculture and Rural Development:
- India has signed an agreement for setting up the India-Africa Institute of Agriculture and Rural Development (IAIARD) in Malawi.
  - IAIARD will be a Pan-African Institute.
  - India has developed similar institutes in other African countries.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- 1, 3
  - 2, 3
  - 1, 2
  - 1, 2, 3
10. Consider the following statements regarding the recently released School Education Quality Index (SEI) :
- School Education Quality Index (SEI) is developed by Ministry of Human Resource and Development (MHRD) to evaluate the performance of States and Union Territories (UTs) in the school education sector.

2. The index is developed through a collaborative process, including key stakeholders such as Ministry of Women and Child Development and World Bank.
3. SEQI provides a platform for states and UTs to identify their strengths and weaknesses and undertake requisite course corrections or policy interventions.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

11. The 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat' programme has enabled the celebration of Unity in Diversity and have promoted the spirit of National Integration in showcasing the richness of traditional heritage and culture and most pertinently created a long term engagement between different states.

It was launched on the 140th birth anniversary of which of the following freedom struggle leaders ?

- (a) Bal Gangadhar Tilak  
(b) Annie Beasant  
(c) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel  
(d) Lala Lajpat Rai

12. Which of the following includes the recently released 15 point reform charter by the Indian Vice president for better functioning of Parliament ?

1. VP says no alternative to First Pass the Post (FPTP) System and presidential form of government is no option.
2. It calls for effective functioning of department related standing committees with longer tenure instead of the present one year, promoting specialisation by nominating the Members for a longer period etc.
3. It also urges the political parties to ensure attendance of at least 50% of their legislators all through the proceedings of the Houses by adopting a roster system.

Choose the correct option :

- (a) 1 & 2 only                      (b) 2 & 3 only  
(c) 1 & 3 only                      (d) All of the above

13. The central government has planned to bring in 8,000 block level plastic waste management units soon. Which of the following statements regarding the programme are true ?

1. Every village will be asked to start waste segregation and send its plastic waste to the block level plastic waste management unit. The unit will work at converting the aggregated waste into bales, shred them and transport them to aggregators for recycling.
2. While the Swachh Bharat Mission already calls for waste management and this includes plastic, further impetus will be given for collection and management of plastic waste, given India's call to cut use of single use plastic by 2020.
3. The Jal Shakthi ministry is also planning to bring in a new extended producer responsibility (EPR) framework to ensure plastic manufacturers/industry users also ensure collection and disposal of the plastic after it is used.

Choose the correct option :

- (a) 1 & 2 only                      (b) 2 & 3 only  
(c) 1 & 3 only                      (d) All of the above

14. Which of the following species of animals/birds are included in the IUCN critically endanger list ?

1. NilgiriLangur
2. Kondana Rat

3. Malabar civet
4. Olive ridley turtle
5. Forest owlet

Choose the correct option :

- (a) 1, 2 & 3 only
- (b) 3, 4 & 5 only
- (c) 2, 3 & 5 only
- (d) All of the above

15. India has taken inspiration from Brazil's success in the field of human milk bank decided to adopt a similar model in creating a wide network of human milk banks. Which of the following statements regarding the same stands true ?

1. Brazil at present has more than 200 human milk banks - more than anywhere else in the world. As well as banks, Brazil's strategy also includes innovative measures like training postmen to provide information on breastfeeding to pregnant women and using fire-fighters to collect surplus milk for donation from lactating women.
2. India has set a target of ensuring at least 90 per cent infants to have access to breast milk by the year 2030. The Target will subsequently be increased to 100 per cent.
3. India still accounts for 20% of infant mortality globally. Over half of these deaths are of babies under 28 days old, according to a recent report

Choose the correct option :

- (a) 1 & 2 only
- (b) 2 & 3 only
- (c) 1 & 3 only
- (d) All of the above

16. According to Credit Suisse's Global Wealth Report, 2019 which country has overtaken the United States (US) in 2019 to become 'the country with most people in the top 10% of global wealth distribution'?

- (a) China
- (b) UK
- (c) Russia
- (d) France

17. On which position does India rank in the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business 2020 report?

- (a) 63<sup>rd</sup>
- (b) 64<sup>th</sup>
- (c) 65<sup>th</sup>
- (d) 66<sup>th</sup>

18. Which country is constructing a huge Observatory to probe origins of Cosmic Rays?

- (a) India
- (b) China
- (c) USA
- (d) UK

19. India has signed the Kartarpur Sahib Corridor Agreement with which country?

- (a) Sri Lanka
- (b) China
- (c) Pakistan
- (d) Bangladesh

20. When is the World Development Information Day observed?

- (a) 25<sup>th</sup> October
- (b) 22<sup>nd</sup> October
- (c) 24<sup>th</sup> October
- (d) 23<sup>rd</sup> October

### **ANSWER KEYS**

01 c   02 c   03 a   04 b   05 b   06 b   07 c   08 d   09 c   10 b  
11 c   12 d   13 a   14 c   15 c   16 a   17 a   18 b   19 c   20 c