

1. Two new countries Eritrea and Saint Kittis and Nevis have signed the International Solar Alliance's (ISA) Framework Agreement at its second Assembly held in New Delhi recently. Which of the following statements regarding the ISA stands true ?
  1. International Solar Alliance (ISA) is conceived as a coalition of solar resource rich countries to address their special energy needs and will provide a platform to collaborate on addressing the identified gaps through a common, agreed approach.
  2. Currently there is no specific body in place to address the specific solar technology deployment needs of the solar resource rich countries located between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn.
  3. The headquarters of ISA is located in Geneva, Switzerland.

Choose the correct option :

(a) 1 & 2 only                      (b) 2 & 3 only  
 (c) 1 & 3 only                      (d) All of the above
2. Which of the following pairs of islands and their corresponding location oceans are correctly matched?
  1. Reunion island : Indian ocean
  2. Gough island : Pacific ocean
  3. Hawaii islands : Pacific ocean
  4. New foundland island : Antarctic ocean
  5. Comoros islands : Indian ocean

Choose the correct option :

(a) 1 , 2 & 3 only  
 (b) 3 , 4 & 5 only  
 (c) 1 , 3 & 5 only  
 (d) 2 , 4 & 5 only
3. Recently the ASI unearthed a 2000 year old brick structure and a Vishnu sculpture from Gottiprolu in Andhra Pradesh. Which of the following statements/implications regarding the same stands true ?
  1. The excavations carried out in the already levelled area revealed elliptical, circular and rectangular brick structures which are comparable with the Satavahana / Ikshvaku period structures in Krishna valley.
  2. The two fortified townships within the gap of 15kms during early historic times indicates the significant strategic location was preferred by the early historic people for trade in the region keeping in view of proximity of the sea, River and Lake (Pulicat).
  3. The proximity of the site to the seacoast suggests that the site could have served as a strategic settlement involved in maritime trade.

Choose the correct option :

(a) 1 & 2 only                      (b) 2 & 3 only  
 (c) 1 & 3 only                      (d) All of the above
4. Consider the following statements :
  1. The INS-ISRO Nano Satellites have capability to carry up to 30 kg. The primary objective of the INS is to provide an opportunity to carry payloads for universities and R&D laboratories.
  2. The small satellites weigh around 500 kg. They are of lower cost, more frequent, quicker and offer broader access to space. They are primarily used for communication, research, meteorology and insurance.
  3. The Cartosat satellites are a series of Indian earth observatory satellites built and operated by ISRO and is a remote sensing satellite.

Which of the above statements are true ?

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

5. The term “Pegasus” recently seen in news refers to which of the following ?
- It is the newly built large carrier military aircraft developed by Russia.
  - It is a spyware that can be installed on smart phone devices via social media platforms.
  - It is the cyclone which affected South American coast recently, causing mass destruction.
  - It is the global initiative formed to curb the menace of forest fires at the Amazon forests.
6. Consider the following statements :
- OCIs (Overseas Citizen of India) are Indian citizens who have a lifetime visa to live and work in some other country
  - While OCIs have given up their full Indian citizenship, NRIs are still citizens of India. This is technically a tax classification as opposed to a visa status.
- Choose the correct option :
- Only 1
  - Only 2
  - Both 1 and 2
  - None of the above
7. Consider the following statements about Project Navlekha :
- The project is to make online content relevant for more Indian users especially in local languages.
  - The project aims to bring 135,000 local language publishers online by making web hosting smooth and simple.
  - It is the initiative of Ministry of Communication and Information Technology.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- 1, 2
  - 1, 3
  - 2, 3
  - 1, 2, 3
8. Expressing concern over the functioning of parliamentary institutions in the country and erosion of public trust in them, Vice President Venkaiah Naidu has unveiled a 15-point reform charter.
- Choose correct proposals under it:
- Doing Away with anti-defection law
  - Review of the whip system
  - Both pre and post Legislative Impact Assessment
- Choose the correct option :
- 1 & 2
  - 3 only
  - 2 & 3
  - All of the above
9. Consider the following statements regarding Project REPLAN :
- The project was launched by Council of Scientific and Industrial Research as part of its commitment to Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan.
  - The waste plastic from nature is collected, de-structured and de-gradated and then mixed with paper pulp in a ratio of 80 is to 20.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- 1 only
  - 2 only
  - Both 1 and 2
  - None of the above
10. Consider the following statements :
- National Digital Health Blueprint report is regarding the Indian genome project
  - It lays out the ‘building blocks’ for the implementation of the National Health Stack (NHS)
- Choose the correct option :
- Only 1
  - Only 2
  - Both 1 and 2
  - None of the above
11. Consider the following statements :
- Researchers from IIT Bombay have discovered special properties in a class of materials called “semi-Dirac metals”
  - Such materials would be transparent to light of a given frequency and polarization from all directions
- Choose the correct option :

- (a) Only 1 (b) Only 2  
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) None of the above
12. Consider the following statements :
1. Edge computing is a subtype of cloud computing
  2. An edge computing network reduces the amount of data that travels over the network
- Choose the correct option :
- (a) Only 1 (b) Only 2  
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) None of the above
13. Consider the following statements regarding the current taxation scenario in the country :
1. In the biggest reduction in 28 years, the government cut corporate tax rates by almost 10 percentage points as it looks to pull the economy out of a six-year low growth of 5 per cent recorded during the first quarter of the current fiscal.
  2. The government plans to gradually increase its spending in social security by increasing tax burden on lower income earners.
  3. The share of direct taxes to India's total tax revenues peaked at 61 per cent in 2009-10 and has since stabilised at around 55 per cent last year.
- Which of the above statements stands true ?
- (a) 1 & 2 only (b) 2 & 3 only  
(c) 1 & 3 only (d) All of the above
14. The World Cities Day (WCD) is being celebrated to promote the international community's interest in global urbanization. It also intends to address the challenges of urbanization and to contribute to sustainable urban development around the world.
- Which of the following global organisations organises the programme?
- (a) WTO (b) United Nations  
(c) IPCC (d) International Monetary Fund
15. PFRDA in its endeavour to promote and develop NPS has taken several initiatives towards increasing the pension coverage in the country, the latest addition being the inclusion of Overseas citizen of India (OCI's) into the NPS .Which of the following statements regarding the same stands true ?
1. OCI may subscribe to NPS provided such person is eligible to invest as per the provisions of the PFRDA Act and the accumulated saving will be repatriable, subject to Foreign Exchange Management Act guidelines.
  2. Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) will now be eligible to apply for the National Pension System at par with Non Resident Indians (NRIs).
  3. Now, any Indian citizen, resident or non-resident and OCIs are eligible to join NPS till the age of 60 years.
- Choose the correct option :
- (a) 1 & 2 only (b) 2 & 3 only  
(c) 1 & 3 only (d) All of the above
16. Which of the following statements with respect to a latest study describing climate change and sea level rise stands true ?
1. By 2050, without dramatic reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, at least 300 million people across the world, that is more than three times the currently accepted number of 80 million, will be at risk of annual coastal flooding.
  2. The largest concentration of at risk population is six Asian countries—China, Bangladesh, India, Vietnam, Indonesia and Thailand—where approximately 237 million live in coastal areas.
  3. The IPCC special report on oceans and the cryosphere concluded that extreme sea-level events, such as surges from tropical cyclones, that are currently historically rare will become common by 2100 under all emissions scenarios due to increasing global mean sea level rise.
- Choose the correct option :
- (a) 1 & 2 only (b) 2 & 3 only

- (c) 1 & 3 only                      (d) All of the above
17. There are no iron and steel industries in UP, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Haryana. Which of the following are the main factors which influences the location of industries in India ?
1. Access to raw materials
  2. Political stability
  3. Power
  4. Soil profile
  5. Capital and labour
- Choose the correct option :
- (a) 1 , 2 & 3 only
  - (b) 3 , 4 & 5 only
  - (c) 1 , 3 & 5 only
  - (d) 2 , 4 & 5 only
18. Consider the following statements regarding Bio-Plastics :
1. Bioplastics can be made from agricultural by-products and also from used plastic bottles and other containers using microorganisms.
  2. Some bioplastics are soil and marine-safe and they safely degrade in the environment within weeks or months, leaving no harmful residues.
  3. Bioplastics save more non-renewable energy than conventional plastics and emit less GHG compared to conventional plastics.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- (a) 1, 2                      (b) 1, 3
  - (c) 2, 3                      (d) 1, 2, 3
19. Which of the following are the potential high-altitude tiger landscapes :
1. Manas-Royal Manas-Jigme Dorji.
  2. Neora Valley-Torsa-Buxa-Phibsu
  3. Askot-Pithoragarh-Nandhaur-Suklaphanta
- Select the correct answer code:
- (a) 1 only                      (b) 1, 2
  - (c) 1, 3                      (d) 1, 2, 3
20. Consider the following statements regarding BRAHMOS Supersonic Cruise Missile :
1. BRAHMOS is the first supersonic cruise missile known to be in service.
  2. The missile has flight range of up to 290-km with supersonic speed only during the initial stage of its flight.
  3. It operates on 'Fire and Forget Principle', adopting varieties of flights on its way to the target.
  4. It is fully indigenously developed by India.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- (a) 1, 2, 3                      (b) 2, 3, 4
  - (c) 1, 2, 4                      (d) 1, 3

## **ANSWER KEYS**

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