

1. Consider the following statements regarding the ethics committee of the Parliament :
  - 1) Ethics Committee of the Rajya Sabha, the first of its kind for legislatures in the country, was set up in 1997 to oversee the moral and ethical conduct of the members' internal self-regulatory mechanism.
  - 2) Any person may make a complaint to the Committee regarding alleged unethical behaviour or breach of Code of Conduct by a member or alleged incorrect information of a member's interests.
  - 3) The punishments for unethical behaviour may include censure, reprimand, suspension from the House for a specific period or any other sanction determined by the Committee.
 Which of the above statements are true?
  - a) 1 & 2 only      b) 2 & 3 only      c) 1 & 3 only      d) All of these
2. Consider the following pairs of endangered species in India and their corresponding habitat locations:
  - 1) Great Indian bustard : Pench NP      2) Dugong : Dachigam NP
  - 3) Sangai : Keibul Lamjao NP      4) Dugong : New Moore islands
 Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?
  - a) 1, 2 & 3 only      b) 2, 3 & 4 only      c) 1 & 4 only      d) 2 & 3 only
3. Centre aims to develop India as a world-class \$100-billion biomanufacturing hub by 2024. Which of the following statements are implicitly contributing to this target?
  - 1) As India steps up its renewable energy output, storage options become increasingly significant for grid management. That throws up the need for developing new battery types which are based on earth-abundant and environmentally-benign materials.
  - 2) India needs to explore, map and responsibly harness the vast oceanic resources of water, energy, food and minerals. This requires developing deep strengths in manned submersibles, deepsea mining systems and autonomous underwater vehicles.
 Choose the correct option:
  - a) 1 only      b) 2 only      c) Both 1 & 2      d) All of these
4. India ranks 34th in Travel & Tourism Competitiveness Index released recently. Which of the following statements regarding the same stands true?
  - 1) As the sector has the capacity to boost the economy, foreign exchange earnings and provide a large number of jobs at every level, tourism Ministry is continuously consulting and collaborating with other different stakeholders to boost the sector.
  - 2) Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Index of World Economic Forum has moved to 34th position from 35th rank in 2013. Foreign Tourist Arrivals also registered a growth of 3.2 percent last year.
  - 3) An initiative called - 'Adopt a Heritage: Apni Dharohar, Apni Pehchaan' has been launched for developing tourist amenities at heritage and tourist sites and making them tourist-friendly.
 Choose the correct option:
  - a) 1 & 2 only      b) 2 & 3 only      c) 1 & 3 only      d) All of these
5. "Project NETRA" recently in news refers to which of the following scenarios?
  - a) Increased surveillance in the tension hit west Asian region by the Indian navy.
  - b) Mission to conduct cataract treatment surgeries free of costs under Jan Arogya Yojana scheme of ministry of health.
  - c) Mission to set up observational facilities that will help in making early warnings to satellites about debris and hazards in their orbit.
  - d) Project to improve surveillance amongst govt. officials to prevent corruption.
6. Which of the following statements regarding the National Building Codes 2016 stands true?
  - 1) It has a detailed provision for streamlining the approval process in respect of different agencies in the form of an integrated approval process through single window approach thereby avoiding separate clearances from various authorities.
  - 2) It features norms for solar energy utilisation, inclusion of modern lighting technique including LED, updated provision on piped gas supply in houses and hospitals. It also covers solid waste management and rain water harvesting.
  - 3) The code has been prepared by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS). It is voluntary in nature, but the states can incorporate them in their building by laws.
  - a) 1 & 2 only      b) 2 & 3 only      c) 1 & 3 only      d) All of these
7. Which of the following species of Birds/Animals are considered as vulnerable as per under IUCN red list?
  - 1) Barasingha      2) Camel      3) Yak      4) Honey bee
 Choose the correct option:
  - a) 1 & 2 only      b) 2 & 3 only      c) 1 & 3 only      d) All of these

8. Consider the following statements regarding India's current /capital account deficit status :
- 1) India's current account deficit (CAD) excess of imports over exports contracted to 0.9 per cent of its GDP compared to a deficit of 2.9 per cent of GDP, in the same period of year ago due to slowdown in imports and lower oil prices.
  - 2) A current account deficit indicates that a country is exporting more than it is importing.
  - 3) In the capital account, the overall surplus declines to \$12 billion compared to inflows worth \$16.3 billion in the same period a year ago. This was largely due to a slowdown in net inflows through foreign investment and loans during the quarter.
- Which of the above statements stands true?
- a) 1 & 2 only      b) 2 & 3 only      c) 1 & 3 only      d) All of these
9. Which of the following statements regarding ocean acidification statistics stands true?
- 1) Ocean acidification that is caused due to uptake of carbon-dioxide has changed the chemical composition of the seawaters.
  - 2) According to the United Nations, over the past 30 years, acidity has increased by 26% since pre-industrial times.
  - 3) The marine fish stocks that are at biologically sustainable levels have declined from 90% (1974) to 99.9% (2015).
- Choose the correct option:
- a) 1 & 2 only      b) 2 & 3 only      c) 1 & 3 only      d) All of these
10. According to the recent census at the Bhitarkanika National Park, the population of salt water (or estuarine) crocodiles have increased to 1,757 as compared to 1,742 in 2018. The above said national park is located in which of the following Indian states ?
- a) Rajasthan      b) Odisha      c) Telangana      d) Gujarat
11. Which of the following statements regarding the Hindu-Kush region stands true?
- 1) It runs northeast to southwest and divides the valley of the Amu Darya (the ancient Oxus River) to the south from the Indus River valley in the north.
  - 2) It contains vast cryospheric zones, is also the world's largest store of snow and ice outside the polar region, and the source of 10 major rivers.
  - 3) It was through the high passes of the Hindu Kush in about 1500 BC that invaders from Central Asia brought their Indo-European language—a forerunner of the Indo-Iranian languages spoken throughout the region today.
- Choose the correct option:
- a) 1 & 2 only      b) 2 & 3 only      c) 1 & 3 only      d) All of these
12. Which of the following pairs of food/cash crops and their largest production states in India are correctly matched?
- 1) Rice : Punjab
  - 2) Spices : West Bengal
  - 3) Cotton : Gujarat
  - 4) Sugarcane : Uttarpradesh
  - 5) Pulses : Madhya Pradesh
- Choose the correct option:
- a) 1, 2 & 4 only      b) 3, 4 & 5 only      c) 2, 4 & 5 only      d) All of these
13. Scientists have developed a new method for detecting oxygen in exoplanet atmospheres that may accelerate the search for life. Which of the following statements regarding the same stands true?
- 1) If an exoplanet is too close to its host star or receives too much star light, the atmosphere becomes very warm and saturated with water vapor from evaporating oceans.
  - 2) When oxygen molecules collide with each other, they block parts of the infrared light spectrum from being seen by a telescope. By examining patterns in that light, they can determine the composition of the planet's atmosphere.
  - 3) Around 90% of the exoplanets contains oxygen and nitrogen gases only.
- Choose the correct option:
- a) 1 & 2 only      b) 2 & 3 only      c) 1 & 3 only      d) All of these
14. With respect to the newly formed National Stock Exchange (NSE) Knowledge Hub, which of the following statements stands true?
- 1) The NSE Knowledge Hub will enhance skills and help academic institutions in preparing future-ready talent for the financial service industry.
  - 2) AI and Machine Learning will contribute USD 1 trillion by 2035 and this is a good beginning by NSE to tap the potential of AI and use it as a tool to create a workforce in the BFSI sector in India.
  - 3) India has developed itself as the second largest fintech hub in the world.

Choose the correct option:

- a) 1 & 2 only      b) 2 & 3 only      c) 1 & 3 only      d) All of these
15. A 5.8-magnitude quake hit Puerto Rico recently, unleashing small landslides, causing power outages and severely cracking some homes. The country is part of which of the following islands groups?  
 a) Samaon islands      b) Carribean islands      c) Hawaiian islands      d) Mariana islands
16. Scientists have mapped the genome of the Indian Cobra, among the most poisonous snakes in the country. Which of the following statements regarding the same stands true?  
 1) Each year, about 46,000 people die and 140,000 people are disabled in India from snakebites by the 'Big 4' — the Indian cobra, the common krait, Russell's viper, and the saw-scaled viper.  
 2) These four venomous species of snakes are concentrated mainly in the north eastern parts of the country.  
 3) Sequencing a genome is an important step to making anti-venom but wouldn't on its own solve the problem of making and supplying enough of the product to address the huge volume and variety of snakebites in India.

Choose the correct option:

- a) 1 & 2 only      b) 2 & 3 only      c) 1 & 3 only      d) All of these
17. Which of the following west Asian countries shares international boundary with Iran?  
 1) Uzbekistan      2) Iraq      3) Israel      4) Afghanistan      5) Turkey

Choose the correct option:

- a) 1, 2 & 3 only      b) 2, 3 & 4 only      c) 2, 4 & 5 only      d) All of these
18. The government is likely to cut spending for the current fiscal by as much as ₹ 2 trillion (₹ 2 lakh crore) as it faces one of the biggest tax shortfalls in recent years.

Consider the following statements with respect to this initiative:

- 1) Asia's third-largest economy, which is growing at its slowest pace in over six years because of lack of private investment, could be hurt further if the government cuts spending.  
 2) Lack of demand and weak corporate earnings growth in the economy led to lagging tax collections this year.  
 3) The Centre is likely to keep fiscal deficit under 3.8% of GDP and plans for additional borrowings worth Rs.300-500crores to meet this target.

Which of the above statements are true?

- a) 1 & 2 only      b) 2 & 3 only      c) 1 & 3 only      d) All of these
19. Which of the following statements regarding the MSME sector in India stands true?  
 1) The MSME sector in India employs over 100 million people and accounts for 45% of manufacturing output and more than 40% of the country's exports.  
 2) The most important problems faced by SME units is in accessing credit from banks, delay in payments from Public Sector Units and Government departments, the issue of GST refunds and the dearth of skilled manpower in the MSME sector.  
 3) In order to mainstream the 8 million Indian women who have started and are running their own businesses government has directed that the Government e-Marketplace may handhold the women led SMEs and onboard these enterprises on the GeM portal.

Choose the correct option:

- a) 1 & 2 only      b) 2 & 3 only      c) 1 & 3 only      d) All of these
20. The first-ever comprehensive National Nutrition Survey was conducted by the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) and which of the following ministries to measure malnutrition?  
 a) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer's welfare      b) Ministry of Health and family welfare  
 c) Women and child development ministry      d) Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation

### ANSWER KEYS

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