

1. With respect to the Forest Conservation Act (FCA) 1980 act recently in news, which of the following statements are true?
 - 1) The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 was passed with a view to check deforestation. It aims at putting a restriction on the de-reservation of forests or the use of forest-land for non-forest purposes.
 - 2) The term 'non-forest purposes' implies the breaking up or cleaning of any forest-land or portion of forest land for the cultivation of tea, coffee, spices, rubber, palms, oil-bearing, plants, or medicinal plants or any purposes other than re-afforestation.
 - 3) Power to make rules for carrying out the provisions of this act is vested with the state government. Every such rule shall be laid down before the state legislature for a period of 30 days.
 Choose the correct option:
 - a) 1 & 2 only b) 2 & 3 only c) 1 & 3 only d) All of these
2. Consider the following pairs of hydropower projects in the upper reaches of Ganga and their corresponding rivers :
 - 1) ManeriBhali : Bhagirathi river
 - 2) Pashulok : Ramganga river
 - 3) Vishnuprayag : Alakananda river
 - 4) Srinagar project : Mahakali river
 Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?
 - a) 1 & 2 only b) 1 & 3 only c) 2 & 4 only d) 1 & 4 only
3. The government had launched Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) to establish a robust fisheries management framework and check gaps in the value chain. Which of the following statements regarding the significance of the scheme stands true?
 - 1) This yojana will create modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain management from farm gate to retail outlet.
 - 2) It will help in providing better prices to farmers and double their income.
 - 3) It will help in reducing huge wastage of agriculture products.
 - 4) It will increase growth of food processing sector in the country and increase GDP, Employment and investment.
 Choose the correct option:
 - a) 1, 2 & 3 only b) 1, 3 & 4 only c) All of these d) 2, 3 & 4 only
4. Which of the following statements regarding the newly approved amendments in the National Commission for Homoeopathy Bill, 2019 stands true?
 - 1) The Bill sets up the National Commission for Homoeopathy (NCH) under the chairmanship of Union health minister for framing policies for regulating medical institutions and homoeopathic medical professionals.
 - 2) The amendment will ensure necessary regulatory reforms in the field of Homoeopathy education.
 - 3) It will also enable transparency and accountability for protecting the interest of the general public. The Commission will promote availability of affordable healthcare services in all parts of the country.
 Choose the correct option:
 - a) 1 & 2 only b) 2 & 3 only c) 1 & 3 only d) All of these
5. "Nagoba Jatara" recently in news is a tribal festival celebrated in which of the following Indian states?
 - a) Sikkim b) Jharkhand c) Telangana d) Arunachal Pradesh
6. Consider the following statements regarding CRZ norms :
 - 1) The CRZ1 (B) category includes the intertidal zone, the area between the Low Tide Line and the High Tide Line.
 - 2) The High Tide Line is defined as the line on the land up to which the highest water line reaches during the spring tide.
 - 3) The line is demarcated by the respective state centres for sustainable coastal management.
 Which of the above statements are true?
 - a) 1 & 2 only b) 2 & 3 only c) 1 & 3 only d) All of these
7. The Planning Commission of India has divided the India into fifteen broad agro-climatic zones on the basis of physiography, soils, geological formation, Climate, cropping patterns, and development of irrigation and mineral resources for extensive agricultural planning and developing future strategies.

Arrange the following agro climatic zones of India from north to southern part of the country :

- A) Upper Gangetic plain region B) Western Himalayan region
 C) Western dry region D) Western plateau and hills
 E) Island region

Choose the correct option:

- a) ABCDE b) BACDE c) CABDE d) BDAC

8. The central government is considering to bring in amendments with respect to the Essential Commodities Act (ECA) 1955. Which of the following statements regarding the act stands true?

- 1) The ECA was enacted in the year 1955, to regulate the production, distribution and supply of a whole host of commodities it declares 'essential' in order to make them available to consumers at fair prices.
 2) The list of items under the act includes drugs, fertilisers, pulses, edible oils and petroleum products.
 3) The states are mandatorily required to adhere to centre's notification regarding the same without any power to impose restrictions.

Choose the correct option:

- a) 1 & 2 only b) 2 & 3 only c) 1 & 3 only d) All of these

9. Which of the following statements the disinvestment policy of the government as portrayed in the economic survey 2019-2020 stands true?

- 1) The Economic Survey has aggressively pitched for divestment in public sector undertakings (PSUs) by proposing a separate corporate entity wherein the government's stake can be transferred and divested over a period of time.
 2) As per the survey, privatised entities have performed better than their peers in terms of net worth, profit, return on equity and sales, among others.
 3) In this era of global slowing down, disinvestment is the only option available to India in order to attain \$5 trillion economy by 2024.

Choose the correct option:

- a) 1 & 2 only b) 2 & 3 only c) 1 & 3 only d) All of these

10. The 'World Sustainable Development Summit 2020' organised by TERI (The Energy and Resources Institute) was held in which of the following cities?

- a) Paris b) Geneva c) New Delhi d) Shanghai

11. With an aim to boost listing of bonds at IFSC exchange, the government has proposed to reduce the withholding tax rate to 4% from 5%.

Which of the following statements regarding withholding tax stands true?

- 1) A withholding tax, or a retention tax, is an income tax to be paid to the government by the payer of the income rather than by the recipient of the income.
 2) Governments use withholding tax as a means to combat tax evasion, and sometimes impose additional withholding tax requirements if the recipient has been delinquent in filing tax returns or in industries where tax evasion is perceived to be common.
 3) They vary according to the incomes of the respective companies.

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 archaeological sites which are to be developed as iconic sites and their corresponding state locations are correctly matched?

- 1) Rakhigarhi : Haryana 2) Hastinapur : Madhya Pradesh 3) Shirsagar : Assam
 4) Dholavira : Karnataka 5) Adichanallur : Tamil Nadu

Choose the correct option:

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

13. The government has decided to abolish the anti-dumping duty on anti-dumping duty on PTA (Purified Terephthalic Acid) recently. Which of the following statements regarding the component stands true?

- 1) Terephthalic acid is a commodity chemical, used principally as a precursor to the polyester PET, used to make clothing and plastic bottles.
 2) Terephthalic acid is highly soluble in water and alcohols which makes its application easier.
 3) It is used in the pharmaceutical industry as a raw material for certain drugs.

Choose the correct option:

- a) 1 & 2 only b) 2 & 3 only c) 1 & 3 only d) All of these

14. Consider the following statements :
- 1) The Indian soft shell turtle (*Nilssoniagangetica*), or Ganges soft-shell turtle is a species of soft-shell turtle found in South Asia in rivers such as the Ganges, Indus and Mahanadi.
 - 2) The endangered turtle reaches a carapace length of up to 94 cm and feeds mostly on fish, amphibians, carrion and other animal matter, but also takes aquatic plants.
 - 3) These turtles are often maintained in the temple ponds of Odisha where they are considered sacred.
- Which of the above statements are true?
- a) 1 & 2 only b) 2 & 3 only c) 1 & 3 only d) All of these
15. Which of the following countries is the recipient of largest share of Indian aid in the world as per latest estimates?
- a) Nepal b) Bhutan c) Sri Lanka d) Afghanistan
16. Which of the following statements regarding CACP (Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) stands true?
- 1) It is mandated to recommend minimum support prices (MSPs) to incentivize the cultivators to adopt modern technology, and raise productivity and overall grain production in line with the emerging demand patterns in the country.
 - 2) Currently CACP recommends Minimum Support Price for 23 crops with sugarcane being the latest addition.
 - 3) After receiving the feed-back from them, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) of the Union government takes a final decision on the level of MSPs and other recommendations made by CACP.
- Choose the correct option:
- a) 1 & 2 only b) 2 & 3 only c) 1 & 3 only d) All of these
17. Arrange the following countries in the increased order of their defence budgets as per latest rankings of 2019 :
- A) Russia B) China C) India D) Saudi Arabia
- Choose the correct option:
- a) BCDA b) ABDC c) ADCB d) BDCA
18. Consider the following statements :
- 1) Bats in South Asia act as a reservoir host of a diverse range of filoviruses.
 - 2) Bats often carry Ebola, rabies, Marburg and the SARS coronavirus.
 - 3) Bat and rodent species are less likely to host multiple viruses if their habitat ranges overlapped since bats host more zoonotic viruses than rodents.
- Which of the above statements are true?
- a) 1 & 2 only b) 2 & 3 only c) 1 & 3 only d) All of these
19. A National Logistics Policy will be released soon and it will clarify the roles of the Union Government, State Governments and key regulators, claims the finance ministry. Which of the following statements regarding the same stand true?
- 1) India's logistics sector is highly defragmented and the aim is to reduce the logistics cost from the present 14% of GDP to less than 30% by 2022.
 - 2) The National Logistics Policy formulated by the Commerce and Industry Ministry will improve India's trade competitiveness, create more jobs, improve India's performance in global rankings and pave the way for India to become a logistics hub.
 - 3) The policy will create a single window e-logistics market and focus on generation of employment, skills and make MSMEs competitive.
- Choose the correct option:
- a) 1 & 2 only b) 2 & 3 only c) 1 & 3 only d) All of these
20. Ministry of Shipping is set to develop a maritime museum under the Sagarmala programme at "Lothal". The place is located in which of the following states of India ?
- a) Telangana b) Odisha c) Gujarat d) Karnataka

ANSWER KEYS

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