

ENVIRONMENT

1. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. In terms of area under forests, the correct order is: Madhya Pradesh > Arunachal Pradesh > Chhattisgarh > Odisha > Maharashtra.
2. In terms of forest cover as the percentage of the total geographical area, the correct order is: Mizoram > Arunachal Pradesh > Meghalaya > Manipur > Nagaland.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

2. With reference to the TSR Subramanian Committee Report on Environment, consider the following statements:

1. It proposed a "fast track" system for all infrastructural projects.
2. It recommended the creation of the Indian Environment Service (IES).
3. It emphasised the calculation of the Environmental Reconstruction Cost, based on the environmental harm it does.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

3. Consider the following statements:

1. The National Tiger Conservation Authority has been created by the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
2. The Conservation Assured Tiger Standards (CA|TS) is a new conservation tool to set the best practice standards for the effective management of the target species.

3. Project Tiger is a 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme, which gives fund help to all the States, for in-situ conservation of the tigers in the chosen Tiger Reserves.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

4. With reference to elephants in India, consider the following statements:

1. They are listed in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES).
2. They are listed in Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
3. Elephant is a Critically Endangered species.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

5. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The gharial once thrived in all the major river systems of the northern India.
2. It has been listed as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List.
3. Their major population occurs in the Chambal and the Girwa rivers.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

6. Consider the following statements with regards to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA):

1. It evaluates the environmental impacts of a project since its inception.
2. The EIA rules have been notified by the government, utilizing the powers given under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

7. With respect to Biomass Co-firing, consider the following statements:

1. The Biomass Co-firing seeks to mix biomass pellets with coal in the existing thermal power plants to generate electricity.
2. The Biomass Co-firing is presently implemented as part of the SAMARTH Initiative of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

8. With respect to "Bio-CNG", consider the following statements:

1. It contains more than 90% of methane.
2. The calorific value of Bio-CNG is lower than that of Biogas.
3. India has got Asia's largest Bio-CNG plant in Indore.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

9. With respect to the "Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary", consider the following statements:

1. It is the largest Wildlife Sanctuary in Kerala.
2. It is an integral part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

10. With respect to the "single-use plastics", consider the following statements:

1. They are the goods made primarily from the fossil fuel-based chemicals (petro- chemicals) and are meant to be disposed of right after use.
2. Candy sticks, polystyrene (thermocool) for decoration and wrapping/packaging films around sweet boxes are the examples of single-use plastics.
3. India's "Beat Plastic Pollution" resolution is committed to eliminating the single-use plastics by 2022.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

ECONOMY

1. Which of the following best describes the concept of "Silver Economy"?

- (a) It refers to the development of the mining sector with special focus on precious stones, such as gold and silver.
- (b) It refers to the development of the economy with special focus on meeting the needs of the ageing population.**
- (c) It refers to the development of the economy with special focus on women empowerment.
- (d) It refers to the development of the bond market with special focus on the Gold and Silver Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs).

2. Consider the following statements related to the Unified Presentment Management System

(UPMS), which was recently in the news:

1. The UPMS is a new system, which can be used for making various bill payments, such as electricity, water etc.

2. The UPMS has been developed by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

3. With respect to the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in India, consider the following statements:

1. The SEZs can be set up by the Centre, the State or a private entity.

2. The supply of goods and services by the SEZ units to the Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) is treated as imports into India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

4. With respect to the Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AePS), consider the following statements:

1. The AePS enables a customer to access his bank account through Aadhaar authentication, without the need to carry the debit card.

2. The AePS has been developed by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

5. With reference to the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), consider the following statements:

1. The membership of the AIIB is limited only to the Asian countries.

2. Unlike the World Bank, all the member countries have equal voting rights in the AIIB.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

6. Which of the following agricultural commodities accounts/account for the highest

share in agricultural exports in terms of value?

- (a) Spices
- (b) Basmati Rice
- (c) Marine Products**
- (d) Fruits and Vegetables

7. With respect to the Financial Stability Board (FSB), consider the following statements:

- 1. The FSB is hosted and funded by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
- 2. The FSB provides for legally binding rules and regulations to strengthen the financial stability of the member countries.

3. India is one of the members of the FSB.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

8. With respect to the Domestic- Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs), consider the following statements:

- 1. To identify the D-SIBs, the RBI considers only those banks whose size is equal to or more than 1% of the GDP.

2. Presently, only Public Sector Banks are included in the list of the D-SIBs.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

9. Which of the following can worsen India's Net International Investment Position (NIIP)?

- 1. Increase in the External Commercial Borrowings (ECBs)
 - 2. Increase in FDI outflows from India
 - 3. Decrease in NRI deposits into India
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

10. Which of the following international organizations publishes the Global Risks Report?

- (a) IMF
- (b) World Bank
- (c) World Economic Forum**
- (d) UNCTAD

CURRENT AFFAIRS

1. Which one of the following is the best description of '2023 FW13', that was in the news recently?

- (a) It is a supermassive blackhole
- (b) It is a quasi-moon.**
- (c) It is an invasive alien speices.
- (d) It is a Surface to Air Missile.

2. Consider the following statements regarding Barents Sea:

- 1. It is a marginal sea of the Atlantic Ocean.
- 2. It is a shallow sea and faces a subarctic climate.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

3. Consider the following statements regarding International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA):

- 1. It is an intergovernmental forum to promote the safe, secure and peaceful use of nuclear technologies.

2. IAEA reports to both the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

4. Kanger Valley National Park, lies in which state?

- (a) Gujrat
- (b) Madhya Pradesh
- (c) Chattisgarh**
- (d) Karnataka

5. Consider the following statements regarding Purana Qila:

- 1. It is one of the oldest forts in Delhi and built on the banks of river Yamuna.

2. The present citadel at Purana Qila started its construction in the reign of Aurangzeb.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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