

1. Consider the following statements :

1. The latest data on tax collection released by the Central Board of Direct Taxes show that Kerala, Bihar and Tamil Nadu alone contribute 61 per cent to the country's total revenue from direct taxes.
2. Since 2008-09, direct taxes have consistently contributed more than 50% to the govt's total tax revenues with the exception of 2016-17 when share of direct taxes was 49.65%.
3. Greater revenue collection reflects greater income, both of individuals and corporate entities, which in turn means better employment opportunities and greater ease-of-doing-business in a state.

Which of the above statements regarding tax contributions in India stands true ?

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

2. Which of the following includes the principal air pollutants emitted from different sources causing air pollution in India ?

1. CO₂
2. Ozone
3. Fluorocarbons
4. Fly ash
5. Benzene

Choose the correct option :

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

3. Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina calls for early operationalisation of BBIN Motor Vehicles Agreement recently .Which of the following statements regarding the same stands true ?

1. The Motor Vehicle Agreement is a landmark framework agreement to facilitate the seamless flow of passenger, personal and cargo vehicular traffic among the BBIN(Bangladesh,Bhutan,India,Nepal) countries.
2. The Motor Vehicle Agreement between BBIN member states was signed in 2015 but it has not yet been operationalised as the upper house of Bangladesh did not ratify it. It has some reservations about its environmental impact owing to increased traffic of heavy-duty vehicles.
3. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has been providing technical, advisory, and financial support to the BBIN MVA initiative as part of its assistance to the south Asia sub-regional economic cooperation (SASEC) programme.

Choose the correct option :

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

4. The Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), participated in the 29th ministerial meeting of the BASIC (Brazil, South Africa, India, China) countries on Climate Change at Beijing. Which of the following were the possible outcomes of the meeting ?

1. Ministers noted the work of International Maritime Organization (IMO) and International Civil Aviation (ICAO) on reduction of GHG emissions, and underlined that the work being undertaken must comply with the key principles of the UNFCCC process, in particular the principle of Equity and CBDR-RC.
2. They urged developed countries to fulfill their climate finance commitments of providing USD 100 billion annually by 2020 for developing countries in a transparent and grant-based manner.
3. They also agreed to make a joint fund of developing countries of \$100billion to combat plastic pollution in their marine resources.

Choose the correct option :

- (a) 1 & 2 only (b) 2 & 3 only
 (c) 1 & 3 only (d) All of the above
5. Which of the following countries do not form a part of the BASIC group of countries ?
 (a) Bangladesh (b) South Africa
 (c) India (d) China
6. Consider the following statements regarding the recently launched Rural Sanitation Strategy :
 1. The Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS), launched the 5 Year Rural Sanitation Strategy (2019-2024).
 2. It focuses on sustaining the sanitation behaviour change that has been achieved under the Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen (SBM-G)
 3. It ensures that everyone uses a toilet, and every village has access to solid and liquid waste management.
 Which of the above statements is/are correct?
 (a) 1, 2 (b) 1, 3
 (c) 2, 3 (d) 1, 2, 3
7. Consider the following statements :
 1. The Department of Official Language was set up as an independent Department of the Ministry of Home Affairs for accelerating the progressive use of Hindi for the official purposes of the Union.
 2. Constitution has not mentioned anything about the official language of India.
 3. Kanthasth is the computer software developed by Department of Official Language for translating all kinds of official files from English to Hindi.
 Which of the above statements is/are correct?
 (a) 1, 2 (b) 2, 3
 (c) 1, 3 (d) 1, 2, 3
8. Kathmandu Declaration, sometimes seen in news is related to
 (a) South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)
 (b) Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)
 (c) Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)
 (d) Group of 77 (G-77)
9. Consider the following statements about Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).
 1. SIPRI is an independent international institute dedicated to research into conflict, armaments, arms control and disarmament
 2. According to a report by SIPRI, India was the second largest importer of major arms in 2014-18.
 Which of the above statements is/are correct?
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) None of the above
10. Consider the following statements regarding All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) report for 2018-19 :
 1. It is a biennial web-based, pan-India exercise on the status of Higher Education in the country.
 2. The survey covers all the Institutions in the country engaged in imparting of higher education.
 3. Gender gap has been increasing significantly in higher education, according to 2018-19 report.
 Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?
 (a) 1, 2 (b) 2 only
 (c) 1, 3 (d) 2, 3
11. Consider the following statements regarding Indian ocean region and the IORA :
 1. As the third largest ocean woven together by trade routes, commands control of major sea-lanes carrying half of the world's container ships, one third of the world's bulk cargo traffic and two thirds of the world's oil shipments, the Indian Ocean remains an important lifeline to international trade and transport.

2. The IORA is a regional forum, tripartite in nature, bringing together representatives of Government, Business and Academia, for promoting co-operation and closer interaction among them.
3. It is based on the principles of Open Regionalism for strengthening Economic Cooperation particularly on Trade Facilitation and Investment, Promotion as well as Social Development of the region.

Which of the above statements are true ?

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

12. Under section 69(1) of IT act , the central government can intercept , monitor and decrypt exchange of information between individuals under which of the following cases ?

1. National security
2. Defence of India
3. Public order
4. Friendly relationship with foreign countries

Choose the correct option :

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

13. Which of the following statements regarding “Organoids “stands true ?

1. Organoids are a group of cells grown in laboratories into three dimensional, miniature structures that mimic the cell arrangement of a fully grown organ.
2. They are tiny (typically the size of a pea) organ like structures that do not achieve all the functional maturity of human organs but often resemble the early stages of a developing tissue.
3. However the growing cells are incapable of replicating complex functions of mature organs like psychological processes to regeneration.

Choose the correct option :

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

14. Last October, in a landmark judgment, the Supreme Court of India mandated the use of green crackers for Deepavali, prescribing specific norms for their manufacture .Which of the following statements regarding the same stands true ?

1. The manufacturers of green crackers claim that particulate matter pollution has been reduced by 30%.
2. Traditionally, firecrackers have been made with barium nitrate, antimony and a range of metals that, over the years, have been linked to respiratory diseases and even cancer.
3. Green crackers do not contain barium nitrates while they use strontium and lithium which are less harmful to environment and ecology.

Choose the correct option :

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

15. Recently the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) had given in principle approval for exploration of Uranium in the “Amrabad tiger reserve” located in which of the following states of India ?

- (a) Tamil Nadu (b) Telangana
 (c) Bihar (d) Jharkhand

16. Consider the following statements regarding Goldschmidtite.

1. It is a new mineral from the Earth’s mantle, found inside a diamond.
2. While the mantle is dominated by elements such as magnesium and iron, goldschmidtite has high concentrations of potassium.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only

- (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) None of the above
17. Consider the following statements regarding Interim government of India, formed in 1946.
1. It was the only such cabinet in India's history in which both Congress and the Muslim League shared power at the Centre.
 2. The interim government functioned according to the Government of India Act of 1935.
 3. The interim government functioned until India became a sovereign democratic republic.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- (a) 1, 2 (b) 1 only
(c) 1, 3 (d) 2, 3
18. Consider the following statements regarding United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) :
1. Recently for the first time India hosted the Conference of Parties of United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD).
 2. UNCCD is the only convention stemming from a direct recommendation of the Rio Conference's Agenda 21.
 3. To help publicise the Convention, 2019 is declared "International Year of Deserts and Desertification".
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- (a) 1, 3 (b) 2, 3
(c) 1, 2 (d) 1, 2, 3
19. Consider the following statements about Indian Bridge Management System.
1. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has inventorized bridges/structures under Indian Bridge Management System (IBMS).
 2. IBMS is the second largest platform in the world owned by a single owner.
 3. Socio-Economic Bridge Rating Number is given which will decide the importance of the structure in relation to its contribution to daily socio-economic activity of the area in its vicinity.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- (a) 1, 2 (b) 2, 3
(c) 1, 3 (d) 1, 2, 3
20. G5 Sahel is an institutional framework for coordination of regional cooperation of which countries?
1. Burkina Faso
 2. Chad
 3. Somalia
 4. Mali
 5. Kenya
 6. Mauritania
 7. Niger
- Select the correct answer code:
- (a) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
(b) 1, 3, 5, 6, 7
(c) 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
(d) 1, 2, 4, 6, 7

ANSWER KEYS

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