

**GOVERNANCE- WELFARE SCHEMES, E-GOVERNANCE, SERVICES ETC.**

**Invocation of Disaster Management Act 2005 to deal with COVID-19**

Various government authorities have invoked their respective powers under the **Disaster Management (DM) Act, 2005** to deal with the **novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak** in the country.

**Key Points**

- **Delegation of Powers to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare:**
  - The powers exercised by the home secretary for being the **Chairman of the National Executive Committee (NEC)** under **section 10 of the DM Act (2005)** have been delegated to the Ministry of Health and Family welfare.
  - **Section 10 evaluates the preparedness** at all governmental levels for the purpose of responding to any threatening disaster situation or disaster and **give directions**, where necessary, for enhancing such preparedness.
  - It also **lays down guidelines for, or give directions to, the concerned Ministries or Departments** of the Government of India, **the State Governments and the State Authorities** regarding measures to be taken by them in response to any threatening disaster situation or disaster
  - Thus it majorly **monitors and implements** the national plan and the plans prepared by the ministries or departments of the central government and gives **superintendence power to the officer executing plans**.
  - The delegation would help to **enhance preparedness and containment of novel coronavirus (COVID-19)** in the country.
- **Invocation of Powers by District Authorities:**
  - Some of the district authorities in the COVID-19 affected states like Maharashtra have also invoked power under the **DM Act**.
  - The Act gives power to the district administration under **Sections 33 and 34** to deal with any disaster-related situation.
  - Under Section 33 and 34 the district authorities may opt for **requisition powers for any officer or any department at the district level or any local authority** to take measures for **prevention or mitigation of disaster** or to effectively respond to it and such **officer or department is bound to carry out such order**.
  - This step will help to create **awareness among the public regarding COVID-19** and will also help to **regulate the medical supply of masks, injections and medicines**, etc.

**National Executive Committee**

- A National Executive Committee (NEC) is constituted under Section 8 of the DM Act, 2005 to assist the National Disaster Management Authority in the performance of its functions.
- Union Home secretary is its ex-officio chairperson.
- NEC has been given the responsibility to act as the coordinating and monitoring body for disaster management, to prepare a National Plan, monitor the implementation of National Policy etc.

**States to be Asked to Invoke Epidemic Disease Act**

In a cabinet secretary meeting, it has been decided that states and Union Territories should invoke provisions of **Section 2 of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897**.

- **Health is a State subject**, but by invoking Section 2 of the Epidemic Diseases Act, advisories and directions of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare will be enforceable.
- At present, at least 60 COVID-19 cases have been confirmed in India.

**Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897**

- The Epidemic Diseases Act was **introduced by the British** to tackle the epidemic of bubonic plague that broke out in the then state of Bombay.
- This law aims to provide for the better prevention of the spread of dangerous epidemic diseases. Under the act, temporary provisions or regulations can be made to be observed by the public to tackle or prevent the outbreak of a disease.
- **Section 2A of the Act** empowers the central government to take steps to prevent the spread of an epidemic. It allows the government to inspect any ship arriving or leaving any port and the power to detain any person intending to sail or arriving in the country.
- **Section 3** provides penalties for disobeying any regulation or order made under the Act. These are according to section 188 of the Indian Penal Code (Disobedience to order duly promulgated by public servant).

- **Section 4** gives legal protection to the implementing officers acting under the Act.
- The Epidemics Diseases Act is routinely enforced across the country for dealing with outbreaks of diseases such as Swine Flu, Dengue.
  - **For Example** in 2009, to tackle the swine flu outbreak in Pune, Section 2 powers were used to open screening centres in civic hospitals across the city, and swine flu was declared a notifiable disease.

### **Mineral Law Amendment Bill**

Recently, the Parliament has passed the **Mineral Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2020**.

- The Bill replaces the ordinance for amendment of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act) and the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 (CMSP Act) which was promulgated on 11th January 2020.
- The Bill is expected to open a **new era in Indian coal & mining sector especially to promote Ease of Doing Business**.

### **About MMDR Act**

- The MMDR Act regulates the overall mining sector in India.
- The CMSP Act provides for the auction and allocation of coal mines whose allocation was cancelled by the Supreme Court in 2014.
- Schedule I of the Act provides a list of all such mines; Schedule II and III are sub-classes of the mines listed in the Schedule I.
- Schedule II mines are those where production had already started before the Supreme court's order in 2014 and Schedule III mines are ones that had been earmarked for a specific end-use.

### **Key Points**

- **Removal of restriction on end-use of coal:**
  - Currently, companies acquiring Schedule II and Schedule III coal mines through auctions can use the coal produced **only for specified end-uses such as power generation and steel production**.
  - The Bill removes this restriction on the use of coal mined by such companies. And thus companies will be allowed to carry on coal mining operation for own consumption, sale or for any other purposes, as may be specified by the central government.
- **Eligibility for auction of coal and lignite blocks:**
  - The Bill clarifies that the companies **need not possess any prior coal mining experience in India in order to participate in the auction of coal and lignite blocks**.
- **Composite license for prospecting and mining:**
  - The Bill adds a **new type of license**, called **prospecting license-cum-mining lease**. It will be a composite license providing for both prospecting and mining activities.
  - **Currently, separate licenses** are provided for prospecting and mining of coal and lignite, called prospecting license, and mining lease, respectively. Prospecting includes exploring, locating, or finding mineral deposit.
- **Advance action for auction:**
  - The Bill provides that **state governments** can take **advance action for auction of a mining lease before its expiry**.
  - Under the MMDR Act, mining leases for specified minerals (minerals other than coal, lignite, and atomic minerals) are auctioned on the expiry of the lease period.
- **Transfer of statutory clearances to new bidders:**
  - The Bill provides that the various approvals, licenses, and clearances given to the previous lessee will be **extended to the successful bidder for a period of two years**.
  - During this period, the new lessee will be allowed to continue mining operations. However, the new lessee **must obtain** all the required clearances within this two-year period.
  - Currently, upon expiry, mining leases for specified minerals (minerals other than coal, lignite, and atomic minerals) can be transferred to new persons through auction. This **new lessee is required to obtain statutory clearances before starting mining operations**.
- **Prior approval from the central government:**
  - The Bill provides that **prior approval of the central government will not be required** by the state government in granting licenses for coal and lignite, in certain cases.
  - These include cases where the allocation has been done by the central government, and the mining block has been reserved to conserve a mineral.

- Under the MMDR Act, state governments **require prior approval of the central government** for granting reconnaissance permit, prospecting license, or mining lease for coal and lignite.

## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS IN INDIA**

Recently, the government provided details related to various nuclear power plants in the country.

- Presently, **India has 22 operating nuclear power reactors**, with an installed capacity of 6780 MegaWatt electric (MWe). Among these eighteen reactors are **Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs)** and four are **Light Water Reactors (LWRs)**.
- ❖ The **nuclear energy programme** in India was launched around the time of independence under the leadership of Homi J Bhabha.
- **Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR)** is being implemented by the **Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Limited (BHAVINI)**, a wholly owned Enterprise of the Government of India under the administrative control of the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE).

#### **Pressurized Heavy Water Reactor**

- PHWR is a nuclear power reactor, commonly using **unenriched natural uranium** as its fuel. It uses **heavy water (Deuterium oxide D<sub>2</sub>O)** as its coolant and moderator.
- The **heavy water coolant is kept under pressure**, allowing it to be heated to higher temperatures without boiling, much as in a typical pressurized water reactor.
- While heavy water is significantly more expensive than ordinary light water, it yields **greatly enhanced neutron economy**, allowing the reactor to operate without fuel enrichment facilities.

#### **Light Water Reactor**

- The light water reactor is a type of **thermal- neutron reactor** that **utilizes normal water** as opposed to heavy water.
- It is fuelled by **Low Enriched Uranium**.
- It uses water as both a coolant method and a neutron moderator.
- It **produces heat by controlled nuclear fission**.

#### **Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor**

- A breeder reactor is a nuclear reactor that **generates more fissile material than it consumes**. These are designed to **extend the nuclear fuel supply** for electric power generation.
- Breeder reactors achieve this because their neutron economy is high enough to create more fissile fuel than they use, by irradiation of a fertile material, such as **Uranium-238** or **Thorium-232** that is loaded into the reactor along with fissile fuel.
- **PFBR is a 500 MWe fast breeder nuclear reactor** presently being constructed at the **Madras Atomic Power Station in Kalpakkam (Tamil Nadu)**.
- It is fuelled by **Mixed Oxide (MOX) Fuel**.

#### **About Mixed Oxide (MOX) Fuel**

- MOX fuel is manufactured from plutonium recovered from used reactor fuel, mixed with depleted uranium.
- Mixed oxide (MOX) fuel provides almost 5% of the new nuclear fuel used today.
- MOX fuel also provides a means of burning weapons-grade plutonium (from military sources) to produce electricity.

#### **Depleted Uranium**

- In order to produce fuel for certain types of nuclear reactors and nuclear weapons, uranium has to be "enriched" in the U-235 isotope, which is responsible for nuclear fission.
- During the enrichment process the fraction of U-235 is increased from its natural level (0.72% by mass) to between 2% and 94% by mass.
- The by-product uranium mixture (after the enriched uranium is removed) has reduced concentrations of U-235 and U-234. This by-product of the enrichment process is known as depleted uranium (DU).

### **Methanotrophic Bacteria for Methane Mitigation**

Recently, scientists at the **Agharkar Research Institute (ARI), Pune** have enriched, isolated and cultivated 45 different strains of **methanotrophs (methane-utilising bacteria)** and created the **first indigenous methanotroph culture**.

- ARI is an **autonomous institute** under the **Department of Science & Technology**.

### Key Points

- Scientists used some of the isolated strains of methanotrophs as **bio-inoculants** in rice plants.
- They found that there was a **decrease in methane emissions in inoculated plants with a positive or neutral effect** on the growth of the rice. This finding could lead to the development of microbial inoculants for methane mitigation in rice.
- Methanotrophs **metabolise and convert methane into carbon-di-oxide enabling them to reduce methane emissions** from rice plants.
- In rice fields, methanotrophs are active near the roots or soil-water interfaces.
- **Rice fields are human-made wetlands** and are waterlogged for a considerable period.
- **Anaerobic degradation of organic matter** results in the **generation of methane**.
- Rice fields contribute to nearly **10% of global methane emissions**.

### Inoculation

- In microbiology, inoculation is defined as introducing microorganisms into a culture where they can grow and reproduce. More generally, it can also be defined as introducing a certain substance into another substance.
- Bio-inoculants are living organisms containing strains of specific bacteria, fungi, or algae. These are also known as microbial inoculants.

### Significance

- Methanotrophs can **effectively reduce the emission of methane**, which is the **second most important greenhouse gas (GHG)** and 26 times more potent as compared to carbon-di-oxide.
- Native methanotrophs isolated from rice fields can be excellent **models to understand the effect of various factors on methane mitigation**.
- Besides methane mitigation studies, methanotrophs can also be used in **methane value addition (valorization) studies**.
- Bio-methane generated from waste can be used by the methanotrophs and can be **converted to value-added products such as single-cell proteins, biodiesel, and so on**.

## BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

### White Giraffe

Poachers have killed two extremely rare white giraffes in northeast Kenya, leaving just one such animal in the world.

### Key Points

- The white giraffes were first spotted in 2016.
- The white appearance of the giraffe is **due to leucism**, a genetic condition that causes skin cells to have no pigmentation.
- **Leucism is different from albinism** where no melanin is produced at all.
  - Melanin is a dark biological pigment found in skin, hair, feathers, scales, eyes, and some internal membranes.

### Giraffe

- Giraffes are most often found in **savanna/woodland** habitats and range widely throughout Africa.
- The **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)** had classified giraffes as **vulnerable** in the Red List in December 2016, when it noted that their population had dropped by over 40% since 1985.
- According to IUCN, the **four principal factors that have led to a population decline** among giraffes are **habitat loss, civil unrest, poaching and ecological issues**.
- Giraffes are listed under **Appendix II of the CITES**.

## SOCIAL JUSTICE

### National Creche Scheme

- The National Crèche Scheme is a **centrally sponsored scheme being implemented by the Ministry of Women and Child Development**. The scheme was earlier named as Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme.
- It aims to provide day care facilities to children (age group of 6 months to 6 years) of working mothers.
- The salient features of the **National Creche Scheme** are as follows:
  - Daycare Facilities including Sleeping Facilities.
  - Early Stimulation for children below 3 years and pre-school Education for 3 to 6 years old children.



- Supplementary Nutrition ( to be locally sourced)
- Growth Monitoring
- Health Check-up and Immunization
- Further, the guidelines provide that :
  - Crèches shall be open for **26 days** in a month and for **seven and half (7-1/2) hours** per day.
  - The number of children in the crèche should not be more than **25** per crèche.
  - User charges will be levied to bring in an element of community ownership.
- The **fund sharing pattern** under National Creche Scheme amongst **Centre, States/UTs & Non Governmental Organisations/Voluntary Organisations** is in the ratio of **60:30:10** for States, **80:10:10** for North Eastern States and Himalayan States and **90:0:10** for UTs.

#### **Benefits of Creche Facility**

- It helps women to manage both their career as well as their family responsibility.
- It promotes gender diversity at workplaces.
- **Creche facilities** help promote gender equality and democracy by increasing participation of women in the economy.

### **INTERNATIONAL RELATION**

#### **COVID-19 Now Pandemic : WHO**

According to the latest assessment of the **World Health Organisation (WHO)**, **COVID-19** can be characterised as a **pandemic** now.

- According to the WHO, a **pandemic** is declared when a new disease for which people do not have immunity spreads around the world beyond expectations.
- On the other hand, an **epidemic** is a large outbreak, one that spreads among a population or region. It is less severe than pandemic due to a limited area of spread.

#### **Key Points**

- WHO noted with concern that **1,18,000 positive** cases have been reported globally in **114 countries** and more than 90% of cases are in just four countries.
  - 81 countries had not reported any cases and 57 countries had reported 10 cases or less.

#### **Preventive Measures by India**

- The Indian government has issued a **new travel advisory** stating that all existing visas, except diplomatic, official, U.N./International Organisations, employment, project visas, stand suspended till **15<sup>th</sup> April**, beginning from 13<sup>th</sup> March.
- **Visa-free travel facility** granted to **OCI cardholders** is also **suspended** for the same duration.
- Any **foreign national** who intends to travel to India for **compelling reason** may **contact the nearest Indian Mission**.
- All incoming travellers, including Indian nationals, arriving from or having visited China, Italy, Iran, Republic of Korea, France, Spain and Germany after 15<sup>th</sup> Feb shall be quarantined for a minimum period of 14 days.
- **International traffic** through land borders will be **restricted** as well.
- The **Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways** has issued an **advisory** to take all necessary steps in public transport vehicles to ensure sanitation of seats, handles and bars.
- India will **send a team of doctors to Italy** for testing its nationals for coronavirus to bring them back, while samples of 529 more people have been brought from Iran.
- The **Union Home Ministry** has **transferred some of its power to the Union Health Ministry** for tackling the COVID-19 if the outbreak turns out to be a disaster of national proportions.

### **IMPORTANT FACTS FOR PRELIM**

#### **Nidhi Companies**

Recently, The Central Government has amended the provisions related to Nidhi companies under the Companies Act, 2013 and the Rules.

- The amendments have been made to make the regulatory regime for Nidhi Companies more effective.
- This will accomplish the objectives of transparency & investor friendliness in the corporate environment of the country.

#### **Key Points**

- Under **Nidhi Rules, 2014**, Nidhi is a company which has been incorporated as a Nidhi with the object of cultivating the habit of thrift and saving amongst its members, **receiving deposits from, and lending to, its members only, for their mutual benefit**.

- It is a company **registered** under the **Companies Act, 2013**.
- It works on the principle of mutual benefits that are regulated by the **Ministry of Corporate Affairs**.
- Nidhi Company is a class of **Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC)** and Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has powers to issue directives for them related to their deposit acceptance activities.
- However, since these Nidhis deal with their **shareholder-members only**, RBI has exempted them from the core provisions of the RBI Act and other directions applicable to NBFCs.

### **Bear and Bull Market**

Recently, the many Indian indices including NSE Nifty index have entered into '**bear market territory**' in the backdrop of the declaration of the **coronavirus outbreak a pandemic by the World Health Organisation (WHO)**.

#### **Bear Market**

- A bear market refers to the market where **share prices are continuously declining**.
- Its downward trend makes **investors believe** that the **trend will continue**, which, in turn, perpetuates the **downward spiral**.
- It is considered **riskier to invest** in a bear market, as many equities lose value. Thus, most investors **withdraw their money from the markets**.
- During a bear market, the **economy slows down** and **unemployment rises** as companies begin laying off workers.

#### **Bull Market**

- A bull market refers to a market that experiences a **sustained increase in market share prices**.
- It **ensures investors** that the **uptrend will continue** over the **long term**.
- It signifies that the country's **economy is strong** and **employment levels are high**.

### **National Bio-Pharma Mission**

- The National Biopharma Mission (NBM) is an **industry-academia collaborative mission** for accelerating **biopharmaceutical development** in the country.
- It was **launched in 2017** at a total cost of Rs 1500 crore and is **50% co-funded by World Bank loan**.
- It is being implemented by the **Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC)**.
  - BIRAC is a **Public Sector Enterprise**, set up by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT).
- The oversight to the mission activities is provided by the inter-ministerial Steering Committee chaired by the Secretary-DBT (Ministry of Science & Technology).
- The **Technical Advisory Group (TAG)** chaired by an eminent scientist provides scientific leadership to the mission drawing upon global expertise.
- Under this Mission, the Government has launched **Innovate in India (i3) programme** to create an enabling ecosystem to promote **entrepreneurship and indigenous manufacturing** in the biopharma sector.
- It has a focus on **following four verticals**:
  - Development of product leads for Vaccines, Biosimilars and Medical Devices** that are relevant to the public health need by focussing on managed partnerships.
  - Upgradation of shared infrastructure facilities** and establishing them as centres of product discovery/discovery validations and manufacturing.
  - Developing human capital** by providing specific training.
  - Developing technology transfer** offices to help enhance industry academia inter-linkages.

### **Pi(π) Day**

- Pi Day is celebrated on **March 14 dedicated to Pi (Greek letter π)**. The idea originated in the United States, where the convention is to write dates in a **format that expresses March 14 as 3/14**. These three digits match the value of pi up to two decimal places, at **3.14**.
- By definition, pi is the **ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter**. Pi is also the area of a circle divided by the square of its radius. The ratio is **always constant**.
- Pi is an **irrational number**, it is denoted by a **symbol 'π'**.
- Pi has its use in geometry, trigonometry, physics, astronomy and other sciences. It appears in various formulae.

### **DAILY ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE**

**Qns. What is the significance of eastern Ghats for India? Suggest steps that can be taken to conserve the bio-diversity of the region. (250 words)**

**Ans.**

The Eastern Ghats are discontinuous and low hills which are heavily eroded by east flowing rivers like Godavari, Krishna, Mahanadi, Kaveri. Due to their peculiar physiography, geographical location in peninsular India and ongoing Anthropocene their significance for India is multifaceted.

- **Ecological Significance:** The ranges cover diverse ecologies like the Eastern Highlands moist deciduous forests, East Deccan dry evergreen forests, Deccan thorn scrub forests, shrublands, and South Deccan Plateau dry deciduous forests, which is home to endemic flora and fauna. Many animals, including tigers and elephants, and some 400 bird species are found in these discontinuous forests that receive an annual average rainfall of 1,200 mm to 1,500 mm.
- **Economical Significance:** The broken hill-ranges of the Eastern Ghats spread across Odisha, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu also houses several minerals like Bauxite, Laterite Soils.
- **Challenges:** The eastern ghats face the challenges like effects of climate change, cyclones, haphazard construction leading to increased denudation and degradation, deforestation, poaching, illegal sand mining etc.

#### **Steps to Conserve the Biodiversity of the Region**

- **Sustainable Use of Forest Resources:** Promotion of sustainable use of forest resources should be done in order to counter overexploitation, for example, banning of illegal trade of red sanders.
- **Check Shifting Cultivation:** Government should incentivize settled agriculture in order to counter the impact of shifting agriculture because the practice of shifting agriculture will directly contribute to deforestation.
- **Use of Indigenous Plantation Crops:** Government should finance the plantation of indigenous plants and trees for restoring and strengthening the peripheral areas of the forest of Eastern Ghats.
- Conservation of their eco-systems like wildlife Corridors, specialised ecosystems, and special breeding site/area, areas with intrinsically low resilience, sacred groves and frontier forests.
- Measures should be taken to protect endemism, rarity, endangered species; species which are or may become threatened with extinction and centres of the evolution of domesticated species, are critical for maintaining the range and pace of evolution and speciation.
- Stricter implementation of laws to check poaching, illegal sand mining and promote sustainable construction.

#### **Conclusion**

In the face of global warming and the social challenges due to natural vulnerabilities, it is important to take a multivariate approach in conserving fauna and flora as per biodiversity principles.

#### **DAILY QUIZ**

1. Which of the following countries borders Guyana?
  1. Brazil
  2. Venezuela
  3. Suriname
  4. French Guiana
 Select the correct answer using the codes given below:  
**a. All except 4**  
 b. All except 1 and 4  
 c. All except 2 and 4  
 d. All of the above
2. With respect to the declaration of a disease as Pandemic, consider the following statements
  1. A disease will be declared as pandemic when it spreads to more than 64 countries.
  2. World Health Organisation has the final say in declaring a disease as pandemic.
3. Ebola Virus Disease which spreads rapidly in 2015 was not declared a pandemic at that time.  
 Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?  
 a. 2 only  
 b. 1 and 2 only  
**c. 2 and 3 only**  
 d. 1, 2 and 3
3. With respect to Corona Virus, consider the following statements:
  1. They are a large family of viruses that cause illness such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS-CoV) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS-CoV).
  2. Coronaviruses are zoonotic, meaning they are transmitted between animals and people.

3. Coronaviruses are named for the crown-like spikes that protrude from their surfaces, resembling the sun's corona.  
Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?  
a. 2 only  
b. 2 and 3 only  
**c. 1, 2 and 3**  
d. None
4. Consider the following statements with respect to COVID-19
  1. It is a respiratory disease most often spread through the air by coughing or sneezing.
  2. The disease will be caused by the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus-2 (SARS-CoV-2).
 Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?  
a. 1 only  
b. 2 only  
**c. Both 1 and 2**  
d. Neither 1 nor 2
5. Consider the following statements with respect to Udyam Sakhi Portal
  1. It aims to encourage women entrepreneurs by helping them to start, build and grow businesses.
  2. It is an initiative of Ministry of Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME).
 Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?  
a. 1 only  
b. 2 only  
**c. Both 1 and 2**  
d. Neither 1 nor 2
6. Consider the following statements with respect to Wings India 2020
  1. It is an International Exhibition and Conference on Civil Aviation sector held biennially.
  2. Wings India 2020 is being held in Hyderabad, India.
  3. It is being organized by FICCI along with Ministry of Civil Aviation and Airports Authority of India.
 Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?  
a. 2 only  
b. 2 and 3 only  
**c. 1, 2 and 3**  
d. None
7. "Migrant Protection Protocol" often seen in the news recently is associated with which of the following programme?
  - a. **Remain in Mexico Policy**
  - b. Comeback Rohingyas Program
  - c. Refugee Convention, 1951
  - d. Migration for Employment Convention
8. With reference to usage of titles, consider the following statements
  1. Military or academic distinctions awarded by the State can be used as titles.
  2. Use of Padma awards as prefix or suffix violates Right to Equality.
 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 is/are not the recommendations of the Nehru report?
  1. Dominion status
  2. No reservation of seats for Muslims in Bengal and Punjab.
  3. Freedom to practice one's religion
  4. Adult universal franchise
  5. Reservation of seats on the basis of population and for a fixed period of 10 years.
 Select the correct answer using the codes given below:  
a. 1 only  
b. 1 and 4 only  
c. 2 and 3 only  
**d. None of the above**
10. Which of the following transactions are made in capital account of a country?
  1. Issuing of external bonds
  2. Exports and Imports
  3. External lending or borrowings
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?  
a. 1 only  
**b. 1 and 3 only**  
c. 1 and 2 only  
d. 1, 2 and 3