

GOVERNANCE**QS World Subject Rankings 2021**

25 programmes offered by higher education institutions in India ranked among the top 100 in the world in their respective subject categories, according to the latest edition (11th) of the QS World University Rankings by Subject.

Key Points**About the QS World Subject Rankings:**

Quacquarelli Symonds (QS): It is a leading global career and education network for ambitious professionals looking to further their personal and professional development.

QS develops and successfully implements methods of comparative data collection and analysis used to highlight institutions' strengths.

QS World University Rankings: It is an annual publication of university rankings which comprises the global overall and subject rankings.

Six parameters and their weightage for the evaluation:

- Academic Reputation (40%)
- Employer Reputation (10%)
- Faculty/Student Ratio (20%)
- Citations per faculty (20%)
- International Faculty Ratio (5%)
- International Student Ratio (5%)

QS World University Rankings by Subject: It calculates performance based on four parameters — academic reputation, employer reputation, research impact (citations per paper) and the productivity of an institution's research faculty.

Top Performers:

Globally Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT -USA) and Harvard (USA) are among top performers, Russia and China record best-ever performances.

India's Performance:

- The 2021 QS's global university performance comparison offered independent data on the performance of 253 programs at 52 Indian higher education institutions, across 51 academic disciplines.
- The number of Indian universities/institutes in the top 100 subject rankings has increased from 8 to 12 this year.
- 12 Indian institutions that have made it to the top 100 of the world - IIT Bombay, IIT Delhi, IIT Madras, IIT Kharagpur, IISC Bangalore, IIT Guwahati, IIM Bangalore, IIM Ahmedabad, JNU, Anna University, University of Delhi and OP Jindal University.
- IIT-Bombay has cornered more top 100 positions than any other Indian institution.
- Except one, all the 25 programmes are in institutions run by either the state or union government. However, last year, this number stood at 26.
- 17 of the 25 globally ranked Indian programmes are in engineering. IIT-Madras's Petroleum Engineering programme registered the best performance among Indian institutes - 30th in the world.
- The government-run Institutions of Eminence (IoE) remains significantly better-represented in the rankings than the private ones.
- OP Jindal Global University has entered the global top-100 for law (76th). This is the only top-100 result achieved by a private IoE.
- The All India Institute of Medical Sciences remained the only institution in the top 300 in the area of life sciences and medicine, but also dropped more than 10 places.

Analysis:

- One of the biggest challenges faced by India is providing high-quality tertiary education in the face of exploding demand - this much was recognized by last year's National Education Policy (NEP), which set the ambitious target of a 50% gross enrolment ratio by 2035.
- It should therefore be small cause for concern that the number of Indian programs featuring across 51 subject rankings has actually decreased over the last year – from 235 to 233.
- While this is a minor decrease, it is indicative of the fact that expanding provision in a way that does not sacrifice quality remains a highly-challenging task.

- India remains at the forefront of global environmental science research. Data indicates that India ranks 5th in terms of its research footprint in this field – behind only Germany, China, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

AGRICULTURE

CSIR Floriculture Mission

Recently, CSIR Floriculture Mission has been approved for implementation in 21 States and Union Territories of India.

CSIR's Societal Portal has also been launched along with the Android App.

Key Points

About the Mission:

- Floriculture is a branch of horticulture that deals with the cultivation, processing and marketing of ornamental plants vis-à-vis landscaping of small or large areas, and maintenance of gardens so that the surroundings may appear aesthetically pleasant.
- The mission will focus on commercial floral crops, seasonal/annual crops, wild ornaments and cultivation of flower crops for honey bee rearing.
- Some of the popular crops include Gladiolus, Canna, Carnation, Chrysanthemum, Gerbera, Lilium, Marigold, Rose, Tuberose etc.
- In the mission, available knowledge base in Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) Institutes will be utilized and leveraged to help Indian farmers and industry.
- The Indian floriculture market was worth Rs. 15,700 crore in 2018. The market is projected to reach Rs. 47,200 crore by 2024 during 2019-24.

Along with CSIR, other implementing agencies involved are:

- Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR),
- Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC),
- APEDA and TRIFED,
- Fragrance and Flavour Development Centre (FFDC), Kannauj, and
- Ministry of Commerce and Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME).

Significance of the Mission:

- Raising Income:** Floriculture has the potential to provide employment to a large number of people through nursery raising, floriculture farming, entrepreneurship development for nursery trade, value addition and export.
- Agro Climatic diversity:** India has diverse agro-climatic and edaphic conditions (physical, chemical, and biological properties of soil), and rich plant diversity, still it shares only 0.6% of the global floriculture market.
- Import Substitution:** At least 1200 million USD worth of floriculture products are being imported by India every year from different countries.
- The convergence of Floriculture with Apiculture (beekeeping) as envisaged in the mission will yield even greater benefits.

Other Related Initiative (Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture):

- Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the holistic growth of the horticulture sector covering fruits, vegetables, root & tuber crops, mushrooms, spices, flowers, aromatic plants, coconut, cashew, cocoa and bamboo.

About CSIR's Societal Portal:

This Portal has been developed by CSIR Team with the help of MyGov Team.

The Portal is to facilitate the public to submit the societal problems that can be resolved using S&T interventions.

This is the first step in terms of seeking inputs on challenges and problems being faced by different stakeholders in society.

INTERNATIONAL RELATION

Falling Rupee Reserves of Iran

Recently, Indian merchants have almost entirely stopped signing new export contracts with Iranian buyers due to caution about Iran's falling rupee reserves with Indian banks.

Earlier in 2020, the Ministry of External Affairs informed that India is no longer involved in the **Farzad-B gas field** project of Iran. The reasons included policy changes by the Iranian government, Iran's uncertain finances, and the USA sanctions situation.

In 2020, Iran also passed a bill allowing the government to slash four zeros from the Rial and authorizing its replacement with another basic unit of currency called the toman (redenomination).

Key Points

Falling Reserves:

Iran's rupee reserves in India's UCO and IDBI Bank, the two lenders authorised to facilitate rupee trade, have depleted significantly.

Reasons:

- Under the USA sanctions, Iran is unable to use US dollars to transact oil sales.
- Iran previously had a deal to sell oil to India in exchange for rupees, which it used to import critical goods, including agricultural commodities, but India stopped buying Tehran's oil in May 2019 after a US sanctions waiver expired.
- Iran continued using its rupees to buy goods from India, but after 22 months of no crude sales, Iran's rupee reserves have fallen.
- Iran's reserves have reduced significantly and will be over soon probably because trade has stopped.

Implications:

Apprehension of Exporters:

- Exporters are not sure whether they would be paid on time for new shipments and they are avoiding dealing with Iran since payments are getting delayed.

Falling Indian Exports:

- India's overall exports to Iran fell 42% in 2020 from a year ago to USD 2.2 billion, the lowest in over a decade.
- The fall is continuing in 2021 and in January this year exports more than halved from a year ago to USD 100.20 million.

Growing Influence of China:

- Recently signed deals between Iran and China will vastly expand Chinese presence in banking, telecommunications, ports, railways and dozens of other projects.

Saving India's Interests:

- The China Iran strategic partnership fructifying USD 400 billion deal may be an impediment for Indian entry routes into Afghanistan through Chabahar and further connectivity to International North South Transportation Corridor (INSTC), although Iran has not given any signals of disruption of these projects.

India's Role in the Region:

- Maintaining ties with Iran even as it forges a new relationship with Saudi Arabia and Israel is critical for its balancing policy in West Asia.

Avoiding Sectarian Tension:

- Since India is home to sizable populations of both Shia and Sunni Muslims and seeks to isolate itself from any sectarian tensions in the region, India should do well to neither completely break off ties with Iran nor go against the United States outright.

India's Energy security:

- India has stopped purchasing Iranian oil, which accounts for around 90% of its imports from the Islamic nation.
- India was Iran's leading oil client after China until mid-2018.

Peaceful Afghanistan:

- India, having made significant investments in Afghanistan, will always hope for an Afghan elected, Afghan led, Afghan owned peace and reconciliation process and a popular democratic government in Afghanistan.
- However, India has to be watchful of Iran - Pakistan- China axis developing in the neighbourhood of Afghanistan, with tentacles in the form of terror groups inside it.

Pakistan's Influence:

- Pakistan is very active in the Middle-east. Using the platform of Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and making connections with the particular Arab countries, Pakistan is trying to get support on the Kashmir issue.

Way Forward

In 2019, New Delhi seems to have weighed in favor of Indo-USA ties by deciding to halt oil imports from Iran. However, it will have to find a way, either by persuading Washington to grant an exemption

or by circumventing USA sanctions like it did in 2012-13, to continue its relationship with Iran in order to secure its energy supply and its regional foreign policy objectives.

India is very reliant upon Middle East oil and gas and must maintain cordial relations with most of the major suppliers, including Iran, UAE, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia, as well as Iraq.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet Technology

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully conducted the test of the Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet (SFDR) technology, which is crucial for the indigenous development of long range air-to-air missiles.

Key Points

Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet (SFDR) Technology:

- SFDR technology is a missile propulsion system based on the concept of Ramjet Engine principle.
- The system utilises a solid fuelled air-breathing ramjet engine.
- Unlike solid-propellant rockets, the Ramjet takes up oxygen from the atmosphere during flight. Thus, it is light in weight and can carry more fuel.
- DRDO began developing SFDR first in 2017 and had conducted successful tests in 2018 and 2019 as well.

Significance:

- Successful demonstration of SFDR technology will enable DRDO to develop indigenous long range air-to-air missiles.
- At present, such technology is available only with a handful of countries in the world.
- Air-to-air missiles which use SFDR technology can achieve longer ranges as they do not require oxidisers (take oxygen from the atmosphere).
- The missile based on SFDR fly at supersonic speeds and high manoeuvrability ensures the target aircraft cannot get away.

Defence Research and Development Organisation:

- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) works under the administrative control of the Ministry of Defence, Government of India.
- It is working to establish a world class science and technology base for India and provides Defence Services decisive edge by equipping them with internationally competitive systems and solutions.
- It was established in 1958 after combining Technical Development Establishment (TDEs) of the Indian Army and the Directorate of Technical Development & Production (DTDP) with the Defence Science Organisation (DSO).
- It is responsible for carrying out Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP).

Some of the recent tests conducted by DRDO:

- Helina and Dhruvastra: Anti-tank Guided Missile
- Smart Anti Airfield Weapon
- Army Variant of MRSAM
- Land-attack Version of BrahMos Missile
- Quick Reaction Surface-to-Air Missile System
- Enhanced Version of Pinaka Mk-1 Missile
- NAG Missile: Anti Tank Guided Missile

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Road to Gender Equality: UNDP

Recently, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in its latest report named “Protecting Women's Livelihoods in Times of Pandemic: Temporary Basic Income and the Road to Gender Equality” has proposed a Temporary Basic Income (TBI) for poor women in developing countries.

The proposal comes ahead of the International Women's Day (8th march) celebrations.

Key Points

Gender Inequality:

Unpaid Labor:

- On an average, women spend 2.4 more hours per day than men on unpaid care and domestic work.

- Among people who participate in the paid economy, women spend an average of four hours more per day than men on paid and unpaid work combined.

Discriminative Policies:

- Beyond complex gendered norms, some of the economic vulnerability imposed on women also comes from policy and political decisions that have persistently deprived them of compensation in the form of equal pay, paid maternity leave, universal health, unemployment and care benefits.

Effect of Covid:

- Women have been hit harder than men by the pandemic, losing income and leaving the labour market at a greater rate.
- This vulnerability is due to gender inequality.
- Women are 25% more likely than men to live in extreme poverty.
- Only one in ten countries and territories, however, have policies addressing women's economic security needs, according to the Covid-19 Global Gender Response Tracker.
- Covid-19 Global Gender Response Tracker is an initiative of UNDP and UN Women which shows that social protection and jobs response to the pandemic has largely overlooked women's needs.

Major Proposals:

Temporary Basic Income:

- A TBI for millions of the world's poorest women, to help them cope with the effects of the coronavirus pandemic and alleviate the economic pressures they face every day.
- A monthly investment of 0.07-0.31% of a developing countries' Gross Domestic Product (GDP) could provide reliable financial security to 613 million working-aged women living in poverty.

Policies Favouring Women:

- A set of policies should be aimed at recognising the needs of all workers, men and women, to reconcile their household obligations with paid work and allow for a more even distribution of care and domestic work by institutionally acknowledging it as a shared responsibility.
- Such policies include guaranteed paid maternity leave, extended paternity leave and the enforcement of its take-up..

Reform Labour Market:

- Beyond reconciling paid work and family responsibilities, governments must address other sources of the gender pay gap such as horizontal and vertical segregation in the labour market. The response should include anti-discrimination laws and affirmative action initiatives.
- Horizontal segregation can be broadly defined as the concentration of men and women in different kinds of jobs.
- Vertical segregation denotes the situation whereby opportunities for career progression for a particular gender within a company or sector are limited.

Related Initiatives of Other Countries:

Philippines: Expanded Breastfeeding Promotion Act, 2009.

Mexico: Introduced reforms to its Social Security Law allowing men to access childcare services.

Bosnia and Herzegovina and Bolivia: They have allowed parents to reduce work hours for Covid-19 family care.

Indian Provisions to Promote Gender Equality:

Ministry of Women & Child Development:

A separate ministry was established in 2006 to boost employability of Women.

Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Act, 2017: It allows for pregnant women to take leave for a total of 26 weeks out of which up to 8 weeks can be claimed before delivery.

The woman is also supposed to get paid a benefit at the rate of her daily wage for three months before she goes on maternity leave.

Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act 2013:

It has been enacted covering all the women, in spite of their age and employment status, and protects them from sexual harassment at workplaces, in both the public and private sectors of the industry where the women are employed.

Social Security Code, Code on Occupational Safety, Health & Working Conditions Code, and Industrial

ODISHA DEVELOPMENT

Biju Patnaik

The birth anniversary of Biju Patnaik was celebrated (5th March). He is remembered as a freedom fighter, an Indian politician, an aviator and a businessman.

Key Points

- Bijayananda Patnaik was born on 5th March 1916, he is popularly known as Biju Patnaik.
- He was an ace pilot and joined the Royal Indian Air Force in 1936.
- He was the two times Chief Minister of Odisha.

Role in Freedom Struggle:



- Biju Patnaik started his career as a freedom fighter in 1942. He joined the Quit India Movement under the guidance of Mahatma Gandhi to make India free.
- He became a prominent leader of Congress and was engaged in the Quit India Movement with Jay Prakash Narayan and Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia.
- In 1943, he underwent imprisonment for about two years for his participation in the Quit India Movement.
- He fearlessly undertook covert missions, ferrying freedom fighters to secret meetings with their supporters, and even airdropped leaflets in support of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's Indian National Army.
- He played a major role in World War II and the Kashmir War of 1948 as a pilot in the Indian Air Force.

Role in Kashmir Integration:

- Biju Patnaik had fearlessly flown a DC-3 transport aircraft to Srinagar on 27th October 1947, ferrying soldiers of the Sikh regiment after the tribal invasion from Pakistan in Kashmir.

Role in Indonesian Freedom Struggle:

- On the request of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Biju Patnaik flew to Java and brought Sultan Sjahrir out of Dutch controlled territory in Indonesia for a meeting in Delhi.
- For this act of bravery, he was given honorary citizenship in Indonesia and awarded the 'Bhoomi Putra', the highest Indonesian award, rarely granted to a foreigner.
- In 1996, the Biju Patnaik was awarded the highest Indonesian national award, the 'Bintang Jasa Utama'.

ENVIRONMENT AND BIODIVERSITY

Dumping inert Waste in Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary

The Supreme Court-mandated Ridge Management Board has decided to constitute an expert committee to look into the proposal of dumping inert (non-reactive) waste in the mines of Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary (Delhi).

Key Points

Inert Waste:

- Inert waste is waste which is neither biologically nor chemically reactive and is waste which will not decompose or decompose very slowly.
- Inert waste includes, but is not limited to: construction and demolition material such as metal, wood, bricks, masonry and cement concrete; asphalt concrete; metal; tree branches; bottom ash from coal fired boilers; and waste coal fines from air pollution control equipment.
- These wastes usually don't pose a threat to the environment, or the health of animals or other people and will not endanger the quality of watercourses.

- However, when there is a large amount of this type of waste, it can become an issue as it begins to take up a lot of space.

Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary:

- Asola-Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary covering 32.71 sq km area lies on the Southern Delhi Ridge of Aravalli hill range, one of the oldest mountain systems of the world, on Delhi-Haryana border.
- An area of 1km around the Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary in Gurugram and Faridabad is an Eco-sensitive zone.
- Activities such as commercial mining, setting up of industries, and establishment of major hydro-electric projects are prohibited.
- The Asola wildlife sanctuary has both floral and faunal diversity in form of
- Wide variety of trees, shrubs, herbs and grasses.
- Large numbers of mammals, reptiles, amphibians, butterflies and dragonflies.
- Sanctuary comprises around 200 species of resident and migratory birds.
- Wildlife habitats inside the sanctuary act as a water recharge zone for Delhi, Faridabad and Gurugram.

Ridge Management Board:

Background: The Supreme Court mandated the Delhi Government to constitute a Ridge Management Board for protection of the Delhi Ridge through their orders in the M.C. Mehta case 1987.

- The Delhi Ridge is the northern extension of the Aravalli Range covering a distance of about 35km.
- The Delhi Ridge acts as the green lungs of the capital and, through various government orders over the years, all construction has been banned in the Ridge in an effort to preserve it.
- Date of Establishment: 6th October 1995.
- Members: The Chairman of the board is Chief Secretary of Delhi and Head of the Forest Department of Delhi Government is its Member Secretary.
- The Board also has members from the Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs).

IMPORTANT FACTS FOR PRELIM

Pench Tiger Reserve: Maharashtra

Recently, a female cub of 'man-eater' tigress Avni has been released into the wild in the Pench Tiger Reserve (PTR) of Maharashtra.

Key Points

- It is located in Nagpur District of Maharashtra and named after the pristine Pench River.
- The Pench river flows right through the middle of the park.
- It descends from north to south, thereby dividing the reserve into equal eastern and western parts.
- PTR is the joint pride of both Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.
- The Reserve is located in the southern reaches of the Satpura hills in the Seoni and Chhindwara districts in Madhya Pradesh, and continues in Nagpur district in Maharashtra as a separate Sanctuary.
- It was declared a National Park by the Government of Maharashtra in 1975 and the identity of a tiger reserve was granted to it in the year 1998-1999.
- However, PTR Madhya Pradesh was granted the same status in 1992-1993. It is one of the major Protected Areas of Satpura-Maikal ranges of the Central Highlands.
- It is among the sites notified as Important Bird Areas (IBA) of India.
- The IBA is a programme of Birdlife International which aims to identify, monitor and protect a global network of IBAs for conservation of the world's birds and associated diversity.

Flora:

- The green cover is thickly spread throughout the reserve.
- A mixture of Southern dry broadleaf teak forests and tropical mixed deciduous forests is present.
- Shrubs, climbers and trees are also frequently present. Some of them are unique varieties and possess medicinal as well as healing properties.

- Bamboo plantations are also present nearby the water banks.

Fauna:

These include – sloth bear, jackal, nilgai, wild dog etc.

Birds:

This comprises peafowl, magpie robin, pintail, drongo, unia, myna etc.

Major Tiger Reserves of India:



DAILY ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

Qns. “The agriculture sector is critical for India from a consistent growth and food security perspective”. Discuss the steps to be taken to revitalise the agricultural sector. (250 words)

Ans:

The agriculture sector is critical for India from a consistent growth and food security perspective as the sector and allied activities account for approximately 55% of India’s workforce and nearly 15% of India’s GDP.

Today, India has come a long way from facing severe food shortages after independence to becoming a net exporter of food. While the agricultural sector has made considerable progress, in India, we still have a long way to go when it comes to global benchmarks in yield, water use efficiency etc.

Main issues faced by the agricultural sector in India:

- Land Fragmentation:** It creates difficulties for marginal farmers to access credit or new technology, severely affecting farm productivity and their incomes, making them entirely dependent on usurious moneylenders.
- Worsening soil health:** Rampant use of urea, partly caused by Nutrient Based Subsidy scheme, has led to worsening soil health, the decline in crop response ratio and contamination of surface water.

- **Climate change:** Climate change leads to change in temperature, precipitation pattern, increase in extreme weather conditions etc. which poses a great challenge to agriculture.
- **Dependence on rainfall and climate:** Indian agriculture is heavily dependent on monsoon and ever-increasing global temperature has made agriculture more prone to extreme weather events.
- **Lack of easy credit:** Small scale farmers are in constant need of loans for seeds, fertilizers etc. Due to lack of easy credit from the formal sector and hence take loans from local money lenders who charge high rates of interest which the farmers are unable to pay and are caught in a debt trap.
- **Lack of Mechanisation:** Introduction of latest technology has been limited due to various reasons like accessibility for credit and low awareness.

Steps to revitalise the agricultural sector

- **Need for planned production:** Indian agriculture needs to move from the current fragmented production model, where each farmer produces what he thinks is right, to a planned production at a district level. This can help in reducing the mismatch in supply-demand and price fluctuations.
- **Enhancement of soil nutrition:** To address the problem of worsening soil health, steps must be taken by the government to rationalise the use of fertilizers, promote organic farming and educate farmers.
- **Digital push to improve farming practices:** Digital adoption will be key to improving the reach and delivery of services like agronomy advice, enhance adoption of Precision Agriculture practices and improve price transparency through digital platforms.
- **Easier loans for farmers:** With farmer incomes highly dependent on external factors such as climate change and commodity price fluctuations, it is important to have robust risk management and financial solutions for the farmers.
- **The availability of credit through Kisan Credit Card (KCC) and associated crop insurance is one such instrument.**
- **Go for end-to-end integrated supply chain for finished products:** The development of a robust supply chain infrastructure is critical for reducing high post-harvest losses estimated at between 10 and 18% in India. With many intermediaries, processors lose control over the quality of produce as well as traceability.
- **By encouraging private sector investment in processing, exports, and retailing of agriculture produce, we can bring local communities together to achieve economies of scale, encourage standard practices to meet quality specifications for exports including niche products like organic produce.**
- **Cooperative Farming:** Due to fragmented land holdings consolidation of land holdings also becomes important to raise farmer incomes. Farmers can voluntarily come together and pool land to gain the benefits of size. Through consolidation, farmers can reap the economies of scale both in input procurement and output marketing.

Conclusion

India's production levels of agriculture and allied segments along with current productivity, infrastructure and processing rates, represent huge untapped opportunities for all players of the agriculture value chain. Backed by progressive policies, fiscal incentives and an effective regulatory environment, the Indian agricultural sector can provide a strong thrust to the economic growth momentum of the nation.

These favourable shifts in the agriculture industry will also lead to a substantial increase in farmer incomes in the country, and safeguard food security for the country's growing population.

DAILY QUIZ

1. Consider the following statements about Biju Patnaik:

1. He joined the Quit India Movement under the guidance of Mahatma Gandhi.
2. He became the first Finance Minister of independent India.
3. He was awarded with the highest national awards of Indonesia.

Which of the statements given above is/are not correct?

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

2. With reference to the Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary, consider the following statements:

1. It is located at the border of Delhi and Haryana.
2. The sanctuary is a part of Aravalli ranges.

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:

- 1. Pench Tiger Reserve (PTR) is located in the southern reaches of the Satpura hills.
- 2. The area of PTR lies in both Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.

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 reference to the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2021, consider the following statements:

- 1. The number of Indian universities/institutes in the top 100 subject rankings has increased.
- 2. No private institution from India has entered in the global top-100.

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 CSIR Floriculture Mission, consider the following statements:

- 1. Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) is the only implementing body for the mission.
- 2. It will lead to the growth of the Apiculture.

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