

Daily Current Affairs Prelims Quiz 31-08-2024 (Online Prelims Test)

1) Consider the following statements with respect to Hoysala

- 1. The Hoysalas in Karnataka had almost been destroyed by the military expeditions of the Delhi Sultanate in the first three decades of the 14th century.
- 2. Harihara and Bukka were in the services of Hoysala before they founded Vijayanagar kingdom.
- 3. The vesara style of Architecture reached its culmination only under the Rashtrakutas and the Hoysalas.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. All three
- d. None of the above

Answer: c

Hoysala



- Hoysala dynasty, family that ruled in India from about 1006 to about 1346 ce in the southern Deccan and for a time in the Kaveri (Cauvery) River valley.
- The first kings came from the hills northwest of Dorasamudra (present-day Halebid), which became their capital about 1060.
- Vishnuvardhana won much territory from the tough Kadambas of Hangal, but his weak son Narasimha I lost much of it.
- The Hoysalas in Karnataka had almost been destroyed by the military expeditions of the Delhi Sultanate in the first 3 decades of the 14th century.
- In 1310 the Hoysala ruler Vira Ballala III surrendered all his treasures to the Delhi forces.
- The Vijayanagar dynasty succeeded the Hoysalas.
- Harihara and Bukka, the eldest sons of one Sangama, earlier serving the Hoysala rulers of Karnataka, asserted their independence and laid foundation for a new kingdom in about 1336.
- The vesara style of Architecture reached its culmination only under the Rashtrakutas and the Hoysalas.
- 2) Consider the following statements:
 - 1. Around 60% of the methane that makes it into the atmosphere comes from human activities and Methane can be released from non-human sources like wetlands.
 - 2. Methane is unintentionally released through processes such as venting and gas flaring.
 - 3. Methane Alert and Response System (MARS) is an initiative of the Nature Conservancy.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two

- c. All three
- d. None of the above

Answer:b

Methane Emissions

- Methane (CH4), the primary component of natural gas, is responsible for approximately a third of the warming we are experiencing today (IPCC).
- **Sources of Methane** Methane does sometimes come from non-human sources like wetlands.
- These habitats contain things like permafrost, which is frozen ground that's also filled with carbon from animals and plants that have been dead for hundreds of thousands of years.
- As temperatures rise with global warming, wetland permafrost thaws and it unleashes carbon, previously locked in the ice, in the form of CO2 and methane.
- Around 60% of the methane that makes it into the atmosphere comes from human activities.
- This source of methane is from agriculture like cows' burps and farts and manure fertilizer and also from decomposing waste in landfills and the energy sector.
- Most energy consumed by humans comes from burning fossil fuels like coal, oil and gas.
- Oil and gas are responsible for most energy sector methane emissions.
- The greenhouse gas pours out when companies produce, transport and store these fossil fuels.
- Unintentional emission of Methane It often escapes into the atmosphere when the equipment is rusty or damaged or even has something as simple as a loose screw.
- *Gas flaring* is the burning of the natural gas associated with oil extraction.
- Flaring turns methane into CO2 that then goes into the atmosphere, but raw methane can still escape during the process.
- Flaring can only happen if it's not technically possible to reinject the natural gas into the ground on-site or transport it somewhere else.
- *Venting* is direct release of small amounts of natural gas into the atmosphere.
- Venting is only allowed if there is a safety emergency.
- Venting and Gas flaring are sources of methane emitted unintentionally.
- Operators flare and vent because it can be expensive to process and transport the relatively small amount of gas that comes out of the ground during oil extraction
- Ways to reduce emissions According to the International Energy Agency, Oil and gas companies could slash their methane emissions by 75% if they spotted and fixed leaks.
- Venting is only allowed if there is a safety emergency.
- Methane Alert and Response System (MARS) Is the first global satellite detection and notification system providing actionable data on very large methane emissions around the world.
- It is an *initiative of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)*.

3) Consider the following statements with respect to Baobabs

- 1. These trees can live for thousands of years, with some specimens reaching 2,500 years old.
- 2. Baobabs have survived erratic climate conditions throughout their long lifespans, including droughts and floods.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

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

Baobabs

- Baobab (genus Adansonia) is genus of 9 species of deciduous trees of the hibiscus or mallow, family (Malvaceae).
- Six of the species are endemic to Madagascar, two are native to mainland Africa and the Arabian Peninsula, and one is native to north-western Australia.
- They have unusual barrel-like trunks and are known for their extraordinary longevity and ethnobotanical importance.
- These trees can live for thousands of years, with some specimens reaching 2,500 years old.
- Baobabs have survived erratic climate conditions throughout their long lifespans, including droughts and floods.
- Your observations suggest that most baobab populations in Africa are healthy and stable, with very low mortality rates among adult trees.
- Baobabs provide numerous resources, including food, fiber, and medicine.
- They also support local economies through the baobab fruit trade.
- Zimbabwe alone is estimated to have up to 4 million baobab trees.
- **Threats** The main threat to adult baobabs is elephants, which can cause significant damage when their populations are too high.
- Young baobabs face browsing pressure from domestic animals and wildlife.
- Excess water, particularly during leafless periods, can be more dangerous than drought.
- Resilience to climate change: Unlike many other species, baobabs appear well-adapted to changes in temperature and rainfall, as evidenced by their wide geographic distribution and extreme longevity.

4) Consider the following statements with respect to Cyber Smart Heroes Programme

- 1. It is a volunteer-driven initiative to help children understand nuances, opportunities, and risks of online platforms.
- 2. It is a pan-India programme, spearheaded by National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD).

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2 $\,$
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : a

Cyber Smart Heroes Programme

- Cyber Smart Heroes Programme is a Volunteer-driven program to educate school children about cyber safety Ran for 9 months, reaching 58,838 school-goers from 12 states.
- It is a *pan-India initiative by CRY (Child Rights and You)*.
- **Key Objectives** To help children understand nuances, opportunities, and risks of online platforms.
- Make children 'digital-ready' to navigate cyberspace safely.
- Need for the program Recently NCRB report highlighted that 1,823 cases of children as cybercrime victims in 2022 (32% increase from 2021).
- CRY and CNLU study 33.2% of parents reported children encountering online risks.
- Impact of the Program 20% increase in children recognizing cybercrime and cyberbullying.
- 12% increase in children identifying strong passwords and 13% increase in children identifying cyber harassment.

- Implementation Covered 274 schools across 12 states and involved over 1,200 trained CRY volunteers.
- Collaboration with Nyaaya, SIMHA, and Cyber Security Centre of Excellence.
- Methodology used Interactive sessions with animated videos and smart modules.
- Pre- and post-program assessments to measure impact.
- Significance Addresses growing concerns about online child safety.
- Demonstrates the effectiveness of collaborative, volunteer-driven initiatives in education.

5) Consider the following statements with respect to National Glacial Lake Outburst Floods Risk Mitigation Programme (NGRMP)

- 1. It aims to monitor and mitigate risks from glacial lakes in the Himalayas.
- 2. The programme is to be implemented by the National Disaster Management Authority (NMDA).

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

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

Answer : c

National Glacial Lake Outburst Floods Risk Mitigation Programme (NGRMP)

The NGRMP was recently approved by the Union government for risk mitigation, including monitoring and early warning systems.

- National Glacial Lake Outburst Floods Risk Mitigation Programme (NGRMP) aims to monitor and mitigate risks from glacial lakes in the Himalayas.
- The programme is to be implemented by the National Disaster Management Authority (NMDA) in Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh.
- 189 "high-risk" glacial lakes identified for mitigation measures and nearly 7,500 glacial lakes in the Himalayan Mountain ranges in India.
- 902 glacial lakes and water bodies currently monitored via satellite by Central Water Commission (CWC).
- **Proposed Measures** To constitute teams to investigate high-risk lakes.
- Attempt "lake-lowering measures" to buffer against overflow.
- Mitigate potential damage in downstream States.
- Conduct detailed technical hazard assessments and install automated weather and water level monitoring stations (AWWS).
- Set up early warning systems (EWS) at lakes and in downstream areas.
- Challenges Lakes located in inhospitable terrain.
- Limited access window (July to September) for expeditions.
- Multiple visits often necessary for implementing lake-lowering measures.