



### Daily Current Affairs Prelims Quiz 18-12-2024 (Online Prelims Test)

1) Consider the following statements with respect to the Bhartiya Beej Sahkari Samiti Limited (BBSSL)

1. BBSSL will undertake production, procurement & distribution of quality seeds.
2. It will help in increasing the seed replacement rate and varietal replacement rate by ensuring the role of farmers in production of certified seeds.
3. It is an initiative of the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare.

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

### Bhartiya Beej Sahkari Samiti Limited (BBSSL)

- BBSSL will undertake production, procurement & distribution of quality seeds.
- The distribution of seeds takes place under single brand through network of cooperatives to improve crop yield and develop a system for preservation and promotion of indigenous natural seeds.
- BBSSL was set up under the Multi-State Cooperative Societies (MSCS) Act, 2002 by the **Ministry of Cooperation. (Statement 3 is incorrect)**
- BBSSL will help in increasing the seed replacement rate and varietal replacement rate by ensuring the role of farmers in production of certified seeds.
- BBSSL will help in increasing the production of quality seeds in India through cooperatives.
- BBSSL is promoted by the following:
  - Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited (IFFCO),
  - Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO),
  - National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED),
  - National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) and
  - National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC).
- BBSSL has a full-time resource based in Patna and Bhagalpur.
- **The cooperatives of all levels from primary to apex can become members of BBSSL.**

2) CHARAK, sometimes seen in the news recently, is associated with?

- a. An innovative health-centric Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative.
- b. A platform to reduce Illegal Trading of Flora and Fauna.
- c. A platform to reduce Illegal Trading of Flora and Fauna.
- d. A transient astronomical event that causes the sudden appears brightly.

Answer : a

## CHARAK

Recently, the Singrauli-based Coal India arm Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL) in Madhya Pradesh, has rolled out the 'CHARAK' scheme.

- **CHARAK** - It is an innovative health-centric Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative.

*Corporate social responsibility (CSR) is a self-regulating business model that helps a corporate company be socially accountable to itself, its stakeholders, and the public.*

- **Objectives** - To provide *free treatment for patients suffering from identified Life-Threatening diseases* belonging to economically weaker section of people in the Singrauli region.
- To ensure access to quality healthcare while easing the financial and emotional burden on affected families.
- **Free treatment** - At NCL's dedicated hospital (NSC) or at specialised empanelled hospitals across the country.
- **Eligibility** - Residents of Singrauli and Sonbhadra districts having *annual family income below Rs. 8 Lakhs* from all sources will be eligible for benefit under this scheme.
- **Diseases covered** - It includes Tuberculosis (TB), HIV, Cardiovascular diseases, Organ Transplant, Multisystem disorders, Connective Tissue disorders and sudden vision loss etc.

3) Consider the following statements:

1. Natural recharge area is an area from which the water seeps into the ground and emerges elsewhere through springs.
2. Reduction in the long-term rainfall in the region can contribute to the drying up of the springs in Himalayas.
3. Springs in Himalayas region contributes about 64% of the cultivable land for irrigation.

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

## Springs in Himalayas

- Springs occurs when water pressure causes a natural flow of groundwater onto the earth's surface.
- Springs get water from aquifers deep in the ground.
- The Hot springs of the Himalaya are located in the zones of deep faults that define tectonic boundaries.
- ***In Himalayan region, springs serves 64% of the cultivable land for irrigation.***

*Around three million springs flow across the Indian Himalayan region.*

- **Natural recharge area** - Area from which the water seeps into the ground and emerges

elsewhere through springs.

- Natural springs acts as a source of water for both drinking and irrigation.
- **Cause of decline of Spring:**
  - Rising temperatures
  - Altered precipitation patterns
  - Decreasing snowfall and rainfall
  - Change in land cover and land use
  - Reduction in the long-term rainfall in the region
  - Landslides
  - Rain-related drought
- **Impacts of declination** – Several such areas in Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and northeastern states have been affected by the causes that lead to drying up of springs.
- The rural communities will face shortages in drinking water, agriculture, and daily household needs.
- To know more about the springs in Himalayas [click here](#)

4) Consider the following statements with respect to Santa Ana Winds

1. They are local winds of India that causes heat waves and heat strokes.
2. They increase the wildfire risk because of the dryness of the winds.

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



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Answer : b

### Santa Ana Winds

- Santa Ana Winds occur when air from a region of high pressure over the dry, desert region of the south-western **U.S.** flows westward towards low pressure located off the California coast.
- This *creates dry winds* that flow east to west through the mountain passages in Southern California.
- These winds are most common during the cooler months of the year, occurring from September through May.
- Santa Ana winds typically feel warm (or even hot) because as the cool desert air moves down the side of the mountain, it is compressed, which causes the temperature of the air to rise.
- These strong winds can cause major property damage.
- They also *increase wildfire risk because of the dryness of the winds* and the speed at which they can spread a flame across the landscape.

5) The Report “Waste to Worth: Managing India’s Urban Water Crisis through Wastewater Reuse” is released jointly by?

- a. Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) and the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG).
- b. Environmentalist Foundation of India and National Institute of Hydrology.
- c. World Water Council and UN-Water.
- d. Central Water Commission and Central Ground Water Board (CGWB).

Answer : a

## **“Waste to Worth: Managing India’s Urban Water Crisis through Wastewater Reuse” Report**

- The report Waste to Worth: Managing India’s Urban Water Crisis through Wastewater Reuse, released jointly by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) and the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG).
- The report, unveiled at a national workshop co-organised by CSE and NMCG under the Union Ministry of Jal Shakti (water resources).
- The report highlights the potential of wastewater reuse to mitigate water scarcity caused by rapid urbanisation, industrial expansion and climate change.

*India currently treats only 28% of the 72,000 million litres of wastewater generated daily.*

- Regional disparities in wastewater treatment and reuse make the process challenging.
- Uttar Pradesh leads in untreated wastewater volumes, followed by Maharashtra, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Delhi and Haryana.
- The report underscored the need to view treated wastewater not as a waste product but as a valuable resource critical to India’s water security.

