



Prelims Practice Questions 14-05-2019

1) Recently, a report titled “Sand and Sustainability: Finding new solutions for environmental governance of global sand resources” was released by?

- a. UN Environment
- b. Global Coral Reef Initiative
- c. Sustainable Development Solutions Network
- d. Global Environment Facility

Answer : a

- **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)** has recently released a report, “*Sand and Sustainability: Finding new solutions for environmental governance of global sand resources*”.
- It highlighted that sand consumption globally has been increasing and we are extracting it at rates exceeding natural replenishment rates.
- It also says that, China and India head the list of critical hotspots for sand extraction impacts in rivers, lakes and on coastlines.

2) Consider the following statements with respect to *Basel Convention*

1. It is a global treaty to protect human health and the environment from chemicals that remain intact in the environment for long periods.
2. India and U.S.A are not the party to this convention.

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

Answer : d

- The objective of the **Basel Convention** is to protect human health and the environment against the **adverse effects of hazardous wastes**.
- **India is a party**, but **USA is not a party** to this convention.

3) Consider the following statements with respect to *Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT)*

1. It is a multilateral treaty that bans all nuclear explosions, for both civilian and military purposes, in all environments.
2. It is a legally binding treaty.
3. India has neither signed nor ratified the treaty.

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

- a. 1 only
- b. 1 and 2 only

- c. 2 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

Answer : d

- CTBT was adopted by the United Nations in 1996 but has not entered into force as eight specific states have not ratified the treaty.
- When the Treaty enters into force it provides a **legally binding** norm against nuclear testing.
- India, North Korea and Pakistan have not yet signed the Treaty.
- *CTBT Organisation has recently invited India to be an **observer** in the treaty.*
- *Becoming an observer to CTBT is expected to give India access to data from the International Monitoring System, which can detect even small nuclear explosions using seismology, hydroacoustics, infrasound and radionuclide technology.*

4) MANAV sometimes seen in the news recently is a human atlas initiative launched by which of the following organizations?

- a. Department of Health Research
- b. Ministry of Earth Sciences
- c. Department of Bio-technology
- d. Council for Scientific and Industrial Research

Answer : c

- MANAV is a human atlas initiative launched by the **Department of Biotechnology**.
- It aims at creating a database network of all tissues in the human body from the available scientific literature.

5) Which of the following agencies has recently launched its maiden fund *NabVentures* to give support to agriculture, food, rural start-ups?

- a. National Agriculture and Rural Development Board
- b. National Association for sustainable agriculture
- c. Indian Council of Agricultural Research
- d. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development

Answer : d

- **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)** has recently launched **Nab Ventures** – its maiden fund to give support to agriculture, food, rural start-ups.

6) Scientists have recently discovered a non-venomous snake locally called as *Ruahlawmrul* or *Rain loving snake* in which of the following states?

- a. Kerala
- b. Mizoram
- c. Tamilnadu
- d. Arunachal Pradesh

Answer : b

- Scientists have recently discovered a non-venomous snake in **Mizoram** named as **Smithophis atemporalis**.
- The snake is locally called *Ruahlawmrul* or rain-loving snake.
- The new genus and species of the *natricine* — *predominantly aquatic* lacks specific enlarged scales in the temporal region of the head.
- This character is extremely rare in snakes of this family, hence its name *Smithophis atemporalis* or the Mizo rain snake.

7) Consider the following statements with respect to *Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)*

1. It is an autonomous organization established in 1969 to promote research in social sciences in the country.
2. It comes under the Ministry of Human Resources and Development.

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

Answer : c

- Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) was established in the year of 1969 by the Government of India to promote research in social sciences in the country.
- It comes under the **Ministry of Human Resources and Development**.

8) Which one of the following is **not** a salient feature of Indian constitution?

- a. Absolute Parliament sovereignty
- b. Federal system with unitary bias
- c. Guaranteeing social equality
- d. The power of the parliament to supplement the Constitutional provisions by legislation

Answer : a

9) Early Europeans in India have made some of the settlements in India as part of their trading and administrative centers. In this context, consider the following pairs:

Nationality		Settlement
1. French	:	Pondicherry
2. Danish	:	Serampore
3. Portuguese	:	Daman
4. British	:	Bengal

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

- a. 1 and 4 only
- b. 1, 2 and 4 only
- c. 1, 3 and 4 only
- d. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer : d

10) The process of covering soil surface with materials like plant residues is called mulching. What are the uses of mulching?

1. Reduces the evaporation
2. Reduces the soil erosion
3. Reduces the weed growth
4. Reduces the fertilizer consumption.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a. 1 and 3 only
- b. 2, 3 and 4 only
- c. 1, 2 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer : d

