



Daily Current Affairs Prelims Quiz - 08-10-2020 - (Online Prelims Test)

1) Consider the following statements

1. India is the largest cotton producer and the 2nd largest consumer of cotton in the world.
2. India's premium Cotton is known as 'Kasturi Cotton' in the world cotton Trade.

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 : b

- Union Ministry of Textiles has recently launched the 1st ever Brand & Logo for Indian Cotton on 2nd World Cotton Day on 7th October, 2020 through Video Conferencing.
- **Now India's premium Cotton would be known as 'Kasturi Cotton' in the world cotton Trade.**
- The Kasturi Cotton brand will represent Whiteness, Brightness, Softness, Purity, Luster, Uniqueness and Indianness.
- Cotton is one of the principal commercial crops of India and it provides livelihood to about 6.00 million cotton farmers.
- **India is the 2nd largest cotton producer and the largest consumer of cotton in the world.**
- India produces about 6.00 Million tons of cotton every year which is about 23% of the world cotton.
- India produces about 51% of the total organic cotton production of the world, which demonstrates India's effort towards sustainability.

2) Consider the following statements with respect to *Cott-Ally*

1. It is a free mobile-based application developed by the Cotton Corporation of India Ltd.
2. It provides information regarding payment status, purchase centers available across all cotton growing states, variety of cotton, etc.

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

- Further, leveraging the technology, a mobile app, "Cott-Ally" has been developed by CCI for providing latest news regarding weather condition, Crop situation and best farm practices.

Cott-Ally

- It is a free mobile-based application owned by The Cotton Corporation of India Ltd.
- It provides a platform to farmers cultivating cotton.
- It provides information regarding their payment status, purchase centers available across all cotton growing states in the country, variety of cotton, latest news, and notifications.
- This application is developed to maintain the transparency about the business between the CCI (Cotton Corporation of India Ltd) team and the farmers.
- If the farmers have any queries, they can reach out CCI team immediately by using the Live Chat feature.
- For raising any complaint, they can easily access the Complaint feature of the application.

3) Consider the following statements with respect to *Atmanirbhar Skilled Employee Employer Mapping (ASEEM) Portal*

1. It is a database to bridge the gap of demand and supply of skilled workforce across the sectors.
2. It was launched by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE).

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

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

Answer : d

- In an endeavour to improve the information flow and bridge the demand-supply gap in the skilled workforce market, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has launched 'Aatmanirbhar Skilled Employee Employer Mapping (ASEEM)' portal to help skilled people find sustainable livelihood opportunities.
- ASEEM is usable as a match-making engine to map skilled workers with the jobs available.

The portal consists of three IT based interfaces

1. Employer Portal - Employer onboarding, Demand Aggregation, Candidate Selection
2. Dashboard - Reports, Trends, analytics, and highlight gaps
3. Candidate Application - Create & Track candidate profile, share job suggestion

4) *Poverty and Shared Prosperity Report* is a biennial report published by?

- a. The World Bank
- b. International Monetary Fund
- c. UN Development Programme
- d. None of the above

Answer : a

- *World Bank has recently released its biennial report: Poverty and Shared Prosperity Report.*

Poverty and Shared Prosperity Report: Highlights

- Global extreme poverty is expected to rise for the first time in 20 years because of the disruption caused by COVID-19, exacerbating the impact of conflict and climate change, which were already slowing down poverty reduction.
- The pandemic may push another 88 million to 115 million into extreme poverty or having to live on less than \$1.50 per day, resulting in a total of 150 million such individuals.
- Sub-Saharan Africa, with 27-40 million new poor, and South Asia, with 49-57 million new poor, will be badly hit as per the Bank's projections.

5) Consider the following statements regarding the *Censure Motion* and *No-confidence Motion*

1. If Censure Motion is passed in the Lok Sabha, the council of ministers must resign from the office.
2. It is not needed to state the reasons for the adoption of the No-Confidence Motion in the Lok Sabha.

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

Answer : b

- Censure Motion should state the reasons for its adoption in the Lok Sabha whereas, No-Confidence Motion need not state the reasons for its adoption in the Lok Sabha.
- If Censure Motion is passed in the Lok Sabha, the council of ministers need not resign from the office whereas, If No-Confidence Motion is passed in the Lok Sabha, the council of ministers must resign from office.

6) Consider the following statements with respect to *CRISPR-Cas9*

1. It is a gene-editing technology in which an DNA molecule is programmed to locate the particular problematic sequence on the RNA strand.
2. Cas9 is an enzyme which acts as a pair of molecular scissors that cut the two strands of DNA at a specific location in the genome.

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 : b

- Noble Chemistry Prize for *CRISPR-Cas9* gene editing tool.
- CRISPR is an acronym for the 'Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats.'
- It is a gene-editing technology in which an *RNA molecule is programmed to locate the particular problematic sequence on the DNA strand*.
- That a piece of RNA is called *guide RNA (gRNA)*. It consists of a small piece of pre-designed RNA sequence, that binds to a specific target sequence of DNA in a genome.
- *Cas9 is an enzyme which acts as a pair of molecular scissors* that cut the two strands of DNA at a specific location in the genome.
- It is used to edit parts of the genome by removing, adding or altering sections of the DNA sequence.

7) Consider the following statements with respect to *Minimum Support Price (MSP)*

1. At present, the 'C2' value is taken into consideration for calculating the MSP.
2. The government currently fixes MSP only for cereals and pulses.

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

- *Minimum Support Price (MSP)* is a minimum price for any crop that the government considers as remunerative for farmers.
- Swaminathan committee talked about cost of farming at 3 levels.
- Under 'A2' the cost to generate the crop, which includes cost of seeds, manure, , labour costs, fuel costs and irrigation costs.
- Under 'FL', the Committee added the estimated cost of work to the total members of the farmer's family.
- Under 'C2', the estimated land rent and the cost of interest on the money taken for farming were added to A2 and FL.
- *At present, the 'A2+FL' value is taken into consideration for calculating the MSP.*
- The Swaminathan committee has recommended to use 'C2' value for MSP.
- *Government currently fixes MSPs for 23 farm commodities which includes 7 cereals, 5 pulses, 7 oilseeds and 4 commercial crops.*

8) Consider the following statements with respect to *Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement (BECA)*

1. It is a geo-spatial cooperation which will enable India to avail geospatial maps of the USA to sharpen the accuracy of weapons and automated hardware systems used for military purposes.
2. It provides a legal framework for the transfer of highly sensitive communication security equipment from the USA to India.

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



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Answer : a

- India, US set to hold 2+2 talks, the *Geospatial pact BECA* likely to be signed.
- The *Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement (BECA)* is one of the 4 foundational military agreements between the US and India.
- The other 3 are GSOMIA, LEMOA, COMCASA.
- *BECA is a geo-spatial cooperation which will enable India to avail geospatial maps of the USA to sharpen the accuracy of weapons, automated hardware systems used for military purposes.*
- It is an important precursor to India acquiring armed unmanned aerial vehicles such as the Predator-B from the US.
- *COMCASA provides a legal framework for the transfer of highly sensitive communication security equipment from the US to India.*

9) *PARAM Siddhi-AI* sometimes seen in news is?

- a. An AI used for the development of drugs and vaccines for COVID 19
- b. An AI based autonomous fighter aircraft
- c. A Supercomputer
- d. None of the above

Answer : c

- C-DAC to commission *India's fastest HPC-AI Supercomputer 'PARAM Siddhi - AI'* with NVIDIA.
- This initiative will put India among the top countries in global AI supercomputing research and innovation.
- It will be the India's largest *High Performance Computing and Artificial Intelligence (HPC-AI) Supercomputer.*
- It is to play a pivotal role in developing a vibrant ecosystem for research and innovation in science and engineering.

10) Consider the following statements with respect to *Hydroelectric Projects in India*

1. Dhaulasidh Hydroelectric Project is on the River Dibang, in Arunachal Pradesh.
2. Etalin Hydroelectric Project is on the River Beas, in Himachal Pradesh.

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

- Recently, the Central Government gives approval to the 66 MW *Dhaulasidh Hydro Electric Project in Himachal Pradesh*.
- The *project is to be launched on Beas River in Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh*.
- *Etalin Hydroelectric Project is on the River Dibang, in Arunachal Pradesh*.



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