



Daily Current Affairs Prelims Quiz - 05-01-2021 - (Online Prelims Test)

1) Consider the following statements with respect to *Sagarmala Seaplane Services (SSPS)*

1. The project aims to connect Indian states with its neighbouring countries through seaplane services.
2. Sagarmala Development Company Ltd (SDCL) under the administrative control of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways will be implementing the project.

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

- Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways recently initiated the process of commencing operations of the Seaplane services, on the select routes, under a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) framework through prospective airline operators.

Sagarmala Seaplane Services (SSPS)

- The project execution and implementation would be through **Sagarmala Development Company Ltd (SDCL)**, which is under the administrative control of the **Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways**.
- The proposed Origin-Destination pairs under Hub and Spoke model include various islands of Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep, Guwahati Riverfront & Umranso Reservoir in Assam, Yamuna Riverfront / Delhi (as Hub) to Ayodhya, Tehri, Srinagar(Uttarakhand), Chandigarh and many other tourist places of Punjab & HP; Mumbai (as Hub) to Shirdi, Lonavala, Ganpatipule; Surat (as Hub) to Dwarka, Mandvi & Kandla; Khindsi Dam, Nagpur & Erai Dam, Chandrapur (in Maharashtra) and/or any other Hub & Spoke suggested by the Operator.
- One such Seaplane Service is already in operation between Kevadia and Sabarmati Riverfront in Ahmedabad.

Sea Plane Services

- It will utilize the nearby water bodies for take-off and landing and thus connect those places in a much economical way as conventional airport infrastructure like a runway and terminal buildings are not required for seaplane operations.

2) Which of the following are the operational research base stations in Antarctica established under the *Indian Antarctic programme*?

1. Maitri
2. Bharati
3. Himadri
4. Dakshin Gangotri

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Answer : a

- India has recently launched the 40th scientific expedition to Antarctica.
- The chartered ice-class vessel MV Vasilij Golovnin will make this journey and will reach Antarctica in 30 days.

Indian Antarctic programme

- The Indian Antarctic expeditions began in 1981.
- The first trip comprised of a team of 21 scientists and support staff led by Dr SZ Qasim.
- After a humble beginning, the Indian Antarctic programme has credited to have built **three permanent research base stations in Antarctica**—named:

1. Maitri
2. Bharati
3. Dakshin Gangotri

- **Dakshin Gangotri was decommissioned** on 25 February 1990 and subsequently turned into a supply base.
- As of today, India has two operational research stations in Antarctica named Maitri and Bharati.
- The National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR), Goa, manages the entire Indian Antarctic program.

3) With respect to *LYNX U2 System*, often seen in the news recently, consider the following statements:

1. It is a Gun Fire Control System designed to acquire, track and engage targets amidst sea clutter.
2. It has been designed and developed indigenously.

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

- Ministry of Defence (MoD) has recently signed a contract with Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) for procurement of 10 Lynx U2 Fire Control systems for frontline warships of Indian Navy.
- The Lynx system has been designed and developed indigenously that would further the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' mission.

LYNX U2 GFCS

- It is a Naval Gun Fire Control System designed to acquire, track and engage targets amidst sea clutter which are disturbing radar-echoes of sea wave crests.
- It is capable of accurately tracking air/surface targets, generating required target data for predicting weapon aiming points and engaging target.
- The target engagement is carried out with the medium/short range gun mounts like Russian

AK176, A190 and AK630 and the SRGM available onboard ships.

4) Consider the following statements with respect to *Bird flu*

1. It is a highly infectious and severe respiratory disease in birds caused by the H5N1 influenza virus.
2. It will not infect humans, though human-to-human transmission is common.

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 : a

- *Samples of dead migratory water birds found at the Pong Dam Lake in Himachal Pradesh have tested positive for avian influenza or bird flu.*
- It has now become the fifth state to report suspected cases of bird flu after Haryana, Rajasthan, Kerala and Madhya Pradesh.

Avian Influenza

- It is a highly infectious and severe respiratory disease in birds caused by the H5N1 influenza virus.
- It can occasionally infect humans as well, although human-to-human transmission is unusual, according to the World Health Organisation.

5) KSTAR is a magnetic fusion device which was able to achieve a temperature of over 6.6 times more than that of Sun belongs to which of the following countries?

- a. China
- b. Japan
- c. France
- d. South Korea

Answer : d

The Korea Superconducting Tokamak Advanced Research (KSTAR)

- It is South Korea's magnetic fusion device.
- The KSTAR has often been referred to as South Korea's "artificial sun".
- It has recently set a new world record for fusion by reaching an ion temperature of over 100 million degrees Celsius for 20 seconds.
- The magnitude of the experiment can be understood from the fact that the Sun burns at 15 million degrees Celsius.
- By comparison, the KSTAR was able to achieve a temperature of over 6.6 times more than that of Sun's.

6) Which of the following statements are *incorrect* with respect to *Kolar Leaf-Nosed Bat*

1. It is endemic to India and found in only in the Kolar district of Karnataka.
2. It is currently evaluated as vulnerable by the IUCN.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only

- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : b

Kolar Leaf-Nosed Bat

- It is found in only one cave in Hanumanahalli village in the Kolar district of Karnataka, and its population is less than 200 individuals.
- Its natural habitats are subtropical or tropical dry forests and caves.
- It is currently evaluated as critically endangered by the IUCN.
- Recently Karnataka Forest Department, along with the Bat Conservation India Trust (BCIT), is on a war footing to save the Kolar Leaf-Nosed Bat from extinction.

7) Consider the following statements with respect to *Aurangabad City*

1. Aurangabad was built in 1610 by Malik Ambar of the Nijamshahi dynasty.
2. It was renamed Aurangabad by Mughal emperor Aurangzeb when he made it his capital.

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

Aurangabad



- Aurangzeb, who lived in Aurangabad until his death, tortured and killed Chhatrapati Sambahji, son of the Maratha warrior king Chhatrapati Shivaji.
- Following the historic incident there is a long standing demand for renaming Aurangabad city Sambahji Nagar, which has resurfaced recently.
- The district of Aurangabad is well known for UNESCO Heritage sites such as Ajanta Caves, Aurangabad Caves and Ellora Caves.

8) Which of the following government agency organized *National Metrology Conclave*?

- a. Indian Metrological Department (IMD)
- b. CSIR - National Physical Laboratory
- c. Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology
- d. Geological Survey of India

Answer : b

National Metrology Conclave

- National Metrology Conclave 2021 is being organised by CSIR - National Physical Laboratory, which is entering into its 75th year of inception.
- The theme of the conclave is Metrology for the Inclusive Growth of the Nation.
- During the conclave following initiatives are being inaugurated

1. **National Atomic Timescale** - The National Atomic Timescale generates Indian Standard Time with an accuracy of 2.8 nanosecond.
2. **Bhartiya Nirdeshak Dravya** - It is supporting testing and calibration of laboratories for

quality assurance, at par with international standards.

3. **National Environmental Standards Laboratory** - will aid self-reliance in the certification of ambient air and industrial emission monitoring equipment.

9) Consider the following statements with respect to *Natural Gas*

1. It is a fossil fuel source consisting primarily of methane, and cleanest among all the available fossil fuels.
2. It occurs abundantly in the gondwana beds, where dharwars are famous for petroleum.

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 : a

Natural Gas

- Natural gas is used as a feedstock in the manufacture of fertilizers, plastics and other commercially important organic chemicals.
- A huge mass of India's natural gas production comes from the western offshore regions, particularly the Mumbai High complex.
- Gondwana is famous for coal fields not natural gas, where Dharwar (Karnataka) has other minerals like iron, manganese not petrol.
- Union government has recently inaugurated Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Regasification Terminal at Kochi (Kerala) which extends to Mangaluru (Dakshina Kannada district, Karnataka).
- The pipeline will supply environment-friendly and affordable fuel in the form of Piped Natural Gas (PNG) to households and Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) to the transportation sector.

10) Which of the following statements are correct with respect to *Trans Fat*

1. It is a major contributor to the rise in non-communicable diseases in India like Cardiovascular disease, Diabetes, etc.
2. In India the amount of trans fatty acids (TFA) in oils and fats to 3% for 2021 and 2% by 2022 from the current permissible limit of 5%.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Answer : c

Trans Fat

- Trans Fat is a food toxin which present in partially hydrogenated vegetable oils, baked and fried foods.
- Trans Fat or trans-fatty acids are a form of unsaturated fat which come in both natural and artificial forms.
- Trans Fats also contribute to insulin resistance and thus elevate the risk of developing type 2 diabetes.

- Recently, the Food Safety & Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has made an amendment to the Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restriction on Sales) Regulations citing reduction in Trans fatty acid levels.
- The FSSAI's revised regulation on trans-fat applies to edible refined oils, Vanaspati (partially hydrogenated oils), margarine, bakery shortenings, and other mediums of cooking such as vegetable fat spreads and mixed fat spreads.



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