



30 Days Revision Module Day 28 - Current Affairs (UPSC Prelims 2021)

1) Consider the following statements with respect to the Ahom Kingdom

1. Chaolung Sukapha, founded the Ahom kingdom that ruled Assam for six centuries.
2. He is known for sectarian conflicts that prevailed after the formation of kingdom in the Brahmaputra valley.
3. He accepted the Hindu religion though it had its own religion and language

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are not correct?

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

Answer : b

- Recently, Assam Chief Minister ordered the arrest of a Kolkata-based political commentator, who had described Chaolung Sukapha as a Chinese invader.
- Chaolung Sukapha, was a 13th century ruler who founded the Ahom kingdom that ruled Assam for six centuries.
- Sukapha was a leader of the Ahoms.
- He reached Brahmaputra valley in Assam from upper Burma with around 9,000 followers.
- The founders of the Ahom kingdom had their own language and followed their own religion.
- Over the centuries, the Ahoms accepted the Hindu religion and the Assamese language.
- Sukapha's significance, especially in today's Assam lies in his successful efforts towards assimilation of different communities and tribes. He is widely referred to as the architect of "BorAsom" or "greater Assam".

2) Consider the following statements with respect to Galwan River

1. The Galwan River flows from Ladakh in to the Aksai Chin region.
2. It flows westwards to join the Shyok River, which is one of the main tributaries of Sutlej River.

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 Galwan River flows from the disputed *Aksai Chin region to Ladakh* of India.
- It originates in the area of Samzungling on the eastern side of the Karakoram range and flows west to join the Shyok River, one of the upstream *tributaries of the Indus River*.

3) Which of the following is **incorrect** with respect to Challenger Deep?

- a. It is the deepest known location in Earth's oceans.
- b. It is located in Pacific Ocean at the Mariana Trench.
- c. Mariana Trench, where the Challenger deep is present, is located at a divergent plate boundary.
- d. It occurs along a plate boundary between the Philippine Plate and the Pacific Plate.

Answer : c

- The Mariana Trench is located at a *convergent plate boundary*.
- The Mariana Trench is formed as the mighty Pacific plate subducts beneath the smaller, less-dense Philippine plate.

Ocean Trenches

- Ocean Trenches will form as a result when two converging plates of oceanic lithosphere collide with one another.
- At this collision point, one of the plates descends into the mantle.
- At the line of contact between the two plates, the downward flexure forms a trough known as an ocean trench.
- Ocean trenches form some of the deepest locations in Earth's oceans.

4) Consider the following statements with respect to Permafrost

1. It is any ground that remains completely frozen at 32°F or colder for at least two straight years.
2. It is made of a combination of soil, rocks and sand that are held together by ice.
3. Active Layer is a layer of soil on top of the permafrost which stays frozen all throughout theyear.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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



Answer : a

- Permafrost is any ground that remains *completely frozen at 32°F (0°C)* or colder for at least two straight years.
- These permanently frozen grounds are most common in regions with high mountains and in Earth's higher latitudes near the North and South Poles.
- It is made of a combination of *soil, rocks and sand* that are *held together by ice*.
- The soil and ice in permafrost stay frozen all year long.
- A layer of soil on top of permafrost *does 'not' stay frozen all year*.
- This layer, called the 'active layer', thaws during the warm summer months and freezes again in the fall.
- As Earth's climate warms, the permafrost is thawing, that means the ice inside the permafrost melts, leaving behind water and soil.
- Thawing permafrost can have dramatic impacts on our planet and the things living on it.
- Permafrost is believed to have formed during glacial periods dating several millennia.

5) With respect to Lichens, consider the following statements:

1. Lichens are a symbiotic association between algae and fungi and are not included in the five kingdom system of classification.
2. Lichens are very good pollution indicators and they grow only in polluted areas.
3. India's first lichen park was developed recently at Joida, Karnataka.

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

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

Answer : a

- *Uttarakhand Forest Department* has developed India's 'first' lichen park in Munsiyari in Pithoragarh district of Uttarakhand.
- The state has over 600 species of lichens of which around 150 are found in Munsiyari. The park is spread across 1.5 acres.

Lichens

- Lichens are symbiotic associations i.e. mutually useful associations, between *algae and fungi*.
- The algal component is known as phycobiont and fungal component as mycobiont, which are autotrophic and heterotrophic, respectively.
- Algae prepare food for fungi and fungi provide shelter and absorb mineral nutrients and water for its partner.
- So close is their association that if one saw a lichen in nature one would never imagine that they had two different organisms within them.
- Lichens are very good pollution indicators - *they do not grow in polluted areas* as lichens need pure air to grow.
- If pollution levels increase in a certain area, the lichen species decline there.
- Some acellular organisms like viruses and viroids as well as the lichens are *not included in the five kingdom system of classification*.

6) Which of the following are the applications of LiDAR?

1. Create the 3D elevation map of a particular land.
2. LiDAR can detect pollutant particles of carbon dioxide, Sulphur dioxide, and methane.
3. LiDAR can capture the structure of the building.

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

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

Answer : d

- LiDAR can be used to create 3D elevation map of a particular land. This can be converted to create slope and sunlight exposure area map.
- LiDAR wavelength is shorter. It operates in ultraviolet, visible region or near infrared. This helps to image the matter which is of the same size or larger than the wavelength. So LiDAR can detect pollutant particles of carbon dioxide, Sulphur dioxide, and methane.
- Ground-based LiDAR technology can be used to capture the structure of the building. This digital information can be used for 3D mapping on the ground which can be used to create models of the structure.

7) The State has more than 1000 Archaeological Sites and the Culture is Agriculture based. The Folk Dances of the State are Ghangor, Jhoomar, chhati which showcases the Culture along with the Folk Music. It is a land of Museums, it has more than 20 Museums. It can also be known as the state of Festivals. The important aspect of the state in socializing are Community involvement, respectful, wearing pakhdi and sitting in Choupal.

Which of the following Indian States had been mentioned in the above paragraph?

- a. Gujarat

- b. Haryana
- c. Chhattisgarh
- d. Himachal Pradesh

Answer : b

- The information regarding Haryana is being divided into two parts namely, the **Deswali Belt** and the **Bagari Belt**.
- The session threw light into some lesser known information like divisions of the state into regions basis of Soil i.e. (Khadar, Nardak, Bagad, Bangar), Demographic basis i.e. (Ahirwal, Mewat, Braj) and on the basis of Eco Cultural Zones i.e. (Ahirwal, Mewat, Bagar, Nardak, Khadar).
- Haryana has more than 1000 Archaeological Sites which depicts that the Culture of Haryana is.
- The three battles were fought in Panipat in 1526, 1556 and 1761.
- The Culture of Haryana is Agriculture based.
- The Folk Dances of Haryana are Ghangor, Jhoomar, chhati showcases the Culture of Haryana along with the Folk Music.
- Haryana is a land of Museums, it has more than 20 Museums.
- It can also be known as the state of Festivals.
- The important aspect of Haryana in socialising are Community involvement, respectful, wearing pakhdi, sitting in Choupal and enjoying Hookhas.

8) Consider the following statements with respect to Sedition Law (Section 124A) in India

1. It includes an attempt to excite disaffection towards the government established by law in India, where disaffection includes disloyalty and all feelings of enmity.
2. It is a non-bailable offence and a person charged under this law is barred from a government job, have to live without passport.

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

- The **Indian Penal Code (IPC) defines sedition (Section 124A) as an offence committed when "any person by words, either spoken or written, or by signs, or by visible representation, or otherwise, brings or attempts to bring into hatred or contempt, or excites or attempts to excite disaffection towards the government established by law in India"**.
- **Disaffection includes disloyalty and all feelings of enmity.**
- However, comments without exciting or attempting to excite hatred, contempt or disaffection, will not constitute an offence under this section.
- Sedition is a **non-bailable offence**. Punishment under the Section 124A ranges from imprisonment up to three years to a life term, to which fine may be added.
- **A person charged** under this law is **barred from a government job**.
- They **have to live without their passport** and must produce themselves in the court at all times as and when required.

9) Which of the following is the only National Park in India where walking safari is permitted?

- a. Satpura National Park
- b. Gorumara National Park
- c. Bandhavgarh National Park
- d. Mathikettan Shola National Park

Answer : a

10) Consider the following statements about Ambarnaya River

1. It flows towards the southerly direction in the Siberian region.
2. The recent oil spill in the river can be cleaned by setting fire to it.

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

- Russia declared a state of emergency on Wednesday, five days after a power plant fuel leak in its Arctic region caused 20,000 tonnes of diesel oil to escape into a local river.
- The thermoelectric power plant at Norilsk is built on permafrost, which has weakened over the years owing to climate change. This caused the pillars that supported the plant's fuel tank to sink.
- Ambarnaya river is part of a network that flows into the environmentally sensitive Arctic Ocean. So the river flows in a **northerly direction**.
- The Russian minister of natural resources opposed setting the vast quantity of oil a fire and recommended **diluting the layer with reagents**.

