



Daily Current Affairs Prelims Quiz 02-03-2022 - (Online Prelims Test)

1) Consider the following statements regarding the Vacuum Bomb:

1. It sucks the oxygen from the surrounding, producing a blast wave for a longer duration than conventional explosives.
2. It works on the principle of nuclear fusion, where the Trinitrotoluene (TNT) in the bomb reacts with oxygen in the atmosphere.

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

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

Answer : a

Russia used a Vacuum bomb during the invasion, claims Ukraine.



Vacuum Bomb

- A vacuum bomb, sucks in oxygen from the surrounding air to generate a high-temperature explosion, producing the effect of a small nuclear weapon.
- It typically produces a blast wave of a significantly longer duration than that of a conventional explosive.
- It is capable of vaporizing human bodies and is known as the father of all bombs.
- It is the world's most powerful non-nuclear bomb and has a blast equivalent to more than 44 tons of TNT.
- The destructive weapon is dropped from a jet and detonates mid-air.
- Other names: Aerosol Bomb, Fuel-air explosive, Thermobaric.

2) Consider the following statements regarding the Geneva Convention:

1. The Geneva convention comprises treaties and protocols for ethical treatment in war.
2. The fourth convention protects civilians, including those in occupied territory.
3. The conventions are mandatorily applied even to non-members during the time of the war.

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

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

Answer : a

Microsoft says cyberattacks targeting Ukraine 'raise serious concerns' under Geneva Convention.

Geneva Convention

- The Geneva Conventions comprise of three protocols and four additional treaties that set the standards for ethical treatment in war.
- The Geneva Convention originated in 1864 but was given a major overhaul in 1949.
- It has been ratified by 196 states, including all UN member states, both UN observers the Holy See and the State of Palestine, as well as the Cook Islands.
- The First Geneva Convention protects wounded and sick soldiers on land during the war.
- The Second Geneva Convention protects wounded, sick, and shipwrecked military personnel at sea during the war.
- The Third Geneva Convention applies to prisoners of war.
- The Fourth Geneva Convention protects civilians, including those in occupied territory.
- The Conventions apply to a signatory nation even if the opposing nation is not a signatory, but only if the opposing nation accepts and applies the provisions of the Conventions.

3) Consider the following statements regarding the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA):

1. It is a federal law of the U.S that has been used to impose sanctions against Iran and Russia only.
2. This act prevents trade partners of the US from entering into bilateral contracts with the countries sanctioned under the law.
3. Under a provision of the law, Saudi Arabia, Israel, Canada, and India are exempted from facing sanctions.

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

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

Answer : b

India faces uncertainty over timely deliveries of defense equipment from Moscow and Kyiv, owing to the threat of U.S. sanctions under Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA).

Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA)

- It is a United States Federal Law passed on 27th July 2017, that has imposed sanctions against Iran, Russia, and North Korea.
- In 2020 sanctions were imposed on Turkey for its purchase of the S-400 missile system from Russia.
- This act prevents trade partners of the United States from entering into bilateral contracts with these nations.
- No blanket waivers from punitive U.S. sanctions will be issued for any one particular country under the CAATSA.

4) Consider the following statements regarding the Pandemic Treaty:

1. It is an intergovernmental treaty signed between the members of the European Union and the African Union.
2. It covers aspects like data sharing and genome sequencing of emerging viruses and the distribution of vaccines and drugs.
3. The treaty contains a provision to ban the wildlife markets in the European and African Unions.

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

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

Answer : c

The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the deep cracks in global health systems, and members of the World Health Organization are now working towards being better prepared for any similar disasters in the future.

Pandemic Treaty

- In December 2021, the World Health Assembly agreed to start a global process to draft the pandemic treaty.
- The Health Assembly adopted a decision titled “The World Together” at its second special session since it was founded in 1948.
- Under the decision, the health organization established an intergovernmental negotiating body (INB).
- The body drafted and negotiated the contents of the pandemic treaty in compliance with Article 19 of the WHO Constitution.
- The pandemic treaty is expected to cover aspects like data sharing and genome sequencing of emerging viruses and equitable distribution of vaccines and drugs and related research throughout the world.
- The European Union (EU) also wants a ban on wildlife markets to be included in the treaty.
- A widely-accepted theory points out that the novel coronavirus may have jumped from animals to humans in a wildlife market of China.
- While the EU wants the treaty to be legally binding, the U.S., Brazil, and India have expressed reservations about the same.
- The legal nature of the treaty is yet to be defined.

Article 19

- It gives the World Health Assembly the authority to adopt conventions or agreements on matters of health.
- A two-thirds majority is needed to adopt such conventions or agreements.
- The WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control was set up under Article 19 and it came into force in 2005.

5) Consider the following statements regarding the Montreux Convention:

1. The Montreux convention regulates maritime traffic through the Black Sea, Aegean Sea, and the Mediterranean Sea.
2. The Bosphorus and Dardanelles straits are the only passage through which black seaports can access the Mediterranean Sea.
3. According to the convention, only Turkey has the control to block the Bosphorus and Dardanelles Straits.

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

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

Answer : b

Turkey is set to implement an international convention on naval passage through two of its strategic straits, which would allow them to limit the movement of Russian warships between the Mediterranean Sea and the Black Sea.

Montreux Convention

- The Montreux Convention regulates maritime traffic through the Black Sea.
- It guarantees complete freedom of passage for all civilian vessels during peacetime.
- It permits Turkey to restrict the passage of navies not belonging to Black Sea states.
- The Bosphorus and Dardanelles straits, also known as the Turkish Straits or the Black Sea Straits, connect the Aegean Sea and the Black Sea via the Sea of Marmara.
- It is the only passage through which the Black Sea ports can access the Mediterranean and beyond.
- Turkey has control over both the Bosphorus and Dardanelles straits.
- In the event of a war, the pact gives Turkey the right to regulate the transit of naval warships and to block the straits to warships belonging to the countries involved in the conflict.

