



Daily Current Affairs Prelims Quiz 18-03-2022 - (Online Prelims Test)

1) Consider the following statements regarding the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD):

1. The Cartagena protocol under this convention governs the movement of living modified organisms (LMOs) from one country to another.
2. The CBD is a legally binding treaty, and except for the US, all other countries have ratified the treaty.
3. The CBD operates under the aegis of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

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

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

Answer : d

At the ongoing meeting of the Convention on Biological Diversity in Geneva, where delegates from 190 countries are finalizing a global plan to stop biodiversity loss.

Convention on Biological Diversity

- The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) entered into force on 29 December 1993.
- It has 3 main objectives:
 1. The conservation of biological diversity.
 2. The sustainable use of the components of biological diversity.
 3. The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources.
- The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity is an international treaty governing the movements of living modified organisms (LMOs) resulting from modern biotechnology from one country to another.
- All countries have ratified it (notably, the US has signed but not ratified).

2) Consider the following statements regarding the marine biodiversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ):

1. It is a joint initiative of India and France to prevent plastic pollution from reaching the bottom of the Sea.
2. The framework aims to govern only the high seas that are not covered under the jurisdiction of any country.
3. It is being developed within the framework of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

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 : b

United Nations members negotiate instruments under the UN Convention on Law of the Sea to conserve, sustainably use marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction.

Marine Biodiversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ)

- It is an intergovernmental conference, legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).
- BBNJ encompasses the high seas, beyond the exclusive economic zones or national waters of countries.
- According to International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), these areas account for almost half of the Earth's surface.

3) Consider the following statements regarding Svalbard Treaty:

1. The treaty recognizes the sovereignty of Norway over the Archipelago of Svalbard.
2. India was an original signatory to the Svalbard Treaty before its independence.
3. India has deployed a multi-sensor observatory called IndARC in Svalbard.

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

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



Answer : c

Svalbard Treaty

- The Svalbard Treaty recognizes the sovereignty of Norway over the Arctic Archipelago of Svalbard.
- India's engagement with the Arctic dates back to 1920 with the signing of the Svalbard Treaty in Paris.
- Since July 2008, India has had its permanent research station in the Arctic called Himadri at NyAlesund, Svalbard Area in Norway.
- It has also deployed a multi-sensor moored observatory called IndARC in the Kongsfjorden fjord since July 2014.

4) Consider the following statements regarding Sealed Cover Jurisprudence:

1. It is the practice of accepting the information in a sealed envelope from the government agencies.
2. Sealed Cover Jurisprudence can only be initiated by the Supreme Court of India.
3. Such envelopes can only be accessed by the judges, and there is a specific law that defines the doctrine of sealed covers.

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

- a. 1 and 2 only

- b. 3 only
- c. 2 and 3 only
- d. None of the above.

Answer : c

Sealed Cover Jurisprudence

- It is a practice used by the Supreme Court and sometimes lower courts.
- The court asks for or accepts information from government agencies in sealed envelopes that can only be accessed by judges.
- A specific law does not define the doctrine of sealed cover.
- Important cases using sealed cover: Rafale Deal, Bhim Koregaon Case, etc.

5) Consider the following statements regarding Kamikaze drones:

1. These drones can both fire missiles loaded in them and can themselves be a missile.
2. They are unmanned and single-use weapon systems.
3. The weapon can be waved off up to two seconds before the impact.

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 : d



Kamikaze Drones

- Also called Switchblade drones, these are small unmanned aircraft that are packed with explosives.
- They are called suicide drones since they are drones that fire missiles and then they are ones that are missiles themselves.
- The single-use weapons are cheaper than most US drones.
- The drones have the capability of going past traditional defences to strike their targets and also cost a fraction of what the larger counterparts do.
- The weapon can be “waved off” up to two seconds before impact.