



## Daily Current Affairs Prelims Quiz 09-02-2023 (Online Prelims Test)

1) Consider the following statements with respect to the Keezhadi Excavations:

1. It denotes that an urban civilisation existed in Tamil Nadu in the Sangam age.
2. The Keezhadi excavation is situated on the right banks of River Cauvery.
3. The Keezhadi civilisation is a contemporary to the Mesopotamia Civilisation of West Asia.

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

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

Answer : a

### Keezhadi Excavations

- Excavations in Keeladi prove that an urban civilisation existed in Tamil Nadu in the Sangam era on the banks of the river Vaigai.
- The results suggest that the second urbanization (the first being the Indus Valley Civilization) of Vaigai plains happened in Tamil Nadu during the 6th century BC.
- Discoveries at Keeladi suggest that the people who lived there may have travelled south from the Harappan or Indus Valley civilization (as it declined) to start new lives.
- The civilization was an indigenous, well developed self-sustaining urban culture with an industry and Tamil-Brahmi script, indicating that the people of that era were highly literate.

2) Consider the following statements with respect to Green Steel:

1. Green steel is the manufacturing of steel without the use of fossil fuels.
2. Green steel is made from sources such as hydrogen, coal gasification or electricity.
3. The National Hydrogen Energy Mission (NHM) is associated with green steel.

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

### Green Steel

- Essentially, green steel is the manufacturing of steel without the use of fossil fuels.
- They are made from sources such as hydrogen, coal gasification, or electricity instead of the

traditional carbon-intensive manufacturing route of coal-fired plants.

## Government programmes for green steel

- **National Hydrogen Energy Mission (NHM)** capitalizes on hydrogen for a cleaner alternative fuel option.
- Petroleum and Natural Gas Ministry launched **Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga Project** in Eastern India in 2019 to provide gas to all steel plants located in the area.

3) Consider the following statements with respect to Seismic Gaps:

1. It is a section of an active fault which has the potential to produce significant earthquakes.
2. In India there are only two seismic gaps, known as the Assam gap & the Kashmir Gap.

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

## Seismic Gaps

- It is a section of an active fault which has the potential to produce significant earthquakes.
- Any large or longstanding gap in displacement is considered to be the fault segment most likely to suffer future earthquakes.

## Seismic gaps in Himalayas

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- **Assam Gap** which was formed between the 1934 Bihar-Nepal and 1950 Assam earthquake ruptures has the potential to cause at least three great earthquakes.
- **Central Gap** formed between 1905 Kangra and 1934 Bihar-Nepal earthquakes also has potential to cause three great earthquakes.
- **Kashmir Gap** that lies west of the 1905 Kangra earthquake rupture, this has potential to cause at least two great earthquakes.

4) Which of the following are the Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in India?

1. Pulicat Lake
2. Gulf of Kachchh
3. Sundarbans
4. Gulf of Mannar

Choose the correct code.

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

Answer : d

## Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)

- A marine protected area (MPA) is a section of the ocean where a government has placed limits on human activity.
- Many MPAs allow people to use the area in ways that do not damage the environment.
- MPAs have been established because the ocean and the things that live in it face many dangers.
- Threats to the ocean include overfishing, litter, water pollution, and global climate change.
- These threats have caused a decline in the population of many fish, marine mammals, and other sea creatures.
- Marine protected areas can have many different names, including marine parks, marine conservation zones, marine reserves, marine sanctuaries, and no-take zones.
- More than 5,000 MPAs have been established around the world. Together, they cover 0.8 percent of the ocean.
- Marine protected areas can be established in a variety of aquatic habitats and some of the MPAs can be in the open ocean and they also protect the coastlines.

**Table 1 : List of Marine Protected Areas in peninsular India**

| Sl. No. | Name of MPA                             | State                | Category          | IUCN category | Area (km <sup>2</sup> ) | Year of establishment |
|---------|---|----------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1.      | Coringa                                 | Andhra Pradesh       | Sanctuary         | IV            | 235.7                   | 1978                  |
| 2.      | Krishna                                 | Andhra Pradesh       | Sanctuary         | IV            | 194.81                  | 1989                  |
| 3.      | Pulicat Lake                            | Andhra Pradesh       | Sanctuary         | IV            | 500                     | 1980                  |
| 4.      | Dadra & Nagar Haveli                    | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | Sanctuary         | IV            | 92.16                   | 2000                  |
| 5.      | Fudam                                   | Daman & Diu          | Sanctuary         | IV            | 2.18                    | 1991                  |
| 6.      | Chorao Island                           | Goa                  | Sanctuary         | IV            | 1.78                    | 1988                  |
| 7.      | Marine (Gulf of Kachchh)                | Gujarat              | National park     | II            | 162.89                  | 1995                  |
| 8.      | Khijadia                                | Gujarat              | Sanctuary         | IV            | 6.05                    | 1981                  |
| 9.      | Marine (Gulf of Kachchh)                | Gujarat              | Sanctuary         | IV            | 295.03                  | 1980                  |
| 10.     | Kadalundi Vallikkunnu Community Reserve | Kerala               | Community reserve | NA            | 1.50                    | 2007                  |
| 11.     | Malvan Marine                           | Maharashtra          | Sanctuary         | IV            | 29.12                   | 1987                  |
| 12.     | Bhitarkanika                            | Odisha               | National park     | II            | 145                     | 1998                  |
| 13.     | Bhitarkanika                            | Odisha               | Sanctuary         | IV            | 672                     | 1975                  |
| 14.     | Chilika (Nalaban)                       | Odisha               | Sanctuary         | IV            | 15.53                   | 1987                  |
| 15.     | Balukhand Konark                        | Odisha               | Sanctuary         | IV            | 71.72                   | 1984                  |
| 16.     | Gahirmatha                              | Odisha               | Sanctuary         | IV            | 1435                    | 1997                  |
| 17.     | Gulf of Mannar Marine                   | Tamil Nadu           | National park     | II            | 6.23                    | 1980                  |
| 18.     | Point Calimere                          | Tamil Nadu           | Sanctuary         | IV            | 172.6                   | 1967                  |
| 19.     | Pulicat Lake                            | Tamil Nadu           | Sanctuary         | IV            | 153.67                  | 1980                  |
| 20.     | Sundarbans                              | West Bengal          | National park     | II            | 1330.1                  | 1984                  |
| 21.     | Haliday Island                          | West Bengal          | Sanctuary         | IV            | 5.95                    | 1976                  |
| 22.     | Sajnakhali                              | West Bengal          | Sanctuary         | IV            | 2091.12                 | 1976                  |
| 23.     | Lothian Island                          | West Bengal          | Sanctuary         | IV            | 38                      | 1976                  |
| 24.     | West Sundarban                          | West Bengal          | Sanctuary         | IV            | 556.45                  | 2013                  |

5) Recently, the Budget 2023-2024 stated that, a scheme will be introduced for a settlement scheme for disputes, where the arbitral award is under challenge in a court. In this respect the government has unveiled a draft dispute settlement scheme. Which of the following is the scheme?

- Vivad se Vishwas
- Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana
- Jan Suraksha Scheme
- E-Dispute Resolution Scheme

Answer : a

## Vivad se Vishwas

- The Finance Ministry released the contours of a proposed voluntary settlement scheme to bring to an end the long-festering contractual disputes of government agencies.
- The Finance Minister in her Budget 2023-24 speech had said standardised terms will be introduced for such a settlement scheme for disputes where the arbitral award is under challenge in a court.
- The Scheme is called as the Vivad se Vishwas II (Contractual Disputes) scheme.
- It is the one time settlement scheme circulated for stakeholders' feedback.
- It contains a draft agreement between the litigating parties to bring finality to the contractual dispute settlement.
- It is also proposed to be implemented through an online functionality on the Government e-Marketplace (GeM), portal.
- The scheme will offer settlement for all disputes with Central government agencies, including autonomous bodies, public sector banks and financial institutions, central public sector firms, union territories and the National Capital Territory of Delhi and their agencies.
- Organisations like metro corporations, where the Centre has a 50% stake, can choose to opt out of the scheme at their discretion after securing board approvals.



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