



Daily Current Affairs Prelims Quiz 11-04-2023 (Online Prelims Test)

1) Which of the following big cats are covered under the International Big Cats Alliance (IBCA)?

1. Tiger
2. Cheetah
3. Lion
4. Cougar
5. Clouded leopard

Choose the correct answer using the codes given below

- a. 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
- b. 1 and 5 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Answer : a

PM Modi launched the International Big Cats Alliance (IBCA)



International Big Cats Alliance (IBCA)

- It aims to work towards the conservation of 7 major big cats of the world, including tiger, lion, leopard, snow leopard, puma, jaguar and cheetah.
- It aims to reach out to 97 range countries covering the natural habitats.

Tiger

- **Genus** - Panthera Tigris
- **Status** - Endangered
- It is largest of all wild cats and the ancient of the panthera.
- **Range** - Siberain taiga to Sunderban delta
- National animal of India, Bangladesh, Malaysia and S.korea.

Lion

- **Genus** - Panthera Leo
- **Status** - Vulnerable
- **Native** - Asia, Africa
- **Habitat** - Open forests such as scrublands

Jaguar

- **Genus** - Panthera Onca
- **Status** - Near threatened
- Largest cat in Americas

Leopard

- **Genus** - Panthera Pardus
- **Status** - Vulnerable
- **Appearance** - Similar to jaguar
- The most adaptable of all big cats

Snow Leopard

- **Genus** - Panthera Uncia
- **Status** - Vulnerable
- **Habitat** - Above the snowline in Central and South Asia
- State animal of Ladakh and Himachal

Cougar

- **Genus** -Puma Concolor
- **Status** - Least Concern
- Second largest cats in Americas

Cheetah

- **Genus** - Acinonyx Jubatus
- **Status** - Vulnerable



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Only cat without retractable claws

2) Consider the following

Rivers		Drains in
1. Danube River	-	Black Sea
2. Rhine River	-	Pacific Ocean
3. Loire River	-	Atlantic Ocean
4. Po River	-	Adriatic Sea

Which of the pairs are correctly matched?

- 2 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 4 only
- 1, 3 and 4 only
- 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer : c

Europe's 4 Major Rivers Are Drying up

Danube River

- This is the second longest river in Europe.
- It starts at the intersection of two smaller rivers in Southwestern *Germany* -Brigach and Breg Rivers.
- This river passes through several countries including Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Germany, Hungary, Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Ukraine.
- It ends in the Black Sea.
- The Danube River has been important for trade and travel in Europe for thousands of years.

Rhine River

- The Rhine River starts in *Switzerland* in Grabünden.
- It ends in the North Sea in the Atlantic Ocean.
- The Rhine is an important river for freight delivery.
- It passes through Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Austria, Germany, France, The Netherlands.

Loire River

- It is a river in *France* that is famous for beautiful historic castles along its shores.
- This river starts in the Massif Central Mountains and ends in Saint-Nazaire where it empties into the Bay of Biscay in the Atlantic Ocean.
- The river fuels a well-known wine-producing region as well as river boat cruises for tourists.
- Closer to its mouth, it is also important for freight shipping to get goods into the country.
- It passes through several important cities in France like Nantes, Orléans, and Tours.

Po River

- This is the longest river in *Italy*.
- It starts as a spring in the Val Po and ends at the Adriatic Sea.
- The valley surrounding the river is where 35% of Italy's agricultural products come from.
- It is also the main area for industrial activities like manufacturing and utilities.
- The river produces hydroelectric power and is used to cool oil and coal power plants.

3) Consider the following statements with respect to UN Democracy Fund (UNDEF)

1. It helps in civil society projects for democracy.
2. It is an Outcome of World Summit, 2005.
3. India is a founding member of UNDEF.
4. Its headquarters is in Netherlands.

Which of the statements are correct?

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

Answer : a

India has no objections to the Fund giving grants to NGOs funded by George Soros

UN Democracy Fund (UNDEF)

- **Aim** - UNDEF funds, helps design, manages, mentors, and generates civil society projects for democracy.

- **Adoption** - World Summit during the UN General Assembly in September 2005
- India is a *founding member* of UNDEF.
- India's contribution to this fund is fluctuating over the years.
- The large majority of UNDEF funds go to local civil society organizations.
- UNDEF plays a novel role in work with Governments to strengthen democratic governance around the world.
- It subsists entirely on voluntary contributions from Governments.
- Many middle- and low-income States in Africa, Asia and Latin America have contributed to this fund.
- In 15 Rounds of Funding so far, UNDEF has supported over 880 two-year projects in more than 130 countries.
- It support initiatives in the areas of:
 - Support for Electoral Processes
 - Women's Empowerment
 - Media and Freedom of Information
 - Rule of Law and Human Rights
 - Strengthening Civil Society Interaction with Government
 - Youth Engagement
- **Advisory Board** comprises those UN Member States who have made the largest cumulative financial contributions to the Fund over the previous 3 years.

4) Which of the statements with respect to Project Tiger is **incorrect**?

- Project Tiger is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) launched by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.
- It provides funding support to tiger range States for both in-situ and ex-situ conservation of tigers.
- National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) is the statutory authority for Project Tiger.
- Currently India has 54 tiger reserves across India.

Answer : b

India commemorates 50 years of 'Project Tiger'

Project Tiger

- It was launched by the Central government on April, 1973.
- **Aim** - It aims to promote conservation of the tiger.
- It also ensured the preservation of their natural habitat as tigers are at the top of the food chain.
- The program came at a time when India's tiger population was rapidly decreasing.
- International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) declared the tiger as an endangered species in 1973.
- Project Tiger has been converted into a *statutory authority* (NTCA) by Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Act, 2006.
- Launched at the Jim Corbett National Park, the program was initially started in 9 tiger reserves of different States.
- The 9 states are Assam, Bihar, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.
- The NTCA had more power to check poaching and preserve the tiger population.
- Its mandate included setting up the Tiger Protection Force and funding the relocation of villages from the protected areas.
- Currently India has 54 tiger reserves across India.

5) Which of the following are the criteria for a party to be designated as a national party?

1. It must get at least 6% vote share in 3 or more states in the last Lok Sabha or Assembly elections and it have at least 4 MPs.
2. It should secure at least 2% of the seats in the Lok Sabha, with its candidates having been elected from at least 3 states.
3. It should be recognized as a state party in 4 states.

Choose the correct answer using the codes given below

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

Answer : c

Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) gets national party tag by Election Commission (EC)

National Party Status Criteria

- Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order, 1968, stipulates the criteria for recognition as a national or state party.
- A political party can be recognized as a national party by attaining any one of the following criterias.
 - It must get at least 6% vote share in 4 or more states in the last Lok Sabha or Assembly elections
 - It must have at least four MPs or
 - It should secure at least 2% of the seats in the Lok Sabha, with its candidates having been elected from at least 3 states.
 - It should be recognized as a state party in 4 states.
- There are now only 6 national parties in the country.
- List of 6 national parties are BJP, Congress, Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), CPI(M), National People's Party (NPP) and AAP.
- NCP, TMC, CPI lose the national party status.

State party criteria

A political party is recognized as a state party if any of the following criteria is fulfilled

- The party must win at least 6% of the total valid votes polled in an assembly election and win at least 2 seats.
- The party must secure at least 6% of the valid votes polled and win 1 or more seats in a Lok Sabha election.
- The party must win at least 3% of the total number of seats or at least 3 seats, whichever is more, in an assembly election.
- The party must have at least 1 seat for every 25 constituencies from a state in the Lok Sabha or an equivalent fraction as allocated to the state.