



### Daily Current Affairs Prelims Quiz 09-08-2023 (Online Prelims Test)

1) Consider the following statements with respect to Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)

1. ECOWAS was established through the Lagos Treaty.
2. Countries part of the ECOWAS have a common currency, called Rand.
3. All the members of the ECOWAS are also part of the Sahel Region.

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

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. All Three
- d. None of the above

Answer : b

### Economic Community of West African States

- Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) is an African organization established by the Treaty of Lagos in May 1975 to promote economic trade, cooperation, and self-reliance.
- ECOWAS seeks to harmonize agricultural policies and to facilitate the free movement of peoples, services, and capital between members.
- ECOWAS' larger aims are to have a single common currency and create a single, large trading bloc in western Africa.
- ECOWAS contains **4 specialized commissions**

1. Trading, customs, immigration, and monetary payments
2. Industry, agriculture, and natural resources
3. Transportation, telecommunications, and energy
4. Social and cultural affairs



2) Consider the following statements with respect to Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA)

1. The primary objective of the scheme is to develop governance in Panchayats.
2. It is launched by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj as a centrally sponsored scheme.

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

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

Answer : c

## Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA)

- Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) was launched on 24th April 2018 as an umbrella scheme of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.
- It is a unique scheme proposed to develop and strengthen the Panchayati Raj System across India in the rural areas.
- The primary objective of Revamped RGSA is to develop the governance capabilities of the Panchayats to deliver on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- RGSA is proposed to be implemented as a core Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS).
- For effective implementation of the scheme, utilization of funds is closely monitored with the States through meetings, video-conferences, etc.

3) Consider the following statements with respect to Assam Rifles

1. They were constituted in the pre-independence era and are the oldest paramilitary force in the country.
2. The headquarters of the Director-General of Assam Rifles (DGAR) is in Shillong.

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

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



Answer : c

## Assam Rifles

*Recently Manipur Police register criminal case against Assam Rifles accusing them of “giving a chance to the accused Kuki militants to escape freely to a safe zone”.*

- The Assam Rifles raised as Cachar Levy in 1835 to protect British tea estates and their settlements against tribal raids.
- It is the oldest Central Para Military Force in India.
- During times of peace and ‘proxy war’, it has to ensure the security of the India-China and India-Myanmar borders.
- In internal security matters, it acts under the purview of the Army, as the penultimate interventionist force of the Central government
  - When the situation goes beyond the control of other paramilitary forces.
- Similar to the Rashtriya Rifles in J & K, the Assam Rifles is the specialised force that carries out anti- insurgency operations in difficult terrain of Northeastern States.
- Its operational control is with the Indian Army, with an officer of the rank of Lieutenant General commanding the force.
- The headquarters of the Director-General of Assam Rifles (DGAR) is in Shillong.
- It is designated by the Constitution of Group of Ministers (GoM) committee as the Border Guarding Force for the Indo - Myanmar border.
- It is also its lead intelligence agency Constitution of Group of Ministers (GoM).

4) Consider the following statements with respect to Select Committee in the Parliament of India

1. The select committee is a permanent committee and its report is binding in nature.
2. The committee is entirely made of MPs of the opposition headed by the leader of opposition.

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

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

Answer : d

## Select Committee

Recently Raghav Chadha, Member of the Parliament proposed to refer the Delhi Services Bill to Select Committee.

- **Select Committee is an ad hoc or temporary committees**, which are set up for a specific purpose, such as examining a particular Bill and are dissolved after it.
- Under Rule 125 of the Rajya Sabha Rules and Procedures, any member may move an amendment that a Bill be referred to a Select Committee.
- According to the Rajya Sabha rules, "The Select Committees on Bills are constituted by the House(s) on specific motion moved by the Minister in-charge of the Bill or any member.
- A Joint Committee has members from both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.
- No member is appointed to a Select Committee if he is not willing to serve on the Committee.
- **The actual number of membership of the Select Committee is not fixed.** It varies from Committee to Committee.
- If it is a Joint Committee, the proportion of members from the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha is 1:2.
- The Chairman of the Committee is appointed by the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha from among the members of the Committee.
- The quorum for each sitting needs to be **1/3rd of the total number of members of the committee.**
- In case of equality of votes on any matter, the chairman (or any other person presiding) will have a second or casting vote.
- A select committee may appoint a sub-committee to examine any special points connected with the Bill.
- **The report of the committee is of a recommendatory nature.**

5) Consider the following statements:

1. The Tsar Bomb is the only nuclear fusion bomb.
2. The Tsar Bomb was developed by the Soviet Union.
3. In nuclear fusion bombs the isotopes of hydrogen are fused together.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. All Three
- d. None

Answer : b

## Nuclear Weapon

- A nuclear weapon is a device that uses a nuclear reaction to create an explosion.
- This explosion is much more powerful than that of conventional explosives (like TNT).
- When a nuclear weapon explodes, it gives off 4 types of energy:
  1. A blast wave
  2. Intense light
  3. Heat
  4. Radiation
- Nuclear weapons can be in the form of bombs or missiles.
- Basis of most nuclear weapons and atomic energy are radioactive elements.
- Nuclear fusion is basically the opposite of fission that is the process by which two light atomic nuclei combine to form a single, heavier one while releasing massive amounts of energy.
- For fusion bombs, the nuclei of two extremely rare isotopes of hydrogen that is **deuterium and tritium** are fused together under extremely high temperatures and pressure.
- Scientists need to make sure that the bomb does not reach critical mass earlier than intended, which is necessary to prevent an accidental explosion.
- Critical mass is the **minimum mass** of fissionable material required to sustain a nuclear fission.
- The largest fusion bomb ever tested is the **Soviet Tsar Bomba**.
- It is the largest nuclear weapon ever set off, it produced the most powerful human-made explosion ever recorded.
- The bomb was built in 1961 at the time the Cold War between the U.S.S.R. and the United States by a group of Soviet physicists that notably included Andrey Sakharov.
- Apart from Tsar Bomba, the Fat Man and Little Boy are few other nuclear bombs.