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Daily Current Affairs Prelims Quiz 11-01-2024 (Online Prelims Test)

1) Consider the following pairs of the terms in news and their relevance:

Terms in news

Relevance

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1. Ugram | - Scheme for building pucca house |
| 2. Drishti 10 Starliner | - India's first cruise in the Western Coast |
| 3. VINBAX | - Military exercise between India-Vietnam |

How many of the above pair(s) is/are matched **incorrectly**?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None of the above

Answer : b

Terms in News



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Ugram

- It is an indigenous assault rifle also named the fierce one.
- The Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE), and the Hyderabad-based Dvipa Armour India Private Limited (DAIPL).
- Ugram is a 7 to 15 mm assault rifle that was developed within 100 days for both the Indian Army and paramilitary forces.
- The rifle has a 20-round magazine that fires robust and full auto mode.
- The rifle is effective for 500 metres and the weight of the rifle including the magazine is less than 4 kg.

Drishti 10 Starliner

- It is the first indigenously manufactured Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV), by Adani Defence and Aerospace.
- Adani Aerospace Park is the country's first final assembly line in the private sector for military-grade unmanned systems.
- The Drishti 10 Starliner is an advanced intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) platform with 36 hours of endurance and a 450 kg payload capacity.
- It is the only all-weather military platform with NATO's STANAG 4671 (standardised agreement 4671) certification for the UAV system's airworthiness.
- The drone is cleared to fly in both segregated and unsegregated airspace.
- The UAV will now be taken from Hyderabad to Porbandar to be inducted into naval maritime operations.

VINBAX Exercise

- The VINBAX exercise, initiated in 2018, is an annual training event that alternates between India and Vietnam.
- The first edition took place in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh, and the most recent edition occurred at Chandimandir Military Station in August 2022.
- The primary objective of VINBAX-2023 is to enhance collaborative partnerships, promote interoperability, and share best practices between the Indian and Vietnamese armed forces.
- The exercise falls under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, specifically focusing on Peacekeeping Operations.

2) Operation Prahhaar and Operation Shakthi, sometimes seen in the news recently, was conducted by which of the following organisation(s)?

- Indian Coast Guard
- Financial Intelligence Unit
- Central Bureau of Narcotics
- Central Bureau of Investigation

Answer : c

Operation PRAHAAR & Operation Shakthi

- Operation PRAHAAR & Operation Shakthi are the destruction operation of illicit opium poppy crop by Central Bureau of Narcotics in India.

3) Which of the following countries are part of the Sahel Region?

- Algeria
- Libya
- Algeria
- Mauritania



Choose the correct code.

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

Answer : d

Sahel Region

- Africa's Sahel, a region running across the breadth of the continent, between the Sahara in the north and the Sudanian Savanna in the south.
- It is a largely semi-arid belt of barren, sandy and rock-strewn land.
- Sahel marks the physical and cultural transition between the continent's more fertile tropical regions to the south and its desert in the north.
- The Sahel stretches from Senegal on the Atlantic coast, through parts of Mauritania, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, Nigeria, Chad and Sudan to Eritrea on the Red Sea coast.
- Culturally and historically, the Sahel is a shoreline between the Middle East and sub-Saharan Africa.



4) Consider the following statements with respect to Grant for Research and Entrepreneurship across Aspiring Innovators in Technical Textiles (GREAT)

1. It provides grant up to 50 lakhs for start-ups in technical textiles field.
2. It is an initiative of the Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation.
3. It is part of the Multiplier Grants Scheme (MGS).

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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



Answer : a

Grant for Research and Entrepreneurship across Aspiring Innovators in Technical Textiles (GREAT)

The Ministry of Textiles is all set to organize a hackathon on “Fostering Innovations in Technical Textiles”, in the event the ministry will announce the top 3 winners of the GREAT initiative.

- GREAT - **G**rant for **R**esearch and **E**ntrepreneurship across **A**spiring Innovators in Technical Textiles.
- It is an initiative of the **Ministry of Textiles**.
- Under GREAT, Ministry of Textiles shall provide grant-in-aid of normally up to **INR 50 Lakhs** for a period of 18 months.
- **Objectives** - GREAT believes in utilizing the in exhaustive talent pool and expertise of India in Technical Textiles sector to bring innovative products/technologies to the market to:
 - Support young innovators/entrepreneurs in Technical Textiles to translate their prototypes to technologies/products.
 - Support commercialization of technologies developed by innovators/start-ups in Technical Textiles.
 - Bring forward a culture of rapid translation of ideas/prototypes to products through collaboration.

- It has evolved under the Research, Development and Innovation Component of National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM) and **not a part of the Multiplier Grants Scheme (MGS)**.
- **National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM)** - Is a flagship scheme of Ministry of Textiles.
- NTTM primarily focusses on research, development, and innovation (RD &I) along with education, skill and market promotion for the technical textiles.
- It has funded several projects in the form of ideation, prototype grants along with applied projects of national importance.

5) Panspermia, sometimes seen in the news is related to which of the following?

- A natural pathogenic fungi to help save eucalyptus forests from devastating pest.
- A Greece hypothesis that attributes the origin of life on one planet to a different planet.
- A type of sustainable fuel that is produced from the whiskey.
- A new class of antibiotics that can kill drug-resistant bacteria.

Answer : b

Panspermia

- Panspermia is a ***hypothesis*** that simply attributes the origin of life on one planet to a different planet, it doesn't actually explain how life came to be.
- The hypothesis has prevailed since ancient Greece.
- *It was first posited by the Greek philosopher Anaxagoras (500-428 BC), who coined the term and first articulated life's potential to travel as 'seeds' between planets.*
- **Modern version** - The idea of panspermia advances 3 stages:
 1. Escape from a planet
 2. Transit through interplanetary space
 3. Landing on another planet
- It has also become the seed of many controversies, including one suggesting the interstellar object ?Oumuamua was an alien object engaged in panspermia.