



Daily Current Affairs Prelims Quiz 22-02-2024 (Online Prelims Test)

1) Consider the following statements with respect to Outcome Budgeting

1. It links the outlay of funds by various government ministries and departments to their expected outcomes.
2. The concept of outcome budgeting was introduced in India in 2005.
3. It is mandatory for all State Legislative Assemblies to follow Outcome budgeting.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer : b

Outcome Budgeting



Recently the Assam government launched its budget for the financial year 2024-25 which is the front-runner in adopting SDGs and preparing SDG-linked outcome budgets at the sub-national level in the country.

- Outcome budgeting is a budget process that connects *resources with results*.
- The concept of outcome budgeting was introduced in India in **2005**.
- It mandates that the ministries and departments at all levels should be involved in a meaningful way in the implementation processes of the developmental schemes across the country.
- The **main objective** of the Outcome Budget is to create a direct connection between the financial investments made by the government in various programs and schemes, and the results expected from those expenditures.
- Key aspects of Outcome Budget in India:
 - **Performance Evaluation** - Each ministry and department is required to provide detailed information about the performance indicators and targets for each program and scheme.
 - **Enhanced Accountability** - By focusing on outcomes rather than just financial outlays, the Outcome Budget holds government entities more accountable for delivering results.
 - **Transparency** - The Outcome Budget is a tool for promoting transparency in governance.
 - **Regular Reporting and Assessment** - Ministries and departments are required to regularly report on their progress towards achieving the stated outcomes.
 - **Policy Decision-Making** - To provide a clear picture of the effectiveness of various programs and schemes.
- **Outcome budget statements (OBS)** - It is a budgetary instrument that links expenditure to specific targets by indicating the output / outcome to be achieved by making that expenditure.

- It helps align government policies, strategies and budgets towards achieving UN-mandated Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).
- **States** - *Outcome budgeting is not followed in all states.*
- Around 11 Indian states including Assam have started following the practice of formulating their OBSs in the past few years.
- **Outcome budgeting in Assam** - Assam was the first Indian state to adopt the SDGs in 2016 and its budgeting focused on SDG outcomes as outlined in Assam Agenda 2030.
- Assam introduced the OBS alongside the state's annual budget in in 2018-19.

2) U-Report, a digital community for young people, is an initiative of?

- a. Climate Action Network (CAN)
- b. International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
- c. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- d. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Answer : c

U-Report

In a recent survey conducted by UNICEF's public-private youth platform, U-Report, has revealed that that 55% of women prefer to work from home so that they can manage the house chores too.

- U-Report is a social messaging tool developed by **the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)** to engage with communities and gather real-time data on various issues.
- U-Report uses SMS and social media to conduct polls and surveys, allowing individuals to share their opinions on different topics, including education, health, and social issues.
- **Key findings of the report** - 55% of women prefer to work from home so that they can manage the house chores too.
- 75% of young women and men believe that finding a job is the most important next step for the women post their studies.
- Less than 1/5th believe that women should get married immediately after completing their academics.
- Almost 52% of the respondents believe that access to information and opportunities or support from families are key factors that influence young women's decision to develop job-ready skills and join the workforce.
- 56% of the respondents believed that parents/family or partners are important actors in choosing aspirations and career options.
- 42% male and 47% female respondents believe that parents and family members of young women make decisions with regard to their dreams and aspirations.
- 33% male and 37% female respondents believe that young women themselves make the decision for their dreams and aspirations.

3) Consider the following statements with respect to Indian Kangaroo Lizard

1. It can run on its hind legs with its body held upright, similar to a kangaroo.
2. It is endemic to the Western Ghats of India.
3. They are inefficient climbers and primarily inhabit terrestrial environments.

How many of the statements given above are **incorrect**?

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

Answer : d

Indian Kangaroo Lizard

A team of scientists from India has recently discovered a new species of *Agasthyagama*, commonly known as the Indian kangaroo lizard, in the Idukki district of Kerala.

- The Indian kangaroo lizard is a **small to medium-sized lizard**, typically growing up to 10 inches (25 cm) in length.
- It has a slender body, long legs, and a distinctive head with a pointed snout.
- It belongs to the genus **Agasthyagama** and has been named **Agasthyagama Edge**.
- It has been named *Agasthyagama Edge*, where the edge stands for *Evolutionarily Distinct and Globally Endangered*.
- It is endemic to the Western Ghats of India.
- It is characterised by a reduced fifth toe, these lizards are **inefficient climbers** and primarily inhabit terrestrial environments with dense leaf litter cover.
- The species is known for its bipedal movement and can run on its hind legs with its body held upright, **similar to a kangaroo**.
- This unusual gait is thought to help it escape predators and navigate through its rocky habitat.



4) Consider the following statements with respect to Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts

1. It is an autonomous organisation established in 1987 by the late Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi.
2. It works under the aegis of the Ministry of Culture.
3. It is a cultural repository and the custodian of ancient texts.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer : b

Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA)

- The Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) was launched on 19th November, 1985 by the late Prime Minister Shri **Rajiv Gandhi**.
- The IGNCA was established in 1987 as **an autonomous institution under the Ministry of Culture** as a centre for research, academic pursuit and dissemination in the field of the arts.
- *It is a cultural repository and the custodian of ancient texts.*
- It has a trust (**Board of Trustees**), which meets regularly to give general direction about the Centre's work.
- The **Executive Committee**, drawn from among the Trustees, functions under a Chairman.
- It acts as a link between the Trust and the IGNCA.
- The Member Secretary is the Executive head of both academic and administrative divisions.

- **Functional units** - It has 6 functional units, that include:
 1. **Kala Nidhi** - The multi-form library
 2. **Kala Kosa** - Devoted mainly to the study and publication of fundamental texts in Indian languages
 3. **Janapada Sampada** - Engaged in lifestyle studies
 4. **Kaladarsana** - The executive unit which transforms researches and studies emanating from the IGNCA into visible forms through exhibitions
 5. **Cultural Informatics** - Which applies technology tools for cultural preservation and propagation
 6. **Sutradhara** - The administrative section that acts as a spine supporting and coordinating all the activities.
- Few initiatives of IGNCA include:
 - The Vedic Heritage Portal - A "one-stop solution" for all things Vedas.
 - Digital courses on Vastu and Vedas
 - A website dedicated to Sengol, a symbol of the government's narrative in which a talisman represents the shedding of servility and newfound freedom.

5) Consider the following statements with respect to INSAT-3DS Mission

1. It was launched using a Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV).
2. The mission is fully funded by the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES).
3. The mission will help in environment monitoring, weather forecasting and disaster relief operations.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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



Answer : c

GSLV-F14/INSAT-3DS Mission

Recently the GSLV-F14/INSAT-3DS mission was successfully launched by the ISRO.

- The GSLV is the launch vehicle of the mission that aims to deploy the INSAT-3DS meteorological satellite into the Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO).
- INSAT-3DS Satellite is a follow-on mission of Third Generation Meteorological Satellite from Geostationary Orbit.
- **The mission is fully funded by the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES).**
- The mission is designed to operate in space for ten years, is expected to boost environment monitoring, oceanic observations and weather forecasting and assist disaster relief operations.
- The satellite will augment the Meteorological services along with the presently operational INSAT-3D and INSAT-3DR satellites.
- Indian Industries have significantly contributed to the making of the Satellite.