



CA Revision Module - Test 24 (December 2023)

1. Consider the following statements with respect to Crimes in India Report, 2022

1. There was slight decline in various types of crimes in 2022 compared to 2021.
2. Mumbai has been recognised as the safest city in India for the 3rd consecutive year.

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

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

Answer : c

Crime in India 2022

- As per the recent National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) report on the crime situation in India, there was **an increase in various types of crimes** in 2022 compared to 2021.
- **Kolkata** for the 3rd consecutive year has been recognised as the safest city in India, it recorded the least number of cognisable offences per lakh population among other major cities in India.
- **Delhi** registered highest rate of crime against women in the country.
- Highest charge sheeting rate under IPC crimes are Kerala, Puducherry and West Bengal.
- **Offences against the State**- It is reported in Jammu and Kashmir, Chhattisgarh, Manipur, Assam, and Nagaland.
- **Crime against foreigners**- Theft and rape, with most of the victims are from Asian continent followed by African countries.
- Male tend to be suicide victims than female.

2. Consider the following statements regarding PM JANMAN scheme

1. The scheme aims to uplift the PVTGs by ensuring their access to essential infrastructure and services.
2. The scheme comprises both central sector and centrally sponsored schemes.
3. In 1973, the Lokur Commission created the Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) as a separate category.

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

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

Answer : b

PM JANMAN Scheme

- **Launch-** On Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas (Birth anniversary of Birsa Munda) in Jharkhand.
- **Objective-** To provide essential amenities (road connectivity, electricity, secure housing, clean drinking water, sanitation) and improved access to education, health, nutrition, sustainable livelihood opportunities.
- The government will showcase and spread awareness of various government schemes made for the tribals.
- The scheme will be implemented by **9 ministries** with Ministry of Tribal Affairs playing the key role.
- **Beneficiary-** Government has identified 75 tribal communities and primitive tribes with a population of lakhs who reside in more than 22 thousand villages in the country.
- **Focus- 11 critical interventions** for Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG).
- The scheme comprises both central sector and centrally sponsored schemes.
- **Ayush Wellness Centres-** It will be set up by the Ministry of AYUSH and AYUSH facilities will be extended to PVTG habitations through mobile medical units.
- **Skill enhancement-** Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship will facilitate skill and vocational training in PVTG habitations, multipurpose centres and hostels according to suitable skills of these communities.

Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)

- In 1973, the **Dhebar Commission** created Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) as a separate category, who are less developed among the tribal groups.
- In 2006, the Government of India renamed the PTGs as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs).

3. Consider the following statements regarding Zero Coupon Zero Principle bonds

1. They are financial instrument that are included in the list of securities under Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956.
2. They can be issued only by the Non-Profit Organisations that are registered with Social Stock Exchanges (SSEs).
3. They are available for trading in the secondary market.

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

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

Answer : b

Zero Coupon Zero Principle bonds

- Zero Coupon Zero Principle are financial instrument that are included in the list of securities under *Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956*.
- They do not give any interest, and investors will not get any money back on the maturity of the bond.
- **Eligibility criteria for issuance - Only by the Non-Profit Organisations (NPO)** that are registered with Social Stock Exchange (SSE).
- ZCZP can only be issued for a specific project with specific tenure.
- The project must fall under the list of eligible activities under SEBI (ICDR) Regulations, 2018.
- **Issuance** - They are issued through private placement or public issuance.

- **Minimum issue size** - Rs. 50 Lakh (originally Rs.1 crore)
- **Minimum application size** - Rs.10, 000 (originally Rs.2 lakh)
- **Minimum subscription required** - 75% of the funds proposed
- **Trade** - They shall be issued in dematerialized form only.
- They are ***not available for trading in the secondary market***, but they can be transferred to legal heirs.
- **Maturity** - It will mature when the project for which they are raised terminate, or 12 months from the date of allotment.

Unnati ZCZP Bonds

- **Issuer** - SGBS Unnati Foundation, an NPO formed in November 2011.
 - **Unnati** - Vocational training program for underprivileged and unemployed youth in the age group of 18 to 25 years.
 - **UNXT** - 1 month training programme for final year students at government colleges.
 - **Sugam** - A grassroots entrepreneurship accelerator helping non-urban youth to develop scalable businesses.

4. Consider the following statements.

Statement-I: Decentralized Autonomous Organizations is a non-legal structure that operates without centralized control.

Statement-II: It uses blockchain technology and smart contract to take decisions in a bottom-up management approach.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

Answer : d

Decentralized Autonomous Organizations

- It is a **legal structure** that operates without centralized control and is governed by smart contracts and the consensus of its members.
- **Decision making**- It uses *blockchain technology and smart contract* to take decisions in a *bottom-up management* approach.
- **Community driven**-It is represented by rules encoded as a computer program that is *transparent*, controlled by the respective organization members, and not influenced by a government.
- **Smart contracts**- It executes predefined rules without the need for intermediaries, ensuring trust through code rather than traditional authorities.
- **Enhanced cooperation**- They enable global, borderless cooperation on an unprecedented scale.
- **Constructive engagement**-Participants, often referred to as token holders, can propose and vote on decisions related to the organization's goals and resources.
- **Self-executing systems**- This decentralized decision-making process ensures that no single entity holds undue influence.

5. Consider the following statements with respect to Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), 1967

1. The Act permits keeping a person in prison for up to one year without even filing a charge sheet.
2. National Investigation Agency is authorized to attach and forfeit property derived from or used in unlawful or terrorist activities.

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 : b

Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA), 1967

- **Aim-** To prevent and punish unlawful and terrorist activities that threaten the sovereignty and integrity of the country.
- **Definition-** The Act defines unlawful activities as any action that
 - supports, propagates, or advocates secession from India,
 - disclaims or questions the territorial integrity of India,
 - causes or intends to cause disaffection against India,
 - supports any terrorist organization or individual
- **Declaration of unlawful associations** - The Act empowers the Central government to declare any organisation or individual as unlawful.
- **Tribunal-** The declaration is subject to judicial review by a tribunal constituted by a sitting or retired judge of a High Court.
- **Punishment** -
 - **Unlawful activity-** Imprisonment ranging from 5 years to life, and fine.
 - **Terrorist activity-** Death penalty or imprisonment for life, and fine
- **National Investigation Agency (NIA)-** It is authorized to investigate any offence under the Act, and to arrest any person who is reasonably suspected of having committed such offence.
- It also provides for the attachment and forfeiture of any property that is derived from, or used for, any unlawful or terrorist activity by NIA.
- **Special courts-** It is established by the Central or State government to try any offence under the Act.
- **Appeal and revision of the judgments of the special courts** - by the High Court and the Supreme Court.
- The act permits keeping a person in prison for **upto 180 days (6 months)**, without even filing a charge sheet.



6. Consider the following statements.

1. The Governor of the state is the ex-officio chancellor of the universities in that state.
2. The Governor as a chancellor is not bound by the aid and advice of the council of ministers and shall act only on his personal capacity.
3. The Governor of a state appoints the Vice-Chancellors of state universities.
4. The President is the Chancellor of Central universities as per Central Universities Act.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. Only three
- d. All four

Answer : c

Governor's role as Chancellor

Recently, a Supreme Court bench reiterated that the governor acting as Chancellor are not bound by the aid and advice of Council of Ministers.

- In most cases, the Governor of the state is the **ex-officio chancellor of the universities in that state**.
- **Powers of Chancellor** - He is the Head of the University, and vested with power to
 - **Appoint the Vice-Chancellors**.
 - Annul decisions of the various university bodies.
 - Conduct inspections in the university in some states (such as Bihar, Gujarat, and Jharkhand).
 - Preside over the convocation of the university, and confirms proposals for conferring honorary degrees.
- **Supreme Court's ruling - Governor as a chancellor are not bound by the aid and advice of the council of ministers** and shall act only on his personal capacity.
- The powers as a Chancellor have no relation to the exercise of the powers and duties as the State Governor.
- **Central Universities** - Under the Central Universities Act, 2009, and other statutes, the *President of India shall be the Visitor* of a central university who presides over convocations.
- **Chancellors in central universities** - They are titular heads, who are **appointed by the President** in his capacity as Visitor.
- The Vice Chancellor too are appointed by the Visitor.
- The Act adds that the President, as Visitor, shall have the right to authorise inspections of academic and non-academic aspects of the universities and also to institute inquiries.
- Education comes under Concurrent List, but entry 66 of the Union List gives the Centre substantial authority over higher education.

7. Consider the following statements with respect to Youth for Unnati and Vikas with AI (YUVAi)

1. The program aims to equip undergraduate students studying technical education across the nation with relevant mindset and skill sets.
2. It was launched jointly by the National e-Governance Division (NeGD), Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), and Intel India.

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

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

Answer : c

Youth for Unnati and Vikas with AI (YUVAi)

- It is a national program that aims to teach AI skills **to school students in grades 8-12**.
- **Collaboration between** - National e-Governance Division (NeGD), Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), and Intel.

8. Consider the following pairs.

Portals

Purposes

- | | | |
|-------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. Bhoomi Rashi | - | Spatial Planning |
| 2. Gram Manchitra | - | Land Acquisition |

3. e-jagriti - Dispute resolution

How many of the above pair(s) given above is/are correctly matched?

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

Answer : a

Bhoomi Rashi Portal

- An initiative of Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.
- **Aim** - It is a single point platform for **online processing of land acquisition** notifications to accelerate highway infrastructure development projects in India.

Gram Manchitra

- It is a Geographic Information System application
- **Launched by** - Ministry of Panchayati Raj
- **Aim** - To encourage the **Spatial Planning by the Gram Panchayat**.
- It uses the National Informatics Centre's (NIC) Geographic Information System (GIS) platform of Bharat Maps.

e-Jagriti Portal



- An initiative of the *Department of Consumer Affairs*, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food, and Public Distribution.
- **Aim** -To **revolutionize the landscape of dispute resolution and grievance redressal**.
- It will help reduce the number of pending cases in consumer courts.

9. Consider the following passage.

It was launched by the Election Commission of India (ECI) in 2009 to build a truly participative democracy in India. It provides for voter education, spreading voter awareness and promoting voter literacy in India.

Identify the correct answer using the passage given above.

- a. SVEEP
- b. VVPAT
- c. ENCORE
- d. SAMARTH

Answer : a

Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP)

- It is a program by the **Election Commission of India** to educate voters, spread awareness, and promote voter literacy since **2009**.
- It is working towards preparing India's electors and equipping them with basic knowledge related to the electoral process.
- **Primary goal** - To **build a truly participative democracy in India** by encouraging all **eligible citizens to vote and make an informed decision** during the elections.

- To build a stronger democracy through greater synergy with Civil Society Organisations, Media and Corporate Houses and even greater queries, suggestions, and participation from individuals.

ENCORE

- The Election Commission of India has designed in-house software for complete Candidate and election management through a software called ENCORE.
- ENCORE stands for Enabling Communications on Real-time Environment.
- This provides a seamless facility for Returning Officer to process candidate nomination, affidavit, Voter turnout, counting, results and data management.

cVIGIL (Citizen Vigilance)

- It is a mobile application designed by the Election Commission of India.
- It provides opportunity to report election code violations directly by citizens.
- It is widely available, easy to use, generates legally tenable and prosecutable information to administrators.

10. Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) in its recent report had suggested to use which one of the following traditional farming practices to reduce the escalating human and environmental costs of producing food?

- Akkadi Saalu
- Lantana
- Bhattarakas
- Nishidis

Answer : a



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Akkadi Saalu

The recently released report by the FAO suggests that use of traditional framing practices including Akkadi Saalu could reduce the escalating human and environmental costs of producing food.

- It is an *intercropping system* that has been in traditional practice in **Karnataka**.
- It helps to preserve life in the soil by reducing the use of pesticides.
- It is a traditional, biodiversity based ecological farming practice with zero chemical fertilisers & pesticides and minimal use of ground water.
- It involves intercropping with a combination of legumes, pulses, oilseeds, trees, shrubs and livestock that improves the health of the soil.
- **Lantana** – It is a heavily branched shrub that can grow as compact clumps, dense thickets and as a climbing vine.
- It is an invasive species that is not native to India, and was introduced in the country as an ornamental plant by the British.
- **Basadis and Nishidis** – It refers to Jain shrine or temple.
- Moodbidri town in Karnataka is known as 'Jain Kashi' which is home to Jain temples.
- **Bhattarakas** – They are the Heads of Digambara Jain institutions.

11. Consider the following statements.

Statement I: Noma disease, which was officially added in the list of neglected tropical diseases, is also known as the Face of Poverty.

Statement II: Effective drugs and surgical treatments for Noma remains inaccessible for many.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a. Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- b. Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- c. Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- d. Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

Answer : a

Noma

Recently, the World Health Organization (WHO) has added noma to its official list of neglected tropical diseases (NTD).

- It is a severe *gangrenous disease of the mouth and face*, which is also known as cancrum oris or gangrenous stomatitis.
- It is **called as 'Face of poverty'** as **effective drugs** like sulfonamides and penicillin and adequate surgical treatment **remain inaccessible for many**.
- **Guinea Worm Disease** - Also known as *Dracunculiasis* is an infection caused by the *parasite* *Dracunculus medinensis*.
- It is considered as a neglected tropical disease (NTD) and it is the 1st parasitic disease targeted for eradication.
- It is primarily a human disease but in recent years, it has been identified in the animals, particularly dogs.
- A few days to hours before the *worm come out of the skin*, the person may develop a fever, swelling, and pain in the area.
- **Snakebite Envenoming** - A potentially life-threatening disease following the bite of a venomous snake.
- WHO formally lists the snakebite envenoming as a highest priority Neglected Tropical Disease in 2017.

12. Consider the following.

1. Hydrogen
2. Carbon monoxide
3. Carbon dioxide
4. Oxygen
5. Methane

Which of the following are constituents of Synthesis (Syn) gas?

- a. All except 3
- b. All except 4
- c. All except 5
- d. All except 2

Answer : b

Synthesis (Syn) gas

- A combustible mixture of **hydrogen** and **carbon monoxide**, often containing **carbon dioxide and methane**.
- It is derived from carbon-containing feedstocks like biomass, natural gas, heavy oil, and coal.
- It is primarily produced by coal gasification, wherein oxygen and steam react with coal.

- **Uses** – In producing methanol or ammonia, and can also be used as a fuel.
- India have launched the scheme for promotion of Coal/Lignite Gasification Projects that is targeting to gasify 100 million tonnes (MT) of coal by 2030.

13. Consider the following statements with respect to Nuclear Plants in India?

1. Kudankulam Plant is India's largest nuclear power plant, which is built with the assistance of Russia.
2. Kakrapar Atomic Power Project is based on indigenous Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors.

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 : c

Kudankulam Plant

- It is located in **Tamil Nadu**.
- **Developed by** – Nuclear Power Corporation of India (NPCIL)
- It is built with the **technical assistance of Russia**.
- The construction began in 2002 and is expected to start operating at full capacity in 2027.
- It is **India's largest nuclear power plant**.

Kakrapar Atomic Power Project (KAPP-4)

- The 4th unit of the Kakrapar Atomic Power Project (KAPP-4) started controlled fission chain reaction and thus became critical recently.
- It is a nuclear power plant situated in Gujarat.
- It is the 2nd of 16 **indigenous Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors** (PHWR) of 700 MW.
- **Operated by** – NPCIL.



14. Consider the following statements with respect to Global TB Report, 2022

1. It is an annual report published by the World Health Organization (WHO).
2. WHO's Global Tuberculosis strategy aims to end the TB epidemic globally by 2030.
3. Government of India has set the target of eradicating TB by the year 2025.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer : c

WHO Global TB Report, 2022

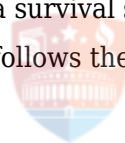
Recently the WHO Global TB Report, 2022 was released which indicates that globally, the estimated number of deaths from TB increased between 2019 and 2021.

- Tuberculosis (TB) is a communicable disease that is a major cause of ill health and one of the leading causes of death worldwide.
- TB is caused by the *bacillus Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, which is spread when people who are sick with TB expel bacteria into the air (e.g. by coughing).
- The World Health Organization (WHO) has published a global TB report every year since 1997.
- It is **annual report** that is done in the context of global TB commitments, strategies and targets.
- **Key findings** – In 2022, 202 countries and territories with more than 99% of the world's population and TB cases reported data.
- India, Indonesia and the Philippines, which collectively accounted for nearly 60% of the reduction in the number of people newly diagnosed with TB in 2020 and 2021.
- **TB remains the world's 2nd leading cause of death from a single infectious agent**, and global TB targets either have been missed or remain off track.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) has a Global Tuberculosis (TB) strategy called End TB, which aims to end the TB epidemic globally by 2030.
- **Government of India has set the target of eradicating TB by the year 2025.**

15. Which of the following statements is **incorrect** with respect to the Diel Vertical Migration (DVM)?

- a. It is a pattern of migration followed by the deep-sea marine animal especially tiny free-floating zooplanktons.
- b. DVM is a synchronized, daily movement of animals driven by the need for food and to avoid predators.
- c. It is more than a survival strategy that plays a pivotal role in carbon sequestration.
- d. This migration follows the directions of local winds prevailed in a region.

Answer : d



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Diel Vertical Migration (DVM)

- It is the **daily, synchronized movement of marine animals** between the surface and deep layers of the open ocean.
- It is also known as **diurnal vertical migration**.
- This type of migration is the largest animal migration on the planet and is undertaken every single day by trillions of animals in every ocean.
- This type of migration is **followed by deep-sea marine animal** especially tiny free-floating zooplanktons.
- It is more than a survival strategy that plays a **pivotal role in carbon sequestration**.
- The timing of this migration is tuned to the natural rhythms of sunrise and sunset.



16. Consider the following statements with respect to Paat-Mitro

1. It is a mobile application that provides information about Minimum Support Price (MSP) and agronomy to jute farmers.
2. It was developed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC) of Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only

- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : a

Paat-Mitro

In the recently held 'Jute Symposium', the ministry of textiles launched 'Paat-Mitro' that provides important information about Minimum Support Price (MSP) and agronomy to jute farmers.

- The mobile application is developed by the **Jute Corporation of India Limited (JCI)**.
- It will also feature information on jute gradation parameters, farmer-centric schemes like 'Jute-ICARE', weather forecasts and procurement policies.
- The app helps farmers to track status of their payments for the raw jute sold to JCI under MSP Operation.
- **Jute Corporation of India Limited (JCI)** - It was incorporated in 1971 as a price support agency with a clear mandate for the procurement of raw jute.
- The procurement is done *without any quantitative limit* from the growers at MSP, which is based on the recommendations of Commission for Agricultural Cost & Prices (CACP).
- It is the *sole implementing agency of the jute I-CARE project*.

17. Consider the following statements with respect to Srimukhalingam Temple

1. It is constructed by the King Kamarnava-II, similar to the Architecture of the Lingaraja temple of Odisha.
2. The temple is located on the banks of River Swarnamukhi.
3. It is one of the World Heritage Sites of India under cultural category.

How many of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

Answer : a

Srimukhalingam Temple

ASI assures to send note to UNESCO over inclusion of Srimukhalingam temple in Andhra Pradesh in world heritage structures' list.

- Sri Mukha Lingam Shiva temple is very old temple where Shiva lingam is appeared as Mukha (Face) Avatar.
- **It was constructed during the 8th century by Kamarnava-II** when the region was under the control of the East Ganga Dynasty.
- **Trinity** - Srimukhalingam temple houses 3 ancient temples at one location - Madhukeswara, Someswara and Bheemeswara Temples.
- The temple is popularly known as Dakshina Kaasi (Varanasi of South India).
- **Architecture** - **Similar to Lingaraja temple located in Bhubaneswar of Odisha.**
- **Location** - The temple is located on the **banks of River Vamsadhara**, which was the capital of Kalinga Ganga Kings for over 600 years.
- There has been a **long-standing request** to add the temple to the UNESCO Heritage List.

UNESCO World Heritage Site

- These are the sites are designated as having outstanding universal value under the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage.
- It was adopted by UNESCO in 1972 and formally took effect in 1975.
- The list of WHS is maintained by the International World Heritage Programme, administered by the UNESCO World Heritage Committee.
- The three types of sites are Cultural, Natural, and Mixed.

18. Consider the following statements:

1. The Panama Canal connects the Atlantic and Pacific Ocean.
2. The Bab-el-Mandeb separates the Sinai Peninsula from East Africa.
3. The Taiwan Strait separates mainland China and the island of Taiwan.

How many of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

Answer : b

Bab-el-Mandeb

- It is a strait that ***separates the Arabian Peninsula from East Africa*** and is just 29-km wide at its narrowest point.
- Throughout 19th and until mid-20th century, Britain protected it through the island of Perim (Mayyūm) in the Strait but in 1990, it came *under the control of Sana'a*, the capital of the united country of Yemen.
- As Houthis captured Sana'a in 2015, they pose a greater threat due to their close proximity to Bab el-Mandeb strait.

Panama Canal

- It is a lock-type canal, owned and administered by the Republic of Panama.
- *Lock-type canal* is a system in which an enclosure or basin located in the course of a canal or a river (or in the vicinity of a dock) with gates at each end, within which the water level may be varied to raise or lower boats.
- ***The Panama Canal connects the Atlantic and Pacific oceans*** through the narrow Isthmus of Panama.
- From its opening in 1914 until 1979, the Panama Canal was controlled solely by the United States, which built it.
- In 1979, however, control of the canal passed to the Panama Canal Commission, a joint agency of the United States and the Republic of Panama, and *complete control passed to Panama in 1999*.

Taiwan Strait

- The Taiwan Strait is *also known as the Formosa Strait* that ***separates mainland China and the island of Taiwan***.
- The strait is part of the South China Sea and connects to the East China Sea to the north.



19. Global Drought Snapshot Report, 2023 is published by?

- a. UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)
- b. International Drought Resilience Alliance (IDRA)
- c. UN Environment Programme (UNEP)
- d. Jointly by a and b

Answer : d

Global Drought Snapshot Report

- Recently the Global Drought Snapshot Report was launched at the COP 28 by the **United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)** in collaboration with the **International Drought Resilience Alliance (IDRA)**.
- The Global Drought Snapshot Report highlights the need for urgent action to address the increasing frequency and severity of droughts.
- Some of the human activities that can trigger droughts include over farming, Excessive irrigation, Deforestation and Erosion.
- Some climate patterns that can cause droughts include El Nino and La Nina.
- **Key highlights of the report - The drought emergency was declared in 23 countries including India.**
- **The Europe had the highest number of countries (8) in drought emergencies** that include Spain, Italy, United Kingdom Greece, Portugal, Romania and Serbia.
- Humans are responsible for all global heating over the past 200 years leading to a current temperature rise of 1.1°C above pre-industrial levels.
- The Horn of Africa faced its worst drought in 40 years, with Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia particularly hard hit.

20. Consider the following statements with respect to Tax Inspectors without Borders (TIWB) Initiative

1. It aims to transfer technical know-how and skills to tax auditors of developing countries and share general audit practices to them.
2. It is a joint initiative of United Nations Development Programme and Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.

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

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

Answer : c

Tax Inspectors without Borders (TIWB) Initiative

- It aims to transfer technical know-how and skills to developing countries' tax auditors and share general audit practices.
- It is a joint initiative of **United Nations Development Programme and Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development**.
- The host administrations of developing countries are the lead partners in TIWB programmes, clearly specifying their needs and scope of work.
- The 7th TIWB programme is held at Saint Lucia, an island country of the West Indies with India being chosen as the Partner Administration and will provide Tax Experts for this

programme.

- The focus of the programme will be on effective use of automatic exchange of information under the Common Reporting Standard (CRS) framework.
- The partnership by the member countries is voluntary in nature.



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