



Daily Current Affairs Prelims Quiz 28-10-2024 & 27-10-2024 (Online Prelims Test)

1) Consider the following statements with respect to the Coral Triangle

1. It is crucial for global coral reef conservation, hosting over 76% of the world's coral species and 37% of reef fish species.
2. It is a vital marine region spanning six countries that include Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste.
3. India is one of the founding members of the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI).

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

Coral Triangle




A report recently released at the 16th Conference of Parties (COP16) to the Convention on Biological Diversity highlights the fossil fuel threats and impacts on biodiversity and communities at Coral Triangle.

- The Coral Triangle is often referred to as the 'Amazon of the seas', is a huge marine area spanning over 10 million square kilometres.
- It is a vital marine region spanning **6 countries** that include:
 1. Indonesia
 2. Malaysia
 3. the Philippines
 4. Papua New Guinea
 5. Solomon Islands
 6. Timor-Leste
- **Significance** - This region is home to 76% of the world's coral species and supports more than 120 million people who rely on its resources for their livelihoods.
- The Coral Triangle is the **most diverse and biologically complex marine ecosystem on the planet.**
- **Issues** - More than 100 offshore oil and gas blocks are currently in operation in the Coral Triangle, covering over 120,000 square kilometres, which is about 1% of the Triangle.
- There is growing liquefied natural gas (LNG) infrastructure in Southeast Asia.
- Fossil fuel expansion threatens the region's biodiversity in several ways that include:
 - Noise pollution from shipping and exploration activities harms marine life, especially species like whales and dolphins that rely on sound for communication, navigation, and finding food.
 - The impact of oil spills and fossil fuel infrastructure goes beyond environmental damage by

possessing serious threats to local communities.

- Countries that rely on fossil fuels often end up in long-term debt, as many have seen rising government debt due to borrowing money for resource exploitation.

International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI)

- The International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) is a global partnership between Nations and organizations which strives to preserve coral reefs and related ecosystems around the world.
- It is an **informal group** whose **decisions are not binding** on its members.
- **Members** – ICRI Members include a mix of governments, non-governmental organisations and international organisations.
- The Initiative was **founded in 1994** by **8 governments**.
- Founding Members include:
 1. Australia
 2. France
 3. Japan
 4. Jamaica
 5. the Philippines
 6. Sweden
 7. The United Kingdom
 8. The United States of America
- At present, ICRI has over 102 members, including 45 countries custodians of 75% of the world's coral reefs.
- India is *one of the members of the ICRI* but **not a founding member of it**. (Statement 3 is incorrect) 

2) Consider the following statements with respect to National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS)

1. It aims to establish, endow, maintain, control and manage the Eklavya Model Residential Schools for the betterment of Tribal Students.
2. It is an autonomous organization has been set up under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

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 : c

National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS)

National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS) recently successfully organized a workshop on “Building Quality Infrastructure for Tribal Education” Akashvani Bhawan, New Delhi.

- National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS) aims to establish, endow, maintain, control and manage the Eklavya Model Residential Schools for the betterment of Tribal Students.
- It also manages the Eklavya Model Day Boarding Schools (EMDBS) and Centre of Excellence for Sports for the betterment of Tribal Students.
- NESTS is an **autonomous organization has been set up under the Ministry of Tribal**

Affairs.

Objectives of NESTS include:

- To provide quality modern education including a strong component of inculcation of values, awareness of the environment, adventure activities.
- To provide quality modern physical education to the talented tribal children predominantly from the rural areas without regard to their family's socio-economic condition.
- To provide facilities, at a suitable stage, for instruction through a common medium all over the country.
- Offer a common core-curriculum of ensuring comparability in standards and to facilitate and understanding of the common and composite heritage of tribal people.
- To progressively bring students from one part of the country to another in each school to promote national integration and enrich the social content.
- To serve as a focal point for improvement in quality of school education through training of teachers in live situations and sharing of experience and facilities.
- To provide opportunities to students for extra-curricular activities moving towards Centre of Excellence in sports etc.
- To facilitate students developing pride in national culture, preserving and cherishing tribal heritage, tribal culture, music, dance and other arts.
- To help students acquire skills particularly those oriented to employment including self-employment.
- To strive to achieve best academic standards, excellence in sports and extra-curricular activities.

3) Consider the following statements with respect to Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC)

1. The AMOC is a system of ocean currents that circulates water within the Atlantic Ocean.
2. The circulation process begin as warm water near the surface moves towards the poles, where it cools and forms sea ice.
3. The collapse of the AMOC could be responsible for moving heat around the planet.

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

Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC)

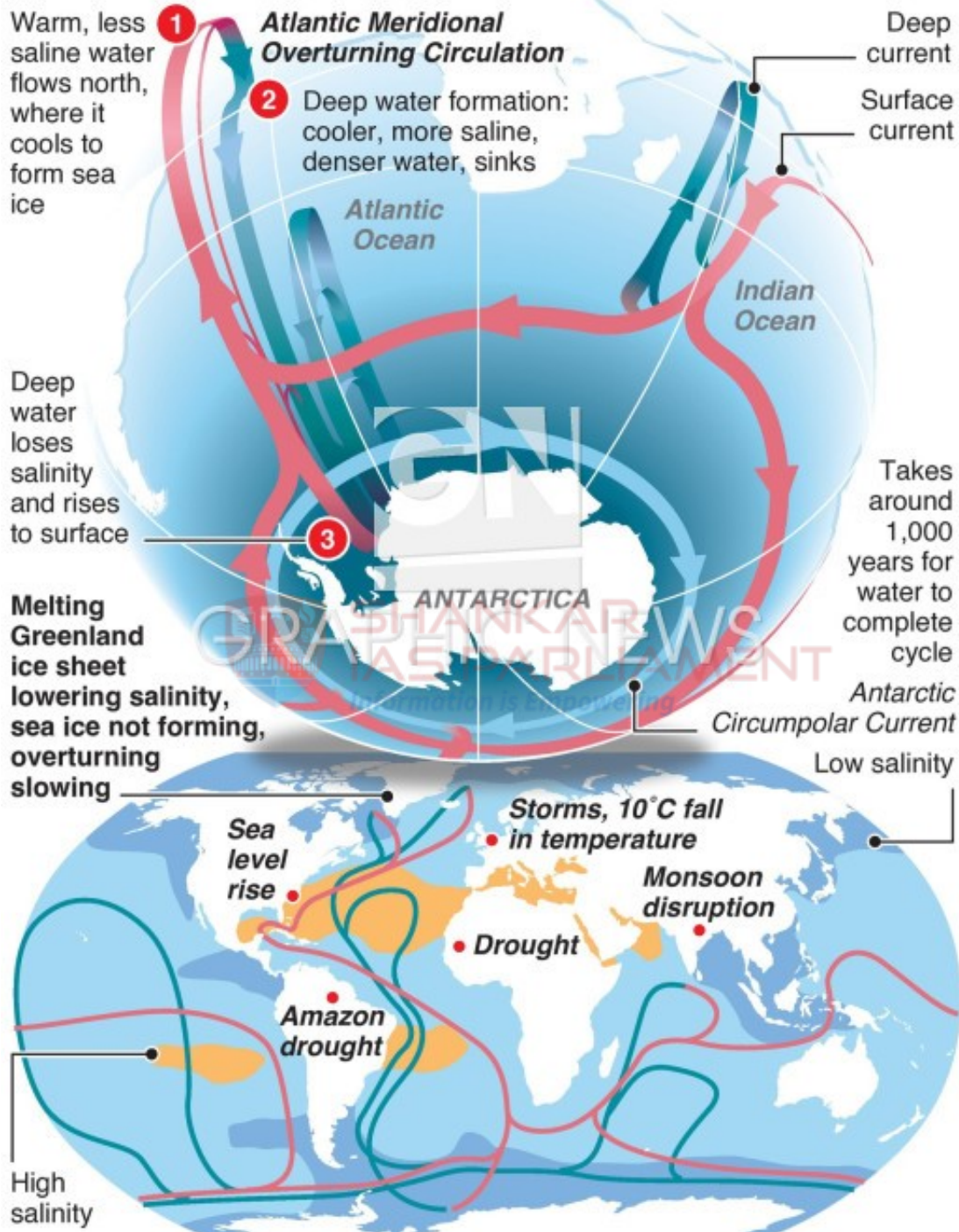
- The ocean's water is constantly circulated by currents.
- Tidal currents occur close to shore and are influenced by the sun and moon.
- Surface currents are influenced by the wind.
- **Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC)** - Is a system of ocean currents that circulates water within the Atlantic Ocean, bringing warm water north and cold water south.
- The circulation process begin as warm water near the surface moves towards the poles (such as the Gulf Stream in the North Atlantic), where it cools and forms sea ice.
- As this sea ice forms, salt is left behind in the ocean water.
- Due to the large amount of salt in the water, it becomes denser, sinks down and is carried southwards in the depths below.
- Eventually this water gets pulled back up towards the surface and warms up in a process called **upwelling**, completing the cycle.
- The collapse of the AMOC could be responsible for moving heat around the planet.
- A collapse of the ocean-current system *would increase cooling of the Northern Hemisphere, raise Atlantic sea levels, drop precipitation over Europe and North America and shift*

monsoons in South America and Africa.

Vital ocean current on verge of collapse

By 2050, melting ice sheets could weaken or even halt an essential Atlantic Ocean current that transports heat, salt and nutrients around the globe, according to a new study, with catastrophic consequences

THERMOHALINE CIRCULATION



Sources: New Scientist, NOAA

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4) *Hypsibius henanensis*, sometimes seen in the news recently is associated with?

- A short-lived weed renowned for its nutritional value.
- Fossilized tree resin that is valued for its natural beauty.
- A species of tardigrades that can withstand high levels of radiation.
- Nearest nebula to the Milky Way galaxy.

Answer : c

Hypsibius Henanensis

- Hypsibius henanensis a newly discovered species of tardigrades that can withstand high levels of radiation.
- **Tardigrades** - Are *near-microscopic animals* that can survive freezing temperatures, crushing pressures and even the vacuum of space.
- **Tardigrades**, often called water bears or moss piglets, are tiny aquatic animals.
- **Habitat** - They live in water, from oceans to drops of water on plants.
- They can live high in the mountains and deep in the ocean.
- **Diet** - Tardigrades mostly eat plants and algae.
- Some species eat other, smaller creatures, like microscopic worms and tiny, wheel-shaped animals called rotifers.
- **Features** - They curl up into dried-up balls that can survive boiling water, freezing cold and outer space.
- This is called a tun state.
- They may survive up to a century in their tun state.
- Outside their tun state, they live between 3 months and 2.5 years.

