



IAS PARLIAMENT

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A Shankar IAS Academy Initiative

Daily Current Affairs Prelims Quiz 23-01-2026 (Online Prelims Test)

1) Consider the following statements

1. Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas is organized by the Ministry of External Affairs every year to recognise and honour the contribution of the Indian diaspora to India's development.
2. It is observed on 9 January, marking the return of Mahatma Gandhi from South Africa to India in 1915.

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

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

Answer : b

Explanation



- **Statement 1 is incorrect** - *Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas* is organized by the Ministry of External Affairs and initially held annually but since 2015, organised once every 2 years.
- **Statement 2 is correct** - It aims to recognise and honour the contribution of the Indian diaspora to India's development and to strengthen their engagement with the motherland.
- It is celebrated in commemoration to the return of Mahatma Gandhi from South Africa to India in Jan 09, 1915.

To know more, click [here](#)

2) Consider the following statements about **Kathputli Puppetry**

1. It is a type of string puppet carved from wood and dressed in bright, colourful costumes.
2. The origins of puppetry date back to the Indus Valley Civilisation around 2500 B.C.

Select the correct statements using the codes below:

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

Answer : c

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct** - The name Kathputli comes from kath (wood) and putli (doll). It is one of Rajasthan's oldest folk-art forms.

- It is a type of **string puppet** carved from wood and dressed in bright, colourful costumes and is manufactured in Kathputli Nagar in Jaipur's 'Pink City'.
- **Statement 2 is correct** - The origins of puppetry date back to the Indus Valley Civilisation around 2500 B.C., where archaeologists discovered a terracotta doll with a detachable head.
- The earliest evidence of puppets has also been traced to Egypt, dating to around 2000 B.C.

To know more, click [here](#)

3) With reference to Smooth-coated Otter, consider the following statements

1. It is a sleek, medium-sized otter abundantly found near the salt waters.
2. India is home to all types of otters out of the 13 species of otters found worldwide.

Select the correct statements using the codes below:

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : d

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is incorrect** - It is a sleek, medium-sized otter with short limbs, webbed paws, and a flattened tail.
- It is found in freshwater-rich areas such as rivers, wetlands, lakes, swamps, and rice paddies.
 - Prefer shallow and placid waters.
 - Though found near coastal saltwater, they require nearby freshwater sources.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect** - India is home to 3 types of otters out of the 13 species of otters found worldwide i.e,
 - Eurasian Otter (*Lutra lutra*);
 - Smooth-coated Otter (*Lutra perspicillata*)
 - Small-clawed otter (*Aonyx cinereus*).

To know more, click [here](#)

4) Consider the following statements

1. International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) is an intergovernmental organization, consists of 170 countries and European Union as its members.
2. Its headquarters located at Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE).
3. India is among its founding members.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

Answer : c

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct** – IRENA is an intergovernmental organization, founded in 2009, supports countries in their transition to a sustainable energy future.
- Presently, IRENA has 171 Members (170 Countries and the European Union).
- **Statements 2 and 3 are correct** – Its headquarters located at Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- India is among its founding members.

To know more, click [here](#)

5) The term **Bagurumba Dwhou** recently seen in news is?

- Archaeological site
- Traditional dance
- Puppet making method
- Animal capturing technique used by tribes

Answer : b

Explanation

- **Option b is the correct answer** - **Bagurumba Dohou** refers to a historic, mass-scale cultural performance of the traditional Bagurumba dance of the Bodo community in Assam.
- It is often called as the “**butterfly dance**”, for its graceful and flowing movements inspired by butterflies, birds, leaves and flowers.
- The Bodo women perform the dance wearing colorful handwoven Dokhna, Jwmgra (Fasra), and Aronai.
- Performances are usually in groups, arranged in circles or lines.

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