

## Daily Current Affairs Prelims Quiz 24-01-2026 (Online Prelims Test)

1) Consider the following

1. Pax Silica Initiative is led by United States.
2. It is a multilateral arrangement for cooperation on semiconductors, critical minerals, and AI.
3. India is a non-signatory participant to this initiative.

Select the correct statements using the codes below:

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

Answer : b

### Explanation

**SHANKAR IAS PARLIAMENT**

- **Statements 1 and 2 are correct** - **Pax Silica Initiative** is, led by United States, a multilateral arrangement for cooperation on semiconductors, critical minerals, and AI.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect** - Australia, Greece, Israel, Japan, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Singapore, United Arab Emirates and United Kingdom are **signatories**.
- Where Canada, European Union, Netherlands, Organization for Economic Cooperation & Development and Taiwan are **non-signatory participants**.
- **India is set to be invited to the "Pax Silica" initiative.**

2) **Index of Industrial Production** released by which one of the following?

- a. National Statistics Office
- b. Ministry of Finance
- c. S&P Global
- d. Ministry of commerce

Answer : a

### Explanation

- **Option a is correct** - The **Index of Industrial Production (IIP)** in India is compiled and released monthly by the **National Statistics Office (NSO)**.
- NSO under the **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)**, provides key data on industrial growth for sectors like Mining, Manufacturing, and Electricity.

3) Consider the following statements

1. All India Presiding Officers' Conference (AIPOC) is the apex body of legislatures in India.
2. Participants of the conference includes presiding Officers from 28 States, 3 Union Territories,

excluding the presiding officers of Legislative Councils.

Select the correct statements using codes given below:

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

Answer : a

### Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct** - All India Presiding Officers' Conference (AIPOC) is the apex body of legislatures in India.
- It serves as a platform for Speakers and Presiding Officers of the Parliament and State Legislative bodies to share best practices,
  - discuss legislative procedures, and address contemporary challenges facing democratic institutions.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect** - Participants includes presiding Officers from 28 States, 3 Union Territories, and also Legislative Councils.

To know more, click [here](#)

4) Who among the following is called as "Banhi Kanya", "Mother Teresa of Western Orissa"?

- a. Parbati Giri
- b. Anasuya Behn
- c. Aruna Asaf Ali
- d. Usha Mehta



Answer : a

### Explanation

- Recently, the Prime Minister paid homage to Parbati Giri (1926-1995) on her birth centenary.
- She was inspired by Mahatma Gandhi and Rama Devi of Bari Ashram. In 1940, organized meetings and mobilized villagers for Gandhiji's *Khadi Andolan*.
- **Parbati Giri** is known as **Mother Teresa of Western Orissa** for her service to the destitute.
- She was also called as **Banhi Kanya** for her resilience and nationalist zeal.

To know more, click [here](#)

5) Consider the following statements

1. Salt water crocodiles are native to India.
2. They are considered as the largest of all crocodilians, and the largest living reptiles in the world.
3. Its IUCN status is least concern.

Select the correct statements using the codes below:

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

Answer : c

### Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct** - **Saltwater crocodiles** (*Crocodylus porosus*) are native to India, with significant populations inhabiting the eastern coast.
- They are primarily found in the Bhitarkanika National Park in Odisha and the Sundarbans in West Bengal.
- It is also found in mangrove forests and coastal areas of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- **Statements 2 and 3 are correct** - Saltwater (Estuarine) Crocodile is the largest of all crocodilians, and the largest reptile in the world. Its IUCN status is least concern.
- Recently, Odisha's saltwater crocodile population increased as per the 2026 annual census conducted in and around Bhitarkanika National Park.

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