



Daily Current Affairs Prelims Quiz - 23-01-2020 - (Online Prelims Test)

1) Consider the following statements with respect to *INTERPOL notices*

1. Yellow Notice is issued to help locate missing persons, often minors, or to help identify persons who are unable to identify themselves.
2. Orange Notice is issued to seek the location and arrest of wanted persons wanted for prosecution or to serve a sentence.

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 : a

- Recently **INTERPOL** issued a **Blue Corner notice** to help locate fugitive self-styled godman Nithyananda, weeks after the Gujarat Police sought the agency's intervention for this.
- INTERPOL Notices are international requests for cooperation or alerts allowing police in member countries to share critical crime-related information.
- Notices are published by the General Secretariat at the request of a National Central Bureau and are made available to all our member countries.
- Notices can also be used by the United Nations, International Criminal Tribunals and the International Criminal Court to seek persons wanted for committing crimes within their jurisdiction, notably genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity.
- Orange Notice - To warn of an event, a person, an object or a process representing a serious and imminent threat to public safety.

2) Consider the following statements

1. Congress passed the Poorna Swaraj resolution in its 1929 Lahore Session.
2. Motilal Nehru was the president of that Congress session.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are **not** correct?

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

Answer : b

- 26 January 1950 was the day India's Constitution came into effect, and the country became a republic.
- The day 26 January was chosen for a particular reason, as it marked a key event in the struggle for India's freedom.
- In **1929, Lahore** hosted the Indian National **Congress session**, in which **Jawaharlal Nehru was president**.

- On **December 31, 1929, Nehru hoisted the tricolour** on the banks of the Ravi river and **demanding "Poorna Swaraj"** or complete self-rule, and the date set for independence was January 26, 1930.
- The day was then celebrated as Poorna Swaraj day for the next 17 years.
- On **January 26, 1930, the Congress passed the Poorna Swaraj resolution** or the Declaration of Independence.
- The Poorna Swaraj day, January 26 has since been celebrated as the country's Republic Day.

3) Consider the following statements with respect to *Vyommitra*

1. It is a half-humanoid robot developed by ISRO which will travel to space as part of its manned space mission.
2. It has been configured to attain launch and orbital postures, generate warnings for CO2 and canister replacements.

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 : b

- **ISRO** has presented a prototype of the **half-humanoid, named Vyommitra**, that will be sent into space.
- It is a **part of the 'Unmanned' mission** in December 2020.
- **Before India actually sends humans** to venture out into space **in 2022**, the **ISRO is sending a half-humanoid robot** by the **end of 2020**.
- The **human team will consist of 3 men**. Although there is no female onboard the Gaganyaan when it finally takes off in 2022, the **humanoid robot is a woman**.
- **Vyommitra** has been configured to attain launch and orbital postures, respond to the environment in the crew module, generate warnings for CO2 and canister replacements.
- She can also operate switches, can receive voice commands and can respond via speech.
- The **humanoid can speak in two languages** and can lip-sync to speech.

4) Consider the following statements with respect to *Yarrabubba*

1. It is the Earth's oldest known impact structure.
2. Earth's surface is geologically active and constantly changing making it difficult to determine the impact craters.

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

- Evidence that the 70km wide **Yarrabubba crater** in outback **Western Australia** may be the **Earth's oldest known meteorite impact** structure has been presented in the journal Nature Communications.
- **Dated at 2.229 billion years**, 200 million years older than the next known asteroid strike at Vredefort Dome in South Africa.
- **Unlike the moon, Earth's surface is geologically active and constantly changing**.
- This makes it difficult to determine the oldest impact craters because erosion and active

tectonic plates bury the evidence.

- To determine that Australia's Yarrabubba crater is the oldest, researchers conducted an isotopic analysis of minerals within the crater. Zircon and monazite, both minerals found at the site, had undergone "shock" recrystallization caused by an asteroid strike.

5) Consider the following statements with respect to *NIRVIK scheme*

1. It is a Export Credit Insurance Scheme (ECIS) introduced by Ministry of Finance.
2. It is to enhance loan availability and ease the lending process.

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 : b

- Union Cabinet to consider **Nirvik (Niryat Rin Vikas Yojana) scheme** to give fillip to export credit.
- **Ministry of Commerce & Industry** through **Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (ECGC)** has introduced a new **Export Credit Insurance Scheme (ECIS)** called **NIRVIK**.
- It is **to enhance loan availability** and ease the lending process.
- Under ECIS, insurance cover percentage has also been enhanced to 90% from the present average of 60% for both Principal and Interest.

6) With respect to *SERVICE Scheme* which was launched recently, consider the following statements:

1. It will promote and facilitate philanthropist activities by the Central Government employees across India in a structured manner.
2. It was launched by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

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 : d

- **Minister of Steel** has recently launched a scheme by **SAIL** for **Voluntary Philanthropist Activities (VPA)** by its employees.
- The scheme called "**SAIL Employee Rendering Voluntarism and Initiatives for Community Engagement (SERVICE)**" will promote and facilitate philanthropist activities by the employees in a structured manner.
- A portal for the employees to register for the scheme was also launched.
- "The dedicated interactive "**SAIL SERVICE**" portal for implementation of this scheme shall act as a platform for enabling faster interaction and communication amongst the various stakeholders.
- It shall eventually be developed as a repository of knowledge management in this regard.

7) India drops 10 ranks in *Democracy Index* which was released recently. It was prepared by?

- a. UN Democracy Fund
- b. International Democracy Watch
- c. The Economist Intelligence Unit
- d. International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance

Answer : c

- India dropped 10 places in the Democracy Index's global ranking to 51st place, with the survey describing the erosion of civil liberties in the country as the primary cause of the democratic regression.
- The Democracy Index - prepared by **Economist Intelligence Unit**, the research and analysis division of The Economist Group - provides a snapshot of the state of democracy worldwide in 165 independent states and two territories.
- It is based on **electoral process** and **pluralism, functioning of government, political participation, political culture** and **civil liberties**.
- India's overall score, on a scale of 0-10, fell from 7.23 in 2018 to 6.90 in 2019, with the survey listing India among countries where there were "regressions".
- In the Asia and Australia region, India ranked eighth, behind countries such as Timor-Leste, Malaysia and Taiwan.
- By contrast, Norway topped the index, with a score of 9.87, while North Korea was at the bottom of the global rankings, with a score of 1.08.
- China's score fell to 2.26, and it is now ranked 153rd, close to the bottom of the rankings.

8) The Government of Kerala is planning to implement the following initiatives. Consider the following pairs with respect to those initiatives:

Initiatives - Inspired from

1. Sponge City Initiative - Russia
2. Room for River Programme - Netherlands

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

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



Answer : b

- The floods in the past two years had devastating effects on the state of Kerala.
- Learning from the disasters, the irrigation department is planning major initiatives to reduce the intensity and frequency of floods.
- One of the major initiatives planned is '**Sponge City**', which was effectively implemented in **China**.
- The department is planning to implement a similar sponge city initiative in Kochi on a pilot basis, and later in other urban areas.
- In sponge city, urban areas with more spaces for wetlands, ponds and permeable spaces, can passively absorb rainwater and thus reduce the severity of floods.
- In addition to China's sponge city, the department is also planning to implement '**Room For River**' programme inspired from the **Netherlands** in Kuttanad.

9) With respect to *Sub-categorization within Other Backward Classes Committee*, consider the following statements:

1. It's one of the objective is to study the various entries in the Central List of OBCs and recommend correction of any repetitions, ambiguities, inconsistencies and errors of spelling or transcription.
2. The Commission was constituted under Article 371 of the Indian Constitution.
3. The Commission was headed by Justice (Retd.) Rohini.

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

- a. 3 only
- b. 1 and 3 only
- c. 1, 2 and 3

d. None

Answer : b

- The Government has constituted a Commission on 2nd October, 2017 under **article 340 of the Constitution** to examine the issues of the sub-categorization of Other Backward Classes with the following terms of reference:

1. To examine the extent of inequitable distribution of benefits of reservation among the castes or communities included in the broad category of Other Backward Classes with reference to such classes included in the Central List;
2. To work out the mechanism, criteria, norms and parameters in a scientific approach for sub-categorisation within such Other Backward Classes; and
3. To take up the exercise of identifying the respective castes or communities or sub-castes or synonyms in the Central List of Other Backward Classes and classifying them into their respective sub-categories.

- The Union Cabinet has recently approved the extension of the term of the Commission by six months that is up to 31.7.2020.
- The Cabinet has also approved addition of following Term of Reference to the existing Terms of Reference of the Commission.
- i.e 4. **To study the various Entries in the "Central List of OBCs and recommend correction of any repetitions, ambiguities, inconsistencies and errors of spelling or transcription."**
- The Commission was headed by **Justice (Retd.) Smt. G. Rohini**.

10) Consider the following statements with respect to *Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar*

1. It was instituted by the Ministry of Women and Child Development.
2. It aims to felicitate meritorious children, individuals and institutions of the country.
3. It is given under three categories namely Bal Shakti Puraskar, Bal Kalyan Puraskar and Bal Nirmal Puraskar.

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

- a. 1 only
- b. 1 and 2 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

Answer : b

- Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar instituted by **Women and Child Development Ministry** to felicitate meritorious **children, individuals and institutions** of the country is given under **two categories** i.e., Bal Shakti Puraskar and Bal Kalyan Puraskar.
- The **Bal Shakti Puraskar** aims to give **recognition to children** who have made extraordinary achievements in various fields including innovation, scholastic, sports, art and culture, social service and bravery, whereas the **Bal Kalyan Puraskar** is given as **recognition to individuals and institutions**, who have made an outstanding contribution towards service for children in the field of child development, child protection and child welfare.
- These awards are given by the President of India on the week preceding Republic Day every year.