



Daily Current Affairs Prelims Quiz - 10-02-2020 - (Online Prelims Test)

1) *SPICe+* often seen in the news recently is associated with which of the following?

- Ease of doing Business
- Doubling Farmers Income
- Incredible India Campaign 2.0
- Know your Fertilizer limit Campaign

Answer : a

- Continuing efforts to further improve the ***Ease of Doing Business***, the government will introduce an integrated electronic form for incorporating new companies from February 15, 2020 wherein EPFO and ESIC registration numbers will also be allotted at the same time.
- The Corporate Affairs Ministry would introduce the form — ***SPICe+*** — to offer 10 services.
- Currently, the Ministry has the electronic form ***SPICe (Simplified Proforma for Incorporating Company Electronically)*** and that would be replaced with ***SPICe+***.
- The 10 services offered through the new form would help in “saving as many procedures, time and cost for starting a business in India,” the Ministry said in a public notice.
- The incorporation of companies are made through the Corporate Affairs Ministry portal MCA21. The new form would be available on this portal.

2) Consider the following statements with respect to *Biological Safety Levels (BSL)*

- They are a series of protections designed to protect laboratory personnel, as well as the surrounding environment and community.
- BSL is ranked from one to four and BSL-1 refers to the lowest biosafety lab level whereas BSL-4 refers to the highest and most stringent lab level.

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

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

Answer : c

- The Indian government has sharply censured the U.S. government’s Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for funding an “unapproved” Indian laboratory in Manipal, and not securing the necessary permissions for undertaking training in India for work on Nipah virus, considered a potential bio-weapon.
- A Union Health Ministry communication to CDC said the work was undertaken despite knowing that high risk pathogens can be tested only in ***BSL4 lab***.
- As the highest level of biological safety, a BSL4 lab consists of work with highly dangerous and exotic microbes.
- Infections caused by these microbes, including Ebola and Marburg viruses, are frequently fatal.

Biological Safety Levels (BSL):

- **Biological Safety Levels (BSL)** is a series of protections relegated to autoclave-related activities that take place in particular biological labs.
- They are **individual safeguards designed to protect laboratory personnel**, as well as the **surrounding environment** and **community**.
- These levels, which are ranked from **one to four**, are selected based on the agents or organisms that are being researched or worked on in any given laboratory setting.
- For example, a basic lab setting specializing in the research of nonlethal agents that pose a minimal potential threat to lab workers and the environment are generally considered **BSL-1**—the **lowest biosafety lab level**.
- A specialized research laboratory that deals with **potentially deadly infectious agents** like Ebola would be designated as **BSL-4**—the **highest and most stringent level**.

3) Which of the following countries are members of *European Union*?

1. Italy
2. Cyprus
3. Czechia
4. United Kingdom

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a. All except 2
- b. All except 4
- c. All except 2 and 4
- d. All of the above

Answer : b

- **United Kingdom (UK)**, which had been a founding member of the European Union EU **formally gave up its membership** recently.
- With this, the EU has now 27 member countries.

4) “Addu Atoll” often seen in the news is located in?

- a. Maldives
- b. Australia
- c. Indonesia
- d. Seychelles

Answer : a

- **India and Maldives** has recently signed five MoUs for establishing the Addu Tourism zone in five islands of **Addu atoll** located in Maldives at a cost of 2.49 million dollars.
- A 6th MoU to set up a bottled water plant in Hoarafushi was also signed.
- All six projects are grant projects falling under India’s High Impact Community Development Scheme (HICDP).
- These projects are driven by the needs of communities on the islands.



5) Consider the following statements with respect to *Uniform Code of Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (UCPMP)*

1. It is a code which bars pharmaceutical companies and their sales representatives from giving gifts and free trips to doctors.
2. The code is mandatory and binding on all pharmaceutical companies.
3. The code was issued by the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.

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

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

Answer : b

- The Union government has recently asked drug makers and their associations to adhere to current guidelines for marketing drugs i.e. **Uniform Code of Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (UCPMP)**.
- **UCPMP** is a **voluntary code issued by the Department Of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers** relating to marketing practices for Indian Pharmaceutical Companies and as well medical devices industry.
- Under the code, pharmaceutical companies and their sales representatives are barred from giving gifts and free trips to doctors.
- Even if a doctor goes for a conference, they will have to do so at their own cost, as per the code.
- But the recent order by Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP) was criticized as rather than taking steps towards instituting statutory regulation of unethical marketing and promotion, the DoP is still requesting companies to abide by a toothless, unenforceable UCPMP.

6) Consider the following statements *Fermentation process*

1. Fermentation is a chemical process by which molecules such as glucose are broken down aerobically.
2. It is used to produce cheese, chocolate, wine and yogurt.

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

- Recently, a research has shown that the the chemical processes of **Fermentation can be used to create spontaneous tunes**.
- The researcher built an art exhibits called **Fermentophone** to showcase how Fermentation can make music.
- **Fermentation** chemical process by which molecules such as glucose are broken down **anaerobically**.
- It is used to produce cheese, chocolate, wine, beer and yogurt.
- The chemical breakdown of a substance is by microorganisms such as bacteria or yeasts.

7) Consider the following statements with respect to *Police system in India*

1. Police in India are generally subjected to dual control.
2. The Commissioner of Police (CP) is drawn from the Deputy Inspector General rank or above.

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



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Answer : c

- The Uttar Pradesh government recently introduced the **Police Commissioner system in Lucknow and Noida**.
- **Police in India** are generally **subject to dual control** although their **administration under The Police Act, 1861** is vested in the police hierarchy, the **District Magistrate exercises general control** within his jurisdiction.
- The **Commissionerate system** is a **Unified command** structure with the **Commissioner of Police as the sole head** of the force within the city.
- It allows for quicker responses to law and order situations.
- The **office also has magisterial powers**, including those related to regulation, control, and licensing.
- The **CP is drawn from the Deputy Inspector General rank or above**, and is assisted by Special/Joint/Additional/Deputy Commissioners.
- Almost all states barring Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, UT of J&K, and some Northeastern states have a commissionerate system.

8) Consider the following statements with respect to *Genome India Project*

1. Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) will serve as the nodal point of this project.
2. A Genome is defined as an organism's complete set of RNA including all of its genes.

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

- Recently, the Government has given clearance to an ambitious Gene-mapping project called **Genome India Project**.
- The Project will involve 20 leading institutions including the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) in Bengaluru and a few IITs.
- The **IISc's Centre for Brain Research**, an autonomous institute, **will serve as the nodal point of the project**.
- Its aim is to ultimately build a grid of the Indian "reference genome", to understand fully the type and nature of diseases and traits that comprise the diverse Indian population.
- Studying and understanding both diversities would provide the bedrock of personalised healthcare for a very large group of persons on the planet.
- The first stage of the project will look at samples of "10,000 persons from all over the country" to form a "grid" that will enable the development of a "reference genome".

9) Consider the following

1. Marwari
2. Kathiawari
3. Zanskari
4. Manipuri
5. Spiti

Which of these belongs to the *indigenous horse breed of India*?

- a. 1, 2 and 4 only
- b. 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
- c. 1, 2, 4 and 5 only
- d. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5



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Answer : d

- Recently, as a measure of conservation of **Manipuri pony**, **one of India's 5 indigenous horse breeds**, the **Manipur state hosts an international polo tournament**.
- India has **5 indigenous horse breeds**: Marwari, Kathiawari, Zanskari, Manipuri and Spiti.
- Of them, the **Marwari** and **Kathiawari** are the **most well-known**, their "lyre" ears which bend inwards and can be rotated 180 degrees being the only sort in horse breeds around the world.
- The **Manipuri horse is the quintessential polo horse** and is easily manoeuvrable, while the **Zanskari** and **Spiti** breeds **are strong ponies** adept at work in mountainous terrain.
- The **Manipuri horse** is considered as the **descendants of the Asian wild horse**.
- These horses once enjoyed special status in Manipuri society, and were used only for sport and rituals.
- A **Pony sanctuary** is also being **set up** at Heingang **to preserve the breed**.

10) Consider the following statements with respect to *Loktak Lake*

1. It is the largest freshwater lake in India and unique for its phumdi ecosystem.
2. Keibul Lamjao National Park is an integral part of Loktak Lake.
3. The park is the home to endangered Sangai deer.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer : b

- The National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited (NHPC)'s **105 MW multipurpose hydroelectric project** had drastically **affected the scenic beauty of the Loktak Lake** in Manipur.
- Many people lost their precious agricultural lands and homes after the lake was flooded following the implementation of the project.
- The project was more of a nightmare for the people that had inhabited near the Loktak Lake.
- The fishing community of Karang claimed to have spotted a new kind of unknown aquatic insects around the island in the recent past besides experiencing rise of mosquito population.
- **Loktak Lake** is the **largest freshwater lake** in **Northeast India** and is **famous for the phumdis** floating over it.
- **Phumdis** are the **heterogeneous mass of vegetation**, soil and organic matter at various stages of decomposition.
- **Keibul Lamjao National Park** is the **only floating national park** in the world and **is an integral part of Loktak Lake**.
- It is the last natural refuge of **endangered Sangai deer**.
- The **Sangai deer** is a **Schedule-1 of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972** and **Endangered** on **IUCN Red List**.



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