



Daily Current Affairs Prelims Quiz - 21-03-2020 - (Online Prelims Test)

1) Consider the following statements with respect to **Tech for Tribals program**

1. It aims at capacity building and imparting entrepreneurship skills to tribal forest produce gatherers enrolled under the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM).
2. It is an initiative of Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

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

- **Tech for Tribals**, an initiative of **TRIFED** supported by **Ministry of MSME**, aims at capacity building and imparting entrepreneurship skills to tribal forest produce gatherers enrolled under the **Pradhan Mantri VanDhan Yojana (PMVDY)**.
- The trainees will undergo a 30 days program over six weeks comprising 120 sessions.
- This unique project aimed to transform 5 crore Tribal Entrepreneurs.
- It was launched by TRIFED and IIT-Kanpur along with IIT-Roorkee, IIM Indore, Kalinga Institute of Social Science, Bhubaneswar and SRIJAN, Jaipur in the first phase of organizing tribal entrepreneurship and skill development program.
- TRIFED under Ministry of Tribal Affairs is establishing 1,200 "Van Dhan Vikas Kendra (VDVK)", across 28 States engaging 3.6 Lakhs Tribal Forest Produce gatherers.
- One typical VDKV comprises of 15 Self Help Groups, each consisting of 20 Tribal gatherers.

2) Consider the following statements with respect to **Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana**

1. It aims for providing social security benefits like life, accidental & disability insurance coverage to manual scavengers across the country.
2. The scheme was implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

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

- The **Ministry of Textiles** is implementing converged **Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana (MGBBY)** for providing social security benefits like life, accidental & disability insurance coverage to **handloom weavers/workers** in the age group of 51-59 years across the country, who have already enrolled under the scheme on 31.5.2017.
- To provide the benefits to all handloom weavers/workers in an effective manner, the Government of India has organized **Hasthkala Sahyog Shivirs** in handloom clusters across

the country in association with State Governments and LIC for creating awareness among the weavers for enrollment under the Scheme.

- The claim benefits are provided by LIC directly into the bank account of beneficiaries through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).

3) Consider the following statements with respect to *Huntington disease (HD)*

1. It is a progressive genetic disorder affecting the Heart of human body that causes impaired coordination of balance and movement.
2. It is caused by a mutation in a gene called HTT which involved in the production of a protein called huntingtin.

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

- **Huntington disease (HD)** is a progressive genetic disorder affecting the **brain** that causes uncontrolled movements, impaired coordination of balance and movement, a decline in cognitive abilities, difficulty in concentrating and memory lapses, mood swings and personality changes.
- It is caused by a mutation in a gene called HTT.
- The HTT genes are involved in the production of a protein called huntingtin.
- They provide the instruction for making the protein.
- When the genes mutate, they provide faulty instructions leading to production of abnormal huntingtin proteins and these form into clumps.
- The clumps disrupt the normal functioning of the brain cells, which eventually leads to death of neurons in the brain, resulting in Huntington disease.

4) Consider the following statements with respect to *Annual Refresher Programme in Teaching (ARPIT) Program*

1. The objective of the programme is mainly to train academic heads, who are likely to assume leadership roles in the future.
2. Its focus group is second level academic functionaries in both public and privately funded higher education institutions.
3. The implementation will be through top ranked universities and top 100 global ranked foreign universities.

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 : d

- **Annual Refresher Programme in Teaching (ARPIT)** is a unique initiative of online professional development of 15 lakh higher education faculty using SWAYAM platform.
- National Resource Centres (NRC) will be identified to prepare online training material.
- NRC will be in a mixed range of institutions such as, Central Universities, IISc, IUCAA, IITs, IISERs, NITs, IGNOU, State Universities, UGC's Human Resource Development Centres (HRDCs) and National Institutes for Technical Teachers Training.
- It will focus on latest developments in the discipline, new & emerging trends, pedagogical

improvements and methodologies for transacting revised curriculum.

- SWAYAM - Study Webs of Active learning for Young Aspiring Minds is a Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) platform launched to offer various online courses for school education and higher education.

5) *World Population Prospects Report 2019* was released by?

- a. UN Population Fund
- b. Population Reference Bureau
- c. UN Development Programme
- d. UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Answer : d

6) With respect to *Peatlands*, consider the following statements:

1. Peatlands are formed due to the accumulation of partially decomposed plant remains over thousands of years under conditions of water-logging.
2. Besides climate mitigation, peatlands are important for archaeology, as they maintain pollen, seeds and human remains for a long time in their acidic and water-logged conditions.

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

- *Peatlands, which play a crucial role in regulating global climate by acting as carbon sinks, are facing degradation and need to be urgently monitored, according to a Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations report released recently.*
- *The report comprised information as well as recommendations to countries on restoring and managing these valuable ecosystems.*

Background

- **Peatlands** are formed due to the accumulation of partially decomposed plant remains over thousands of years under conditions of water-logging.
- Peatlands cover only three per cent of Earth's surface.
- However, their degradation due to drainage, fire, agricultural use and forestry can trigger release of the stored carbon in a few decades.
- Peatlands contain 30 per cent of the world's soil carbon. When drained, these emit greenhouse gases, contributing up to one gigaton of emissions per year through oxidation, according to the report.
- Besides climate mitigation, peatlands are important for archaeology, as they maintain pollen, seeds and human remains for a long time in their acidic and water-logged conditions.
- In many countries, pristine peatlands are important for recreation activities. These areas also support livelihood in the form of pastoralism.
- The vegetation growing on pristine peatlands provide different kinds of fibres for construction activities and handicrafts.

7) *Hindu Kush Himalayas (HKH)* does not includes which of the following mountain ranges?

1. Pamir
2. Tien Shan
3. Kun Lun
4. Hindu Kush

5. Karakoram

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a. All except 1
- b. All except 2 and 3
- c. All except 4
- d. None of the above

Answer : d

- The **Hindu Kush Himalayas (HKH)** region includes mountain ranges of the **Tien Shan, Kun Lun, Pamir, Hindu Kush, Karakoram, Himalayas, and Hengduan** and the high-altitude Tibetan Plateau which produce one of the world's largest renewable supplies of freshwater.

8) Consider the following statements regarding BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation)

- 1. There is no Headquarters for this organization
- 2. Only the Littoral states of Bay of Bengal are members to this institution
- 3. Maritime security is one of the important objective of this organization

Which of the given above statements is/are **not** correct?

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

Answer : d

- The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is an international organization involving a group of countries in South Asia and South East Asia. These are: Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bhutan and Nepal.
- BIMSTEC Headquarters is situated in Dhaka, Bangladesh and opened by Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina (13 September 2014).
- The main objective of BIMSTEC is technological and economic co-operation among south Asian and South East Asian countries along the coast of the bay of Bengal. Commerce, investment, technology, tourism, human resource development, agriculture, fisheries, transport and communication, textiles, leather etc. have been included in it.

9) Consider the following statements

- 1. The Eastern coast of India has greater frequency of cyclones than the Western coast.
- 2. The Western coast of India has greater intensity of cyclones than the Eastern coast.

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 : a

- The whole coastline of India is vulnerable to cyclones, particularly the east coast. The west coast of India is less vulnerable to cyclonic storms both in terms of intensity and frequency of the cyclones.

10) Crowding out effect refers to

- a. Expansionary fiscal policy is adopted by the government thereby increasing interest rates and thus reducing private sector spending
- b. Increased private sector competition to invest in government securities
- c. Reduced spending by the government in turn aiding the private sector investment
- d. Decreased interest rate of private sector to invest in government securities

Answer : a

- Sometimes, government adopts an expansionary fiscal policy stance and increases its spending to boost the economic activity.
- This leads to an increase in interest rates because it causes inflation. Increased interest rates affect private investment decisions as loans become dearer.
- A high magnitude of the crowding out effect may even lead to lesser income in the economy.



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