

WEEKLY QUIZ

DATE : 4th – 10th Aug

- 1) Which one of the following best describes the concept of the '**Evergreen Revolution**'?
 - a) Mechanization of agriculture to maximize output regardless of environmental cost
 - b) Achieving self-sufficiency in food production by expanding farmland
 - c) Increasing productivity in perpetuity without ecological harm
 - d) Adoption of monoculture crops for higher economic returns
- 2) Which of the following statements regarding **starfish** is correct?
 - a) They typically inhabit only freshwater ecosystems
 - b) They are primarily herbivores feeding on algae
 - c) They are important marine predators capable of regenerating lost arms
 - d) They possess a closed circulatory system with hemolymph
- 3) In the context of **international trade**, 'ad valorem' duty refers to:
 - a) A duty charged on the gross weight of the consignment
 - b) A duty levied as a percentage of the value of goods or services imported
 - c) A tax imposed irrespective of the value of goods
 - d) A flat fee levied on the number of goods imported
- 4) Consider the following statements:
 1. India's first discovery of Nickel-Copper-Platinum Group Element (Ni-Cu-PGE) sulphide was made in the Mahasamund district of Chhattisgarh.
 2. PGEs are only used in jewellery and have no relevance in hydrogen fuel cell technology.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) I only
- b) II only
- c) Both I and II
- d) Neither I nor II

- 5) Consider the following statements regarding the eligibility criteria for a **Small Finance Bank (SFB)** to transition into a **Universal Bank**:

1. The SFB must have a minimum net worth of ₹1,000 crore.
2. The SFB must have scheduled status for at least seven years.
3. The shares of the SFB should be listed on a recognized stock exchange.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) I only
- b) I and III only
- c) III only
- d) II only

- 6) With reference to **lichens**, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Lichens are exclusively used in the production of food stuff and dyes.
2. Lichens are symbiotic associations involving a fungus and at least one photosynthetic organism.
3. Lichens contribute to soil formation by invading bare areas.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) I and II only
- b) I only
- c) I, II and III
- d) II and III only

- 7) Consider the following statements with respect to **UN Women**:

1. UN Women was created to promote the rights of children and the elderly.
2. UN Women was established in July 2010 as the lead UN entity on gender equality.
3. Its focus areas include economic empowerment and humanitarian action.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) II only
- b) III only
- c) II and III only
- d) I and III only

8) Consider the following statements regarding **jointness and integration in Indian defence forces**:

1. Jointness implies the duplication of resources by the three Services to maximize operational results.
2. The Department of Military Affairs (DMA) was created in 2020 to promote jointness among the three Services.
3. Integrated Theatre Commands (ITCs) and Integrated Battle Groups (IBGs) have been proposed to boost operational readiness.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) II only
- b) I, II and III
- c) II and III only
- d) I only

9) Consider the following statements:

Assertion (A): The lack of a comprehensive database is a major issue in the steel scrap sector in India.

Reason (R): The absence of a designated nodal ministry for steel scrap matters has led to insufficient data collection and sharing.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I
- c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect
- d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

10) Consider the following statements:

Assertion (A): Virgin polymers are considered harmful for the environment due to their higher carbon footprint and reliance on non-renewable resources.

Reason (R): Virgin polymers are produced directly from recycled plastics and have uniform properties free from impurities.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I
- c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect
- d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

11) Which one of the following statements regarding the **Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)** of the Reserve Bank of India is correct?

- a) The Committee meets at least once a month to determine the policy repo rate
- b) Each member has two votes, with the Finance Minister having a casting vote
- c) The Committee consists of four members, all appointed by the Reserve Bank of India
- d) The RBI Governor acts as the ex officio Chairperson of the Committee

12) The **Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment (GRIHA)** is best described as:

- a) A government notification on agricultural land use
- b) An international standard for automobile emissions
- c) A regulatory authority for environmental litigation in India
- d) A rating tool to assess building performance against national benchmarks

13) **Employee Stock Option Plans (ESOPs)** in India are regulated for listed companies under:

- a) Companies (Share Buyback) Rules, 2014
- b) SEBI (Substantial Acquisition of Shares and Takeovers) Regulations, 2011
- c) SEBI (Share Based Employee Benefits and Sweat Equity) Regulations, 2021
- d) Industrial Disputes Act, 1947

14) In the context of the **Indo-Pacific region**, 'ASEAN Centrality' refers to:

- a) Prioritizing bilateral relations over multilateral cooperation in the region
- b) The leadership of the European Union in all regional mechanisms
- c) Exclusive maritime security management by India
- d) ASEAN serving as the main driver of the evolving regional architecture

15) Which ministry is responsible for the **Software Technology Parks of India (STPI)**?

- a) Ministry of Communications
- b) Ministry of Science and Technology
- c) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- d) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

16) Consider the following statements:

1. The blended interest rate charged to borrowers in co-lending is determined solely by the NBFC's internal rate.
2. Under co-lending arrangements, each regulated entity is required to retain a minimum of 10% share of the loans.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) I only
- b) II only

- c) Both I and II
- d) Neither I nor II

17) With reference to **BharatGen AI**, consider the following statements:

1. BharatGen AI is being implemented under the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (NM-ICPS).
2. As of now, BharatGen AI supports all 22 scheduled Indian languages.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) I only
- b) II only
- c) Both I and II
- d) Neither I nor II

18) Consider the following statements regarding the **Software Technology Parks of India (STPI)**:

1. STPI was established under the Union Ministry of Science & Technology.
2. The vision of STPI aligns with the National Policy on Software Products (NPSP), 2019.
3. The primary objective of STPI is to promote industrial manufacturing of computer hardware only.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) I and III only
- b) I and II only
- c) II only
- d) I, II and III

19) Consider the following statements regarding **environmental DNA (eDNA) analysis**:

1. Environmental DNA consists exclusively of genetic material from tissues of living organisms.
2. eDNA analysis is a non-invasive and highly sensitive method for biodiversity monitoring.
3. Environmental DNA is collected only from water samples.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) I and III only
- b) I only
- c) II only
- d) I, II and III

20) Consider the following statements:

Assertion (A): In co-lending arrangements, regulated entities are required to retain a minimum 10% share of the loans.

Reason (R): This provision ensures that all participating lenders in a co-lending agreement have aligned interests and share the credit risk.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I
- c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect
- d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

21) Which of the following statements regarding **Hepatitis D** is correct?

- a) It can infect individuals without Hepatitis B coinfection
- b) It is predominantly transmitted through contaminated water
- c) It is prevented by a specific Hepatitis D vaccine
- d) It requires the presence of Hepatitis B virus for replication

22) **President's Rule** under Article 356 can remain in force in a State for a maximum period of:

- a) 3 years
- b) 2 years
- c) 1 year
- d) 4 years

23) Which of the following best describes the recent **Supreme Court ruling in Vanashakti v. Union of India** regarding environmental clearance?

- a) Educational institutions are always exempt from clearance requirements
- b) All large construction projects above 20,000 sq.m must follow the environmental clearance process
- c) State governments may exempt any category of projects from clearance
- d) Only industrial sheds are exempt from prior environmental clearance if eco-friendly

24) The **Philippines** became the first foreign buyer of which Indian defence system?

- a) Nag Anti-Tank Guided Missile
- b) BrahMos Missile
- c) Akash Air Defence System
- d) Pinaka Multi Barrel Rocket Launcher

25) Consider the following statements:

1. Article 332 of the Constitution provides for reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the legislative assemblies of all states, except for Scheduled Tribes in Assam's autonomous districts.
2. The number of reserved seats for SCs and STs in a state assembly must be proportional to their population in the state.

3. In Assam, there are no reserved seats for autonomous districts in the Legislative Assembly.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) II and III only
- b) I and II only
- c) I only
- d) I and III only

- 26) Consider the following facts about the **Nilgiri tahr**:

- 1. It is protected under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- 2. The largest contiguous population is found in Eravikulam National Park.
- 3. Nilgiri tahr is endemic to the Himalayas.
- 4. It is the only mountain ungulate in southern India among the 12 species present in India.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) II, III and IV only
- b) I, II and III only
- c) II and IV only
- d) I, II and IV only

- 27) Consider the following statements regarding the **UN World Food Programme (WFP)**:

- 1. Its headquarters are located in Geneva, Switzerland.
- 2. It was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2020.
- 3. It is funded solely by the United Nations General Assembly.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) III only
- b) II only
- c) I and II only
- d) II and III only

- 28) Consider the following statements about the **International Seabed Authority (ISA)**:

- 1. The Deep-Sea Biobank Initiative aims to enhance global access to deep-sea biological samples from the international seabed area beyond national jurisdiction.
- 2. ISA manages mineral resources of the seabed within national jurisdiction.
- 3. Its headquarters are located in Kingston, Jamaica.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) I, II and III
- b) I and III only
- c) I and II only
- d) II and III only

- 29) Consider the following statements:

Assertion (A): Cloudbursts are more common in hilly areas than in plains.

Reason (R): The steep slopes in Himalayan states force warm, moisture-laden air to rise rapidly, resulting in the formation of towering cumulonimbus clouds.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I
- c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect
- d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

- 30) Consider the following statements:

Assertion (A): Krill are a keystone species in the Antarctic ecosystem, serving as the primary food source for many marine animals.

Reason (R): Krill remove significant amounts of carbon from the atmosphere each year.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I
- c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect
- d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

- 31) What is the composition of **E20 fuel** as per the National Policy on Biofuels?

- a) 75% petrol and 25% ethanol
- b) 80% petrol and 20% ethanol
- c) 70% petrol and 30% ethanol
- d) 60% petrol and 40% ethanol

- 32) The **Rhisotope Project**, recently implemented in South Africa, aims to prevent the poaching of which animal through isotope tagging?
- a) Rhinos
 - b) Tigers
 - c) Pangolins
 - d) Elephants

- 33) Which of the following statements is correct about **Pangong Tso Lake**?

- a) It is the world's highest saltwater lake with a portion in China
- b) It is a saline lake that never freezes in winter
- c) It serves as a breeding ground for Bengal tigers
- d) It is a freshwater lake located entirely in India

- 34) Consider the following statements about the **National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB)**:

1. The NMPB is mandated to regulate the pricing of all medicinal plant products in India.
2. NMPB was established in 2000 under the Ministry of AYUSH.
3. One of its functions is to enable certification of the quality of raw drugs, seeds, and planting material.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) II and III only
- b) I and III only
- c) I and II only
- d) III only

- 35) Consider the following statements regarding the **Asian Giant Tortoise**:

1. The Asian Giant Tortoise makes a nest above ground rather than in a hole.
2. Its habitat is limited to the Indian subcontinent only.
3. It is the largest tortoise species in mainland Asia and is considered a keystone species.
4. Its conservation status is listed as Critically Endangered by the IUCN and under Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) I and II only
- b) II and IV only
- c) I and IV only
- d) I, III and IV only

- 36) Consider the following statements regarding **ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance)** compliance in India:

1. The Companies Act, 2013, explicitly mentions ESG as a mandatory standard for all listed companies.
2. Greenwashing and inconsistent implementation are recognized as existing risks to effective ESG adoption.
3. The Business Responsibility and Sustainability Reporting (BRSR) framework is mandatory for the top 1000 listed companies in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) II only
- b) I and II only
- c) I only
- d) II and III only

- 37) With reference to **Bond Switching**, consider the following statements:

1. It can be carried out with either market participants or directly with the Reserve Bank of India.
2. It involves replacing shorter-duration sovereign bonds with longer-duration papers to reduce immediate repayment pressure.
3. Its primary objective is to increase the government's total debt obligations.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) I and III only
- b) II only
- c) I and II only
- d) II and III only

- 38) Consider the following statements about the **Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY)**:

1. For the second girl child, ₹6,000 is provided in a single installment post-birth.
2. PMMVY provides a cash incentive of ₹5,000 in two installments for the first child.
3. The scheme is implemented as a centrally sponsored scheme under Mission Shakti's sub-scheme 'Samarthya.'

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) III only
- b) I only
- c) I, II and III
- d) II and III only

- 39) With reference to **corporate responsibility and reporting frameworks** in India, consider the following statements:

1. The BRSR Core has been introduced by SEBI for monitoring greenwashing.
2. Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013, mandates companies to spend 2% of their average net profit on CSR activities.
3. The National Guidelines on Responsible Business Conduct (NGRBCs) have been released by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) III only
- b) I and III only
- c) I, II and III
- d) II only

40) Consider the following statements:

Assertion (A): The National Policy on Biofuels advanced the target for 20% ethanol blending in petrol to 2025-26.

Reason (R): This advancement aims to improve fuel performance and provide economic benefits to the rural sector.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I
- c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect
- d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

41) The **SMILE scheme** in India is primarily aimed at:

- a) Financial inclusion for rural women
- b) Comprehensive welfare of transgender persons
- c) Supporting digital literacy among senior citizens
- d) Promotion of maternal health

42) Consider the following statements:

1. The Mahanadi Water Disputes Tribunal was constituted under the Inter-State River Water Disputes Act, 1956.
2. Article 262 of the Indian Constitution empowers the President to adjudicate interstate water disputes.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) I only
- b) II only
- c) Both I and II
- d) Neither I nor II

43) Consider the following statements about **organ transplantation in India**:

1. India has the highest global ranking in total organ transplantation.
2. The "One Nation One Policy" initiative removed state domicile, age limits, and registration fees for deceased donor organ transplant recipients.
3. The National Organ Transplant Program operates only through the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO).
4. The Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act, 1994, strictly prohibits any commercial dealing in organs.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) I, II and IV only
- b) II, III and IV only
- c) II and IV only
- d) I, II and III only

44) Consider the following statements regarding the **Shāradā script**:

1. The script flourished in Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, and Punjab.
2. Shāradā inscriptions are found on a Ganesh statue in Gardez and a Uma Maheshwara sculpture near Kabul.
3. It is based on the Brahmic family of scripts and was mainly used to write Sanskrit.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) I and III only
- b) I and II only
- c) I, II and III only
- d) III only

45) Consider the following statements:

Assertion (A): The Himalayan Outpost for Planetary Exploration (HOPE) station is designed to simulate space-like conditions on Earth for future interplanetary missions.

Reason (R): The HOPE mission aims primarily at launching a crew of three members to an orbit of 400 km for a 3 days mission.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I
- c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect
- d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

46) Consider the following statements:

Assertion (A): India is the world's largest importer of vegetable oils.

Reason (R): Palm oil accounts for the majority share in India's vegetable oil imports and import dependence on edible oils in India has increased steadily since 2015-16.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I
- c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect
- d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

47) Which ministry is responsible for implementing the **Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY)**?

- a) Ministry of Rural Development
- b) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
- c) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- d) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

48) Which of the following best describes the function of **Compound 3b** recently developed for combating antimicrobial resistance?

- a) It acts as a vaccine against KPC-2-producing *Klebsiella pneumoniae*
- b) It neutralizes beta-lactamase enzymes, preventing degradation of beta-lactam antibiotics
- c) It blocks microbial cell wall synthesis directly, eliminating the need for antibiotics
- d) It stimulates the host immune response to clear antibiotic-resistant microbes

49) The **PM E-DRIVE Scheme**, whose tenure was recently extended, is primarily aimed at:

- a) Expanding solar energy generation in rural areas
- b) Accelerating the adoption and manufacturing of electric vehicles
- c) Developing biofuel supply chains for public transport
- d) Subsidizing LPG connections for urban households

50) **Barda Wildlife Sanctuary**, recently mentioned as a potential second home for Asiatic lions, is located in:

- a) Gujarat
- b) Rajasthan
- c) Karnataka
- d) Madhya Pradesh

