

Q1. With reference to the Special Frontier Force, recently seen in the news, consider the following statements:

1. It was raised aftermath of the 1962 China-India war.
2. It falls under the purview of Ministry of Defence and headed by an Army officer of the rank of Major General.
3. These units have a similar rank structure as that of the Indian Army.

Which of the statement given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B

Explanation:

In News- Recently, the funeral of Nyima Tenzin, a soldier of the Special Frontier Force (SFF), was held in Leh. Also, there have been reports about SFF being involved in the August 29-31 operation to occupy previously unoccupied heights in Chushul sector in eastern Ladakh.

Statement 1 is correct: The SFF was raised by the Intelligence Bureau in the immediate aftermath of the 1962 China-India war. It is commonly believed that the SFF was raised by India in coordination with US intelligence agencies. The covert outfit recruited Tibetan exiles (now it has a mixture of Tibetans and Gorkhas) and was initially named Establishment 22 (Major Gen Sujjan Singh Uban, an Artillery officer who raised the group, named it after the 22 Mountain Regiment he commanded).

Statement 2 is not correct: It now falls under the purview of the Cabinet Secretariat. On the ground, it is headed by an Inspector General who is an Army officer of the rank of Major General. The units comprising the SFF are known as Vikas battalions.

Statement 3 is not correct: The SSF units are not part of the Army but function under its operational control. SSF units have their own rank structures, of equivalent status with Army ranks. The SSF training centre is in Chakrata, 100 km outside Dehradun.

Q2. Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct with respect to the Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)?

1. It is an international measure of multidimensional poverty covering all the nations across the globe.
2. It was first launched in 2010 by Oxford Poverty and United Nations Development Programme.
3. The Global Indices to Drive Reforms and Growth (GIRG) exercise is the initiative of NITI Ayog to monitoring the performance on global indices.

Choose the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B

In News- NITI Aayog recently said it is at an advanced stage for preparation of a Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) parameter dashboard to rank states and Union Territories, along with a State Reform Action Plan (SRAP).

Statement 1 is not correct: Global MPI is an international measure of multidimensional poverty covering 107 developing countries.

Statement 2 is correct: It was first developed in 2010 by Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative and the United Nations Development Programme for UNDP's Human Development Reports.

Statement 3 is correct: The Global MPI is part of the government's decision to monitor the performance of the country on 29 select global indices, it said in a statement. "The objective of the Global Indices to Drive Reforms and Growth (GIRG) exercise is to fulfil the need to measure and monitor India's performance on various important social and economic parameters

Q3. 'Green-Blue' Infrastructure Policy in his Master Plan 2041 is proposed by which of the following state/UT?

- (a) Gujrat
- (b) Andra Pradesh
- (c) Delhi
- (d) Uttar Pradesh

Answer: C

Explanation:

In News- The Delhi Development Authority (DDA) is holding public consultations for the preparation of the Master Plan for Delhi 2041, a vision document for the city's development over the next two decades.

Option C is correct: The Green-Blue policy is the focus of the Master Plan for Delhi 2041. The draft policy's focus on water bodies and the land around it, which is referred to as the "Green-Blue policy", would give the city a new shape. 'Blue' infrastructure refers to water bodies like rivers, canals, ponds, wetlands, floodplains, and water treatment facilities; while 'Green' stands for trees, lawns, hedgerows, parks, fields, and forests. The concept refers to urban planning where water bodies and land are interdependent, and grow with the help of each other while offering environmental and social benefits.

Q4. With reference to the Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs), consider the following statements:

1. They enable the direct investment of money from individual/institutional investors in infrastructure.
2. They are regulated and oversight by the Reserve Bank of India.

Which of the statement given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

In News- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved monetisation of assets of POWERGRID through the Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT) model.

Statement 1 is correct: An Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvITs) is like a mutual fund, which enables direct investment of small amounts of money from possible individual/institutional investors in infrastructure to earn a small portion of the income as a return. InvITs work like mutual funds or real estate investment trusts (REITs) in features. InvITs can be treated as the modified version of REITs designed to suit the specific circumstances of the infrastructure sector.

Statement 2 is not correct: They are regulated by the Securities and Exchange Board of India. Their units are listed on different trading platforms like stock exchanges and are a wholesome combination of both equity and debt instruments. InvITs can be established as a trust and registered with Sebi. An InvIT consists of four elements: 1) Trustee, 2) Sponsor(s), 3) Investment Manager and 4) Project Manager.

Q5. Which of the following statement(s) is/are **not correct** with respect to the Indira Gandhi Peace Prize?

1. It is a prestigious prize awarded biennially by the Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust since 2000.
2. It is given to individuals or organizations who are working towards ensuring international peace and development.

Choose the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

In News- Sir David Attenborough has been conferred with Indira Gandhi Peace Prize for 2019 at a virtual ceremony.

Explanation:

Statement 1 is not correct: The Indira Gandhi Peace Prize which is named after former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi is a prestigious prize awarded annually by the Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust since 1986

Statement 2 is correct: The Indira Gandhi Peace Prize is given to individuals or organizations who are working towards ensuring **international peace and development.**

Q6. With reference to Mission Karmayogi, consider the following statements:

1. It is primarily aimed at reforming the governance system by leveraging the ICT at the grass-root level.
2. The Prime Minister's Public Human Resource Council will be set up as the apex body to direct the reforms.

Which of the statement given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

In News- The Union Cabinet approved 'Mission Karmayogi', a new capacity-building scheme for civil servants aimed at upgrading the post-recruitment training mechanism of the officers and employees at all levels.

Statement 1 is not correct: Mission Karmayogi aims to prepare Indian civil servants for the future by making them more creative, constructive, imaginative, proactive, innovative, progressive, professional, energetic, transparent and technology-enabled. The mission will focus on individual (civil servants) & institutional capacity building. Comprehensive reform of the capacity building apparatus at the individual, institutional and process levels for efficient public service delivery.

Statement 2 is correct: This council will approve and review civil service capacity building programmes. It will also include state Chief Ministers, Union Cabinet ministers and eminent national and global Academicians, thought leaders, industry leaders.

