

16<sup>th</sup> September, 2020

**TEST YOURSELF**

Daily Current Affairs MCQs

Q1. Abraham Accords recently seen in the news is related to

- (a) Afghanistan Peace Summit
- (b) Israel- UAE Peace Agreement
- (c) Israel- Palestinian Peace Process
- (d) UN Treaty on Peace and Disarmament

Answer: B

Explanation:

**In News-** The Abraham Accord between Israel, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain is mediated by the USA. It is the first Arab-Israeli peace deal in 26 years.

**Option B is correct:** Recently, the Israel-United Arab Emirates Peace Agreement or the Abraham Accord was decided by the UAE and Israel. If the agreement is signed then UAE will be the third Arab country to sign a peace agreement with Israel after Egypt (1979) and Jordan (1994). It will also be the first Persian Gulf country to sign an accord with Israel. The deal states that UAE would recognise the state of Israel and establish formal diplomatic relations with it, while Israel would halt its controversial plan to annex swathes of the Palestinian West Bank.

Q2. Consider the following statements:

1. Morphological Phenotypic Plasticity is the ability of an organism to show physical variations in response to various stimuli.
2. Kalinga cricket frog is a peculiar example of Morphological Phenotypic Plasticity phenomenon.

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: C

Explanation:

**In News-** Indian scientists have reported a first-of-its-kind discovery of morphological phenotypic plasticity (MPP) in the Kalinga cricket frog.

**Both statement 1 and statement 2 are correct:** MPP is the ability of an organism to show drastic morphological (physical features) variations in response to natural environmental variations or stimuli. Scientists claim the morphological phenotypic plasticity found in the Kalinga cricket frog is first such in India.

Q3. With reference to Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS), Consider the following statements:

1. Under this scheme, the funds are released in the form of grants-in-aid directly to the district authorities.
2. The funds released under the scheme are lapsable if not spent in a particular year.
3. The implementation and monitoring of the scheme are done by the Ministry of Finance.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

**In News-** In the Parliamentary session, MPs support Bill reducing their salaries but want MPLADS restored.

**Statement 1 is correct:** MPLADS is a centrally-sponsored plan scheme fully funded by the government of India. Under this scheme, the funds are released in the form of grants in aids directly to the district authorities. Under the scheme, each MP has the choice to suggest to the

District Collector for works to the tune of Rs.5 Crores per annum to be taken up in his/her constituency.

**Statement 2 is not correct:** The funds released under the scheme are non-lapsable. This means that if the funds for a particular is not spent in that year, it will be carried forward.

**Statement 2 is not correct:** The Ministry of Statistics and Programme has issued the guidelines on MPLADS Scheme including implementation and monitoring of the scheme. The Department has initiated all necessary steps to ensure that the scheme is successfully implemented in the field.

Q4. Living Planet Report 2020 released by which of the following organisations?

- (a) International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- (b) Yale University in collaboration with Columbia University
- (c) World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)
- (d) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Answer: C

Explanation:

**In News-** Recently, the Living Planet Report 2020 released by international non-profit organisation 'World Wide Fund for Nature'.

**Option C is correct:** The Living Planet Index (LPI) — a measure of the state of the world's biological diversity based on population trends of vertebrate species in terrestrial, freshwater and marine habitats — was used by the report to calculate this decline.

- **Key Highlights-** World lost 68% vertebrates in 1970-2016.
  - The population of this fish declined by 97 per cent between 1982 and 2015 because of the damming of the river's waterway.
  - Megafauna — or bigger species in terms of size — were more vulnerable because they were subjected to intense anthropogenic threats and overexploitation.
  - Wildlife populations in freshwater habitats suffered a decline of 84 per cent, equivalent to four per cent per year, particularly in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Q5. Mulgaonkar Principles was in the news related to which of the following subjects?

- (a) Defection in the politics
- (b) Child abuse
- (c) Contempt of Court

(d) Trafficking of Women

Answer: C

Explanation:

**Option C is correct:** Recently, in the criticism against the Supreme Court's ruling that held advocate Prashant Bhushan guilty of contempt of court, his counsel has invoked the 'Mulgaonkar principles', urging the court to show restraint. S Mulgaonkar v Unknown (1978) is a case that led to a landmark ruling on the subject of contempt of court. In the verdict which had a 2:1 majority, the court held Mulgaonkar, then editor of The Indian Express, not guilty of contempt although the same Bench had initiated the proceedings. Justices P Kailasam and Krishna Iyer formed the majority going against then Chief Justice of India M H Beg. Justice Iyer's counsel of caution in exercising the contempt jurisdiction came to be called the Mulgaonkar principles.

Q6. Consider the following statements:

1. Heart Attack Rewind campaign and REPLACE initiatives were launched by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
2. The purpose of these initiatives is to eliminate industrially-produced trans-fats.

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: B

Explanation:

**In News-** India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan were among countries that need to act urgently against trans-fat, the World Health Organization (WHO) has warned

**Statement 1 is not correct but 2 is correct:** Heart Attack Rewind campaign is a mass media campaign of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) for the elimination of industrially-produced trans fat in the food supply. It is not of Ministry of Health. In May 2018, WHO launched a comprehensive plan named 'REPLACE' to eliminate industrially-produced trans fat from the global food supply by 2023. REPLACE provides a roadmap about how

countries can remove and replace all trans fat from their food supplies with the intention to eradicate it from the globe.

