

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

## TEST YOURSELF

Daily Current Affairs MCQs

Q1. With reference to the Indus Waters Treaty, consider the statements:

1. It is brokered by World Bank.
2. India governs Beas, Ravi, Jhelum and Pakistan governs Indus, Chenab, and Sutlej.
3. India is allowed to use 20% of Indus water for irrigation, power-generation and transportation.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: B

**In News-** The Indus Water Treaty (IWT) between India and Pakistan marks its 60th anniversary on 19th September 2020.

**Statement 1 is correct:** The distribution of waters of the Indus and its tributaries between India and Pakistan is governed by the Indus Water Treaty (IWT). The treaty brokered by World Bank, was signed by the then-Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and Pakistani President Ayub Khan on 19 September 1960.

**Statement 2 is not correct:** The three 'western rivers' (Indus, Jhelum and Chenab) went to Pakistan and the three 'eastern rivers' (Sutlej, Ravi and Beas) were portioned to India.

**Statement 3 is correct:** India is allowed to use 20% water of the western rivers for irrigation, power generation and transport purposes.

Q2. With respect to the El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO), consider the following statements:

1. El Nino events are sometimes referred to as the warm and wet half phase of ENSO and La Nina as the cold phase of the ENSO.
2. Under the El Nino event, the surface temperature of the Pacific ocean increases more than usual causing heavy rainfalls in Australia.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

**In News-** El Nino and La Nina are the exact opposite phases of a climatic phenomenon called the El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) cycle. They impact monsoon rains in the Indian subcontinent.

**Statement 1 is not correct:** ENSO is a single climate phenomenon, it has three states or phases. The two opposite phases are El Niño and La Niña. El Niño is the warming of the ocean surface, or above-average sea surface temperatures (SST), in the central and eastern tropical Pacific Ocean. And, La Nina is basically the opposite of an El Niño: Ocean temperatures along the eastern half of the tropical Pacific cool down and that part of the world dries out.

**Statement 2 is not correct:** During an El Niño event, the surface of the tropical Pacific Ocean gets warmer than usual, particularly at the equator and along the coasts of South and Central America. Warm oceans lead to low-pressure systems in the atmosphere above, which in turn leads to a lot of rain for the western coasts of South America.

Q3. In reference to the 'Beirut Declaration' sometimes seen in the news recently, which of the following is correct?

- (a) It seeks to prepare a Global action plan for the mitigation of terrorism.
- (b) It addresses the challenges posed by global climate change and prepares a roadmap.
- (c) It chalks out a plan for the refugee crisis and preventing the violation of their human rights.
- (d) It enhances the role of religions in promoting human rights.

Answer: D

Explanation:

**Option D is correct:** Beirut Declaration enhances the role of religions in promoting human rights. A "Faith for Rights" initiative launched by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in 2017. Building on the 2012 Rabat Plan of Action that laid out religious leaders' core responsibilities in countering incitement to hatred, the Beirut Declaration expands those responsibilities to the full spectrum of human rights. It calls on

believers of all faiths to join hands and hearts in articulating ways in which they can stand together in defending fundamental rights against discrimination and violence.

Q4. Consider the following statements:

1. Fiscal deficit is the difference between the Revenue Receipts and the total expenditure excluding Non-debt Capital Receipts (NDCR).
2. High Fiscal deficit boosts the demand and hence more private production.

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: D

**Explanation:**

**In News-** The central government's fiscal deficit have significantly rise in the current fiscal year due to a fall in revenue and rising expenditure to support lives and livelihoods amid the pandemic.

**Statement 1 is not correct:** The Union Budget defines Fiscal Deficit as the difference between the Revenue Receipts plus Non-debt Capital Receipts (NDCR) and the total expenditure. In other words, it is reflective of the total borrowing requirements of the Government.

**Statement 2 is not correct:** In the economy, there is a limited pool of investible savings. These savings are used by financial institutions like banks to lend to private businesses (both big and small) and the governments. If the FD ratio is too high, it implies that there is a lesser amount of money left in the market for private entrepreneurs and businesses to borrow.

Q5. Global Smart City Index 2020 was released recently by which of the following organisations?

- (a) World Bank
- (b) World Economic Forum
- (c) Institute for Management Development (IMD)
- (d) Harvard University

Answer: C

**Explanation:**

**In News-** The Institute for Management Development (IMD) in collaboration with Singapore University for Technology and Design (SUTD) released the 2020 Smart City Index.

**Option C is correct:** Smart City Index is prepared by the Institute for Management Development World Competitiveness Centre, Smart City Observatory and Singapore University of Technology and Design. The index offers a balanced focus on the economic and technological aspects of smart cities. It also includes humane dimensions of smart cities including the quality of life, environment and inclusiveness. The 2020 Smart City Index (SCI) was topped by Singapore, followed by Helsinki and Zurich in the second and the third place respectively.