



## UPSC CURRENT AFFAIRS MCQs

20-08-2023

### Ques:1

With reference to Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) consider the following statements

- 1.GBS is a serious autoimmune disorder that affects the peripheral nervous system.
- 2.Its symptoms are a tingling or itching sensation in the skin, followed by muscle weakness, pain and numbness.
- 3.A person then starts experiencing reflex loss and paralysis, which may be temporary, but can last for 6-12 months or longer.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Correct Answer

Solution: c

Guillain Barre Syndrome is a very rare autoimmune disorder. A disorder in which the immune system, in an attempt to kill the coronavirus, accidentally starts attacking the peripheral nervous system. The peripheral nervous system is a network of nerves that lead from the brain and spinal cord to different parts of the body. Attacking them can affect limb functions.

The syndrome's first symptoms are a tingling or itching sensation in the skin, followed by muscle weakness, pain and numbness. A person then starts experiencing reflex loss and paralysis, which may be temporary, but can last for 6-12 months or longer. GBS is caused by bacteria or viral infection. In the past, patients of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome showed GBS symptoms, as did those infected with Zika, HIV, Herpes virus and Campylobacter jejuni.



## Ques:2

Consider the following statements

1. China, India, and Russia and South Africa are founding member of BRICS organisation.
2. New Development Bank is a multilateral development bank which is established by the BRICS organisation.

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

Correct Answer

Solution: (b)

Statement 1 is not correct:

BRICS is an acronym that started as BRIC in 2001, coined by Jim O'Neill (a Goldman Sachs economist) for Brazil, China, India, and Russia. Later in 2010, South Africa was added to become BRICS.

Statement 2 is correct:

The New Development Bank (NDB), formerly referred to as the BRICS Development Bank, is a multilateral development bank established by the BRICS states (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa).

According to the Agreement on the NDB, the Bank shall support public or private projects through loans, guarantees, equity participation and other financial instruments. Moreover, the NDB shall cooperate with international organizations and other financial entities, and provide technical assistance for projects to be supported by the Bank.



**Ques:3**

Consider the following pairs of volcanic summits with countries

1. Mount Elbrus – Russia
2. Mt Damavand — Australia
3. Ojos del Salado — Chile
4. Mt Sidley — Antarctica

How many of the above pairs are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

Correct Answer

Solution: c

Seven largest volcanic summits

Ojos del Salado (6,893 m) – Chile

Mt Kilimanjaro (5,895 m) – Tanzania

Mount Elbrus (5,642 m) – Russia

Mount Pico de Orizaba (5,636 m) – Mexico

Mt Damavand (5,610 m) – Iran

Mt Giluwe (4,368 m) – Papua New Guinea

Mt Sidley (4,285 m) – Antarctica



#### Ques:4

With reference to Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill, 2023, consider the following statements

- 1.The Bill proposes to make it obligatory for States to register births and deaths on the Centre's Civil Registration System (CRS) portal,
- 2.The registration of births and deaths falls under the Union list.
- 3.The Bill proposes linking Aadhaar details of parents and informants to birth certificates.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Correct Answer

Solution: b

The Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill, 2023 seeks to amend the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969. The registration of births and deaths falls under the Concurrent List, giving powers to both Parliament and state legislatures to make laws on the subject. The Bill proposes linking Aadhaar details of parents and informants to birth certificates. Apart from birth certificates, the centralized database will also update the National Population Register (NPR), ration cards, and property registrations.

The Bill proposes to make it obligatory for States to register births and deaths on the Centre's Civil Registration System (CRS) portal, and to share the data with the Registrar General of India which functions under the Union Home Ministry.



### Ques:5

With reference to Artificial Intelligence Index Report, consider the following statements

1.The AI Index is an independent initiative at the Stanford Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence (HAI).

2.As per report, India is ranked fifth in terms of investments received by startups offering AI-based products and services in 2022.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c

The AI Index is an independent initiative at the Stanford Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence (HAI), led by the AI Index Steering Committee, an interdisciplinary group of experts from across academia and industry. The annual report tracks, collates, distills, and visualizes data relating to artificial intelligence, enabling decision-makers to take meaningful action to advance AI responsibly and ethically with humans in mind.

India is ranked fifth in terms of investments received by startups offering AI-based products and services in 2022. AI startups in India received a total investment of \$3.24 billion, surpassing countries such as South Korea, Germany, Canada, and Australia. However, India is still behind the US, China, the UK, and Israel in terms of AI investments received.