



UPSC CURRENT AFFAIRS MCQs 06-09-2023

Ques:1

With reference to Eco-Sensitive Zones, consider the following statements.

- 1.Eco-Sensitive Zones are the areas that are declared under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- 2.The purpose of the declaration of Eco-Sensitive Zones is to prohibit all kinds of human activities, in those zones, except agriculture.

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: (d)

Eco-Sensitive Zones – ESZ is fragile areas around protected areas, they are notified under Section 3 of Environment Protection Act 1986 by the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEFCC). The purpose of declaring ESZs is to create some kind of “shock absorbers” to the protected areas by regulating and managing the activities around such areas. As per the National Board for Wildlife NBWL, the delineation of eco-sensitive zones have to be site-specific, and the activities should be regulative in nature and not prohibitive unless required.

Ques:2

With reference to Self-Employed Women’s Association (SEWA), consider the following statements

- 1.SEWA was born out of the Textile Labour Association (TLA) founded by Anasuya Sarabhai and Mahatma Gandhi in 1920.
- 2.Elaben Bhatt is the renowned founder of the Self-Employed Women’s Association (SEWA).
- 3.The PM Street Vendors Atmanirbhar Nidhi (PM-SVANidhi) scheme is seen as being inspired by SEWA’s microfinance model.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: (c)



SEWA was born out of the Textile Labour Association (TLA) founded by Anasuya Sarabhai and Mahatma Gandhi in 1920. Recently, Elaben Bhatt, renowned founder of the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA), passed away. The PM Street Vendors Atmanirbhar Nidhi (PM-SVANidhi) scheme is seen as being inspired by SEWA's microfinance model.

Ques:3

With reference to United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), consider the following statements

- 1.Established in 1967 as a trust fund, UNFPA is the United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency.
- 2.The funds for UNFPA are completely supported by the United Nations regular budget.
- 3.State of World Population report is released annually by the UNFPA.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: (b)

Established in 1967 as a trust fund, UNFPA is the United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency. UNFPA works as a subsidiary organ under the umbrella of the UN General Assembly which is one of the Principal Organs of the United Nations. The funds for UNFPA are completely supported by voluntary contributions. They include donor governments, various foundations and individuals, and intergovernmental organisations. The funds are not associated with the United Nations regular budget.

Recently, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has released the State of World Population report 2023, which states that India will overtake China to become the world's most populous country by the middle of 2023.

Ques:4

With reference to Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY), consider the following statements

- 1.It is a government scheme under the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas.
- 2.The applicant for the Ujjwala Scheme must be a woman who is a citizen of India and at least 18 years old.
- 3.The prime beneficiaries are only women under BPL category.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two



- c) All three
- d) None

Solution: b)

The Ujjwala Scheme is a government scheme under the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas to distribute LPG cylinders to women from Below the Poverty Line (BPL). The aim of PM Ujjwala Yojana is to provide alternate clean fuel to prevent health issues associated with burning unhealthy fuel. The applicant for the Ujjwala Scheme must be a woman who is a citizen of India and at least 18 years old.

When the PM Ujjwala Yojana was launched, the prime beneficiaries were women from BPL. In August 2018, women from other categories were also included.

SC/ST (Those included in PMAY)

Beneficiaries of Antyoday Anna Yojana (AAY)

Forest Dwellers

Most Backward Classes

Tea and Ex-Tea Garden Tribes,

Residents of river Islands (Beneficiary will submit supporting documents).

Ques:5

With reference to Aditya L1, consider the following statements

- 1.It was discovered by mathematician Joseph Louis Lagrange and is one of the five points where the gravitational forces of the Sun and the Earth are in equilibrium.
- 2.The L1 is currently home to the European Space Agency (ESA)- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO) observing the Sun and its dynamics.

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)

Discovered by mathematician Joseph Louis Lagrange, L1 is one of the five points located approximately 1.5 million kilometres away, where the gravitational forces of the Sun and the Earth are in equilibrium. Hence, a spacecraft placed at L1 orbits the Sun at the same rate as



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Earth and affords an uninterrupted view of the Sun, making it an ideal observation post for space-based solar observatories.

The L1 is currently home to the European Space Agency (ESA)- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO) observing the Sun and its dynamics. Aditya L1 will join this observatory to unravel the mysteries of the dynamics of the Sun.