



JULY Newspaper

PRELIMS PRACTICE

Time Limit: 120 mins

Total Questions: 100

1. Assertion (A): The Indian government's Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) aims to vaccinate millions annually.

Reason (R): The UIP's effectiveness is enhanced by the use of digital technologies like U-WIN for tracking vaccinations.

- (a) Both A and R are correct and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are correct but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is correct R is incorrect
- (d) A is incorrect R is correct

2: Consider the role of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in international law:

1. ICJ's opinions are legally binding on all countries.
 2. ICJ declared Israel's occupation of the West Bank and East Jerusalem violates international law.
 3. ICJ's opinions are advisory and carry significant moral and political weight. Which of the above statements are correct?
- (a) 2 only
 - (b) 2 and 3 only
 - (c) 1 and 3 only
 - (d) All of the above

3: Regarding the Indian Government's handling of software updates:

1. The fault in Microsoft's Azure impacted global businesses, including aviation and banking in India.
 2. CrowdStrike's update did not play a role in the disruption.
 3. The Indian government's Ministry of Electronics and IT coordinated the response to the disruption. How many of the above statements are correct?
- (A) Only one statement
 - (B) Only two statements
 - (C) All three statements
 - (D) None of the above



| Clear your doubts now.



4. Assertion (A): Female employment rates are crucial in tackling the rising unemployment in India.

Reason (R): Increased female participation in the workforce can lead to enhanced economic growth and stability.

- (a) Both A and R are correct and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are correct but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is correct R is incorrect
- (d) A is incorrect R is correct

5: Consider the following factors contributing to the inefficacy of India's monsoon predictions:

1. Inadequate data from neighboring countries like Nepal and Bangladesh.
2. Over-reliance on historical data without incorporating real-time updates.
3. High precision in the current forecasting technology used by IMD. Which of the above statements are incorrect?

- (A) Only 1 and 3
- (B) Only 1 and 2
- (C) Only 2 and 3
- (D) All of the above

6: Consider the role of AI in predicting rogue waves:

1. AI algorithms trained on ocean buoy data can predict rogue waves up to five minutes in advance.
2. The AI model used has demonstrated a prediction accuracy of nearly 100%. Which of the above statements are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) None of the above

7: In the context of India's Digital Platforms:

1. The CoWIN platform was critical during the COVID-19 vaccine rollout.
2. The e-Vin platform has been used to track vaccine logistics since 2015.
3. U-Win is expected to serve as a platform for distributing electronic gadgets. How many of the above statements are incorrect?

- (A) Only one statement
- (B) Only two statements
- (C) All three statements
- (D) None of the above

8: Regarding the new Digital Health ID in India:

1. It is part of the U-Win portal.
2. It will exclusively manage COVID-19 vaccination records.





3. It aims to improve healthcare service efficiency through better data management. Which of the above statements are correct?

- (a) 1 and 3 only
- (b) 3 only
- (c) 1 and 2 only
- (d) None of the above

9: Consider the following about the Finance Commission of India:

1. It is tasked with recommending how revenue should be divided between the Centre and the States.
2. The recommendations of the Finance Commission are binding on the government.
3. The 16th Finance Commission is led by Arvind Panagariya. Which of the above statements are correct?

- (a) 1 and 3 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) All of the above

10: In the context of menstrual leave policies in India:

1. The Supreme Court of India recently approved the inclusion of menstrual leave in the Maternity Benefits Act.
2. A draft National Menstrual Hygiene Policy was introduced by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in 2023.
3. The policy recognizes all individuals who menstruate, including transgender and intersex people. How many of the above statements are correct?

- (A) Only one statement
- (B) Only two statements
- (C) All three statements
- (D) None of the above

11: Regarding the Public Interest Litigation (PIL) on environmental impact assessments:

1. It argues that climate change impacts should be considered in Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA).
2. The Madras High Court dismissed the PIL, citing jurisdiction issues.
3. The PIL was filed by G. Sundarrajan of the NGO Poovulagin Nanbargal. Which of the above statements are incorrect?

- (A) Only 1 and 2
- (B) Only 1 and 3
- (C) Only 2 and 3
- (D) None of the above

12: Regarding India's stance on the Russia-Ukraine conflict:

1. India has condemned Russia's actions in Ukraine unequivocally.
2. India maintains a policy of strategic autonomy in its international relations.
3. The U.S. has expressed concerns about India's continued purchase of Russian oil. Which of the above statements are correct?





- (a) 2 and 3 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) All of the above

13: Consider the following about the Green Revolution in maize in India:

1. CIMMYT played a crucial role in developing high-yielding maize varieties.
 2. Maize production in India is primarily used for ethanol production.
 3. India's maize output has more than tripled since 1999-2000. How many of the above statements are correct?
- (A) Only one statement
 - (B) Only two statements
 - (C) All three statements
 - (D) None of the above

14. Assertion (A): The gig economy offers unparalleled flexibility and independence for workers.

Reason (R): Karnataka's draft Bill seeks to regulate gig work by ensuring minimum earnings and transparency from aggregators.

- (a) Both A and R are correct and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are correct but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is correct R is incorrect
- (d) A is incorrect R is correct

15: Consider the effects of climate change on public health:

1. Climate change could cause 250,000 additional deaths annually from 2030 to 2050 according to WHO.
2. These deaths are primarily due to infectious diseases such as cholera and tuberculosis.
3. Extreme heat can double the risk of stillbirths and miscarriages.

Which of the above statements are incorrect?

- (A) Only 1 and 2
- (B) Only 1 and 3
- (C) Only 2 and 3
- (D) All of the above

16: In the context of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (BNSS):

1. The BNSS extends the period of police custody beyond 15 days without judicial oversight.
2. It is aimed at replacing the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973.
3. The BNSS has been criticized for potentially increasing custodial violence.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (A) Only one statement
- (B) Only two statements
- (C) All three statements
- (D) None of the above



**17: Regarding the rules for Indian Administrative Service (IAS) probationers:**

1. IAS officers on probation can be dismissed for fraudulent behavior before their probation ends.
2. Probation typically lasts two years, but can be extended if the officer's performance is unsatisfactory.
3. All probationers are allowed to engage in political activities during their probation period.

Which of the above statements are incorrect?

- (A) Only 1 and 3
- (B) Only 2 and 3
- (C) Only 1 and 2
- (D) None of the above

18: Consider the role of the Finance Commission in fiscal federalism:

1. The Finance Commission recommends how the Centre should share taxes with States.
2. The 16th Finance Commission aims to increase funding for panchayats and municipalities.
3. Cesses and surcharges collected by the Centre are shared with the States.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) All of the above

19. Consider the Union Budget 2024-25's emphasis on infrastructure. Which of the following statements is/are true?

1. The budget allocated ₹11 lakh crore for capital expenditure targeting 3.4% of GDP.
2. The private sector has shown significant enthusiasm to invest in infrastructure due to reduced market risks.
3. The Budget provides ₹1.5 lakh crore in long-term interest-free loans to states to spur infrastructure spending.

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) All of the above

20. Assertion (A): India's move to natural farming aims to involve one crore farmers in chemical-free agricultural practices.

Reason (R): Natural farming can potentially increase India's food security by enhancing crop yields.

- (a) Both A and R are correct and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are correct but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is correct, R is incorrect
- (d) R is correct, A is incorrect

21. In the context of the 2024-25 Union Budget, consider the following statements about support for MSMEs:

1. The budget introduces measures to alleviate financial challenges faced by MSMEs due to past policy impacts like GST and demonetization.





2. There was an increase in the direct tax provisions affecting MSMEs to boost their competitiveness.
3. A new scheme has been introduced specifically targeting technological upgrades in MSME sectors.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) All of the above

22. With respect to the strategic shift in the 2024-25 Union Budget, identify the incorrect statement(s):

1. The budget transitions from production-linked to employment-linked incentives.
2. There is a significant reduction in customs duties to promote exports.
3. The budget has lowered the fiscal deficit to 4.5% of GDP.

- (a) Only 1 and 3
- (b) Only 1 and 2
- (c) Only 2 and 3
- (d) All of the above

23. Regarding the effects of climate change on hurricanes:

1. Higher sea temperatures are contributing to more frequent and intense hurricanes.
2. Hurricanes are now less likely to reach Category 5 intensity.

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) None of the above

24. Assertion (A): Paris 2024 is expected to be the greenest Olympic Games ever.

Reason (R): Paris 2024 will use only non-renewable energy sources to power the event.

- (a) Both A and R are correct and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are correct but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is correct, R is incorrect
- (d) R is correct, A is incorrect

25. In context with the Union Budget 2024-25's focus on tax reforms, consider the following statements:

1. There is an increase in the standard deduction under the new tax regime.
2. Capital gains taxes have been reduced to encourage investment.
3. The new tax regime aims to completely phase out exemptions and deductions.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one Statement
- (b) Only two Statements
- (c) All three Statements
- (d) None of the above



ANSWERS WITH EXPLANATION

1. Answer:

(a) Both A and R are correct and R is the correct explanation of A

Explanation:

The assertion about the UIP's goal to vaccinate millions annually is correct and reflects the program's scope and objective. The reason provided, regarding the use of digital technologies like U-WIN to track vaccinations, directly explains and supports how these technologies enhance the UIP's effectiveness by ensuring better data management and real-time tracking, making the vaccination process more efficient and systematic.

2. Answer:

(b) 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

The International Court of Justice (ICJ) indeed declared that Israel's occupation violates international law, which is a correct statement. Also, the ICJ's opinions are advisory and hold significant moral and political weight but are not legally binding on countries, making statement 3 correct. However, statement 1 is incorrect because ICJ's opinions are not legally enforceable, which means they do not bind the countries to comply strictly.

3. Answer:

(B) Only two statements

Explanation:

Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The fault in Microsoft's Azure did impact global businesses, including sectors like aviation and banking in India, and the Indian government's Ministry of Electronics and IT did coordinate the response to the disruption. However, statement 2 is incorrect because CrowdStrike's software update was indeed implicated in the disruption, playing a crucial role.

4. Answer:

(a) Both A and R are correct and R is the correct explanation of A

Explanation:

The assertion that female employment rates are crucial to addressing rising unemployment in India is accurate, reflecting the potential impact of increased labor force participation. The reason given, that increased female participation can lead to economic growth and stability, directly explains why focusing on female employment is beneficial, not only increasing the workforce but also enhancing economic stability through diversity and inclusion.





5. Answer:

(C) Only 2 and 3

Explanation:

Statement 2 is incorrect because relying heavily on historical data without updating with real-time changes can lead to inaccuracies in monsoon predictions. Statement 3 is also incorrect; the assertion that IMD's forecasting technology has high precision might be overstated considering the ongoing challenges and inaccuracies in predicting monsoon patterns. However, statement 1 is correct; inadequate data from neighboring countries does indeed contribute to inefficacy in monsoon predictions.

6. Answer:

(a) 1 only

Explanation:

AI algorithms have been successfully developed to predict rogue waves up to five minutes in advance using ocean buoy data, making statement 1 correct. However, statement 2 is incorrect as no AI model has yet demonstrated a prediction accuracy of nearly 100% for such complex natural phenomena, reflecting the ongoing challenges and limitations in predictive technology.

7. Answer:

(B) Only two statements

Explanation:

Statements 1 and 2 are correct: CoWIN was crucial during the COVID-19 vaccine rollout, and e-Vin has been used to manage vaccine logistics. However, statement 3 is incorrect; U-Win is designed for immunization registry and tracking, not for distributing electronic gadgets.

8. Answer:

(a) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Digital Health ID is indeed part of the U-Win portal, aiming to improve healthcare efficiency through better data management. However, statement 2 is incorrect because the Digital Health ID is intended for broader health record management, not exclusively for COVID-19 vaccination records.

9. Answer:

(a) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

Statement 1 is accurate as the Finance Commission indeed recommends the revenue-sharing model between the Centre and the States. Statement 3 is also correct; Arvind Panagariya leads the 16th Finance Commission. However, statement 2 is incorrect; the recommendations by the Finance Commission are advisory and not binding on the government.

10. Answer:

(B) Only two statements

Explanation:





Statement 2 is correct; the draft National Menstrual Hygiene Policy was introduced in 2023. Statement 3 is also correct as it recognizes all individuals who menstruate, including transgender and intersex people. Statement 1 is incorrect; the Supreme Court of India has not approved the inclusion of menstrual leave under the Maternity Benefits Act.

11. Answer:

(C) Only 2 and 3 Explanation: Statement 1 is correct; the PIL does argue that climate change impacts should be included in Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA). Statement 3 is also correct; G. Sundarajan filed the PIL. However, statement 2 is incorrect; the Madras High Court did not dismiss the PIL citing jurisdiction issues but instead asked the Centre to respond, acknowledging the plea's validity.

12. Answer:

(a) 2 and 3 only Explanation: India maintains a policy of strategic autonomy, as indicated in statement 2, which allows it to navigate complex international relationships independently. Statement 3 is also correct, with the U.S. expressing concerns about India's oil purchases from Russia amid the conflict. However, statement 1 is incorrect as India has not unequivocally condemned Russia's actions in Ukraine, reflecting its balanced diplomatic stance.

13. Answer:

(B) Only two statements Explanation: Statement 1 is correct as CIMMYT played a significant role in developing high-yielding maize varieties, contributing to the Green Revolution in maize. Statement 3 is also correct; India's maize output has indeed more than tripled since 1999-2000. However, statement 2 is incorrect; while maize is used for ethanol production, it is not the primary use of maize in India, with most maize going towards feedstock.

14. Answer:

(b) Both A and R are correct but R is not the correct explanation of A Explanation: Both the assertion and the reason are correct; the gig economy does offer flexibility, and the Karnataka draft Bill seeks to provide protections and transparency. However, the reason does not directly explain the assertion as it addresses regulatory aspects, not the inherent flexibility of gig work.

15. Answer:

(C) Only 2 and 3 Explanation: Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The additional deaths expected from climate change are not primarily due to infectious diseases like cholera and tuberculosis, but rather from a wider range of causes including heat stress, malnutrition, and malaria. Statement 1 is correct as the WHO has indeed projected additional deaths annually due to climate change impacts.

16. Answer:

(C) All three statements Explanation: All statements are correct. The BNSS extends police custody beyond 15 days with possible judicial oversight, aims to replace the CrPC, and has been criticized for potential increases in custodial violence, reflecting broader concerns about human rights and the legal process.

17. Answer:





(A) Only 1 and 3 Explanation: Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. IAS officers on probation can indeed face severe repercussions for fraudulent behavior, but they are not allowed to engage in overt political activities during probation. Statement 2 is correct; probation usually lasts two years and can be extended based on performance evaluations.

18. Answer:

(a) 1 and 2 only Explanation: Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Finance Commission indeed recommends how taxes should be shared between the Centre and States and aims to enhance funding for local bodies. However, statement 3 is incorrect; cesses and surcharges collected by the Centre are generally not shared with States, which has been a point of contention in state-central financial relations.

19. Answer:

(b) 1 and 3 only Explanation: Statement 2 is incorrect as the private sector's enthusiasm is limited due to perceived market risks and financial uncertainties, which deter investment in infrastructure despite significant allocations by the government. Statements 1 and 3 correctly reflect the budget's allocation and the encouragement for states to invest in infrastructure.

20. Answer:

(c) A is correct, R is incorrect Explanation: While it is true that India is aiming to involve one crore farmers in natural farming, the reason provided is incorrect. Natural farming can potentially reduce yields, especially when transitioning from conventional to natural methods, thus posing risks to food security rather than enhancing it.

21. Answer:

(a) 1 only Explanation: Statement 1 correctly reflects the budget's initiative towards alleviating the financial challenges faced by MSMEs. Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect as there were no specific increases in direct tax provisions for MSMEs mentioned in the budget, nor was a new scheme for technological upgrades explicitly introduced.

22. Answer:

(c) Only 2 and 3 Explanation: Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. Customs duties were reduced in the budget, not increased, and the fiscal deficit target for the budget year was set at 4.9% of GDP, not 4.5%. Statement 1 is correct, reflecting the budget's shift in incentives from production-linked to employment-linked.

23. Answer:

(a) 1 only. Explanation: Statement 1 is correct as rising sea temperatures contribute to more frequent and intense hurricanes. Statement 2 is incorrect as the intensity of hurricanes, including Category 5 storms, has actually increased, not decreased, due to climate change.

24. Answer:

(c) A is correct, R is incorrect Explanation: The assertion that Paris 2024 aims to be the greenest Olympic Games ever is correct, focusing on halving carbon emissions and using sustainable practices. However, the





reason provided is incorrect as the games plan to use a mix of renewable sources, not exclusively non-renewable sources.

25. Answer:

(b) Only two Statements Explanation: Statements 1 and 3 are correct as the budget included an increase in the standard deduction and aims to phase out exemptions and deductions under the new tax regime. However, Statement 2 is incorrect because there was no reduction in capital gains taxes; in fact, adjustments were aimed at increasing them in some cases.

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