

## Answers

1) B

The second edition of the biennial pan-India coastal defence exercise 'Sea Vigil-21' will be conducted on 12-13 January 2021. Assets of the Indian Navy, Coast Guard, Customs and other maritime agencies will participate in SEA VIGIL, the conduct of which is also being facilitated by the Ministries of Defence, Home Affairs, Shipping, Petroleum and Natural Gas, Fisheries, Customs, State Governments and other agencies of Centre/ State.

The exercise, inaugural edition of which was conducted in January 2019; will be undertaken along the entire 7516 km coastline and Exclusive Economic Zone of India and will involve all the 13 coastal States and Union Territories along with other maritime stakeholders, including the fishing and coastal communities.

2) C

Protected area (PA) management effectiveness evaluation (MEE) is defined as the assessment of how well NP&WLS are being managed—primarily, whether they are protecting their values and achieving the goals and objectives agreed upon. The term 'management effectiveness' reflects three main themes of PA management:

- Design issues relating to both individual sites and PA systems
- The adequacy and appropriateness of management systems and processes
- Delivery of the objectives of NP&WLS, including conservation of values.

India is among the select countries in the world that have institutionalized the MEE Process. Report on Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE) of 146 National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries in India, 2018-19 has been released recently based on the evaluation conducted by the MoEFCC with the technical assistance from Wildlife Institute of India. # The results of present assessment are encouraging with overall mean MEE score of 62.01% which is higher than the global mean of 56%. With this round of evaluation, the MoEFCC successfully completed one full cycle of evaluating all terrestrial National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries of the country from 2006 to 2019.

3) D

4) C

Vanadium is a medium-hard, steel-blue metal. It is quite valuable in the manufacturing industry due to its malleable, ductile and corrosion-resistant qualities. Around 80 percent of the vanadium produced is alloyed with iron to make a shock- and corrosion-resistant steel additive called ferrovanadium. Vanadium-steel alloys are used to make extremely tough tools such as axles, armor plates, car gears, springs, cutting tools, piston rods and crankshafts. High doses of vanadium are toxic to humans, but scientists think we may need the element in very small amounts for normal bone growth. Vanadium can be found in trace amounts in many types of food, including mushrooms, black pepper, parsley, dill weed, shellfish, beer, wine and grain.

#### 5) C

During culling operations, all domestic birds in an infected area, i.e., an area in which a case of bird flu has been detected, are slaughtered and their remains buried. In India, culling is done in a radius of one kilometer from the site of infection, which is called the 'infected zone'.

This means all domestic birds present in commercial farms, backyard farms or live bird markets in the infected zone are culled. Normally, the World Organization for Animal Health OIE says, the cervical dislocation or neck-wringing method may be used by first making the poultry unconscious.

The OIE manual says cervical dislocation is non-invasive killing method and can be performed manually on small birds, but it is difficult in larger birds and results in operator fatigue.

#### 6) A

Covishield vaccine that had been in the works for several months has been approved in India. It is based on a weakened version of a common cold virus or the adenovirus that is found in chimpanzees.

This viral vector contains the genetic material of the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein present on the outer surface of the virus that helps it bind with the human cell.

COVISHIELD is yet to be granted emergency use approval from the the World Health Organization (WHO).

The WHO recently listed the COVID-19 mRNA vaccine for emergency use, making the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine the first to receive emergency validation from WHO.

#### 7) B

A K-shaped recovery occurs when, following a recession, different parts of the economy recover at different rates, times, or magnitudes.

It describes the path of different disaggregated economic variables, such as income across different segments of society or employment in different industries, relative to one another.

In India, households at the top of the pyramid are likely to have seen their incomes largely protected, and savings rates forced up during the lockdown. Meanwhile, households at the bottom are likely to have witnessed permanent hits to jobs and incomes.

COVID has triggered an effective income transfer from the poor to the rich, this will be demand-impeding because the poor have a higher marginal propensity to consume (i.e) they tend to spend (instead of saving) a much higher proportion of their income.

## **8) C**

Suriname President Chandrikapersad Santokhi, Curacao Prime Minister Eugene Rhuggenaath and New Zealand minister Priyanka Radhakrishnan were among 30 NRIs, and Indian-origin people and organisations who were conferred the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award recently.

**Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award**

The award is the highest honour conferred by the President of India as part of the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Conventions.

The award will be conferred on a Non-Resident Indian (NRI), Person of Indian Origin (PIO), and organisation or institution established and run by NRIs or PIOs.

## **9) A**

A lithium-ion (Li-ion) battery is an advanced battery technology that uses lithium ions as a key component of its electrochemistry. During a discharge cycle, lithium atoms in the anode are ionized and separated from their electrons. The lithium ions move from the anode and pass through the electrolyte until they reach the cathode, where they recombine with their electrons and electrically neutralize.

Lithium resources, in descending order, are: Bolivia, 21 million tons; Argentina, 17 million tons; Chile, 9 million tons; Australia, 6.3 million tons; China, 4.5 million tons.

One of the major disadvantages of the Lithium ion battery is it is expensive to manufacture – about 40 percent higher in cost than nickel-cadmium.

The cost of Li-ion battery packs fell by 85 percent in the last decade and will further fall by 35 percent by 2024. India has recently set up Khanij Bidhesh India Pvt. Ltd. to explore strategic mineral assets abroad. India and Australia recently signed a preliminary deal to supply India the critical minerals required for a new-energy economy.

**10) C**

The Foreign Trade Policy is notified by Central Government, in exercise of powers conferred under Section 5 of the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992 which states that 'the Central Government may, from time to time, formulate and announce, by notification in the Official Gazette, the foreign trade policy'.

India's FTP has conventionally been formulated for five years at a time. The FTP 2015-20 came into effect on 1st April 2015 and the same was extended by one year till 31 March 2021, due to Covid-19 pandemic.

**11) C**

To assist the hospitality industry in their preparedness to continue operations safely and mitigate risks arising out of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ministry of Tourism has partnered with the Quality Council of India (QCI), to assist the Hospitality Industry through an initiative called SAATHI (System for Assessment, Awareness and Training for Hospitality Industry). SAATHI has been developed based on the COVID-19 guidelines, with a provision to incorporate State specific hygiene and safety requirements encompassing the following 10 elements of SAATHI:

Management Commitment, Hygiene and Sanitization, Safety Advisories in Hotel Operations, Communication, Training & Awareness, Preventive Measures, Transport Management, Vendor Management, Ventilation, Waste Management and Control of Discriminatory Practices. Under the initiative, a Hotel/Unit goes through the SAATHI framework and agrees to follow the requirements wherever applicable to the fullest extent possible. A self-certification is issued.

**12) B****13) C**

V-shaped recovery is a type of economic recession and recovery that resembles a "V" shape in charting.

V-shaped recovery represents the shape of a chart of economic measures economists create when examining recessions and recoveries. V-shaped recovery involves a sharp rise back to a previous peak after a sharp decline in these metrics.

**14) C**

National Innovation Foundation (NIF) is an autonomous body of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India. It is India's national initiative to strengthen the grassroots technological innovations and outstanding traditional knowledge. Its mission is to help India become a creative and knowledge-based society by expanding policy and institutional space for grassroots technological innovators. NIF scouts, supports and spawns' grassroots innovations developed by individuals and local communities in any technological field, helping in human survival without any help from formal sector.

# A National Innovation Portal (NIP) by NIF has been launched recently hosting about 1.15 lakh innovations scouted from common people of the country, covering Engineering, Agriculture, Veterinary and Human Health.

**15) C**

Both statements are correct and provided for under Article 121 and 122 of the Constitution. Article 121: No discussion shall take place in Parliament with respect to the conduct of any Judge of the Supreme Court or of a High Court in the discharge of his duties except upon a motion for presenting an address to the President praying for the removal of the Judge. Article 122: Courts not to inquire into proceedings of Parliament. (1) The validity of any proceedings in Parliament shall not be called in question on the ground of any alleged irregularity of procedure. (2) No officer or member of Parliament in whom powers are vested by or under this Constitution for regulating procedure or the conduct of business, or for maintaining order, in Parliament shall be subject to the jurisdiction of any court in respect of the exercise by him of those powers.

**16) B****17) C**

A Drone swarm is a fleet of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) that work together to achieve a specific goal. The flight of the drones is controlled either manually, i.e. by remote control operations, or autonomously by using processors deployed on the drones

Swarms of drones are increasingly being requested to carry out missions that cannot be completed by single drones. Particularly in the field of civil security, strong needs emerge in terms of surveillance and observation of hostile, distant or extended areas.

**18) C**

Covishield from the Serum Institute of India and Bharat Biotech's Covaxin have been granted of permission for restricted use in emergency situation subject to certain regulatory conditions.

CoWIN, an online digital platform developed by Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, will be used to drive the COVID-19 vaccination program in the country.

It will facilitate real time information of vaccine stocks, storage temperature and individualized tracking of beneficiaries for COVID-19 vaccine. This digital platform will assist program managers across National, State, and District levels while conducting vaccination sessions. It will help them track beneficiary coverage, beneficiary dropouts, sessions planned v/s sessions held and vaccine utilization

**19) C**

In the last financial year (2019-20), India attracted \$14.67 billion in FDI from Singapore, whereas it was \$8.24 billion from Mauritius; the top two sources of FDI in India.

Other large sources of FDI in India in recent years include USA, Mauritius, Netherlands, UK, France and Japan. India's trade deficit with China has been decreasing for the last couple of years according to new figures from China's General Administration of Customs (GAC).

**20) D**

