

Answers

1) D

Right to clean, healthy and sustainable environment

- In a landmark decision, the UN Human Rights Council has recently recognised, for the first time, that having a clean, healthy and sustainable environment is a human right.
- The Council called on States to work together, and with other partners, to implement this newly recognized right.
- The resolution on the Human right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment was adopted by a vote of 43 in favour, none against and 4 abstentions.
- China, India, Japan and Russian Federation, abstained from voting on the resolution.
- The resolution was proposed by five members comprises Costa Rica, the Maldives, Morocco, Slovenia and Switzerland.
- The resolution emphasizes the rights to life, liberty and security of human rights defenders working in environmental matters, referred to as environmental human rights defenders.
- The right to a clean environment was rooted in the 1972 Stockholm Declaration.

2) A

Indian Space Association (ISpA)

- It is a private industry body to help boost space technology in India.
- It will be represented by leading homegrown and global corporations with advanced capabilities in space and satellite technologies.
- ISpA will participate and work with ISRO and others on the issue of policy around space technology and domain.
- It will focus on capacity building and space economic hubs and incubators in India.
- Its founding members include Larson & Toubro, Nelco (Tata Group), OneWeb, Bharti Airtel, Mapmyindia, Walchandnagar Industries and Ananth Technology Limited.
- Other core members include Godrej, Hughes India, Azista-BST Aerospace Private Limited, BEL, Centum Electronics, Maxar India.

3) A

4) A

- Along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) between India in China, Indian Army has been given certain locations that its troops have to access to patrol the area under its control.
- These points are known as patrolling points, or PPs, and are decided by the China Study Group (CSG).
- CSG was set-up in 1976, when Indira Gandhi was the prime minister, and is the apex decision-making body on China.
- Barring certain areas, like Depsang Plains, these patrolling points are on the LAC, and troops access these points to assert their control over the territory.
- It is an important exercise since the boundary between India and China is not yet officially demarcated.
- PP15 and PP17A are two of the 65 patrolling points in Ladakh along the LAC.
- PP15 is located in an area known as the Hot Springs, while PP17A is near an area called the Gogra post.

Kongka La

- Hot Springs lies in the Chang Chenmo river valley, close to Kongka La.
- Kongka La is a low mountain pass on the Line of Actual Control between India and China in eastern Ladakh.
- It lies on a spur of the Karakoram range that intrudes into the Chang Chenmo Valley adjacent to the disputed Aksai Chin region.
- Both of these are close to the Chang Chenmo river in the Galwan sub-sector of the LAC in eastern Ladakh.

5) C

India Post has recently launched the e-PLI bon, digital version of PLI policy bonds.

ePLI bond

- It is made available in collaboration with Digilocker, National eGovernance Division (NeGD), Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY) Government of India.
- DigiLocker has been providing a secure cloud-based platform for storage, sharing and verification of documents & certificates for various organisations.
- By securely logging in to the Digilocker, the user can download the digital copy of the Policy bond on their mobile phone.
- Both the Postal Life Insurance (PLI) as well as the Rural Postal Life Insurance (RPLI) policy bonds are available in the 'electronic form'.

6) A

Ministry of Rural Development has recently launched the Climate Resilience Information System and Planning (CRISP-M) tool. It aims for integration of climate information in Geographic Information System (GIS) based watershed planning under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA.

7) C

8) B

The Dhole or Asiatic Wild Dog (*Cuon alpinus*) is found in three clusters across India namely the Western and Eastern Ghats, central Indian landscape and North East India. It is a Schedule II species under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

9) D

10) A

The mission is designed to understand the composition of the diverse asteroids that are a part of the Trojan asteroid swarms. NASA is set to launch the 'Lucy' Mission

11) A

Recently, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) has announced that a global deal to ensure big companies pay a Global Minimum Tax (GMT) rate of 15% has been agreed by 136 countries (including India). Statement 1 is correct: The OECD is an intergovernmental economic organisation, founded to stimulate economic progress and world trade. It is headquartered in Paris, France. India is not a member, but a key economic partner.

12) C

The plan focuses on a framework for facilitating global cooperation, building a global ecosystem of interconnected renewable energy resources (mainly solar energy) that can be seamlessly shared. It is launched by MNRE.

13) A

14) C

Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act was passed in 1985 to tackle the problem of illegal drugs in India. The Act establishes Narcotics Control Bureau as the apex drug law enforcement agency and empowers it to oversee the implementation of the NDPS Act. The Act

prescribes quantity-based punishment. The Act differentiates between small and commercial quantities of various drugs. NDPS Act provides harsh sentences for those convicted of offences involving smuggling. It even provides for the death penalty in some cases where a person is a repeat offender. But the same act also provides for immunity from prosecution to those who are dependent on drugs (through Section 64). It also provides the setting up of treatment facilities for addicts (through Section 71)

15) A

It is a specialised body set up under the National Green Tribunal Act (2010) for effective and expeditious disposal of cases relating to environmental protection and conservation of forests and other natural resources. NGT is mandated to make disposal of applications or appeals finally within 6 months of filing of the same. Recently, The Supreme Court has empowered the National Green Tribunal (NGT) with suo motu (on its own) power to initiate proceedings on its own in case of environmental exigencies.

