

Solution
Weekly Quiz
(24th Jan- 30th Jan)

1) Solution: b)

Non-Member States of the United Nations, which are members of one or more specialized agencies, can apply for the status of Permanent Observer. The status of a Permanent Observer is based purely on practice, and there are no provisions for it in the United Nations Charter.

Permanent Observers have free access to most meetings and relevant documentation.

Many regional and international organizations are also observers in the work and annual sessions of the General Assembly.

2) Solution: d)

The Social Security Code of 2020 brings the unorganised sector, gig workers and platform workers under the ambit of social security schemes, including for their insurance and health.

3) Solution: b)

State-level securities are issued by various State governments and are referred to as State Development Loans (SDLs).

All SDLs are serviced by the RBI through two funds called the Consolidated Sinking Fund (CSF) and Guarantee Redemption Fund (GRF) that States maintain with the RBI.

SDLs usually give higher rates than G-Secs.

4) Solution: c)

'C2' is a more comprehensive cost that factors in rentals and interest forgone on owned land and fixed capital assets, on top of A2+FL.

CACP reckons only A2+FL cost for return. However, C2 costs are used by CACP primarily as benchmark reference costs (opportunity costs) to see if the MSPs recommended by them at least cover these costs in some of the major producing States.

If we implement the principle of C2, the MSP of paddy will increase much higher than that of wheat.

5) Solution: a)

The Mi-17 V5 helicopter crash that killed Gen. Bipin Rawat and 13 others in December was due to “unexpected change” in weather conditions that led to the spatial disorientation of the aircraft’s pilot resulting in Controlled Flight into Terrain (CFIT).

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) defines a Controlled Flight into Terrain incident as an accident in which there is a collision with terrain, water, or obstacle during the course of a flight, without indication of loss of control. IATA stresses that the critical distinction in these incidents versus other types of aviation accidents is the fact that the aircraft remains under the control of the flight crew till the occurrence of the incident.

6) Solution: a)

Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) is the premier R&D organization of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) for carrying out R&D in IT, Electronics and associated areas.

As an institution for high-end Research and Development (R&D), C-DAC has been at the forefront of the Information Technology (IT) revolution, constantly building capacities in emerging/enabling technologies and innovating and leveraging its expertise, caliber, skill sets to develop and deploy IT products and solutions for different sectors of the economy, as per the mandate of its parent, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Government of India and other stakeholders including funding agencies, collaborators, users and the market-place.

7) Solution: d)

Exposure to POPs can lead to cancer, damage to central & peripheral nervous systems, diseases of immune system, reproductive disorders and interference with normal infant and child development.

Uniqueness of POPs:

POPs are lipophilic, which means that they accumulate in the fatty tissue of living animals and human beings.

In fatty tissue, the concentrations can become magnified by up to 70 000 times higher than the background levels.

As you move up the food chain, concentrations of POPs tend to increase so that animals at the top of the food chain such as fish, predatory birds, mammals, and humans tend to have the greatest concentrations of these chemicals.

8) Solution: c)

Project Himank is a project of the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) in the Ladakh region that started in August 1985. It is known for constructing some of world's highest motorable roads across the Khardung La, Tanglang La and Chang La passes. Umling la is the highest motorable road on Earth with height 19300 feet. It is responsible for constructing and maintaining motorable roads in Ladakh, along the Line of Actual Control.

9) Solution: a)

Market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) proposed that all orders emanating from application programming interface (API) of stockbrokers should be treated as algorithmic trading, or algo.

In a consultation paper, Sebi said there is a need to create a regulatory framework for algo trading.

Algorithmic trading refers to orders generated at superfast speed by the use of advanced mathematical models that involve automated execution of trade. The algo runs on the broker's systems and not on the investors system. Whenever the algo generates a signal, an order

automatically gets fired on the investor's account with no human involvement from either the broker or the investor. The algo trading system automatically monitors the live stock prices and initiates an order when the given criteria are met.

10) Solution: d)

An intangible cultural heritage (ICH) is a practice, representation, expression, knowledge, or skill considered by UNESCO to be part of a place's cultural heritage.

It is sometimes called living cultural heritage, and is manifested in the following domains, among others:

- Oral traditions and expressions, including language as a vehicle of the intangible cultural heritage;
- Performing arts;
- Social practices, rituals and festive events;
- Knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe;
- Traditional craftsmanship

11) Solution: c)

The Antarctic Treaty and related agreements, collectively known as the Antarctic Treaty System (ATS), regulate international relations with respect to Antarctica, Earth's only continent without a native human population. The treaty entered into force in 1961.

The main objective of the ATS is to ensure in the interests of all humankind that Antarctica shall continue forever to be used exclusively for peaceful purposes and shall not become the scene or object of international discord. Pursuant to Article 1, the treaty forbids any measures of a military nature, but not the presence of military personnel or equipment for the purposes of scientific research.

Any nuclear explosions in Antarctica and the disposal there of radioactive waste material shall be prohibited.

12) Solution: a)

Black holes do not emit or radiate anything, even light. So, there is no way their image can be captured. But the area just outside its boundary, called the event horizon, which has vast amounts of gas, clouds and plasma swirling violently, does emit all kinds of radiations, even visible light.

13) Solution: c)

Phumdis are a series of floating islands, exclusive to the Loktak Lake in Manipur. This mass constitutes the world's largest floating park, named Keibul Lamjao National Park.

Phumdis are used by the local people for constructing their huts for fishing and other livelihood uses.

The life-cycle of the phumdis has generally been subject to seasonal variation. During the monsoon season when the water level is high, the phumdis float, but during the dry season, as the water level falls, the phumdis touch the lake bed and absorb nutrients from it. When the wet season returns, they again float, and the biomass, which has enough nutrients stored in the plants' roots, survives.

14) Solution: c)

Nitrous oxide is also known as laughing gas.

Nitrous oxide has significant medical uses, especially in surgery and dentistry, for its anaesthetic and pain reducing effects.

It is on the World Health Organisation's List of Essential Medicines, the safest and most effective medicines needed in a health system.

15) Solution: d) The Ministry of External Affairs too has seen a restructuring with a Cyber Diplomacy Division, an E-Governance & Information Technology Division and a New Emerging & Strategic Technologies Division to manage science and technology issues in the nation's diplomatic matrix.

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