

Weekly Quiz Answers (3rd – 9th July)

Ans1. D

Explanation:

Context: The Government of India presses ahead with its plan to internationalise the Indian Rupee (INR), an Inter-Departmental Group (IDG) of officials of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have in a report cautioned that internationalisation may result in increased volatility in the rupee's exchange rate in the initial stages.

Key Highlights

- “This would further have monetary implications as the obligation of a country to supply its currency to meet the global demand may come in conflict with its domestic monetary policies, popularly known as the Triffin dilemma,” the IDG wrote.
- “Also, the internationalisation of a currency may accentuate an external shock, given the open channel of the flow of funds into and out of the country and from one currency to another.
- However, the IDG held that the overall benefits of internationalisation in terms of limited exchange rate risk, lower cost of capital due to better access to international financial markets, high seignior age benefits and reduced requirement of foreign exchange reserves far outweighed the concerns.

A volatile proposition

Internationalising the rupee may result in increased exchange rate volatility in the initial stages, the IDG cautioned



- A global rupee may accentuate external shocks as funds can freely flow in and out of India
- Internationalisation can offer benefits such as limited exchange rate risk, lower cost of capital
- However, the RBI said the IDG's observations do not reflect its official position on the issue

Ans2. B

Explanation:

- A dark pattern refers to a design or user interface technique that is intentionally crafted to manipulate or deceive users into making certain choices or taking specific actions that may not be in their best interest.
- Many believe that the use of dark patterns is a business strategy. The legality of dark patterns is a complex matter as distinguishing between manipulation and fraudulent intent can be challenging.
- The Department of Consumer Affairs and the Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) recently held a joint consultation with stakeholders on the menace of ‘dark patterns’. The ASCI has come up with guidelines for the same, with the central government also working towards norms against ‘dark patterns’.
- On June 30, 2023, as per information by the PIB, major Indian online marketplaces received a letter from the Department of Consumer Affairs warning them against engaging in “unfair trade practices” by implementing “dark patterns” in their user interfaces to influence consumer choice.
- Businesses are using various techniques and deceptive patterns to downgrade the user experience to their own advantage. Some of the common practices are
 - Creating a sense of urgency or scarcity while online shopping;
 - Confirm shaming wherein a consumer is criticised for not conforming to a particular belief;
 - The forced action of signing up for a service to access content;
 - Advertising one product or service but delivering another, often of lower quality, known as the bait and switch technique;

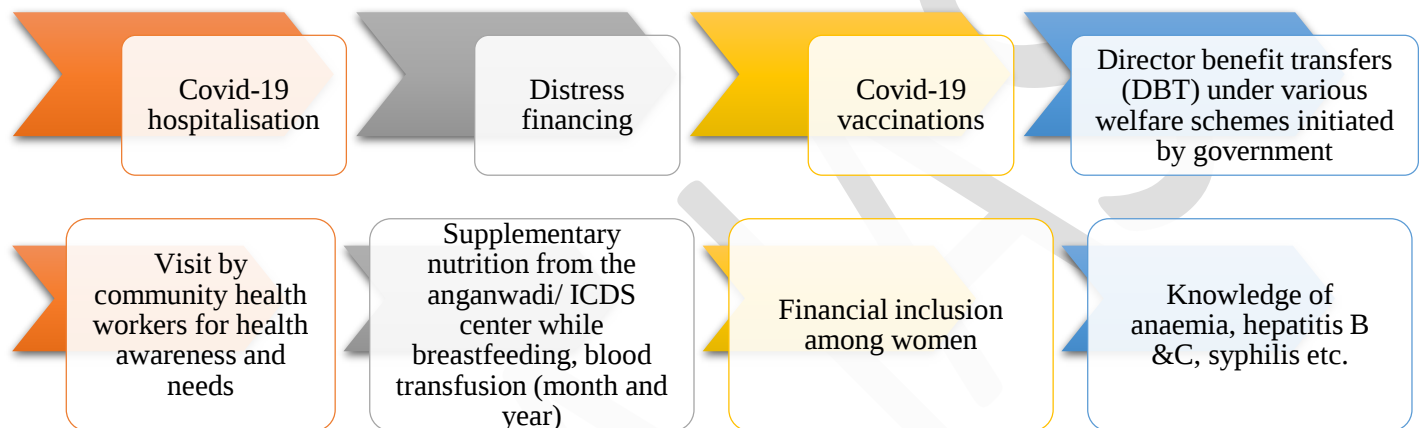
- Hidden costs where the bill is revised or costs are added when the consumer is almost certain to purchase the product;
- Disguised advertisements of a particular product by way of depicting it as news and many more.

Such deceptive patterns that manipulate consumer choice and impede their right to be well-informed constitute unfair practices that are prohibited under the Consumer Protection Act 2019.

Ans3. B

Explanation:

New Domain Areas in NFHS-6



- Unlike in previous rounds, NFHS-6 will adopt Urban Frame Survey (UFS, 2012-17) of National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) as a sampling frame for urban area.
- This strategy will minimize the non-sampling errors to large extent as the boundary identification problems using 2011 census frame will be resolved.
- While for rural areas, updated list of villages from NSO will be used as a frame, which would be matched with the Principal Component Analysis (PCA) from the Census to get auxiliary information.”

The government will also evaluate the areas such as

- Migration
- Utilization of health services i.e. Health and wellness centre
- Health insurance/ health financing
- Digital literacy
- Counselling on family planning after abortion
- Incentives under new methods of family planning
- Quality of family planning programme
- Menstrual hygiene
- Marital choice

Ans4. C

Explanation:

NIRBHAYA SCHEME	
About	In a bid to counter abuses against women and girls, Nirbhaya Fund was announced in 2013 Union Budget.

Fund	The fund was started with a corpus of Rs 1,000 crore. • The Government of India established the Nirbhaya Fund in response to the Nirbhaya Case in 2013. • It is aimed specifically at projects for improving women's safety and security.
Administration	The Fund is administered by Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) of the Finance Ministry.
Nodal Agency	The Ministry of Women and Child Development is the nodal agency for Nirbhaya Fund, though schemes are implemented by several Union ministries, state governments and other agencies, including non-government outfits.

Ans5. B

Explanation:

National Green Tribunal	
Establishment	Established under the National Green Tribunal Act 2010
Aim	Established for effective and expeditious disposal of cases relating to environmental protection and conservation of forests and other natural resources.
Composition of NGT	NGT comprises the Chairperson, the Judicial Members, and Expert Members. • They shall hold office for a term of 5 years and are not eligible for reappointment. • The Chairperson is appointed by the Central Government in consultation with the Chief Justice of India (CJI). • A Selection Committee shall be formed by the central government to appoint the Judicial Members and Expert Members. • There are to be at least 10 and a maximum of 20 full-time Judicial members and Expert Members in the tribunal.
Powers of NGT	• It has appellate jurisdiction to hear appeals as a Court. • The Tribunal is not bound by the procedure laid down under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, but shall be guided by principles of natural justice. • NGT is mandated to make disposal of applications or appeals finally within 6 months of the filing of the same. • An order/decision/award of Tribunal is executable as a decree of a civil court.
Head office	New Delhi is the Principal Place of Sitting of the Tribunal and Bhopal, Pune, Kolkata and Chennai shall be the other four places of sitting of the Tribunal.

Ans 6. B

Explanation:

Context: The Centre has decided to help build infrastructure in border areas to combat child trafficking and help in rehabilitation and protection of victims.

Key Highlights

- As part of this initiative, the Women and Child Development Ministry will provide financial assistance to the States and Union Territories (U.T.) along the border areas to set up homes for the protection and rehabilitation of trafficking victims from neighbouring countries.
- These homes would provide shelter, food, clothing, counselling, primary health facilities and other daily needs for the trafficking victims, most of whom are children and minors.
- The trafficking victims in the border areas will also be produced before the child welfare committees to declare them fit for availing sponsorship as per the Mission Vatsalya Scheme guidelines and accordingly, the States and U.T.s will be requested to do the needful.

Previous Status

- Till now, the Women and Child Development Ministry has been providing financial assistance to all States and Union Territories under **the Nirbhaya Fund** to set up and strengthen Anti-Human Trafficking Units (AHTU) in every district of the country.
- Funding has also been provided for setting up these units in border guarding forces such as the Border Security Force (BSF) and Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB).
- As of now, 788 AHTUs are functional.

Need for the scheme

- According to the NCRB data, there were 6,533 victims of human trafficking in the 2,189 cases filed last year under anti-human trafficking units. Out of these, 4,062 victims were female and 2,471 were male.
- As many as 2,877 victims were minors. While more underage boys (1,570) were trafficked in 2021 than girls (1,307) in 2021, this trend reversed in the case of adult victims.

Ans7. B

Explanation:

Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS)

- FCI sells surplus stocks of wheat and rice at predetermined prices through e-auction in the open market from time to time to enhance the supply of food grains.
- The purpose of OMSS is to dispose of surplus stocks of wheat and rice held by FCI, and to regulate the prices of wheat in the open market.

India & Human Trafficking

- According to the officials, India is a source as well as a destination country for human trafficking.
 - The main source countries are Nepal, Bangladesh and Myanmar from where women and girls are trafficked in the lure of a better life, jobs and good living conditions on this side.
- A majority of those trafficked are minor girls or young women who after their arrival in India are sold and forced into commercial sex work.
- These women often reach major cities such as Mumbai, Delhi and Hyderabad from where they are taken out of the country mainly to West Asia and South East Asia, the officials said.

Thus, the States bordering these countries need to be more vigilant and have adequate facilities to provide relief and rehabilitation, and in order to aid this, the Ministry would provide the financial assistance.

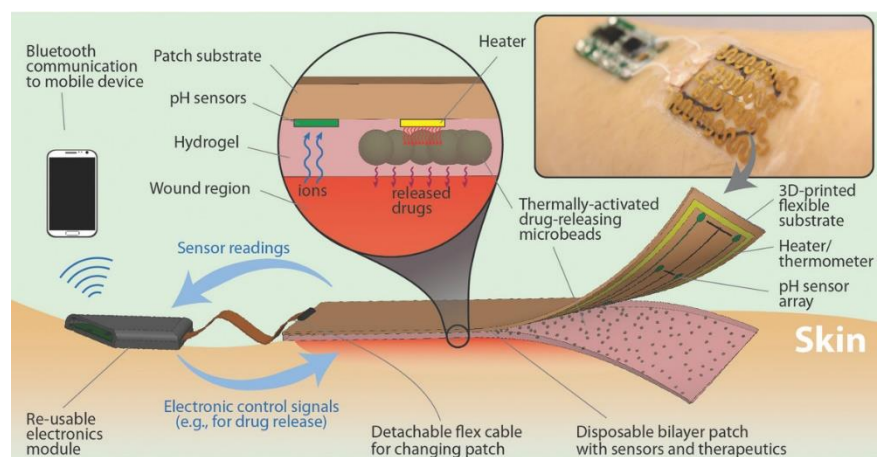
- FCI conducts weekly auctions for the OMSS for wheat on the platform of the National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange Limited (NCDEX).
- NCDEX is a commodity exchange platform in India that provides a platform for trading in various agricultural and other commodities.
- The State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations are also allowed to participate in the e-auction, if they require wheat and rice outside the Targeted Public Distribution Scheme (TPDS) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS).
- The reserve price is fixed by the government. In the tenders floated by the FCI, the bidders cannot quote less than the reserve price.
- The present form of OMSS comprises 3 schemes as under:
 - Sale of wheat to bulk consumers/private traders through e-auction.
 - Sale of wheat to bulk consumers/private traders through e-auction by dedicated movement.
 - Sale of Raw Rice Grade 'A' to bulk consumers/private traders through e-auction.

Ans8. D

Explanation:

What is a smart bandage?

- Chronic non healing wounds affect tens of millions of people around the world and cause a staggering financial burden on the health care system.
- Personalised wound management demands both effective wound therapy and close monitoring of crucial wound healing biomarkers in the wound exudate.
- The device, is assembled on a soft, stretchable polymer that helps the bandage maintain contact with and stick to the skin.
- The bio-electronic system consists of biosensors that monitor biomarkers in the wound exudate.
- Data collected by the bandage is passed to a flexible printed circuit board, which relays it wirelessly to a smartphone or tablet for review by a physician.
- A pair of electrodes control drug release from a hydrogel layer as well as stimulate the wound to encourage tissue regrowth.
- While scientists have previously used biosensors to track wound-healing, they have monitored a single feature of the wound bed. The new setup, in contrast, can monitor multiple features, building the sort of picture required to fully understand the wound status. In the past, the exudates have limited the biosensors' sensitivity. In the new design, the researchers enclosed the sensors in a porous membrane, protecting their parts and increasing their operational stability.



- Biosensors determine the wound status by tracking the chemical composition of the exudates, which changes as the wound heals.
- Additional sensors monitor the pH and temperature for real time information about the infection and inflammation.
- A pair of electrodes – the same electrodes that stimulate the tissue – control the release of drugs from a hydrogel layer.
- The wireless nature of the device sidesteps the problems of existing electrical stimulation devices, which usually require bulky equipment and wired connections, limiting their clinical use.

Ans9. C

Explanation:

- Pangong Tso — a lake spanning eastern Ladakh and western Tibet.
- India holds one-third of the 135 km-long Pangong Lake, with the disputed area known as the "fingers".
- Indian claims extend till Finger 8, the perceived Line of Actual Control (LAC), while historically holding territory till Finger 4.
- Initial clashes in May 2020 occurred on the north bank, which has more significant differences in LAC perceptions compared to the south bank.
- Indian Army has a permanent position near Finger 3, while the Chinese have a base east of Finger 8.
- China is rushing to complete a bridge across the Pangong Tso, connecting the north and south banks, India is also building a blacktopped road on its side on the north bank.



Ans10. A

Explanation:

NATO & NATO Plus

- ✓ NATO is a transatlantic military alliance of 31 countries, with the majority of members from Europe.
 - After the dissolution of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War, many thought that NATO would lose its relevance.
 - On the contrary, NATO has not only survived but also expanded, with Finland joining as its 31st member (April 2023), and Sweden waiting in the wings.
 - NATO appears to be getting the much-needed ground for survival, thanks to Russia's tirade against it and the invasion of Ukraine. W
 - With NATO swelling its expanse, some analysts even see the onset of Cold War 2.0.
- ✓ NATO plus refers to a security arrangement of NATO and the five treaty allies of the U.S. — Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Israel, and South Korea as members — to enhance “global defence cooperation” and win the “strategic competition with the Chinese Communist Party”.

- Interestingly, the term ‘NATO Plus’ is not an officially recognised or established concept within NATO itself, but has been used in discussions and debates regarding the potential expansion of the alliance.
- The inclusion of these countries as members would require a complex process of negotiation and assessment of their compatibility with NATO’s principles, obligations, and defence commitments.
- ✓ While NATO’s earlier target was the Soviet Union and now Russia, the focus of NATO Plus is clearly on containing China.
 - Therefore, considering its disputes with China, India remains a missing link in the framework.

Ans11. C

Explanation:

P-8I Aircraft

- Long-range Maritime Reconnaissance and Anti-Submarine Warfare Aircraft.
- Indian variant of the P-8A Poseidon aircraft that Boeing company developed as a replacement for the US Navy’s ageing P-3 fleet.
- Maximum speed: 907 kmph
- Operating range: over 1,200 nautical miles
- P-8Is detect threats and neutralize them if required, far before they come anywhere near Indian shores.
- The Indian Navy became the first international customer for the P-8 aircraft in 2009.
- The Navy had procured eight P-8Is in 2009. The aircraft are part of the 312A Naval Air Squadron based at Arakkonam in Tamil Nadu.
- In 2016, the Navy exercised the optional clause for four more P-8Is.
- Further in May 2021, the US State Department approved the possible sale of six additional P-8I aircraft and related equipment, to India.
- The six P-8Is will come installed with encrypted communication systems since India has now signed the foundational agreement Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement (COMCASA) with the US.

Ans12. D

Explanation:

Anaemia

- Anaemia is a condition in which the number of red blood cells or their oxygen-carrying capacity is insufficient to meet physiological needs, which vary depending on age, sex, altitude, smoking status, and pregnancy status.
- **The most common cause of anaemia is iron deficiency, however other conditions such as folate, vitamin B12, and vitamin-A deficiencies, chronic inflammation, parasitic infections, and inherited disorders can also cause anaemia.**
- It is associated with fatigue, weakness, dizziness, and drowsiness in its severe form. Women who are pregnant and children are particularly vulnerable.
- Pregnant women and children are particularly vulnerable.

- According to the National Family Health Survey 2019-20, Indian women and children are overwhelmingly anaemic.
- According to the World Health Organization (WHO), women in the reproductive age group and having haemoglobin levels lower than 12 g/dL, as well as children under five with haemoglobin levels lower than 11.0 g/dL are considered anaemic.

Ans13. C

Explanation:

Leptospirosis has emerged as an important infectious disease in the world today. It is a potentially fatal zoonotic bacterial disease that tends to have large outbreaks after heavy rain or flooding.

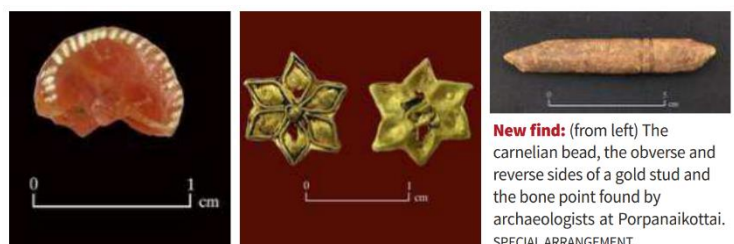
- The disease is more prevalent in warm, humid countries and in both urban and rural areas.
- It affects an estimated 1.03 million people every year, killing around 60,000.
- The burden of leptospirosis is expected to increase in the future as the urban poor population in many tropical countries increases even as sanitary infrastructure falls short.
- The disease has been called “ili jwara” in Kannada and “eli pani” in Malayalam, both meaning “rat fever”.
 - This usage has fed a common belief that rats are the sole cause of the disease, which is not true.
 - Leptospirosis has a spectrum of reservoir hosts, including pigs, cattle, water buffaloes, goats, dogs, horses and sheep
- In India, thousands of people are affected by leptospirosis every year. However, the numbers at the global and regional levels are not exact because of misdiagnosis (its symptoms mimic those of dengue, malaria, and hepatitis), limited access to reliable diagnostics, lack of awareness among treating physicians, and lack of environmental surveillance.
 - Within India, studies have found that leptospirosis is more common in the south, although this could be due to the region’s better healthcare and thus better disease detection.

Ans14. C

Explanation:

A gold stud, a bone point and a carnelian bead have been unearthed by archaeologists at Porpanaikottai in Pudukottai district of Tamil Nadu, where the State Archaeology Department has taken up excavation this year.

- A Sangam age fort is believed to have existed at the site.
- The stud in floral design with six petals was found at a depth of 133 cm in one of the eight trenches dug at the site.



- “The ornament, weighing 0.26 grams, probably used as a nose stud and is an indication of the culture of the Sangam Age.
- The bone point and the broken piece of carnelian bead were found at a depth of 140-160 cm in another trench.
- The bone point, with pointed ends on both sides and carvings, was probably used for weaving.
- The discovery of the red round-shaped carnelian bead is a pointer to domestic trade.
- “Carnelian beads have been found at Kodumanal and a few other places in Tamil Nadu. The stones were usually sourced from Gujarat.



Ans15. B

SCHEMES UNDER NIRBHAYA FUND	
Ministry of Women and Child Development	
One Stop Centre	These are popularly known as Sakhi Centres. The scheme began to function across India from April 2015. The scheme aims to establish centres to facilitate women who are victims of violence. The Centres provide first aid, medical aid, police assistance, legal aid and counselling support. About 186 centres will be made operational by July, 2017.
Universalisation of Women Helpline	The Department of Telecommunication has allocated the number 181 for women helpline. As of now, Women Helplines are already operational in 18 States/UTs. These helpline numbers will link the One Stop Centres being established under the Nirbhaya Fund.
Mahila Police Volunteer scheme	Mahila Police Volunteers (MPVs) is envisaged to act as a link between police and community and help women in distress. Haryana has become the first state to start this scheme in December, 2016. Other States are expected to follow suit.
Schemes Of Ministry of Home Affairs	
Emergency Response support System	Emergency Response Support System (ERSS) envisages an integrated computer aided emergency response platform that aims to ensure speedy assistance to the distressed persons.
Central Victim Compensation Fund	Central Victim Compensation Scheme (CVCF) has been framed under section 357A of CrPC. Under this initiative a Corpus Fund will be disbursed to States/UT to facilitate States/UTs in providing compensation to the victim (including survivors of rape and acid attack) or her dependents who have suffered loss or injury as a result of the crime.
Schemes of Ministry of Railways	
Integrated Emergency Response Management System	This will provide round the clock security to women passengers in 983 Railway Stations across the country by strengthening of security arrangements of Railways with Security Helpline, Medical Facilities, RPF and police, installation of CCTV cameras, etc.

Abhaya Project Proposal (Andhra Pradesh)	Abhaya Project is a proposal proposed by Andhra Pradesh for ensuring the safety of Women and Girl child during the transport (auto rickshaw).
CHIRALI-Friends Forever (Rajasthan)	Under this scheme, Community Action Groups in 7 districts of Rajasthan has been constituted for a period of three years from 2016-17 to 2018-19 to create an enabling environment to support girls and women to move freely and make use of opportunities for their overall well-being.