

## Weekly Quiz Answers (11<sup>th</sup> Feb- 17<sup>th</sup> Feb)

Ans 1. B

**Explanation:**

- The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), statutory organisation, was constituted in September, 1974 under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. Further, CPCB was entrusted with the powers and functions under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.
- It serves as a field formation and also provides technical services to the Ministry of Environment and Forests of the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Principal Functions of the CPCB, as spelt out in the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981:
  - to promote cleanliness of streams and wells in different areas of the States by prevention, control and abatement of water pollution
  - to improve the quality of air and to prevent, control or abate air pollution in the country.

Ans 2. B

**Explanation:**

- HAPS is a solar-powered UAV. It can generate solar energy and remain in the air for months or years.
- HAPS operates in the stratosphere (which extends from 6-50 km above the earth's surface), flying at altitudes of 18-20 km, nearly double the heights of commercial aeroplanes. This altitude allows them to provide surveillance capabilities akin to satellites.
- HAPS is designed for persistent surveillance, communications, and specialist science missions.
- HAPS is a still-developing technology, and the successful test flight puts India among a very small group of countries currently experimenting with this technology.

Ans 3. B

**Explanation:**

- National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL), a constituent of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), India, established in the year 1959 is the only government aerospace R&D laboratory in the country's civilian sector.
- CSIR-NAL is a high-technology-oriented institution focusing on advanced disciplines in aerospace. CSIR-NAL has several advanced test facilities, and many of them are recognized as National Facilities.
- These are not only the best in the country but are also comparable to other similar facilities in the world.
- CSIR-NAL has provided significant value-added inputs to all the Indian national aerospace programmes.
- The contributions of the laboratory over the last five decades have enabled it to create a niche for itself in advanced aerospace research and technology development.
- CSIR-NAL has also developed many critical technologies for the strategic sector and continues to support the mission-mode programmes of the country.
- CSIR-NAL's mandate is to develop aerospace technologies with strong science content, design and build small, medium-sized civil aircraft, and support all national aerospace programmes.

Answer 4. D

**Explanation:**

- Manufactured by a Chennai-based company, PAR facilitates safe aircraft landings in adverse weather conditions like heavy rain and fog.
- It offers precise horizontal and vertical guidance even in low visibility scenarios, aiding pilots in aligning with the runway centerline.
- Positioned near the runway midpoint, PAR operates remotely and assists controllers in providing accurate navigational guidance to pilots.
- Its accuracy allows for lower minimum descent during landings, increasing visibility and safety for pilots.

Ans 5. B

**Explanation:**

- Ectotherms, or cold-blooded animals including fish, reptiles and amphibians, cannot hibernate. The dormancy they exhibit is called brumation. The animal experiences physiological changes similar to hibernation.
- Brumation is a period of dormancy observed in reptiles.
- This process bears resemblance to hibernation in mammals.
- The timing and duration of brumation vary based on factors such as species, age, and gender, with males often emerging from dormancy before females.

Ans 6. B

**Explanation:**

- It is an autonomous and statutory body established under the IRDA Act 1999.
- It is the apex body that supervises and regulates the insurance sector in India.
- Objective: To protect the interests of policyholders, to regulate, promote and ensure orderly growth of the insurance industry in India.
- Nodal Ministry: Ministry of Finance
- Head Office: Hyderabad.
- Composition: IRDAI is a 10-member body- a Chairman, five full-time members, and four part-time members appointed by the Government of India.

Ans 7. C

**Explanation:**

- The ASHA program began in 2005-06 under the National Rural Health Mission, initially targeting rural areas and later extended to urban settings through the National Urban Health Mission in 2013.
- It has become the largest community health worker program globally, fostering community participation in health.
- As of June 2022, there are over 10.52 lakh ASHAs in all states/UTs (excluding Goa).

**Role of ASHA**

- ASHA serves as a community-level health care facilitator and service provider, raising awareness on health issues.

- They deliver crucial services in maternal child health, family planning, and under the National Disease Control Programme.
- ASHA workers, predominantly women, serve populations of about 1,000 in rural areas and 2,000 in urban settings, with adjustments made based on local needs.

Ans 8. B

**Explanation:**

- **National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF):** It is a renowned Centre of Excellence in Weather and Climate Modeling operating under the Ministry of Earth Sciences. Our dedicated mission is to continually advance and enhance numerical weather prediction systems, ensuring increased reliability and accuracy across India and its neighboring regions. Through extensive research, development, and the demonstration of innovative applications, we strive to maintain the highest level of knowledge, skills, and technical expertise in our field.
- **Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology:** To develop outstanding research talent capable of understanding and exploring enlightened and effective Atmospheric sciences. To further the advancement of Research in Ocean-Atmosphere by undertaking relevant scientific programmes. To collaborate with other similar research institutions, in the development and application of climate study.
- **Indian Space Research Organisation:** The prime objective of ISRO/DOS is the development and application of space technology for various national needs. To fulfil this objective, ISRO has established major space systems for communication, television broadcasting and meteorological services; resources monitoring and management; space-based navigation services. ISRO has developed satellite launch vehicles, PSLV and GSLV, to place the satellites in the required orbits.
- **India Meteorological Department:** It was established in 1875. It is the National Meteorological Service of the country and the principal government agency in all matters relating to meteorology and allied subjects:
  - To take meteorological observations and to provide current and forecast meteorological information for optimum operation of weather-sensitive activities like agriculture, irrigation, shipping, aviation, offshore oil explorations, etc.
  - To warn against severe weather phenomena like tropical cyclones, norwesters, duststorms, heavy rains and snow, cold and heat waves, etc., which cause destruction of life and property.
  - To provide meteorological statistics required for agriculture, water resource management, industries, oil exploration and other nation-building activities.
  - To conduct and promote research in meteorology and allied disciplines.

Ans 9. D

**Explanation:**

- The right to information is a fundamental right under Article 19 (1) of the Indian Constitution. In 1976, in the Raj Narain vs the State of Uttar Pradesh case, the Supreme Court ruled that Right to information will be treated as a fundamental right under article 19. The Supreme Court held that in Indian democracy, people are the masters and they have the right to know about the working of the government.

- Thus the government enacted the Right to Information act in 2005 which provides machinery for exercising this fundamental right.
- Some information that can affect the sovereignty and the integrity of India is exempted from the purview of RTI.
- Information relating to internal security, relations with foreign countries, intellectual property rights (IPR), cabinet discussions are exempted from RTI.

Ans 10. A

**Explanation:**

- Common Name: Honey Badger
- Scientific Name: Mellivora capensis
- Type: Mammals
- Diet: Omnivore
- Group Name: Cete or Clan
- Average Life Span In The Wild: Up to 7 years
- Size: 9 to 11 inches high at shoulder
- Weight: 13 to 30 pounds
- IUCN Red List Status: Least concern.
- Honey badgers, also known as ratels, are related to skunks, otters, ferrets, and other badgers.
- These voracious omnivores get their name from their fondness for feeding on honey and honeybee larvae.
- They also eat insects, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals, as well as roots, bulbs, berries, and fruits.

Ans 11. B

**Explanation:**

- Punjab Regiment - Gatka
  - The Punjab regiment has incorporated Gatka, a traditional martial art originating from Punjab in the 15th century. Gatka involves stick-fighting techniques using wooden sticks to simulate swords. It has historical significance as it was taught by Sikh gurus.
- Gorkha Regiment - Khukuri Dance
  - The Gorkha Regiment has integrated the Khukuri Dance into its training regime. This dance, performed exclusively by men, symbolizes victory and is an integral part of Gurkha culture. The Khukuri, a small knife, holds symbolic importance in this dance form.
- Madras Regiment - Kalaripayattu
  - The Madras regiment has embraced Kalaripayattu, an ancient martial art from Kerala. Kalaripayattu emphasizes physical conditioning, weapon training, and indigenous healing techniques. It aims to achieve harmony between mind and body.
- Udhampur-based - Krav Maga
  - The Udhampur-based regiment has adopted Krav Maga, an Israeli-origin martial art. Krav Maga focuses on practical self-defense techniques, including strikes, kicks, and grappling. It equips soldiers with skills for real-life combat situations.

Ans 12. A

**Explanation:**

- The percentage of cash required to be kept in reserves as against the bank's total deposits, is called CRR.
- All banks in India (all Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) (including RRBs), Small Finance Banks (SFBs), Payments Banks, Primary (Urban) Co-operative Banks (UCBs), State Co-operative Banks (StCBs) and District Central Co-operative Banks (DCCBs)) have to maintain CRR with RBI.
- Every co-operative bank (not being a scheduled co-operative bank) and Local Area Banks shall maintain CRR with itself or with the RBI.
- Banks can't lend the CRR money to corporates or individual borrowers, banks can't use that money for investment purposes, and Banks don't earn any interest on that money.

Ans 13. A

**Explanation:**

- UAPA was passed in 1967. It aims at effective prevention of unlawful activities associations in India.
- Unlawful activity refers to any action taken by an individual or association intended to disrupt the territorial integrity and sovereignty of India.
- The Act assigns absolute power to the central government, by way of which if the Centre deems an activity as unlawful then it may, by way of an Official Gazette, declare it so.
- The Act empowers the Director General of National Investigation Agency (NIA) to grant approval of seizure or attachment of property when the case is investigated by the said agency.
- The Act empowers the officers of the NIA, of the rank of Inspector or above, to investigate cases of terrorism in addition to those conducted by the DSP or ACP or above rank officer in the state.

Ans 14. A

**Explanation:**

- CEPA is a comprehensive agreement between India and the United Arab Emirates that seeks to enhance the economic and commercial ties between the two countries.
- The agreement aims to increase trade and investment, improve market access, and promote economic growth between India and the UAE.
- CEPA was signed in 2020 and is seen as a significant milestone in the economic relationship between India and the UAE.
- Under CEPA, the two countries have committed to reducing barriers to trade and investment, which will make it easier for businesses from both countries to engage in trade and investment activities.
- The agreement includes provisions for reducing tariffs on goods, services, and investment, as well as for promoting the movement of people, goods, and services between India and the UAE.

Ans 15. C

**Explanation:**

- The Punjab regiment has incorporated Gatka, a traditional martial art originating from Punjab in the 15th century. Gatka involves stick-fighting techniques using wooden sticks to simulate swords. It has historical significance as it was taught by Sikh gurus.