

## Weekly Quiz (3<sup>rd</sup> March- 9<sup>th</sup> March)

Ans. 1 B

### Explanation

- Thamirabarani is the only perennial river in South India, flowing through the districts of Tirunelveli and Thoothukudi in Tamil Nadu.
- Originating from the Pothigai hills of Western Ghats, it traverses approximately 128 kilometers along the southern edge of the country.
- Remarkably, the river originates and concludes its journey within the state of Tamil Nadu.
- The river holds significant cultural and ecological importance for the people of Tamil Nadu, supporting diverse wildlife including the Nilgiri marten, slender loris, lion-tailed macaque, and various amphibian and avian species like the galaxy frog and great hornbill.

Ans 2. B

### Explanation

- Water is under the state list, but the Union government has made Dam safety law under Article 246 of the Constitution. Article 246 empowers Parliament to legislate on matters listed in the state list under certain conditions.
- The Dam Safety Act, passed by Parliament, provides an institutional mechanism for ensuring dam safety in India.
- The NDSA is a statutory body as the Act established a National Dam Safety Authority to maintain standards related to dam safety, prevent dam-related disasters and address inter-State concerns related to dams.
- The National Dam Safety Authority will be headed by a chairman and assisted by five members having working experience in; Policy and research, technical, regulation, disaster and resilience and administration and finance.
- Special Provisions for Surveillance, Inspection, Operation and Maintenance of all large dams of the Country to Prevent Dam Failure Related Disasters.
- The act also has penal provisions, list of offenses and penalties, for ensuring compliance of the Act.
- The Headquarters of the authority will be in the national capital region and will be supported by four regional offices.

Ans 3. A

### Explanation

- Initially established as Hailey National Park in 1936, renamed as Ramganga National Park in 1952, and finally named Jim Corbett National Park in 1957 in honor of Jim Corbett. Jim Corbett National Park was the first national park in India to come under the Project Tiger initiative in 1973.
- The park was established in 1936 during the British Raj and named Hailey National Park after William Malcolm Hailey, a governor of the United Provinces in which it was then located. In 1956, nearly a decade after India's independence, it was renamed Corbett National Park after the hunter and naturalist Jim Corbett, who had played a leading role in its establishment and had died the year before.
- Jim Corbett played a key role in establishing this protected area in the 1930s. The area of the reserve kept expanding, and was increased to 797.72 square kilometers (308.00 square miles) when a buffer zone was added in 1991.

Answer 4. A

### Explanation

- The Commodity Derivatives Advisory Committee (CDAC) has been constituted by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to review the commodity segment and suggest measures to improve the depth and efficiency of the market.

Ans 5. D

### Explanation

- Hangul, commonly known as Kashmir Stag is a subspecies of the elk.
- Scientific Name: *Cervus hanglu hanglu*
- It is a critically endangered animal found in the Indian state of Jammu & Kashmir (state animal).
- The Hangul has a brown reindeer type of look and has a small tail, it has a beige color on the below and inner legs at the rear end of the animal.
- It also has a horn tilted slightly inward with 4-6 tines.
- The Hangul is considered equally significant to the state of Jammu & Kashmir as the tiger is to the whole of India.
- It is the only Asiatic survivor or sub-species of the European red deer.

### Conservation Efforts

- Dachigam National Park, the habitat of Hanguls, was temporarily closed during the rutting season in October.
- Despite a sharp decline in population since 1947, recent conservation endeavors have resulted in a gradual increase, with the estimated population reaching 261 in 2021.
- To bolster Hangul conservation, ten sites have been designated for protection, and a captive-breeding facility has been established at Shikargah Tral.
- The International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) Red Data Book — which contains lists of species at risk of extinction — has declared the Hangul as one of three species that were critically endangered in Jammu and Kashmir.
- The other two are the Markhor — the world's largest species of wild goat found in Kashmir and several regions of central Asia — and the Tibetan antelope or 'Chiru', found mostly in the mountainous regions of Mongolia and the Himalayas, where Jammu and Kashmir is mostly situated.
- The Hangul is placed under Schedule I of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and the J&K Wildlife Protection Act, 1978.

Ans 6. B

### Explanation

- It is an umbrella organisation for operating retail payments and settlement systems in India. It is an initiative of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Indian Banks' Association (IBA) under the provisions of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.
- It has been incorporated as a "Not for Profit" Company under the provisions of Section 25 of Companies Act 1956 (now Section 8 of Companies Act 2013).
- The ten core promoter banks are State Bank of India, Punjab National Bank, Canara Bank, Bank of Baroda, Union Bank of India, Bank of India, ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank, Citibank and HSBC. In 2016 the shareholding was broad-based to 56 member banks to include more banks representing all sectors.

Ans 7. D

### Explanation

- The traditional crochet lace craft of Narasapur in Andhra Pradesh receives a Geographical Indications (GI) tag to preserve its unique identity amidst competition from machine-made lace from China.
- Similarly, Majuli masks and manuscript painting in Assam gain GI recognition, enhancing their cultural significance and safeguarding against decline.
- These GI tags aim to rejuvenate and promote traditional crafts, ensuring their continued legacy and heritage preservation.
- In the year 2019, The Controller General of Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks (CGPDTM) granted Geographical Indication (GI) tag for Kolhapuris, the ethnic leather chappal to Kolhapur, Sangli, Solapur and Satara districts of Maharashtra and Belgaum, Dharwad, Bagalkot and Bijapur districts of Karnataka.

Ans 8. D

### Explanation

#### Composition of CCI

- The Commission consists of one Chairperson and six Members as per the Competition Act who shall be appointed by the Central Government.
- The commission is a quasi-judicial body which gives opinions to statutory authorities and also deals with other cases. The Chairperson and other Members shall be whole-time Members.
- Eligibility of members: The Chairperson and every other Member shall be a person of ability, integrity and standing and who, has been, or is qualified to be a judge of a High Court, or, has special knowledge of, and professional experience of not less than fifteen years in international trade, economics, business, commerce, law, finance, accountancy, management, industry, public affairs, administration or in any other matter which, in the opinion of the Central Government, may be useful to the Commission.

#### Functions and Roles of CCI

- To eliminate practices having adverse effect on competition, promote and sustain competition, protect the interests of consumers and ensure freedom of trade in the markets of India.
- To give opinion on competition issues on a reference received from a statutory authority established under any law and to undertake competition advocacy, create public awareness and impart training on competition issues.

Ans. 9. B

### Explanation

- Cervical cancer develops in a woman's cervix. It is the 4th most common type of cancer among women, globally and 2nd most common among women in India.
- India contributes the largest share of the global cervical cancer burden; nearly 1 in every 4 deaths globally due to cervical cancer (as per The Lancet study).
- Almost all cervical cancer cases (99%) are linked to infection with high-risk Human Papillomavirus (HPV), an extremely common virus transmitted through sexual contact.
- Effective primary (HPV vaccination) and secondary prevention approaches (screening for and treating precancerous lesions) will prevent most cervical cancer cases.

- When diagnosed, cervical cancer is one of the most successfully treatable forms of cancer, as long as it is detected early and managed effectively.
- India accounts for about a fifth of the global burden for cervical cancer, recording about 1.25 lakh cases and about 75,000 deaths each year.

### Types of Strain

- Persistent infections with certain high-risk HPV strains lead to nearly 85% of all cervical cancers.
- At least 14 HPV types have been identified as oncogenic (potential to cause cancer).
- Among these, HPV types 16 and 18, considered to be the most oncogenic, have been found to be responsible for about 70% of all cervical cancer cases globally.

Ans. 10. C

### Explanation

- The Chakshu portal, under the Sanchar Saathi initiative, empowers citizens to report suspected fraud communications targeting telecom service users, encompassing bank accounts, payment wallets, SIM cards, and impersonation as government officials or relatives.
- How to Use Chakshu Portal to Report Spam Calls, fraud:
  - Log in to the 'Sanchar Saathi' portal at [sancharsaathi.gov.in](http://sancharsaathi.gov.in).
  - Select the 'Chakshu' option under 'Citizen Centric Services.'
  - Review the disclaimer and usage guidelines, then proceed with reporting.
  - Fill out the form detailing suspected fraud communication medium, category, and timing.
  - Provide personal details, verify with OTP, and submit the complaint.

Ans 11. B

### Explanation

- Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is an autonomous statutory body established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 (FSS Act).
- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India is the administrative Ministry of FSSAI.
- Headquarters: Delhi.

Ans 12. C

### Explanation

#### Doctrine of Lapse

- It was an annexation policy followed widely by Lord Dalhousie when he was India's Governor-General from 1848 to 1856.
- According to this, any princely state that was under the direct or indirect control of the East India Company where the ruler did not have a legal male heir would be annexed by the company.
- As per this, any adopted son of the Indian ruler could not be proclaimed as heir to the kingdom.
- By applying the doctrine of lapse, Dalhousie annexed the States of:
  - Satara (1848 A.D.)
  - Jaitpur, and Sambalpur (1849 A.D.)
  - Baghat (1850 A.D.)
  - Udaipur (1852 A.D.)
  - Jhansi (1853 A.D.)
  - Nagpur (1854 A.D.).

Ans 13. D

### Explanation

- **Perennial Rivers:** India is blessed with numerous perennial rivers that traverse its vast and diverse landscape. These rivers not only provide sustenance but also have immense cultural and religious significance. Examples are Thamiraparani is the only perennial (continuous flow of water) river in Tamil Nadu. The Ganga, India's most sacred river, originates from the Gangotri Glacier in Uttarakhand. It flows through several states and major cities, including Varanasi, Kanpur, Kolkata, and Patna, before merging into the Bay of Bengal.
- **Non-Perennial Rivers:** India is not only home to perennial rivers but also boasts several non-perennial rivers that exhibit varying water flow patterns based on seasonal rainfall. While these rivers may not flow throughout the year, they play a crucial role in the ecosystem and the lives of people residing in their vicinity. Examples are Sabarmati – Gujarat, Luni- Rajasthan

Ans 14. A

### Explanation

- It is a machine that produces more nuclear fuel than it consumes.
- **Fuel:** The Fast Breeder Reactor (FBR) will initially use the Uranium-Plutonium Mixed Oxide (MOX) fuel.
- The Uranium-238 “blanket” surrounding the fuel core will undergo nuclear transmutation to produce more fuel, thus earning the name ‘Breeder’.
- The use of Thorium-232, which in itself is not a fissile material, as a blanket is also envisaged in this stage.
- By transmutation, Thorium will create fissile Uranium-233 which will be used as fuel in the third stage.
- **Coolant:** It uses liquid sodium, a highly reactive substance, as coolant in two circuits. Coolant in the first circuit enters the reactor and leaves with (heat) energy and radioactivity. Via heat-exchangers, it transfers only the heat to the coolant in a secondary circuit. The latter transfers the heat to generators to produce electricity.
- It has been fully designed and constructed indigenously by Bhartiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Ltd (BHAVINI) with significant contribution from more than 200 Indian industries including MSMEs.
- In terms of safety, the PFBR is an advanced third generation reactor with inherent passive safety features ensuring a prompt and safe shut down of the plant in the event of an emergency.

### Significance

- Since it uses the spent fuel from the first stage, FBR also offers great advantage in terms of significant reduction in nuclear waste generated, thereby avoiding the need for large geological disposal facilities.
- Once commissioned, India will only be the second country after Russia to have commercial operating Fast Breeder Reactor.
- FBR is thus a stepping stone for the third stage of the program paving the way for the eventual full utilization of India’s abundant thorium reserves.

Ans 15. B

**Explanation**

- INS Jatayu is the second Naval base in Lakshadweep after INS Dweeprakshak in Kavaratti, which was commissioned in 2012.
- The existing Naval Detachment Minicoy, which is under the operational command of the Naval Officer-in-Charge (Lakshadweep), will be commissioned as INS Jatayu.