

Weekly Quiz (29July-3Aug)

Answer Key with Explanations

1) Ans: a) Only one

- **National Commission for Backward Classes (I):** Constitutional body
- **National Human Rights Commission (II):** Statutory body
- **National Law Commission (III):** Non-statutory body
- **National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (IV):** Quasi-judicial body

2) Ans: d) Andaman and Nicobar Islands

- **Andaman and Nicobar Islands:** Unique climatic and geographical conditions supporting diverse ecosystems

3) Ans: d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

- **Statement I:** Incorrect, as "Dark Oxygen" does not refer to oxygen produced in darkness
- **Statement II:** Correct, as polymetallic nodules generate oxygen through electrochemical activity in the absence of light

4) Ans:(c) Both 1 and 2

- **No criminal proceedings against the Governor during term:**
 - **Correct:** Article 361 of the Indian Constitution provides immunity to the Governor from criminal proceedings during their term of office.
- **Emoluments and allowances not diminished:**
 - **Correct:** Article 158 of the Indian Constitution states that the emoluments and allowances of the Governor shall not be diminished during their term of office.

5) Ans:(b) 1 and 3 only

- **Sending a report to the President of India for imposing the President's rule:**
 - **Discretionary Power:** Yes, the Governor can send a report to the President recommending the imposition of President's Rule in the state under Article 356 of the Indian Constitution.
- **Appointing the Ministers:**
 - **Not a Discretionary Power:** No, the appointment of Ministers is generally done on the advice of the Chief Minister as per Article 164 of the Indian Constitution.
- **Reserving certain bills passed by the State Legislature for consideration of the President of India:**

- **Discretionary Power:** Yes, the Governor has the discretion to reserve certain bills for the President's consideration under Article 200 of the Indian Constitution.
- **Making the rules to conduct the business of the State Government:**
 - **Not a Discretionary Power:** No, this function is typically carried out based on the advice of the Council of Ministers.

6) Ans: (b)

- Context: Union Budget 2024-25 proposes to set up ₹1000 crore venture capital fund for the space economy
- Venture capital funds are pools of capital provided by investors to startups and small businesses with strong growth potential. These funds are managed by venture capital firms, which seek to identify and invest in early-stage companies that have the potential to scale rapidly.

7) Ans: c) All three

- **Statement I:** Correct, celebrated on July 26
- **Statement II:** Correct, designated by UNESCO in 2015
- **Statement III:** Correct, role in protecting coastlines and supporting biodiversity

8) Ans:c) All three

- **Statement I:** Correct, aims to restore and conserve mangrove ecosystems
- **Statement II:** Correct, established at World Ocean Summit in 2018
- **Statement III:** Correct, collaborates with various organizations

9) Ans: (a)

- The World Bank published the report "The Impact of Climate Change on Education," which examines the effects of climate change on educational systems globally and suggests measures for adaptation and resilience to ensure educational continuity and quality
- Key findings: Climate change intensifies extreme weather, disrupting schooling and causing learning losses.
 - From 2005-2024, schools closed during 75% of extreme weather events, impacting over 5 million people.
 - Rising temperatures and food insecurity also negatively affect learning outcomes and school enrollment.
 - Climate events particularly harm girls in low-income countries, preventing at least 4 million from completing their education.

10) Ans: (a)

- Context: The Monastery of Saint Hilarion/Tell Umm Amer in Palestine has been inscribed on the World Heritage List and the List of World Heritage in Danger by UNESCO.
- The **“World Heritage in Danger”** list is an initiative by the **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)**. This list is part of the World Heritage Program, which aims to identify, protect, and preserve cultural and natural heritage around the world deemed to be of outstanding value to humanity. When a site is listed as **“in danger,”** it means that it faces threats that could have adverse effects on its characteristics, which justified its inclusion as a World Heritage Site. These threats can include environmental factors, developmental pressures, or conflict situations. By listing these sites, UNESCO aims to mobilize international support for their preservation.

11) Ans: (b)

- Context: The Reserve Bank of India’s (RBI) latest draft guidelines require banks to hold more liquid assets to handle potential bank runs, potentially slowing credit growth. Banks must now account for outflows from digital deposits when calculating the Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR)
- What is the Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR)?
 - **The Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR) is a regulatory standard requiring banks to hold a sufficient amount of high-quality liquid assets (HQLA) that can be quickly converted to cash to meet their short-term obligations over a 30-day stress scenario.** The goal is to ensure banks can survive a period of significant financial stress without needing external assistance. LCR in banking resulted from the Basel III agreement.

12) Ans: (a)

- Context: India has taken over as Chair of the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC) for 2024-25, with Rajendra Singh from NDMA assuming the role.
- The Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC) is a regional resource center that emphasizes disaster risk reduction and management across Asia. **Its mission involves enhancing the capacities of countries to prepare for and manage disasters more effectively, rather than providing direct relief or**

financial aid. The ADPC supports various countries in the region through training, capacity building, and technical assistance to improve their disaster resilience and response capabilities.

13) Ans: (b)

- Context: **Australia** has banned mining at the **Jabiluka uranium site**, located within **Kakadu National Park**, in a victory for the Indigenous Mirarr people who have fought for decades to protect their land. This decision aligns with the wishes of the Mirarr, who have cared for the land for over 60,000 years.
- Australia has around one-third of the world's uranium deposits. Uranium deposits in India are primarily found in crystalline rocks. Jharkhand state holds 70% of the country's uranium reserves.

14) Ans: (b)

- The **New Development Bank (NDB)** was not set up by the **Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)**. It was established by the **BRICS** countries (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) to support public or private projects through loans, guarantees, equity participation, and other financial instruments. The headquarters of the New Development Bank is indeed in Shanghai, China.

15) Ans: (c)

- **Incorrect Options:**
 1. **Same person cannot be Governor for multiple states:** Incorrect. A person can be appointed as Governor for two or more states simultaneously.
 2. **Judges of High Courts appointed by the Governor:** Incorrect. Judges of the High Courts are appointed by the President.
 3. **Chief Minister of Union Territory appointed by Lt. Governor:** Incorrect. The Chief Minister is appointed by the President.
- **Correct Option: 4. No procedure for removal of Governor:** Correct. The Constitution does not specify a procedure for the removal of a Governor, who holds office at the pleasure of the President.

16) Ans: (c) 1, 2, and 3

- **Option (a) 1 only:** Incorrect because it excludes child stunting and child mortality.

- **Option (b) 2 and 3 only:** Incorrect because it excludes undernourishment.
- **Option (c) 1, 2 and 3:** Correct because all three indicators (undernourishment, child stunting, and child mortality) are used by IFPRI to compute the Global Hunger Index.
- **Option (d) 1 and 3 only:** Incorrect because it excludes child stunting.

17) Ans:b) 3 and 4 only

- **Statement I:** Incorrect, DRDAs are not Panchayati Raj Institutions.
- **Statement II:** Incorrect, DRDAs do not conduct area-specific scientific studies.
- **Statement III:** Correct, DRDAs secure coordination for anti-poverty programmes.
- **Statement IV:** Correct, DRDAs ensure effective utilization of funds for anti-poverty programmes.

18) Ans:c) 1 and 3 only

- **Statement I:** Correct, the Governor is appointed by the Central Government.
- **Statement II:** Incorrect, no constitutional provisions give such rights to the Central Government.
- **Statement III:** Correct, the Governor's power is derived from the RBI Act.

19) Ans:(a)

- **Cas9 Protein:**
 - **Function:** Cas9 is an enzyme that acts as molecular scissors, able to cut DNA at specific locations.
 - **Use in Gene Editing:** It is a crucial component of the CRISPR (Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats) technology, which is used for precise and targeted gene editing.
 - **Relevance:** Cas9 allows scientists to alter DNA sequences and modify gene function, making it a powerful tool for genetic research, including correcting genetic defects, treating and preventing the spread of diseases, and improving crops.

Incorrect Options:

- **(b) A biosensor used in the accurate detection of pathogens in patients:** Incorrect. While biosensors are used for pathogen detection, Cas9 is not a biosensor.

- **(c) A gene that makes plants pest-resistant:** Incorrect. Cas9 is not a gene but an enzyme.
- **(d) A herbicidal substance synthesized in genetically modified crops:** Incorrect. Cas9 is not a herbicide but an enzyme used for gene editing.

20) Ans:(d) 1, 2 and 3

- **Identify Genetic Markers:** Helps in finding traits like disease resistance and drought tolerance.
- **Reduce Development Time:** Speeds up the breeding process for new crop varieties.
- **Decipher Host-Pathogen Relationships:** Improves understanding of crop disease resistance.

21) Ans:c) 2, 3 and 4 only

- **Statement I:** Not related to inclusive governance.
- **Statement II:** Establishing effective District Planning Committees.
- **Statement III:** Increasing government spending on public health.
- **Statement IV:** Strengthening the Mid-day Meal Scheme.

22) Ans:(d)

- **Provisions of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2003 (FRBM Act):**
 - The FRBM Act was enacted to institutionalize financial discipline, reduce fiscal deficit, improve macroeconomic management, and enhance transparency in fiscal operations.
 - The Act mandates the government to present several documents to the Parliament along with the Budget, including the **Macro Economic Framework Statement**.
 - This statement outlines the government's assessment of the growth prospects of the economy, fiscal policy strategy, and significant policy measures along with the underlying economic assumptions.

Incorrect Options:

- **(a) Long standing parliamentary convention:**

- Incorrect, as it is not a parliamentary convention but a statutory requirement.
- **(b) Article 112 and Article 110(1) of the Constitution of India:**
 - Article 112 pertains to the Annual Financial Statement (Budget), and Article 110(1) defines what constitutes a Money Bill. They do not mandate the Macro Economic Framework Statement.
- **(c) Article 113 of the Constitution of India:**
 - Article 113 pertains to the procedure in Parliament with respect to estimates, not the Macro Economic Framework Statement.

23) Ans:d)

- **Loss of revenue:** Directly impacts government's ability to fund public welfare and development projects.
- **Other options:**
 - **(a) Diversion to real estate and luxury housing:** Significant but less critical.
 - **(b) Investment in unproductive activities:** Problematic but secondary.
 - **(c) Political donations and regionalism:** Concerning but not the primary issue.

24) Ans:(d)

- **Ministry of Tribal Affairs:** The nodal agency responsible for implementing the Forest Rights Act, ensuring the rights of tribal and forest-dwelling communities.

Incorrect Options:

- **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change:** Deals with environmental conservation, not the FRA.
- **Ministry of Panchayati Raj:** Focuses on local governance, not the FRA.
- **Ministry of Rural Development:** Concerned with rural development, not the FRA.

25) Ans: (b)

- **Stiglitz Commission:**
 - Formally known as the Commission of Experts on Reforms of the International Monetary and Financial System.
 - Chaired by Joseph Stiglitz, the commission focused on reviewing the global financial system, particularly in the wake of the 2008 financial crisis.
 - Aimed at identifying measures to create a more stable and sustainable global economic order.

Incorrect Options:

- **(a) The challenges posed by the impending global climate change and prepare a road map:** Not the focus of the Stiglitz Commission.
- **(c) Global terrorism and prepare a global action plan for the mitigation of terrorism:** Not within the Stiglitz Commission's mandate.
- **(d) Expansion of the United Nations Security Council in the present global scenario:** Not related to the Stiglitz Commission's work.

26) Ans:(b) 2 and 3 only

- **Incorrect:** The Global Ocean Commission does not grant licenses for seabed exploration and mining. This responsibility lies with the International Seabed Authority (ISA).
- **Correct:** India has received licenses for seabed mineral exploration in international waters from the International Seabed Authority.
- **Correct:** Rare earth minerals are indeed present on the seafloor in international waters, often in polymetallic nodules.

27) Ans:b) Lithium and osmium

- **Lightest metal:** Lithium
- **Heaviest metal:** Osmium

28) Ans:(a) World Economic Forum

- The **World Economic Forum (WEF)** publishes the Global Gender Gap Index annually.
- The Index measures gender equality across various dimensions such as economic participation, education, health, and political empowerment.

Incorrect Options:

- **(b) UN Human Rights Council:** Focuses on human rights issues but does not publish the Global Gender Gap Index.
- **(c) UN Women:** Works on gender equality and women's empowerment but does not publish the Global Gender Gap Index.
- **(d) World Health Organization:** Concerned with international public health, not the Global Gender Gap Index.

29) Ans:(d) Neither 1 nor 2

1. **Statement 1: Incorrect**

- The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) is not an agreement among all Pacific Rim countries. Several Pacific Rim countries, including China and Russia, are not members of the TPP. It originally included 12 member countries: Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, the United States, and Vietnam. The United States later withdrew from the agreement.

2. **Statement 2: Incorrect**

- The TPP is not a strategic alliance focused solely on maritime security. It is a comprehensive trade agreement that covers a wide range of issues, including tariff reduction, trade barriers, intellectual property, labor standards, and environmental regulations, among others.

30) Ans:(b) 2 only

1. **Statement 1: Incorrect**

- **Buland Darwaza:** Built by Emperor Akbar at Fatehpur Sikri, it is primarily made of red sandstone with white marble inlays, but it is not entirely made of white marble.
- **Khankah:** The religious building in Fatehpur Sikri primarily uses red sandstone, not white marble.

2. **Statement 2: Correct**

- **Bara Imambara and Rumi Darwaza:** Located in Lucknow, these structures are indeed made using red sandstone and marble, reflecting the Mughal architectural style.

31) Ans:d) 1, 2 and 3

- **Statement I:** Correct, provides infrastructure for food processing.
- **Statement II:** Correct, increases processing of perishables, reduces wastage.
- **Statement III:** Correct, provides emerging and eco-friendly food processing technologies.

32) Ans:(b) 1 and 2 only

1. **Bhiterkanika, Orissa - Salt Water Crocodile:**

- **Correct:** Bhitarkanika is well-known for its population of saltwater crocodiles.
- 2. **Desert National Park, Rajasthan - Great Indian Bustard:**
 - **Correct:** Desert National Park is famous for the Great Indian Bustard.
- 3. **Eravikulam, Kerala - Hoolock Gibbon:**
 - **Incorrect:** Eravikulam National Park is known for the Nilgiri Tahr, not the Hoolock Gibbon. Hoolock Gibbons are found in the northeastern states of India, such as Assam and Arunachal Pradesh.

33) Ans:(b) the Directive Principles of State Policy

- **Directive Principles (Article 39):** Mandate preventing wealth concentration and ensuring resource distribution for the common good.

Incorrect Options:

- **Right to Equality:** Focuses on equal treatment, not wealth concentration.
- **Right to Freedom:** Pertains to individual freedoms.
- **Concept of Welfare:** Broader concept, not specifically addressing wealth concentration.

34) Ans:(d) Right to Equality

- **Right to Equality (Article 17):**
 - Specifically abolishes untouchability and forbids its practice in any form.
 - Ensures that any discrimination based on untouchability is prohibited.

Incorrect Options:

- **Right against Exploitation:** Protects against human trafficking and forced labor, not specifically untouchability.
- **Right to Freedom:** Provides various freedoms (speech, assembly, movement), not related to untouchability.
- **Right to Constitutional Remedies:** Allows individuals to seek enforcement of their fundamental rights, but does not specifically address untouchability.

35) Ans:(c) 1 and 3 only

- **To bring the idle gold lying with Indian households into the economy:**

- **Correct:** Both schemes aim to mobilize the idle gold held by households and institutions and bring it into productive use in the economy.
- **To promote FDI in the gold and jewellery sector:**
 - **Incorrect:** The primary objective of these schemes is not to promote foreign direct investment (FDI) in the gold and jewellery sector.
- **To reduce India's dependence on gold imports:**
 - **Correct:** By mobilizing domestic gold, the schemes aim to reduce the country's reliance on imported gold, thereby addressing trade imbalances.

36) Ans:b) The Act East Policy aims to improve India's relations with Southeast Asian countries, East Asia, and the Indo-Pacific region.

Act East Policy (AEP):

- **Launched:** In 2014, as an extension and upgrade of the Look East Policy.
- **Objective:** To enhance strategic, economic, and cultural relations with the countries in Southeast Asia, East Asia, and the broader Indo-Pacific region.
- **Focus Areas:** Trade and investment, security cooperation, cultural exchanges, and connectivity projects.

Why other options are wrong:

- **(a) Strengthening economic ties with Western Europe:** Incorrect, AEP is focused on Eastern and Southeast Asia, not Europe.
- **(c) Enhancing relationships with North American countries:** Incorrect, the policy targets Asia and Indo-Pacific regions.
- **(d) Replacing Look East Policy to expand economic reach in South America:** Incorrect, AEP is an extension of the Look East Policy, focusing on Asia and Indo-Pacific regions, not South America.

37) Ans:a) 1 and 2 only

- **Statement I:** Correct, empowers Parliament for international treaties.
- **Statement II:** Correct, Parliament can legislate on State List subjects for international agreements.
- **Statement III:** Incorrect, Parliament's power is not restricted to Union List matters.

38) Ans:a) 1 and 2 only

- **Statement I:** Correct, pertains to state borrowing.
- **Statement II:** Correct, states need Central Government's consent if they owe money to the Center.
- **Statement III:** Incorrect, Central Government's control is not limited to national emergencies.

39) Ans: (d) Reserve Bank of India

- The **Reserve Bank of India** is responsible for publishing the Report on Currency and Finance, which provides an analysis of current economic conditions, policy developments, and financial trends in India. This report is an important document for understanding the country's economic landscape and policy directions.

Why other options are wrong:

- **Ministry of Finance:** While involved in financial policy, it does not release this specific report.
- **State Bank of India:** As a commercial bank, it does not publish the Report on Currency and Finance.
- **Niti Aayog:** Focuses on policy think-tank activities and planning, but does not release this report.

Why other options are wrong:

- **Ministry of Finance, State Bank of India, Niti Ayog:** Do not release this report.

40) Ans : (d) None of the Above

- **Global Mangrove Alliance (GMA):** The "State of the World's Mangroves" report is typically released by the Global Mangrove Alliance, which is a collaboration of various organizations, including Conservation International, The Nature Conservancy, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), and World Wildlife Fund (WWF).

Why other options are wrong:

- **UNESCO:** Focuses on education, science, and cultural heritage, including World Heritage Sites, but not specifically on mangroves.
- **UN Environment:** Deals with a wide range of environmental issues but does not specifically release the "State of the World's Mangroves" report.
- **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN):** Although involved in mangrove conservation, the report is published by the Global Mangrove Alliance, which includes multiple organizations.

41) Ans: a) Only Statement 2 is correct.

- **China** is set to **build the world's first nuclear power plant** using molten thorium salt in the **Gobi Desert**, aiming for operation by **2025**.

About Thorium based nuclear power station:-

- It **utilizes thorium instead of uranium as fuel. Unlike uranium, thorium must first be converted to U-233 in a reactor to produce nuclear energy.** This station's reactor uses **liquid salt or carbon dioxide for heat transfer** and electricity generation, **eliminating the need for water cooling** and significantly reducing the risk of meltdowns. It will also be the first molten salt reactor since the **United States shut down its test reactor in 1969.**

42) Ans: (c) All three

- **Statement I:** Correct, established by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India.
- **Statement II:** Correct, aims to document and conserve manuscripts in various languages and scripts.
- **Statement III:** Correct, provides training in manuscript conservation and paleography.

43) Ans: (c) Low pollution potential and minimal regulatory requirements

- Context: Industries classified under the 'white category' by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), considered non-polluting, will no longer need prior permissions ('consent to establish' (CTE) and 'consent to operate' (CTO)) from state pollution control boards to operate under the Air Act, 1981, and Water Act, 1974, according to draft notifications from the Environment Ministry.

- White category industries, such as wind and solar power projects and air cooler assembly, must now inform state boards of their operations via self-declarations.
- **Categorizing Industrial Sectors:**
 - The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) categorizes industrial sectors based on their Pollution Index (PI), which reflects the level of emissions, effluents, hazardous waste, and resource consumption.
 - The **Pollution Index ranges from 0 to 100**, with higher values indicating greater pollution. The criteria for categorization are as follows:
 - Red category: PI score of 60 and above
 - Orange category: PI score of 41 to 59
 - Green category: PI score of 21 to 40
 - **White category: PI score up to 20**
 - This categorization is based on references from the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess (Amendment) Act, 2003, Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 standards, and the Doon Valley Notification, 1989.

44) Ans: (b) the full range of mRNA molecules expressed by an organism

- **Transcriptome:** Refers to the full range of mRNA molecules expressed by an organism.

Why other options are wrong:

- **Range of enzymes:** Incorrect, transcriptome is related to mRNA, not enzymes.
- **Gene expression mechanism:** Incorrect, transcriptome refers to mRNA molecules.
- **Genetic mutations:** Incorrect, transcriptome is not about mutations.

45) Ans: (c) 2 and 3 only

- **Statement I:** Correct, Charaideo moidams are royal burial sites of the Ahom dynasty.

Why other statements are wrong:

- **Statement II:** Incorrect, Charaideo moidams are located in Assam, not Tripura.
- **Statement III:** Incorrect, Kaziranga National Park in Assam is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

46) Ans: (b) Only two

- **Statement I:** Correct, it is published by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations.
- **Statement II:** Correct, according to the report there is a decline in deforestation rates compared to previous decades.

Why statement III is wrong:

- **India ranked third globally:** Incorrect, India is not ranked third globally in terms of forest area gains.

47) Ans: (b) Only two

- **Statement I:** Correct, the Fund encourages Agri-startups by young entrepreneurs in rural areas.
- **Statement III:** Correct, the Fund aims to bring in modern technologies to transform agricultural practices and increase productivity.

Why statement II is wrong:

- **Setup by the Department of Agricultural Research and Education:** Incorrect, it is typically set up by other relevant government bodies, not specifically by this department.

48) Ans: c)

- The **Hollongapar Gibbon Sanctuary**, formerly known as the **Gibbon Wildlife Sanctuary** is an isolated protected area of evergreen forest located in Assam. The sanctuary was officially constituted and renamed in 1997. Set aside initially in 1881, its forests used to extend to the foothills of the Patkai mountain range.
- Since then, the **forest has been fragmented and surrounded by tea gardens** and small villages.
- The **Hollongapar Gibbon Sanctuary contains India's only ape and gibbon specie – the hoolock gibbons**, and Northeastern India's only nocturnal primate – the Bengal slow loris.

- The upper canopy of the forest is dominated by the hollong tree (*Dipterocarpus macrocarpus*), while the nahar (*Mesua ferrea*) dominates the middle canopy. The **lower canopy consists of evergreen shrubs and her**

49) Ans:: (c) NITI Aayog

Atal Innovation Mission (AIM):

- **Set up under:** NITI Aayog
- **Purpose:** To promote a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship in India.
- **Activities:** Includes setting up Atal Tinkering Labs in schools, Atal Incubation Centers, and supporting start-ups and innovation projects.

Why other options are wrong:

- **(a) Department of Science and Technology:** Focuses on scientific research and technology development but does not manage AIM.
- **(b) Ministry of Labour and Employment:** Deals with labor laws and employment issues.
- **(d) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship:** Focuses on skills training and entrepreneurship but

50) Ans: b)

- **Statement 2 is incorrect.**
- Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change launched the Ideas4LiFE portal.
- The portal invites innovative ideas to promote environment-friendly behaviours and lifestyles, encouraging students, researchers, faculty, and innovators to contribute.
- The Ideas4LiFE initiative supports Mission LiFE's seven themes: saving water, saving energy, reducing waste and e-waste, rejecting single-use plastics, adopting sustainable food systems, and healthy lifestyles.
- The initiative is supported by educational institutions and partners like UNICEF YuWaah.