

WEEKLY QUIZ

DATE : 3rd Feb- 9th Feb

- 1) SARAT Version 2, recently launched by the Union Minister for Science and Technology, is designed to aid search-and-rescue operations primarily in which of the following regions?
- Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea
 - Indian Ocean Region
 - Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of India
 - Indo-Pacific Region
- 2) Consider the following statements regarding the 'Donkey Route' illegal immigration network:

- The Donkey Route avoids direct flights to the US and instead relies on transit through multiple countries.
- It is primarily used by individuals from India attempting illegal immigration to the UK and Canada.
- Fake documents, including counterfeit visas, are often used to facilitate passage.
- It has been linked to an increase in security concerns for national and international agencies.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- Only three
- All four

- 3) Consider the following statements about the Gomti River:

- It is the longest tributary of the Ganga in India.
- The river originates from the Terai region of Nepal.
- It is classified as an ephemeral river that flows only during monsoon months.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

- 4) The latest advanced variant of the Pinaka Multi-Barrel Rocket Launcher (MBRL) system includes which of the following improvements?

- Longer range and higher precision guided rockets
- Integration with BrahMos missile system for joint fire support
- Capability to launch nuclear warheads
- Stealth technology to avoid radar detection

- 5) Consider the following statements regarding "Geo-Economic Fragmentation (GEF)" as discussed in the Economic Survey 2024-25:

- It refers to the increasing economic and trade fragmentation globally due to geopolitical tensions.

- The Survey suggests reducing reliance on foreign investments and focusing solely on domestic industries.
- It highlights the need to strengthen domestic economic growth levers to mitigate external risks.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- 1 and 2 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1, 2, and 3

- 6) Consider the following statements regarding Ramsar sites in India:

- Tamil Nadu has the highest number of Ramsar sites in India.
- All Ramsar sites in India are located within national parks or wildlife sanctuaries.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

- 7) Which of the following international organizations work closely with International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) for big cat conservation?

- CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora)
- IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature)
- TRAFFIC (Trade Records Analysis of Flora and Fauna in Commerce)
- IMF (International Monetary Fund)

Select the correct answer using the codes below:

- 1 and 2 only
- 1, 2, and 3 only
- 2 and 4 only
- 1, 3, and 4 only

- 8) Which of the following best explains why Gambusia affinis is considered an invasive species?

- It outcompetes native fish species and disrupts aquatic ecosystems.
- It consumes excessive amounts of plankton, causing water quality issues.
- It does not reproduce effectively, leading to population declines.
- It helps maintain a balanced predator-prey relationship in most ecosystems.

- 9) Which of the following factors contribute to the slow degradation of plastics by bacteria?

1. High molecular weight and crystallinity of plastics
2. Limited microbial enzyme specificity for synthetic polymers
3. Presence of stabilizers and additives in plastics
4. Low microbial growth rates in anaerobic environments

Select the correct answer using the codes below:

- a) 1, 2, and 3
- b) 2, 3, and 4
- c) 1, 3, and 4
- d) 1, 2, 3, and 4

10) Which of the following best explains why *Poecilia reticulata* (Guppy) is preferred over *Gambusia affinis* for mosquito control in some regions?

- a) Guppies consume a larger proportion of mosquito larvae than *Gambusia affinis*.
- b) Guppies are less invasive and do not harm native fish populations as severely as *Gambusia affinis*.
- c) Guppies are more resilient to pollution and salinity than *Gambusia affinis*.
- d) Guppies have a shorter lifespan, preventing long-term ecological disruptions.

11) Consider the following statements regarding the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC):

1. The MPC was established under the Finance Act, 2016, and operates under the RBI Act, 1934.
2. It is a six-member committee, with equal representation from the RBI and the Government of India.
3. The decisions taken by the MPC are recommendatory and subject to final approval by the RBI Governor.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

12) Consider the following statements about Sacred Groves in India:

Statement-I: Sacred Groves are important for biodiversity conservation and groundwater recharge.

Statement-II: The Supreme Court's recent ruling mandates that all Sacred Groves be classified as community reserves under government control.

Which one of the following is correct?

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
- c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect.
- d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct.

13) Which of the following best describes the key assumption behind the Trickle-Down economic approach?

- a) Economic benefits directed towards lower-income groups lead to overall growth
- b) Government subsidies to lower-income groups lead to sustained economic growth
- c) State-driven redistributive policies are necessary for equitable economic development
- d) Wealth creation at the top eventually benefits lower-income groups through job creation and investments

14) The Teesta River originates from which of the following geographical features?

- a) Zemu Glacier in Sikkim
- b) Tso Lhamo Lake in Sikkim
- c) Kangchenjunga Massif in Nepal
- d) Brahmagiri Hills in the Western Ghats

15) The primary objective of the Grameen Credit Score system introduced in the Union Budget 2025 is:

- a) To regulate interest rates charged by informal moneylenders in rural areas
- b) To create a national database of small-scale industries and startups in rural India
- c) To replace traditional banking services with microfinance institutions for rural lending
- d) To promote financial inclusion by assessing the creditworthiness of rural women and Self-Help Groups (SHGs)

16) Fort William, a significant British-era military structure, was originally constructed for which primary purpose?

- a) As a royal residence for the British Governor of Bengal
- b) As a trading post for the British East India Company
- c) As a defensive fortification against European rivals and local rulers
- d) As a penal colony for prisoners of war

17) Consider the following statements about NavIC and its comparison with other global navigation systems:

1. NavIC's primary advantage over GPS is its ability to cover the entire globe with high accuracy.
2. Unlike GPS, which is operated by the United States, NavIC is fully independent and cannot be disrupted by external forces.
3. NavIC satellites are placed in geostationary and geosynchronous orbits, optimizing coverage over India and nearby regions.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

18) Consider the following statements regarding inflation targeting and the role of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC):

1. The primary mandate of the MPC is to regulate money supply in the economy.
2. The current inflation target set for the MPC is $3\% \pm 1\%$, as per RBI guidelines.
3. The MPC framework was introduced to enhance transparency and accountability in monetary policymaking.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

19) Consider the following provisions of the "Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and Their Rehabilitation Act, 2013" (PEMSR Act, 2013):

1. It completely bans the employment of manual scavengers across India.
2. The Act makes the employer liable for punishment if manual scavengers are employed in insanitary latrines.
3. It provides for rehabilitation of identified manual scavengers, including skill development and financial assistance.

4. It mandates the use of mechanized cleaning methods for all sewer and septic tank cleaning activities.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

20) Consider the following provisions under the Waqf Act, 1995:

1. Waqf properties can only be sold or mortgaged with prior approval of the State Waqf Board.
2. The Waqf Tribunal has exclusive jurisdiction to resolve disputes related to Waqf properties.
3. The Act provides for the digitization of Waqf records to prevent encroachments.

How many of the above provisions are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

21) Consider the following statements regarding United States Agency for International Development (USAID)'s role in India:

1. USAID has played a crucial role in India's healthcare sector, including tuberculosis eradication and maternal health improvement.
2. USAID funds infrastructure development projects such as highways and railways in India.
3. USAID has been actively involved in India's clean energy transition and climate resilience projects.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

22) Santorini Island is geologically significant due to:

- a) Its formation from a meteorite impact crater
- b) The occurrence of one of the largest tsunamis recorded in the Pacific Ocean
- c) The presence of the longest active fault line in Europe
- d) Its history of massive volcanic eruptions causing caldera collapse

23) Consider the following effects of a rising Debt-to-GDP ratio:

1. Higher risk of sovereign credit rating downgrades
2. Increased inflation due to excessive government borrowing
3. Enhanced investor confidence leading to higher capital inflows

How many of the above statements are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

24) Jevons Paradox is primarily concerned with which of the following economic effects?

- a) The decrease in overall consumption of a resource due to technological improvements

- b) The increase in overall consumption of a resource despite efficiency gains
- c) The direct relationship between resource depletion and economic growth
- d) The reduction in market demand for a resource due to higher prices

25) What is the primary objective of establishing Tribhuvan Sahkari University in India?

- a) To promote higher education in rural and cooperative management
- b) To create a research institute for agricultural technologies
- c) To support vocational training for urban entrepreneurs
- d) To facilitate foreign investment in cooperative societies

26) Consider the following statements regarding the origins of the State Emblem of India:

1. The emblem is adapted from the Lion Capital of Ashoka, originally located at Sanchi.
2. The original Lion Capital includes four lions standing back-to-back, but only three are visible in the emblem.
3. The inscription of "Satyameva Jayate" below the emblem is sourced from the Bhagavad Gita.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

27) Which of the following best describes a "Beggar-Thy-Neighbour" policy?

- a) A policy that prioritizes domestic industries at the cost of environmental sustainability
- b) A trade policy that eliminates tariffs and subsidies for global economic growth
- c) A policy that promotes free trade while ensuring protection for domestic consumers
- d) An economic policy that boosts one country's economy at the expense of other nations

28) Match the following glaciers with their respective locations:

Glacier	Location
1. Siachen Glacier	a. Uttarakhand, India
2. Gangotri Glacier	b. Karakoram Range
3. Lambert Glacier	c. Antarctica
4. Perito Moreno Glacier	d. South America

Select the correct answer:

- a) 1-c, 2-a, 3-b, 4-d
- b) 1-a, 2-b, 3-d, 4-c
- c) 1-b, 2-a, 3-c, 4-d
- d) 1-b, 2-c, 3-a, 4-d

29) Consider the following statements regarding United States Agency for International Development (USAID)'s humanitarian assistance:

1. USAID is responsible for overseeing peacekeeping operations in conflict-affected regions.
2. The agency provides aid primarily to countries that are formal U.S. allies.
3. USAID delivers food security and disaster relief programs in developing countries.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

- 30)** Consider the following economic measures:
1. Imposing high tariffs on imported goods
 2. Competitive currency devaluation
 3. Increasing foreign direct investment (FDI)
 4. Export subsidies to domestic industries

How many of the above measures can be classified as Beggar-Thy-Neighbour policies?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

- 31)** Consider the following statements regarding the geography of South Sudan:

1. The Nile River is the primary water source for South Sudan, with the White Nile flowing through the country.
2. The country has a predominantly desert climate with very little annual rainfall.
3. The Sudd, one of the world's largest wetlands, is located in South Sudan.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3
- d) 1, 2, and 3

- 32)** Which of the following ecological problems is primarily caused by the introduction of Mosquitofish (*Gambusia affinis*) into non-native ecosystems?

- a) Predation on native amphibians and small fish leading to biodiversity loss
- b) Overgrazing of aquatic vegetation leading to habitat destruction
- c) Increased mosquito populations due to competition with other mosquito-eating species
- d) Decline in plankton populations, affecting marine ecosystems

- 33)** Consider the following big cat species:

1. Puma
2. Cheetah
3. Jaguar
4. Lynx

Which of the above are covered under the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2, 3, and 4 only
- c) 1, 2, and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, 3, and 4

- 34)** Which of the following regions in India is well-known for cultivating Extra-Long Staple (ELS) Cotton?

- a) Atpadi Taluka, Maharashtra
- b) Vidarbha, Maharashtra
- c) Bhatinda, Punjab
- d) Guntur, Andhra Pradesh

- 35)** Which of the following bacteria has been identified as capable of degrading microplastics in marine environments?

- a) *Ideonella sakaiensis*
- b) *Vibrio natriegens*
- c) *Bacillus subtilis*
- d) *Pseudomonas putida*

- 36)** Consider the following statements about the exchange rate system:

1. A floating exchange rate is determined purely by the demand and supply of the currency in the foreign exchange market.
2. Fixed exchange rate systems are maintained by central banks through direct intervention.
3. Depreciation of a currency leads to cheaper imports and more expensive exports.
4. A strong domestic currency can increase the trade deficit if exports become more expensive.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- a) 1, 2, and 3
- b) 2, 3, and 4
- c) 1, 2, and 4
- d) 1, 3, and 4

- 37)** Consider the following statements regarding Fentanyl:

1. Fentanyl is a naturally occurring opioid found in medicinal plants.
2. The crisis of fentanyl overdose deaths is largely restricted to the United States.
3. Fentanyl is exclusively used in illicit drug production and has no medical applications.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

- 38)** Consider the following statements regarding India's dependency on imported Extra-Long Staple (ELS) cotton:

1. India imports most of its ELS cotton from China and Australia.
2. The primary reason for import dependency is India's inability to develop pest-resistant ELS varieties.
3. The government has launched a five-year mission to boost domestic ELS cotton production.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, and 3

- 39)** Which of the following is NOT a function of the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)?

- a) Preventing illegal wildlife trade and poaching of big cats
- b) Conducting genetic modification programs to create disease-resistant big cat species
- c) Supporting habitat restoration and ecosystem conservation efforts
- d) Enhancing global research and data-sharing mechanisms for big cat conservation

- 40)** Consider the following statements regarding Ethanol Fuel:

1. Ethanol production in India is primarily dependent on sugarcane-based feedstocks.
2. The blending of ethanol with petrol reduces vehicular carbon monoxide emissions.

3. Ethanol-blended petrol significantly increases the efficiency of internal combustion engines.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only one
b) Only two
c) All three
d) None

- 41) The Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana primarily focuses on which of the following aspects?

- a) Enhancing agricultural productivity in low-yield districts
b) Promotion of organic farming across India
c) Establishing direct cash transfers to farmers
d) Expanding the Minimum Support Price (MSP) coverage

- 42) The Very Short-Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS), recently tested by DRDO, is an example of a Man Portable Air Defence System (MANPAD). Which of the following statements about VSHORADS is NOT correct?

- a) It has a maximum effective range of 12 kilometers, making it superior to most existing MANPADS.
b) It is developed by DRDO's Research Centre Imarat (RCI), Hyderabad.
c) It can target low-altitude aerial threats like drones, helicopters, and low-flying fighter jets.
d) It is equipped with an adaptive proximity fuze for precise target destruction.

- 43) The Union Budget 2025-26 proposed increasing the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) limit in the insurance sector from 74% to 100%. Which of the following statements is NOT correct regarding this reform?

- a) The FDI policy in insurance is regulated by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI).
b) The increase in FDI to 100% will mandate that insurance companies must reinvest the entire premium collected within India.
c) The move is expected to boost India's insurance penetration, which has declined in recent years.
d) This reform applies only to life insurance companies and does not cover general or health insurance.

- 44) Which of the following is NOT correct regarding South Georgia Island?

- a) It is located in the South Atlantic Ocean and is part of a British Overseas Territory.
b) The island has a permanent human population, mainly consisting of research personnel and military staff.
c) South Georgia Island is an important breeding ground for seabirds, penguins, and seals.
d) The island experiences subantarctic climatic conditions with cold temperatures and high winds.

- 45) The Gyan Bharatam Mission, introduced in Union Budget 2025-26, primarily aims to:

- a) Establish a centralized digital library for all ancient Indian manuscripts
b) Digitally preserve only Sanskrit and Pali manuscripts in India
c) Conduct a comprehensive survey, documentation, and conservation of India's manuscript heritage
d) Replace the National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM) with a new autonomous body

- 46) Consider the following statements about India's Cardamom Industry:

- India ranks first in the world in cardamom production and export.
- Cardamom production in Kerala's Idukki district accounts for more than half of India's total production.
- The recently discovered *Elettaria tulipifera* and *Elettaria facifera* species are native to the Western Ghats.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only one
b) Only two
c) All three
d) None

- 47) Consider the following statements about Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana:

- The scheme exclusively focuses on cash crops to boost export earnings.
- It replaces all existing government agricultural schemes with a unified framework.
- The scheme provides financial assistance directly to large agribusinesses.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- a) 1 and 2
b) 2 and 3
c) None
d) 1 and 3

- 48) Consider the following statements about cardamom trade and market trends:

- Cardamom cultivation has expanded significantly in Rajasthan and Punjab due to government subsidies.
- The Spices Board of India does not regulate cardamom exports, as the trade is fully liberalized.
- Guatemala imports large quantities of Indian cardamom to meet its domestic demand.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only one
b) Only two
c) All three
d) None

- 49) Consider the following statements regarding the Gyan Bharatam Mission:

- The initiative primarily focuses on ancient Sanskrit manuscripts, excluding other regional languages.
- It aims to use advanced conservation techniques to protect fragile manuscripts.
- The digitization process will include AI-based text recognition and translation technologies.
- The mission promotes collaboration between government institutions and private collectors.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only one
b) Only two
c) Only three
d) All four

- 50) Consider the following statements regarding India's Insurance Sector and FDI reforms:

- The insurance penetration rate refers to the number of people with insurance coverage in a country.

2. Increasing FDI in insurance is expected to attract global insurance companies, bringing in capital, technology, and better product offerings.
3. The FDI hike to 100% is unconditional, meaning foreign investors will have complete control over insurance operations in India.

Which of the above statements are incorrect?

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 2 only
- d) All of the above



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