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Daily MCQs: 08-01-2026

1) With reference to Private Reserve Restoration in wildlife conservation, consider the following statements:

1. It involves restoration of degraded habitats on privately owned land.
2. It helps in conserving wildlife outside government-notified protected areas.
3. It can support wildlife corridors and reduce human-wildlife conflict.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

2) With reference to the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), consider the following statements:

1. CDSCO functions under the Directorate General of Health Services in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
2. CDSCO is the National Regulatory Authority (NRA) for drugs and medical devices in India.
3. CDSCO alone grants manufacturing licences for all categories of drugs in India.
4. CDSCO headquarters is located at FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

3) With reference to the Green India Mission (Revised), launched in June 2025, consider the following statements:

1. The revised mission proposes regeneration of five million hectares through region-specific landscape projects in ecologically sensitive regions such as the Aravallis, Western Ghats and the Himalayas.
2. The mission departs from earlier approaches by clearly distinguishing between monoculture plantations and natural forest regeneration in its operational guidelines.
3. Equating plantations with natural regeneration may have implications for biodiversity conservation and ecological resilience.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

4) With reference to the India-EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA), consider the following statements:

- I. TEPA is India's first Free Trade Agreement with a group of developed countries.
- II. The EFTA countries include Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.

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III. Under TEPA, India has offered tariff concessions on 100% of its tariff lines to EFTA countries.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) I only
- (b) I and II only
- (c) III only
- (d) I and III only

5) Consider the following statements regarding the Bio-Happy District initiative:

- 1. It is an initiative aimed at promoting organic and chemical-free agriculture.
- 2. It focuses on enhancing farmers' income while ensuring environmental sustainability.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Explanation:

1) **Answer: (D)**

Statement 1 is Correct:

Private Reserve Restoration focuses on reviving forests, grasslands, wetlands, or other ecosystems on **privately owned lands** through rewilding, afforestation, and habitat management.

Statement 2 is Correct:

Many species live or move beyond national parks and sanctuaries. Private reserves help **fill conservation gaps** by protecting biodiversity in non-notified areas.

Statement 3 is Correct:

Restored private lands can function as **corridors or buffer zones**, facilitating animal movement, reducing habitat fragmentation, and **minimising human-wildlife conflict**.

2) **Answer: (A)**

Statement 1 is Correct:

CDSCO works under **Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare**.

Statement 2 is Correct:

CDSCO is explicitly called India's **National Regulatory Authority (NRA)**.

Statement 3 is Incorrect:

Licensing is joint responsibility of Central and State regulators.

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CDSCO grants licenses only for certain specialized critical drugs (blood products, vaccines, IV fluids, sera), not all drugs.

Statement 4 is Correct:

Its headquarter is located at **FDA (Food and Drug Administration) Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi** and also has six zonal offices, four sub zonal offices, thirteen Port offices and seven laboratories spread across the country.

3) Answer: (A)

Statement 1 is Correct:

The Revised Green India Mission (2021–2030) focuses on restoration and saturation of vulnerable landscapes including the Aravalli ranges, Western Ghats, Indian Himalayan Region, mangroves, and other ecologically fragile areas by adopting a micro-ecosystem and regionally conducive approach to landscape restoration.

The mission retains its original target of increasing and improving forest and tree cover on millions of hectares of land (including 5 million new hectares) while paying special attention to ecological restoration in sensitive zones.

Statement 2 is Incorrect:

The mission emphasize afforestation, restoration, and improved quality of forest cover, but there is **no clear explicit official distinction in the published guidelines that equates plantations with natural regeneration or otherwise strictly differentiates them** as separate outcomes. Rather, plantation-based activities such as tree planting on degraded lands, agroforestry, and enrichment planting are part of the restoration strategy.

So, the statement claiming a departure by clearly distinguishing plantations and natural regeneration is not correct the official focus remains on forest and tree cover expansion and landscape restoration strategies, not a categorical operational definition that separates natural regeneration from plantation outcomes.

Statement 3 is Correct:

Ecological science including global forest assessments shows natural regeneration generally supports higher biodiversity, more complex ecological structures, greater resilience and ecosystem services than uniform plantation approaches.

Thus, if plantations are treated as equivalent to natural regeneration in targets or practice, this could undermine biodiversity goals and ecological resilience a logically valid implication based on widely recognized ecological principles.

4) Answer: (B)

India–EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) is India's first trade pact with a bloc of developed countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, and Switzerland), signed on March 10, 2024, and effective October 1, 2025. **Hence, Statement I is correct** as it marks the first

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such FTA grouping for India, distinct from bilateral deals like with UAE or Australia. **Hence, Statement II correct** accurately lists the four EFTA members.

Statement III is Incorrect:

India offered tariff concessions on 82.7% of its tariff lines (covering 95.3% of EFTA exports to India), not 100%, protecting sensitive items like dairy, gold, pharmaceuticals, medical devices, processed foods, soya, coal, and certain agriculture. EFTA, conversely, offered 92.2% lines (99.6% of India's exports), including 100% non-agri products. Thus, Statement III is incorrect.

Key TEPA Features

TEPA spans 14 chapters, covering goods, services, investment (USD 100 billion FDI pledge over 15 years for 1 million jobs), IPR at TRIPS level, and sustainable development. It boosts India's exports in textiles, chemicals, engineering, pharma; eases services via MRAs for professionals. Bilateral trade was ~USD 25 billion pre-TEPA.

5) Answer: (C)

Statement 1 is Correct:

- The Bio-Happy District model **encourages reduction or elimination of chemical fertilizers and pesticides.**
- It promotes organic inputs, bio-fertilizers, bio-pesticides, and natural farming techniques.
- The focus is on **restoring soil health, improving biodiversity, and reducing ecological damage caused by chemical-intensive agriculture.**

Statement 2 is Correct:

- By **lowering input costs** (reduced dependence on costly chemicals) and encouraging premium markets for organic produce, the **initiative aims to increase net farm incomes.**
- Sustainable practices **improve long-term productivity, water retention, and resilience to climate stress.**
- This dual **focus on economic viability and ecological balance** is central to the Bio-Happy District approach.

