

1. Consider the following statements regarding the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA)

1. It is a statutory body constituted to provide free Legal Services to the weaker sections of the society
2. The Chief Justice of India is the Patron-in-Chief of NALSA
3. It can disburse funds and grants to NGOs for implementing legal aid schemes and programmes

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: D

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) has been constituted under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 to provide free Legal Services to the weaker sections of the society and to organize Lok Adalats for amicable settlement of disputes.
- In every State, **State Legal Services Authority** has been constituted to give effect to the policies and directions of the NALSA and to give free legal services to the people and conduct Lok Adalats in the State
- In every District, **District Legal Services Authority** has been constituted to implement Legal Services Programmes in the District

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- Section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 **prescribes the criteria for giving legal services to the eligible persons.** Every person who has to file or defend a case shall be entitled to legal services under this Act if that person is
 - a **member of a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe;**
 - a victim of trafficking in human beings or begar as referred to in Article 23 of the Constitution;
 - a woman or a child;
 - a **mentally ill or otherwise disabled person;**
 - a person under circumstances of undeserved want such as being a victim of a mass disaster, ethnic violence, caste atrocity, flood, drought, earthquake or industrial disaster; or
 - an industrial workman; or
 - **in custody, including custody in a protective home** within the meaning of clause (g) of section 2 of the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 (104 of 1956); or in a juvenile home within the meaning of clause
- National Legal Services Authority is the **apex body constituted to lay down policies and principles for making legal services available** under the provisions of the Act and to frame most effective and economical schemes for legal services.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** It also **disburses funds and grants to State Legal Services Authorities and NGOs for implementing legal aid schemes** and programmes
- The Central Authority shall consist of
 - **Statement 2 is correct:** The **Chief Justice of India who shall be the Patron-in-Chief.**
 - A serving or retired Judge of the Supreme Court to be nominated by the President, in consultation with the Chief Justice of India, who shall be the Executive Chairman; and
 - Such number of other members, possessing such experience and qualifications, as may be prescribed by the Central Government, to be nominated by that government in consultation with the Chief Justice of India

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- The **terms of office and other conditions relating** to Members and the Member-Secretary of the Central Authority shall be such as may be **prescribed by the Central Government** in consultation with the Chief Justice of India.

Functions

- Lay down **policies and principles for making legal services** available under the provisions of this Act.
- Utilise the **funds at its disposal and make appropriate allocations** of funds to the State Authorities and District Authorities
- Organise **legal aid camps, especially in rural areas**, slums or labour colonies with the dual purpose of educating the weaker sections of the society as to their rights as well as encouraging the settlement of disputes through Lok Adalats
- Encourage the settlement of disputes by way of **negotiations, arbitration and conciliation.**
- Undertake and **promote research in the field of legal services** with special reference to the need for such services among the poor
- ❖ NALSA has recently released a **report on number of undertrials released** during the lockdown period. Legal services institutions have intervened to release **42,529 undertrial prisoners** as well as 16,391 convicts to **de-congest prisons during the COVID-19 pandemic.**

<https://nalsa.gov.in/about-us>

<https://nalsa.gov.in/acts-rules/the-legal-services-authorities-act-1987>

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/over-42000-undertrials-released-to-unclog-prisons-nalsa-report/article31609154.ece>

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2. Which among the following is the objective of Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)?

- a) It aims at providing a web based marketing platform to the women entrepreneurs
- b) To transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy
- c) To establish a robust fisheries management framework in India
- d) To reorient the agriculture system in India towards the Climate smart agriculture

Ans: C

Explanation

- Central government announced **Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)** in **Budget 2019-20** to promote **Blue Revolution** in India
- Government proposed to establish a **robust fisheries management framework** and **check gaps in the value chain** including infrastructure, modernisation, traceability, production, productivity, post-harvest management, and quality control
- The scheme was established under the **Department of Fisheries** for a robust fisheries management framework

Blue Revolution

- The Blue Revolution, with its **multi-dimensional activities**, **focuses mainly on increasing fisheries** production and productivity from aquaculture and fisheries resources, both inland and marine.

Objectives

- To **increase the overall fish production** in a responsible and sustainable manner for economic prosperity
- To modernize the fisheries with special focus on new technologies
- To ensure **food and nutritional security**
- To generate employment and export earnings

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- To ensure inclusive development and empower fishers and aquaculture farmers
- ❖ The government recently announced a **package of 20,000 crore rupees for fishermen through Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana** for the development of marine and inland fisheries.
- ❖ Of this, 11,000 crore rupees will be **earmarked for activities in marine, inland fisheries and aquaculture** while 9,000 crore rupees for infrastructure creation such as fishing harbours, cold chain and markets. This will provide employment to over 55 lakh persons and double exports to one lakh crore rupees.

Rs 20,000 crores for Fishermen through Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)

- **Critical gaps** in fisheries value chain
- **Government will launch the PMMSY for integrated, sustainable, inclusive development of marine and inland fisheries.**
- **Rs 11,000 Cr for activities** in Marine, Inland fisheries and Aquaculture
- **Rs. 9000 Cr for Infrastructure** - Fishing Harbours, Cold chain, Markets etc.
- Cage Culture, Seaweed farming, Ornamental Fisheries as well as New Fishing Vessels, Traceability, Laboratory Network etc. will be key activities.
- Provisions of Ban Period Support to fishermen (during the period fishing is not permitted), Personal & Boat Insurance
- Will lead to **Additional Fish Production of 70 lakh tonnes over 5 years.**
- **Employment to over 55 lakh persons; double exports** to Rs 1,00,000 Cr.
- **Focus** on Islands, Himalayan States, North-east and Aspirational Districts.

- ✓ Option A is related to **Mahila E-Haat**
- ✓ Option B is related to **Digital India initiative**

<http://www.newsonair.com/Main-News-Details.aspx?id=388724>

<https://government.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/policy/govt-announces-new-scheme-to-boost-fish-processing-to-allocate-rs-3737-crore-to-new-ministry/70094052>

<http://dadf.gov.in/fisheries-blue-revolution>

3. Consider the following pairs

National Parks	Located in
1. Blackbuck National Park	- Gujarat
2. Mount Harriet National Park	- Himachal Pradesh
3. Dibru-Saikhowa National Park	- Assam

Which of the above given pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

Ans: D

Explanation

- Blackbuck National Park is located in Gujarat
- **Mount Harriet National Park is located in Andaman and Nicobar Islands**
- Dibru-Saikhowa National Park is located in Assam

Mount Harriet National Park

- Mount Harriet National Park is located in the **Andaman and Nicobar Islands**. The park, established in 1969, covers about 4.62 km²

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- Mount Harriet which is part of the park, is the **third-highest peak in the Andaman and Nicobar archipelago** next to Saddle Peak in North Andaman and Mount Thullier in Great Nicobar
 - The park's well-known faunal species are **Andaman wild pigs**, saltwater crocodiles, turtles and robber crabs
 - ❖ Recently, a **rare palm, *Pinanga andamanensis***, has been successfully cultivated at Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute (JNTBGRI) based at Palode, Thiruvananthapuram (Kerala)
- Pinanga andamanensis**
- It is a **rare palm endemic to South Andaman Island**. Its entire population of some 600 specimens naturally occurs only in a tiny, evergreen forest pocket in **South Andaman's Mount Harriet National Park**.
 - It has strong **resemblance with the areca palm tree**
 - JNTBGRI scientists term it a **critically endangered species** and one of the least known among the endemic palms of the Andaman Islands.

<https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/rare-palm-from-andamans-gets-second-home/article31618844.ece>

4. Arrange the following seas located in the south pacific region, as one proceeds from north to south?

1. Tasman sea
2. Coral sea
3. Arafura sea

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

a) 2-3-1

b) 1-2-3

c) 2-1-3

d) 3-2-1

Ans: D

Explanation



- In order to counter the reeling tourism sector, **three Baltic countries** have come up with an improvised idea to **boost travel** into their countries.

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- The prime ministers of **Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia** have announced that they will **open their borders for citizens of their countries** starting May 15
- They have named the process of easing of border restrictions as **Baltic ‘travel bubble.’** Simply put, this ‘Baltic travel bubble’ may make it possible for citizens of these three countries to **travel within the region without hassles.**
- However, those who are coming from any other than these three countries would be required to follow self-isolation guidelines and stay in quarantine for 14 days

Other Countries to Start

- Australia and New Zealand **reached a similar agreement** to form a travel bubble, once it becomes safe to operate flights between them. Once it opens, the **trans-Tasman zone** (around Tasman Sea) will allow travel without a quarantine period.
- **Trans-Tasman Zone:** Trans-Tasman Travel Arrangement is an **arrangement between Australia and New Zealand which allows for the free movement of citizens** of one of these countries to the other

<https://www.financialexpress.com/lifestyle/travel-tourism/coronavirus-lockdown-in-a-first-three-european-nations-plan-baltic-travel-bubble-check-details/1956592/>

5. With reference to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), consider the following statements

1. It coordinates the international management of the radio-frequency spectrum and satellite orbits
2. It is the specialized agency of United Nations (UN) and its membership is restricted to the existing members of UN

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only

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

Ans: A

Explanation

- ITU is the **United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies (ICTs)**
- It aims **to facilitate international connectivity** in communications networks, it **allocate global radio spectrum and satellite orbits**, develop the technical standards that ensure networks and technologies seamlessly interconnect, and **strive to improve access to ICTs** to underserved communities worldwide.
- Originally founded in 1865, as the **International Telegraph Union**, the ITU is one of the **oldest existing international organization**

Membership

Statement 2 is incorrect

If the State is a Member of the United Nations:

- it **becomes a Member State of the ITU by acceding to the Constitution** and the Convention of the International Telecommunication Union (Geneva, 1992).
- Such accession shall be made simultaneously in the form of one single document covering both the Constitution and the Convention;

If the State is not a Member of the United Nations:

- the application for **membership needs to have a secured approval by two-thirds of the Member States of the Union;**
- after such approval, the admission procedure is the same as described above in the form of one single document.

Areas of Activity

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ITU has three **main areas of activity** organized in 'Sectors' which work through conferences and meetings.

Statement 1 is correct

- **ITU's Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R)** coordinates the vast and **growing range of radiocommunication services**, as well as the international management of the radio-frequency spectrum and satellite orbits
 - **ITU standards (called Recommendations)** are fundamental to the operation of today's ICT networks. For Internet access, transport protocols, voice and video compression, home networking, and myriad other aspects of ICTs, hundreds of ITU standards allow systems to work – locally and globally.
 - **Telecommunication Development (ITU-D)** — assists countries in developing and maintaining internal communication operations.
- ❖ **World Telecommunication and Information Society Day 2020** was observed on 17 May with the theme “Connect 2030: ICTs for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).”
- ❖ It has been celebrated annually on 17 May since 1969, **marking the foundation of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)** and the signing of the first International Telegraph Convention in 1865

<https://www.itu.int/en/membership/Pages/member-states-membership.aspx>

<https://www.itu.int/en/about/Pages/default.aspx>