

# OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

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Daily MCQs- 17th October 2020

## 1. Consider the following statements about Institutions of Eminence

- 1) Under, Institutions of Eminence, both public and private institutions are identified to emerge as world-class Teaching and Research Institutions.
- 2) University Grants Commission (UGC) inspection shall not apply to Institutions of Eminence.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

Both the statements are correct

About Institutions of Eminence scheme:

- Institutes of Eminence (IoE) is a recognition scheme for **higher education institutes** in India, set by the **University Grants Commission**.
- Institutions of Eminence scheme has been launched in order to implement the commitment of the Government to **empower the Higher Educational Institutions** and to help them become world class teaching and research institutions.
- Both public and ten private institutions identified emerge as world-class Teaching and Research Institutions. Hence **statement 1 is correct**.
- This will enhance affordable access to high quality education for ordinary Indians.

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### Objectives of the Scheme:

- To provide for higher education leading to excellence and innovations in such branches of knowledge as may be deemed fit at post-graduate, graduate and research degree levels and award degrees, diplomas and other academic distinctions;
- To provide for high quality teaching and research and for the advancement of knowledge
- To pay special attention to teaching and research in unique and emerging areas of knowledge, including interdisciplinary areas, which are regarded as important for strategic needs of the country but are not being pursued by conventional or existing institutions so far, and award degrees, diplomas and other academic distinctions.
- To aim to be rated interNationally for its teaching and research as a top hundred Institution in the world over time.

### Key Benefits of Institutions of Eminence

1. Government Institutions to get additional funding upto 1000 Cr.
2. The selected Institutions under IoE shall have complete academic and administrative autonomy.
3. Freedom to enter into academic collaborations with other Institutions within the country.
4. Freedom to have own transparent merit based system for admission of students.
5. Freedom to admit additionally foreign students on merit subject to a maximum of 30% of the strength of admitted domestic students.
6. Freedom to fix and charge fees from foreign students without restriction.
7. **UGC Inspection shall not apply to Institutions of Eminence.**

**Hence statement 2 is correct.**

2. Consider the following

1. Carbon monoxide
2. Methane
3. Ozone
4. Sulphur dioxide

Which of the above are released into the atmosphere due to the burning of crop/biomass residue?

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

Ans: D

Explanation

- Biomass burning is the **combustion of organic matter**. Burning can be from natural or manmade fires. Examples are the **burning of crop stubble, forest residues and vegetation burnt for land clearing**
- Burning of agricultural biomass residue, or **Crop Residue Burning (CRB)** has been identified as a major health hazard. Burning of crop residues not only **degrade the atmospheric quality** but also **affect the climate and ultimate the human health**.
- Crop residue and biomass burning (forest fires) are considered as a **major source of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), carbon monoxide (CO), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), Ozone**, volatile organic compounds (VOC), nitrogen oxides, **Sulphur dioxide** and halogen compounds
- It is also a significant source of **aerosol in the atmosphere**, having potential impact on global air quality and that of a climate

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- It was observed that **levels of SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub> increases during the burning months** (October–November) incorporated with the effect of meteorological parameters especially wind direction, precipitation and atmospheric temperature.

3. Which of the following statements regarding **Global Hunger Index (GHI) Report-2020** is/are incorrect?

- The report is an annual publication that is jointly prepared by the World Bank and WeltHungerHilfe.
- India's rank has improved from 102 in 2019 to 94 in 2020.
- India has the highest prevalence of wasted children under five years in the world.

Select the correct options given below

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

Answer: C

Explanation

- The report is an annual publication that is jointly prepared by the **Concern Worldwide** (an Irish agency) and the **Welt Hunger Hilfe** (a German organization). (not world bank) Hence **Statement 1 is incorrect**.
- In the recently released **Global Hunger Index (GHI) Report-2020**, India was ranked at **94th position out of 107 countries. (While it was ranked at 102nd position out of 117 countries in 2019)** Hence **statement 2 is correct**.
- The report is based on four GHI indicators namely, **undernourishment, child stunting, child wasting, and child mortality**.

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Where India stands

The Global Hunger Index score is computed using four indicators — undernourishment, child wasting, child stunting and child mortality. A country's GHI score is classified by severity — low (0-9.9), moderate (10-19.9) and serious (20-34.9)



| RANK  | COUNTRY     | 2020 SCORE |
|-------|-------------|------------|
| 1-17* | China       | <5         |
| 64    | Sri Lanka   | 16.3       |
| 73    | Nepal       | 19.5       |
| 75    | Bangladesh  | 20.4       |
| 78    | Myanmar     | 20.9       |
| 88    | Pakistan    | 24.6       |
| 94    | India       | 27.2       |
| 99    | Afghanistan | 30.3       |

\*17 countries have scores of less than 5 and are collectively ranked 1-17

Highlight of the report:

- India has the **highest prevalence of wasted children under five years** in the world, which reflects acute undernutrition, according to the Global Hunger Index 2020. Hence **statement 3 is correct.**
- Country has the highest prevalence of 'wasted children'; even Bangladesh and Pakistan score better
- **Child stunting** has actually **improved** significantly, from 54% in 2000 to less than 35% now.
- India has **improved in child mortality rates**, which is now at 3.7%.
- In the region of south, east and south-eastern Asia, the only countries which fare worse than India are **Timor-Leste, Afghanistan and North Korea.**

<https://www.globalhungerindex.org/india.html>

4. New START (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty), a bilateral treaty for reduction and limitation of strategic offensive arms is signed between which of the following countries?

- United States and India
- India and Russia
- United States and Russia
- United States and Iran

Answer: C

Explanation:

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- **New START is a nuclear arms reduction treaty between the United States and the Russian Federation with the formal name of Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms.**
- It was signed on 8 April 2010 in Prague, and, after ratification, **entered into force on 5 February 2011.** New START **replaced the Treaty of Moscow (SORT),** which was due to expire in December 2012.

#### Features of the Treaty:

- The number of strategic nuclear missile launchers will be reduced by half.
- A new inspection and verification regime will be established, replacing the SORT mechanism.
- The number of deployed strategic nuclear warheads is limited to 1,550, which is down nearly two-thirds from the original START treaty, as well as 10% lower than the deployed strategic warhead limit of the 2002 Moscow Treaty.
- It will also limit the number of deployed and non-deployed inter-continental ballistic missile (ICBM) launchers, submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM) launchers, and heavy bombers equipped for nuclear armaments to 800.
- The number of deployed ICBMs, SLBMs, and heavy bombers equipped for nuclear armaments is limited to 700.

#### 5. Choose the correct sequence of sea arranged from North to South in East Asian region/Western pacific:

- (a) Sea of Japan, East China Sea, Yellow Sea, Sea of Okhotsk, South China sea
- (b) Sea of Okhotsk, Sea of Japan, Yellow Sea, East China Sea, South China sea
- (c) Sea of Japan, East China Sea, Yellow Sea, South China Sea, Sea of Okhotsk
- (d) Sea of Okhotsk, Sea of Japan, East China Sea, South China Sea, Yellow Sea

**Answer : (b)**

**Explanation:**

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