

Daily mcqs- 24th October

1. Consider the following statements with respect to Essential Commodities Act, 1955

1. Under the Act, the government fixes the minimum price of any packaged product that it declares an “essential commodity”
2. The Central government can include new commodities as and when need arises and also can remove a commodity from the list

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

Ans: B

Explanation

- The ECA was enacted in 1955. It has since been used by the Government to **regulate the production, supply and distribution of a whole host of commodities** it declares ‘essential’ in order to make them available to consumers at fair prices.
- The list of items under the Act includes **drugs, fertilisers, pulses and edible oils**, and petroleum and petroleum products.
- The Centre can **include new commodities as and when the need arises** and takes them off the list once the situation improves.

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- Under the Act, the **government can also fix the maximum retail price (MRP)** (not the minimum price) of any packaged product that it declares an “essential commodity”
- If the Centre finds that a **certain commodity is in short supply and its price is spiking**, it can notify stock-holding limits on it for a specified period
- Anybody trading or dealing in a commodity, be it wholesalers, retailers or even importers are **prevented from stockpiling it beyond a certain quantity**
- A State can, however **choose not to impose any restrictions**. But once it does, traders have to immediately sell into the market any stocks held beyond the mandated quantity.

### Why in the news?

- With onion prices crossing Rs. 100 per kg in several cities, the Centre imposed stock limits on wholesalers and retailers until the end of the year to prevent hoarding.
- This is the first time stock limits have been imposed on any commodity after the Essential Commodities Act was amended last month to reduce such interventions.

### About ECA amendment,2020

- Removes commodities like cereals, pulses, oilseeds, edible oils, onion and potatoes from the list of essential commodities.
- Ensures that interests of consumers are safeguarded by regulating agricultural foodstuff in situations such as war, famine, extraordinary price rise and natural calamity.
- However, the installed capacity of a value chain participant and the export demand of an exporter will remain exempted from such regulation so as to ensure that investments in agriculture are not discouraged.

<https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/essential-commodities-act-amendments-explained-6442362/>

<https://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/centre-slaps-stock-limits-as-onion-prices-shoot-up/article32933986.ece>

**2. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Central Vigilance Commission?**

- 1) The Central Vigilance Commission is a statutory body constituted under Prevention of Corruption Act,1988.
- 2) It is an independent body which is only responsible to the Parliament.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

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

Answer: B

**Explanation**

- The Central Vigilance Commission was set up by the Government in February,1964 on the **recommendations of the Committee on Prevention of Corruption**, headed by Shri K. Santhanam, to advise and guide Central Government agencies in the field of vigilance.
- CVC are conceived to be the **apex vigilance institution**, free of control from any executive authority, **monitoring all vigilance activity under the Central Government** and advising various authorities in Central Government organizations in planning, executing, reviewing and reforming their vigilant work.
- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Commission was **given statutory status** by the enactment of **“The Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003”** (not under the Prevention of Corruption Act,1988)
- CVC aims to promote integrity in the governance processes by
  - Creation of a **credible deterrence against corruption** through prompt enforcement of anti-corruption laws and regulations

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- Undertaking **effective preventive measures** to minimize the scope of corruption
- **It is a multi-member Commission**, consists of a **Central Vigilance Commissioner** (Chairperson) and not more than **two Vigilance Commissioners** (Members)
- The Central Vigilance Commissioner and the Vigilance Commissioners are **appointed by the President** on the **recommendations of a Committee** consisting of the Prime Minister (Chairperson), the Minister of Home Affairs (Member) and the Leader of the Opposition in the House of the People (Member)
- **The term of office** of the Central Vigilance Commissioner and the Vigilance Commissioners is **four years** from the date on which they enter their office or **till they attain the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier**
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The CVC is **not controlled by any Ministry/Department**. It is an **independent body which is only responsible to the Parliament**.

**3. With reference to the International Labour Organisation Convention No. 182, consider the following statements:**

1. It is the first ILO Convention to achieve universal ratification.
2. It is one of the eight fundamental Conventions of ILO.
3. India has ratified all the eight core Conventions.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**Answer: A**

## Explanation

### International Labour Organisation (ILO)

- **International Labour Organisation is a U.N. agency** that was established in 1919.
- ILO brings together **governments, employers and workers representatives of 187 member States**, to set labour standards, develop policies and devise programmes promoting decent work for all women and men
- The principal means of action in the ILO is setting up the **International Labour Standards** in the **form of Conventions and Recommendations**
  - **Conventions** are international treaties and instruments, which create **legally binding obligations** on the countries that ratify them.
  - **Recommendations are non-binding** and set out guidelines orienting national policies and actions
- For the first time in the International Labour Organization (ILO)'s 101-year history, a labour standard has been universally ratified, with the Kingdom of Tonga being the last to ratify Convention 182.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** ILO Convention No. 182 is the first ILO Convention to achieve universal ratification.
- It was also the most rapidly ratified Convention in the history of the ILO, with the majority of ratifications occurring within the first 3 years after it was adopted in 1999.

### Eight fundamental conventions of ILO

- The ILO Governing Body has identified eight “fundamental” Conventions, covering subjects that are considered to be fundamental principles and rights at work which are as follows

1. Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87)

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2. Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98) 3. Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) (and its 2014 Protocol)

4. Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105)

5. Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138)

6. Statement 2 is correct: Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) 7. Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100)

8. Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111)

#### India and the ILO

- Freedom of Association and Protection of Right to Organised Convention (No.87)
- Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention (No.98)

**Statement 3 is incorrect:** These two have not been ratified by India while the other six have been ratified by India.

#### Why in the news?

**India assumed the role of chair of the International Labour Organisation's governing body after a gap of 35 years for the period of October 2020 till June 2021.**

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/india-becomes-chair-of-ilo-governing-body/article32932599.ece>

4. North Korea which was in the news recently is located between which of the following Seas?

- a) Korea Bay and the Sea of Japan
- b) Yellow Sea and the East China Sea
- c) Korea Bay and Yellow Sea
- d) East China Sea and Sea of Japan

Answer: A

Explanation:



5. Consider the following statements with respect to Remdesivir and choose the most appropriate statement describing it.

- a. It is a second generation gene editing tool after CRISPR–cas9.
- b. It is an antiviral drug that is used as a treatment for filovirus infections such as Ebola virus disease and Marburg virus.
- c. It is a space mission planned by NASA to explore the presence of water vapour in asteroid Bennu.
- d. It is the most advanced humanoid with in-built artificial intelligence (AI) technology developed by Microsoft.

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:**

1. **Remdesivir is an antiviral drug that is used as a treatment for filovirus infections such as Ebola virus disease and Marburg virus.**
2. Remdesivir was accidentally found to be effective against Nipah virus also in primates. Since Nipah currently does not have any cure/treatment, it is a welcome discovery.
3. Ebola and Nipah belong to different viral families, but remdesivir — made by Gilead Sciences and also known as GS-5734 — appears effective against both.
4. In mice or cells cultivated in the laboratory, the drug has also shown some effectiveness against two other threats: endemic Lassa fever and Pandemic MERS coronavirus.

**Why in the news?**

- **The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved remdesivir as the first drug to treat COVID-19.**

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- The drug is designed to obstruct the replication of the virus in the body and has become the first drug to get official approval from the FDA for the treatment of the disease

[.https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/remdesivir-coronavirus-covid-19-drug-food-and-drugs-administration-fda-approval-6853136/](https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/remdesivir-coronavirus-covid-19-drug-food-and-drugs-administration-fda-approval-6853136/)



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