

Daily Mcqs- December 18th

1. Recently, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed an equipment called 'UV blaster' for which of the following purpose?

- a) For Pathogen Reduction in Food Processing
- b) For rapid and chemical free disinfection of high infection prone areas
- c) To diffuse Unexploded Bombs with low order detonation
- d) To aid India's effort towards Automated border control systems

Ans: B

Explanation

- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed an **Ultra Violet (UV) Disinfection Tower** for rapid and **chemical free disinfection** of high infection prone areas.
- The **equipment named UV blaster** is a **UV based area sanitiser** designed and developed by Laser Science & Technology Centre (LASTEC), the Delhi based premier laboratory of DRDO with the help of M/s New Age Instruments and Materials Private Limited, Gurugram
- The UV Blaster is **useful for high tech surfaces** like electronic equipment, **computers and other gadgets in laboratories** and offices **that are not suitable for disinfection with chemical methods.**
- The product is also **effective for areas with large flow of people** such as airports, shopping malls, metros, hotels, factories, offices, etc
- The UV based area sanitiser may be used by **remote operation** through laptop/mobile phone using wifi link.
- This **sanitiser switches off on accidental opening of room or human intervention.** One more salient safety feature of the product is the key to arm operation

2. Consider the following statements with respect to Minorities mentioned in the Indian Constitution?

- 1) The definition for the term Minorities is provided in the Indian Constitution.
- 2) Only Religious minorities can set up their own education institutions.

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

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

Statement 1 is Incorrect

- The Constitution **uses the word 'minorities'** in some articles **but does not define it** anywhere and speaks of those 'based on religion or language only'.
- The Constitution of India used the word 'minorities' or its plural form in some articles 29 to 30 and 350 A to 350 B.
- **Article 29** has the word 'minorities' in its marginal heading but speaks of "any section of citizens having a distinct language, script and culture".

All minorities, religious or linguistic, can set up their own educational institutions. By doing so, they can preserve and develop their own culture. The government will not, while granting aid to educational institutions, discriminate against any educational institution on the basis that it is under the management of minority community. Hence, it is not just religious minorities. **Statement 2 is incorrect.**

Why in the news?

- **World Minorities Rights Day** celebrated on **18th December**.
- The day is celebrated by the **National Commission for Minorities** in India which focuses on religious harmony, respect, and a better understanding of all minorities' communities.
- The Constitution of India provides equal rights for all citizens and safeguards the rights of linguistic, ethnic, cultural, and religious minorities. It also has provisions for economically or socially disadvantaged people, including the people of scheduled tribes and scheduled castes.

<http://newsonair.com/News?title=World-Minorities-Rights-Day-celebrated-on-18-Dec&id=406301>

3. The terms "Ethereum", "Ripple", "Libra", "Stellar (XLM)" sometimes mentioned in news are associated with

- a) Cyber Attacks
- B) Exoplanets
- C) Mini Satellites
- D) Cryptocurrencies

Answer : Option D

Explanation : Generally people think BitCoin is the only cryptocurrency but other than that there are many other important cryptocurrencies dominating the digital world.

Most important in cryptocurrencies are Ethereum, Ripple, NEO , Stellar.

Libra is a permissioned blockchain digital currency proposed by the American social media company **Facebook**. The currency and network do not yet exist, and only rudimentary experimental code has been released. The launch is planned to be in **2020**.

Ethereum, Blockchain technology is being used to create applications that go beyond just enabling a digital currency. Launched in July of 2015, Ethereum is one of the largest and most well-established, open-ended decentralized software platforms. It has evolved as a potential competitor to bitcoin.

4. Consider the following statements with respect to the sessions of the Parliament

1. The President addresses the joint session of parliament at the commencement of the first session of each year
2. The constitution stipulates that there should be three sessions of parliament every year

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: A

Explanation

As per constitution, the President addresses joint session of parliament at the commencement of first session of each year and also at the commencement of first session after each general election to the Lok Sabha.

Statement 2 is not correct because the constitution only stipulates that not more than six months shall lapse between two sessions of parliament. Having three sessions in a year is as per convention and not as per provisions of constitution.

Why in the news?

<https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/parliament-winter-session-lok-sabha-rajya-sabha-7107893/>

5. Jaivik Kheti Portal sometimes seen in the news is related to

- a) Facilitating organic farmers to sell their organic produce
- b) Facilitate reporting of labour inspections and submission of Returns.
- c) Aviation Jobs Portal for Aspirants and prospective Employers
- d) Platform for farmers to seek any information related to agriculture.

Answer: A

Explanation:

Jaivikkheti portal is a unique initiative of the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), Department of Agriculture (DAC) along with MSTC to **promote organic farming globally**.

Key Features of the portal:

- **Promotion of organic farming:** It is a one-stop solution for facilitating organic farmers to sell their organic produce and promoting organic farming and its benefits.
- **E-Commerce & knowledge platform:** The portal is an E-commerce as well as a knowledge platform. Knowledge repository section of the portal includes case studies, videos, and best farming practices, success stories and other material related to organic farming to facilitate and promote organic farming. The e-commerce section of the portal provides the whole bouquet of organic products ranging from grains, pulses, fruits and vegetables.
- **Products available at door-step:** Through this portal buyers can now avail organic products at their doorstep through the portal at much lower prices.
- **Linking the stakeholders:** This portal links various stakeholders like regional councils, local groups, individual farmers, buyers, government agencies and input suppliers for the all-inclusive development and promotion of organic farming.
- **Price discovery Mechanism to Farmers:** The portal provides various price discovery mechanisms to help farmers get the best prices for their products through forward auction, price-quantity bidding, book building and reverse auction mechanisms.

Benefits from the point of view of farmers

- The fertile capacity of the land increases.
- Irrigation intervals increase.
- Reducing dependence on chemical fertilizer reduces costs.
- Increase in productivity of crops.

Benefits of soil

- The use of organic manure improves the quality of the land.
- The water holding capacity of the land increases.
- Evaporation of water from the land will be less.

Environmental benefits

- The water level of the land increases.
- There is a reduction in pollution through soil, food and water in the ground.
- The use of waste, in composting, reduces diseases.
- Reduction in cost of crop production and increase in income.
- Quality of organic product in the international market competition.

Statement b refers to Shram Suvidha Portal

Shram Suvidha Portal facilitates businessmen to get all kinds of registrations and submit returns that are required under labour laws at a single online window. It also makes available to them the inspection reports prepared by the enforcement agency inspectors online. The procedures have been simplified; returns and registration forms have been unified to provide a business environment that encourages compliance by reducing transaction costs and promoting ease of business.

Statement c refers to Aviation Jobs Portal

Aviation Jobs portal is a unique initiative to harness the growth potential of the aviation sector to contribute to employment and re-employment in skilled aviation jobs in India. Both Candidates and Employers would be able to access a wider choice. Candidates will be able to seek job opportunities matching their profiles. Employers will be able to shortlist those suitable to serve their HR requirements as per their company policy through an online medium.

Statement d refers to National Agriculture Market (eNAM) portal

National Agriculture Market (eNAM) is a pan-India electronic trading portal which networks the existing APMC mandis to create a unified national market for agricultural commodities.

OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC) is the lead agency for implementing eNAM under the aegis of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of India. Its main objective is to promote uniformity in agriculture marketing by streamlining of procedures across the integrated markets, removing information asymmetry between buyers and sellers and promoting real time price discovery based on actual demand and supply.

