

Daily Mcqs- December 23rd

1. Consider the following statements regarding the 'floor test' in State legislature

1. It is the determination on the floor of the House whether the Chief Minister commands the support of the majority of the MLAs
2. The voting process can happen orally, with electronic gadgets or a ballot process

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: C

Explanation

- A floor test is **the determination on the floor of the House** whether the Chief Minister commands the support of the majority of the MLAs
- This can be done by **means of a voice vote**, or by recording the vote of each MLA in the House. This determination of majority is done in a sitting of the legislature, for which the legislature has to be convened
- This voting **process happen in the state's Legislative Assembly** or the Lok Sabha at the central level
- Technically, the chief minister of a state is appointed by the Governor. The appointed chief minister usually belongs to the single largest party or the coalition which has the '**magic number**'
- The magic number is the total number of seats required to form a government, or stay in power. It is the half-way mark, plus one. In case of a tie, the **Speaker casts the deciding vote**

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- However, at times, a **government's majority can be questioned**. The leader of the party claiming majority has to move a vote of confidence
- If some MLAs **remain absent or abstain from voting**, the majority is counted on the basis of those present and voting. This effectively reduces the strength of the House and in turn brings down the majority-mark.
- The **voting process can happen orally**, with electronic gadgets or a ballot process.
- The Governor can also ask the Chief Minister **to prove his or her majority in the House** if the stability of the government comes into question

### 2. Consider the following statements about Great Indian Bustard

- 1) It is a critically endangered species under the red list of IUCN.
- 2) The great Indian bustard inhabits dry grasslands and scrublands on the Indian subcontinent.

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: B**

**Explanation:**

- The Great Indian Bustard is one of the heaviest flying birds, which can weigh up to 15 kg and grow up to one metre in height.
- It is considered the flagship grassland species, representing the health of the grassland ecology.
- The great Indian bustard **inhabits dry grasslands and scrublands** on the Indian subcontinent. Hence **statement 2 is correct**.
- It has also been identified as one of the species for the recovery programme under the Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India.

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- Rajasthan forest department, announced its own Project Great Indian Bustard to conserve the species. The bird also happens to be the **state bird of Rajasthan** and not Gujarat. It is a **critically endangered species** under the red list of IUCN. Hence, **Statement 1 is incorrect.**

#### Why in the news?

In a novel initiative to protect the critically endangered great Indian bustard from colliding with live wires, the Wildlife Conservation Society- India (WCSI) is installing 1,848 bird diverters on high-tension wires along a 6.5km stretch in Pokhran, Rajasthan.

#### 3. Consider the following pairs

- | National park               | Important species    |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| (1) Desert National park    | Nilgiri Thar         |
| (2) Singalila National Park | Great Indian Bustard |
| (3) Mukurthi National park  | Red panda            |

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

- (a) 1 and 2
- (b) 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3
- (d) None

**Ans: D**

**Explanation:**

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| National Park           | Species              |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Desert National park    | Great Indian Bustard |
| Singalila National park | Red panda            |
| Mukurthi National park  | Nilgiri Thar         |

#### 4. With reference to the International Solar Alliance, consider the following statements.

1. It is a coalition of solar resource rich countries lying fully or partially between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn.
2. The ISA is a treaty-based intergovernmental international organization that doesn't put any legal obligations on member countries.
3. UN member countries which are located beyond the Tropics can also join the ISA as "Partner Countries" with the right to vote.

Which of the above statements is\are correct?

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

**Answer:B**

**Explanation**

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**Statement 1 is correct:** International Solar Alliance (ISA) is a coalition of solar resource rich countries **lying fully or partially between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn** to specifically address energy needs by harnessing solar energy. The Alliance aims to provide a platform for prospective member countries to collaborate and address the identified gaps through a common agreed approach. ISA has been envisioned as a dedicated platform that aims to contribute towards the common goal of increasing utilization and promote solar energy and solar applications in the prospective member countries **to help the world transform to a low-carbon and greener society.**

**Statement 2 is correct:** The ISA Framework Agreement has a total of 14 articles. There are **no targets or legal obligations imposed on member-countries.** Members take coordinated actions through Programmes and activities launched on a voluntary basis, aimed at better harmonizing and aggregating demand for, inter alia, solar finance, solar technologies, innovation, research and development, and capacity building.

**Statement 3 is incorrect.**

- UN member countries which are **located beyond the Tropics can join the ISA as “Partner Countries”.**
- Organizations that have potential to help the ISA achieve its objectives including regional intergovernmental economic integration organizations constituted by sovereign states at least one of which is a member of the ISA can join the ISA as a “Partner Organization”.
- United Nations including its organs can join the ISA as “Strategic Partners”.

Structure of the ISA and How are decisions taken?

- The ISA will have a two-tier structure – the Assembly and the Secretariat. Each member-country is represented on the Assembly, which meets annually at the Ministerial level at the seat of the ISA. The Assembly may also meet under special circumstances.
- The Assembly makes all necessary decisions regarding the functioning of the ISA, including the selection of the Director General and approval of the operating budget.
- Each Member has one vote in the Assembly.

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- **Partner Countries, Partner Organizations, Strategic Partners, and Observers may participate without having the right to vote.**

5. With reference to the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI), consider the following statements.

1. It was launched by India in 2019.
2. It is an international partnership to promote the resilience of new and existing infrastructure systems to climate and disaster risks, thereby ensuring sustainable development.

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

Answer: C

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** India launched the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) on the sidelines of the UN Climate Action Summit in September, 2019.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** This international partnership of national governments, UN agencies, multilateral development banks, private sector, and knowledge institutions will promote the resilience of new and existing infrastructure systems to climate and disaster risks, thereby ensuring sustainable development.
- Developed through consultations with more than 35 countries, CDRI envisions enabling measurable reduction in infrastructure losses from disasters, including extreme climate events.