

## UPSC Prelims 2020

### Miscellaneous

1. Consider the following statements:

1. Aadhaar metadata cannot be stored for more than three months.
2. State cannot enter into any contract with private corporations for sharing of Aadhaar.
3. Aadhaar is mandatory for obtaining insurance products.
4. Aadhaar is mandatory for getting benefits funded out of the Consolidated Fund of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

#### Explanation:

**Statement 1 is incorrect** – As per Supreme court judgement, on the Aadhar act it was held that metadata cannot be stored for more than 6 months

**Statement 2 is correct** – The SC in the same judgement had struck down Section 57 of the act which allowed use of Aadhar data by Private corporates. Hence State cannot enter into any contract with private companies for sharing of Aadhar data

**Statement 3 is incorrect** – In the same judgement, it was held Aadhar is not mandatory for obtaining banking and insurance products.

**Statement 4 is correct** – The purpose of Aadhar act is to make it mandatory for beneficiaries to get benefits out of CFI.

2. With reference to the finds under Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS), which of the following statements are correct?

1. MPLADS funds must be used to create durable assets like physical infrastructure for health, educations, etc.
2. A specified portion of each MP's fund must benefit SC/ST populations.

3. MPLADS funds are sanctioned on yearly basis and the unused funds cannot be carried forward to the next year.
4. The district authority must inspect at least 10% of all works under implementation every year.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: D

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is correct – 1.3 of Guidelines of MPLADS** - The objective of the scheme is to enable MPs to recommend works of developmental nature with emphasis on the creation of durable community assets based on the locally felt needs to be taken up in their Constituencies. Right from inception of the Scheme, durable assets of national priorities viz. drinking water, primary education, public health, sanitation and roads, etc. are being created.

**Statement 2 is correct – 2.5 of Guidelines of MPLADS** - There is a greater need to develop areas inhabited by Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in order to give special attention for the infrastructure development of such areas. M.Ps are to recommend every year, works costing at least 15 per cent of the MPLADS entitlement for the year for areas inhabited by Scheduled Caste population and 7.5 per cent for areas inhabited by S.T. population.

**Statement 3 is incorrect – 4.4 of Guidelines of MPLADS - Funds Non-lapsable:** Funds released to the District Authority by the Government of India are non- lapsable. Funds left in the district can be carried forward for utilization in the subsequent years. Further, the funds not released by the Government of India in a year will be carried forward for making releases in the subsequent years subject to the fulfillment of criteria stipulated in Paragraph 4.3.

**Statement 4 is correct – 6.4 of Guideline for MPLADS** - The District Authority would be responsible for overall coordination and supervision of the works under the scheme at the district level and inspect at least 10% of the works under implementation every year.

3. Consider the following pairs:

International agreements / set-up	Subject
1. Alma-Ata Declaration	- Healthcare of the people
2. Hague Convention	- Biological and chemical weapons
3. Talanoa Dialogue	- Global climate change
4. Under 2 Coalition	- Child rights

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

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

Answer: C

Explanation: **Pair 1 and 3 are correctly matched.**

**Pair 2 is incorrect as Hague convention is related to Child rights and Under2 coalition is related to Climate change.**

4. The term 'West Texas Intermediate; sometime found in news, refers to a grade of

- A. Crude oil
- B. Bullion
- C. Rare earth elements
- D. Uranium

Answer-A

5. In India, why are some nuclear reactors kept under “IAEA Safeguards” while others are not?

- A. Some use uranium and others use thorium
- B. Some use imported uranium and others use domestic supplies
- C. Some are operated by foreign enterprises and others are operated by domestic enterprises
- D. Some are State-owned and others are privately-owned

Answer: B

6. In India, under cyber insurance for individuals, which of the following benefits are generally covered, in addition to payment for the loss of funds and other benefits?

1. Cost of restoration of the computer system in case of malware disrupting access to one's computer
2. Cost of a new computer if some miscreant wilfully damages, if proved so
3. Cost of hiring a specialized consultant to minimize the loss in case of cyber extortion
4. Cost of defence in the court of the law in any third party files a suit

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1, 2 and 4 only
- B. 1, 3 and 4 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: B

7. Consider the following statements:

1. The value of Indo-Sri Lanka trade has consistently increased in the last decade.
2. “Textile and textile articles” constitute an important item of trade between India and Bangladesh.

3. In the last five years, Nepal has been the largest trading partner of India in South Asia.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 3 only
- D. 1,2 and 3

Answer: B

8. In which one of the following groups are all the four countries members of G20?

- (a) Argentina, Mexico, South Africa and Turkey
- (b) Australia, Canada, Malaysia, and New Zealand
- (c) Brazil, Iran, Saudi Arabia and Vietnam
- (d) Indonesia, Singapore, Japan and South Korea

Answer: A

9. Under the Kisan Credit Card scheme, short-term credit support is given to farmers for which of the following purposes?

1. Working capital for maintenance of farm assets
2. Purchase of combine harvesters, tractors and mini trucks
3. Consumption requirements of farm households
4. Post-harvest expenses
5. Construction of family house and setting up of village cold storage facility

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1,2 and 5 only
- B. 1,3 and 4 only
- C. 2,3,4 and 5 only
- D. 1,2,3,4 and 5

Answer: B

10. Consider the following pairs.

River	Flows into
1. Mekong	Andaman Sea
2. Thames	Irish Sea
3. Volga	Caspian Sea
4. Zambexi	Indian Ocean

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

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

Answer: C

11. With reference to Indian elephants, consider the following statements:

- 1. The leader of an elephant group is a female.
- 2. The maximum gestation period can be 22 months.
- 3. An elephant can normally go on calving till the age of 40 years only.
- 4. Among the States in India, the highest elephant population is in Kerala.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation: **Elephant families have a matriarchal head, meaning that an older, experienced lady elephant leads the herd.**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/comment/six-facts-about-elephant-families-9015298.html>

**Gestation period of elephants is between 18 - 22 months.**

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elephant>

**They can reproduce to the age of 50 years.**

<https://www.elephantsforever.co.za/life-cycle.html>

**Karnataka has taken the number one position in elephant population in the country with 6049 elephants.**

<https://newsable.asianetnews.com/karnataka/state-stands-at-the-top-with-highest-number-of-elephants-6049-and-counting>

12. With Reference to solar water pumps, consider the following statements:

1. Solar power can be used for running surface pumps and not for submersible pumps.
  2. Solar power can be used for running centrifugal pumps and not the ones with piston.
- 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: D

