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Que 1: Recently seen in news, Adjusted Gross Revenue or AGR is related to:

- a) Textile Industries
- b) Mobile manufacturing
- c) Telecom companies
- d) Green economy

Que 2: With respect to the Telecom sector, consider the following statements:

1. The telecom sector was liberalised under the National Telecom Policy, 1994 after which license fees were removed.
2. 100% FDI under the automatic route is allowed in the telecom sector.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Que 3: Consider the following statements with respect to National Crime Record Bureau:

1. It functions as a repository of information on crime and criminals so as to assist the investigators in linking crime to the perpetrators.
2. It comes under the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

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Que 4: Recently seen in news, Deepor Beel freshwater lake is situated in:

- a) Arunachal Pradesh
- b) Assam
- c) Bihar
- d) Meghalaya

Que 5: Recently seen in news, AUKUS is:

- a) Missile
- b) Security partnership
- c) Exoplanet
- d) Defence exercise

Explanation

1. Ans c)

- Adjusted Gross Revenue or AGR is a fee-sharing mechanism between the government and the telecoms, who shifted to the 'revenue-sharing fee' model in 1999, from the 'fixed license fee' model.
- It is the **usage and licensing fee that telecom operators are charged by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT)**.
- It is divided into spectrum usage charges and licensing fees, pegged between 3-5 percent and 8 percent respectively.
- It has been in the news due to the contention between the government and the telecoms companies.
 - As per DoT, the charges are calculated based on all revenues earned by a telco – including non-telecom related sources such as deposit interests and asset sales.
 - Telcos, on their part, insist that AGR should comprise only the revenues generated from telecom services.

2. Ans b)

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** The telecom sector was liberalised **under the National Telecom Policy, 1994 after which licenses were issued to companies in return for a fixed license fee.**
- It was later in 1999, that the government gave an option to the licensees to migrate to the revenue sharing fee model, in order to provide relief from the steep fixed license fee.

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- Under this, mobile telephone operators were required to share a percentage of their Adjusted Gross Revenue with the government as annual license fee (LF) and spectrum usage charges (SUC).
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Recently the government has allowed **Foreign direct investment (FDI) up to 100% under the automatic route, from the existing limit of 49%.**

3. Ans d)

- **Statement 1 is correct.** National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB), was **set-up in 1986 under the Ministry of Home Affairs.**
- It came into existence based on the recommendations of the **National Police Commission (1977-1981) and the MHA's Task Force (1985).**
- **Statement 2 is correct. It functions as a repository of information on crime and criminals so as to assist the investigators in linking crime to the perpetrators.**
- NCRB brings out the annual comprehensive statistics of crime across the country named- '**Crime in India**' report.

4. Ans b)

- Dipor Bil/Deepor Beel (bil or beel means "lake" in the local Assamese language), is located to the south-west of Guwahati city, in Kamrup Metropolitan district of **Assam, India.**
- It is a **permanent freshwater lake, in a former channel of the Brahmaputra River,** to the south of the main river.
- It is a **Ramsar Site wetland and Important Bird Area.**
- Considered one of the largest beels in the Brahmaputra valley of Lower Assam, it is categorised as representative of the wetland type under the Burma monsoon forest biogeographic region.
- The Dipor Bil is reported to provide, directly or indirectly, its natural resources for the livelihood of fourteen indigenous villages (1,200 families) located in its precincts.
- **Recently, villagers living near Deepor Beel, have opposed the proposed realignment of a railway track skirting its southern edge.**
 - As per the indigenous people, the project would be catastrophic for the ecology of the Rani-Garbhanga Reserve Forest, affect a prime elephant corridor and uproot.

5. Ans b)

- It is a **new trilateral security partnership for the Indo-Pacific between Australia, the U.K. and the U.S. (AUKUS),** recently announced by the US administration.
- It is a trilateral grouping that was security focused, different from — but complementary to — arrangements such as the Quad.

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- **As per the analysts, AUKUS** is the biggest security arrangement between the three nations since World War Two.
- The pact will focus on military capability, separating it from the Five Eyes intelligence-sharing alliance which also includes New Zealand and Canada.

