

# OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

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Daily Mcqs- January 18th 2022

1. Consider the following pairs with respect to Nuclear power plants in India and the states they are located

LIST I		LIST II
1. Narora	-	Rajasthan
2. Tarapur	-	Maharashtra
3. Kaiga	-	Uttar Pradesh
4. Kalpakkam	-	Tamil Nadu

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

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

2. Consider the following statements about the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR).

- 1. It is a constitutional body.
- 2. The commission is mandated to monitor the implementation of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act.

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

3. Consider the following statements regarding the provisions of Epidemic Diseases Act of 1897

- 1. It empowers state governments/UTs to take special measures for containing the outbreak of diseases
- 2. The act empowers only the Central government to prescribe regulations to be observed by the public as it paves way for uniform regulations throughout the country
- 3. It gives legal protection to the implementing officers acting under the Act

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 3 only

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

### 4. Consider the following statements about rare earth elements (REE).

1. REE are a set of seventeen metallic elements.
2. They are found in very little quantities in Earth's crust, hence named rare earth elements.
3. India has the world's fifth-largest reserves of rare earth elements.

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

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

### 5. 'Ghoomar' is the traditional folk dance prevalent in which of the following state?

- a) Karnataka
- b) Rajasthan
- c) Gujarat
- d) Uttar Pradesh

1) Answer : D

#### Explanation

- Nuclear power is **obtained from energy stored in the nuclei of atoms** of naturally occurring radio active elements like uranium and thorium.
- These fuels **undergo nuclear fission in nuclear reactors** and emit power. The greatest producers of nuclear power are USA and Europe.
- The nuclear power stations in India are located in
  - **Kalpakkam in Tamilnadu**
  - Tarapur in Maharashtra
  - Ranapratap Sagar near Kota in Rajasthan
  - **Narora in Uttar Pradesh** and
  - **Kaiga in Karnataka.**

2) Answer: B

### Explanation

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) is a **statutory body** established under the Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005.
- The commission works under the aegis of the **Ministry of Women and Child development.**
- **Statement 2 is correct:** NCPCR is mandated to function for the protection and promotion of child rights. It is also mandated to monitor the implementation of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act.
- The Commission may inquire into complaints and take *suo motu* notice of matters relating to-
  - Deprivation and violation of child rights;
  - Non-implementation of laws providing for protection and development of children;
  - Non-compliance of policy decisions, guidelines or instructions aimed at mitigating hardships to and ensuring welfare of the children and to provide relief to such children;

### Constitution

- The commission consist of the following members namely:-
  - A **chairperson** who, is a person of eminence and has done a outstanding work for promoting the welfare of children; and
  - **Six members**, out of which at least two are women, are appointed by the Central Government from amongst persons of eminence, ability, integrity, standing and experience in Education; Child health, care or related fields.

### 3) Answer : B

### Explanation

#### Epidemic Diseases Act of 1897

- It is routinely enforced across the country for dealing with **outbreaks of diseases** such as swine flu, dengue, and cholera. It was introduced by colonial government to tackle the **epidemic of bubonic plague** that had spread in the erstwhile Bombay Presidency in the 1890s
- Historians have criticised the Act for its potential for abuse. Using powers conferred by the Act, colonies authorities **would search suspected plague cases in homes and among passengers**, with forcible segregations, evacuations, and demolitions of infected places.
- In 1897, the year the law was enforced, **freedom fighter Bal Gangadhar Tilak was punished with 18 months rigorous imprisonment** after his newspapers Kesari and Mahratta admonished imperial authorities for their handling of the plague epidemic

#### Provisions of the 1897 Epidemic Diseases Act

- **Statement 1 is correct:** It empowers **state governments/UTs to take special measures** and formulate regulations for containing the outbreak.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** It also empowers state to **prescribe such temporary regulations** to be observed by the public or by any person or class of persons as it shall deem necessary to prevent the outbreak of such disease or the spread thereof

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- The state may determine in what manner and by whom any expenses incurred (including compensation if any) shall be defrayed.
- The State Government may **take measures and prescribe regulations** for the inspection of persons travelling by railway or otherwise, and the segregation, in hospital, temporary accommodation or otherwise, of persons suspected by the inspecting officer of being infected with any such disease.
- It also **provides penalties for disobeying any regulation** or order made under the Act. These are according to section 188 of the Indian Penal Code (Disobedience to order duly promulgated by public servant).
- **Statement 3 is correct:** It also gives **legal protection to the implementing officers** acting under the Act.

4) Answer: C

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The rare earth elements (REE) are a set of **seventeen metallic elements**. They are called 'rare earth' because **earlier it was difficult to extract them from their oxides forms technologically**.
- They are an **essential part of many high-tech devices**. The 17 Rare Earths are cerium (Ce), dysprosium (Dy), erbium (Er), europium (Eu), gadolinium (Gd), holmium (Ho), lanthanum (La), lutetium (Lu), neodymium (Nd), praseodymium (Pr), promethium (Pm), samarium (Sm), scandium (Sc), terbium (Tb), thulium (Tm), ytterbium (Yb), and yttrium (Y).
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Despite their name, **rare-earth elements are not rare**. All the metals except **radioactive promethium** are actually more abundant in Earth's crust than silver, gold, and platinum.

Why are they important?

- These elements are important in technologies of consumer electronics, computers and networks, communications, clean energy, advanced transportation, healthcare, environmental mitigation, and national defence, among others.
- Rare earth minerals are crucial to the manufacture of magnets used in industries of the future, such as wind turbines and electric cars.
- REEs are needed in high-temperature superconductivity, safe storage and transport of hydrogen for a post-hydrocarbon economy, reduce sulphur oxide emissions and hence it has abundant value.
- According to the Rare Earth Technology Alliance (RETA), the estimated size of the Rare Earth sector is between \$10 billion and \$15 billion. About 100,000-110,000 tonnes of Rare Earth elements are produced annually around the world.

Who is the top producer?

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- **China** has over time acquired global domination of rare earths. At one point, China produced 90 per cent of the rare earths the world needs.
- Today, however, it has come down to 60 per cent. The remaining is produced by other countries.

### What is India's position?

- **Statement 3 is correct: India** has the **world's fifth-largest reserves** of rare earth elements, **but it imports** most of its rare earth needs in finished form **from China**.
- With adjustments to the existing policy, India could emerge as a rare earths supplier to the world and use these resources to power a high-end manufacturing economy.

### India's Current Policy on Rare Earths

- India has granted government corporations such as **Indian Rare Earths Limited (IREL)** a monopoly over the primary mineral that contains REEs: **monazite beach sand**, found in many coastal states.
- IREL produces **rare earth oxides** (low-cost, low-reward "upstream processes"), selling these to foreign firms that extract the metals and manufacture end products (high-cost, high-reward "downstream processes") elsewhere.

### 5) Answer: B

### Explanation

- Ghoomar is a **traditional folk dance of Rajasthan**. It was **Bhil tribe** who performed it to worship Goddess Sarasvati which was later embraced by other Rajasthani communities. The dance is chiefly performed by veiled women who wear flowing dresses called **ghaghara**
- Ghoomar is performed by **women in colourful swirling ghagharas**. The beauty of this dance is in the stunning pirouetting which go on to reveal the various gorgeous colours of the swirling skirts. The steps of a Ghoomar dance are carefully measured, and paired with graceful inclination
- The women also clap and snap their fingers while dancing, at particular parts during the song. The dance is performed in **honour of the Goddess Saraswati, the Goddess of wealth**.