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Daily MCQs: 09-09-2023

1. The Treaty of Versailles is related to which of the following international organisations?

- A. International Labour Organisation
- B. North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
- C. Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
- D. Shanghai Cooperation Organisation

2. Consider the following statements about 'Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan'.

- 1. It is a campaign against substance abuse which focuses on districts which are identified as most vulnerable in terms of usage of drugs.
- 2. It is an initiative of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

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 about the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

- 1. It is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations.
- 2. It is responsible for the direction and coordination of the economic, social, humanitarian, and cultural activities carried out by the UN.

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

4. Consider the following pairs:

- | Generation of Biofuels | Produced from |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. First generation | - food crop feedstock |
| 2. Second generation | - non-food plants |
| 3. Third generation | - micro-organisms |
| 4. Fourth generation | - genetically modified algae |

Which of the pairs given above is/are correct?

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

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5. Consider the following statements about the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC).

1. At present, NCBC is accorded statutory status by the National Commission for Backward Classes Act, 2018.
2. The Commission has all the powers of a civil court while trying a suit.

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

Solutions:

1. Answer: A

Explanation:

- The International Labour Organisation was created in **1919**, as part of the **Treaty of Versailles** that ended World War I.
- It became the **first specialized agency of the UN** in 1946. ILO is the **only tripartite U.N. agency** which brings together governments, employers and workers of **187 member States**, to set labour standards, develop policies and devise programmes promoting decent work for all women and men.
- India is a **founder member** of the ILO.
- It is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.

2. Answer: A

Explanation:

- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The 'Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan' or the 'Drugs-Free India Campaign' is a campaign against substance abuse flagged off on 15th August 2020 by the **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment**.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Nasha Mukt Bharat Annual Action Plan for 2020-21 focuses on **272 districts in 32 states & UT's which are identified as most vulnerable in terms of usage of drugs** and launches a **three-pronged attack** combining efforts of the Narcotics Bureau, Outreach/Awareness by Social Justice and Treatment through the Health Department.

Components of the action plan

- Awareness generation programmes;
- Focus on Higher Educational institutions, University Campuses and Schools;
- Community outreach and identification of dependent population;
- Focus on Treatment facilities in Hospital settings; and
- Capacity Building Programmes for Service Providers.

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3. Answer: C

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It is responsible for the direction and coordination of the economic, social, humanitarian, and cultural activities carried out by the UN.
- ECOSOC was established by the UN Charter (1945), which was amended in 1965 and 1974 to increase the number of members from 18 to 54. ECOSOC **membership is based on geographic representation.**
- ECOSOC is responsible for promoting higher standards of living, full employment, and economic and social progress; identifying solutions to international economic, social and health problems; facilitating international cultural and educational cooperation; and encouraging universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

4. Answer: D

Explanation:

- Biofuels are liquid or gaseous fuels produced from biomass that are generally high in sugar (such as sugarcane, sugarbeet, sweet sorghum), starch (such as corn and cassava) or oils (such as soybeans, rapeseed, coconut, sunflowers, and palms). The two most commonly used biofuels are ethanol and biodiesel.
- **Categories of Biofuels:**
 1. **First generation Biofuels** are mainly produced from **food crop feedstock**, such as oil, sugar and starch crops, thus competing for agricultural areas used for food production.
 2. **Second generation Biofuels** differ in feedstock which, in this case, comes from **non-food plants** such as agricultural crops, residues and wood (so-called lignocellulosic biomass).
 3. **Third generation Biofuels** are produced from **micro-organisms** like algae. Its production is supposed to be low cost and high-yielding – giving up to nearly 30 times the energy per unit area as can be realized from current, conventional ‘first-generation’ biofuel feedstocks.
 4. **Fourth generation Biofuels** use **genetically modified (GM) algae** to enhance biofuel production. Key to the process is the capture and sequestration of CO₂, a process that renders fourth-generation biofuels a **carbon negative source of fuel.**

5. Answer: B

Explanation:

- The National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) was initially constituted by the Central Govt by The National Commission for Backward Classes Act, 1993 and so far the Commission had been reconstituted 7 times up to 2016. The Central Govt has repealed The National Commission for Backward Classes Act, 1993 w.e.f 15.8.2018.
- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The present Commission (8th) has been accorded **Constitutional Status** and constituted through **“The Constitution (One Hundred and Second**

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Amendment) Act, 2018” Act, whereby **Article 338B** has been inserted, forming a Commission for the socially and educationally backward classes to be known as NCBC.

- The Commission consists of a **Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and three other Members** in the rank & pay of Secretary to the Govt of India and their condition of service and tenure of office has been notified by the Central government.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Commission has all the powers of a civil court while trying a suit.
- NCBC has been assigned duties under Section (5) of The Constitution (One Hundred And Second Amendment) Act, 2018 which are as follows:
- It shall be the duty of the Commission—
 - **to investigate and monitor all matters relating to the safeguards provided for the socially and educationally backward classes under this Constitution or under any other law for the time being in force or under any order of the Government and to evaluate the working of such safeguards;**
 - to inquire into specific complaints with respect to the deprivation of rights and safeguards of the socially and educationally backward classes;
 - to participate and advise on the socio-economic development of the socially and educationally backward classes and to evaluate the progress of their development under the Union and any State;
 - to present to the President, annually and at such other times as the Commission may deem fit, reports upon the working of those safeguards;
 - to make in such reports the recommendations as to the measures that should be taken by the Union or any State for the effective implementation of those safeguards and other measures for the protection, welfare and socio-economic development of the socially and educationally backward classes; and
 - to discharge such other functions in relation to the protection, welfare and development and advancement of the socially and educationally backward classes as the President may, subject to the provisions of any law made by Parliament, by rule specify.