

# OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

Daily MCQs: 22-01-2024

**1. The Cartagena Protocol to the Convention on Biological Diversity is an international agreement which aims to**

- A. Sharing the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources in a fair and equitable way
- B. Ensuring the safe handling, transport and use of living modified organisms
- C. Addressing pollutants that cause acidification and ground-level ozone
- D. Conservation and sustainable use of migratory animals and their habitats

**2. With reference to the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), consider the following statements.**

- 1. NDRF was constituted under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897.
- 2. The primary purpose of NDRF is to supplement the State Disaster Response Fund, provided adequate funds are not available in SDRF.
- 3. NDRF is classified in the Public Accounts of the Government of India.

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

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

**3. Which of the following are covered under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955?**

- 1. Petroleum and its products
- 2. Food products
- 3. Essential drugs
- 4. Fertilisers

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below**

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

**4. Arrange the the following protected areas in the direction of North to South:**

- 1. Nagarhole National Park
- 2. Pench National Park
- 3. Mollem National Park
- 4. Kalakad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below**

# OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

## IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

- A. 2-1-3-4
- B. 1-3-4-2
- C. 2-3-1-4
- D. 3-2-1-4

### 5. “Bonn Challenge”, sometimes seen in the news, is related to?

- A. Initiative to create friendly, clean beaches, marinas which are equipped with amenities of international standards for tourists
- B. A global effort to bring deforested and degraded land into restoration
- C. Conservation effort which aims to conserve terrestrial, marine and avian migratory species throughout their range
- D. Initiative involving financial aid to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the buildings, industry, and/or transportation sectors

#### Solutions:

1. Answer: **B**

#### Explanation:

- Signed by 150 government leaders at the **1992 Rio Earth Summit**, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) is dedicated to promoting sustainable development.
- Conceived as a practical tool for translating the **principles of Agenda 21** into reality, the Convention recognizes that biological diversity is about more than plants, animals and micro organisms and their ecosystems – it is about people and our need for food security, medicines, fresh air and water, shelter, and a clean and healthy environment in which to live.
- **India** is a party to CBD and enacted the **Biological Diversity Act, 2002**, to meet the obligations under Convention on Biological Diversity.
  - *Agenda 21 is a non-binding action plan of the United Nations for sustainable development, covering a wide range of specific natural resources and the role of different groups, as well as issues of social and economic development and implementation.*
  - *It is a product of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit.*

#### Objectives

- The CBD entered into force on 29 December 1993. It has 3 main objectives:
  1. The conservation of biological diversity
  2. The sustainable use of the components of biological diversity
  3. The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources

#### Aichi Targets

- The ‘Aichi Targets’ were adopted by the Convention on Biological Diversity at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD (COP10) which took place in Nagoya, Japan in 2010.
- During the meeting, the parties agreed that previous biodiversity protection targets were not achieved, and therefore they needed to come up with new plans and targets.

# OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

## IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

- The short-term plan provides a set of **20 time-bound, measurable targets to be met by the year 2020**, collectively known as the **Aichi Biodiversity Targets**, grouped under **five Strategic Goals**.

### Protocols to CBD

#### Cartagena Protocol

- The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity is an international agreement which aims to **ensure the safe handling, transport and use of living modified organisms (LMOs)** resulting from modern biotechnology that may have adverse effects on biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health.
- It entered into force on 11 September 2003. Number of Parties: More than 170 countries (including **India**).

#### Nagoya Protocol

- The Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity is an international agreement which aims at **sharing the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources in a fair and equitable way**.
- It entered into force on 12 October 2014. Number of Parties: More than 120 countries (including **India**).

#### Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol

- Adopted as a **supplementary agreement to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety**, the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety aims to contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity by providing **international rules and procedures in the field of liability and redress relating to living modified organisms**.
- It entered into force on 5 March 2018. Number of Parties: More than 50 countries (including **India**).

2. Answer: D

#### Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Under the **Disaster Management Act 2005**, a financial mechanism has been set up by way of National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) at national level and State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) at state level to meet the rescue and relief expenditure during any notified disaster.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The primary purpose of NDRF is to **supplement the SDRF**, in case there is a calamity of “**severe nature**” which requires assistance over and above the funds available under SDRF.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** NDRF is classified in the **Public Accounts of the Government of India** under “Reserve Funds not bearing interest”.
- The NDRF is funded through the **National Calamity Contingency Duty (NCCD)** imposed on specified goods and additional budgetary support is provided as and when necessary.
- The National Executive Committee (NEC) of the National Disaster Management Authority takes decisions on the expenses from the National Disaster Response Fund.

3. Answer: D

**Explanation:**

- The Essential Commodities Act (ECA) was enacted by the Central Government in 1955 to control and regulate trade and prices of commodities declared essential under the Act.
- Though there is **no specific definition for 'essential commodities'**, Section 2(A) of this Act states that an essential commodity means a commodity specified in the "Schedule" of this Act.
- As per the Essential Commodities Act, **only the Central government can add/remove a commodity from the Act.**
- The Act empowers the **Central and state governments concurrently to control production, supply and distribution** of certain commodities in view of rising prices and to prevent Black marketing.
- The measures that can be taken under the provisions of the Act include **licensing, distribution and imposing stock limits**. The governments also have the power to fix price limits, and selling the particular commodities above the limit will attract penalties.
- Most of the powers under the Act have been delegated by the Central Government to the State Governments with the direction that they shall exercise these powers.
- Some of the major commodities that are covered under the act:
  - Petroleum and its products
  - Food products, including seeds, vanaspati
  - Drugs- prices of essential drugs
  - Fertilisers
  - Raw jute and jute textiles
  - Cattle fodder
  - Face masks and sanitisers.
- **Note:** In 2020, the Parliament passed the **Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act, 2020** to deregulate the sale of six types of agricultural produce by amending the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. However, following protests from different sections of the society, the parliament repealed the amendment act.

4. Answer: C

**Explanation:**

- **Pench National Park** is a national park in **Madhya Pradesh**, established in 1975.
- It includes Pench Tiger Reserve and derives its name from the Pench River that flows through the park from north to south dividing the park into almost equal western and eastern halves.
- It was declared a sanctuary in 1965, raised to the status of national park in 1975 and enlisted as a tiger reserve in 1992. In 1983 it was declared as National Park.
- Spread over 240 sq km in the Western Ghats, **Mollem National Park** is located in Sanguem taluk in **Goa** close to the border with Karnataka. The reserve also has several temples dating back to the Kadamba Dynasty. Several species of snakes including the King Cobra, Hump-nosed pit viper, Indian rock python and Malabar pit viper are found in the park.

## OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

### IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

- **Nagarhole National Park** is located in **Karnataka**. It is **part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve**.
- The park ranges the foothills of the Western Ghats spreading down the Brahmagiri hills and south towards Kerala state. The park covers 643 km sq located to the north-west of Bandipur National Park. The **Kabini reservoir** separates the two parks.
- The **Kalakad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve (KMTR)** in **Tirunelveli and Kanyakumari District of Tamil Nadu** is one of the protected areas having diverse flora and fauna.
- This region has got vegetation types which gradually changes from dry thorn forest to dry deciduous.

5. Answer: B

Explanation:

- **Bonn Challenge** is a global effort to bring **150 million hectares of the world's deforested and degraded land into restoration by 2020, and 350 million hectares by 2030**.
- Launched by the **Government of Germany and IUCN** in 2011, the Challenge **surpassed the 150-million-hectare milestone for pledges in 2017**.
- **India** joined the Bonn Challenge in 2015 with a pledge to restore **21 million hectares (mha)** of degraded and deforested land. This was raised to target of **26 mha by 2030**.
- The Bonn challenge is different from the **Bonn Convention**, 1979, also known as the **Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals**. It aims to conserve terrestrial, marine and avian migratory species throughout their range. The convention has more than 130 Parties (including **India**).