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Daily MCQs: 12-03-2024

1. Consider the following statements about the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI).

1. It is a statutory authority established under the provisions of the Aadhaar Act 2016.
2. It functions under the Ministry of Home Affairs.

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

2. With reference to the National Investigation Agency (NIA), consider the following statements.

1. It was set up in 2008 after the deadly 26/11 terror attack in Mumbai.
2. The act also applies to persons who commit a scheduled offence beyond India against Indian citizens or affecting the interest of India.

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 Representation of the People Act, 1951.

1. The Act pertains to the conduct of elections for the Houses of Parliament and the Houses of the Legislature of each state.
2. Under the Act, a person convicted of any offence and sentenced to imprisonment for not less than two years is permanently disqualified from contesting an election even after his release from prison.

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 statements about the National Statistical Office (NSO).

1. The central government established NSO by merging the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) and National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO).

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2. NSO is responsible for compiling and releasing the Index of Industrial Production (IIP).

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

5. Consider the following statements about Zika virus disease.

- 1. Zika virus disease is transmitted by the same mosquito that transmits dengue.
- 2. Sexual transmission of Zika virus disease is possible.
- 3. No vaccine is yet available for the prevention or treatment of Zika disease.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

Solutions:

1. Answer: A

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) is a **statutory authority** established under the provisions of **the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 ("Aadhaar Act 2016")** by the Government of India.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** It is under the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)**.
- UIDAI was created **to issue Unique Identification numbers (UID), named as "Aadhaar", to all residents of India.**
- Under the Aadhaar Act 2016, UIDAI is responsible for Aadhaar enrolment and authentication, including operation and management of all stages of Aadhaar life cycle, developing the policy, procedure, and system for issuing Aadhaar numbers to individuals and perform authentication and the security of identity information and authentication records of individuals.

2. Answer: C

Explanation:

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- **The National Investigation Agency (NIA)** is India's counter-terrorist task force. The agency is empowered to deal with terror related crimes across states without special permission from the states.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Agency came into existence with the enactment of **the National Investigation Agency Act 2008 by the Parliament of India, which was passed after the deadly 26/11 terror attack in Mumbai.**
- **The NIA (Amendment) Act 2019**, passed by the parliament on 17 July 2019, gave more investigating powers to the NIA:
 - **Statement 2 is correct:** It empowered the NIA to **probe terror attacks targeting Indians and Indian interests abroad.** The NIA Act applies to persons who commit a scheduled offence beyond India against Indian citizens or affecting the interest of India.
 - It **empowered the central government**, with respect to a scheduled offence committed outside India, to direct the NIA to register the case and take up investigation as if such offence had taken place in India.
 - The amendment also inserted certain **new offences in the Schedule of the NIA Act.** Consequently, the NIA is also empowered to probe the **offences relating to human trafficking, counterfeit currency or bank notes, manufacture or sale of prohibited arms, cyber-terrorism and explosive substances.**

3. Answer: A

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Representation of the People Act, 1951, pertains to the conduct of elections for the Houses of Parliament and the Houses of the Legislature of each state, from the notification of elections to the resolution of election disputes.
- The Act specifies the procedures to be followed by the Election Commission of India (ECI), an autonomous Constitutional body that administers national and state elections.
- The Act mentions what qualifies or disqualifies a candidate from contesting elections; defines corrupt practice; mandates the registration of political parties; and stipulates the procedure for the nomination of candidates, polling and the declaration of election results. The Act also confers the right to vote on every person whose name is on the electoral roll.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Under Section 8 of the RPA, **a person convicted of any offence and sentenced to imprisonment for not less than two years shall be disqualified for that period and a further six years after release.**
- **Section 8(4) of the RPA** gave a convicted lawmaker the power to remain in office on the ground that appeals have been filed within three months of conviction.
 - In *Lily Thomas vs Union of India case (2013)*, the supreme court struck down Section 8(4) as unconstitutional.

4. Answer: C

Explanation:

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- The National Statistical Office (NSO) is the Statistics Wing of the **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation**.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** In 2019, the central government merged the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) and National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) into the National Statistical Organisation.
- NSO is mandated with the following responsibilities:-
 - acts as the nodal agency for planned development of the statistical system in the country
 - compiles and releases the **Index of Industrial Production (IIP)** every month and conducts the **Annual Survey of Industries (ASI)**; Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
 - organizes and conducts periodic **all-India Economic Censuses**
 - prepares national accounts as well as publishes annual estimates of national product, government and private consumption expenditure, capital formation, savings, etc. as also the state level gross capital formation of supra-regional sectors and prepares comparable estimates of State Domestic Product (SDP) at current prices;

About IIP

- Index of Industrial Production is an index which details the growth of various sectors in an economy such as mineral mining, electricity and manufacturing.
- It is compiled and published every month by the **National Statistics Office**.
- The current base year is 2011-2012.
- The Eight Core Industries- **Electricity, steel, refinery products, crude oil, coal, cement, natural gas and fertilizers**- comprise 40.27 per cent of the weight of items included in the IIP.

5. Answer: C

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Zika is a **viral infection, spread by mosquitoes**.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The **vector is the Aedes aegypti mosquito**, which also spreads dengue and chikungunya. Additionally, **infected people can transmit Zika sexually**.
- First identified in **Uganda** in 1947 in monkeys, Zika was detected in humans five years later.
- In 2015, a major outbreak in Brazil led to the revelation that Zika can be associated with **microcephaly**, a condition in which **babies are born with small and underdeveloped brains**.

What are the symptoms of Zika virus?

- Most people infected with the virus do not develop symptoms.
- When they are manifested, the symptoms are similar to those of flu, including fever, bodyache, headache etc.
- If the symptoms worsen, people should seek medical advice. Additional symptoms can include the occasional rash like in dengue, while some patients also have conjunctivitis.
- The incubation period (the time from exposure to symptoms) of Zika virus disease is estimated to be 3-14 days.

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How do you treat Zika virus?

- **Statement 3 is correct:** Zika has **no treatment or vaccine**. The symptoms of Zika virus are mild and usually require rest, consumption of plenty of fluids, and common pain and fever medicines, according to the WHO.

