

# OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

## IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

Daily MCQs: 15-03-2024

**1. Which of the following bodies are popularly known as the 'Bretton Woods twins'?**

- A. International Monetary Fund and World Bank
- B. International Monetary Fund and International Labour Organization
- C. International Monetary Fund and World Trade Organization
- D. World Trade Organization and World Bank

**2. Consider the following statements about the Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA).**

- 1. It is a statutory body.
- 2. It is mandated to monitor and regulate in-country and inter-country adoptions.

**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. Digital India Corporation has been set up to innovate, develop and deploy Information and Communication Technology and other emerging technologies for the benefit of the common man. It was set up by**

- A. Ministry of Science & Technology
- B. Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology
- C. Ministry of Communications
- D. Bharat Broadband Network Ltd

**4. Consider the following statement about Census in India.**

- 1. The first census of India was conducted under the Government of India Act, 1919.
- 2. Caste based Census has never been conducted in 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

**5. With reference to the 'None of The Above' (NOTA) option in the Indian electoral system, consider the following statements.**

- 1. In India, NOTA was first introduced in 2006 Assembly elections for Chhattisgarh, Mizoram, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Delhi.
- 2. NOTA option is available to the voters in both Lok sabha and Rajya sabha elections.

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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 Monetary Fund (IMF)** was set up along with the **World Bank** after the Second World War to assist in the reconstruction of war-ravaged countries. Leaders felt that financial stability was best achieved when countries worked in an environment of interdependence.
- The two organisations were agreed to be set up at a **conference in Bretton Woods in the US**. Hence, they are known as the **Bretton Woods twins**.

2. Answer: C

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) is a **statutory body of the Ministry of Women & Child Development** established in 1990.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It functions as the nodal body for adoption of Indian children and is mandated to monitor and regulate **in-country and inter-country adoptions**.
- CARA is designated as the Central Authority to deal with inter-country adoptions in accordance with the provisions of the **Hague Convention on Intercountry Adoption, 1993**, ratified by India in 2003.
- CARA primarily deals with adoption of orphan, abandoned and surrendered children through its associated /recognised adoption agencies.

3. Answer: B

**Explanation:**

- Digital India Corporation has been set up by the **Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology**, to innovate, develop and deploy ICT and other emerging technologies for the benefit of the common man.
- It is a '**not for profit**' **Company** under Section 8 of the Companies Act 2013.
- The Company has been spearheading the Digital India programme of the Government of India, and is involved in promoting use of technology for e-Governance/ e-Health / Telemedicine, e-agriculture, e-Payments etc.
- The Digital India programme promotes safety and security concerns of a growing cashless economy and addresses challenges confronting its wider acceptance. It also promotes innovation and evolve models for empowerment of citizens through Digital initiatives and

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promote participatory governance and citizen engagement across the government through various platforms including social media.

4. Answer: D

### Explanation:

- The Indian Census is the largest single source of a variety of statistical information on different characteristics of the people of India.
- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** A systematic and modern population census, in its present form was conducted **non synchronously between 1865 and 1872** in different parts of the country. This effort culminating in **1872** has been popularly labeled as the **first population census of India**.
- However, the **first synchronous census in India was held in 1881**. Since then, censuses have been **undertaken uninterruptedly once every ten year**.
- The responsibility of conducting the **decennial Census rests with the Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India under the Ministry of Home Affairs**.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Every Census in independent India from **1951 to 2011 has published data on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, but not on other castes**. Before that, **every Census until 1931 had data on caste**.

5. Answer: D

### Explanation:

- 'None of The Above' (NOTA) option in the Indian electoral system was introduced in India following the **2013 Supreme Court directive** in the ***People's Union for Civil Liberties v. Union of India* judgment**.
- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The NOTA option was **first used in the Assembly elections held in four states** -- Chhattisgarh, Mizoram, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh and the Union Territory, Delhi in **2013**.
- NOTA is the option which enables the voter to officially register a vote of rejection for all candidates who are contesting. If a voter chooses to press NOTA it indicates that the voter has not chosen to vote for any of the parties.

### How is a NOTA vote cast?

- The EVMs have the NOTA option at the end of the candidates' list.
- Earlier, in order to cast a negative ballot by filing **Form 49-O**, a voter had to inform the presiding officer at the polling booth. But this compromised the secrecy of the ballot.
- A NOTA vote doesn't require the involvement of the presiding officer.

### Does it Make a Difference?

- The NOTA option on EVMs has **no electoral value**. Even if the maximum number of votes cast is for NOTA, the candidate getting the most of the remaining votes would be declared winner.
- In other words, the existence of NOTA has been seen just as a **"symbolic instrument to express resentment"** against all the contesting candidates or the political system in general.

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- However, attempts have been made recently, albeit at the local level, to expand the scope of NOTA.

#### What are they?

- In November 2018, the **Maharashtra State Election Commission** announced that if NOTA garners the most number of votes in a panchayat or municipality election, then none of the candidates in the fray would be declared elected, and instead a re-election would take place.
- In the same year, the **Haryana State Election Commissioner** inserted provisions in the law to bar the candidates—those who got less votes than NOTA—from contesting the follow-up elections.
- However, for Assembly and general elections – which are governed by the Election Commission of India – the scope of NOTA remains limited.
- Now, for the NOTA option to be given some "electoral value" in the Assembly and Lok Sabha elections, amendments will need to be made to **Rule 64 of the Conduct of Election Rules, 1961**.

#### Is NOTA available in Rajya Sabha polls?

- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** In 2018, the **Election Commission** withdrew the **NOTA option** from ballot papers of the **Rajya Sabha and the Legislative Council polls** following a Supreme Court directive.
- The apex court held that the NOTA option is meant only for universal adult suffrage and direct elections and not polls held by the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote as done in the Rajya Sabha.

#### Earlier Recommendations

- The **Law Commission** in 1999 suggested that the **candidates be declared elected only if they have obtained 50%+1 of the valid votes cast**.
- The '**Background Paper on Electoral Reforms**', prepared by the **Ministry of Law in 2010**, had proposed that if a certain percentage of the vote was negative, then the election result should be nullified and a new election held.