

# OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

## IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

Daily MCQs: 16-03-2024

**1. With reference to Operation Greens, consider the following statements.**

1. It was launched to stabilize the supply of certain crops and to ensure their availability throughout the country round the year without price volatility.
2. At present, the scheme is restricted to Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) crops.

**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. SWAYAM is**

- A. A Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) initiative on a national platform.
- B. A network that aims to tap the talent pool of scientists and entrepreneurs towards self reliant India.
- C. An empowerment scheme for advancing the participation of girls in education.
- D. A scheme that supports differently abled children to pursue technical education.

**3. Chakrashila Wildlife Sanctuary, India's first wildlife sanctuary with golden langur as the primary species, is located in?**

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Sikkim
- C. Arunachal Pradesh
- D. Assam

**4. Consider the following statements about Pulicat Lake.**

1. Pulicat Lake is the largest brackish water lake in the country.
2. It is spread over two States only.

**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 National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), consider the following statements.**

1. NPCI has been incorporated as an umbrella organization for operating retail payments and settlement systems in India.
2. It is an initiative of SEBI.
3. NPCI has been incorporated as a "Not for Profit" Company under the Companies Act.

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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:** Operation Greens was launched by the **Ministry of Food Processing Industries** to stabilize the supply of Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) crops and to ensure availability of TOP crops throughout the country round the year without price volatility.
- **National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED)** acts as the nodal agency to implement price stabilisation measures under Operation Greens.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Initially the scheme covered Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) only. Later the government expanded the scope of the scheme to **22 perishable crops**.

2. Answer: A

**Explanation:**

- The 'Study Webs of Active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds' (SWAYAM) is a programme initiated by Government of India and designed to achieve the three cardinal principles of Education Policy viz., **access, equity and quality**.
- It is an integrated platform for offering online courses and covering school (9th to 12th) to Postgraduate Level.
- The objective of this effort is to take the best teaching learning resources to all, including the most disadvantaged.
- SWAYAM seeks to bridge the digital divide for students who have hitherto remained untouched by the digital revolution and have not been able to join the mainstream of the knowledge economy.
- The **Ministry of Education** has recently launched the **SWAYAM Plus platform** to offer programmes focused on **enhancing employability and professional development** through **partnerships with prominent industry players**.

3. Answer: D

**Explanation:**

- Chakrashila Wildlife Sanctuary, located in **Assam**, is India's first wildlife sanctuary with **golden langur** as the primary species.
- More than 250 species of birds including many rare and endangered birds can be spotted in the sanctuary.

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- Golden langurs occupy moist evergreen and tropical deciduous forests as well as some riverine areas and savannas. They are found **only in Assam and parts of Bhutan**.
- Its range has been considerably depleted and fragmented with a total gross estimated population in Bhutan and India of about 4,500–5,000 individuals.
- It is listed in Appendix I of CITES, as Endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, and in Schedule I of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- In Assam, its main population is in the Manas Biosphere Reserve and Chakrashila Wildlife Sanctuary.

4. Answer: B

#### Explanation:

##### About Pulicat Lake

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** It is the **second-largest brackish water lake** in the country (next to **Chilika in Odisha**) located at the border of the states of **Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu** on the **Barricade Island of Sriharikota**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- The barrier island of Sriharikota separates the lagoon from the Bay of Bengal and is home to the **Satish Dhawan Space Centre**.
- The lagoon encompasses the **Pulicat Lake Bird Sanctuary** and is a **Ramsar site**.
- Also called **Pazhaverkadu**, the lake is popular as a **flamingo-watching site**.



5. Answer: B

#### Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) was incorporated in 2008 as an umbrella organization for operating retail payments and settlement systems in India.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** It is an initiative of **the RBI and Indian Banks' Association (IBA)** under the provisions of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007, for creating a robust Payment & Settlement Infrastructure in India.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** It has been incorporated as a **"Not for Profit" Company** under the Companies Act 2013.
- It has changed the way payments are made in India through a bouquet of retail payment products such as **RuPay card, Immediate Payment Service (IMPS), Unified Payments**

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Interface (UPI), Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM), BHIM Aadhaar, National Electronic Toll Collection (NETC Fastag) and Bharat BillPay.

