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Daily MCQs: 24-04-2024

1. With reference to the National Green Tribunal (NGT), consider the following statements.

1. It is a constitutional body.
2. The decisions of the Tribunal are final and binding.
3. The Tribunal has jurisdiction over all civil cases involving a substantial question relating to the environment.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

2. With reference to the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, consider the following statements.

1. The Act has its genesis in the 86th Constitution Amendment Act.
2. The Act makes education a fundamental right of every child between the ages of 6 and 14 and specifies minimum norms in elementary schools.
3. RTE Act mandates a minimum of 10% free seats for children belonging to weaker sections and disadvantaged groups (EWS) in private unaided schools.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

3. Consider the following pairs:

- | Folk Dance | State associated with |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Kalbelia | Rajasthan |
| 2. Hojagiri | Karnataka |
| 3. Mudiattam | Kerala |

How many pairs given above are correctly matched?

- A. Only one pair
- B. Only two pairs
- C. Only three pairs
- D. None of them are correct

4. Consider the following statements about Warli art.

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1. Warli art is a tribal art originated in West Bengal.
2. Basic geometric shapes such as circles, triangles, and squares dominate these paintings.

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. The Local and Indigenous Knowledge Systems (LINKS) Programme is an initiative of

- A. UN World Food Programme
- B. Concern Worldwide
- C. UNESCO
- D. Food and Agriculture Organization

Solutions:

1. Answer: A

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The National Green Tribunal (NGT) is a **statutory body** established in 2010 under the National Green Tribunal Act 2010.
- It is a specialized body equipped with the necessary expertise to **handle environmental disputes** involving multi-disciplinary issues.
- The Tribunal shall not be bound by the procedure laid down under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, but shall be **guided by principles of natural justice**.
- The Tribunal is vested with the **powers of a civil court** under the Code of Civil Procedure for discharging its functions but it can make its own rules.
- It provides speedy environmental justice and helps reduce the burden of litigation in the higher courts.

What is the Tribunal's composition?

- The Tribunal has a presence in **five zones**- North, Central, East, South and West. The Principal Bench is situated in the North Zone, headquartered in **Delhi**.
- The Central zone bench is situated in Bhopal, East zone in Kolkata, South zone in Chennai and West zone in Pune.
- The Tribunal is headed by the **Chairperson** who sits in the Principal Bench and has **at least ten but not more than twenty judicial members** and **at least ten but not more than twenty expert members**.

Tribunal's Jurisdiction

- The NGT deals with civil cases under the seven laws related to the environment, these include
 - The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974
 - The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977

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- The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980
- The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981
- The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986
- The Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 and
- The Biological Diversity Act, 2002
- Two important acts - **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972** and **Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006** have been kept out of NGT's jurisdiction.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The Tribunal has jurisdiction **over all civil cases involving a substantial question relating to the environment**. Additionally, any person aggrieved by an order/direction of any of the Appellate Authorities under the legislations mentioned above can also challenge them before the National Green Tribunal.

Are decisions of the Court binding?

- **Yes**, decisions of the Tribunal are binding. The Tribunal's orders are enforceable as the powers vested are the same as in a civil court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908.

Are decisions of the Tribunal final?

- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Tribunal has powers to review its own decisions. If this fails, the decision can be challenged before the **Supreme Court within ninety days**.

2. Answer: A

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The **86th Constitution Amendment Act** inserted **Article 21A** in our constitution. Article 21A states that every child between the ages of **6 to 14 years** has the right to free and compulsory education. The **Right to Education Act (RTE), 2009**, seeks to give effect to this amendment.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Act makes education a fundamental right of every child between the ages of 6 and 14 and specifies minimum norms in elementary schools.
- The RTE Act provides for the:
 - Right of children to **free and compulsory education** till completion of elementary education in a neighbourhood school.
 - It clarifies that '**compulsory education**' means obligation of the appropriate government to provide free elementary education and ensure compulsory admission, attendance and completion of elementary education to every child in the six to fourteen age group. '**Free**' means that no child shall be liable to pay any kind of fee or charges or expenses which may prevent him or her from pursuing and completing elementary education.
 - It makes provisions for a non-admitted child to be admitted to an age appropriate class.
 - It specifies the duties and responsibilities of appropriate Governments, local authority and parents in providing free and compulsory education, and sharing of financial and other responsibilities between the Central and State Governments.

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- It lays down the norms and standards relating inter alia to **Pupil Teacher Ratios (PTRs), buildings and infrastructure, school-working days, teacher-working hours.**
- It also provides for **prohibition of deployment of teachers** for non-educational work, other than decennial census, elections to local authority, state legislatures and parliament, and disaster relief.
- It provides for appointment of appropriately trained teachers, i.e. teachers with the requisite entry and academic qualifications.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** RTE Act mandates a **minimum of 25% free seats** for children belonging to weaker sections and disadvantaged groups (EWS) in private unaided schools at the entry level.
- To improve performances of children in schools, the Right to Education Act introduced the **Continuous Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE)** system in 2009 to ensure grade appropriate learning outcomes in schools.
- In pursuance of Section 6 of the Act, the Central RTE Rules has notified the area or **limits of neighbourhood as one kilometre, within which a primary school and 3 kilometre within which an upper primary school, has to be established.**
- It **prohibits** (a) physical punishment and mental harassment; (b) screening procedures for admission of children; (c) capitation fee; (d) private tuition by teachers and (e) running of schools without recognition,
- The Act provides for development of curriculum in consonance with the values enshrined in the Constitution, and which would ensure the all-round development of the child, building on the child's knowledge, potentiality and talent and making the child free of fear, trauma and anxiety through a system of child friendly and child centred learning.

3. Answer: **B**

Explanation:

Folk Dance	State associated with
1. Kalbelia	Rajasthan
2. Hojagiri	Tripura
3. Mudiattam	Kerala

4. Answer: **B**

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Warli art is a tribal art originated in **Maharashtra.**
- It traces its origins back to the **10th century A.D.**
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Basic geometric shapes such as circles, triangles, and squares dominate these paintings.
- The paintings' central themes are scenes depicting hunting, fishing, farming, and festivals, with dances, trees, and animals used to surround the central theme.

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5. Answer: C

Explanation:

- UNESCO's Local and Indigenous Knowledge Systems programme (LINKS) **promotes local and indigenous knowledge and its inclusion in global climate science and policy processes.**
- LINKS has been influential in ensuring that local and indigenous knowledge holders and their knowledge are included in contemporary science-policy-society fora on issues such as biodiversity assessment and management, climate change assessment and adaptation, natural disaster preparedness and sustainable development.
- Working at local, national and global levels, LINKS strives to strengthen indigenous peoples and local communities, foster transdisciplinary engagements with scientists and policy-makers and pilot novel methodologies to further understandings of climate change impacts, adaptation and mitigation.

