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Daily MCQs: 27-04-2024

1. Conservation Reserves in India are notified under

- A. Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980
- B. Environment Protection Act, 1986
- C. Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act, 2002
- D. Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006

2. The I-STEM portal was launched by the Government of India with the objective of

- A. Promoting organic farming
- B. Marketing of agri commodities
- C. Defence indigenisation
- D. Sharing R&D facilities

3. Consider the following statements about Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs).

- 1. HFCs are a group of industrial chemicals primarily used for cooling and refrigeration.
- 2. HFCs are powerful greenhouse gases.
- 3. HFCs are potent ozone depleting substances.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

4. Consider the following statements about the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP).

- 1. It is aimed at assisting first generation entrepreneurs for setting up micro enterprises in the farm and non-farm sectors.
- 2. The scheme is restricted to rural areas of the country.

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. Which of the following are the focus areas of Accessible India Campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan)?

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1. Built Environment Accessibility
2. Transportation System Accessibility
3. Information and Communication Eco-System Accessibility

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

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

Solutions:

1. Answer: C

Explanation:

- Conservation Reserves are protected areas that act as **buffer zones** and **migration corridors** between established national parks, wildlife sanctuaries and reserved and protected forests.
- These protected areas were first introduced in the **Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act, 2002** (an amendment to the **Wildlife Protection Act, 1972**), because of reduced protection in and around existing or proposed protected areas as a result of private ownership of land and change in land use.

2. Answer: D

Explanation:

- The Indian Science Technology and Engineering facilities Map (I-STEM) portal was launched in 2020 as the **national web platform for sharing R&D facilities**.
- It is an initiative of the **Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser** to the Govt. of India (PSA, GOI).
 - *The Government of India established the Office of PSA in 1999 to provide pragmatic and objective advice to the Prime Minister and the cabinet in matters of Science and Technology.*
- The goal of I-STEM is to **strengthen the R&D ecosystem** of the country by connecting researchers with resources, by promoting technologies and scientific equipment development indigenously, and providing necessary supplies and supports to researchers by enabling them an access to existing publicly funded R&D facilities in the country through the I-STEM web portal.

3. Answer: B

Explanation:

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- **Statement 1 is correct:** Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) are a **group of industrial chemicals** primarily used for **cooling and refrigeration**.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** HFCs are **powerful greenhouse gases** and a substantial number are **short-lived climate pollutants** with a lifetime of between 15 and 29 years in the atmosphere.
- HFCs are widespread in **air conditioners, refrigerators, aerosols, foams and other products**.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** HFCs were introduced as **non-ozone depleting alternatives** to support the timely **phase out of CFCs and HCFCs under Montreal Protocol**.
- While these chemicals **do not deplete the stratospheric ozone layer**, HFCs were found to be extremely potent in causing global warming. Some of them have **high Global Warming Potentials (GWPs) ranging from 12 to 14,000**.
- So, the HFCs solved one problem, but were contributing in a major way to another. But these could not be eliminated under the original provisions of Montreal Protocol which was meant to phase-out ozone-destroying chemicals only. The **Kigali Amendment** enabled the Montreal Protocol to **mandate the elimination of HFCs as well**.

4. Answer: D

Explanation:

- Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) is a central sector scheme administered by the **Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises** since 2008-09.
- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** It is a major **credit-linked subsidy programme** aimed at **assisting first generation entrepreneurs for setting up micro enterprises** in the **non-farm sector** by helping traditional artisans and unemployed youth.
- At the national level, the Scheme is being implemented by **Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)**, a statutory organization under the administrative control of the **Ministry of MSME**, as the single nodal agency.
- At the State level, the Scheme will be implemented through State KVIC Directorates, State Khadi and Village Industries Boards (KVIBs) and District Industries Centres (DICs) and banks.
- Under the scheme, loans are being provided by all Public Sector Banks, selected Private Sector Banks and Co-operative Banks with **margin money subsidy** (refers to the amount that the government contributes to beneficiaries availing PMEGP loan) being given by the Ministry of MSME through KVIC.

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Categories of beneficiaries under PMEGP	Beneficiary's own contribution (of project cost)	Rate of Subsidy	
		Urban	Rural
General Category	10%	15%	25%
Special Category (including SC/ST/OBC /Minorities/ Women, Ex-Servicemen, Physically handicapped, NER, Hill, and Border areas etc)	5%	25%	35%

Scope

- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The scheme is applicable to all viable projects in **rural as well as urban areas**, under the Micro enterprises sector.
- The maximum cost of the project admissible under the manufacturing sector is **Rs.25 lakhs** and the business/services sector is **Rs.10 lakhs**.
- **Only one person from a family** is eligible for obtaining financial assistance under the scheme.
- Assistance under the Scheme is available **only for new projects**.

Eligible Entrepreneurs / Borrowers

- Any individual, above 18 years of age
- The beneficiaries should have passed at least VIII standard, for setting up of project costing above Rs.10 lacs in the Manufacturing Sector and above Rs. 5 lacs in the business /Service Sector,
- Self Help Groups
- Institutions registered under Societies Registration Act, 1860
- Production Co-operative Societies
- Charitable Trusts.

5. Answer: D

Explanation:

- Accessible India Campaign (Suganya Bharat Abhiyan) was launched in 2015 by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) as a nation-wide Campaign for **achieving universal accessibility** for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs). It aims at providing equal opportunity to PwDs to participate in all the aspects of life and live independently.
- The Accessible India Campaign comprises of the following three components:
 - **Built Environment Accessibility:** It aims to provide an accessible physical environment for everyone. To achieve this, measures need to be undertaken to eliminate obstacles and barriers to indoor and outdoor facilities including schools, medical facilities, and workplaces.

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- **Transportation System Accessibility:** It focuses on providing persons with disabilities an equal right to travel and use public and private transportation infrastructure with dignity and independence.
- **Information and Communication Eco-System Accessibility:** Access to information refers to all information. This can range from actions such as being able to read price tags, to physically enter a hall, to participate in an event, to read a pamphlet with healthcare information, to understand a train timetable, or to view webpages.

