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Daily MCQs: 10-06-2024

1. Consider the following statements about the National Green Hydrogen Mission

- 1) The objective of the Mission is to make India the Global Hub for production, usage and export of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives.
- 2) The Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE) will be responsible for overall coordination and implementation of the Mission.

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 Consumer Price Index, consider the following statements

- 1) It measures and tracks the changes in the price of goods in the stages before the retail level.
- 2) CPI basket does not cover services.
- 3) It is released by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

3. The functioning of the National Testing Agency (NTA) is overseen by the

- A) Ministry of Education, Government of India
- B) Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India
- C) University Grants Commission (UGC)
- D) Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India

4. Consider the following statements about Miyawaki method

- 1) It promotes rapid growth of dense forests with minimal maintenance after initial years.
- 2) It emphasizes planting a variety of native plant species close together.

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

Plot No: 935, 6th Avenue, Anna Nagar, Chennai-40

Ph: 044-40483555,9677120226,9677174226

Web: www.officersiasacademy.com

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5. For which category of enterprises is the Pre-packaged Insolvency Resolution Process (PIRP) primarily designed?

- A) Large corporations
- B) Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)
- C) Public sector undertakings
- D) Non-profit organizations

Solutions:

1. Answer: C

Explanation

- In 2023, the Union Cabinet approved the National Green Hydrogen Mission to **promote green hydrogen** in a bid to **cut emissions** and **become a major exporter** in the field.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** The overarching objective of the Mission is to **make India the Global Hub for production, usage and export of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives.**
- The Mission will **build capabilities to produce at least 5 Million Metric Tonne (MMT) of Green Hydrogen per annum by 2030**, with potential to reach 10 MMT per annum with growth of export markets.
- Innovative models to source Green Hydrogen through use of **decentralized renewable energy generation** such as rooftop solar and small/micro hydel plants will also be explored.
- Under the **Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition Programme (SIGHT)**, two distinct financial incentive mechanisms – targeting **domestic manufacturing of electrolyzers** and **production of Green Hydrogen** – will be provided under the Mission.
- Regions capable of supporting large scale production and/or utilization of Hydrogen will be identified and developed as **Green Hydrogen Hubs.**
- An **enabling policy framework** will be developed to support establishment of the Green Hydrogen ecosystem. A **robust Standards and Regulations framework** will also be developed.
- Further, a public-private partnership framework for R&D (**Strategic Hydrogen Innovation Partnership – SHIP**) will be facilitated under the Mission.
- A **coordinated skill development programme** will also be undertaken under the Mission.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The **Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE)** will be responsible for overall coordination and implementation of the Mission.

Mission Components

- The Mission strategy accordingly comprises interventions for:
 - **demand creation** by making Green Hydrogen produced in India competitive for exports and through domestic consumption.
 - **addressing supply side constraints** through an incentive framework, and
 - **building an enabling ecosystem** to support scaling and development.

Expected Benefits

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- The targets by 2030 are likely to bring in **over Rs. 8 lakh crore investments** and create **over 6 lakh jobs**.
- Nearly **50 MMT per annum of CO2 emissions are expected to be averted** by 2030.
- This will contribute to India's aim to become **Aatmanirbhar (self-reliant) through clean energy** and **achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2070**.

Why in News?

- Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) has issued Request for Selection (RfS) for Selection of Green Ammonia Producers for the production of Green Ammonia in India through cost based competitive bidding under the Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition (SIGHT) Programme of the National Green Hydrogen Mission.
- Under the SIGHT Programme, MNRE has already allocated 4.12 lakh Metric Tonnes (MT)/annum of Green Hydrogen production capacity and 1.5 GW/ annum of Electrolyzer manufacturing capacity.

2. Answer: D

Explanation

All the three statements are incorrect and are related to the Wholesale Price Index.

About CPI

- Consumer Price Index is an index which **measures the weighted average of prices of a basket of consumer goods and services such as transportation, food and medical care**.
- It is calculated by measuring price changes for each item in the **predetermined basket of goods and services** and averaging them.

How does the Consumer Price Index help?

- The Reserve Bank of India and other statistical agencies study CPI so as to **understand the price change of various commodities and keep a tab on inflation**.
- CPI is also a helpful pointer in understanding the real value of wages, salaries and pensions, the purchasing power of a country's currency, and regulating prices.

Who maintains the Consumer Price Index in India?

- In India, different types of consumer price index numbers are released by the government which includes:
 - **CPI for Industrial Workers (IW)**
 - **CPI for Agricultural Laborers (AL)**
 - **CPI for Rural Laborers (RL)**
- The **Ministry of Labour & Employment** collects the data for CPI (IW), CPI (AL) and CPI (RL) and compiles it.
- In addition to these, the **National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation** is releasing
 - **CPI for Rural**
 - **CPI for Urban and**
 - **CPI Combined (computed by combining CPI Rural and CPI Urban).**

What is the base year of an Index?

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- The CPI is calculated with **reference to a base year**, which is used as a benchmark. The price change pertains to that year.
- In India, the base year of the current series of CPI (IW) is **2016**. The base year of CPI (AL) and CPI (RL) is **1986-87**.
- For CPI Rural, Urban and Combined, the base year is **2011-12**.

Why in News?

- The **Labour Bureau**, an attached office of the **Ministry of Labour & Employment**, has been compiling the **Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers every month**.
- The All-India CPI-IW for April, 2024 increased by 0.5 point and stood at 139.4 (one hundred thirty nine point four).

3. Answer: A

Explanation

- National Testing Agency (NTA) has been established as a **premier, specialist, autonomous and self-sustained testing organization** to conduct **entrance examinations for admission/fellowship in higher educational institutions**.
- NTA was established by the **Ministry of Education** following the Union Cabinet's approval in **2017**.
- NTA is a **registered society** under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.

Objectives

- To conduct **efficient, transparent and international standards tests** in order to assess the competency of candidates for admission, and recruitment purposes.
- To **undertake research** on educational, professional and testing systems to identify gaps in the knowledge systems and take steps for bridging them.
- To identify experts and institutions in **setting examination questions**.
- To **produce and disseminate information and research** on education and professional development standards.

4. Answer: C

Explanation

Both the statements are correct.

- Miyawaki is a **technique of growing dense plantations in a short time**. This method originated in **Japan** and is now increasingly adopted in other parts of the world. It is named after the Japanese botanist and plant ecologist **Akira Miyawaki**.
- With this method of plantation, **an urban forest can grow within a short span of 20-30 years** while a conventional forest takes around 200-300 years to grow naturally.
- In the Miyawaki technique, **various native species of plants are planted close to each other** so that the greens receive sunlight only from the top and grow upwards rather than sideways. It helps in the **prevention of the growth of weeds**.

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- As a result, the plantation becomes approximately **30 times denser, grows 10 times faster and becomes maintenance-free after a span of 3 years.**

Process of Miyawaki

- In this technique, the native trees of the region are divided into **four layers** after identification and analysis of soil quality. The four layers include **shrub, sub-tree, tree, and canopy.**
- The **biomass is mixed with soil to enhance its nutrients, perforation and water retention capacity.**
- Further, the seeds are planted on soil made from a mound at a **high density** i.e 3 to 5 saplings per square meter and a **thick layer of mulch** is used to cover the ground.

Significance

- Trees can play a significant role in the challenging times of **climate change and global warming.**
- These fast-shooting micro forests could **cool concrete cities, clean the air, sustain wildlife, and form carbon sinks.**
- The method is quickly finding favor in government corridors and corporate boardrooms to restore urban spaces.

Concerns

- Some critics argue that the method is **expensive** and has **unclear benefits.**
- Furthermore, the **selection of wrong trees can destroy native ecosystems,** pushing plants and animals that depend on them to the brink.
- These forests **lack a few qualities of natural forests** like medicinal properties and the efficacy of the technique is questioned by several environmentalists that it could not match a forest's complex ecosystem.
- However, this method is useful in restoring diversity and fighting climate change impacts in cities.

5. Answer: B

Explanation

Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Act, 2021

- In 2021, the Parliament passed the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Act, 2021 to expedite and provide an efficient **alternate insolvency resolution process for corporate persons classified as micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs)** under IBC.

Highlights of the Act

Pre-packaged insolvency resolution

- The Act introduces an **alternate insolvency resolution process for MSMEs,** called the **pre-packaged insolvency resolution process (PIRP).**
- Unlike CIRP, **PIRP may be initiated only by debtors.** The debtor should have a **base resolution plan** in place.
- During PIRP, the **management of the company will remain with the debtor.**

Minimum default amount

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- Application for initiating PIRP may be filed in the event of a **default of at least one lakh rupees.**

Debtors eligible for PIRP

- PIRP may be initiated in the event of a default by a corporate debtor classified as an MSME under the **MSME Development Act, 2006.**
 - Currently, under the 2006 Act, **an enterprise with an annual turnover of up to Rs 250 crore, and investment in plant and machinery or equipment up to Rs 50 crore,** is classified as an MSME.

