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Daily MCQs: 31-05-2024

1. Consider the following statements about the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

1. It is a security alliance of countries from North America and Europe.
2. The Washington Treaty of NATO states that an attack against one Ally is considered as an attack against all.

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. Consider the following statements about Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY).

1. It was launched to translate the comprehensive vision of Mahatma Gandhi about an ideal Indian village into reality, keeping in view the present context.
2. Under SAGY, each Member of Parliament adopts a Gram Panchayat and guides its holistic progress.

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. The primary objective of the Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018 is

- A. To deter individuals from evading the legal process in India by fleeing the country.
- B. To promote financial inclusion.
- C. To regulate non-banking financial companies.
- D. None of the above

4. Which of the following statements is incorrect regarding the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF)?

- A. It is constituted under the Disaster Management Act, 2005.
- B. The Ministry of Home Affairs is the nodal ministry for overseeing the operation of the SDRF.
- C. It is entirely borne by the state government without any contribution from the centre.
- D. The accounts of the SDRF shall be audited annually by Comptroller & Auditor General of India (CAG).

5. Consider the following statements about the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC).

1. It is a 100 percent government-owned company setup.

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2. It was set up by the Ministry of Finance as a not-for-profit public-private partnership.

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: C

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Formed in **1949** with the signing of the **Washington Treaty**, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is a **security alliance of 32 countries from North America and Europe**.
- Established in the Cold War as a bulwark against Soviet aggression, NATO's fundamental goal is to safeguard the Allies' freedom and security by political and military means.
- **Statement 2 is correct: Article 5 of the Washington Treaty** states that an attack against one Ally is an attack against all — is at the core of the Alliance, a promise of collective defence.
- **Article 4** of the treaty ensures consultations among Allies on security matters of common interest, which have expanded from a narrowly defined Soviet threat to the critical mission in Afghanistan, as well as new threats to security such as cyber attacks, and global threats such as terrorism and piracy that affect the Alliance and its global network of partners.
- A "**NATO decision**" is the expression of the collective will of all 30 member countries since all decisions are taken by **consensus**.
- At present, NATO has **30 members**. In 1949, there were **12 founding members** of the Alliance: Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, the United Kingdom and the United States. The other member countries are: Greece and Turkey (1952), Germany (1955), Spain (1982), the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland (1999), Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia (2004), Albania and Croatia (2009), Montenegro (2017), North Macedonia (2020), Finland (2023) and Sweden (2024).
- NATO's Headquarters are located in **Brussels, Belgium**,

2. Answer: C

Explanation

About the Scheme

- Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) is a **rural development programme** broadly focusing upon the **development in the villages** which includes social development, cultural development and spread motivation among the people on social mobilization of the village community.

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- **Statement 1 is correct:** The programme was launched by the **Ministry of Rural Development** in **2014** with the aim to translate the comprehensive vision of **Mahatma Gandhi** about an ideal Indian village into reality, keeping in view the present context.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Under SAGY, each **Member of Parliament** adopts a **Gram Panchayat** and guides its **holistic progress** giving importance for social development at par with infrastructure.
- By involving villagers and leveraging scientific tools, a **village development plan** is prepared under the leadership of a Member of Parliament. The distinct feature of this Yojana is that it is:
 - **Demand Driven**
 - **Inspired by Society**
 - **Based on People's Participation.**

Objective of SAGY

- To trigger processes which lead to a **holistic development of the identified Gram Panchayats;**
- To **substantially improve the standard of living and quality of life** of all section of the population through -
 - Improved basic amenities
 - Higher productivity
 - Enhanced human development
 - Better livelihood opportunity
 - Reduced disparities
 - Access to right and entitlements
 - Wider social mobilization
 - Enriched social capital;
- To **generate models of local level development and effective local government** which can motivate and inspire neighboring Gram Panchayats to learn and adapt;
- To **nurture the identified Adarsh Grams as schools of local development** to train other gram panchayats.

Activities in an Adarsh Gram

- Activities in an Adarsh Gram would include:
 - Personal Development
 - Social Development
 - Human Development
 - Economic Development
 - Environmental Development
 - Social Security
 - Basic amenities & services
 - Good Governance.

3. Answer: A

Explanation

The Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018 (FEOA):

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- This law was enacted to **deter economic offenders** from evading the process of Indian law by **remaining outside the jurisdiction of Indian courts**. (by fleeing the country). Hence option A is correct.
- It is a law whereby the Directorate is mandated to **attach the properties of the fugitive economic offenders** who have escaped from India warranting arrest and provide for the confiscation of their properties to the Central Government.

4. Answer: C

Explanation

- **Statement A is correct:** State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) is constituted under the **Disaster Management Act 2005**.
- It is a primary fund available with the **State Government for responses to notified disasters**.
- **Statement C is incorrect:** The **Central Government contributes 75% of SDRF allocation for general category States/UTs and 90% for special category States** (North Eastern States, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir).
- The annual Central contribution is released in two equal installments as per the **recommendation of the Finance Commission**.
- SDRF shall be used only for meeting the expenditure for providing **immediate relief to the victims**.
- **Statement D is correct:** The accounts of the SDRF shall be audited annually by **Comptroller & Auditor General of India (CAG)**.
- **Disasters covered under SDRF:** Cyclone, Drought, Earthquake, Floods, Tsunami, Hailstorm, Landslide, Avalanche, Cloud burst, Pest attack, Frost and Cold wave.
- **Statement B is correct:** The **Ministry of Home Affairs** is the nodal ministry for overseeing the operation of the SDRF and monitors compliance with prescribed processes.

5. Answer: B

Explanation:

- **Statement 2 is correct:** The National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) is a **not-for-profit public-private partnership** set up by the **Ministry of Finance** in 2008.
- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The **Government of India** through the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) holds **49%** of the share capital of NSDC, while the **private sector** has the balance **51%** of the share capital.
- NSDC acts as a catalyst in skill development by providing funding to enterprises, companies and organizations that provide skill training.
- It also develops appropriate models to enhance, support and coordinate private sector initiatives.