

# OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

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## IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

Daily MCQs: 28-09-2024

**1. Consider the following statements.**

1. Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) is a statutory body which regulates the insurance industry in India.
2. Intermediaries such as Corporate Agents and Brokers are also regulated by IRDAI.

**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 the Nutrient Based Subsidy scheme, consider the following statements.**

1. The Government of India fixes Maximum Retail Price (MRP) for all fertilisers sold in the country.
2. Under the Nutrient Based Subsidy programme, subsidies are provided for Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers based on its nutrient content.

**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 terms 'qubits' & 'superposition' are often talked about with reference to which one of the following?**

- A. Metaverse
- B. Non fungible tokens
- C. Central Bank Digital Currency
- D. Quantum Computing

**4. India's Financial Stability Report is published biannually by**

- A. NITI Aayog
- B. Ministry of Finance
- C. Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- D. Reserve Bank of India

**5. The Coringa Sanctuary, one of the largest stretches of mangroves in India, is situated in**

- A. Odisha
- B. West Bengal

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- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Andaman and Nicobar Islands

### Solutions:

#### 1. Answer: C

#### Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) is a **statutory body** set up for protecting the interests of the policyholders and regulating, promoting and ensuring orderly growth of the **insurance industry** in India.
- The powers and functions of the Authority are laid down in the **IRDAI Act, 1999 and Insurance Act, 1938**.
- The key objectives of the IRDAI include **promotion of competition** so as to enhance customer satisfaction through increased consumer choice and fair premiums, while **ensuring the financial security** of the Insurance market.
- **Entities regulated by IRDAI:**
  - **Life Insurance Companies** - Both public and private sector Companies
  - **General Insurance Companies** - Both public and private sector Companies. Among them, there are some standalone Health Insurance Companies which offer health Insurance policies.
  - **Re-Insurance Companies**
  - **Agency Channel**
  - **Intermediaries which include the following:**
    - Corporate Agents
    - Brokers
    - Third Party Administrators
    - Surveyors and Loss Assessors. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

#### 2. Answer: B

#### Explanation:

- In order to promote balanced fertilization of soil, Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Programme for fertilizer was initiated in **2010**.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Under the scheme, a **fixed amount of subsidy decided on an annual basis** is provided on **each grade of subsidized Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers based on its nutrient content**.
- The scheme aims at **ensuring balanced nutrient application to the soil**.
- It also aims at improving agricultural productivity and promoting the growth of the indigenous fertilizers industry.
- The scheme is being implemented by the **Department of Fertilizers** under the **Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers**.

#### Fertiliser Subsidy in India

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- In India, the fertiliser subsidy accounts for the **second largest subsidy** after food.
- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Currently, **Urea** is the only controlled fertilizer and the maximum retail price (MRP) of urea is **statutorily fixed by the Government**. The difference between the production cost and the MRP is reimbursed to manufacturers.
- Retail prices of **non-urea fertilisers** such as Di-ammonium Phosphate (most widely used one after urea), Muriate of Potash (MoP) are **decontrolled** and are **determined by manufacturers**, while the Centre gives a fixed subsidy each year.

### 3. Answer: D

#### Explanation:

- Quantum computing differs from traditional computing, which uses '**bits**' - binary digits of 0s and 1s - to **represent information**. However, quantum computing uses **quantum bits**, or '**qubits**', which can exist in multiple states simultaneously, instead of just two states (i.e., 0 and 1).
- This property of qubits, known as **superposition** allows quantum computers to perform many computational calculations orders of magnitude faster than classical computing
- Further quantum computing also borrows inspiration from another property of quantum mechanics called **entanglement** wherein two qubits could be connected in such a way that the state of one qubit intrinsically affects the state of the other qubit.

#### Future Potential

- Quantum computing is a relatively young domain, and while practical quantum computers are now commercially available, they are currently limited to performing very specific types of calculations.
- However, researchers believe that quantum computers have the potential to revolutionise fields such as **data sciences, artificial intelligence, and decision sciences**.

#### Impact of Quantum Computing

- Faster data analysis in industrial data science applications
- Improved machine learning outcomes
- Improved optimisation for complex problems
- Improved Industrialisation
- Improved process efficiencies in digital transformation.

### 4. Answer: D

#### Explanation:

- Financial Stability Report is published by **Reserve Bank of India** taking inputs from financial sector regulators i.e. RBI, SEBI, PFRDA, IRDAI. It is published **biannually**.
- It is a periodic exercise for reviewing the nature, magnitude and implications of risks that may have a bearing on the macroeconomic environment, financial institutions, markets and infrastructure.

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- It also assesses the resilience of the financial sector through stress tests.
- **Note:** The International Monetary Fund (IMF) releases the **Global Financial Stability Report** which provides an assessment of the global financial system and markets, and addresses emerging market financing in a global context.

### 5. Answer: C

#### Explanation:

- Coringa Sanctuary, a part of **Godavari Mangroves** in **Andhra Pradesh**, was declared in 1978 as a wildlife sanctuary to conserve the mangrove vegetation of the estuary.
- The sanctuary is formed in the delta and estuary region of **Godavari river** which merges into the Bay of Bengal.
- The Coringa Sanctuary is the **second-largest stretch of mangroves along the Eastern Coast of India** (after the Sunderbans in West Bengal), with a unique ecosystem, flora and fauna, rare mangrove species, as also otters, fishing cats, sea turtles etc.
- It is also adobe to many migratory bird species coming from Europe, North and Central Asia.