

# OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

Daily MCQs: 31-08-2024

**1. Which one of the following countries is not a member of the ASEAN grouping?**

- A. Thailand
- B. Laos
- C. Brunei
- D. China

**2. Consider the following statements about the Chandipura Virus**

- 1) It primarily gets transmitted through airborne droplets.
- 2) There is no specific antiviral therapy or vaccine available for treatment.

**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 "Right to Silence" is primarily associated with which Article of the Indian Constitution?**

- A. Article 14
- B. Article 19
- C. Article 20
- D. Article 21

**4. Consider the following statements regarding the Gangetic river dolphins.**

- 1. It is listed as critically endangered under the IUCN red list.
- 2. It can be naturally found only in the Ganges river system including the tributaries of Ganga.

**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 statements about the National Green Tribunal (NGT) is/are correct?**

- 1. It is a statutory body established under the Environment Protection Act, 1986.
- 2. The Tribunal shall be bound by the procedure laid down under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908.

# OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

## IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

3. The Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 has been kept out of NGT's jurisdiction.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

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

**Solutions:**

**1. Answer: D**

**Explanation**



Image: ASEAN

- The Association of Southeast Asian Nations, or ASEAN, is a regional & intergovernmental organization of 10 countries of southeast Asia.
- ASEAN was established in 1967 in Bangkok, Thailand, with the signing of the **ASEAN Declaration (Bangkok Declaration)**.
- Its members are **Thailand, Malaysia, Laos, Cambodia, Indonesia, Singapore, Myanmar, Philippines, Brunei and Vietnam.**
- The organization aims to accelerate the economic growth, social progress and cultural development in the region through joint endeavors in the spirit of equality and partnership. They work towards the progress of the southeast Asia region.

**2. Answer: B**

**Explanation**

# OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

## IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

- CHPV is a virus of the **Rhabdoviridae family**.
- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** It is **transmitted by sandflies and mosquitoes**, including **Aedes aegypti**, which is also a vector for **dengue**.
- The infection caused by the virus reaches the central nervous system which can lead to **encephalitis** — inflammation of the active tissues of the brain.
- Susceptibility has largely remained limited to **children below 15 years**.

### Symptoms

- The virus is accompanied by the unexpected beginning of **flu-like symptoms**, including high fever, seizures, diarrhoea, vomiting, convulsions, and altered sensorium.
- In extreme cases, the viral infection can prompt **coma and death**.

### How can the infection be managed?

- **Statement 2 is correct:** The infection can only be **symptomatically managed** as currently there is **no specific antiviral therapy or vaccine available** for treatment.
- **Prevention strategies** include vector control, identifying and eliminating sandfly breeding sites, and using protective measures to prevent sandfly bites, such as wearing protective clothing and using repellents and nets.

### Worst affected regions in India

- The CHPV infection, first identified in **1965** during a dengue/chikungunya outbreak in **Maharashtra**, saw a major outbreak in 2003-04 in Maharashtra, Gujarat, and Andhra Pradesh.
- The infection is **mostly endemic to central India**, particularly in **rural and tribal areas** where sandflies and mosquitoes, which spread the disease, are common.
- Outbreaks are more **frequent during the monsoon season** when sandfly populations increase.

### 3. Answer: C

#### Explanation

- The 'Right to silence' is rooted in **Article 20(3)** of the Indian Constitution, which stipulates that no one can be compelled to testify against themselves.
- This provision grants accused individuals **protection against self-incrimination**, constituting a fundamental right.
- It contains provisions related to **No ex-post-facto law, No double jeopardy, No self-incrimination**.

### 4. Answer: D

#### Explanation

**Both the statements are incorrect.**

- Gangetic river dolphin is among the four freshwater dolphins in the world which is found in parts of the **Ganges-Meghna-Brahmaputra and Karnaphuli-Sangu river systems in India, Nepal, and Bangladesh**. The Gangetic river dolphin is **India's national aquatic animal** and is popularly known as 'Susu'.

# OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

## IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

- Its presence **indicates the health of the riverine ecosystem.**
- The Gangetic Dolphins are generally blind and catch their prey in a unique manner. They emit an ultrasonic sound which reaches the prey. The dolphin then registers this image in its mind and subsequently catches hold of its prey.
- In addition to the species being India's national aquatic animal, the Gangetic dolphin has been notified by the Assam government as the state aquatic animal, too.
- The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has listed the Gangetic dolphin **as an endangered species** (not critically endangered) in India.
- The Conservation Action Plan for the Gangetic Dolphin, 2010-2020, identified threats to these dolphins that include the impact of river traffic, construction of irrigation canals and depletion of their prey-base.
- It is classified under **Schedule 1, Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972** providing absolute protection as offenses under these are prescribed the highest penalties.
- **Vikramshila Gangetic Dolphin Sanctuary (VGDS)** in Bihar's Bhagalpur district is India's only sanctuary for its national aquatic animal.

### 5. Answer: B

#### Explanation

- It is a **statutory body** established in 2010 under the **National Green Tribunal Act 2010**. Hence **statement 1 is incorrect.**
- 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. Hence **statement 2 is incorrect.**
- 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.
- New Delhi is the Principal Place of Sitting of the Tribunal and Bhopal, Pune, Kolkata and Chennai shall be the other four places of sitting of the Tribunal.

#### 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

# OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

---

## IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

- The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974
- The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977
- 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. **Hence 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 Tribunal final?

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

