

OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

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Daily MCQs: 15-10-2024

1. Consider the following statements regarding the East Asia Summit.

- 1) It has members from the Indo-Pacific region.
- 2) It can only be chaired only by an ASEAN member.
- 3) India is a founding member of EAS.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

2. Tele-MANAS initiative was launched to provide

- A. Free agricultural consultancy services
- B. Free tele health services
- C. Free tele mental health services
- D. None of the above

3. Consider the following statements about the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Act, 2019.

- 1) The Central Government can not designate an individual as a 'terrorist'.
- 2) The Investigating officer of the National Intelligence Agency needs to take prior permission of the Director General of Police of a state for conducting raids.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

4. Consider the following statements regarding Lothal, an Indus Valley Civilization site.

- 1) It is located along the Bhogava river, a tributary of Sabarmati.
- 2) Lothal was a center of shell and bead making.
- 3) Lothal is the southernmost IVC site.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

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5. Consider the following statements regarding Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan (PMJUGA).

- 1) It aims at improving the socio-economic condition of tribal communities.
- 2) The scheme will cover all majority tribal villages.
- 3) The scheme is entirely funded by the central government.

How many of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

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

Solutions:

1. Answer: D

Explanation

- The East Asia Summit (EAS) is the **Indo-Pacific's premier forum for strategic dialogue**.
- It is the only leader-led forum at which **18 key Indo-Pacific partners** meet to discuss political, security and economic challenges facing the region, and has an important role to play in advancing closer regional cooperation. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.

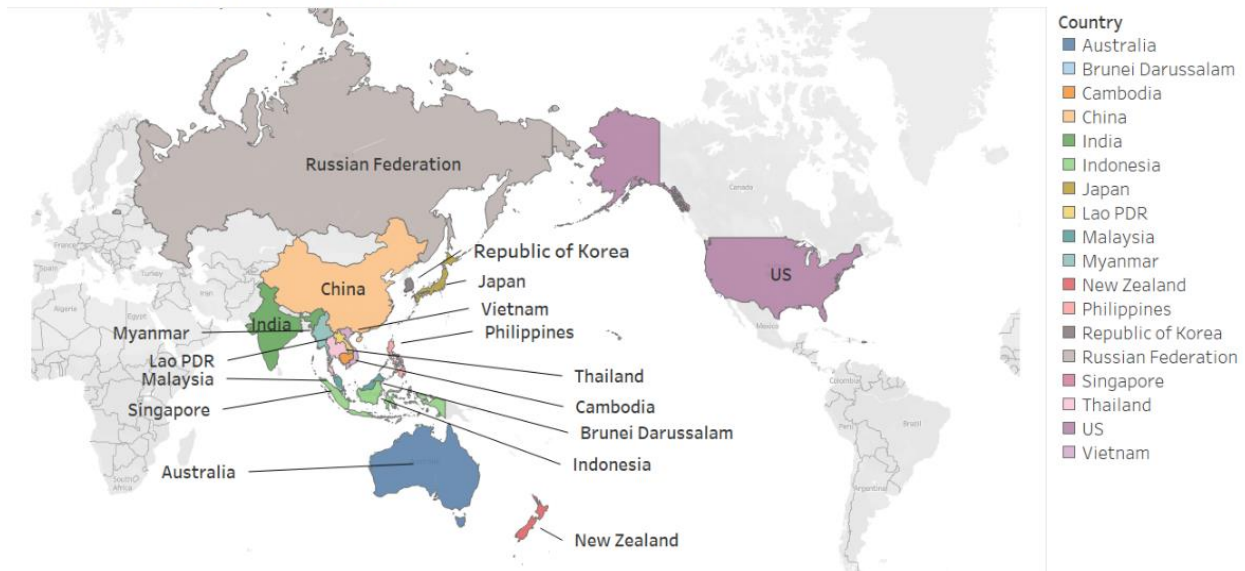
Membership

- Established in **2005**, EAS allows the principal players in the Asia-Pacific region to discuss issues of common interest and concern at the highest level.
- The membership of EAS consists of **ten ASEAN Member States** (i.e. Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines and Vietnam), **Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation and the USA**.

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Members of East Asia Summit



- **India** is a founding member of EAS. Hence, **statement 3 is correct.**
- EAS is an initiative of ASEAN and is based on the premise of the centrality of ASEAN. **EAS can only be chaired by an ASEAN member. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

Priority areas

- There are **six priority areas of regional cooperation** within the framework of the EAS. These are – Environment and Energy, Education, Finance, Global Health Issues and Pandemic Diseases, Natural Disaster Management, and ASEAN Connectivity.
- **India endorses regional collaboration in all six priority areas.**

Why in News?

- Prime Minister (PM) attended the 19th East Asia Summit (EAS) on 11 October 2024 in Vientiane, Laos.

2. Answer: C

Explanation

- Tele Mental Health Assistance and Networking Across States (Tele-MANAS) initiative was launched by the **Ministry of Health & Family Welfare** to provide **free tele-mental health services** all over the country. Hence, **answer is option C.**
- Launched in **2022**, aims to enhance mental health service delivery nationwide.
- The Tele MANAS toll-free helpline numbers **14416 or 1-800-891-4416** offer multi-language support and have been pivotal in facilitating communication between callers and mental health professionals.

Structure

- Tele-MANAS comprises **two tiers: trained counselors at State Tele-MANAS cells** who provide immediate care, and **mental health professionals** (psychologists, clinicians, psychiatrists) at **District Mental Health Programme (DMHP)** who provide specialist care.

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- **NIMHANS, Bengaluru**, serves as the **nodal center** while the **International Institute of Information Technology (IIITB) in Bengaluru** is tasked with providing the **technical know-how** for the helpline.

Why in News?

- Tele-MANAS celebrated its second anniversary on October 10, 2024. As a part of it, video consultation services were added as a feature in Karnataka, Jammu & Kashmir, and Tamil Nadu, with plans to expand nationwide.

3. Answer: D

Explanation

Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967

- The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967, was enacted to **prevent unlawful activities associations in India**.
- Its main objective was to make powers available for **dealing with activities directed against the integrity and sovereignty of India**.
- The act gives the **police power to detain anyone engaging in unlawful activities** like aiding and abetting terrorists, funding terrorists, inciting anti national feeling in the masses and other unlawful activities against the state.
- Under the Act, whoever conspires or attempts to commit, or advocates, abets, advises or the commission of, a terrorist act or any act preparatory to the commission of a terrorist act, shall be punishable with **imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than five years** but which may extend to **imprisonment for life**, and shall also be **liable to fine**.
- The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Act, 2019 was passed by the Parliament in 2019. It amends the **Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967**.

Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967	Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Act, 2019
According to the Act, the Central Government had powers only to designate organisations as terrorist organisations .	The amendment act empowers the central government to designate an individual a "terrorist" if they are found committing, preparing for, promoting, or involved in an act of terror. Hence, statement 1 is incorrect .
The UAPA law of 1967 requires an investigating officer to take prior permission of the Director General of Police of a state for conducting raids, and seizing properties that are suspected to be linked to terrorist activities.	The amendment act of 2019 removes this requirement if the investigation is conducted by an officer of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) . The investigating officer, under the 2019 act, only requires sanction from the Director General of NIA . Hence, statement 2 is incorrect .

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The law specifies that only officers of the rank of Deputy Superintendent or Assistant Commissioner of Police of the NIA shall have the **power to investigate offences** under the UAPA law.

The amendment act allows **NIA officers of Inspector rank to carry out investigations.**

Why in News?

- The Indian government recently declared an organization as a terrorist group under the UAPA.

4. Answer: A

Explanation About Lothal

- Lothal was **one of the southernmost sites of the Indus Valley civilization**. Daimabad is the **southernmost IVC site**. Hence, **statement 3 is incorrect**.
- It is **located along the Bhogava river, a tributary of Sabarmati, in the Gulf of Khambhat**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- Lothal had the **world's earliest known dock**, which connected the city to an ancient course of the Sabarmati river.
- The city was divided into **upper town or citadel and lower town** reflecting **hierarchical town planning systems**.
- Evidence of **shell and bead making industry, metallurgy and terracotta art** have been discovered here. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- Lothal holds the **third highest number of seals** out of all IVC sites.
- Lothal has been **nominated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site** and remains to be included on the tentative list of UNESCO.
- The Union Cabinet has approved the **development of the National Maritime Heritage Complex in Lothal**.

5. Answer: B

Explanation

- The Union Cabinet has approved Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan (PMJUGA) for **improving the socio-economic condition of tribal communities**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- The scheme's core objective is to **ensure saturation coverage and implementation of central schemes for improving the socio-economic conditions of tribal communities**.
- PMJUGA, announced in the **Budget Speech 2024-25**, will cover **all tribal majority villages in 30 States/UTs**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- PMJUGA will be implemented by **17 Ministries**, and funding coming from each Ministry's allocated share in the **Development Action Plan for Scheduled Tribes (DAPST)**.

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- Together, this will involve an outlay of around ₹79,000 crore, to be spent over five years, with a **Central share** of ₹56,000 crore, and a **States' share** of ₹23,000 crore. Hence, **statement 3 is incorrect**.

Development Action Plan for Scheduled Tribes:

- The Government of India is implementing DAPST as a **strategy for the development of Scheduled Tribes and areas having tribal concentration**.
- Besides the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, 41 Ministries/Departments are **allocating a certain percentage of their total scheme budget every year for tribal development** under DAPST for various **tribal development projects** relating to education, health, agriculture, irrigation, roads, housing, electrification, employment generation, skill development, etc.

Implementation

- A key feature of the mission is its **inter-ministerial convergence**, where **17 Ministries** will unite for the welfare of tribal communities through **25 vital interventions under six broad categories** – household and community infrastructure, connectivity, health, education, electrification and economic empowerment.
- The **Ministry of Tribal Affairs** will serve as the **nodal agency**, coordinating with Central Ministries for planning, implementation, and monitoring.
- However, each Ministry will retain responsibility for implementing its specific schemes.
- Similarly, at the state level, the **Tribal Welfare Department** will act as the nodal body, ensuring effective coordination across departments for the streamlined execution of tribal welfare programs.

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About National Maritime Heritage Complex

- Under the **Sagarmala programme**, the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways is developing a **National Maritime Heritage Complex**, a world-class facility at **Lothal, Gujarat**.
- NMHC aims to **showcase India's rich maritime heritage** from ancient to modern times using **edutainment approach** through latest technology and to spread awareness about India's maritime heritage.
- NMHC will comprise a **maritime museum, lighthouse museum, maritime theme parks, and amusement parks, etc.**

About Sagarmala Project

- The Sagarmala project seeks to develop a **string of ports around India's coast**. The **objective of this initiative is to promote "Port-led development"** along India's 7500 km long coastline.
- It aims to **develop access to new development regions and enhance connectivity with main economic centres** and beyond through expansion of rail, inland water, coastal and road services.
- The **Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways** has been appointed as the nodal ministry for this initiative.
- To assist in implementation of the Sagarmala Programme, the **Sagarmala Development Company Limited was incorporated in 2016** under the Companies Act, 2013 by the Ministry of Shipping.