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Daily MCQs: 01-11-2024

1. MY Bharat aims at providing

- A. holistic development in border villages
- B. youth development and youth-led development
- C. women development and women-led development
- D. internet connectivity in hilly regions

2. With reference to the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), consider the following statements.

- 1) SDRF is a statutory fund.
- 2) SDRF is entirely contributed from the states' exchequer.
- 3) It shall be used for providing immediate relief to the victims as well as for disaster mitigation measures.

How many of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

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

3. With reference to the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB), consider the following statements.

- 1) PNGRB is an executive body.
- 2) The primary objective of PNGRB is to protect the interests of consumers and entities.
- 3) The appeals against the decisions of the Board go before the National Company Law Tribunal.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

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

4. Consider the following factors.

Statement -I:

Pseudo melanistic tigers are found in Simlipal Tiger Reserve.

Statement -II:

Geographical isolation has led to constant inbreeding among tigers.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- A. Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- B. Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I

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- C. Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- D. Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-I is correct

5. With reference to the Bengal Tiger, consider the following statements.

- 1) The Bengal tiger is native to the Indian subcontinent.
- 2) They typically hunt in groups.
- 3) Generally, females are larger than males.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Solutions:

1. Answer: B

Explanation MY Bharat

- Mera Yuva Bharat (**MY Bharat**) is an **autonomous body** set up by the **Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports** to provide an overarching institutional mechanism powered by technology for **youth development and youth-led development**. Hence, **answer is option B**.
- Launched in 2023, the initiative aims to **empower Indian youth** through **social mobility, educational equity, and practical skills**.
- It is a '**Phyigital Platform**' (physical + digital) comprising physical activity along with an opportunity to connect digitally.
- Youth across the country can register on the MY Bharat portal (<https://www.mybharat.gov.in/>) and sign up for various opportunities and events available on the portal.

Why in News?

- The Government of India has launched a nationwide volunteering initiative titled 'This Diwali with MY Bharat - Ye Diwali MY Bharat Ke Saath'.
- This special event, aimed at **celebrating the first anniversary of the MY Bharat Portal**, will see the participation of over 2 lakh volunteers across 500 locations in India, fostering a spirit of social service and volunteerism during the festive season.

2. Answer: A

Explanation:

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- **State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF)** is a statutory fund constituted under the **Disaster Management Act 2005** is the **primary fund available with the State Government for responses to notified disasters**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- The **Central Government contributes 75%** of SDRF allocation for **general category States/UTs** and **90% in North-East and Himalayan States**. Hence, **statement 2 is incorrect**.
- 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**. Hence, **statement 3 is incorrect**.
- 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.

Local Disaster

- State Government may use up to **10% of the funds** available under SDRF for providing immediate relief to the victims of the natural disaster considered to be "**Disaster**" **within the local context** in the State and which is not included in the notified list of disaster of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Why in News?

- The Tamil Nadu government has declared **heat waves a state-specific disaster**, allowing it to provide immediate relief to those who suffered health problems due to severe heat in April and May.
 - *Qualitatively, heat wave is a **condition of air temperature** which becomes **fatal to the human body** when exposed. Quantitatively, it is defined based on the **temperature thresholds over a region** in terms of actual temperature or its departure from normal.*
- Now, the government can use the **State Disaster Response Fund** for this purpose. It was previously unable to do this because heat waves are not considered natural calamities in the list of disasters notified by the Centre.

3. Answer: B

Explanation

- Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) is a **statutory body** for the Petroleum and Natural Gas Sector constituted under the PNGRB Act, 2006. Hence, **statement 1 is incorrect**.
- The objective of PNGRB is to **protect the interests of consumers and entities** engaged in specified activities relating to petroleum, petroleum products and natural gas and to **promote competitive markets**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- The board has also been mandated to **regulate** the refining, processing, storage, transportation, distribution, marketing and sale of petroleum, petroleum products and natural gas excluding production of crude oil and natural gas so as to ensure uninterrupted and adequate supply of petroleum, petroleum products and natural gas in all parts of the country.

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- The appeals against the decisions of the Board go before the **Appellate Tribunal** established under the **Electricity Act, 2003**. Hence, **statement 3 is incorrect**.

4. Answer: A

Explanation

Melanism in Royal Bengal tigers

- Melanism is a **genetic condition** that causes animals to have **black or nearly black skin, hair, or feathers** due to **increased melanin production**.
- In Bengal tigers, the **presence of higher levels of melanin**, gives tigers **black and yellow interspersed stripes** on their coats which are **much thicker** than the stripes found in normal tigers.
- Since these tigers are not entirely black, they are often described as being **pseudo-melanistic (false coloured)**.
- Factors such as **geographical isolation** have led to **constant inbreeding amongst genetically related tigers** for over generations leading to such **melanistic tendencies**. Hence, **statement -II is correct and correctly explains statement -I**.
 - *Inbreeding refers to the mating of individuals or organisms that are closely related through common ancestry.*
 - *Constant inbreeding amongst species leads to poorer reproductive efficiency, lower growth rates, and higher mortality rates thereby threatening the survival of species.*
- **Simlipal Tiger Reserve** in Odisha is the **world's only tiger habitat** for **pseudo melanistic tigers**. Hence, **statement -I is correct**.

Why in News?

- The **Odisha government** has **translocated a female tiger** from Maharashtra's **Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve** to **Similipal Tiger Reserve** to enhance the genetic diversity of tigers against Melanism caused due to constant inbreeding.

5. Answer: A

Explanation

- The Bengal tiger (*Panthera tigris tigris*) is a subspecies of tiger **native to the Indian subcontinent**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- It inhabits hot and humid forests, and wetlands of **India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, and Nepal**.
- The **Bengal tiger's coat** is yellow to light orange, with stripes ranging from dark brown to black.
- **Males are larger** in size than females. Hence, **statement 3 is incorrect**.
- They are **solitary hunters**. Hence, **statement 2 is incorrect**.
- They are **carnivorous in their diet**, preying on ungulates such as deer and antelope, gaurs, and wild boars.