

# OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

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Daily MCQs: 07-12-2024

1. 'Vachanaas' are poems spreading social awareness, written by

- A. Mirabai
- B. Tukaram
- C. Chaitanya
- D. Basavanna

2. Consider the following statements with reference to the Indian Council for Cultural Relations

- 1) The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) was founded by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.
- 2) The council aims to actively participate in the formulation of policies pertaining to India's external cultural relations.
- 3) The main focus area of the council is cultural diplomacy.

Which of the above given statement(s) is/are correct?

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

3. With reference to The UN Statistical Commission, consider the following statements.

- 1) The UN Statistical Commission is the highest body of the global statistical system.
- 2) The Commission has universal representation of all UN members.

Which of the above given statement(s) is/are correct?

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

4. Consider the following statements.

- 1) Rating agencies assess the ability of companies to meet principal and interest payments on their debts.
- 2) In India, the Reserve Bank of India is the primary regulator for credit rating agencies.

Which of the above given statement(s) is/are correct?

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

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### 5. Consider the following statements.

- 1) Sulphur dioxide is a black-coloured, soluble gas.
- 2) When combined with water, it emits a characteristic pungent smell.
- 3) Sulphur dioxide can cause acid rains.

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

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

Solutions:

1. Answer: D

Explanation:

- **Basavanna** was a 12th-century philosopher, statesman, and Kannada poet during the period of the Shiva-focused Bhakti movement.
- Considered to be one of the many great social reformers, Basavanna stood for the **underprivileged classes and women's rights**.
- He spread social awareness through his poetry called **Vachanaas**. Hence, **the answer is option D**.

2. Answer: D

Explanation

- The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) was founded in **1950** by **Maulana Abul Kalam Azad**, independent India's first Education Minister. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- Its objectives are to:
  - actively participate in the formulation and implementation of policies and programmes pertaining to **India's external cultural relations**; Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
  - to **foster and strengthen cultural relations and mutual understanding** between India and other countries;
  - to promote **cultural exchanges** with other countries and people, and
  - to **develop relations with nations**.
- The Council addresses its **mandate of cultural diplomacy** through a broad range of activities. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.

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- In addition to organising cultural festivals in India and overseas, the ICCR financially supports a number of cultural institutions across India, and sponsors individual performers in dance, music, photography, theatre, and the visual arts.
- The ICCR Headquarter is situated in **New Delhi**.

### 3. Answer: A

#### Explanation

- **The UN Statistical Commission**, established in 1947, is the **highest body of the global statistical system** bringing together the Chief Statisticians from member states from around the world. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- It is the **highest decision-making body for international statistical activities**, responsible for setting statistical standards and the development of concepts and methods, including their implementation at the national and international levels.
- The Commission consists of **24 member countries** of the United Nations elected by the **United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)** on the **basis of equitable geographical distribution**. Hence, **statement 2 is incorrect**.

### 4. Answer: A

#### Explanation

- A rating agency is a company that **assesses the financial strength of companies and government entities**, especially their ability to meet principal and interest payments on their debts. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- The rating shows an agency's level of confidence that the borrower will honor its debt obligations as agreed. Each agency uses **unique letter-based scores** to indicate if a debt has a low or high default risk and the financial stability of its issuer.
- The debt issuers may be sovereign nations, local and state governments, special purpose institutions, companies, or non-profit organizations.
- In India, the **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** primarily regulates credit rating agencies and their functioning. Hence, **statement 2 is incorrect**.

### 5. Answer: B

#### Explanation:

#### About Sulphur dioxide

- Sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) is a **gaseous air pollutant composed of sulfur and oxygen**.

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- SO<sub>2</sub> is a **colourless, soluble gas** with a **characteristic pungent smell** which forms sulphuric acid when combined with water. Hence, **statement 1 is incorrect and statement 2 is correct.**
- SO<sub>2</sub> emissions can cause **respiratory, cardiovascular and lung diseases**, and can **induce acid rain**, which is a threat to crops, forests, and aquatic species. Hence, **statement 3 is correct.**

