

# OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

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Daily MCQs: 09-12-2024

### 1. VAIBHAV Fellowship Scheme provides fellowship to

- A. Faculty and researchers from Indian Diaspora abroad
- B. Women and girls from marginalized sections
- C. Faculty and researchers from scheduled areas
- D. Senior citizens from Adult Literacy Programs

### 2. Consider the following statements with reference to Debt for climate swap.

- 1) A debt-for-climate swap is an agreement between the creditor and a debtor.
- 2) The creditor provides debt relief, in return for a commitment by the government to invest in a specific environmental project.
- 3) These swaps can help in development of climate-resilient infrastructure.

#### 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. Consider the following statements about Virtual Private Network.

- 1) A virtual private network is a completely open connection over the Internet from a device to a network.
- 2) A virtual private network helps to get around online censorship.

#### 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 about the Wild Life (Protection) Act.

- 1) The Act currently has six schedules for protection of the wildlife.
- 2) The 2022 amendment seeks to implement the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

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

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

### 5. Consider the following statements in respect of Sulphur dioxide emissions.

**Statement-I:** Sulphur dioxide emissions contribute to cooling the planet.

**Statement-II:** Sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere converts into sulphate aerosols that reflect solar radiation into space.

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

### Solutions:

#### 1. Answer: A

### Explanation:

- The **Ministry of Science & Technology** launched the **VAIBHAV Fellowship Scheme for the Indian Diaspora abroad** in 2023. Hence, **answer is option A.**
- The Fellowship aims at **improving the research ecosystem of India's Higher Educational Institutions** by facilitating academic and research collaborations between Indian Institutions and the best institutions in the world through mobility of faculty/researcher from overseas institutions to India.
- The Scientists on Fellowship would identify an Indian Institution for collaboration and may spend **up to two months in a year for a maximum of 3 years.**
- The fellows would facilitate an **exchange of best practices** between the two countries and attempt to address the areas of concern in collaborative research between the two countries.

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### 2. Answer: D

#### Explanation

- A debt-for-climate swap is an **agreement between the creditor and a debtor** by which the **former forgoes a portion of the latter's foreign debt, or provides it debt relief**, in return for a commitment by the government to **invest in a specific environmental project**. Hence, **statements 1 and 2 are correct**.
- This could be **developing climate-resilient infrastructure, protecting biodiversity, etc.** Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.
- In the past decade, debt-for-climate swaps have grown relatively popular among low- and middle-income countries.

### 3. Answer: B

#### Explanation

- A virtual private network, or VPN, is an **encrypted connection over the Internet from a device to a network**. Hence, **statement 1 is incorrect**.
- The encrypted connection helps **ensure that sensitive data is safely transmitted**.
- It **prevents unauthorized people from eavesdropping** on the traffic and allows the user to conduct work remotely.
- VPN technology is widely used in corporate environments.
- This private network **enhances overall privacy on the Web**. It is also used to **get around geo-restrictions and online censorship**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

### 4. Answer: B

#### Explanation

##### Highlights of the 2022 Amendment to the Wild Life (Protection) Act

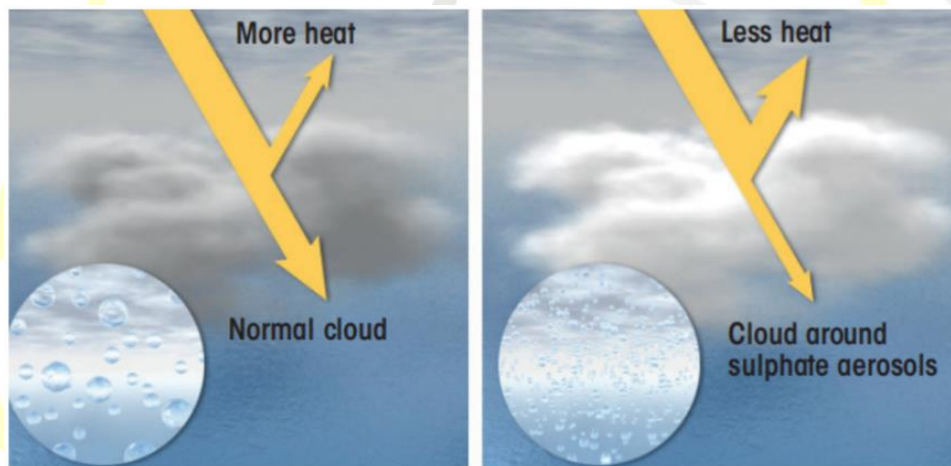
- The amendment **streamlines the Schedules of protected native wildlife to three Schedules (Schedule I and II for animals; Schedule III for plants)**.
- The Act **removes the present schedule for vermin species and inserts a new schedule (Schedule IV) for specimens listed for extinction under CITES**.
- There has been a **significant addition of species to Schedule I**.
- The amendment reduced the **number of schedules from six to four**. Hence, **statement 1 is incorrect**.

- The fresh amendments intend to **regulate wildlife trade** and to **implement the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)**, which is an international agreement between governments to regulate international trade in species threatened with extinction. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

5. Answer: A

Explanation:

Role of SO<sub>2</sub> in cooling the planet



- SO<sub>2</sub> emissions cool the planet in two ways: Hence, **Statement-I is correct**.
  - First is the **direct effect**, in which SO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere is converted into **sulphate aerosols** that **reflect solar radiation into space**. Hence, **Statement-II is correct and rightly explains Statement-I**.
  - The second, **indirect effect** is brought about by the **interaction between clouds and sulphate aerosols**. **Clouds** formed around sulphate aerosols have **more droplets**, and are **brighter** and **more reflective of sunlight** than normal clouds.