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Daily MCQs: 31-01-2025

1. Consider the following statements about the Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act, 1994

- 1) It governs the transplantation of human organs and tissues in India, including the donation of organs after death.
- 2) According to the act, a transplant should be from a pool of organs of deceased persons donated by their relatives only.

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

2. Consider the following statements about the Archeological Survey of India

- 1) It is the premier organization for the archaeological research and protection of the cultural heritage of the nation.
- 2) It is an attached office under the Ministry of Tourism.

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 objective of the Shangri-La Dialogue is

- A) To promote free trade in Asia
- B) To discuss regional security issues in Asia
- C) To establish a common currency in Asia
- D) To negotiate peace treaties

4. Consider the following factors

- 1) Extensive vegetation cover
- 2) High albedo surfaces
- 3) High concentration of concrete buildings and roads

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How many of the above factors contribute to the Urban Heat Island effect?

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

5. With reference to Critical Minerals, consider the following statements

- 1) They are mineral deposits with high economic vulnerability and high global supply chain risk.
- 2) Till now, India imported critical minerals to meet the shortages of domestic supply, but now India is self-sufficient in coal production.

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

Solutions:

1. Answer: A

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act, 1994, and Rules, 2014 governs the **transplantation of human organs and tissues in India**, including the donation of organs after death.
- It lays down **regulations** governing healthcare providers and hospitals, and stipulates **penalties** for violations.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** A transplant can be either from a **pool of organs of deceased persons** donated by their relatives or from a **living person who is known to the recipient**.
- In most cases, the Act allows living **donations from close relatives** such as parents, siblings, children, spouses, grandparents, and grandchildren. **Altruistic donations** from distant relatives, in-laws, or long-time friends are allowed after additional scrutiny to ensure there is **no financial exchange**.
- **Living donations from close relatives** involving Indians or foreigners must be accompanied by **documents establishing their identities, family trees, and pictures** that prove the donor-recipient relationship. Donors and recipients are also **interviewed**.

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- Donations from **unrelated persons** require documents and photographic evidence to prove their **long-term association or friendship** with the recipient. These are examined by an **external committee to prevent illegal dealings**.
- **Offering to pay** for organs or supplying them for payment; initiating, negotiating, or advertising such arrangements; looking for persons to supply organs; and abetting in preparing false documents can attract a **jail term up to 10 years and a fine up to Rs 1 crore**.
- The **Authorisation Committee** plays a critical role in the transplantation process.

What is the Authorisation Committee?

- The Authorisation Committee **oversees and approves** organ transplant procedures involving donors and recipients who are not near relatives.
- This approval is crucial, especially in cases where organs are donated for reasons of affection, attachment, or other special circumstances, to ensure **ethical compliance and prevent illegal practices**.

2. Answer: A

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Archaeological Survey of India is the premier organization for the **archaeological research and protection of the cultural heritage** of the nation.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** It is an attached office under the **Ministry of Culture**.
- Maintenance of ancient monuments and archaeological sites and remains of national importance is the prime concern of the ASI.
- Besides, it regulates all archaeological activities in the country as per the provisions of the **Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958**. It also regulates the **Antiquities and Art Treasure Act, 1972**.

History

- Archaeological and historical pursuits in India started with the efforts of **Sir William Jones**, who put together a group of antiquarians to form the **Asiatic Society in 1784 in Calcutta**.
- The Archaeological Survey of India was eventually formed in **1861** by a statute passed into law by **Viceroy Lord Canning** with **Alexander Cunningham** as the **first Archaeological Surveyor**.

3. Answer: B

Explanation

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- The Shangri-La Dialogue is a **unique platform for debate** among government ministers and senior officials, as well as business leaders and security experts, on **Asia's developing security challenges**.
- **Held annually in Singapore** by an independent think tank, the **International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS)**, the Dialogue is **Asia's premier defence summit**.
- It enables decision-makers from across the Asia-Pacific, North America, Europe and the Middle East to gather together to discuss the most **pressing regional security issues and to share policy responses**. Hence **option B is correct**.
- It features **plenary debates** led by government ministers, as well as important opportunities for **bilateral discussions** among delegations.

4. Answer: A

Explanation

- The **Urban Heat Island effect** refers to localized areas within **cities** or **metropolitan areas** that experience significantly **higher temperatures** when compared to surrounding regions.
- Urban heat island is basically induced due to **trapped heat** between establishments made up of **concrete**.
- **Extensive vegetation cover**: Vegetation helps to cool urban areas through processes like shading and evapotranspiration. Thus, extensive vegetation cover mitigates the Urban Heat Island (UHI) effect rather than contributing to it. Hence **statement 1 is incorrect**.
- **High albedo surfaces**: High albedo surfaces reflect more sunlight and absorb less heat, which helps to reduce temperatures. Thus, high albedo surfaces also mitigate the UHI effect. Hence **statement 2 is incorrect**.
- **High concentration of concrete buildings and roads**: Concrete buildings and roads absorb and retain heat, significantly contributing to the UHI effect. Hence **statement 3 is correct**.

5. Answer: A

Explanation

What are Critical Minerals?

- **Statement 1 is correct**: There is **no global definition** of critical minerals, but essentially, they are **mineral deposits with high economic vulnerability and high global supply chain risk**.
- Globally, there is a gap between projected supply and projected demand for many critical minerals by the end of this decade, especially in **cobalt and lithium**.

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- They are used for making **EV batteries** and are also critical for making **semiconductors and high-end electronics manufacturing**.
- These minerals are also used in **manufacturing fighter jets, drones, radio sets and other critical equipment**, hence it is critical for **aerospace, communications and defence industries**.

Who are the top producers of critical minerals?

- According to a report released by the **International Energy Agency**, the major producers of critical minerals globally are **Chile, Indonesia, Congo, China, Australia and South Africa**.
- **China** dominates in terms of processing.

Scenario in India

- **India heavily relies on imports for the majority of its critical minerals**, with a few exceptions like copper, gallium, graphite, cadmium, phosphorus, potash, and titanium. Hence **statement 2 is incorrect**.
- **India has only tapped into 10-20 percent of its actual capacity** in terms of critical mineral exploration.

