



DATE: 14.09.2026

- 1) With reference to the Specialized Investment Fund (SIF) framework introduced by SEBI, consider the following statements:
1. SIF is a new investment product category within the mutual fund framework.
 2. The minimum investment requirement is ₹10 lakh per investor, subject to applicable exemptions.
 3. SIFs permit sophisticated investment strategies, including long-short equity strategies.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

- 2) Consider the following statements regarding the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA)
1. The Central Government may designate an individual as a terrorist by including their name in the relevant Schedule to the Act.
 2. The National Investigation Agency can investigate offences under UAPA in accordance with the law governing its powers.
 3. The statutory restrictions on bail under UAPA can make obtaining bail more difficult than under ordinary criminal law.

Which one of the following conclusions based on the above statements is correct?

- (a) There are two correct statements, that are statements 1 and 3.
- (b) There are two correct statements, that include statement 2.
- (c) There is only one correct statement.
- (d) All three statements are correct.

- 3) Consider the following statements regarding the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC):

1. It is a statutory body established under the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.
2. It consists of a Chairperson who has been the Chief Justice of India or a Judge of the Supreme Court.
3. It has the power to punish persons directly responsible for human rights violations.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

- 4) Consider the following statements:

1. The Great Indian Bustard is classified as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List.
2. It is primarily found in dense tropical evergreen forests of northeastern India.
3. The Great Indian Bustard is the state bird of Gujarat.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?



- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

5) With reference to Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD), consider the following statements:

- 1. LSD is a contagious vector-borne viral disease that primarily affects cattle.
- 2. Lumpy Skin Disease Virus has a similar immune response with Sheep Pox Virus.
- 3. Outbreaks of LSD are associated with conditions of high temperature and high humidity.
- 4. Since there is no specific treatment for the virus, vaccination is an important means of preventing and controlling the disease.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1, 3 and 4 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Explanation

1) **Answer: (D)**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) introduced the Specialised Investment Fund (SIF) as a novel asset class and investment product category operating within the traditional mutual fund framework to bridge structural gaps in the market.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The regulatory framework mandates a minimum investment threshold of ₹10 lakh per investor at the PAN level to target experienced high-net-worth individuals willing to take higher risks.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** SIF regulations grant fund managers significantly more freedom and flexibility compared to standard mutual funds, permitting advanced and sophisticated investment strategies such as long-short equity models, derivatives exposure, and investments across diverse asset classes.
- **Therefore, option D is the correct answer.**

2) **Answer: (D)**

- The **Central Government** can designate an individual as a terrorist by including their name in the **Fourth Schedule** of the UAPA. This power was introduced through the **2019 amendment** to the Act.
Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- The **National Investigation Agency (NIA)** is empowered to investigate offences under UAPA in accordance with the **NIA Act, 2008** and the provisions of UAPA.
Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- UAPA contains **special and stringent conditions for granting bail**. In particular, Section 43D(5) imposes a higher threshold for bail in specified cases, making bail more difficult compared with ordinary criminal cases.
Hence, statement 3 is correct.
- **Therefore, option D is the correct answer.**

3) **Answer: (A)**



- **Statement 1 is correct:** The **National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)** is a **statutory body** established on October 12, 1993, under the **Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993** (amended in 2006 and 2019). It is not a constitutional body.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** According to Section 3 of the Act, the Chairperson of the NHRC must be a person who has been a **Chief Justice of India or a Judge of the Supreme Court**.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The NHRC **does not possess any direct penal or judicial power** to punish persons or public officials responsible for human rights violations. It is fundamentally a **recommendatory and advisory body**. It can investigate human rights abuses (suo motu or via petitions), recommend the initiation of prosecution or departmental action, suggest immediate interim relief for victims, or approach the Supreme Court/High Courts for necessary directions, but it cannot directly penalize or sentence violators.
- **Therefore option A is the correct answer.**

4) Answer: (A)

- **Statement 1 is Correct:** The Great Indian Bustard (*Ardeotis nigriceps*) is classified as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List. It is one of India's most threatened grassland birds, facing severe population decline due to habitat loss, hunting and collisions with power transmission lines.
- **Statement 2 is Incorrect:** The Great Indian Bustard does not inhabit dense tropical evergreen forests of northeastern India. It prefers dry grasslands, scrublands, open plains and arid or semi-arid ecosystems. Rajasthan is its principal stronghold, particularly the Desert National Park landscape. Other habitats occur in Gujarat, Maharashtra and parts of the Deccan region.
- **Statement 3 is Incorrect:** The Great Indian Bustard is the state bird of Rajasthan, not Gujarat. Rajasthan has adopted the species as an important symbol of its natural heritage and conservation efforts.

5) Answer: (D)

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) is an **infectious viral disease** affecting cattle and buffaloes. It is caused by **Lumpy Skin Disease Virus (LSDV)**, belonging to the *Capripoxvirus* group. It is mainly transmitted mechanically through **arthropod vectors**, including mosquitoes, biting flies and ticks. LSD was first confirmed in India (**West Bengal and Odisha in September 2019**).
- **Statement 2 is correct:** LSDV has a similar immune response with **Sheep Pox Virus**. This immunological relationship is important because **poxvirus vaccines can provide protection against LSD**. The **Goat Pox vaccine** has been used for controlling LSD in cattle and buffaloes and has been found effective against the disease.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** LSD outbreaks are associated with **high temperature and high humidity**. Such conditions favour the multiplication and activity of **blood-feeding insect vectors**, increasing the possibility of disease transmission. Therefore, LSD is a **vector-borne viral disease**, rather than a disease transmitted primarily through direct animal-to-animal contact.
- **Statement 4 is correct:** There is **no specific treatment for LSD**. Supportive/non-specific treatment may be provided to affected animals. Vaccination is the most effective method for controlling LSD. India developed the indigenous **Lumpi-ProVacInd**, a **homologous live-attenuated LSD vaccine**, through ICAR-NRCE and ICAR-IVRI.



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- Therefore, option D is the correct answer.

