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- 1) Which of the following functions fall within the direct regulatory jurisdiction of the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA)?
1. Direct implementation of safety policies on dams located on inter-State rivers owned by Central Public Sector Units (CPSUs).
 2. Resolving inter-State issues regarding dam safety between two States.
 3. Granting environmental clearances for new dam construction projects.
 4. Accrediting agencies and individuals involved in dam safety evaluation and inspection.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

- 2) Consider the following statements regarding the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM):

1. The Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) is a statutory body established under the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Act, 2021.
2. Directions and orders issued by the CAQM are binding on persons, officers and authorities.
3. The CAQM is directly accountable to the Parliament.
4. The Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) was introduced by the CAQM.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

- 3) Consider the following statements regarding the Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission Gramin (VB-GRAM G) Scheme:

1. It provides 125 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to eligible rural households.
2. It mandates timely payment of wages within 20 days of completion of work.
3. It is funded entirely by the Central Government in all States and Union Territories.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

- 4) Consider the following statements regarding the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM):

1. It is a climate policy tool introduced by the European Union to prevent carbon leakage.



2. It applies a carbon tariff to all imported goods entering the EU across all sectors.
3. EU importers must purchase certificates equivalent to the carbon price applied under EU domestic rules.

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

5) Consider the following countries:

1. Iran
2. Iraq
3. Kuwait
4. Oman
5. Yemen

How many of the above countries have a coastline along the Persian Gulf?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All five

Explanation

1) Answer: (B)

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The NDSA acts as the State Dam Safety Organisation (SDSO) for dams owned by Central Public Sector Units (CPSUs) or for dams located in one State and owned by another State. It directly implements safety policies for these specified dams.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** A core function of the NDSA is to resolve inter-State issues and disputes regarding dam safety between two State Dam Safety Organisations or between a State and an owner of a specified dam.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Granting environmental clearances for dam construction falls under the purview of the **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC)**, not the NDSA.
- **Statement 4 is correct:** The NDSA is explicitly authorized to grant accreditations to (or disqualify) agencies and specify qualification standards for individuals involved in the investigation, design, construction, alteration, and safety evaluation of specified dams.
- **Therefore, option B is the correct answer.**

2) Answer: (B)

- **Statement 1 is Correct:** CAQM is a statutory body established under the 2021 Act.
- **Statement 2 — Correct:** Its directions and orders are binding on persons, officers and authorities.
- **Statement 3 — Correct:** The Commission is accountable to Parliament.
- **Statement 4 — Incorrect:** GRAP predates CAQM. It was formulated by the Environment Pollution (Prevention & Control) Authority (EPCA) and subsequently implemented under the CAQM framework. Thus, saying that GRAP was introduced by CAQM is incorrect.
- **Therefore option B is the correct answer.**



3) Answer: (A)

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The **Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB-G RAM G) Act, 2025** guarantees **125 days** of unskilled manual wage employment in a financial year to every eligible rural household.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The framework mandates the disbursement of daily wages on a weekly basis or in any case **not later than a fortnight (15 days)** after the completion of work, not 20 days.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The scheme functions as a **Centrally Sponsored Scheme** featuring cost-sharing models between the Centre and the States (such as a 60:40 ratio for general States/UTs with legislatures, 90:10 for North-Eastern and Himalayan States, and 100% central funding solely for Union Territories without legislatures). It is not funded entirely by the Central Government across all States and Union Territories.
- **Therefore option A is the correct answer.**

4) Answer: (C)

- **Statement 1 is correct:** CBAM is a trade-related climate instrument pioneered by the European Union to prevent "carbon leakage" (relocation of production to regions with weaker climate policies).
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** It does not apply to all goods across all sectors; it currently targets specific carbon-intensive sectors like iron, steel, cement, aluminium, fertilisers, electricity, and hydrogen.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** EU importers bringing targeted goods into the market must surrender certificates based on embedded emissions, priced equivalently to domestic carbon pricing systems like the EU ETS.
- **Therefore option C is the correct answer.**

5) Answer: (C)

- The Persian Gulf is a marginal sea of the Indian Ocean, situated between Iran and the Arabian Peninsula. Among the given countries, **Iran, Iraq and Kuwait have coastlines along the Persian Gulf. Oman has a coastline along the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea, while Yemen borders the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden.** Therefore, only three countries in the list have coastlines along the Persian Gulf.
- **Therefore Option C is the correct answer.**