



DATE: 23.09.2026

- 1) Consider the following statements about Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC):
1. OPEC was established at the Baghdad Conference in 1960.
 2. All founding members of OPEC were exclusively from the Middle East.
 3. OPEC seeks to coordinate and unify the petroleum policies of its member countries.

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

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

- 2) Consider the following statements regarding groundwater resources in India:

1. Agriculture accounts for more than three-fourths of India's annual groundwater extraction, making irrigation the dominant use of groundwater.
2. Arsenic contamination of groundwater is predominantly associated with the aquifers of the peninsular river basins.
3. China accounts for nearly one-fourth of global groundwater extraction, making it the world's largest groundwater extractor.

Which of the statements given above are **incorrect**?

- (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 India's National Song, 'Vande Mataram':

1. It was first sung publicly by Rabindranath Tagore at the 1896 Indian National Congress (INC) session in Calcutta.
2. It was composed by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay and incorporated into his novel Anandamath.
3. It was adopted as the National Song on 24 January 1950 by the Constituent Assembly.

Which of the following statements is/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 with reference to the National Film Awards:

1. *Article 370* received the award for Best Feature Film.
2. The National Film Awards are administered every year by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, while the President of India presents the awards at the ceremony.
3. The Awards recognise only films that have received awards at international film festivals.

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

- (a) There are two correct statements, that include statement 3.



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

5) Consider the following statements regarding the Greater One-Horned Rhinoceros

1. Globally, it is distributed across natural habitats in India, Nepal, Bhutan, and Bangladesh.
2. Under the IUCN Red List, it is categorized as Critically Endangered.
3. The Greater One-Horned Rhinoceros acts as an umbrella species for the tall-grassland and floodplain ecosystem.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Explanation

1) **Answer: (D)**

- **Statement 1 is correct: OPEC was established at the Baghdad Conference in 1960.**

OPEC was created at the Baghdad Conference held on September 10–14, 1960.

- **Statement 2 is incorrect: All founding members of OPEC were exclusively from the Middle East.**

OPEC was founded by five countries: Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and **Venezuela**. Since Venezuela is located in South America, not all founding members were exclusively from the Middle East.

- **Statement 3 is correct: OPEC seeks to coordinate and unify the petroleum policies of its member countries.**

According to its statute, the primary objective of OPEC is to coordinate and unify the petroleum policies of its member countries to ensure the stabilization of oil markets.

- **Therefore, option D is the correct answer.**

2) **Answer: (C)**

- **Statement 1 — Correct:** Agriculture accounts for about 87% of India's annual groundwater extraction, making irrigation the dominant use of groundwater.
- **Statement 2 — Incorrect:** Arsenic contamination is particularly associated with alluvial aquifers of the Ganga-Brahmaputra river system, especially in parts of the eastern and northeastern plains.
- **Statement 3 — Incorrect:** India, not China, is the world's largest groundwater extractor and accounts for roughly one-fourth of global groundwater extraction.
- **Therefore, option (C) is the correct answer.**

3) **Answer: (D)**

- **Statement 1 is Correct: Vande Mataram** was first sung publicly by **Rabindranath Tagore** at the **1896 session of the Indian National Congress (INC)**



in Calcutta. Its public rendition helped establish the song as an important symbol of the emerging nationalist movement.

- **Statement 2 is Correct:** Vande Mataram was composed by **Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay** in **Sanskritised Bengali**. He later incorporated the song into his political novel **Anandamath**, published in **1882**. The song personifies the motherland as **'Mother'** and celebrates its natural beauty and prosperity.
- **Statement 3 is Correct:** On **24 January 1950**, the **Constituent Assembly of India** adopted *Vande Mataram* as the **National Song**. The Constituent Assembly also adopted **Jana Gana Mana** as the **National Anthem**. The National Song is associated with India's freedom struggle and continues to hold an important place in the country's national heritage.
- **Therefore option D is the correct answer.**

4) Answer: (B)

- *Article 370* received the **Best Feature Film** award at the 72nd National Film Awards. The 72nd edition honoured Indian films certified during **2024**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- The **Ministry of Information & Broadcasting** is associated with conferring/organising the National Film Awards, while the **President of India presents the awards at the formal ceremony**. At the 72nd National Film Awards, President **Droupadi Murmu** presented the awards at **Ekta Nagar, Gujarat**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- Eligibility for the National Film Awards is **not conditional upon a film having won an award at an international film festival**. Films are evaluated under the prescribed National Film Awards regulations and eligibility criteria. Hence, **statement 3 is incorrect**.
- **Therefore, option B is the correct answer.**

5) Answer: (A)

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Its natural wild distribution is restricted primarily to **India and Nepal**. It is no longer found in the wild in Bhutan or Bangladesh.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** It is categorized as **Vulnerable** on the IUCN Red List, having been successfully downlisted from *Endangered* due to targeted conservation efforts.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** As a megaherbivore requiring specific riverine and grassland habitats, it functions as an **umbrella species**, helping protect a wide array of co-existing flora and fauna.
- **Therefore, option A is the correct answer.**