



DATE: 14.10.2026

- 1) Consider the following with reference to Preventive Detention in India:
1. A person detained under a preventive detention law is excluded from the safeguards under Article 22(1) and Article 22(2).
 2. Individuals under preventive detention in India do not have the right to vote.
 3. A person may, in appropriate circumstances, face criminal prosecution and preventive detention proceedings simultaneously.
- How many of the above statements is/are correct?
- (a) Only One
 - (b) Only Two
 - (c) Only Three
 - (d) None
- 2) Assertion (A): Polylactic Acid (PLA) products labelled biodegradable can be disposed of indiscriminately without considering local waste-management infrastructure.
Reason (R): Biodegradable materials may require specific conditions for efficient degradation, and unsuitable disposal can limit their environmental benefits.
Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- (a) Both A and R are correct, and R is the correct explanation of A.
 - (b) Both A and R are correct, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
 - (c) A is correct, but R is incorrect.
 - (d) A is incorrect, but R is correct.
- 3) Consider the following statements regarding the structure of PFAS:
1. They consist of a chain of linked carbon and fluorine atoms.
 2. The carbon-fluorine bond is exceptionally weak, making them highly reactive.
- 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
- 4) With reference to the coir industry in India, consider the following statements:
1. India is the world's largest producer and exporter of coir and coir products
 2. The Coir Board is a statutory body established under the Coir Industry Act, 1953, functioning under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.
 3. The Coir Vikas Yojana is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme aimed at promoting skill development, technology upgradation and market expansion in the coir industry.
- 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



- 5) Consider the following statements with reference to Exercise KONKAN:
1. It is a bilateral maritime exercise conducted between India and France.
 2. The exercise focuses exclusively on humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations, excluding naval warfare drills.
 3. The exercise provides an opportunity to enhance interoperability between the participating navies through coordinated maritime operations.
- How many of the above statements are correct?
- (a) Only one
 - (b) Only two
 - (c) All three
 - (d) None

Explanation

1) Answer: (D)

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Article 22(1) and Article 22(2) provide important safeguards to people who are arrested under ordinary criminal law. However, **Article 22(3)(b) expressly excludes persons detained under a law providing for preventive detention** from the protection of clauses (1) and (2).
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** While Indian law enforces a strict ban on voting for most individuals in prison, those held under **preventive detention are explicitly exempted from this restriction**. According to Rule 18 of the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961, electors under preventive detention are entitled to cast their votes by postal ballot.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The existence of a criminal case **does not automatically prevent the authorities from issuing a preventive detention order**. Similarly, preventive detention does not automatically exempt a person from criminal prosecution.

2) Answer: (D)

- **Assertion (A) is incorrect.** Polylactic Acid (PLA) products labelled biodegradable cannot be disposed of indiscriminately without considering local waste-management infrastructure. PLA generally requires suitable conditions, often those available in industrial composting facilities, for efficient degradation. It may not degrade rapidly under ordinary environmental conditions. Hence, Assertion (A) is incorrect.
- **Reason (R) is correct.** Biodegradable materials may require specific conditions, such as suitable temperature, moisture and microbial activity, for efficient degradation. Inadequate waste segregation and unsuitable disposal conditions can limit their environmental benefits. Hence, Reason (R) is correct.
- **Therefore, option (d) is the correct answer.**

3) Answer: (A)

- **Statement 1 is correct:** PFAS (Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) are synthetic chemicals characterized by a chain of carbon atoms where the hydrogen atoms have been replaced by fluorine atoms.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The carbon-fluorine (C-F) bond is actually exceptionally strong—in fact, it is one of the strongest single bonds in organic chemistry. This



extreme bond strength makes PFAS highly stable, chemically inert, and exceptionally resistant to degradation, which is why they are commonly referred to as "forever chemicals" rather than being reactive.

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

4) Answer: (A)

- **Statement 1 is CORRECT:** India remains the world's largest producer and exporter of coir and coir products, contributing **about two-thirds (~70%) of total global production**.
- The domestic coir industry is contributing close to **1% to India's GDP**.
- Major Export Destinations: China (leading importer at ~26.8%), USA (~16.5%), Netherlands (~10%), followed by Spain, South Korea, Peru, and the UK.
- **Key Products Exported:** Coir pith (accounting for ~59.6% of export value), tufted mats (~16.7%), coir fiber (~12%), yarn, and geo-textiles.
- **Statement 2: CORRECT:** The **Coir Board of India** is a **statutory body** established by the Government of India under an Act of Parliament—the **Coir Industry Act, 1953**.
 - **Nodal Ministry:** Functions under the **Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME)**.
 - **Headquarters:** Kochi, Kerala.
 - **Current Scale:** Oversees over 21,000 coir units registered on the Udyam portal, employing over 7 lakh workers directly and indirectly—with rural women comprising 80% of the workforce.
- **Statement 3: INCORRECT:** The **Coir Vikas Yojana (CVY)** is a **Central Sector Scheme** (100% funded and directly implemented by the Central Government through the Ministry of MSME / Coir Board), **NOT** a *Centrally Sponsored Scheme* (which involves shared funding between the Centre and State Governments).
- **Therefore, option A is the correct answer.**

5) Answer: (A)

- **Statement 1 is Incorrect:** Exercise KONKAN is a bilateral naval exercise conducted between the Indian Navy and the Royal Navy of the United Kingdom, not France. India and France conduct other maritime exercises, such as VARUNA.
- **Statement 2 is Incorrect:** Exercise KONKAN is not exclusively focused on humanitarian assistance and disaster relief. It also involves naval warfare drills, including anti-submarine, anti-surface and anti-air warfare activities, depending on the edition.
- **Statement 3 is Correct:** The exercise aims to enhance interoperability and operational coordination between the Indian Navy and the Royal Navy through coordinated maritime manoeuvres and joint naval activities.
- **Therefore option A is correct.**