



DATE: 20.10.2026

- 1) With reference to Basawan, a painter during the Mughal period, consider the following statements:
1. Basawan was a painter during the reign of Emperor Jahangir.
 2. Basawan was known for realistic representation of human and animal figures.
 3. His paintings combined Persian artistic influences with Indian naturalism.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

- 2) With reference to biofortified crop varieties developed in India, consider the following statements regarding 'Kufri Jamunia':

1. Biofortification in Kufri Jamunia is achieved by fortifying post-harvest potatoes with external micronutrients during processing.
2. It contains significantly higher levels of Vitamin C, Anthocyanins, Iron, and Zinc compared to conventional potato varieties.
3. It belongs to a line of colored specialty potatoes that includes *Kufri Neelkanth* and *Kufri Manik*.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

- 3) Consider the following statements regarding the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI):

1. It functions as the apex intelligence organization of India for anti-smuggling matters.
2. It operates under the administrative control of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) under the Ministry of Finance.
3. It is empowered to enforce provisions under the Customs Act, 1962.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

- 4) Consider the following statements regarding the Baltic Sea:

1. The Baltic Sea borders all the Nordic countries, along with several countries of continental Europe.
2. The Gulf of Bothnia lies between Norway and Sweden and forms the northern extension of the Baltic Sea.
3. The Baltic Sea is connected to the North Sea through the Danish Straits and is characterised by relatively low salinity.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only



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

- 5) Consider the following statements regarding the *Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar*:
1. It is an award presented by the Sangeet Natak Akademi, an autonomous body under the Ministry of Culture.
 2. The award is restricted to young artists up to the age of 40 years.
 3. It is conferred upon young artists across various fields, including music, dance, theatre, literature, and visual arts.

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

Explanation

1) Answer: (D)

- **Statement 1 – Incorrect:** Basawan was a painter during Emperor Akbar's reign, not Jahangir's.
- **Statement 2 – Correct:** Basawan was known for the realistic portrayal of human figures, emotions and animals. His paintings showed depth and lifelike expressions.
- **Statement 3 – Correct:** His paintings combined Persian artistic influences with Indian naturalism. This helped develop a distinctive Mughal painting style.

2) Answer: (B)

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Biofortification is the process of enhancing the nutrient density of crops **through conventional plant breeding or biotechnology**, directly in the plant as it grows. Fortification during post-harvest processing is known as food fortification, not biofortification.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** *Kufri Jamunia* is nutritionally rich, containing elevated levels of Vitamin C (ascorbic acid), anthocyanins, carotenoids, as well as minerals like zinc and iron compared to standard table potatoes.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** It is the latest evolution in ICAR-CPRI's colored potato lineup: *Kufri Neelkanth* (2018; purple skin) → *Kufri Manik* (2021; red skin) → *Kufri Jamunia* (2024; purple skin & flesh).
- **Therefore, option B is the correct answer.**

3) Answer: (C)

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) is the apex intelligence and enforcement agency of India on anti-smuggling matters. Its intelligence network targets commercial fraud, illicit trafficking of drugs, wildlife, precious metals, cultural artifacts, and arms/ammunition.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The DRI functions under the administrative control of the **Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)**, Department of Revenue, **Ministry of Finance**, Government of India.



- **Statement 3 is correct:** Officers of the DRI are notified as Customs Officers and are fully empowered to enforce provisions under the **Customs Act, 1962**, as well as several related economic statutes (such as the NDPS Act, Arms Act, and COFEPOSA).
- **Therefore, option C is the correct answer.**

4) Answer: (B)



- **Statement 1 is INCORRECT:** The Baltic Sea is bordered by **nine countries**: Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Russia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Germany.
 - All Nordic countries except Iceland, and Norway border the Baltic Sea.
- **Statement 2 is INCORRECT:** The Gulf of Bothnia lies between **Sweden to the west and Finland to the east**.
 - It forms the northern extension of the Baltic Sea.
- **Statement 3 is CORRECT:** The Baltic Sea is connected to the North Sea through the Danish Straits, which include the Øresund, Great Belt and Little Belt.
 - It is a **major brackish-water body**, meaning its water has lower salinity than typical ocean water.
 - Its relatively low salinity results mainly from **substantial freshwater inflow** from rivers and precipitation, combined with restricted exchange of water with the more saline North Sea.
- **Therefore, option B is the correct answer.**

5) Answer: (D)

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Sangeet Natak Akademi (an autonomous apex body under the Ministry of Culture) awards the *Puraskar*.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The award is given to young, outstanding practitioners who have not attained the age of 40 years.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The *Puraskar* is strictly restricted to **performing arts** (Music, Dance, Theatre, Traditional/Folk/Tribal/Puppetry arts, and scholarship in performing arts). It **does not** cover literature (awarded by Sahitya Akademi) or visual arts like painting and sculpture (awarded by Lalit Kala Akademi).
- **Therefore, option D is the correct answer.**



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