



DATE: 22.10.2026

- 1) Consider the following statements regarding Agri-Photovoltaics (AgriPV):
1. AgriPV involves the simultaneous dual use of agricultural land for both crop cultivation and solar photovoltaic electricity generation.
 2. Reduced temperature and wind speed beneath the panels generally help decrease soil moisture evaporation rates.
 3. All agricultural crops experience a significant boost in absolute yield under AgriPV systems due to reduced heat stress.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

- 2) Consider the following statements regarding the rights and provisions under the Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006:
1. Right of ownership, access to collect, use, and dispose of Minor Forest Produce (MFP), including commercial timber.
 2. Conversion of all revenue villages into protected forest villages for strict biodiversity conservation.
 3. Right to protect, regenerate, conserve, or manage any community forest resource which forest dwellers have been traditionally protecting and conserving for sustainable use.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

- 3) Consider the following statements about the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP):
- Statement I: GRAP is a set of emergency measures implemented to control air pollution in the National Capital Region (NCR) based on the severity of air quality.
- Statement II: Under GRAP, restrictions on construction activities, vehicle use and industrial operations may be imposed depending on the prevailing Air Quality Index (AQI) and pollution levels.

Which of the following information supports/supports the above statements?

1. GRAP classifies air pollution into different stages and prescribes progressively stricter measures as air quality deteriorates.
2. The Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) oversees the implementation of GRAP in the National Capital Region and adjoining areas.
3. GRAP is implemented only when the AQI reaches the 'Severe' category, and no preventive measures are prescribed at lower pollution levels.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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



4) Consider the following statements regarding Digital Signatures:

1. A digital signature is a scanned image of a handwritten signature embedded in an electronic file.
2. It relies on an asymmetric cryptosystem involving a private key for signing and a public key for verification.
3. Any alteration made to the document after signing renders the digital signature invalid.

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 statements regarding Enforcement Directorate (ED):

1. The ED may provisionally attach property believed to be involved in money laundering.
2. The ED can investigate money laundering linked to proceeds of crime arising from a qualifying scheduled offence.
3. It functions under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
4. The Directorate of Enforcement (ED) does not need prior permission or general consent from a state government to conduct money laundering investigations or register cases under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA).

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Explanation

1) **Answer: (A)**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Agri-photovoltaics (AgriPV) refers to the simultaneous, dual use of agricultural land for both crop production and the generation of solar photovoltaic electricity.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The installation of solar panels provides partial shade and reduces wind speed over the crop canopy. This decreases the vapor pressure deficit and lowers temperatures, which collectively reduce soil moisture evaporation rates and plant transpiration.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The word "all" makes this statement invalid. While shade-tolerant crops, leafy greens, and certain crops in arid or high-heat regions may show improved or stable yields, sun-loving crops (heliophytes) that require high direct sunlight often experience a *decrease* in absolute yield due to reduced solar radiation under the panels.
- **Therefore, option A is the correct answer.**

2) **Answer: (C)**



- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Section 3(1)(c) of the FRA, 2006 grants the right of ownership, access to collect, use, and dispose of Minor Forest Produce (MFP). However, **timber is strictly excluded** from the definition of Minor Forest Produce under the Act. (MFP includes bamboo, cane, honey, wax, medicinal plants, leaves, etc.).
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Act provides for the **conversion of forest villages, old habitations, unsurveyed villages, and other villages in forests into revenue villages** [Section 3(1)(h)], NOT the other way around. The objective is to bring forest settlements into mainstream administration so dwellers can access basic public amenities.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Section 3(1)(i) explicitly recognizes the right to protect, regenerate, conserve, or manage any community forest resource which forest dwellers have been traditionally protecting and conserving for sustainable use.
- **Therefore option C is the correct answer**

3) Answer: (A)

GRAP prescribes progressively stricter measures across different stages of air pollution, based on the severity of air quality in the National Capital Region (NCR). **Hence, Statement 1 is correct.**

The Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) oversees the implementation of GRAP in the NCR and adjoining areas. Measures may include restrictions on construction activities, vehicle use and industrial operations. **Hence, Statement 2 is correct.**

GRAP measures are not restricted to the 'Severe' AQI category. Actions are prescribed across multiple stages, including lower pollution levels, to prevent further deterioration in air quality. **Hence, Statement 3 is incorrect.**

Therefore, option A is the correct answer.

4) Answer: (B)

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** A scanned image of a handwritten signature is **not the same as a digital signature**. A scanned signature is simply an image embedded in an electronic document and **does not, by itself, provide cryptographic verification** of the signer's identity or the integrity of the document.
 - A digital signature, in contrast, **uses cryptographic techniques to authenticate electronic records** and detect unauthorised alterations.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** A digital signature uses an asymmetric cryptosystem, which involves a pair of mathematically related keys:
 - **Private key:** Used by the signer to create the digital signature.
 - **Public key:** Used by the recipient to verify the digital signature.
 - Under Section **2(1)(f) of the Information Technology Act, 2000**, an asymmetric cryptosystem involves a private key for creating a digital signature and a public key for verifying it. **Section 2(1)(p) defines a digital signature.**
- **Statement 3 is correct:** A digital signature helps ensure the integrity of an electronic record. During verification, the **cryptographic system checks whether the signature corresponds to the signed content**. If the originally signed content is altered without authorisation, verification will ordinarily fail, indicating possible tampering.



- **Ex:** if a digitally signed electronic document containing a payment amount of ₹10,000 is modified to show ₹50,000, the original digital signature will ordinarily fail verification against the altered content.
- **Therefore, option B is the correct answer.**

5) Answer: (C)

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Under Section 5 of the PMLA, the **ED can temporarily attach property suspected to be proceeds of crime**, subject to statutory conditions. The attachment is subject to the statutory procedure and review by the Adjudicating Authority. **Provisional attachment** means temporarily restricting a person from selling, transferring or otherwise dealing with the property.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The ED investigates the offence of money laundering under the PMLA when the case involves proceeds of crime connected to criminal activity relating to an offence listed in the Act's Schedule. A scheduled offence is an offence included in the Schedule to the PMLA.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The ED functions under the **Ministry of Finance**, through the **Department of Revenue**.
- **Statement 4 is correct:** The ED's authority to investigate money laundering comes from a central law, the PMLA. It does not generally depend on obtaining a state's prior permission or general consent merely to exercise its statutory powers under that Act.
- Therefore, **option C is the correct answer.**

