Union Public Service Commission Exam – 2020

Civil Services Preliminary Exam – 2020

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1. Consider the following statements.

1. Article 341 of the Constitution provides certain privileges and concessions to the members of Scheduled Castes.

2. President alone is vested with the power to include or exclude any entry in the Scheduled Castes (SC) list.

3. There is provision for the reservation of Scheduled Castes both in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

Which of the above statements is/are?

A) 1, 2  
b) 2 only  
c) 2, 3  
d) 1, 3

Solution: c)

Article 341 of the Constitution provides certain privileges and concessions to the members of Scheduled Castes.

Under the provision of Article 341, first list of SCs in relation to a states/UT is to be issued by a notified Order of the President after consulting concerned state Government.

But the clause (2) of Article 341 envisages that, any subsequent inclusion in or exclusion from the list of Scheduled Castes can be effected through an Act of Parliament.

The Uttar Pradesh government’s latest attempt to extend the benefits available to Scheduled Castes to 17 Castes that are now under the Other Backward Classes (OBC) list

It is fairly well-known that Parliament alone is vested with the power to include or exclude any entry in the SC list under Article 341 of the Constitution.

Statement 3: Reservation is there only in the Lok Sabha.
2. Consider the following statements about North Eastern Council.

1. NEC established by an Act of Parliament is the nodal agency for the economic and social development of the North Eastern Region.

2. Minister of Development of NER is the ex-officio Chairman of North Eastern Council.

3. Initially Sikkim was not the part of North Eastern Council and was added to the council in the year 2002.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 1, 3
c) 2, 3
d) 1, 2

Solution: b)

North Eastern Council (NEC) was constituted as a statutory advisory body under the NEC Act 1971 and came into being on the 7th November, 1972 at Shillong. The eight States of Northeast India viz. Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim, are members of the council, with their respective Chief Ministers and Governors representing them.

Sikkim was added to the council in the year 2002.

In June 2018, the chairmanship of NEC was transferred by Union Cabinet to Home Minister from Minister of Development of NER.

3. Article 371(A) of the Constitution provides special status to which of the following state:

a) Assam
b) Jammu and Kashmir
c) Nagaland
d) Maharashtra
Solution: c)

371A: Special provision with respect to the State of Nagaland.

4. Parliament can make laws on the subjects enumerated in the state list to give effect to international agreements, treaties and conventions with
   a) Consent of the states concerned
   b) Consent of majority of the states
   c) Consent of all the states
   d) Without the consent of any state

Solution: d)

Article 253 – Parliament has power to make any law for the whole or any part of the territory of India for implementing any treaty, agreement or convention with any other country or countries or any decision made at any international conference, association or other body.

5. Consider the following statements regarding Emergency Provisions in Indian Constitution

1. All types of emergency proclaimed by the President have to be approved by the Parliament.
2. Financial emergency is in operation indefinitely till the President revokes it
3. In the case of National emergency, approval of half of the state’s legislature and Parliament is required.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

   a) 1 only
   b) 1, 2
   c) 2, 3
   d) 1, 2, 3

Solution: b)

National Emergency requires approval from the parliament only.
6. Consider the following statements with respect to World Energy Council

1. World Energy Council formed in 1923 is the UN-accredited global energy body, representing the entire energy spectrum.

2. World Energy Congress is the flag ship event of World Energy Council.

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

a. 1 only  
b. 2 only  
c. Both 1 and 2  
d. Neither 1 nor 2  

Answer: c

World Energy Council formed in 1923, the Council is the UN-accredited global energy body, representing the entire energy spectrum. Composed of more than 3,000 member organizations located in over 90 countries and drawn from governments, private and state corporations, academia, NGOs and energy-related stakeholders:

• Abu Dhabi is hosting the 24th World Energy Congress - Theme: ‘Energy for Prosperity’.

• It is the World Energy Council’s global flagship event - It offers a unique platform for global energy leaders to explore new energy futures, critical innovation areas, and new strategies.

• Held every three years and positioned as the flagship event of the World Energy Council, the Congress is the longest-running and most influential energy event in the world.

7. Which of the following Anti-tank missile is not developed in India?

a. Nag missile  
b. Amogha missile  
c. Spike Missile  
d. Man-Portable Anti-tank Guided Missile (MPATGM)  

Answer: c

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• Spike anti-tank guided missiles (ATGMs) are made by Israel’s Rafael Advanced Defense System.

• India purchased Spike missiles in April 2019 to meet immediate operational requirements.

• List of India’s Anti-Tank guided missile
  1. Amogha missile – Developed by Bharat Dynamics.
  2. Anti-Tank Missile (ATM) - DRDO
  3. Nag missile - DRDO
  4. Man-Portable Anti-tank Guided Missile (MPATGM) - DRDO

8. Consider the following statements with respect to Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU)

1. Eurasian economic union is an international organization for regional economic integration.

2. The economic union is primarily composed of post USSR nations and European Union countries.

3. It has free movement of goods, services and labours and has its own bureaucratic structure.

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

a. 1 and 2
b. 1 and 3
c. 1, 2 and 3
d. 1 only

Answer: b

• Eurasian economic union is an international organization for regional economic integration.

• It has international legal personality and is established by the Treaty on the Eurasian Economic Union.

• EAEU includes Russia, Belarus, Armenia, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan.

• It has free movement of goods, services and labours and has its own bureaucratic structure.
• Recently India has skipped a meeting of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), which was organized by the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO).

9. Consider the following statements with respect to Government e Marketplace (GeM)

1. GeM aims to enhance transparency, efficiency and speed in public procurement.
2. It facilitates online procurement of common use Goods & Services required by various Government Departments / Organizations / PSUs.

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

a. 1 only
b. 2 only
c. Both 1 and 2
d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: c

Government e Marketplace (GeM): GeM is a state-of-the-art national public procurement platform of Ministry of Commerce and Industries that has used technology to remove entry barriers for bonafide sellers and has created a vibrant e-marketplace with a wide range of goods and services.

• GeM aims to enhance transparency, efficiency and speed in public procurement.
• It facilitates online procurement of common use Goods & Services required by various Government Departments / Organizations / PSUs.
• It provides the tools of e-bidding, reverse e-auction and demand aggregation to facilitate the government users, achieve the best value for their money.

10. Consider the following pairs with respect to Defence Exercises participated by India

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exercise</th>
<th>Country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) Peace Mission</td>
<td>SCO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2) Yudh Abhyas - USA
3) Maitree - Thailand

Which of the above pairs are matched correctly?

a. 1 only
b. 1 and 2 only
c. 2 and 3 only
d. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: d

All the above pairs are matched correctly

11. Consider the following statements with respect Central Equipment Identity Register (CEIR)

1. It is an online portal which helps citizen to report theft of mobile phone.
2. It is an initiative of Department of science and technology.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are not correct?

a. 1 only
b. 2 only
c. Both 1 and 2
d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: b

- The Department of Telecommunications (DoT), since 2017, has been working on the Central Equipment Identity Register (CEIR) a database of IMEIs (International Mobile Equipment Identity) the 15-digit unique number that identifies mobile devices.
- Telecom ministry has launched the web portal to report theft of phones in Maharashtra as a pilot project.
- If your mobile phone is stolen or lost, you will have to file an FIR and inform the DoT via helpline number 14422.

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• After the police complaint, the DoT will blacklist the IMEI number which would result in the handset being blocked from accessing any mobile network in the future; this would effectively make the device redundant.

• Through the same IMEI number, your cellular operator will also be able to block the phone from accessing the network.

• The CEIR will also have access to GSMA’s global IMEI database, allowing comparison of IMEI numbers to identify counterfeit handsets.
  • GSMA is a global body which represents cellular operators, gear makers, software and internet companies, among other entities in the telecom ecosystem, this would ensure international cooperation in matters of handset theft.

12. Pulathisi Express is developed under Make in India scheme for which of the following nation?
   a. Bangladesh
   b. Myanmar
   c. Nepal
   d. Sri Lanka
   Answer: d
• The strong ties between India and Sri Lanka received a boost through a newly 'Make in India' train.
• The train which has been inducted under an Indian Line of Credit has an on-board entertainment system, modular interiors and fully-rotating seats in Air Conditioned Chair cars for passenger comfort.
• ICF will manufacture six DEMU rakes consisting of 78 coaches in five variants.
• The order is being jointly executed by RITES and ICF under the India-Sri Lanka economic cooperation agreement.

13. Consider the following statements with respect to Global Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Research and Development (R&D) Hub

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1. The Global AMR R&D Hub was launched in 2018 World Health Assembly.

2. India has joined the Global Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Research and Development (R&D) Hub as a new member.

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

a. 1 only
b. 2 only
c. Both 1 and 2
d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: c

- Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) is the ability of a microbe to resist the effects of medication that once could successfully treat the microbe.

- The Global AMR R&D Hub was launched in May 2018 in the margins of the 71st session of the World Health Assembly, following a call from G20 Leaders in 2017.

- India has joined the Global Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Research and Development (R&D) Hub as a new member.

- AMR is the ability of a microbe to resist the effects of medication that once could successfully treat the microbe.

- Global AMR R&D Hub may allow partners to devote expertise in order to accelerate global action against antimicrobial resistance.

14. World University Rankings 2019 is released by which of the following institutions

A. Oxfam International
b. Times Higher Education
c. UNICEF
d. Teach for India

Answer: b

- World University Rankings is released by UK-based Times Higher Education (THE).
• The report ranked IIT Ropar as number one institute in India.

15. The term Bio-terrorism recently in news refers to
a. Terrorism using naturally occurring Virus and Bacteria
b. Terrorism using modified forms of Virus and Bacteria
c. Both a and b
d. None of the above
Answer: c

• Bioterrorism is terrorism involving the intentional release or dissemination of biological agents.
• These agents are bacteria, viruses, fungi, or toxins, and may be in a naturally occurring or a human-modified form, in much the same way in biological warfare.
• Recently Union defence minister described bio-terrorism as a “contagious plague” and asked the armed forces to be at the forefront of combating the menace.

16. The Rig Veda refers to Saptasindhu or the land of seven rivers. This includes:
1. Indus
2. Jhelum
3. Chenab
4. Sutlej
5. Ganga
6. Yamuna
7. Saraswathi
Select the correct answer code:
a) 1, 2, 3, 4, 7
b) 1, 2, 3, 5, 6
c) 1, 4, 5, 6, 7

d) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

Solution: a)

The Rig Veda refers to Saptasindhu or the land of seven rivers. This includes the five rivers of Punjab, namely Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi, Beas and Sutlej along with the Indus and Saraswathi.

17. In the ancient traditions, traders’ voyages often refer which of these lands to Suvarna bhumi (the land of gold)?

a) Countries of the South-East Asia

b) African nations

c) Sri Lankan islands

d) European countries

Solution: a)

Suvarna bhumi, which means “The Land of Gold”, is an ancient term for Southeast Asia, found in early Buddhist and Hindu literature.

18. Consider the following statements.

1. He was given the title Lion of Punjab.

2. He was known for his just and secular rule.

3. He turned Harimandir Sahib at Amritsar into the Golden Temple by covering it with gold.

The above statements are related to which personality?

a) Banda Singh Bahadur

b) Amarinder Singh

c) Maharaja Kharak Singh

d) Ranjit Singh

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Solution: d)

A statue of Ranjit Singh, who ruled Punjab for almost four decades (1801-39), was recently inaugurated in Lahore.

He was given the title Lion of Punjab (Sher-e-Punjab) because he stemmed the tide of Afghan invaders in Lahore, which remained his capital until his death.

During his regime, Punjab was a land of six rivers, the sixth being the Indus.

The maharaja was known for his just and secular rule; both Hindus and Muslims were given powerful positions in his darbar.

He turned Harimandir Sahib at Amritsar into the Golden Temple by covering it with gold.

19. Consider the following statements.

1. President of the Servants of the People Society.

2. Participated in the non-cooperation movement and the Salt Satyagraha.

3. Promoted the White Revolution

4. Signed Tashkent Declaration with Pakistan

The above statements are related to

a) Indira Gandhi

b) Charan Singh

c) Jawaharlal Nehru

d) Lal Bahadur Shastri

Solution: d)

Lal Bahadur Shastri became a life member of the Servants of the People Society (Lok Sevak Mandal), founded by Lala Lajpat Rai. There he started to work for the upliftment of backward classes, and later he became the President of that Society.

He participated in the non-cooperation movement and the Salt Satyagraha.

He promoted the White Revolution, a national campaign to increase milk production. He also promoted the Green Revolution, to increase the food production in India.

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In 1964, he signed an agreement with the Sri Lankan Prime Minister Sirimavo Bandaranaike, in concern with the status of Indian Tamils in Ceylon. This agreement is known as Sirimavo-Shastri Pact.

He signed Tashkent Declaration on 10 January, 1966 with the Pakistan President, Muhammad Ayub Khan to end the 1965 war.

20. Consider the following statements

1. Wood’s despatch rejected downward filtration theory and recommended the

2. Establishment of schools to promote mass education.

3. Macaulay’s minutes largely believed in educating a lower class and economically impoverished students

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both
d) None

Solution: a)

Macaulay’s minutes largely believed in educating a few upper and middle class students. It also believed that, in course of time education would trickle down to the masses.

21. Folk art form thudumbattam, is prevalent in which of the following states

a) Karnataka
b) Kerala
c) Andhra Pradesh
d) Tamil Nadu

Solution: d)
22. Consider the following statements.

1. The temple is known as the “Khajuraho of Vidarbha”.
2. The temple belongs to nagara style of temple architecture.
3. The temple belongs to Saiva, Vaishnava and sakta faith.

The above statements are associated with

a) Lingaraja Temple
b) Mahadeva Temple
c) Trikuteshwara Temple
d) Markandeshwar temple

Solution: d)

Restoration work of Markandeshwar temple in Maharashtra by Archaeological Survey of India is in full swing.

Known as the “Khajuraho of Vidarbha”, the temple of Markanda deo is situated on the bank of River Wainganga in district Gadchiroli of Maharashtra.

The temples belong to the Nagar group of temples of North India.

On stylistic grounds, their date ranges in between 9-12th centuries CE.

The temples belong to Saiva, Vaishnava and sakta faith. Most of the temples have a simple plan, with Ardhamandapa, mandapa, antaralaand garbhagriha forming the component of the entire set up.

23. Which of the following temples were built during Vijayanagar Period?

1. Varadharaja
2. Ekambaramanathar
3. Chidambaram

Select the correct answer code:
24. Consider the following statements regarding Baba Guru Nanak

1. Baba Guru Nanak did not believe in Hinduism and Islam and so he wished to establish a new religion, which he named as Sikhism.

2. He rejected sacrifices, ritual baths, image worship, austerities and the scriptures.

3. He defined five symbols: uncut hair, a dagger, a pair of shorts, a comb and a steel bangle which need to be worn by his followers.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) 1, 3
d) 2, 3

Solution: b)

Baba Guru Nanak did not wish to establish a new religion, but after his death his followers consolidated their own practices and distinguished themselves from both Hindus and Muslims.

Also he did not give the name Sikhism. He rejected sacrifices, ritual baths, image worship, austerities and the scriptures of both Hindus and Muslims.

It was Guru Gobind Singh who defined its five symbols: uncut hair, a dagger, a pair of shorts, a comb and a steel bangle.
25. Consider the following statements regarding Goga Beel Lake.

1. Goga beel, an ox-bow lake in Uttar Pradesh, has been declared as the state’s first ‘Community Reserve’.

2. Goga beel is formed from the flow of the rivers Mahananda and Ganga.

3. The Lake which is a permanent water body is home to many of the migratory bird species.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

A) 1, 2

b) 1, 3

c) 2, 3

d) 1, 2, 3

Solution: c)

Best wishes!!

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