

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

By



SOURCES



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Important News Articles

GS I

1. Jorhat's Statue of Valour watches over battle for Ahom pride

Relevance: The Freedom Struggle — its various stages and important contributors/contributions from different parts of the country.

News:

- Meleng-Hollongapar's newest landmark — the Statue of Valour to be inaugurated
- The 125-foot statue depicts Lachit Borphukan, the iconic Ahom general revered for leading the Battle of Saraighat in 1671 to prevent the Mughal army from occupying Assam.

Key highlights

- The park encompasses the maidam, or earthen pyramid, where he was buried after the battle.
- **Jorhat town, said to be Assam's tea capital** because of the surrounding plantations, about 300 km east of Guwahati.
- The park is almost as far from the eastern edge of the town along NH-715 as the Sukhapha Samannay Kshetra is from its western edge.
- Dedicated to Swargadeo (or emperor) Sukapha, who came from China's Yunnan to establish the Ahom dynasty that ruled Assam for 600 years until the British takeover in the 1800s
- this represents Ahom pride as much as the Lachit statue park.

Lachit Borphukan

- Born on 24th November, 1622, Borphukan was known for his leadership in the **Battle of Saraighat, 1671** in which an attempt by Mughal forces to capture Assam was thwarted.
- The battle of Saraighat was fought on the banks of the Brahmaputra in Guwahati in 1671.
- It is considered as one of the greatest naval battles on a river **which resulted in the victory of Ahoms over the Mughals.**
- He was the inspiration behind strengthening India's naval force and revitalising inland water transport and creating infrastructure associated with it due to his great naval strategies.
- The Lachit Borphukan gold medal is awarded to the best cadet from the National Defence Academy.
- The medal was instituted in 1999 to inspire defence personnel to emulate Borphukan's heroism and sacrifices.

Prelims Takeaway

- Jorhat
- Ahom

GS III

2. No shortage of capital funds due to consolidated budget of 3 Services- the hindu

Relevance: Security challenges and their management in border areas – linkages of organized crime with terrorism.

News:

- There will be no shortage of capital funds for the Indian Air Force (IAF) because of **consolidation of the demand of three Services in the defence budget** for 2024-25, the IAF has said.
- Funds sought for 2024-25 have already been allotted to the Services.

Key highlights

- Prior to February 2024, capital funds had been **allocated separately to the Army, the Navy and the Air Force.**
- "The Integrated Capability Development Programme, which is a 10-year plan, would be finalized by headquarters **Integrated Defence Staff (IDS)** and approved by the government.
- This would be prepared after taking inputs from the service headquarters.

Prelims Takeaway

- Integrated Defence Staff
- Joint Command in Andaman & Nicobar islands

- The Chief of Defence Staff would provide further inputs to the government after consulting the Service Chiefs
- In the interim Budget presented in February, the government decided to consolidate the capital allocation for the three Services
 - based on similar items of expenditure such as land, aircraft and aero engines, and heavy and medium vehicles.
- This mechanism will also **expedite decision-making and ensure better utilization of the capital budget**, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) had stated earlier.

Flexibility in funds

- The government has consolidated the demand of the three services in the defence budget to bring flexibility in financial management by enabling the MoD
 - to reappropriate funds among the services, keeping in view the inter-Services priority, the IAF said.
- The total allocation for defence stands at ₹6.2 lakh crore for 2024-25 of which the capital allocation, which is for new procurements, stands at ₹1.72 lakh crore.
- the consolidation of the capital budget would help better address this issue.

3. Apple issues warning to users in India, 91 other countries about possible 'mercenary spyware' attack- the mint

Relevance: Science and Technology- developments and their applications and effects in everyday life.

News:

- **Apple has warned its users in India and 91 other countries** that they may have been the **victims of a "mercenary spyware"** attack, according to multiple media reports.
- Apple has warned users that they are being attacked by mercenary spyware that is trying to gain remote access to their iPhones.

Key highlights

- **Spying software (spyware):** This sneaky software watches what you do on your computer, like the websites you visit, the things you type, and even your personal information.
- It does this without you even knowing! Spyware often steals this information to show you unwanted ads or even steal your identity.
- **Malicious software (malware):** This is a broader term for bad software that can mess up your computer in different ways.
- Malware can include things like viruses, worms, and ransomware.
- Malware can try to damage your computer, steal your information, or stop your computer from working properly.

Super sneaky spying

- **Super-powered spyware attacks:** These are super advanced attacks that target specific people with a lot of resources.
- They're much sneakier than the kind of malware most people get.
- These attacks are expensive to create and don't last very long, so they're not a big threat to most people.
- These are some of the most dangerous digital threats out there, and experts are still learning about them.
- **Goal of super spyware:** This spyware is designed to secretly get onto your phone or other device and spy on you.
- It can track where you go, who you talk to, and steal your private information.
- Some reports say that governments and law enforcement use this spyware to target activists or political opponents.

Prelims Takeaway

- Spyware
- Malware

4. How invasive species threaten natural ecosystems- indian express

Relevance: Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment.

News:

- In a bid to manage the teeming population of chital (spotted deer) in Ross Island (officially known as the Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Island), the Andaman and Nicobar Islands administration recently sought help from the Wildlife Institute of India.

Key highlights

- Chital, native to mainland India, were introduced to the tiny island (0.3 sq km small) by the British in the early 20th century.
- Having no natural predators or competitors, and being good swimmers, chital swiftly spread across the Andamans.

What is an invasive alien species?

- There are two ways to define an invasive alien species (IAS).
- The UN's Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) says it's a species that thrives outside its natural habitat and harms native species by competing for resources.
- Examples in India include fish like the African catfish and turtles like the red-eared slider.
- However, India's Wildlife Protection Act has a different definition.
- It says an IAS is simply a species not native to India.
- This misses species that might be invasive within India itself, like the Chital deer.

The Chital deer:

- Chital are native to mainland India, but the British brought them to the Andaman Islands in the early 1900s.
- With no natural enemies and being good swimmers, they spread quickly.
- While they're protected in India, they're seen as invasive on the Andamans because they harm the local plants and animals.

How invasive species hurt ecosystems and economies:

- They disrupt the food chain and unbalanced ecosystems.
- For example, the African catfish in Keoladeo National Park eats native birds.
- They also cause economic damage.

Prelims Takeaway

- Invasive species of india
- CBD

5. What is OpenAI's GPT-4 Vision and how can it help you interpret images, charts?

Relevance: Science and Technology- developments and their applications and effects in everyday life.

News:

- following its launch, OpenAI's ChatGPT has evolved by leaps and bounds — now churning text is not the only function
- It can also create images from natural language prompts, thanks to the integration of DALL-E.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- What is GPT-4 with Vision?
- It's a fancy AI tool that can analyze images given to it
- It's like a super-powered version of GPT-4, because it can understand both text and pictures.
- There are other AI models like this, including CogVLM and LLaVA.

What can it do?

- This AI can see the world through your eyes! It can analyze photos, screenshots, documents, and even understand charts and graphs.
- It can even read words written in images, whether handwritten or typed.

How can it help?

Prelims Takeaway

- AI
- DALL-E3

- GPT-4 with Vision can analyze historical documents in seconds, saving experts tons of time.
- It can also help developers write code based on an image, or even create social media content with the help of another AI that creates images (DALL-E3).
- **This AI has its limitation** : It can make mistakes, so it is advisable to always check its work.
- It also avoids recognizing specific people in images, and it's not great for super precise tasks like medical analysis.

6. Global trade to pickup in 2024: WTO- economic times

Relevance: Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization, of resources, growth, development and employment.

Prelims Takeaway

- WTO
- Inflation

News:

- **Global goods trade is expected to pick up gradually** this year following a contraction in 2023, the **World Trade Organization (WTO)** said in a forecast
- The volume of world merchandise trade should increase by 2.6% in 2024 and 3.3% in 2025 after falling 1.2% in 2023, it said but cautioned that regional conflicts, geopolitical tensions and economic policy uncertainty pose substantial downside risks to the forecast.

The World Trade Organization

- The WTO is an international organization that sets the rules for trade between countries. It started in 1995, taking over from **an earlier agreement called GATT**.
- The WTO helps countries trade goods, services, and intellectual property by setting up agreements to reduce barriers like tariffs and quotas.
- These agreements are made by member countries and approved by their governments.
- There are **164 member** countries in the WTO, representing almost all global trade.
- Decisions are made by agreement from all members, so everyone has a say.
- The **WTO publishes a report each year** that tracks how trade is doing around the world.
- Their latest report shows that trade slowed down in 2023 due to inflation and other issues, but it's expected to pick up again in 2024 and 2025.
- Even though trade slowed down in 2023, it's still doing well compared to before the pandemic.
- Trade in services, like travel and online services, is actually doing quite well.
- Overall, the WTO helps keep trade moving smoothly between countries, even during tough economic times.

7. India needs a simpler tariff policy to boost manufacturing: ADB

Relevance: Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization, of resources, growth, development and employment.

Prelims Takeaway

- ADB
- Tariff barrier

News:

- **India needs to take greater efforts to simplify its tariff policy**, enhance its trade competitiveness and redress its 'limited' integration with global value chains, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) said
- It also stressed that this was particularly imperative for its manufacturing sector, which was critical to sustain the growth trajectory over the medium term.

Key highlights

- India's growth strategy was predicated on substantial export growth that could be achieved through integration into global value chains
- The \$2 trillion in exports by 2030 goal set by the government would require considerable growth, the ADB said in its Asia Development Outlook report.

'Improve logistics infra'

- "A simplified tariff policy is needed along with continued efforts to improve trade and logistics infrastructure

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

- It was established in the year 1966, with head office at Manila (Philippines). It has 67 members from the Asia Pacific region.
- This bank was modeled on the lines of the world bank.
- Japan holds the largest share in ADB with 15.677%, followed by U.S.A (15.567%), China (6.473%), and India (5.812%).
- The aim of the ADB is social development by reducing poverty in the Asia Pacific with inclusive growth, sustainable growth, and regional integration.
- This is carried out through an 80% investment in the public sector.
- ADB invests in infrastructure, health, public administration system, helping nations to reduce the impact of climate change and to manage natural resources.

Asian Development Bank (ADB) & India

- India started availing of ADB's assistance in 1986.
- The aim is of Asian Development Bank is to support India in the following fields:
 - Industrial competitiveness
 - Jobs creation
 - Growth acceleration of low-income states
 - Environmental and climate change challenges

8. IPC issues alert on painkiller drug nimesulide over adverse reaction-economic times

Relevance: Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources.

News:

- Pharma standards body Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC) has issued a drug safety alert over nimesulide, saying the pill can trigger rashes on the skin (fixed drug eruption).
- It asked consumers and healthcare professionals to closely monitor the use of the drug and report any adverse reaction to the National Coordination Centre-Pharmacovigilance Programme of India of the IPC.

Prelims Takeaway

- IPRS
- Nimesulide

Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission:

- It is an autonomous Institution of the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**, Government of India.
- It is created to set standards of drugs in the country.
- Its basic function is to **regularly update the standards of drugs** commonly required for the treatment of diseases prevailing in this region.
- It publishes official documents for improving the Quality of Medicines by way of adding new and updating existing monographs in the form of Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP).
- It further promotes the rational use of generic medicines by publishing the National Formulary of India.
- It prescribes standards for identity, purity and strength of drugs essentially required from the health care perspective of human beings and animals.
- It also provides **IP Reference Substances (IPRS)** which act as a fingerprint for identification of an article under test and its purity as prescribed in IP.

Editorials, Gists and Explainers

9. A battle to save Ladakh, and all of humanity- the hindu

Relevance: Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment.

News:

- When Ramon Magsaysay award winner (2018) and climate activist Sonam Wangchuk announce his 21-day climate fast

<p>Key highlights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Himalayan region also faces the damaging effects of climate change through floods, drought, landslides, greenhouse gases, and other pollutants. • The Himalayan glaciers, like those in the rest of the world, are at risk of melting due to global warming and climate change. <p>Infrastructure boom</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2008, the Centre launched eight Missions under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC). • One of these was under the Ministry of Science and Technology, i.e., the National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem (NMSHE). • the “main objective of NMSHE is to develop a capacity to scientifically assess the vulnerability of the Himalayan region to climate change and continuously assess the health status of the Himalayan ecosystem”. <p>has NMSHE forgotten its role?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Almost as soon as Ladakh became a Union Territory, several mega infrastructure projects were launched at rapid pace. • These included the construction of bridges, widening of roads, tunnels, railway lines, mega solar projects, a state-of-the-art airport terminal and wayside amenities to boost tourism. • The Ladakh (UT) Industrial Land Allotment Policy of 2023 aims “to make UT Ladakh one of the preferred destinations for investment”. • In its annual report of 2021-22, the National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd. (NHIDCL) states as its vision the following: • To fast-pace the construction of National Highways and other Infrastructure in the North Eastern Region 	<p>A region that has seen disasters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since 2010, there have been several disasters in the Himalayan region, with a loss of lives and livelihoods. • In 2013, a cloudburst in the upper reaches of the Himalayas led to flash floods at Kedarnath. • In January 2023, disaster struck Joshimath, when water gushed down a lower slope of the mountain, submerging parts of the town. • In November 2023, the rescue of 41 trapped workers in the collapsed Silkyara tunnel project in the Himalayas garnered international attention. <p>Suggestion of committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This has continued despite dire warnings from geologists and ecologists. • A Supreme Court of India constituted expert committee even suggested that authorities limit the number of pilgrims visiting the Char Dam Himalayan shrines, at Kedarnath, Badrinath, Yamunotri, and Gangotri to carrying capacity. • Some expert committees have even suggested that no hydroelectric projects are set up in the para-glacial zone.
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Conclusion

- In the name of development, upsetting the fragile balance in the Himalayan ecosystem and its biodiversity cannot be afforded .
- The onus is on all of us to ensure that the Himalayas and the people living under its shadow are protected.

10. ISRO’s ‘zero orbital debris’ milestone- THE HINDU

Relevance: Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nano-technology, bio-technology and issues relating to intellectual property rights

News:

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has said its PSLV-C58/XPoSat mission has practically left zero debris in earth orbit.

Key highlights

- The space agency explained that the last stage of the Polar Satellite Launch vehicle (PSLV) used in the mission was transformed into a kind of orbital station — called the PSLV Orbital Experimental Module-3 (POEM-3)
 - before it was left to re-enter the earth's atmosphere instead of floating in orbit once its mission was completed.
- after it completed the primary mission of injecting all satellites into their target orbits, the fourth stage of the PSLV was transformed into the POEM-3.
- It was subsequently de-orbited from 650 km to 350 km, rendering it more susceptible to being pulled towards the earth and burning up in the atmosphere.
- it “passivated the stage,” meaning dumped its fuel, to avoid an explosion that could have flung small pieces of debris into orbit.

ISRO's 'zero orbital debris' milestone

- **Orbital threat:** With the increasing number of satellites launched, space debris has become a major concern.
- **ISRO's solution:** The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) achieved a “zero orbital debris” feat with its PSLV-C58/XPoSat mission.

PSLV Orbital Experimental Module (POEM-3):

- **Purpose:** To minimize space debris by re-entering Earth's atmosphere after mission completion.
- **Function:** Transformed from the spent fourth stage of the PSLV rocket into a temporary space platform.

POEM-3's journey:

- Launched in January 2024.
- Deployed XPoSat satellite and lowered its own orbit to 350 km for faster re-entry.
- Conducted experiments with nine payloads for 25 days.
- Re-entered Earth's atmosphere in March 2024.

Significance of POEM-3:

- Mitigates space debris issue by ensuring the launch vehicle's stage doesn't become permanent orbital clutter.
- Sets an example for responsible space practices.

Why is space debris a problem?

- LEO (Low Earth Orbit) is crucial for various applications like navigation and communication.
- Growing space debris in LEO (from defunct satellites, rocket parts, etc.) poses a collision risk to operational satellites.
- Collisions can create even more debris, triggering a domino effect.

Current situation:

- Thousands of operational satellites and millions of debris pieces orbit Earth.
- International guidelines exist (IADC Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines 2002) but no binding laws for LEO debris management.

The future of space debris:

- The number of debris objects is expected to rise significantly by 2030.
- More space debris can render certain orbits unusable and create a cascading effect of collisions.



Quick Look

1. Fiscal Monitor Report

- It provides an overview of latest public finance developments, updates the medium-term fiscal outlook, and assesses fiscal implications of policies relevant to the global economy.
- It is prepared twice a year by the IMF's Fiscal Affairs Department.
- Its projections are based on the same database used for the World Economic Outlook (WEO) and the Global Financial Stability Report (GFSR).
- The fiscal projections for individual countries have been prepared by IMF desk economists, and, in line with the WEO guidelines.

2. Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG)

- FMCG, or Consumer Packaged Goods (CPG), are products sold quickly and at a relatively low cost.
- The FMCG industry is characterized by high-volume sales, quick inventory turnover, and various products catering to consumer needs.
- These goods include essential everyday items such as food and beverages, toiletries, cleaning supplies, and other low-cost household items.
- They have a short shelf life because of high consumer demand (e.g., soft drinks and confections) or because they are perishable (e.g., meat, dairy products, and baked goods).

3. National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF)

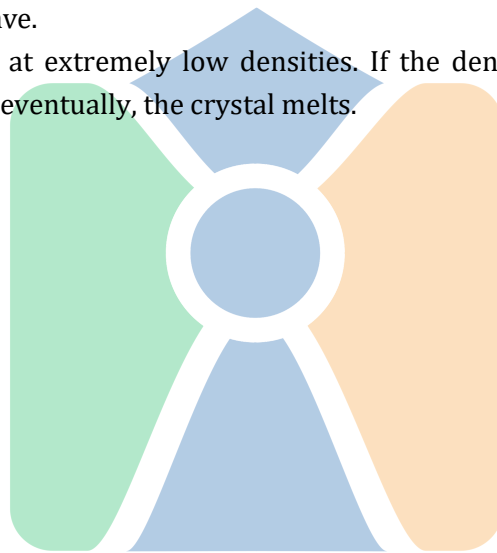
- It is a fund manager that invests in infrastructure and related sectors in India. It is India's first-ever sovereign wealth fund (SWF), which was set up in 2015.
- It is a collaborative investment platform for international and Indian investors with a mandate to invest equity capital in domestic infrastructure.
- It invests across asset classes such as infrastructure, private equity, and other diversified sectors in India, with the objective of generating attractive risk-adjusted returns for its investors.
- It invests in greenfield (new), brownfield (existing), and stalled projects.
- NIIF is 49% owned by the Indian government and has more than \$4.9 billion in assets under management, making it the country's biggest infrastructure fund.
- It benefits from its association with the Government yet is independent in its investment decisions.

4. Defence Attache (DA)

- A DA is a member of the armed forces who serves in an embassy as a representative of his/her country's defence establishment abroad.
- DA is a generic term that covers personnel from all branches of the armed services, although some larger countries may appoint a DA to represent an individual service branch, such as an air force or naval attaché.
- It is the DAs job to protect, develop, and promote the defence interests of their country in the nation they are assigned, as well as in bilateral military and defence relations.

5. Wigner Crystal

- A Wigner crystal is the solid phase of electrons, first predicted by Eugene Wigner in 1934. It is one of the first proposed many-body phases stabilized by the electron-electron interaction.
- Interaction among electrons could lead to their spontaneous arrangement into a crystal-like configuration, or lattice, of closely packed electrons.
- This could only occur because of their mutual repulsion and under low densities and extremely cold temperatures.
- This is because the potential energy dominates the kinetic energy at low densities, so the detailed spatial arrangement of the electrons becomes important.
- To minimize the potential energy, electrons form a crystal-like configuration.
- A true Wigner crystal, instead of following the familiar laws of physics in the everyday world, would follow the laws of quantum physics, in which the electrons would act not like individual particles but more like a single wave.
- Wigner crystal is stable at extremely low densities. If the density increases, the kinetic energy becomes important, and eventually, the crystal melts.



Mentorship
India

Prelims Track Question

Q1. Consider the following statements

Statement I: Battle of Saraighat, 1671 in which an attempt by Mughal forces to capture Assam

Statement II: Borpuhan, leader of ahoms was defeated in battle over the Mughals.

Which one of the following statements is correct?

- A. Statement I is correct but statement II is incorrect
- B. Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
- C. Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation for Statement I
- D. Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect and Statement II is not the correct explanation for Statement I

Q2. Consider the following statements

1. India does not currently have any common defence stations.
2. The Andaman and Nicobar Command is to be established as a full-fledged, tri service common defence stations
3. The Strategic Forces Command (SFC) responsible for the management and administration of the country's tactical and strategic nuclear weapons stockpile.

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

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

Q3. Consider the following pair

Cyber fraud: definition

1. Hacking: Getting into computer systems to get secret information.
2. Phishing: Tricking people with fake emails, messages, or websites to steal their personal details.
3. Malware: Installment of software to steal information or take control.

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

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

Q4. Which of the following is invasive species:

1. the Chital deer
2. African catfish
3. Namdapha flying squirrel

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

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

Q5. Consider the following statements

1. Artificial Intelligence requires a machine to achieve human-like consciousness for it to be considered truly intelligent.
2. Machine learning, a subset of AI, allows machines to improve their performance on a specific task without explicit programming.
3. AI applications are currently limited to scientific research and have no practical use cases in everyday life.

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

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

Q6. Consider the following statements about World Trade Organization

1. The WTO is an international organization that sets the rules for trade between countries. It started in 1995, taking over from an earlier agreement called GATT.
2. The WTO helps countries trade goods, services, and intellectual property by setting up agreements to reduce barriers like tariffs and quotas.
3. These agreements are made by member countries and approved by their governments.

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

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

Q7. Consider the following statements about Asian Development Bank (ADB)

1. It was established in the year 1966, with head office at Manila (Philippines). It has 67 members from the Asia Pacific region.
2. Japan holds the largest share in ADB with 15.677%, followed by U.S.A (15.567%), China (6.473%), and India (5.812%).
3. The aim of the ADB is social development by reducing poverty in the Asia Pacific with inclusive growth, sustainable growth, and regional integration.

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

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

Q8. Consider the following statements about Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission:

1. It is an autonomous Institution of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.
2. Its basic function is to regularly update the standards of drugs commonly required for the treatment of diseases prevailing in this region.
3. It publishes official documents for improving the Quality of Medicines by way of adding new and updating existing monographs in the form of Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP).

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

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

Q9. Consider the following statements

1. In 2008, the Centre launched eight Missions under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC).
2. National Solar Mission, National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency are few among the mission
3. One of the eight missions, the National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem (NMSHE) is to develop a capacity to scientifically assess the vulnerability of the Himalayan region to climate change.

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

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

Q10. POEM-3 is related to which of the following

- A. Scheme by International Narcotics Control Board to control drugs
- B. Scheme by ministry of health to control Hepatitis
- C. Innovative schemes to enhance awareness for education among vulnerable section
- D. Polar Satellite Launch vehicle (PSLV) used in the mission was transformed into a kind of orbital station

Prelims Track Answer**Answer 1 Option A is correct****Explanation**

- Born on 24th November, 1622, Borphukan was known for his leadership in the Battle of Saraighat, 1671 in which an attempt by Mughal forces to capture Assam was thwarted.
- The battle of Saraighat was fought on the banks of the Brahmaputra in Guwahati in 1671. **Hence, statement 1 is correct**
- It is considered as one of the greatest naval battles on a river which resulted in the victory of Ahoms over the Mughals. **Hence, statement 2 is incorrect**

Answer 2 Option B is correct**Explanation**

- India does not currently have any common defence stations. **Hence, statements 1 is correct**
- The Andaman and Nicobar Command was established as a full-fledged, tri-service command in 2001. Last year, additional initiatives were implemented to promote cooperation between the services,... **Hence, statement 2 is incorrect**
- The Strategic Forces Command (SFC), sometimes called Strategic Nuclear Command, forms part of India's Nuclear Command Authority (NCA). It is responsible for the management and administration of the country's tactical and strategic nuclear weapons stockpile. **Hence, statement 3 is correct**

Answer 3 Option C is correct**Explanation**

- Methods Of Cyber Frauds
- Hacking: Getting into computer systems to get secret information.
- Phishing: Tricking people with fake emails, messages, or websites to steal their personal details.
- Malware: Installment of software to steal information or take control.
- Identity Theft: Using someone's personal info to do fraud.
- Social Engineering: Tricking people by gaining their trust to get information from them. **Hence, all pairs are correct**

Answer 4 Option B is correct**Explanation**

- Chital are native to mainland India, but the British brought them to the Andaman Islands in the early 1900s.
- With no natural enemies and being good swimmers, they spread quickly.
- While they're protected in India, they're seen as invasive on the Andamans because they harm the local plants and animals.
- How invasive species hurt ecosystems and economies:
 - They disrupt the food chain and unbalanced ecosystems.
 - For example, the African catfish in Keoladeo National Park eats native birds.
 - They also cause economic damage.
- Namdapha flying squirrel: The Namdapha flying squirrel (*Biswamoyopterus biswasi*) is a flying squirrel endemic to Arunachal Pradesh in northeast India. **HENCE OPTION 3 IS INCORRECT**

Answer 5 Option A is correct**Explanation**

- AI does not necessarily require human-like consciousness. It focuses on machines mimicking human-like intelligent behavior, such as learning, problem-solving, and decision-making, without necessarily replicating human thought processes. **Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.**
- Machine learning is a key branch of AI where algorithms learn from data and improve their performance on a specific task without needing detailed instructions for every situation. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- AI applications have numerous practical use cases in everyday life. Examples include:
 - Recommendation systems: suggesting products or content based on user preferences (e.g., online shopping platforms, streaming services) **Hence, statement 3 is incorrect.**
 - Facial recognition: unlocking smartphones, security systems, photo tagging
 - Virtual assistants: responding to user queries and commands (e.g., Siri, Alexa, Google Assistant)
 - Medical diagnosis: analyzing medical images for disease detection
 - Fraud detection: identifying suspicious financial transactions

Answer 6 Option C is correct**Explanation**

- The WTO is an international organization that sets the rules for trade between countries. It started in 1995, taking over from an earlier agreement called GATT.
- The WTO helps countries trade goods, services, and intellectual property by setting up agreements to reduce barriers like tariffs and quotas.
- These agreements are made by member countries and approved by their governments.
- There are 164 member countries in the WTO, representing almost all global trade.
- Decisions are made by agreement from all members, so everyone has a say.
- The WTO publishes a report each year that tracks how trade is doing around the world. **Hence all statements are correct**

Answer 7 Option C is correct**Explanation**

- It was established in the year 1966, with head office at Manila (Philippines). It has 67 members from the Asia Pacific region.
- This bank was modeled on the lines of the world bank.
- Japan holds the largest share in ADB with 15.677%, followed by U.S.A (15.567%), China (6.473%), and India (5.812%).
- The aim of the ADB is social development by reducing poverty in the Asia Pacific with inclusive growth, sustainable growth, and regional integration.
- This is carried out through an 80% investment in the public sector. **Hence all statements are correct**

Answer 8 Option C is correct**Explanation**

- It is an autonomous Institution of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.
- It is created to set standards of drugs in the country.

- Its basic function is to regularly update the standards of drugs commonly required for the treatment of diseases prevailing in this region.
- It publishes official documents for improving the Quality of Medicines by way of adding new and updating existing monographs in the form of Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP).
- It further promotes the rational use of generic medicines by publishing the National Formulary of India. **Hence all statements are correct**

Answer 9 Option C is correct**Explanation**

- In 2008, the Centre launched eight Missions under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC).
- One of these was under the Ministry of Science and Technology, i.e., the National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem (NMSHE).
- the “main objective of NMSHE is to develop a capacity to scientifically assess the vulnerability of the Himalayan region to climate change and continuously assess the health status of the Himalayan ecosystem”. The revised mission documents for eight (08) National Missions under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) namely – National Solar Mission, National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency. **Hence all statements are correct**

Answer 10 Option D is correct**Explanation**

- The space agency explained that the last stage of the Polar Satellite Launch vehicle (PSLV) used in the mission was transformed into a kind of orbital station — called the PSLV Orbital Experimental Module-3 (POEM-3). **Hence option D is correct.**

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