

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

By



SOURCES



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Important News Articles

GS I

1. Gone too soon — the subject of youth suicide in India -the hindu

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

News:

- Suicide is the tragic and untimely loss of human life, all the more devastating and perplexing because it is a conscious volitional act.
- India has the dubious distinction of having the highest number of suicides in the world.
- The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) reports that 1.71 lakh people died by suicide in 2022.
- The suicide rate has increased to 12.4 per 1,00,000 — the highest rate ever recorded in India

Prelims Takeaway

- National Suicide Prevention Strategy

Key highlights

- India faces a heartbreaking crisis - the highest number of suicides in the world.
- In 2022, a record number of people, over 1.7 lakh, died by suicide, with a disturbingly high rate among young people (under 30) - one every 8 minutes.

This troubling trend raises several concerns:

- **Underestimated Numbers:** The true figures are likely even higher.
- **Young Lives Lost:** Suicide is the leading cause of death for young Indian women.

What's driving this youth suicide problem?

- **Mental Health Issues:** Over half (54%) of youth suicides are linked to mental health problems.
- **Academic Pressure:** Competitive exams, parental expectations, and academic stress all contribute.
- **Substance Abuse:** Alcohol and drug use are known risk factors.
- **Social Issues for Girls:** Arranged marriage, early motherhood, low social status, domestic violence, and economic dependence all play a role.
- **Media Influence:** Sensationalized reporting of suicides, especially involving celebrities, can trigger copycat behavior.

How can India prevent these tragedies?

- **Helping Young People:** Teaching problem-solving skills, identifying mental health issues early, and promoting healthy lifestyles (including responsible internet use) are crucial.
- **Educational Reforms:** Alternative assessment methods can reduce exam stress.
- **Societal Changes:** Combating stigma and discrimination surrounding mental health is essential.
- A National Suicide Prevention Strategy, launched in 2022, aims to reduce suicides by 10% by 2030.
- This strategy focuses on leveraging schools, youth clubs, and student health ambassadors to promote mental well-being and reduce substance abuse.

GS II

2. Will China flood globe with EVs green tech What's behind latest US-China trade fight

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

News:

- China's burgeoning production of electric cars and other green technologies has become a flashpoint in a new US-China trade fight, highlighted by Treasury Secretary during her five-day visit to China

Prelims Takeaway

- EV
- Map based question

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- The US and China are clashing again over trade, but this time the fight is about electric cars, solar panels, and other green technologies.

- China has been pouring money into these industries and is now producing a lot more than it can sell domestically.
- This cheap competition worries American companies and the government, who are concerned it could hurt US jobs.
- China argues the US is doing the same with its clean energy subsidies, but the US says they're also boosting American consumer demand, something China hasn't done as much.
- There's no clear solution yet to the US-China green tech trade fight.
- The US wants China to address its concerns, but China argues its cheap products benefit the environment.

However, both sides might have incentives to cooperate:

- China: They have a manufacturing glut and need new markets, plus their own economy depends on boosting domestic spending.
- US: They want to protect their industries but also benefit from lower-priced green tech.

Talks are ongoing, and potential solutions could involve:

- China: Finding ways to reduce production overcapacity and stimulate domestic demand for green products.
- US: Finding ways to ensure fair competition while still benefiting from China's advancements.

GS III**3. Households' debt surged to new high by Dec. 2023 -the hindu**

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

News:

- In what may be construed as a sign of rising financial distress, **India's household debt levels are reckoned to have touched** an all-time high of 40% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by December 2023
- net financial savings had likely dropped to their lowest level at around 5% of GDP, as per a research report from leading financial services firm Motilal Oswal.

Key highlights

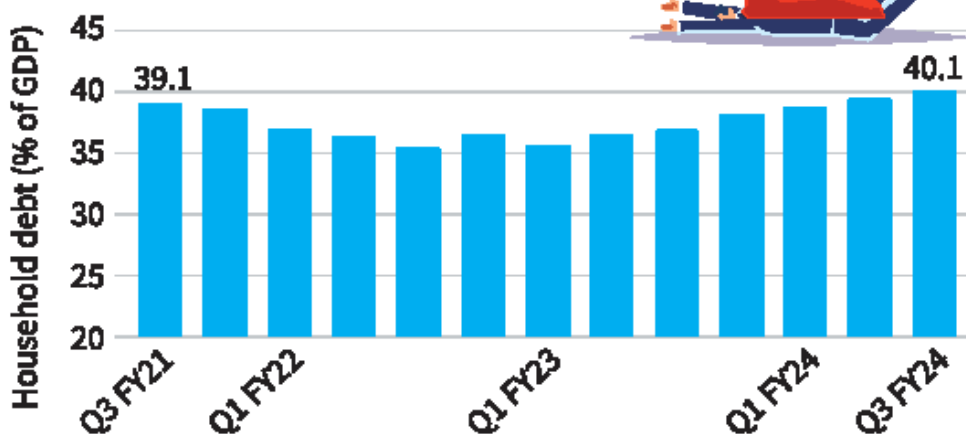
- In September 2023, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) estimated that households' net financial savings had dropped to 5.1% of GDP in 2022-23, a 47-year low
- It had argued that households are adding fewer financial assets than in the past because they were taking loans to buy real assets such as homes and vehicles
 - which is "not a sign of distress but of confidence in their future employment and income prospects".
- The first revised estimates of national income for 2022-23 published this February, raised the estimated net financial savings in households to 5.3% of GDP
 - which is still the lowest in 47 years, and weaker than the average of 7.6% of GDP recorded between 2011-12 and 2019-20.
- The report ascribed the dismal 2022-23 net financial savings numbers to **weak income growth, robust consumption and growth in physical savings.**

Prelims Takeaway

- GDP
- RBI

Debt soars

Household debt rose to a new high of 40.1% of GDP in December 2023 (Q3 FY24)



4. Right against climate change a fundamental right, says SC -the hindu

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

News:

- The Supreme Court has recognised a **much-felt, but less-articulated right against the adverse effects of climate change** as a distinct fundamental right in the Constitution.

Prelims Takeaway

- Solar energy
- Non renewable energy

Key highlights

- “It is yet to be articulated that the people have a right against the adverse effects of climate change.
- This is perhaps because this right and the right to a clean environment are two sides of the same coin.
- It is recognised by **Articles 14 (right to equality) and 21 (right to life),**” the Supreme Court observed in a judgment.
- “The right to health (which is a part of the right to life under Article 21) is impacted due to factors such as air pollution, shifts in vector-borne diseases, rising temperatures, droughts, shortages in food supplies due to crop failure, storms, and flooding.
- The inability of underserved communities to adapt to climate change or cope with its effects violates the right to life as well as the right to equality
- The court also highlighted the interconnection between climate change and various human rights, including the right to health, indigenous rights, gender equality, and the right to development.
- The judgment noted that the right to a healthy environment, safe from the ill-effects of climate change, was a “fundamental human right”.

India’s solar potential

- India needed to shift to solar power due to three issues
 - One, the country is likely to **account for 25% of global energy demand** growth over the next two decades
 - rampant air pollution emphasises the need for cleaner energy sources
 - declining groundwater levels and decreasing annual rainfall.
- By shifting towards renewable energy sources,** India enhances its energy security, reducing reliance on volatile fossil fuel markets and mitigating the risks associated with energy scarcity.
- Additionally, the adoption of renewable energy technologies helps in curbing air pollution, thereby improving public health and reducing healthcare costs

5. Strong link between high glycaemic index diet and diabetes, says study - the hindu

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

News:

- The findings of an international study suggest that consuming low glycaemic index and low glycaemic load diets might prevent the development of type 2 diabetes.
- They also found a strong association between glycaemic index (GI) and the risk of type 2 diabetes among individuals with a higher Body Mass Index (BMI).

Body Mass Index:

- BMI is a measure of weight-to-height commonly used to classify underweight, overweight, and obesity in adults.
- It is calculated by dividing weight in kilograms by the square of height in meters (kg/m^2).

Undernutrition

- It manifests in four broad forms: wasting, stunting, Underweight, and micronutrient deficiencies.
- Being underweight can lead to various health problems, including osteoporosis, skin, hair, or teeth issues, frequent illnesses, fatigue, anaemia, irregular periods, premature births, impaired growth, and increased mortality risk

Prelims Takeaway

- BMI
- DIABETES

6. Be prepared for 'black swan' events, expect the unexpected: Army Chief to force- ECONOMICS TIMES

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

News:

- Army Chief Gen called upon the force to be always prepared for 'black swan' events and "expect the unexpected" even as he identified technology as the new area for strategic competition among nations.

Black Swan Events: Unforeseen Shocks with Big Impacts

- A black swan is a rare, unpredictable event that comes as a surprise and has a significant impact on society or the world
- These rare occurrences come as a surprise, leaving a major mark on the world.
- Impact: They disrupt economies, businesses, and our daily lives.
- This concept comes from Nassim Nicholas Taleb's book, "The Black Swan."

Black Swan Effects:

- **Disruption:** Economies, industries, and societies can get thrown into chaos.
- **Uncertainty:** They're tough to predict, making planning a challenge.
- **Vulnerability:** They expose weaknesses in our systems, showing where we need to be more prepared.

The Aftermath:

- **Risk Rethink:** We re-evaluate risks, becoming more aware of hidden dangers.
- **New Rules:** Governments might create new laws to prevent similar events or lessen their impact.
- **Behavior Shifts:** People and organizations may change their ways - how they spend, invest, and manage risk.

Examples:

- The dot-com bubble burst.
- 9/11 terrorist attacks.
- 2008 financial crisis.
- Brexit.
- COVID-19 pandemic.
- Black swan events are a reminder that the world can be unpredictable.
- But by understanding them, we can be better prepared for the surprises life throws our way.

Prelims Takeaway

- Black swan

7. What is the technology behind manufacturing a semiconductor chip? - the hindu

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

Prelims Takeaway

- Semiconductor
- Taiwan's

News:

- **Semiconductor chip manufacturing** capabilities are currently limited to very few regions in the world.
- With supply chain disruptions during the pandemic and recent geopolitical tensions, many companies and countries
 - including India, have realised the importance of investing in chip manufacturing infrastructure.

How are Semiconductor Chips Made?

- The process resembles creating postage stamps.
- Hundreds of chips are etched onto a circular wafer, similar to a sheet holding many stamps.
- This wafer is then sliced, giving us individual chips.
- Each chip needs a protective shell with tiny wires for power, data, and signals.

India's Semiconductor Scene

- The TATA group is teaming up with Taiwan's PSMC to build a cutting-edge chip factory in India.
- This facility will focus on 28nm chip production by 2026.
- Since chip-making involves many fields, it opens doors for a wide range of professionals like process engineers and data scientists.

8. RBI Survey: Indian consumer confidence hits highest level in nearly 5 years- business today

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

Prelims Takeaway

- CSI
- RBI

News:

- The latest bi-monthly survey conducted by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) unveiled a remarkable surge in consumer confidence, reaching its peak since mid-2019.
- The survey, released, showcased an optimistic trend, reflecting a positive sentiment among respondents across various economic parameters.

Key Takeaways:

- **Overall Positivity:** The survey results were positive across all parameters!
- **Improved Current Situation:** The Current Situation Index (CSI) - a measure of general consumer sentiment about the current economic situation - jumped 3.4 points to a whopping 98.5, the highest since mid-2019.
- **Brighter Future Expected:** The Future Expectations Index (FEI) - which gauges consumer outlook for the next year - also saw a significant rise, reaching its peak since mid-2019.
- This indicates a positive outlook for the coming year.
- **Inflation Expectations:** There was a slight increase in the number of households expecting prices and inflation to rise in the next three months and a year.
- This applies to both general prices and most product categories.

Survey Details:

- The CSI and FEI are based on "net responses" - essentially the difference between positive and negative responses
 - on various factors like economic situation, income, spending, employment, and price levels.

Editorials, Gists and Explainers

9. Perverse intent : The CAA suffers from narrow definition of persecution and arbitrariness -the hindu

Relevance: Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.

News:

- Offering citizenship to migrants who have fled their countries of origin because of persecution and have stayed a sufficient time in their adopted country, is a humane endeavour by any nation-state and should be generally welcomed.

Key highlights

- But by limiting this measure only to migrants from an arbitrary group of neighbouring nations and to narrow the definition only to “religious persecution”
 - and to further constrict this to not include Muslims, atheists, and agnostics among others
- would suggest that the reasoning to provide this citizenship has less to do with humanitarianism and more to do with a warped and perverse understanding of Indian citizenship.
- By its very intent, the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, whose rules were notified by the Ministry of Home Affairs last month
 - over four years since the **Act was passed in Parliament, goes against the ethos of the Indian Constitution.**
- It is fairly evident that persecution can be due to other reasons as well, such as linguistic discrimination in the case of Sri Lanka in recent years and erstwhile East Pakistan from which Bangladesh was born.
- Besides, as the case of the Rohingya from Myanmar shows, Muslims have also faced the severest form of discrimination in recent years
- with thousands killed, more than a million of them rendered stateless and lakhs fleeing to other countries including India
- Even in Muslim-majority countries and those professing Islam as the state religion, such as Pakistan, minority Islamic sects such as the Ahmadiyyas have been subject to oppression and persecution.

UN Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees

- The UN Convention on Refugees is an international convention that pertains to refugee protection worldwide. It was adopted in 1951 and entered into force in 1954.
- There has been one amendment to the convention in the form of the 1967 Protocol.
- While India is not party to the 1951 UN Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees
- they have provisions that require signatories to provide refugee status to those who are subjects of different forms of persecution beyond just due to their religion.

10. Different approaches to AI regulation -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 Artificial Intelligence (AI) space has seen certain developments crucial to its regulation in recent years — the United Nations’s Resolution on Artificial Intelligence, the AI Act by the European Parliament, laws introduced on AI in the U.K. and China and the launch of the AI mission in India.
- These efforts to formalise AI regulations at the global level will be critical to various sectors of governance in all other countries.

Key highlights

- With the passing of the United Nations Resolution on Artificial Intelligence, the need and associated discourse on the regulation of AI has entered a new phase.
- It was recognised that unethical and improper use of AI systems would impede the achievement of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), weakening the ongoing efforts across all three dimensions
 - social, environmental, and economic.
- Another controversial aspect mentioned in the UN resolution has been the plausible adverse impact of AI on the workforce.
- Thus, being the first of its kind, the Resolution has shed light on the future implications of AI systems and the urgent need to adopt collaborative action.

The EU's approach

- The EU recently passed the AI Act, the foremost law establishing rules and regulations governing AI systems. With its risk-based approach, the Act categorises systems into four categories, namely unacceptable, high, limited, and minimal risks, prescribing guidelines for each.
- The Act prescribes an absolute ban on applications that risk citizens' rights, including manipulation of human behaviour, emotion recognition, mass surveillance etc.

China's stand on AI

- The country released, in phases, a regulatory framework addressing the following three issues
- content moderation, which includes identification of content generated through any AI system
- personal data protection, with a specific focus on the need to procure users' consent before accessing and processing their data; and algorithmic governance
 - with a focus on security and ethics while developing and running algorithms over any gathered dataset.

India's position

- Amid the global movement towards regulating AI systems, India's response would be crucial, with the nation currently catering to one of the largest consumer bases and labour forces for technology companies.
- India will be home to over 10,000 deep tech start-ups by 2030. In this direction, a ₹10,300 crore allocation was approved for the India AI mission to further its AI ecosystem
 - through enhanced public-private partnerships and promote the start-up ecosystem.
- Amongst other initiatives, the allocation would be used to deploy 10,000 Graphic Processing Units, Large Multi-Models (LMMs) and other AI-based research collaboration and efficient and innovative projects.

Conclusion

- With its economy expanding, India's response must align with its commitment towards the SDGs while also ensuring that economic growth is maintained.
- This would require the judicious use of AI systems to offer solutions that could further the innovation while mitigating its risks.
- A gradual phase-led approach appears more suitable for India's efforts towards a fair and inclusive AI system.

Quick Look

1. Predicate Offence:

- A predicate offence is a crime that is a component of a more complex criminal activity, often associated with money laundering or organised crime.
- It serves as the underlying criminal act that generates proceeds or funds for the subsequent illegal activity.
- The term “predicate offence” is usually used to describe money laundering or terrorist financing activities.
- Predicate Offence under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA):
- The legislative intent behind predicate offences under PMLA finds its roots in the pursuit of curbing not only illicitly gained wealth but also income legally acquired yet concealed from the watchful eyes of public authorities.

2. Partnership Firm

- A partnership firm is a business entity where two or more individuals come together to manage and operate a business.
- The partners pool their resources, knowledge, and skills to achieve common business goals.
- It is a widely preferred form of business, primarily due to its simplicity and ease of formation.
- The partnership business includes any kind of trade, occupation, and profession.
- A partnership consists of three essential elements.
- A partnership must be the result of an agreement between two or more individuals.
- The agreement must be built to share the profits obtained from the business.
- The business must be run by all or any of them representing the rest.

3. Limited Liability Partnership (LLP)

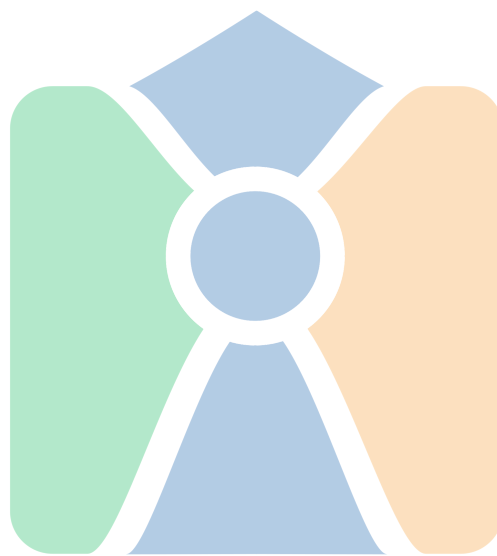
- An LLP is a corporate business form that provides the benefits of a partnership firm and a company.
- It is a hybrid between a company and a partnership firm as it incorporates the properties of both structures.
- LLP is a separate legal entity, and it can own properties in its own name. It alone will be liable to its liabilities.
- Partner’s liability is limited to their contribution to the LLP. Partners of an LLP are responsible only for their own actions.
- In other words, they are not liable to the outside creditors personally.

4. Peace Clause

- Under the Peace Clause, WTO members refrain from challenging any breach in the prescribed subsidy ceiling given by a developing nation at the dispute settlement forum of the WTO.
- Subsidies over and above the prescribed ceiling are seen as trade-distorting.
- Subsidy ceiling: Under the global trade norms, a WTO member country's food subsidy bill should not breach the limit of 10 percent of the value of production based on the reference price of 1986-88.
- India has been seeking amendments to the formula for calculating this food subsidy cap.

5. TSAT-1A

- It is an optical sub-metre-resolution Earth observation satellite.
- It was built by Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) in collaboration with Latin American company Satellogic Inc, following a collaboration agreement between the two companies in late 2023.
- TSAT-1A was assembled in TASL's Assembly, Integration, and Testing (AIT) plant at its Vemagal facility in Karnataka.
- It was launched by SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket from the Kennedy Space Center, Florida, in the US.



Mentorship
India

Prelims Track Question

Q1. Which of the following report published by NCRB Publications:

1. Reports on Missing Women and children in India.
2. Accidental Deaths and Suicides
3. Prison Statistics

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

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

Q2. Consider the following statements

Statement I: 9 dash line officially accepted by united nation as china maritime boundary

Statement II: It runs as far as 2,000 km from the Chinese mainland and encircles islands of the South China Sea

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

Q3. Consider the following statements

1. Household debt is defined as all liabilities of households that require payments of interest or principal by households to the creditors at a fixed dates in the future.
2. In India, it comprises of consumer durables, house loans and personal loans for education, medical etc.,
3. According to the RBI, household debt surged to 5.8% of the GDP in 2023, marking the second-highest annual increase since Independence.

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

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

Q4. Right against climate change comes under which article

- A. Article 14 & 21
- B. Article 21 & 19
- C. Article 19 & 14
- D. Article 25 & 30

Q5. Consider the following statements

1. Including low glycemic index (GI) foods in your diet can help regulate blood sugar levels.
2. All complex carbohydrates have a low glycemic index.
3. Consuming low GI foods guarantees sustained energy levels.

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

Statement I: A black swan is a rare, unpredictable event that comes as a surprise and has a significant impact on society or the world

Statement II: It have positive impact on economy with increasing employment

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

Q7. Consider the following statements

1. Semiconductor chips are made from pure silicon, which is a good conductor of electricity.
2. Doping, the addition of impurities, allows us to control the electrical properties of a semiconductor chip.
3. Fabrication of a large number of identical chips on a single wafer makes semiconductor chip production expensive.

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

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

Q.8 Consider the following statements about The Current Situation Index (CSI)

1. The CSI is a measure of consumer confidence in the future economic situation.
2. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) conducts the survey to collect data for the CSI.
3. A higher CSI indicates a more positive consumer sentiment about the current economic situation.

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

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

Q.9 Consider the following statements about Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA).

1. The CAA grants automatic citizenship to all Hindus from neighboring countries.
2. The stated purpose of the CAA is to provide fast-track citizenship to persecuted minorities from Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Bangladesh.
3. The CAA has been criticized for excluding persecuted minorities from other neighboring countries like Sri Lanka.

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

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

Q.10 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

Prelims Track Answer

Answer 1 Option C is correct

Explanation

- NCRB Publications:
- Crimes in India, Accidental Deaths and Suicides, Prison Statistics, and Reports on Missing Women and children in India.
- These publications serve as principal reference points on crime statistics not only for police officers but also for criminologists, researchers, media and policymakers not only in India but abroad as well. **Hence all statements are correct**

Answer 2 Option B is correct

Explanation

- 9 dash line –In 1947, the nationalist Kuomintang party of China issued a map with the so-called “nine-dash line”. **Hence statement 1 IS IN correct**
- It runs as far as 2,000 km from the Chinese mainland and encircles Beijing’s claimed waters and islands of the South China Sea claiming as much as 90% of the sea. **Hence statement 2 IS correct**

Answer 3 Option C is correct

Explanation

- What is Household debt?
- Household debt is defined as all liabilities of households (including non-profit institutions serving households) that require payments of interest or principal by households to the creditors at a fixed dates in the future.
- In India, it comprises of consumer durables, house loans and personal loans for education, medical etc., **Hence all statements are correct**

Answer 4 Option A is correct

Explanation

- The Supreme Court has recognised a much-felt, but less-articulated right against the adverse effects of climate change as a distinct fundamental right in the Constitution.
- Key highlights

- “It is yet to be articulated that the people have a right against the adverse effects of climate change.
- This is perhaps because this right and the right to a clean environment are two sides of the same coin.
- It is recognised by Articles 14 (right to equality) and 21 (right to life),” the Supreme Court observed in a judgment. **Hence, option A is correct**

Answer 5 Option B is correct

Explanation

- Low GI foods are digested and absorbed slowly, leading to a gradual rise in blood sugar levels. This is beneficial for people with diabetes or those looking to manage their blood sugar for overall health. **Hence, statement 1 is INcorrect**
- While some complex carbohydrates, like whole grains and legumes, have a low GI, others like starchy vegetables like potatoes can have a higher GI. The processing and preparation of food can also impact GI. **Hence, statement 2 is correct**
- Low GI foods do help with sustained energy by preventing blood sugar spikes and crashes. However, other factors like protein and healthy fats also contribute to sustained energy levels. **Hence, statement 3 is correct**

Answer 6 Option A is correct

Explanation

- A black swan is a rare, unpredictable event that comes as a surprise and has a significant impact on society or the world
- These rare occurrences come as a surprise, leaving a major mark on the world.
- Impact: They disrupt economies, businesses, and our daily lives. **Hence, statement 2 is incorrect**
- This concept comes from Nassim Nicholas Taleb's book, "The Black Swan."
- Black Swan Effects:
- Disruption: Economies, industries, and societies can get thrown into chaos.

Answer 7 Option A is correct**Explanation**

- Pure silicon is actually a poor conductor of electricity. That's what makes it a semiconductor - in between a conductor and an insulator. **Hence, statement 1 is incorrect**
- Doping introduces impurities that alter the conductivity of the semiconductor, allowing us to create circuits with desired electrical properties. **Hence, statement 2 is correct**
- While chip fabrication is a complex process, the ability to create many chips on a single wafer makes it a cost-effective way to mass produce them. **Hence, statement 3 is incorrect**

Answer 8 Option B is correct**Explanation**

- The Current Situation Index (CSI) measures consumer sentiment regarding the present economic situation, not the future. **Hence, statement 1 is incorrect**
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) does conduct the survey that gathers data used to calculate the CSI. **Hence, statement 2 is correct**
- Higher CSI value indicates a more optimistic outlook from consumers about the current economic climate. **Hence, statement 3 is correct**

Answer 9 Option B is correct**Explanation**

- The CAA does not grant automatic citizenship to all Hindus. It provides a pathway to citizenship for Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis, and Christians who have entered India from Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Bangladesh before a specific date and can demonstrate facing religious persecution in those countries. **Hence, statement 1 is incorrect**

- The stated objective of the CAA is to offer a faster path to citizenship for persecuted minorities from the three specific countries mentioned. **Hence, statement 2 is correct**
- The CAA has been criticized for excluding persecuted minorities from other neighboring countries, such as Sri Lanka, where Tamils have faced religious persecution. This creates questions about the act's fairness and its basis on religion. **Hence, statement 3 is correct**

Answer 10 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

Mentorship India

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Mentorship India represents more than just an organization; it is a community of ambitious individuals bound together by the shared objective of conquering the UPSC examination. We warmly invite you to embark on this transformative journey alongside us. Whether you are a novice taking your initial steps or a seasoned aspirant aiming for the pinnacle, Mentorship India is your dependable companion in the relentless pursuit of excellence.

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