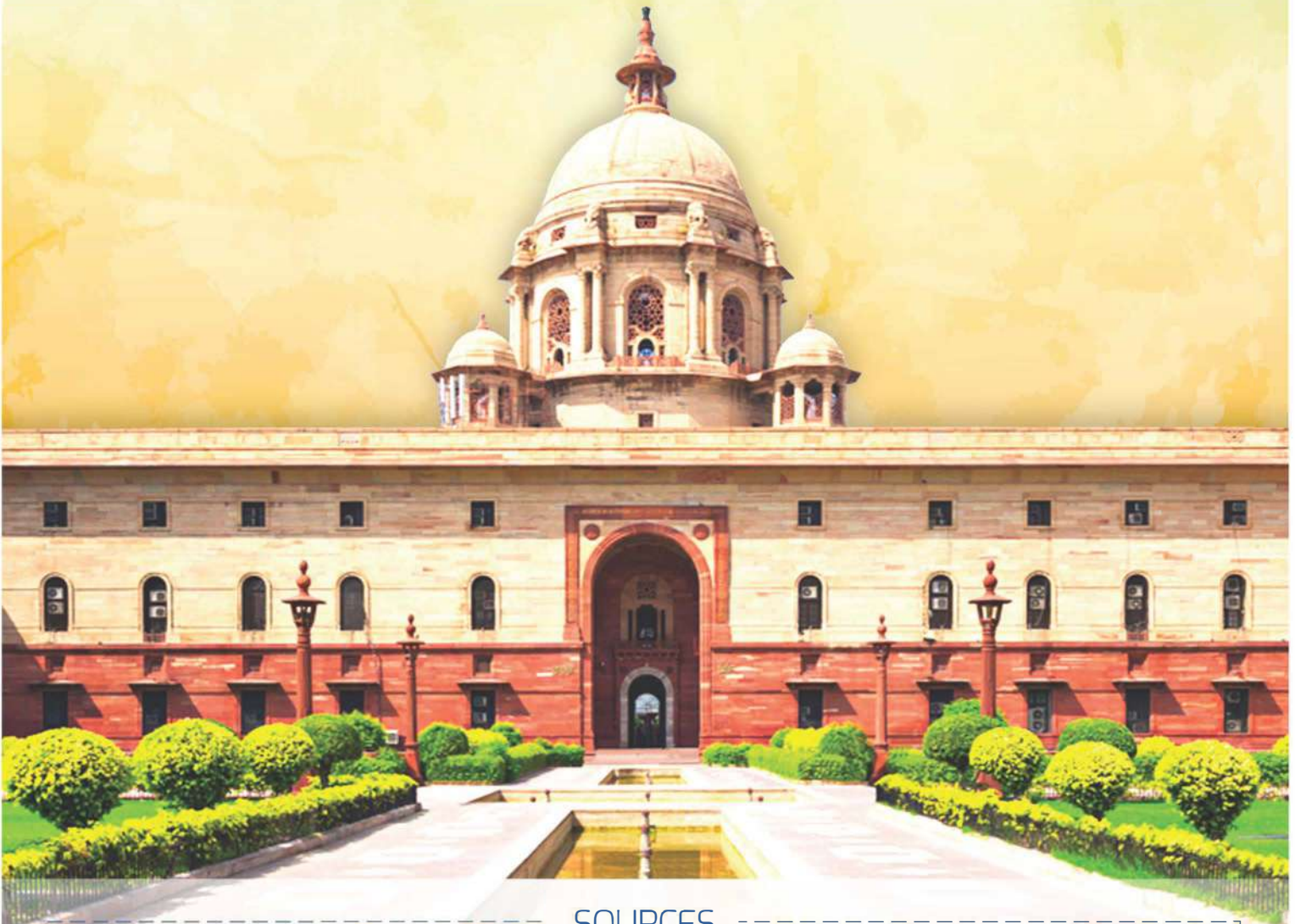




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SOURCES



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GS I

1. Project PARI

Source: The PIB

Context: The Ministry of Culture recently launched Project PARI (Public Art of India) coincided with the 46th Session of the World Heritage Committee Meeting, held in New Delhi.

Project PARI

Launched by	Ministry of Culture
Nodal Agency	Lalit Kala Akademi, National Gallery of Modern Art
Objective	Enhance New Delhi's cultural and aesthetic outlook
Key Themes	Nature tributes, Natyashastra, Gandhi ji, Toys of India, Hospitality, Ancient knowledge, Naad (Primeval Sound), Harmony of Life, Kalpataru (Divine Tree).
Artist Participation	Over 200 visual artists; significant participation from women artists
Artforms included	Phad paintings (Rajasthan), Thangka painting (Sikkim/Ladakh), Miniature painting (Himachal Pradesh), Gond art (Madhya Pradesh), Tanjore paintings (Tamil Nadu), Kalamkari (Andhra Pradesh), Alpona art (West Bengal), Cherial painting (Telangana), Pichhwai Painting (Rajasthan), Lanjia Saura (Odisha), Pattachitra (West Bengal), Bani Thani Painting (Rajasthan), Warli (Maharashtra), Pithora Art (Gujarat), Aipan (Uttarakhand), Kerala Murals (Kerala), Alpana art (Tripura).

GS II

2. Opposition parties prepare to move no-confidence motion against V-P

Source: The Hindu

Context: In India's parliamentary democracy, the government must maintain the confidence of the Lok Sabha, the directly elected house, to remain in power. This principle of collective responsibility is enshrined in **Article 75(3) of the Constitution**.



Constitutional and Procedural Aspects:

- While the **Indian Constitution does not explicitly mention a no-confidence motion**, it is facilitated by Rule 198 of the Lok Sabha's rules.
- According to this rule, **any Lok Sabha Member of Parliament (MP) can move a no-confidence motion, provided they have the support of at least 50 members**. This ensures that only serious challenges to the government's stability are considered.

Process of a No-Confidence Motion:

The procedure for a no-confidence motion involves several steps:

- **Introduction:** An MP must garner the support of 50 colleagues to introduce the motion against the Council of Ministers. The motion can only be moved in the Lok Sabha and not in the Rajya Sabha.
- **Debate:** Once introduced, the motion is debated in the Lok Sabha. The government first responds to the motion, followed by speeches from opposition parties. This debate is crucial as it allows for a thorough examination of the government's performance.
- **Voting:** After the debate, a vote is held. If the motion receives a majority of votes, it is passed, and the government is required to resign. If the government wins the vote, the motion is defeated, and the government remains in power.

Historical Context and Significance:

- Since independence, 27 no-confidence motions have been introduced in the Lok Sabha, illustrating the robust nature of India's parliamentary democracy.
- The **first such motion was against Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's government in August 1963**. Although the motion was overwhelmingly defeated with only 62 votes in favour, it set a precedent for holding the executive accountable.
- The **most recent no-confidence motion was moved in 2018 against the then NDA government**.

No-Confidence Motion Against the Vice President:

Apart from the Council of Ministers, a **no-confidence motion can also be moved against the Vice President under Article 67(B) of the Constitution**. This requires a resolution to be passed by the Rajya Sabha with an effective majority and agreed upon by the Lok Sabha with a simple majority. This mechanism underscores the accountability of even the highest constitutional offices.

Conclusion:

The **no-confidence motion is a vital component of India's democratic framework, ensuring that the government remains accountable to the people through their elected representatives**. While historically, most motions have not resulted in the government's fall, they play a crucial role in parliamentary discourse, allowing opposition parties to challenge and critique government actions effectively. The procedure highlights the dynamic nature of Indian democracy, where dialogue and accountability are at the forefront of governance.



GS III

3. India to roll out BPaL Regimen for Drug-Resistant TB

Source: The Indian Express

Context: India is preparing to introduce the BPaL (bedaquiline, pretomanid, and linezolid) regimen for all patients with multi/extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis (M/XDR-TB).

What is BPaL Regimen?

	Details
Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treatment for multi-drug resistant (MDR) and extensively drug-resistant (XDR) tuberculosis (TB). Provides a potent, shorter, and more effective treatment option for patients resistant to standard TB drugs.
Components of the regimen	Bedaquiline (Bdq): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Targets ATP synthase enzyme in <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i>, disrupting energy production. Key drug in combating drug-resistant TB.
	Pretomanid (Pa): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inhibits bacterial cell wall synthesis and kills bacteria under anaerobic conditions. Enhances effectiveness when combined with other TB drugs.
	Linezolid (Lzd): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inhibits protein synthesis, stopping bacterial growth. Effective against MDR and XDR TB strains.

Significance of BPaL Regimen

- Studies and trials have shown that the BPaL regimen has **higher success rates** in treating MDR and XDR TB compared to older regimens.
- It **reduces treatment duration** for MDR/XDR-TB from the traditional 18-24 months **to 6 months approx.**
- It is **entirely oral with NO injectable**, making it easier for patients to adhere to the treatment.
- It **reduces number of drugs patients** need to take daily **from up to 14 to just 3**.



Despite being a treatable and curable disease, TB continues to affect millions due to factors like drug resistance and inadequate healthcare infrastructure.

Global and National Impact of TB:

- TB is a global health concern, with the **highest burden in 30 countries, including India, Indonesia, China, and South Africa.**
- **India alone accounted for 28% of global TB cases in 2022**, highlighting the country's critical role in the global fight against TB.
- The prevalence of drug-resistant strains, such as **MultiDrug Resistant TB (MDR-TB) and Extensively Drug Resistant TB (XDR-TB)**, further complicates the issue, posing **significant treatment challenges.**

Challenges in TB Management in India:

- **High Incidence and Underreporting:** Despite progress, TB remains widespread in India. The **Ni-kshay portal** reported a significant reduction in cases from 2019 to 2021, yet underreporting remains a major concern, with nearly one million cases unreported annually.
- **Diagnostic Challenges:** Access to accurate and affordable diagnostics is limited, particularly in rural areas. This **gap hinders early detection and effective treatment**, contributing to the spread of the disease.
- **Drug Resistance:** The emergence of drug-resistant TB strains necessitates more robust treatment protocols. Despite the introduction of newer drugs like **Bedaquiline and Delamanid**, challenges in availability and affordability persist.
- **Nutritional Support:** The **Nikshay Poshan Yojana**, which provides financial support for nutritional needs, faces implementation challenges. The current support amount is inadequate, affecting patient recovery and adherence to treatment.

Current Initiatives and Progress:

India has launched several initiatives to tackle TB, including:

- **National Strategic Plan (NSP) for TB Elimination (2017-2025):** A comprehensive approach focusing on early diagnosis, treatment, and prevention.
- **Nikshay Ecosystem:** An integrated national TB information system that enhances tracking and management of cases.
- **Development of New Vaccines:** Two vaccines, VPM 1002 and MIP, are currently under Phase-3 clinical trials, promising advancements in prevention.
- **Global Collaboration:** India participates in global efforts like the WHO's "Find. Treat. All. #EndTB" initiative and hosts events like the One World TB Summit.

Recommendations for Improvement:

- **Enhanced Diagnostic Infrastructure:** Expanding access to reliable diagnostics and increasing awareness among healthcare providers can facilitate early detection and treatment.
- **Strengthening Drug Accessibility:** Ensuring widespread availability of newer TB drugs and integrating them into the National List of Essential Medicines can improve treatment outcomes.
- **Increased Financial Support:** Enhancing financial assistance for nutritional support and addressing gaps in the Nikshay Poshan Yojana will aid patient recovery and treatment adherence.
- **Public Awareness Campaigns:** Increasing awareness about TB symptoms and prevention can reduce stigma and encourage timely medical intervention.

Conclusion:



While India has made significant strides in combating TB, persistent challenges necessitate a multi-faceted approach involving improved diagnostics, drug accessibility, financial support, and public awareness. By addressing these areas, India can strengthen its efforts to eliminate TB and contribute significantly to global health initiatives.

4. Cabinet approves the Clean Plant Programme under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture

Source: The Indian Express

Context: The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister approved the Clean Plant Programme (CPP) proposed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

Clean Plant Programme:

- It will prioritize **affordable access to clean plant material** for all farmers, regardless of their landholding size or socioeconomic status.
- The Programme will actively **engage women farmers** in its planning and implementation, ensuring their access to resources, training and decision-making opportunities.
- It will also address the **diverse agro-climatic conditions** across India by developing region-specific clean plant varieties and technologies.

Core Components

- **Clean Plant Centers (CPCs):** Nine world-class **state-of-the-art CPCs**, equipped with advanced diagnostic therapeutics and tissue culture labs, will be established across India.
- These include **Grapes** (NRC, Pune), Temperate Fruits - **Apple, Almond, Walnuts** (CITH, Srinagar & Mukteshwar), **Citrus Fruits** (CCRI, Nagpur & CIAH, Bikaner), **Mango/Guava/Avacado** (IIHR, Bengaluru), **Mango/Guava/Litchi** (CISH, Lucknow), **Pomegranate** (NRC, Sholapur) and **Tropical/Sub-Tropical Fruits** in Eastern India.
- These centers will play a crucial role in producing and maintaining virus-free planting material meant for larger propagation.
- **Certification and Legal Framework:** A robust certification system will be implemented, supported by a regulatory framework **under the Seeds Act 1966**, to ensure thorough accountability and traceability in planting material production and sale.
- **Enhanced Infrastructure:** Support will be provided to **large-scale nurseries** for the development of **infrastructure**, facilitating the efficient multiplication of clean planting material.

Implemented by: National Horticulture Board in association with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).



5. Is there an emerging threat of drug-resistant fungal infections? The jock itch case study

Source: The Hindu

Context: The rise of drug-resistant fungal infections, notably *Trichophyton indotineae*, is emerging as a significant health concern in India.

***Trichophyton indotineae*:**

- It is a **dermatophyte** commonly known as **ringworm or jock itch**.
- First identified in India, **this fungus** has now spread to several countries worldwide.
- It belongs to genotype VIII within the **T. mentagrophytes/T. interdigitale species**
- The inappropriate use of steroid creams has exacerbated the problem, making this strain particularly hard to treat.

Challenges and Symptoms

- Patients often present with persistent, **treatment-resistant rashes** that can easily be mistaken for eczema or other skin conditions, delaying effective treatment.
- The **misdiagnosis of these infections** often leads to the use of ineffective treatments, which not only prolongs patient suffering but also allows the infection to worsen.
- Misdiagnosis and delayed treatment can lead to the spread of the infection, not only worsening the individual's condition but also increasing the risk of **transmission within the community**.

Treatment

- For infections resistant to standard antifungal medications, alternative treatments such as **itraconazole** are available but will require close monitoring by healthcare providers.
- In addition to antifungal medications, **integrating comprehensive skin care regimens** can enhance treatment efficacy.



Editorial, Ideas and Opinions

6. Refugee rights, the gendered nature of displacement

Source: The Hindu

Context: The global crisis of forced displacement due to conflict, persecution, and human rights abuses has reached unprecedented levels, with millions of people being uprooted from their homes.

According to the **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)**, by the end of 2023, approximately 11.73 crore individuals had been forcibly displaced worldwide, including 3.76 crore refugees. In this grim scenario, women and girls, who constitute nearly half of the refugee population, face disproportionate vulnerabilities.

Gendered Impact of Displacement:

- The experience of displacement is profoundly gendered, with women and girls often bearing the brunt of its adverse effects.
- They are frequently the last to flee, responsible for caregiving duties, and burdened with ensuring their family's survival.
- Displacement exposes them to heightened risks of gender-based violence, including sexual abuse, trafficking, and exploitation.
- Additionally, women in patriarchal societies, like many refugee communities, face systemic discrimination that exacerbates their vulnerabilities.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Disabilities:

- Refugee women are particularly susceptible to mental health issues such as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, and anxiety.
- Factors contributing to this include the trauma of conflict, the hardships of camp life, and the breakdown of social support systems.
- Displaced women are twice as likely as their male counterparts to exhibit PTSD symptoms and four times as likely to suffer from depression.
- Unfortunately, their mental health needs are often unmet due to stigma, lack of awareness, and limited access to healthcare services.

Legal Framework and Challenges in India:

- India has ratified the **United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD)** and enacted the **Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (RPWDA)**.
- However, these legal frameworks primarily focus on Indian nationals and do not explicitly extend their protections to refugees with disabilities.
- Consequently, refugee women with psychosocial disabilities often face significant barriers in accessing healthcare, education, and social services.
- The Supreme Court of India has upheld the right to life under Article 21, which includes the right to health, for refugees. However, their access to healthcare remains limited to government hospitals, with most public health programs excluding them.



The Need for a Comprehensive Policy Framework:

- India is not a signatory to the 1951 Refugee Convention or its 1967 Protocol and lacks specific domestic legislation for refugees.
- Given the sizable refugee population in India, it is imperative to develop a uniform, codified framework that addresses their unique needs, particularly those with disabilities.
- Such a framework should integrate refugees into existing policies and programs, ensuring they have equal access to resources and opportunities.

Conclusion:

As the global refugee crisis continues to escalate, it is crucial for India to take proactive measures to support displaced women, particularly those with psychosocial disabilities. This requires a concerted effort to address the structural gaps in policy and practice, ensuring that refugee women can access the rights and services they are entitled to. By doing so, India can uphold its international commitments and contribute to a more inclusive and equitable society for all.

7.No population Census — in the dark without vital data

Source: The Hindu

Context: Conducted every ten years, it is crucial for policy making, planning, and resource allocation. The upcoming 2021 Census, although delayed, introduces significant changes to ensure better data collection and accuracy.

Historical Context:

- The history of the census in India dates back to ancient times. The **Rig Veda mentions population counts during 800–600 BC.**
- **Kautilya's Arthashastra** in the 3rd century BC also emphasises population statistics for state policy.
- In mediaeval India, **Ain-e-Akbari, compiled under Mughal Emperor Akbar**, documented detailed demographic and economic data.
- In modern times, the **first complete census was conducted in 1830 by Henry Walter in Dacca.** The **first systematic and synchronous census was held in 1881 under W.C. Plowden**, laying the foundation for the decennial census that continues today.

Conduct and Implementation:

- Since 1951, the census has been conducted under the 1948 Census of India Act, managed by the **Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India, under the Ministry of Home Affairs.** The **2011 Census was the 15th national census** and involved two phases: House Listing or Housing Census and Population Enumeration.
- The 2021 Census aims to bring several advancements, such as digital data collection through mobile applications, which is expected to expedite data processing and analysis. This census will also be conducted in 18 scheduled languages, reflecting India's linguistic diversity.

Significance of Census Data:

- **Policy Formulation and Planning:** Census data is crucial for framing policies and development plans at both the central and state levels. It helps in understanding demographic trends, urbanisation patterns, and migration, which are essential for effective governance.



- **Delimitation and Representation:** The census plays a key role in the delimitation exercise, which adjusts the boundaries and representation of electoral constituencies. This affects the political balance and representation in the Lok Sabha, especially with the upcoming delimitation in 2026.
- **Resource Allocation:** Census data guides the distribution of tax revenues between the Union and states, as per the recommendations of the Finance Commission. It ensures that resources are allocated equitably based on population and needs.
- **Targeted Investments:** In the post-COVID-19 period, large-scale infrastructure investments are being planned to revive the economy. Census data helps identify target areas and beneficiaries, ensuring efficient use of resources.

Challenges and Issues:

One of the significant challenges is the issue of caste data collection. Although the 2021 Census initially planned to include OBC data, concerns over the reliability and standardisation of caste data led to its exclusion, with only SC/ST categories being included. **The last comprehensive caste-based census was conducted by the British in 1931.** The unreleased **2011 Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC)** data reflects ongoing challenges in caste enumeration.

Conclusion:

The census is a cornerstone of India's democratic and developmental framework. It provides critical insights into the nation's demographic and socio-economic landscape, guiding policymakers in addressing the needs of its diverse population. The advancements in the 2021 Census, especially the use of digital technology, promise more efficient and accurate data collection, which will be vital for India's future planning and governance.



In Brief

8. Joint Parliamentary panel formed to examine Waqf amendment Bill

Source: The Hindu

Context: The Union government announced a 31- member Joint Parliamentary Committee to examine the contentious Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2024.

Wakf Amendment Bill:

- **Statutory Body:** The Central Waqf Council is a statutory body established under the Waqf Act of 1954.
- **Administrative Control:** It functions under the administrative control of the Ministry of Minority Affairs.
- **Year of Establishment:** The Council was set up in 1964.
- **Role:** It serves as an advisory body to the Central Government on issues related to the functioning of the Waqf Boards and the administration of Auqaf (assets).
- **Meaning of Auqaf:** Auqaf, or Awqaf, is an Arabic term meaning assets, usually referring to endowments made for religious, educational, or charitable purposes in Islamic culture.
- **Composition:**
 - The Council is chaired by the Union Minister in charge of Waqf.
 - It includes up to 20 other members appointed by the Government of India.
- **State Wakf Boards:**
 - Each state has its own Waqf Board, headed by a chairperson.
 - Membership includes one or two state government nominees, Muslim legislators and parliamentarians, Muslim members of the state Bar Council, recognized Islamic scholars, and mutawalis (custodians of waqf properties).
- **Function:** The Council advises on policy formulation, provides guidance for effective management of waqf properties, and helps resolve disputes related to waqf assets.
- **Objective:** To ensure transparency, efficiency, and accountability in the management and administration of waqf properties across India.



Daily Quiz

Q1. Which of the following statements regarding Tuberculosis (TB) is/are correct?

1. TB is caused by a virus and primarily affects the lungs.
2. MultiDrug Resistant Tuberculosis (MDR-TB) is resistant to the two most powerful first-line treatment drugs.
3. The BCG vaccine, developed by French scientists, is effective against all forms of TB.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Q2. Which of the following statements about the No-Confidence Motion in the Indian Parliament is/are correct?

1. A No-Confidence Motion can be moved in either the Lok Sabha or the Rajya Sabha.
2. If the No-Confidence Motion is passed in the Lok Sabha, the government is obliged to resign.
3. The Constitution of India explicitly mentions the procedure for a No-Confidence Motion.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 3 only

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding the Census in India:

1. The Census of India is conducted every ten years by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
2. The 2021 Census of India will be the first to be conducted digitally.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding the Central Wakf Council:

1. The Central Wakf Council is a statutory body under the Ministry of Minority Affairs, established as per the Wakf Act of 1954.
2. The Chairperson of the Central Wakf Council is appointed by the President of India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Q5. Tuberculosis (TB) is primarily classified as which type of disease?

- A. Viral
- B. Bacterial
- C. Fungal
- D. Parasitic

Q6. "Project PARI," recently seen in the news, is related to which of the following?

- A. Enhancing cybersecurity measures in India
- B. Developing renewable energy solutions
- C. Reducing stubble burning and pollution in agriculture
- D. Promoting digital literacy among rural women



Q7. Consider the following statements about the BPaL regimen for tuberculosis treatment:

1. The BPaL regimen is specifically designed to treat drug-sensitive tuberculosis.
2. It consists of a combination of three drugs: Bedaquiline, Pretomanid, and Linezolid.
3. The BPaL regimen is a shorter treatment course compared to traditional multi-drug resistant TB treatments.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, and 3

Q8. Consider the following statements about the Clean Plant Program:

1. The Clean Plant Program is an initiative aimed at eliminating pesticide use in agricultural production.
2. It focuses on ensuring that plant materials used in agriculture are free from harmful viruses and diseases.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Q9. Consider the following statements regarding horticulture:

1. Horticulture involves the intensive cultivation of plants for food, medicinal purposes, and aesthetic satisfaction.
2. India ranks first in the production of bananas and mangoes globally.
3. The National Horticulture Board (NHB) was established to promote integrated development of the horticulture industry in India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, and 3

Q10. Consider the following statements about the Indian Parliament:

1. A joint sitting of both Houses of Parliament is presided over by the President of India.
2. The Rajya Sabha has no power to reject a Money Bill but can suggest amendments.
3. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha is responsible for deciding whether a Bill is a Money Bill or not.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, and 3



Solutions

1. Correct Answer is A

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** TB is caused by the bacterium *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, not a virus. It primarily affects the lungs but can also affect other organs.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** MDR-TB is a strain of TB that cannot be treated with the two most powerful first-line anti-TB drugs, making it a significant treatment challenge.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** The BCG vaccine, developed by Albert Calmette and Camille Guerin, is effective primarily against severe forms of TB in children but does not protect against all forms of TB, particularly in adults. Its efficacy varies geographically.

2. Correct Answer is B

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** A No-Confidence Motion can only be moved in the Lok Sabha, not the Rajya Sabha.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** If a No-Confidence Motion is passed in the Lok Sabha, the Council of Ministers must resign, as they no longer have the confidence of the House.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** The Indian Constitution does not explicitly mention the procedure for a No-Confidence Motion; it is outlined in the rules of procedure of the Lok Sabha.

3. Correct Answer is B

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** The Census of India is conducted every ten years by the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India under the Ministry of Home Affairs, not the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

- **Statement 2 is correct.** The 2021 Census is set to be the first census in India to utilise digital technology for data collection through mobile applications, marking a significant shift from traditional paper-based methods.

4. Correct Answer is A

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The Central Wakf Council is a statutory body under the Ministry of Minority Affairs, established under the provisions of the Wakf Act of 1954.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** The Chairperson of the Central Wakf Council is the Union Minister in charge of waqf affairs, not appointed by the President of India.

5. Correct Answer is B

Explanation: Tuberculosis (TB) is caused by the bacterium *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. It is a bacterial infection that primarily affects the lungs, but it can also impact other parts of the body, such as the kidneys, spine, and brain. TB spreads through the air when an infected person coughs or sneezes, making it a contagious and significant public health concern. Unlike viral, fungal, or parasitic infections, TB requires specific antibiotic treatments to effectively manage and cure the disease.

6. Correct Answer is C

Explanation: "Project PARI" (Paddy Agro Residue Management Initiative) is an initiative focused on reducing stubble burning in agricultural practices to decrease air pollution, particularly in the northern states of India. This project aims to provide sustainable solutions for managing paddy straw residue, which is often burned by farmers after harvesting, contributing significantly to air pollution. Project PARI works towards adopting alternative methods, such as



using agricultural machinery for residue management and converting stubble into biofuels or fertilisers.

7. Correct Answer is B

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** The BPaL regimen is designed for the treatment of highly drug-resistant tuberculosis, specifically for cases of extensively drug-resistant TB (XDR-TB) and treatment-intolerant or non-responsive multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB), not for drug-sensitive TB.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The BPaL regimen includes three drugs: Bedaquiline, Pretomanid, and Linezolid. These drugs are combined to provide a potent treatment option for drug-resistant TB.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** The BPaL regimen offers a shorter treatment duration, typically around six to nine months, compared to traditional MDR-TB treatments, which can last up to two years. This shorter course is a significant advancement in the management of drug-resistant TB.

8. Correct Answer is B

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** The Clean Plant Program is not primarily focused on eliminating pesticide use. Instead, it is a program designed to ensure that plant materials, particularly those used for propagation in agriculture, are free from viruses and diseases that could harm crops. It does not specifically address pesticide use.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The Clean Plant Program aims to provide clean and healthy plant materials, free from pathogens such as viruses, bacteria, and fungi, to improve the quality and yield of

agricultural products. This helps prevent the spread of plant diseases and ensures the health and productivity of crops.

9. Correct Answer is D

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct.** Horticulture is the science and art of growing and cultivating fruits, vegetables, flowers, and ornamental plants, as well as medicinal and aromatic plants.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** India is a leading producer of bananas and mangoes, contributing significantly to global production. India is the largest producer of bananas and mangoes, contributing around 25% of the world's banana production and approximately 40% of the world's mango production.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** The National Horticulture Board (NHB) was set up in 1984 by the Government of India to promote the development of the horticulture sector through coordination with various stakeholders and providing support for infrastructure and technology.

10. Correct Answer is B

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** A joint sitting of both Houses of Parliament is presided over by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, not the President of India.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The Rajya Sabha cannot reject a Money Bill; it can only make recommendations, which the Lok Sabha may accept or reject within 14 days.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** The Speaker of the Lok Sabha has the authority to certify whether a Bill is a Money Bill, and the decision of the Speaker is final.





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