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SOURCES



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GS I

1. Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi congratulates all on the completion of 10 years of Jan Dhan Yojana

Source: PIB

Context: Jan Dhan Yojana has been paramount in boosting financial inclusion and giving dignity to crores of people, especially women, youth: Prime Minister

Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY):

- **Overview:**
 - **Launch Date:** August 28, 2014
 - **Objective:** Provide affordable financial services to vulnerable and economically disadvantaged sections.
 - **Global Standing:** One of the largest financial inclusion initiatives worldwide.
- **Features:**
 - **Banking Access:** Universal access to banking facilities with at least one basic account per household.
 - **Account Benefits:**
 - **Debit Card:** Indigenous RuPay card.
 - **Minimum Balance:** No requirement.
 - **Insurance:** Rs. 1 lakh accident cover (enhanced to Rs. 2 lakh for accounts opened after 28.8.2018).
 - **Overdraft Facility:** Up to Rs. 10,000 for eligible adults.
- **Eligibility:** Accounts are eligible for Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT), Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY), and Atal Pension Yojana (APY).
- **Significance:**
 - **Financial Inclusion:** Promotes equitable growth and inclusive financial services.
 - **JAM Architecture:** Facilitates seamless transfer of government benefits.
 - **Savings:** Integrates poor people's savings into the formal financial system, reducing reliance on money lenders.
 - **Women Empowerment:** 55.5% of accounts are held by women; overdraft available in one account per household, preferably held by a woman.
- **Achievements:**
 - **Account Openings:** Over 50 crore accounts opened.
 - **Rural Coverage:** 67% of accounts in rural and semi-urban areas.
 - **Rupee Cards:** 34 crore cards issued with ₹2 lakh accident insurance cover.
 - **Record:** Guinness World Record for "Most bank accounts opened in one week" with 18,096,130 accounts.

Other Government Initiatives for Financial Inclusion:

- National Centre for Financial Education (NCFE)
- Unified Payments Interface (UPI)
- Micro Units Development and Refinance Agency (MUDRA)
- Small Finance Banks (SFBs) and Payment Banks
- Jan Dhan Darshak App



GS II

2. India-Brazil strategic partnership deepened and diversified over years

Source: The Hindu

Context: India-Brazil strategic partnership spans defence, space, security, technology, and people-to-people relations, strengthening ties across various domains.

India-Brazil Strategic Partnership and Joint Commission Meeting:

- **Strategic Partnership:**
 - The strategic partnership between India and Brazil, **established in 2006**, has significantly deepened and diversified.
 - The partnership encompasses a broad spectrum of domains, including defence, space, security (including cybersecurity), trade, and investment.
- **India-Brazil Joint Commission Meeting (JCM):**
 - The **ninth JCM was held in New Delhi**, marking a key moment in bilateral relations.
 - The JCM aims to review and enhance cooperation across various sectors, including **energy, biofuels, agriculture, health, and technology**.
- **G20 Presidency:**
 - **Brazil is the current chair of the G20, following India's presidency.** This transition reflects ongoing collaboration on global economic and developmental issues.
 - **Both nations support reforms in international institutions**, including the UN Security Council, to enhance global representation and effectiveness.
- **Trade and Economic Cooperation:**
 - Bilateral trade between India and Brazil reached USD \$12 billion last year, making India one of Brazil's significant trading partners.
 - Despite current international challenges, trade flows have shown steady growth, underscoring the potential for further economic cooperation.
- **Multilateral Engagement:**
 - India and Brazil are active participants in several multilateral forums, including **BRICS, IBSA, G20, and BASIC**.
 - Both countries advocate for a reformed and more representative international order and collaborate on global issues within these platforms.
- **Bilateral and Regional Cooperation:**
 - The partnership extends to various sectors such as digital governance, bio-energy, and defence.
 - Continued collaboration is anticipated in areas such as space exploration, sustainable agriculture, and connectivity.
- **Cultural and People-to-People Relations:**
 - There is significant engagement in cultural exchanges, with increased appreciation of each other's culture and traditions.
 - People-to-people interactions are seen as a vital component of the bilateral relationship, fostering mutual understanding and cooperation.



3. SGPC sends legal notice to producers of Emergency

Source: Times of India

Context: The SGPC has sent a legal notice to the producers of Kangana Ranaut's film 'Emergency', which, according to SGPC, misrepresents the character and history of Sikhs.

Emergency Provisions in the Indian Constitution:

- **Purpose:** Emergency provisions are designed to handle extraordinary situations that cannot be managed through normal administrative mechanisms, aiming to protect the Constitution, democracy, financial stability, and national security.

Types of Emergencies:

- **National Emergency (Articles 352-354, 358-359)**
 - **Definition:** Imposed when there is a threat to national security due to war, external aggression, or armed rebellion.
 - **Types:**
 - **External Emergency:** Due to war or external aggression.
 - **Internal Emergency:** Due to armed rebellion.
 - **Proclamation:** Can be declared by the President under Article 352, even before the actual threat occurs.
 - **Parliamentary Approval:** Must be ratified by both houses within one month; if Lok Sabha is not in session, approval is required within 30 days of its reconstitution.
 - **Duration:** Initially valid for six months and can be extended indefinitely with parliamentary approval.
 - **Revocation:** The President can revoke the emergency at any time or if the Lok Sabha passes a resolution rejecting it.
 - **Impact on Governance:**
 - **Centre-State Relations:**
 - **Executive:** Central authority can direct state executives.
 - **Legislative:** Parliament can legislate on state matters.
 - **Financial:** Central government can withhold or reduce funds to states.
 - **Legislative Bodies:**
 - **Lok Sabha:** Term can be extended beyond its normal period.
 - **State Assemblies:** Term extension is possible.
 - **Fundamental Rights:**
 - **Article 19:** Suspension of six fundamental rights.
 - **Article 359:** Suspension of the right to petition for fundamental rights enforcement.
- **President's Rule (Articles 355-357)**
 - **Definition:** Imposed when the President believes that the state government is not functioning according to constitutional provisions.
 - **Grounds:**
 - **Article 356:** Constitutional machinery failure.
 - **Article 365:** State's failure to comply with central directives.
 - **Parliamentary Approval:** Must be approved by both houses within two months with a simple majority.



- **Consequences:**
 - **Administration:** Governor administers the state with the help of state officials.
 - **Legislature:** Parliament may exercise legislative powers for the state.
- **Financial Emergency (Article 360)**
 - **Definition:** Declared when the President believes that financial stability or credit of India or any part of it is threatened.
 - **Approval:** Requires parliamentary approval within two months by a simple majority.
 - **Duration:** Indefinite, continuing until revoked by the President.
 - **Revocation:** Can be ended by the President without parliamentary approval.
 - **Effects:**
 - **Executive Powers:** Expansion of central control over state finances.
 - **Employee Benefits:** Reduction in salaries and allowances of state employees and other government officials.
 - **Financial Bills:** Money bills and financial bills from states must be reserved for the President's assent.



GS III

4. CDSCO grants approval for making RT-PCR testing kits to detect Mpox in India

Source: The Hindu

Context: Siemens Healthineers gets nod for manufacturing Mpox test kits in India.

Mpox (Monkeypox):

- **Nature:**
 - **Type:** DNA virus
 - **Family:** Poxviridae (large, double-stranded DNA viruses)
 - **Discovery:** First identified in monkeys in 1958
- **Transmission:**
 - **Primary Source:** Animals (rodents and primates)
 - **Methods:** Direct contact or contaminated objects
- **Symptoms:**
 - **Initial:** Fever, headache, muscle aches
 - **Progression:** Rash evolving from macules to papules to vesicles and pustules
- **Vaccination:**
 - **Availability:** Exists but limited
 - **Need:** Highlights the need for better prevention and control measures
- **Global Outbreaks:**
 - **Recent:** Widespread outbreak in 2022-2023, over 100,000 cases in 118+ countries
 - **Transmission:** High human-to-human spread, notably through close and sexual contact
- **WHO Status:** Declaration: Declared a public health emergency, leading to international control efforts
- **Genomic Features:**
 - **Clades:** I and II; clade I shows higher mortality
 - **2022 Outbreak:** New lineage clade IIb, better suited for human transmission
 - **Genomic Accordion:** Variations in genome size due to gene duplications or deletions

Comparison with Other Poxviruses:

- **Smallpox**
 - **Virus:** Variola virus
 - **Severity:** Highly severe and often fatal
 - **Status:** Eradicated in 1980
 - **Transmission:** Respiratory droplets and contact with lesions
 - **Symptoms:** Fever, headache, severe fatigue, vomiting, followed by a deep, pus-filled rash
 - **Vaccination:** No longer needed
- **Monkeypox**
 - **Virus:** Monkeypox virus
 - **Severity:** Milder than smallpox, rarely fatal
 - **Status:** Endemic in Central and West Africa; emerging globally
 - **Transmission:** Contact with infected animals, lesions, or bodily fluids
 - **Symptoms:** Fever, headache, swollen lymph nodes, rash progressing through stages
 - **Vaccination:** Not routinely recommended; may be given to high-risk individuals



- **Chickenpox**

- **Virus:** Varicella-zoster virus (VZV)
- **Severity:** Mild
- **Status:** Common childhood illness, less frequent due to vaccination
- **Transmission:** Respiratory droplets and contact with lesions
- **Symptoms:** Fever, fatigue, loss of appetite, followed by an itchy, fluid-filled rash
- **Vaccination:** Routine for children and adults without prior infection

5.OPEC+ output cut may push Indian refiners to source oil from Americas

Source: The Hindu

Context: India's liquid fuel consumption is projected to reach 6.6 million barrels per day by 2028. Declining crude oil exports from West Asia due to OPEC+ production cuts may lead Indian refiners to source oil from the Americas, according to the US Energy Information Administration (EIA).

OPEC+ :

- **Definition:** A coalition of oil-exporting countries that meets regularly to regulate global crude oil sales.
- **Origin:** Established in late 2016 to foster cooperation between OPEC and non-OPEC oil producers.
- **Objective:** Stabilise the oil market by adjusting crude oil production.
- **Control:** Manages ~40% of global oil supplies and over 80% of proven reserves.
- **Core Members:** Includes OPEC nations and additional countries.
- **Members:** OPEC countries plus Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Brunei, Kazakhstan, Russia, Mexico, Malaysia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Oman.

Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC):

- **Definition:** An intergovernmental organisation of oil-exporting countries.
- **Mission:** Coordinate petroleum policies and stabilise international oil prices.
- **Formation:** Founded in Baghdad in September 1960 by Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Venezuela.
- **Current Members:** 12 countries, including Algeria, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Libya, Nigeria, and the UAE.
- **Headquarters:** Vienna, Austria.

Crude Oil:

- **Definition:** A naturally occurring liquid petroleum made from ancient organic materials subjected to heat and pressure.
- **Composition:** Contains hydrocarbons and is refined into gasoline, diesel, LPG, and petrochemical feedstock.



Editorial, Ideas and Opinions

6. Advancing equity, from covid-19 to mpox

Source: The Hindu

Context: The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared mpox (formerly monkeypox) a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC), signalling the need for a coordinated global response and lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Addressing the Mpox Outbreak: Lessons from COVID-19 and Global Cooperation:

- **Global and Regional Health Emergencies:**
 - **PHEIC Declaration:** This is the first PHEIC under the revised International Health Regulations (IHR) of May 2024, which prioritises equity. The Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (AfricaCDC) has also declared a Public Health Emergency of Continental Security (PHECS), highlighting the crisis's scale in Africa.
- **Comparison with COVID-19 Response:**
 - **Vaccine Availability:** Unlike during COVID-19, an approved vaccine for mpox, MVA-BN (Jynneos/Imvanex), is already available. However, the global response mirrors COVID-19 challenges, particularly in scaling vaccine production and distribution. AfricaCDC estimates a need for 10 million doses, with only 0.21 million available now.
- **Role of Indian Manufacturers**
 - **Manufacturing Capacity:** India's major vaccine producers (Serum Institute of India, Bharat Biotech, Zydus Cadila) are well-positioned to scale up MVA-BN production, leveraging existing expertise and supply chains.
 - **Technology Transfer:** Essential for equitable access, technology transfer involves sharing resources, know-how, and patents. The Indian government and international organisations must work with Bavarian Nordic to facilitate this process, reducing reliance on high-income countries.
- **Regulatory Measures and Global Cooperation**
 - **Regulatory Flexibility:** India has waived local clinical trial requirements for vaccines approved by major international agencies, expediting MVA-BN availability.
 - **International Collaboration:** A unified global effort is crucial, involving financial and technical resource mobilisation, information sharing, and mutual support to ensure vaccines reach those in need.

Conclusion:

The mpox outbreak highlights the importance of applying COVID-19 lessons in vaccine production, technology transfer, and global cooperation. Leveraging India's manufacturing capabilities and ensuring equitable vaccine access are key to managing the current crisis and preparing for future emergencies.



7. The continuing churn in the Chinese Military

Source: The Hindu

Context: August 1, 2024, marked the 97th anniversary of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) with celebrations and significant leadership changes.

Leadership Changes in the PLA: Implications and Lessons for India:

- **Introduction:**
 - General Wu Yanan and General Huang Ming were appointed as new commanders for the Southern and Northern Theaters, respectively.
- **Context of Leadership Changes:**
 - **Southern Theatre:** Recent tensions with the Philippines and deteriorating security conditions have led to General Wang Xiubin's replacement. The Southern Theater has faced internal issues, including inefficiencies in wartime mobilisation and political officer performance.
 - **Northern Theatre:** General Huang Ming's appointment reflects ongoing PLA reforms and realignment of military leadership.
- **Implications of Leadership Changes**
 - **Military Efficiency and Cohesion:** General Wu Yanan's extensive experience with the Central Military Commission (CMC) and the Central Theater suggests a focus on enhancing jointness and implementing the Chinese Communist Party's reform agenda in the Southern Theater.
 - **Operational Readiness:** Immediate improvements in operational activities, including joint maritime and aerial patrols near disputed regions, indicate a push towards increased combat readiness and political cohesion.
- **PLA Reform Dynamics:** The changes highlight ongoing issues with PLA reforms, including corruption and inefficiencies. They signify a period of flux and purges aimed at aligning military performance with China's strategic objectives.

Lessons for India:

- **Leadership and Loyalty:** PLA leadership appointments are influenced by loyalty to the party-state rather than solely merit. This reflects the broader CCP strategy of aligning military command with political goals.
- **Doctrinal Evolution:** India should closely observe PLA reforms and leadership changes to understand China's evolving military strategies and readiness.
- **Strategic Preparedness:** Understanding these changes can help India anticipate potential shifts in China's military posture and plan its strategic responses accordingly.

Conclusion:

- The recent leadership changes in the PLA underline China's efforts to address internal inefficiencies and advance its military capabilities. For India, these developments offer crucial insights into China's military strategy and leadership dynamics, emphasising the need for strategic vigilance and adaptability.



In Brief

8. Snakehead murrel fish

Source: The Hindu

Context: Students release snakehead murrel fish into a paddy field as they learn integrated farming with rice and fish

Snakehead Murrel fish:

- **Family & Region:** Murrels or snakeheads belong to the family Channidae (Ophiocephalidae). They are found in tropical Asia, including Northern China, and Africa.
- **Species of Importance:** Key species include *Channa striatus*, *C. marulius*, *C. punctatus*, *C. maculatus*, and *C. micropeltes*. *C. striatus*, *C. marulius*, and *C. micropeltes* grow to 1–1.2 m, while the others are smaller (22–30 cm).
- **Market Size:** Preferred size for market is 600–1000 g.
- **Adaptability:** Hardy fish that can breathe atmospheric oxygen, survive droughts by aestivating in mud, and tolerate a range of temperatures (20–35°C). Lethal limits: 15°C (low) and 40°C (high). They can live in both acidic and alkaline waters and withstand low salinity brackish conditions.
- **Culture Systems:**
 - **Earthen Ponds:** Common, with sizes from 800 to 1600 m³ and depths of 0.5 to 2 m. Ponds often have fine-meshed wire fencing to prevent escape.
 - **Cages:** Used in Kampuchea and Vietnam, moored near shores or trailed behind boats, varying from 40 to 625 m³.
 - **Irrigation Wells:** Traditional method in India and neighboring countries.
- **Cultivation Practices:**
 - **Monoculture:** Raised as a single species, often by size group due to their predatory and cannibalistic nature.
 - **Mixed Culture:** In some areas, murrels are stocked in ponds with carp and tilapia or other forage fish.
 - **Integration:** In Thailand, murrel culture is integrated with pig and poultry farming.

9. Cheetah dies in Kuno park from suspected 'drowning'

Source: The Hindu

Context: One more Cheetah, Pavan, has died, forest officials from Madhya Pradesh confirmed.

Kuno National Park:

- **Location:**
 - **District:** Sheopur, Madhya Pradesh.
 - **Geographical Feature:** Near Vindhyan Hills.
 - **Named After:** Kuno River (tributary of Chambal River).
 - **Status:** Became a national park in 2018 (previously a wildlife sanctuary).



- **Vegetation:** Primary Landscape: Grassland with some rocky outcrops.
- **Flora:**
 - **Dominant Trees:** Kardhai, Salai, Khair.
 - **Species Count:** 123 tree species, 71 shrub species, 32 exotic and climbing species, 34 bamboo and grass species.
- **Fauna:** Mammals: Jungle cat, Indian leopard, sloth bear, Indian wolf, striped hyena, golden jackal, Bengal fox, dhole.

10. IIL, Australian varsity develop needle free covid-19 vaccine

Source: The Hindu

Context: COVID-19 still poses a global threat, with around 1,700 deaths per week.

Indian Immunologicals Limited (IIL) Develops New Intranasal COVID-19 Booster Vaccine:

- **Vaccine Type:** Live-attenuated, needle-free intranasal booster against SARS-CoV-2.
- **Technology:** Codon deoptimization, developed with Griffith University, Australia.
- **Vaccine Features:**
 - Generates a robust, broad-spectrum neutralizing antibody response.
 - Demonstrated stability and safety in extensive animal studies.
 - Non-invasive immunization method.
- **Significance:**
 - Aims to enhance vaccination rates and safeguard communities.
 - Highlights industry-academia collaboration.



Daily Quiz

Q1. Which of the following statements regarding the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) is/are correct?

1. PMJDY was launched on August 28, 2014, with the goal of providing every household in India with a basic banking account.
2. PMJDY accounts are required to maintain a minimum balance to avoid penalties.

Select the correct answer using the codes below:

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

Q2. Which of the following statements regarding Kuno Palpur National Park and the cheetah reintroduction project are correct?

1. Kuno Palpur National Park is located in the state of Madhya Pradesh and is part of the project to reintroduce cheetahs in India.
2. The cheetah reintroduction project in Kuno Palpur aims to reintroduce the African cheetah, which was once native to India.
3. The cheetah reintroduction project has successfully introduced cheetahs into Kuno Palpur National Park as of 2023.

Select the correct answer using the codes below:

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

Q3. Which of the following statements regarding the snakehead murrel is/are correct?

1. The snakehead murrel is a type of freshwater fish native to Southeast Asia.
2. The species is known for its ability to breathe air and move between water bodies.

3. It has been classified as an invasive species in some regions outside its native habitat.

Select the correct answer using the codes below:

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

Q4. Which of the following statements regarding mpox (formerly known as monkeypox) is/are correct?

1. Mpox is primarily transmitted through direct contact with infected animals or their bodily fluids.
2. The World Health Organization (WHO) declared mpox a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) in 2023.
3. Mpox is caused by a virus that is part of the same family as the virus that causes smallpox.

Select the correct answer using the codes below:

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

Q5. Consider the following Assertion and Reasoning on India and Brazil partnership:

Assertion (A): India and Brazil have established a strategic partnership to enhance bilateral cooperation in various sectors including trade, defense, and technology.

Reason (R): Both countries are members of the BRICS group, which aims to promote peace, security, and development among emerging economies.

Select the correct answer using the codes below:

- A. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are correct, and Reason (R) is the correct explanation for Assertion (A).



- B. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are correct, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation for Assertion (A).
- C. Assertion (A) is correct, but Reason (R) is incorrect.
- D. Assertion (A) is incorrect, but Reason (R) is correct.

Q6. Which of the following statements regarding the declaration of emergency in India are correct?

1. The President of India can declare a National Emergency under Article 352 of the Constitution, which can be imposed in the event of a war, external aggression, or armed rebellion.
2. During a National Emergency, the President can dissolve the state legislatures and impose President's Rule in states, but state governments cannot be suspended under any circumstances.
3. The declaration of a National Emergency automatically suspends the enforcement of Fundamental Rights except for Article 20 and Article 21 of the Constitution.

Select the correct answer using the codes below:

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

Q7. Which of the following statements regarding cheetahs and their conservation are correct?

1. The cheetah is the only member of the cat family that cannot retract its claws.
2. Cheetahs were reintroduced to India as part of a conservation project aimed at restoring their historical range.
3. Cheetahs are primarily found in the wild in South America and have limited natural habitats left in Africa and Asia.

Select the correct answer using the codes below:

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

Q8. Which of the following rivers is Kuno Palpur National Park located near to?

- A. The Kuno River
- B. The Chambal River
- C. The Betwa River
- D. The Yamuna River

Q9. Which of the following groups of countries are members of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)?

1. Saudi Arabia, Venezuela, Nigeria, Indonesia
2. Russia, Mexico, Brunei, Libya
3. Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Algeria
4. United Arab Emirates, South Sudan, Azerbaijan, Bahrain

Select the correct answer using the codes below:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 3 and 4 only
- D. 1 and 3 only

Q10. Which of the following statements regarding the G20 are correct?

1. The G20 was established in 1999 as a forum for Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors, and it was later elevated to a Leaders' Summit in 2008.
2. The G20 includes all countries from the United Nations Security Council's permanent members and is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.

Select the correct answer using the codes below:

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



Solutions

1. Correct Answer is A

Explanation:

- PMJDY was launched on August 28, 2014, with the goal of providing every household in India with a basic banking account.
 - **This statement is correct.** The Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) was launched on August 28, 2014, with the objective of providing every household with access to a basic banking account and financial services.
- PMJDY accounts are required to maintain a minimum balance to avoid penalties.
 - **This statement is incorrect.** One of the key features of PMJDY accounts is that there is no requirement to maintain a minimum balance. This provision helps to make banking more accessible to the economically disadvantaged sections of society, as the accounts are designed to be low-cost and user-friendly.

2. Correct Answer is A

Explanation:

- Kuno Palpur National Park is located in the state of Madhya Pradesh and is part of the project to reintroduce cheetahs in India.
 - **This statement is correct.** Kuno Palpur National Park, located in Madhya Pradesh, is indeed part of the Indian government's initiative to reintroduce cheetahs into their historical range.
- The cheetah reintroduction project in Kuno Palpur aims to reintroduce the African cheetah, which was once native to India.
 - **This statement is correct.** The cheetah reintroduction project involves bringing African cheetahs to India. Although cheetahs were

historically native to India, they were declared extinct in the wild in the country by the mid-20th century.

- The cheetah reintroduction project has successfully introduced cheetahs into Kuno Palpur National Park as of 2023.
 - **This statement is incorrect.** As of 2023, while preparations and plans for the cheetah reintroduction are ongoing, actual reintroduction of cheetahs into Kuno Palpur National Park has not yet been completed. The project has faced delays and logistical challenges.

3. Correct Answer is D

Explanation:

- The snakehead murrel is a type of freshwater fish native to Southeast Asia.
 - **This statement is correct.** The snakehead murrel, also known as *Channa striata*, is native to Southeast Asia.
- The species is known for its ability to breathe air and move between water bodies.
 - **This statement is correct.** Snakehead murrels have a labyrinth organ that allows them to breathe air, which enables them to move between water bodies and survive in low-oxygen environments.
- It has been classified as an invasive species in some regions outside its native habitat.
 - **This statement is correct.** In areas outside its native range, such as in the United States and other regions, the snakehead murrel has become invasive due to its adaptability and competitive nature, often displacing native species.



4. Correct Answer is D

Explanation:

- Mpox is primarily transmitted through direct contact with infected animals or their bodily fluids.
 - **This statement is correct.** Mpox can be transmitted to humans through contact with infected animals, especially rodents, or their bodily fluids.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) declared mpox a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) in 2023.
 - **This statement is correct.** The WHO declared mpox a PHEIC in 2022, acknowledging the global health threat it posed.
- Mpox is caused by a virus that is part of the same family as the virus that causes smallpox.
 - **This statement is correct.** Mpox is caused by the mpox virus, which is a member of the Orthopoxvirus genus, the same family that includes the smallpox virus.

5. Correct Answer is A

Explanation:

- **Assertion (A):** India and Brazil have indeed established a strategic partnership, focusing on enhanced cooperation in areas such as trade, defense, and technology.
- **Reason (R):** Both India and Brazil are members of the BRICS group, which aims to strengthen cooperation among emerging economies, thereby supporting and explaining their strategic partnership.

6. Correct Answer is B

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** A National Emergency can be declared under Article 352 in the event of war, external aggression, or armed rebellion.

- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** During a National Emergency, the President can indeed impose President's Rule in states, but state governments can be suspended under such circumstances.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** During a National Emergency, the enforcement of Fundamental Rights is suspended except for Article 20 (protection in respect of conviction for offences) and Article 21 (protection of life and personal liberty).

7. Correct Answer is A

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** While cheetahs have semi-retractable claws, they are not the only cat family member with this feature; other cats also have semi-retractable claws.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Cheetahs were reintroduced to India as part of a conservation project to restore them to their historical range.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** Cheetahs are primarily found in the wild in Africa, and small populations exist in Iran. They are not native to South America and do not have significant populations in Asia besides Iran.

8. Correct Answer is B

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** Kuno Palpur National Park is not located near the Kuno River.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Kuno Palpur National Park is situated near the Chambal River, which is an important river in the region.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** Kuno Palpur National Park is not located near the Betwa River.



9. Correct Answer is D

Explanation:

- **Option A: Correct.** Saudi Arabia, Venezuela, Nigeria, and Indonesia are OPEC members.
- **Option B: Incorrect.** Russia and Mexico are not OPEC members; they are part of OPEC+.
- **Option C: Correct.** Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, and Algeria are OPEC members.
- **Option D: Incorrect.** South Sudan and the UAE are OPEC members, but Azerbaijan and Bahrain are not; they are part of OPEC+.

10. Correct Answer is A

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The G20 was established in 1999 to discuss international economic and financial issues at the level of Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors, and it was elevated to a Leaders' Summit in 2008.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** The G20 does not include all countries from the UN Security Council's permanent members, and its headquarters are not in Geneva; it does not have a permanent headquarters. The G20's meetings are hosted by different member countries on a rotating basis.





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