

### IAS PRELIMS 2020

# COMPLETE REVISION OF CURRENT AFFAIRS through 500 MCQs

**DAY:** 40

QUESTIONS
with ANSWER HINTS



# 2021-22 GS FOUNDATON

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Batch Starts

15
SEPTEMBER
2020

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#### **QUESTIONS**

#### 1. Consider the following statements regarding Food Fortification:

- 1. It is an addition of one or more micronutrients to food and aims to replace the current balanced diet to address malnutrition.
- 2. Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) Regulations, 2018 has prescribed standards for fortification of food products in 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

# 2. Which of the following statements regarding DNA Technology (Uses and Application) Regulation Bill, 2019 is/are correct?

- 1. The bill aims at strengthening the justice delivery system of the country.
- The bill provides for the establishment of a DNA Regulatory Board chaired by the Union Minister of Science & Technology.
- 3. The bill provides for consent-based collection of DNA for DNA Profiling in all categories of cases.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 3 only

#### 3. Consider the following statements regarding the Sheath Blight disease:

- 1. It is a bacterial disease affecting the yield of rice crop.
- 2. Plants are more vulnerable to sheath blight during the summer season.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

#### 4. Proton therapy, as seen recently in news, is used in the treatment of:

- (a) Cancer
- (b) Tuberculosis
- (c) AIDS
- (d) Zika virus

#### 5. Consider the following pairs:

- 1. Dragon fly mission NASA's mission to Saturn
- 2. Cassini Mission First spacecraft to orbit Saturn
- 3. Raavana-1 Sri Lanka's first satellite

Which of the above-given pairs is/are correctly matched?

- (a) 2 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

#### 6. Consider the following statements regarding Varunastra:

- 1. It is an indigenously-built heavyweight anti-submarine nuclear torpedo.
- 2. It has been developed by the Naval Science and Technology Laboratory (NTSL).

Which of the above statements is/are *incorrect*?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2



### 7. ISRO plans to send humans to space as part of Gaganyaan Mission by 2022. In this regard, consider the following statements:

- 1. India will become the 3<sup>rd</sup> country after Russia and USA to launch human spaceflight mission.
- 2. ISRO has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with NASA for a short visit to International Space Station as a training mission.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

#### 8. Consider the following statements about the Chandipur Virus :

- 1. The virus spreads mainly through the bite of sand flies, and sometimes through mosquitoes.
- 2. The virus is discovered in 2019 for the first time.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only

- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

#### 9. Strum Ataka, seen recently in news, is a:

- (a) Zika virus vaccine
- (b) Military exercise between India and Mongolia
- (c) Anti-Submarine electric torpedo
- (d) Anti-tank missile

#### 10. Consider the following statements regarding Antimicrobial Resistance:

- 1. According to WHO, it is a global public health threat.
- 2. Madhya Pradesh and Kerala are the only states in India that have developed an action plan to manage antimicrobial resistance.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

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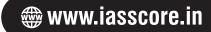


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#### **ANSWER HINTS**

#### Answer Key

Q. 1 (b)

Q. 3 (c)

(a)

Q. 5 (c)

Q. 7 (d)

Q. 9 (d)

Q. 2 (a)

Q. 4

Q. 6 (a)

Q. 8 (a)

Q. 10 (c)

#### 1. Correct Option: (b)

#### **Explanation:**

• Statement 1 is incorrect: Food fortification is a "complementary strategy" and not a replacement of a balanced & diversified diet to address malnutrition.

#### **Supplementary notes:**

#### **Food Fortification**

- Food fortification is the deliberate addition of one or more micronutrients to food so as to correct or prevent a deficiency and provide a health benefit.
- These nutrients may or may not have been originally present in the food before processing.
- Food fortification is a "complementary strategy" and not a replacement of a balanced & diversified diet to address malnutrition.
- Department of Food and Public Distribution under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs recently approved a centrally-sponsored pilot scheme on fortification of rice and its dispersal through the Public Distribution System (PDS).
- Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) Regulations, 2018 has prescribed standards for fortification of various food products such as all fortified foods must not fall below the minimum level of micronutrients.

#### 2. Correct Option: (a)

#### **Explanation:**

 <u>Statement 2 is incorrect:</u> The bill provides for the establishment of a DNA Regulatory Board chaired by <u>Secretary to Department</u> of <u>Biotechnology</u>.  Statement 3 is incorrect: The bill provides for consent based collection of DNA for DNA Profiling in certain categories of cases like where imprisonment is up to 7 years.

#### **Supplementary notes:**

#### DNA Technology (Uses and Application) Regulation Bill, 2019

- The bill is for the regulation of use and application of DNA technology for the purpose of establishing identity of missing persons, victims, offenders, under trials and unknown deceased persons.
- The primary intended purpose is to expand the application of DNA-based forensic technologies to support and strengthen the justice delivery system of the country.
- By providing for the mandatory accreditation and regulation of DNA laboratories, the Bill seeks to ensure that with the proposed expanded use of this technology in this country, there is also the assurance that the DNA test results are reliable, and furthermore that the data remain protected from misuse or abuse in terms of the privacy rights of our citizens.
- Establishment of the National and Regional DNA Data Banks, as envisaged in the Bill, will assist in forensic investigations
- Under the bill, DNA testing is allowed only in respect of matters listed in the schedule to the bill. These include offences under the Indian Penal Code, 1860, and for civil matters such as paternity suits.
- Consent based collection of DNA for DNA Profiling in certain cases.
- The Bill provides for the establishment of a National DNA Data Bank and Regional DNA Data Banks, for every state, or two or



- **more states.** DNA laboratories are required to share DNA data prepared by them with the National and Regional DNA Data Banks
- The Bill provides for the establishment of a DNA Regulatory Board, which will supervise the DNA Data Banks and DNA laboratories. The Secretary of Department of Biotechnology, will be the ex officio Chairperson of the Board.
- The Bill specifies penalties for various offences like for disclosure of DNA information or using DNA sample without authorization.

#### 3. Correct Option: (c)

#### **Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Sheath blight is a **fungal disease.**
- **Statement 2 is incorrect**: Plants are more vulnerable to sheath blight during the **rainy season.**

#### **Supplementary notes:**

#### **Sheath Blight**

- Sheath blight is a fungal disease caused by Rhizoctonia solani.
- It can cause up to 60 per cent reduction in rice yield.
- Infected leaves senesce or dry out and die more rapidly. As a result, the leaf area of the canopy can significantly be reduced by the disease.
- Sheath blight occurs in areas with high temperature (28–32°C), high levels of nitrogen fertilizer, and relative humidity of crop canopy from 85–100%.
- Plants are more vulnerable to sheath blight during the rainy season.

#### 4. Correct Option: (a)

#### **Explanation:**

• **Option (a) is correct:** Proton therapy is used in the **treatment of cancer.** 

#### **Supplementary notes:**

#### **Proton therapy**

 Proton therapy, or proton radiotherapy, is a type of particle therapy that uses a beam of protons rather than x-rays to treat diseased tissue, most often in the treatment of cancer.

- It is considered as one of the most advanced forms of external beam radiation therapy for cancer treatment in the world. It is also known as Proton Beam Therapy and offers high levels of precision as compared to other treatment options.
- The chief advantage of proton therapy over other types of external beam radiotherapy is that as a charged particle the dose is deposited over a narrow range of depth, and there is minimal entry, exit, or scattered radiation dose.
- Vice President of India inaugurated India's first proton therapy center in Chennai for the treatment of Cancer. It is South Asia's first such center. With this India becomes 16th country in the world to offer the therapy.

#### 5. Correct Option: (c)

#### **Explanation:**

• Pair 1 is incorrectly matched: NASA has planned a Dragon Fly Mission to Titan, the largest moon of Saturn planet.

#### **Supplementary notes:**

#### **Dragon fly mission**

- NASA has planned a Dragon Fly Mission to Titan, the largest moon of Saturn planet.
- It will be the first time that NASA will fly a multi-rotor vehicle for science on another planet, powered by nuclear-power.

#### **Cassini Mission**

- Cassini Mission was launched to study Saturn and its system of rings and moons.
- It is collaboration among NASA, ESA and the Italian space agency.
- It was the first spacecraft to orbit Saturn.

#### Raavana-1

- Sri Lanka's first satellite 'Raavana-1',
  designed and developed by two local
  engineers, was successfully launched into orbit
  this week from the International Space Station
  (ISS) along with two other BIRDS 3 satellites
  from Japan and Nepal.
- It is a Cue satellite (type of Nano satellite), deployed using the Japanese Aerospace and Exploration owned Kibo experiment module.



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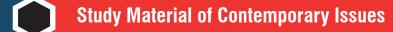












#### 6. Correct Option: (a)

#### **Explanation:**

• **Statement 1 is incorrect**: Varunastra is an indigenously-built heavyweight antisubmarine **electric torpedo**.

#### **Supplementary notes:**

#### Varunastra

- It is an indigenously-built heavyweight anti-submarine electric torpedo.
- It has been successfully inducted in the navy, making India one of the eight countries to have the capability to design and build such a system.
- It can be fired from the Rajput class destroyers, Delhi class and all future Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) ships capable of firing heavyweight torpedoes.
- The weapon has been developed by the Naval Science and Technology Laboratory (NTSL), a premier laboratory of DRDO and Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) is the manufacturer of this weapon system.
- India also intends to sell the heavyweight torpedo to friendly nations.

#### 7. Correct Option: (d)

#### **Explanation:**

- Statement 1 is incorrect: India will become 4<sup>th</sup> country after Russia, USA and China to launch human spaceflight mission.
- Statement 2 is incorrect: ISRO and Russian federal space agency (ROSCOSMOS) have signed a memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for a short visit to International Space Station as a training mission.

#### **Supplementary notes:**

#### **Gaganyaan Mission**

- Gaganyaan Mission will demonstrate Indian Human Spaceflight capability to low earth orbit for a mission duration ranging from one orbital period to a maximum of seven days.
- GSLV Mk-III will be used to carry the orbital module which will have necessary provisions for sustaining a 3-member crew for the duration of the mission.
- ISRO has demonstrated a number of technologies that are required for this programme like Space Capsule Recovery

- Experiment (SRE-2007), Crew module Atmospheric Reentry Experiment (CARE-2014) and Pad Abort Test (2018).
- The programme will make India the fourth nation in the world to launch a Human Spaceflight Mission. So far, only the USA, Russia and China have launched human spaceflight missions.
- Two unmanned flights and one manned flight will be undertaken as part of Gaganyaan Programme.
- ISRO and Russian federal space agency (ROSCOSMOS) have signed a memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to work together for India's 1<sup>st</sup> manned space mission.
- ROSCOSMOS has also offered ride to Indian astronaut short visit to International Space Station on board Soyuz spacecraft for short training mission.
- Recently, a Gaganyaan National Advisory
  Council has been created with members
  from different institutions and industries
  like Secretaries of Department of Space,
  Department of Science and Technology,
  Department of Defense Research and
  Development, Department of Scientific and
  Industrial Research, Principal Scientific Advisor
  to PM, Senior Officials from Armed Forces,
  Indian Coast Guard etc.

#### 8. Correct Option: (a)

#### **Explanation:**

• **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Chandipura virus (CHPV), first discovered by two virologists of the Pune-based National Institute of Virology (NIV) in 1965, predominantly infects children.

#### **Supplementary notes:**

#### **Chandipura virus**

- Chandipura virus named after the town in Maharashtra where the discovery was made and isolated, Chandipura virus is known to cause inflammation of the brain, progress rapidly from an influenza-like illness to coma and death.
- The Chandipura Vesiculovirus (CHPV), first discovered by two virologists of the Punebased National Institute of Virology (NIV) in 1965, predominantly infects children. The majority of infected patients are children aged below 14.
- The last cases reported in Gujarat were in 2014 when four children aged between five and 14



succumbed to the virus. In 2010, 29 suspected cases were reported of which 17 children succumbed to the virus, all from Kheda, Panchmahals, and Vadodara in the state.

#### **Causes**

- The virus spreads mainly through the bite of sand flies, and sometimes through mosquitoes. Animal studies show that the virus affects neurons and causes neurodegeneration. Sandflies, which are found in mud and in cracks of sand houses, mostly breed during monsoon and pre-monsoon months which is when the cases are generally reported.
- The likely vector (or carrier) of the virus is the female phlebotomine sandfly. The virus was detected in sandflies in Senegal, Nigeria as well as in India. In 2003, Chandipura virus was responsible for an outbreak in southern India in which 329 children developed acute encephalitis and 183 died.

#### **Symptoms**

• The symptoms include sudden high fever accompanied by headache, convulsions and vomiting, sometimes leading to unconsciousness. Based on the symptoms, doctors recommend a blood test. The samples are sent to NIV Pune, which confirms the presence or absence of the Chandipura virus. It takes between 10 and 15 days to get the test results.

#### Treatment

 There is no specific medicine for its treatment. However, with timely detection, hospitalization and symptomatic treatment is given to the patient, which could help save lives.

#### 9. Correct Option: (d)

#### **Explanation:**

• Option (d) is correct: Strum Ataka is an antitank missile.

#### **Supplementary notes:**

Strum Ataka Anti-tank Missile

- India has signed Rs 200 crore deal to acquire 'Strum Ataka' anti-tank missile from Russia for its fleet of Mi-35 attack choppers (exported from Russia).
- The deal was signed under the emergency clauses through which the missiles would be supplied within 3 months of contract signing.

#### 10. Correct Option: (c)

#### **Explanation:**

• Both statements are correct

#### **Supplementary notes:**

#### **Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)**

- AMR is a global public health threat, according to the World Health Organization (WHO).
- According to WHO, AMR is "the ability of a microorganism (like bacteria, viruses, and some parasites) to stop an antimicrobial (such as antibiotics, antivirals and antimalarial) from working against it. As a result, standard treatments become ineffective, infections persist and may spread to others."
- One of the sources of antibiotic resistance development is the presence of antibiotics in the environment, which generates foci of resistant bacteria through bacterial exposure to antibiotics.
- Misuse of antibiotics in humans, animals, and aquaculture contributes to AMR.
- Poor management of waste from farms, factories, healthcare settings and households also adds to the problem.
- If there is no timely containment, AMR is likely to cause nearly 10 million deaths by 2050 and result in significant global economic losses.
- Recently, Madhya Pradesh has become the second state after Kerala to develop an action plan to manage antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

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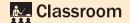


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