



# ACADEMY OF CIVIL SERVICES

## CURRENT AFFAIRS

### UPSC PREVIOUS YEARS PRELIMS QUESTIONS (2011-2018)

#### 2014

- 1) Recently, a series of uprisings of people referred to as 'Arab Spring' originally started from
- a) Egypt
  - b) Lebanon
  - c) Syria
  - d) Tunisia**
- 2) Consider the following towns of India:
- 1. Bhadrachalan
  - 2. Chanderi
  - 3. Kancheepuram
  - 4. Karnal

Which of the above are famous for the production of traditional sarees/fabric?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only**
- c) 1, 2 and 3
- d) 1, 3 and 4

#### 2015

- 1) Among the following, which were frequently mentioned in the news for the outbreak of Ebola virus recently?
- a) Syria and Jordan
  - b) Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia**
  - c) Philippines and Papua New Guinea
  - d) Jamaica, Haiti and Surinam
- 2) Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development for 2014 was given to which one of the following?
- a) Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
  - b) Indian Institute of Science
  - c) Indian Space Research Organization**
  - d) Tata Institute of Fundamental Research
- 3) 'Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action', often seen in the news, is
- a) A strategy to tackle the regional terrorism, an outcome of a meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.
  - b) A plan of action for sustainable economic growth in the Asia-Pacific Region, an outcome of the deliberations of the Asia-Pacific Economic Forum.
  - c) An agenda for women's empowerment, an outcome of a World Conference convened by the United Nations.**
  - d) A strategy to combat wildlife trafficking, a declaration of the East Asia Summit.

## 2016

- 1) With reference to 'Red Sanders', sometimes seen in the news, consider the following statements:
- 1. It is a tree species found in a part of South India.
  - 2. It is one of the most important trees in the tropical rain forest areas of South India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only**
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2

- d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 2) Recently, India's first 'National Investment and Manufacturing Zone' was proposed to be set up in
- a) Andhra Pradesh
  - b) Gujarat**
  - c) Maharashtra
  - d) Uttar Pradesh
- 3) With reference to 'Bitcoins', sometimes seen in the news, which of the following statements is/are correct?
- 1. Bitcoins are tracked by the Central Banks of the countries.
  - 2. Anyone with a Bitcoin address can send and receive Bitcoins from anyone else with a Bitcoin address.
  - 3. Online payments can be sent without either side knowing the identity of the other.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 and 2 only
  - b) 2 and 3 only**
  - c) 3 only
  - d) 1, 2 and 3
- 4) Regarding 'DigiLocker', sometimes seen in the news, which of the following statements is/are correct?
- 1. It is a digital locker system offered by the Government under Digital India Programme.
  - 2. It allows you to access your e-documents irrespective of your physical location.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

- 5) Recently, for the first time in our country, which of the following states has declared a particular butterfly as 'State Butterfly'?
- a) Arunachal Pradesh
  - b) Himachal Pradesh
  - c) Karnataka
  - d) Maharashtra**
- 6) Recently, which of the following states has explored the possibility of constructing an artificial inland port to be connected to sea by a long navigational channel?
- a) Andhra Pradesh
  - b) Chattisgarh
  - c) Karnataka
  - d) Rajasthan**
- 7) A recent movie titled *The Man Who Knew Infinity* is based on the biography of
- a) S. Ramanujan**
  - b) S. Chandrasekhar
  - c) S. N. Bose
  - d) C. V. Raman

## **2017**

- 1) 'Recognition of Prior Learning Scheme' is sometimes mentioned in the news with reference to
- a) Certifying the skills acquired by construction workers through traditional channels.**
  - b) Enrolling the persons in universities for distance learning programmes.
  - c) Reserving some skilled jobs to rural and urban poor in some public sector undertakings.
  - d) Certifying the skills acquired by trainees under the National Skill Development Programme.
- 2) The term 'Domestic Content Requirement' is sometimes seen in the news with reference to
- a) Developing solar power production in our country**

- b) Granting licenses to foreign T.V. channels in our country
  - c) Exporting our food products to other countries
  - d) Permitting foreign educational institution to set up their campuses in our country.
- 3) The term ‘Event Horizon’, ‘Singularity’, ‘String Theory’ and ‘Standard Model’ are sometimes seen in the news in the context of
- a) **Observation and understanding of the Universe**
  - b) Study of the solar and the lunar eclipse
  - c) Placing satellites in the orbit of the earth
  - d) Origin and evolution of living organisms on the earth
- 4) With reference to ‘National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF)’, which of the statements given below is/are correct?
- 1. Under NSQF, a learner can acquire the certification for competency only through formal learning.
  - 2. An outcome expected from the implementation of NSQF is the mobility between vocational and general education.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
  - b) **2 only**
  - c) Both 1 and 2
  - d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 5) Which of the following statements best describes the term ‘Scheme for Sustainable Structuring of Stressed Assets (S4A)’, recently seen in the news?
- a) It is a procedure for considering ecological costs of developmental schemes formulated by the Government.
  - b) **It is a scheme of RBI for reworking the financial structure of big corporate entities facing genuine difficulties.**
  - c) It is a disinvestment plan of the Government regarding Central Public Sector Undertakings.
  - d) It is an important provision in ‘The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code’ recently implemented by the Government.

## 2018

1) Very recently, in which of the following countries have lakhs of people either suffered from severe famine/acute malnutrition or died due to starvation caused by war/ethnic conflicts?

- a) Angola and Zambia
- b) Morocco and Tunisia
- c) Venezuela and Colombia
- d) Yemen and South Sudan**

2) Consider the following pairs:

Towns sometimes mentioned in news		Country
1) Aleppo	:	Syria
2) Kirkuk	:	Yemen
3) Mosul	:	Palestine
4) Mazar-i-Sharif	:	Afghanistan

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 1 and 4**
- c) 2 and 3
- d) 3 and 4

3) What is “Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD)”, sometimes seen in the news?

- a) An Israeli radar system
- b) India’s indigenous anti-missile programme
- c) An American anti-missile system**
- d) A defense collaboration between Japan and South Korea

4) The terms ‘WannaCry, Petya and ExternalBlue’ sometimes mentioned in the news recently are related to

- a) Exoplanets
- b) Cryptocurrency

**c) Cyber attacks**

d) Mini satellites

**5) The term “sixth mass extinction/sixth extinction” is often mentioned in the news in the context of the discussion of**

a) Widespread monoculture practices in agriculture and large-scale commercial farming with indiscriminate use of chemicals in many parts of the world that may result in the loss of good native ecosystems

b) Fears of a possible collision of a meteorite with the Earth in the near future in the manner it happened 65 million years ago that caused the mass extinction of many species including those of dinosaurs

c) Large scale cultivation of genetically modified crops in many parts of the world and promoting their cultivation in other parts of the world which may cause the disappearance of good native crop plants and the loss of food diversity

**d) Mankind’s over-exploitation/misuse of natural resources, fragmentation/loss of natural habitats, destruction of ecosystems, pollution and global climate change.**

**6) Consider the following pairs:**

Region sometimes mentioned in news		Country
1) Catalonia	:	Spain
2) Crimea	:	Hungary
3) Mindanao	:	Philippines
4) Oromia	:	Nigeria

**Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?**

a) 1, 2 and 3

b) 3 and 4 only

**c) 1 and 3 only**

d) 2 and 4 only