

IASbaba's Daily Quiz

September 22, 2016

Q.1) Trade in Services Agreement (TiSA) is often in news. Consider the following statements with respect to TiSA

1. It is a trade agreement currently being negotiated by 23 members of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), including the European Union
2. It is based on the WTO's General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS)
3. Only developed countries are part of TiSA

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) 1 and 2
- c) 2 and 3
- d) All of the above

Q.1) Solution (b)

The Trade in Services Agreement (TiSA) is a trade agreement currently being negotiated by 23 members of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), including the EU. Together, the participating countries account for 70% of world trade in services.

TiSA is based on the WTO's General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS), which involves all WTO members. The key provisions of the GATS – scope, definitions, market access, national treatment and exemptions – are also found in TiSA.

The talks are based on proposals made by the participants. TiSA aims at opening up markets and improving rules in areas such as licensing, financial services, telecoms, e-commerce, maritime transport, and professionals moving abroad temporarily to provide services.

23 WTO members are taking part in the TiSA talks:

Australia, Canada, Chile, Chinese Taipei, Colombia, Costa Rica, the EU, Hong Kong China, Iceland, Israel, Japan, Korea, Liechtenstein, Mauritius, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Switzerland, Turkey and the United States. Of these, the EU has no free trade agreements on services with Chinese Taipei, Israel, Pakistan or Turkey.

In News –

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2016/sep/20/global-trade-deal-threatens-paris-climate-goals-leaked-documents-show>

<http://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/is-tisa-undermining-the-paris-climate-deal--55768>

IASbaba's Daily Quiz

September 22, 2016

Q.2) The National Board for Wildlife has approved phase 1 of the Ken-Betwa river interlinking project. Consider the following statements with respect to same

1. The project aims at providing water to the drought-prone Bundelkhand area
2. As part of the project the government will have to divert thousands hectares of land including Panna Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Q.2) Solution (c)

As part of the project, the government will have to divert 5,258 hectares of forests. This includes 4,141 hectares of the Panna Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh.

The project has a significant environment and wildlife impact as it passes right through the reserve where tigers had vanished in 2009

The Ken-Betwa project aims at providing water to the drought-prone Bundelkhand area. The purpose is to irrigate 6.35 lakh hectares of land, provide drinking water and generate hydroelectricity.

The Ken-Betwa project aims to transfer 591 million cubic metre of surplus water in the Ken basin through a 231.45 km canal to the Betwa river.

In News - <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/wildlife-panel-clears-first-phase-of-kenbetwa-project/article9128892.ece>

Q.3) Karnataka Government is not in favour of cloud seeding in areas facing deficient rain. Consider the following statements with respect to cloud seeding

1. It is a method of enabling inefficient clouds to bring rain or enhance rainfall from a seedable cloud by introducing seeding material
2. Cloud Aerosol Interaction and Precipitation Enhancement Experiment (CAIPEEX) is a technique to understand the rain formation in clouds and the impact of Randomized Cloud Seeding
3. Silver iodide and dry ice is generally used for cloud seeding

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 3
- b) Only 1
- c) 1 and 2
- d) All of the above

Q.3) Solution (d)

Cloud seeding is a method of enabling inefficient clouds to bring rain or enhance rainfall from a seedable cloud by introducing seeding material

The most common chemicals used for cloud seeding include silver iodide, potassium iodide and dry ice (solid carbon dioxide). Liquid propane, which expands into a gas, has also been used. This can produce ice crystals at higher temperatures than silver iodide.

After promising research, the use of hygroscopic materials, such as table salt, is becoming more popular.[3] Cloud seeding to increase snowfall takes place when temperatures within the clouds are between 19 and -4°F (-7 and -20°C).[4] Introduction of a substance such as silver iodide, which has a crystalline structure similar to that of ice, will induce freezing nucleation.

CAIPEEX

- Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) is putting its effort for understanding the rain formation in clouds through a research program, called the Cloud Aerosol Interaction and Precipitation Enhancement Experiment (CAIPEEX).
- It is a technique to understand the rain formation in clouds and the impact of Randomized Cloud Seeding
- Under this experiment, air borne observations are taken through randomized cloud seeding and seeing the impact. Airborne observations include detailed measurements of aerosols, cloud droplets, raindrops and ice particles, registering the growth of clouds before and after the seeding.
- CAIPEEX research data have been used to formulate ice nucleation scheme for inclusion of such processes in the forecast models.
- CAIPEEX program uses a combination of radar, other ground based instruments and airborne platforms along with high resolution numerical modelling to plan and conduct the seeding experiment. The area for cloud seeding is determined based on convective potential. Aircraft observations have to be conducted before and after the seeding to determine the environmental conditions and the quantum of seeding material.

IASbaba's Daily Quiz

September 22, 2016

- As things stand today, artificial rain making techniques involving cloud seeding cannot be used for bringing rain clouds to rainfall deficit/drought areas. These techniques can only induce potential pre-existing clouds with adequate cloud droplets, to produce enhanced quantum of rain.

The term CAIPEEX was used in Parliament by Minister of State for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences - http://moes.gov.in/writereaddata/files/LS_US_1750_04052016.pdf

In News - <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-karnataka/govt-not-in-favour-of-cloud-seeding-cm/article9044450.ece>

Q.4) The 52nd Amendment Act, 1985 provides for

- a) Disqualification of members of Parliament and state legislatures on the ground of defection
- b) Creation of All India Judicial Service
- c) An alternative scheme of devolution of revenue between the Centre & states
- d) None of the above

Q.4) Solution (a)

52nd Amendment Act of 1985 provided for the disqualification of the members of Parliament and the state legislatures on the ground of defection from one political party to another. For this purpose, it made changes in four Articles of the Constitution and added a new Schedule (the Tenth Schedule) to the Constitution. This act is often referred to as the 'anti defection law'.

Later, the 91st Amendment Act of 2003 made one change in the provisions of the Tenth Schedule. It omitted an exception provision i.e., disqualification on ground of defection not to apply in case of split.

In News - <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/sc-refuses-to-answer-grey-areas-in-antidefection-law/article8937266.ece>

Q.5) Consider the below statements in regard to Railway Budget and General Budget in India:

1. Department of Budget Affairs is responsible for the General Budget Preparation.
2. The Railway Budget was separated from the General Budget in 1931.

IASbaba's Daily Quiz

September 22, 2016

3. Bibek Debroy Committee has recommended discontinuance of a separate Rail Budget.

Select the correct statement/s from the codes given below:

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

Q.5) Solution (a)

Department of Economic Affairs, under Ministry of Finance is responsible for the General Budget Preparation.

After the recommendations of 10 member-Acworth Committee in 1920-21, the railway budget was separated from general budget in 1924. Since then the budget was presented independently.

In News: <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/centre-decides-to-do-away-with-separate-rail-budget/article9133552.ece>

