

Q.1) Consider the following statements about 'Padayani'

1. It is performed in honour of Bhadrakaali
2. It is performed in Karnataka

Select the correct statements

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

Q.1) Solution (a)

Padayani, also called Padeni, is a traditional folk dance and a ritual art from the central portion of the Indian state of Kerala. A ceremonial dance involving masks, it is an ancient ritual performed in Bhagavati temples. The dance is performed in honor of Bhadrakaali. Meaning, a 'row of warriors', Padayani is an art form that blends music, dance, theatre, satire, facial masks, and paintings. It is part of worship of Bhadrakali and is staged in temples dedicated to the goddess from mid-December to mid-May. Padayani is unique to central Travancore, comprising the Pathanamthitta district of Kerala. Padayani is regarded as a remnant of the Dravidian forms of worship that existed before the advent of Brahmanism.

Padayani is like Theyyam in north kerala. The percussion instruments used in Patayani are patayani thappu, chenda, para and kumbham.

Q.2) Recently 'Reindeer Police' was in news concerned with which of the following countries?

- a) Sweden
- b) Norway
- c) Finland
- d) Greenland

Q.2) Solution (b)

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/reindeer-police-the-only-force-of-its-kind-in-the-world/article17857387.ece>

Q.3) Consider the following statements about National Intelligence Grid

1. It is a counter terrorism programme, which utilises technologies like Big Data and analytics to study and analyse the data from various intelligence and enforcement agencies
2. The information will be available in public domain to help track suspected terrorists and prevent terrorist attacks

Select the correct statements

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

Q.3) Solution (a)

NATGRID is an ambitious counter terrorism programme, which will utilise technologies like Big Data and analytics to study and analyse the huge amounts of data from various intelligence and enforcement agencies to help track suspected terrorists and prevent terrorist attacks.

This combined data will be made available to 11 central agencies, which are: Research and Analysis Wing, the Intelligence Bureau, Central Bureau of Investigation, Financial intelligence unit, Central Board of Direct Taxes, Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Enforcement Directorate, Narcotics Control Bureau, Central Board of Excise and Customs and the Directorate General of Central Excise Intelligence.

Q.4) Consider the following statements

1. A mutual legal assistance treaty (MLAT) is an agreement between two or more countries for the purpose of gathering and exchanging information in an effort to enforce public or criminal laws
2. Ministry of Home Affairs is the nodal Ministry and the Central authority for seeking and providing mutual legal assistance in criminal law matters

Select the correct statements

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2

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d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.4) Solution (c)

A mutual legal assistance treaty is an agreement between two or more countries for the purpose of gathering and exchanging information in an effort to enforce public or criminal laws. This assistance may take the form of examining and identifying people, places and things, custodial transfers, and providing assistance with the immobilisation of the instruments of criminal activity. According to MEA website, India has signed Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty (MLAT) with 39 countries and is trying to sign this treaty with more developed countries.

As per the Allocation of Business Rules of the Government of India, the Ministry of Home Affairs is the nodal Ministry and the Central authority for seeking and providing mutual legal assistance in criminal law matters. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) receives all such requests, examines them and takes appropriate action. (Internal Security-II (IS-II) Division handles this subject in the Ministry of Home Affairs.) The Ministry of External Affairs may be involved in this process when such requests are routed through diplomatic channels by these Ministries.

The difference between the two categories of countries is that the country having an MLAT with India has an obligation to consider serving the documents, whereas the non-MLAT countries do not have any obligation to consider such a request.

The Ministry of Home Affairs does not undertake service of non-bailable warrants of arrest. The service of non-bailable arrest warrants amounts to the extradition of the individual. Requests for extradition are based on legal principles and procedures contained in Extradition Treaties negotiated with the foreign country concerned. Such requests are to be forwarded in the prescribed format to the Ministry of External Affairs.

Q.5) Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) is under the

- a) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- b) Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
- c) Ministry of Food Processing Industries
- d) None of the above

Q.5) Solution (a)

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Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) is an export promotion body under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

It was established by the Government of India under the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Act passed by the Parliament in December, 1985.

The Authority replaced the Processed Food Export Promotion Council (PFEPCC).

Read More - http://apeda.gov.in/apedawebsite/about_apeda/about_apeda.htm

