

IASbaba's Daily Quiz

December 13, 2016

Q.1) Sambhar Lake, India's largest saline lake is located in

- a) Gujarat
- b) Rajasthan
- c) Jammu & Kashmir
- d) Odisha

Q.1) Solution (b)

The Sambhar Salt Lake, India's largest inland salt lake, a bowl shape lake encircles historical Sambhar Lake Town located 96 km south west of the city of Jaipur (Northwest India) and 64 km north east of Ajmer along National Highway 8 in Rajasthan.

In News - <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-newdelhi/Cancel-illegal-salt-pans-in-Sambhar-Lake-NGT/article16796355.ece>

Q.2) Consider the following statements about Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)

1. The Indian Ocean Rim is a region comprised of the states whose shores are washed by the waters of the Indian Ocean.
2. Yemen, Tunisia, Egypt and Mozambique are members of IORA
3. The Secretariat is hosted by the Government of Mauritius and based in Cyber City, Ebène, Mauritius.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

Q.2) Solution (a)

The Indian Ocean is the world's third largest ocean. It carries half of the world's container ships, one third of the world's bulk cargo traffic and two thirds of the world's oil shipments. It is a lifeline of international trade and transport. The region is woven together by trade routes and commands control of major sea-lanes.

The Indian Ocean Rim is a region comprised of the states whose shores are washed by the waters of the Indian Ocean. The region is home to about two billion people. It is a region of much cultural diversity and richness - in languages, religions, traditions, arts and cuisines.

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The countries of the Indian Ocean Rim vary considerably in terms of their areas, populations and levels of economic development. They may also be divided into a number of sub-regions (Australasia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, West Asia and Eastern & Southern Africa), each with their own regional groupings (such as ASEAN, SAARC, GCC and SADC, to name a few).

Members

- Australia
- Bangladesh
- Comoros
- India
- Indonesia
- Iran
- Kenya
- Madagascar
- Malaysia
- Mauritius
- Somalia
- Mozambique
- Oman
- Seychelles
- Singapore
- South Africa
- Sri Lanka
- Tanzania
- Thailand
- United Arab Emirates
- Yemen

Dialogue Partners

- China
- Egypt
- France
- Japan
- United Kingdom
- United States
- Germany



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The Secretariat of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) is hosted by the Government of Mauritius and based in Cyber City, Ebène, Mauritius. It manages, coordinates, services and monitors the implementation of policy decisions, work programmes and projects adopted by the Council of Ministers.

The Secretariat is responsible for the servicing of all IORA meetings, the representation and promotion of the Association, the collation and dissemination of information, the maintenance of an archive, depository and registry for IORA documentation and research material and the mobilization of resources.

In News - <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=155284>

Q.3) Consider the following statements about Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY)

1. It provides for 50% taxes and surcharge on declarations of unaccounted cash deposited in banks.
2. It is a part of 'The Taxation Laws (Second Amendment) Bill, 2016'

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

Q.3) Solution (c)

The Taxation Laws (Second Amendment) Bill, 2016 also proposes to introduce a scheme named the 'Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana, 2016' as the name suggests, its aim is to use black-money collected post-demonetisation in welfare schemes for the poor.

The new scheme - Taxation and Investment Regime for Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana, 2016- is part of the Taxation Laws (Second Amendment) Bill, 2016 introduced in the Parliament on Monday. So, what does the new black money scheme mean?

Taxation Laws (Second Amendment) Bill, 2016

- Attempts to plug loopholes in existing I-T Act being misused to conceal black money
- Penalty provisions made more stringent
- Provides for a two-tier tax penalty regime
- Black money holders get a chance till December 30 to deposit unaccounted money in banks

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- Need to pay higher tax, penalty and a surcharge of 50 per cent
- Will also have to deposit 25% of unaccounted money in the PMGKY scheme
- Zero-interest, lock-in for four years in PMGKY scheme

But what if they fail to make use of this window?

- They can file tax returns at the end of the financial year and declare unknown income
- Have to pay a steeper 60% tax, 25 % surcharge
- On Rs. 100 they will have to pay Rs 75
- An additional 10 per cent penalty can also be levied in some cases

In case of misreporting or under-reporting or any other wrongdoing current provisions of a levy of 50% up to 200% applicable.

In News - <http://www.livemint.com/Politics/xZTIAQHc289dZpN8YXHs8L/Government-to-notify-scheme-for-taxing-black-money-holders-t.html>

Q.4) Consider the following statements

1. Metabolites are the intermediate products of metabolic reactions catalyzed by various enzymes that naturally occur within cells
2. Biomarkers are the measures used to perform a clinical assessment such as blood pressure or cholesterol level
3. Metabolomics is the study of an organism's metabolome, which is the collection of metabolites found in particular organism

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

Q.4) Solution (d)

Metabolites are the intermediate products of metabolic reactions catalyzed by various enzymes that naturally occur within cells. This term is usually used to describe small molecules, although broader application is often practiced.

Metabolomics is the study of an organism's metabolome, which is the collection of metabolites found in particular organism.

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Biomarkers (short for biological markers) are biological measures of a biological state. By definition, a biomarker is "a characteristic that is objectively measured and evaluated as an indicator of normal biological processes, pathogenic processes or pharmacological responses to a therapeutic intervention."

Biomarkers are the measures used to perform a clinical assessment such as blood pressure or cholesterol level and are used to monitor and predict health states in individuals or across populations so that appropriate therapeutic intervention can be planned.

Biomarkers may be used alone or in combination to assess the health or disease state of an individual.

In News - <http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/ICGEB-finds-distinct-biomarkers-for-dengue-chikungunya/article16789632.ece>

Q.5) Consider the following statements about 'Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat'

1. It is a sub-programme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan
2. The two tracks of the scheme are 'Early reading and writing with comprehension (ERWC) and Early mathematics (EM)'

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

Q.5) Solution (c)

Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat: It is a sub-programme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan launched in August, 2014 with special focus on improving language development and to create interest in mathematics. The two tracks of Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat are: Early reading and writing with comprehension (ERWC) and Early mathematics (EM).

In News - <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/Getting-the-elementary-arithmetic-wrong/article16799154.ece>