

Q.1) Consider the following statements about Moombika Temple

1. It sits on the banks of the Tungabhadra River
2. It is located in Hampi

Select the correct statements

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

Q.1) Solution (d)

The Kollur Mookambika Temple/ at Kollur, Udupi District in the state of Karnataka, India, is a Hindu temple dedicated to mother Durga devi or Saraswati known as Mookambika Devi. Mookambika is Shakthi devi, the supreme mother goddess in Hinduism. She is worshipped in three different forms such as Maha Kali (goddess of power) in the morning, Maha Lakshmi (goddess of wealth) in the noon and Maha Saraswati (goddess of knowledge) in the evening.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-karnataka/sri-lankan-pm-to-visit-kollur-tomorrow/article19556704.ece>

Q.2) Consider the following statements about 'Washington Consensus'

1. It is a set of economic prescriptions made by the NAFTA to developing countries
2. It advocates free trade and reducing government budget deficits

Select the correct statements

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

Q.2) Solution (b)

This is a set of neoliberal economic prescriptions made by the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and the U.S. Treasury to developing countries that faced economic crises. It

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recommended structural reforms that increased the role of market forces in exchange for immediate financial help. The term was coined by British economist John Williamson in 1989. While some said that the Washington Consensus was used to impose harsh conditions that were unhelpful for economic recovery, others have argued that although not perfect, it was favourable to long-term economic growth in developing economies.

Neoliberalism refers primarily to the 20th-century resurgence of 19th-century ideas associated with laissez-faire economic liberalism. These include economic liberalization policies such as privatization, fiscal austerity, deregulation, free trade, and reductions in government spending in order to increase the role of the private sector in the economy and society.

Essentially, the Washington consensus advocates, free trade, floating exchange rates, free markets and macroeconomic stability.

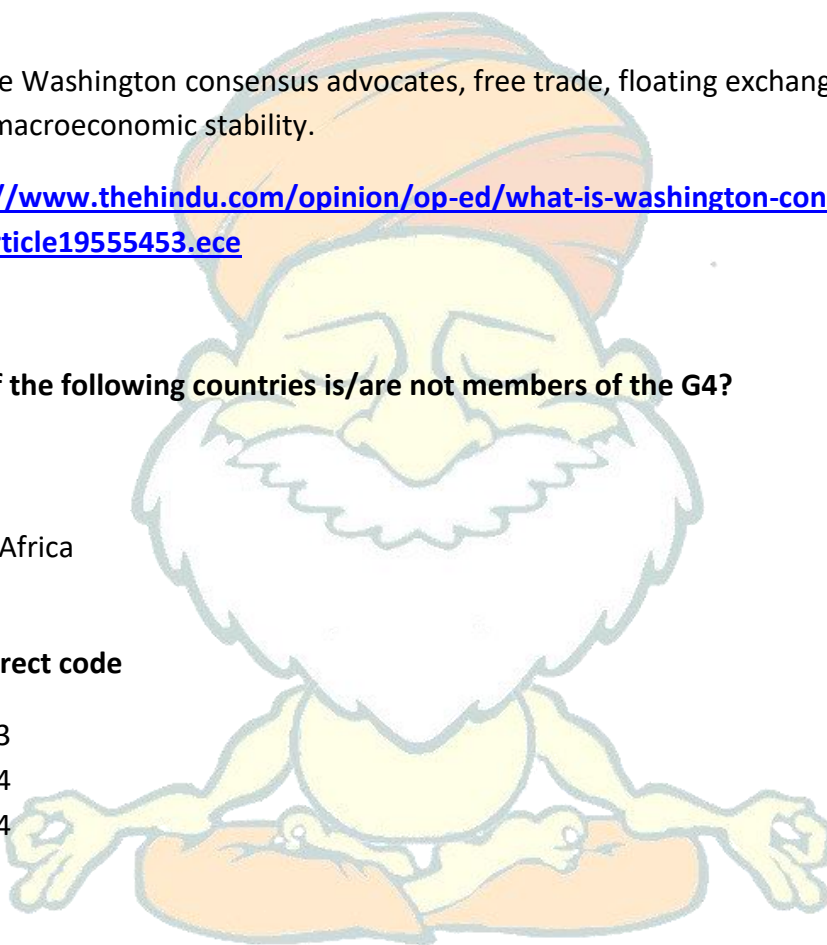
Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/what-is-washington-consensus-in-economics/article19555453.ece>

Q.3) Which of the following countries is/are not members of the G4?

1. Brazil
2. India
3. South Africa
4. China

Select the correct code

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



Q.3) Solution (b)

The G4 nations comprising Brazil, Germany, India, and Japan are four countries which support each other's bids for permanent seats on the United Nations Security Council. Unlike the G7, where the common denominator is the economy and long-term political motives, the G4's primary aim is the permanent member seats on the Security Council. Each of these four countries have figured among the elected non-permanent members of the council since the UN's establishment. Their economic and political influence has grown significantly in the last decades, reaching a scope comparable to the permanent members

(P5). However, the G4's bids are often opposed by the Uniting for Consensus movement, and particularly their economic competitors or political rivals.

Q.4) Consider the following statements about Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB)

1. It is a statutory body
2. It advises the Government on issues relating to wildlife crimes having national and international ramifications

Select the correct statements

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

Q.4) Solution (c)

The Wildlife Crime Control Bureau was created to complement the existing state machinery to deal with the wildlife crime having ramifications beyond state and national borders. It is not intended to perform the normal and routine functions falling within the domain of the States / Union Territories, as crime including the implementation of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, is mandate of the State Governments.

It was constituted on 6th June 2007. he Bureau was constituted by amendment to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. It has been envisaged as a multi - disciplinary statutory body that will have officials from forests, police, customs and other similar agencies. The constitution is specified in Section 38 (Y) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

The functions of the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) are defined under Section 38 Z (1) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, which reads as follows:

"Subject to the Provisions of this Act, the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau shall take measures with respect to –

- Collect and collate intelligence related to organized Wildlife Crime activities and to disseminate the same to State and other enforcement agencies for immediate action so as to apprehend the criminals and to establish a centralized Wildlife Crime data bank;

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- Co-ordination of actions by various officers, State Governments and other authorities in connection with the enforcement of the provisions of this Act, either directly or through regional and border units set up by the Bureau;
- Implementation of obligations under the various international Conventions and protocols that are in force at present or which may be ratified or acceded to by India in future;
- Assistance to concerned authorities in foreign countries and concerned international organizations to facilitate co-ordination and universal action for wildlife crime control;
- Develop infrastructure and capacity building for scientific and professional investigation into wildlife crimes and assist State Governments to ensure success in prosecutions related to wildlife crimes;
- Advice the Government of India on issues relating to wildlife crimes having national and international ramifications, and suggest changes required in relevant policy and laws from time to time."

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/huge-haul-of-painting-brushes-made-of-mongoose-hair/article19542571.ece>

Q.5) Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) was in news recently concerned with

- a) India's first private mission to moon
- b) Evolved Laser Interferometer Space Antenna (eLISA)
- c) Project Loon
- d) None of the above

Q.5) Solution (d)

Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) coaches are the passenger compartments of Indian Railways that have been developed by Linke-Hofmann-Busch of Germany.

Source; <http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report-rlys-planned-additional-safer-lhb-coaches-in-july-2540317>