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Q.1) Rajiv Kumar Committee is associated with

- a) Water management in north-east
- b) Inter linking of rivers
- c) Foreign Direct Investment
- d) Urban Flooding

Q.1) Solution (a)

The government has set up a high-level committee to evolve a strategy for management of NER's water resources.

The committee will facilitate optimising benefits of appropriate water management in the form of hydro-electric power, agriculture, bio-diversity conservation, reduced flood damage erosion, inland water transport, forestry, fishery and eco-tourism.

With the ministry of development of north-eastern region (DoNER) serving as the coordinating point, the committee will submit its report as well as a plan of action by June next year. This will involve dovetailing central and state government schemes across departments and autonomous bodies.

The committee's formation comes against the backdrop of floods that have brought life to a standstill in Assam, Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur.

The committee will be headed by Rajiv Kumar, vice-chairman of NITI Aayog, the federal policy think tank, and will include secretaries from the ministries of DoNER, power, water resources, river development and Ganga rejuvenation, National Disaster Management Authority, departments of border management and space and the chief secretaries of all the eight states of the region.

Q.2) Which of the following rivers flows through Myanmar

- 1. Brahmaputra
- 2. Irrawaddy
- 3. Mekong

Select the correct code:

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

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d) All of the above

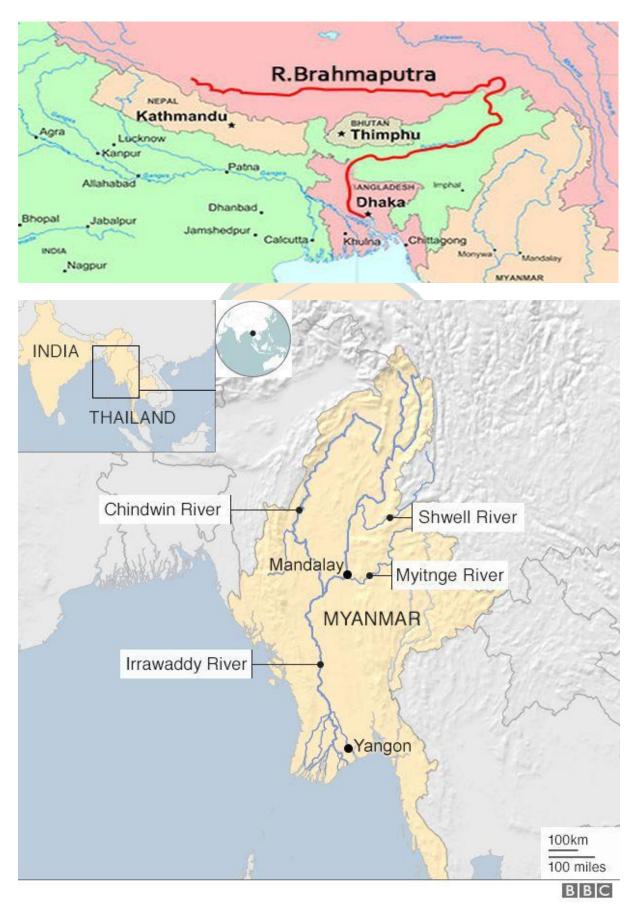
Q.2) Solution (b)

From the Tibetan Plateau the Mekong river runs through China's Yunnan Province, Myanmar, Laos, Thailand, Cambodia, and Vietnam.



Irrawady river is a river that flows from north to south through Myanmar. It is the country's largest river and most important commercial waterway. Originating from the confluence of the N'mai and Mali rivers, it flows relatively straight North-South before emptying through the Irrawaddy Delta into the Andaman Sea.

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Q.3) Consider the following statements about MIBOR and MIBID

- 1. They are interest rate benchmarks
- 2. MIBID is the rate at which banks would like to borrow from other banks
- 3. MIBOR is the rate at which banks are willing to lend to other banks

Select the correct statements

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

Q.3) Solution (d)

Mumbai Inter-Bank Offer Rate (MIBOR) and Mumbai Inter-Bank Bid Rate (MIBID) are the benchmark rates at which Indian banks lend and borrow money to each other. The bid is the price at which the market would buy and the offer (or ask) is the price at which the market would sell. These rates reflect the short term funding costs of major banks. In other words, MIBOR reflects the price at which short term funds are made available to participating banks.

MIBID is the rate at which banks would like to borrow from other banks and MIBOR is the rate at which banks are willing to lend to other banks. Contrary to general perception, MIBID is not the rate at which banks attract deposits from other banks.

Source: http://indianexpress.com/article/business/banking-and-finance/loan-pricingsystems-for-better-transmission-rbi-in-search-of-yet-another-benchmark-4786872/

Q.4) Consider the following statements about SECURE Himalaya Project

- 1. It is launched by Union Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) in association with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
- 2. It aims to ensure conservation of locally and globally significant biodiversity, land and forest resources in high Himalayan ecosystem
- 3. It also focuses on protection of snow leopard and other endangered species and their habitats

Select the correct statements

a) 1 and 2

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

Q.4) Solution (d)

Project aims to ensure conservation of locally and globally significant biodiversity, land and forest resources in high Himalayan ecosystem spread over four states viz. Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Uttarakhand and Sikkim.

It was launched by Union Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) in association with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The SECURE project aims at securing livelihoods, conservation, sustainable use and restoration of high range Himalayan ecosystems.

The key focus areas of the project is protection of snow leopard and other endangered species and their habitats and also securing livelihoods of people in region and enhancing enforcement to reduce wildlife crime.

Source: <u>https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/centre-launches-six-year-secure-himalaya-project/articleshow/60914913.cms</u>

Q.5) Bhagoria Haat Festival is celebrated by which of the tribes of India?

- a) Bhils
- b) Munda
- c) Khasi
- d) Angami

Q.5) Solution (a)

Bhagoria Fest is a festival celebrated by the tribal people of the Indian state Madhya Pradesh (originally known as 'Malwa'). Also known as Bhagoria Haat Festival, during this festival, young boys and girls are allowed to elope after choosing their partners. The Bhagoria Haat Festival belongs to the local tribes called Bhils and Bhilalas.

Bhagoria Haat Festival is organized in Khargone district and Jhabua. The haat is organized in the form of a 'swayamvar' or a marriage market where young girls and boys are allowed to choose their partners. Bhagoria Haat Festival has an agricultural significance attached to it,

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that is, it coincides with the end of harvesting. So some people also celebrate it to mark the completion of harvesting.

But the star attraction of Bhagoria Haat Festival of Madhya Pradesh is the running away of young boys and girls with their partner who are later accepted as husband and wife by the society. During the Bhagoria Haat Festival in Madhya Pradesh, the boys put red powder on the face of the girl to whom he wants to get married, if the girl too wishes to marry the same boy, she has to put the same red powder on the boy's face after which both of them run away from that place. But if the girl does not agree in the first chance, the boy can go behind her to persuade her and may win her heart.

Bhagoria Haat Festival at Madhya Pradesh is celebrated in the month of March before the Holi festival.

