

June 14, 2018

Q.1) Consider the following statements about 'Khadi and Village Industries Commission'

1. It is a statutory body
2. It is under the aegis of Ministry of Commerce and Industry
3. It is entrusted with the task of providing financial assistance to institutions and individuals for development and operation of Khadi and village industries

Select the correct code:

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

Q.1) Solution (c)

The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is a statutory body formed by the Government of India, under the Act of Parliament, 'Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act of 1956'. It is an apex organisation under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, with regard to khadi and village industries within India, which seeks to - "plan, promote, facilitate, organise and assist in the establishment and development of khadi and village industries in the rural areas in coordination with other agencies engaged in rural development wherever necessary."

Its functions also comprise building up of a reserve of raw materials and implements for supply to producers, creation of common service facilities for processing of raw materials as semi-finished goods and provisions of facilities for marketing of KVI products apart from organisation of training of artisans engaged in these industries and encouragement of co-operative efforts amongst them. To promote the sale and marketing of khadi and/or products of village industries or handicrafts, the KVIC may forge linkages with established marketing agencies wherever feasible and necessary.

The KVIC is also charged with the responsibility of encouraging and promoting research in the production techniques and equipment employed in the Khadi and Village Industries sector and providing facilities for the study of the problems relating to it, including the use of non-conventional energy and electric power with a view to increasing productivity, eliminating drudgery and otherwise enhancing their competitive capacity and arranging for dissemination of salient results obtained from such research.

Further, the KVIC is entrusted with the task of providing financial assistance to institutions and individuals for development and operation of Khadi and village industries and guiding them through supply of designs, prototypes and other technical information.

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Source: <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=179903>

Q.2) The term, 'KATRIN' was in news recently. It is associated with

- a) Cyber Security
- b) Hurricane near Florida, USA
- c) Space Junk
- d) Neutrino

Q.2) Solution (d)

KATRIN is a German acronym (Karlsruhe Tritium Neutrino Experiment) for an undertaking to measure the mass of the electron antineutrino with sub-eV precision by examining the spectrum of electrons emitted from the beta decay of tritium.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/scientists-seek-to-find-mass-of-ghost-particle/article24137611.ece>

Q.3) 'Vallarta Mud Turtles' are generally found in

- a) Chambal River
- b) Gahirmatha Beach
- c) Rann of Kutch
- d) None of the above

Q.3) Solution (d)

It is found in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-life/conservation-measures/article24148451.ece>

Q.4) Consider the following statements about 'Seva Bhoj Yojana'

1. Under the scheme, Centre's share of GST charged on the raw food materials purchased by the religious institutions will be refunded
2. It has been notified by the Union Ministry of Culture

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Select the correct statements

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

Q.4) Solution (c)

Ministry of Culture of Government of India has launched a new scheme called ' Service Bhoj Scheme ' at the cost of Rs 325 crore for the financial year 2018-19 and 2019-20 .

Under this scheme, the CGST and the centre's share of IGST paid on the purchase of specific items by charitable/religious institutions for distributing free food to the public shall be reimbursed as financial assistance by the Government of India.

Prior to applying for financial assistance / grants, the charitable religious institutions like Temple, Gurudwara, Mosque, Cathedral, Religious Ashram, Dargah, Math, working for at least five years and providing free food to at least 5,000 people in one month and Institutes registered under section 10 (23 BBA) of the Income Tax or Institute registered under the Societies Registration Act (XXI of 1860) or any Under the Act, during the formation of a statutory religious body under the Act, the institutions registered under Section 12A of the Income Tax Act or under the Act as a public trust, will be eligible for a grant under this scheme.

Source: <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1534149>

Q.5) Recently signed 'Qingdao Declaration' is associated with

- a) Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)
- b) BRICS
- c) ASEAN
- d) Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

Q.5) Solution (a)

18th Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit adopted the Qingdao declaration.

India refused to endorse China's ambitious One Belt, One Road (OBOR) project as part of Qingdao Declaration.

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Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/belt-and-road-initiative-inept-translation-of-qingdao-declaration-alters-indias-stand/article24146100.ece>