

August 6, 2018

**Q.1) Consider the following statements about recently launched 'SPARK initiative'.**

1. It is aimed at skilling engineering graduates from IITs in Defence technology.
2. It was jointly launched by DRDO and the Defence Ministry

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.1) Solution (d)**

**SPARK (Support for Prototype and Research Kickstart)**

- It was launched by the Ministry of Defence.
- It will enable calling for proposals to address the technological needs of the ministry.
- Under the SPARK the ministry has invited applications from start up, individual innovators. They will be provided grants up to 1.5 crores under the framework.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/defence-ministry-throws-11-challenges-at-startups/article24604905.ece>

**Q.2) An interim mechanism called the 'Peace Clause' is available for developing nations. It is concerned with**

- a) World Trade Organisation (WTO)
- b) International Solar Alliance (ISA)
- c) International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- d) UNFCC

**Q.2) Solution (a)**

According the 'Peace Clause' to which they cannot be challenged at the WTO Dispute Settlement Mechanism (DSM) even if they breach the cap of the product-specific domestic support (10% of the value of production).

Read More - <http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/opinion/all-you-wanted-to-know-about-peace-clause/article6280907.ece>

## IASbaba's Daily Quiz

August 6, 2018

Source: <https://www.livemint.com/Politics/SA97ynNnXzbLCRM6SgXlhN/India-updates-WTO-on-food-subsidies-for-2nd-time-in-3-months.html>

**Q.3) Consider the following statements with respect to Organisation of American States (OAS)**

1. It is a continental organization formed in the wake of 2008 Financial Crisis
2. India is an observer state of the OAS

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.3) Solution (b)**

The Organization of American States is a continental organization that was founded on 30 April 1948, for the purposes of regional solidarity and cooperation among its member states. Headquartered in the United States capital Washington, D.C. the OAS's members are the 35 independent states of the Americas.

**Member of the OAS -**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Member\\_states\\_of\\_the\\_Organization\\_of\\_American\\_States](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Member_states_of_the_Organization_of_American_States)

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/clarifying-asylum/article24609235.ece>

**Q.4) 'Innocenti Declaration' is associated with**

- a) Breastfeeding
- b) Differently abled
- c) Diplomatic Immunity
- d) Polio Eradication

**Q.4) Solution (a)**

August 6, 2018

World Breastfeeding Week (August 1-7) is celebrated every year to encourage breastfeeding and improve the health of babies around the world. It commemorates the Innocenti Declaration signed in August 1990 by government policymakers, the World Health Organisation (WHO), UNICEF and other organisations to protect, promote and support breastfeeding.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/health/every-ounce-counts/article24604892.ece>

### Q.5) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Cabotage'

1. It refers to the practice of imposing restrictions for movement of domestic cargo by foreign flag vessels.
2. The policy of cabotage restriction is governed as per the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958.

### Select the correct statements

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

### Q.5) Solution (c)

Cabotage means reserving coastal trade for national flag vessels; in other words, it refers to the practice of imposing restrictions for movement of domestic cargo by foreign flag vessels.

Cabotage is applied in the coastal trade or the internal trade from one port to another in India, which is generally carried out by ships of lower draft/depth. Coastal movement require the use of smaller sized ships due to draft (depth), waterway width and navigational restrictions, as well as the availability of appropriate loading and handling facility at the port.

Cabotage is a sovereign right of the country.

Cabotage restrictions are applicable in most countries to protect the domestic shipping industry from foreign competition as well as for the purpose of national security. China and USA are known to impose absolute cabotage restrictions.

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August 6, 2018

There is no absolute cabotage restriction in India. The policy of cabotage restriction for movement of domestic cargo by foreign flag vessels along the coast of India is governed as per Section 407 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, as amended from time to time.

Section 407 (2) of the Act enables granting of licence for such coastal trade in India to a foreign flag vessel for a specified period or voyage by the Director General of Shipping (DGS) subject to such conditions as it deems fit. However, the Act does not use the word cabotage.

Also, Section 407 (3) of the Act empowers the Central Government to relax cabotage restriction in respect of any part of the coastal trade of India subject to such conditions and restrictions as it deems fit.

Source: <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/colombo-cuts-rates-after-india-eases-cabotage-rules/article24584932.ece>

