

December 12, 2018

Q.1) Consider the following statements

1. GM foods are within the scope of the [Cartagena Protocol](#) only if they contain LMOs that are capable of transferring or replicating genetic material.
2. [Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee \(GEAC\)](#) functions in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC).

Select the correct statements

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

Q.1) Solution (c)

The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, an environmental treaty legally binding for its Parties which took effect in 2003, regulates transboundary movements of Living Modified Organisms (LMOs). GM foods are within the scope of the Protocol only if they contain LMOs that are capable of transferring or replicating genetic material. The cornerstone of the Protocol is a requirement that exporters seek consent from importers before the first shipment of LMOs intended for release into the environment.

The Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) functions in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC). As per Rules, 1989, it is responsible for appraisal of activities involving large scale use of hazardous microorganisms and recombinants in research and industrial production from the environmental angle. The committee is also responsible for appraisal of proposals relating to release of genetically engineered (GE) organisms and products into the environment including experimental field trials.

GEAC is chaired by the Special Secretary/Additional Secretary of MoEF&CC and co-chaired by a representative from the Department of Biotechnology (DBT).

Q.2) Consider the following statements with respect to '[Land Acquisition Act, 2013](#)'

1. It replaced the Land Acquisition Act, 1894
2. The scope of the Act includes all land acquisition whether it is done by the Central Government of India, or any State Government of India, except the state of Jammu & Kashmir.
3. The provisions of the Act does not apply to acquisitions under the Railways Act, 1989

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Select the correct code:

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

Q.2) Solution (d)

The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (also Land Acquisition Act, 2013) is an Act of Indian Parliament that regulates land acquisition and lays down the procedure and rules for granting compensation, rehabilitation and resettlement to the affected persons in India. The Act has provisions to provide fair compensation to those whose land is taken away, brings transparency to the process of acquisition of land to set up factories or buildings, infrastructural projects and assures rehabilitation of those affected. The Act establishes regulations for land acquisition as a part of India's massive industrialisation drive driven by public-private partnership. The Act replaced the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, a nearly 120-year-old law enacted during British rule.

The Act aims to establish the law on land acquisition, as well as the rehabilitation and resettlement of those directly affected by the land acquisition in India. The scope of the Act includes all land acquisition whether it is done by the Central Government of India, or any State Government of India, except the state of Jammu & Kashmir.

The Act is applicable when:

- Government acquires land for its own use, hold and control, including land for Public sector undertakings.
- Government acquires land with the ultimate purpose to transfer it for the use of private companies for stated public purpose. The purpose of LARR 2011 includes public-private-partnership projects, but excludes land acquired for state or national highway projects.
- Government acquires land for immediate and declared use by private companies for public purpose.

The provisions of the Act does not apply to acquisitions under 16 existing legislations including the Special Economic Zones Act, 2005, the Atomic Energy Act, 1962, the Railways Act, 1989, etc.

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Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/ahmedabad/2013-land-acquisition-act-supreme-court-notice-to-gujarat-government-four-other-states-on-amendments-5487279/>

Q.3) 'Noney' was in recently in news. Where is it located?

- a) Mizoram
- b) Manipur
- c) Arunachal Pradesh
- d) Assam

Q.3) Solution (b)

Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/guwahati/indias-tallest-bridge-pier-built-in-noney/articleshow/67008374.cms>

Q.4) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW)'

1. It was launched during the Paris Climate Summit in 2015
2. It is a brainchild of India and China

Select the correct statements

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

Q.4) Solution (d)

The Council on Energy, Environment and Water, commonly known as CEEW, is a Delhi-based not-for-profit policy research institution. Some of CEEW's research areas include resource efficiency and security; water resources; renewable energy; sustainability finance; energy-trade-climate linkages; integrated energy, environment and water plans; and climate geoengineering governance. The think-tank advises the Indian government.

Source: <https://www.livemint.com/Home-Page/4OirJQJQ4wDeA9rrK2eqDO/Opinion--Structural-reforms-for-decarbonising-India.html>

Q.5) Edaphic factors are included in

- a) Abiotic components
- b) Biotic components
- c) Consumers
- d) Producers

Q.5) Solution (a)

Edaphic factors are those which are related to soil which includes soil profile, porosity, soil moisture, soil air, soil organisms etc. It is a part of abiotic components.

