December 28, 2018

Q.1) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Lytein River'

1. It runs a course through the Ladakh
2. It flows along the entire length of Pakistan to merge into the Arabian Sea

Select the correct code:

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

Q.1) Solution (d)

Lytein river flows through Meghalaya. The miners were trapped after water from the nearby Lytein river gushed into the illegal rat-hole mine at Ksan area in Lumthari village.

Q.2) Consider the following statements about 'Sambar'

1. It is native to the Indian subcontinent only
2. It is listed as 'Least Concern' on the IUCN Red List

Select the correct statements

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

Q.2) Solution (d)

The sambar (Rusa unicolor) is a large deer native to the Indian subcontinent, southern China, and Southeast Asia that is listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List since 2008. Populations have declined substantially due to severe hunting, insurgency, and industrial exploitation of habitat.

The name "sambar" is also sometimes used to refer to the Philippine deer, called the "Philippine sambar" and the Javan rusa, called the "Sunda sambar".

Q.3) 'Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary' is located in

a) Uttar Pradesh
b) Nepal
c) Uttarakhand
d) West Bengal

Q.3) Solution (a)

The Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary is a protected area in the Upper Gangetic plain in Uttar Pradesh, India and covers an area of 400.6 km2 in the Terai of the Bahraich district. In 1987, it was brought under the purview of the 'Project Tiger', and together with the Kishanpur Wildlife Sanctuary and the Dudhwa National Park it forms the Dudhwa Tiger Reserve.

The Katerniaghat Forest provides strategic connectivity between tiger habitats of Dudhwa and Kishanpur in India and the Bardia National Park in Nepal. Its fragile Terai ecosystem comprises a mosaic of sal and teak forests, lush grasslands, numerous swamps and wetlands. It is home to a number of endangered species including gharial, tiger, rhino, Gangetic dolphin, swamp deer, hispid hare, Bengal florican, the white-backed and long-billed vultures.

Q.4) Consider the following statements with respect to 'North-East Industrial Development Scheme (NEIDS) 2017'

1. It includes reimbursement up to the extent of Central Govt. share of CGST and IGST for 5 Years from the date of commencement of commercial production by the unit
2. The industrial unit set up under the scheme can claim Reimbursement of Centre's share of income tax for first 5 years including the year of commencement of commercial production by the unit.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.4) Solution (c)

North East Industrial Development Scheme (NEIDS), 2017 with financial outlay of Rs.3000 crores upto March, 2020. Government will provide necessary allocations for remaining period of scheme after assessment before March 2020. NEIDS is a combination of the incentives covered under the earlier two schemes with a much larger outlay.

Under the Scheme, the following incentives shall be provided to new industrial units set up in the North Eastern States including Sikkim:

Central Capital Investment Incentive for Access to Credit (CCIIAC)

- 30% of the investment in Plant & Machinery with an upper limit of Rs.5 Crore on the incentive amount per unit.

Central Interest Incentive (CII)

- 3% on working capital credit advanced by eligible Banks/ Financial institutions for first 5 years from the date of commencement of commercial production by the unit.

Central Comprehensive Insurance Incentive (CCII)

- Reimbursement of 100% insurance premium on insurance of building and Plant & Machinery for 5 years from the date of commencement of commercial production by the unit.

Goods and Service Tax (GST) Reimbursement

- Reimbursement up to the extent of Central Govt. share of CGST and IGST for 5 Years from the date of commencement of commercial production by the unit.

Income-Tax (IT) Reimbursement

- Reimbursement of Centre's share of income tax for first 5 years including the year of commencement of commercial production by the unit.

Transport Incentive (TI)

- 20% of the cost of transportation including the subsidy currently provided by Railways/ Railway PSU for movement of finished goods by rail.
- 20% of cost of transportation for finished goods, for movement through Inland Waterways Authority of India.
- 33% of cost of transportation of air freight on perishable goods (as defined by IATA) from the airport nearest to place of production toany airport within the country.

Employment Incentive (EI)

- The Government shall pay 3.67% of the employer's contribution to the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) in addition to Government bearing 8.33% Employee Pension Scheme (EPS) contribution of the employer in the Pradhan MantriRojgarProtsahanYojana (PMRPY).

Read More - https://dipp.gov.in/sites/default/files/NEIDS_2017_16April2018.pdf

Q.5) Consider the following statements and identify the correct ones:

1. RBI transfers the surplus funds to the government after keeping all provisions and contingency buffers, according to its statutory mandate under Section 47 of the RBI Act.
2. Central Government has formed Bimal Jalan committee to review the RBI's existing economic capital framework (ECF).

Select the correct statements

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

Q.5) Solution (a)

The Reserve Bank of India has formed an expert committee under former governor Bimal Jalan to decide the appropriate level of reserves that the regulator should hold.

The six-member panel has former deputy RBI governor Rakesh Mohan as its vice chairman and comprises economic affairs secretary Subhash Chandra Garg, RBI central board members Bharat Doshi and Sudhir Mankad and deputy governor NS Vishwanathan.

It will review "the need and justification of various provisions, reserves and buffers" that RBI has maintained for contingency purposes and suggest an adequate level of risk provisioning.

It will "propose a suitable profits distribution policy taking into account all the likely situations of the RBI, including the situations of holding more provisions than required and the RBI holding less provisions than required."

This will be the first time a panel on RBI's economic capital framework will have government representatives. The previous three were headed by YH Malegam, Usha Thorat and V Subrahmanyam, all associated with the central bank, with the latter two having been deputy governors. The six-member Malegam committee on preparation of the RBI balance sheet in 2013 had two external experts but no government nominees, while the Thorat group in 2004 and the Subrahmanyam panel in 1997 were purely internal.

RBI transfers the surplus to the government after keeping all provisions and contingency buffers, according to its statutory mandate under Section 47 of the RBI Act. The reserves are meant for unforeseen contingencies, including depreciation in the value of securities, risks arising from exchange rate operations and other systemic challenges.

The central bank's core reserve —contingency fund—is only around 7% of its total assets and the rest of it is largely in revaluation reserves, which fluctuate with corresponding changes in currency and gold valuations. In 2017-18, the central bank's contingency funds and revaluation reserves stood at ₹2.32 trillion and ₹6.92 trillion respectively.

RBI data shows that the growth in revaluation reserves has far exceeded the growth in contingency fund. While revaluation reserves have more than tripled from ₹1.99 trillion in 2008-09 to ₹6.92 trillion in 2017-18, the contingency fund has grown 50% during the same period from ₹1.53 trillion to ₹2.32 trillion.