

✓ UPSC MCQs with Detailed Explanations (1 July 2025 Current Affairs)

Q1. With reference to the Goods and Services Tax (GST) in India, consider the following statements:

1. GST is a multi-stage, origin-based indirect tax.
2. Exports are zero-rated under the GST regime.
3. The GST system allows seamless credit across the supply chain.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

A. 1 and 2 only

B. 2 and 3 only ✓

C. 1 and 3 only

D. 1, 2 and 3

✓ Answer: B. 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** GST is **destination-based**, meaning tax revenue accrues to the state where the consumption occurs, not where the production happens.
 - **Statement 2 is correct:** Exports are **zero-rated** under GST, meaning no tax is levied, and exporters can claim a refund on input taxes.
 - **Statement 3 is correct:** GST provides **Input Tax Credit (ITC)** throughout the supply chain, ensuring no tax-on-tax (cascading effect).
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Q2. Which of the following are considered shortcomings of the current GST regime in India?

1. Refunds under officer-led GST processes are delayed.
2. Frequent rate changes increase procedural complexity.
3. IGST refunds take more than 3 months to process.

A. 1 and 2 only ✓

B. 2 and 3 only

C. 1 and 3 only

D. 1, 2 and 3

✓ Answer: A. 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Refunds handled by GST officers (via the GST portal) can take up to 90 days.

- **Statement 2 is correct:** Frequent changes in tax rates and notifications add to the compliance burden.
 - **Statement 3 is incorrect:** IGST refunds are now processed within a week through automation via ICEGATE Customs portal.
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Q3. Regarding Geographical Indications (GI), consider the following statements:

1. GI tags can be sold or transferred like trademarks.
2. They offer perpetual protection and need no renewal.
3. Kolhapuri Chappals have GI recognition in India.

- A. 3 only ☒
B. 1 and 2 only
C. 1 and 3 only
D. 2 and 3 only

☒ **Answer: A. 3 only**

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** GI tags are **non-transferable** and cannot be sold or licensed.
 - **Statement 2 is incorrect:** GI protection lasts for **10 years** and must be **renewed** periodically.
 - **Statement 3 is correct:** Kolhapuri Chappals received GI tag in 2019, jointly to Maharashtra and Karnataka.
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Q4. Which of the following pollutants are secondary in nature?

1. Ammonium sulphate
2. Sulphur dioxide (SO₂)
3. Ammonium nitrate
4. Nitrogen dioxide (NO₂)

- A. 1 and 3 only ☒
B. 2 and 4 only
C. 1, 3 and 4 only
D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

☒ **Answer: A. 1 and 3 only**

Explanation:

- **Secondary pollutants** form in the atmosphere through chemical reactions.

- **Ammonium sulphate and ammonium nitrate** are formed from primary pollutants like SO_2 , NH_3 , and NO_x .
- **SO_2 and NO_2 are primary pollutants**, directly emitted from sources like vehicles and power plants.

Q5. The QUAD Sea Ship Observer Mission is primarily aimed at:

- A. Building a permanent QUAD naval base in the Indo-Pacific
- B. Conducting joint air exercises among QUAD air forces
- C. Promoting cross-embarkation of coast guard officers for maritime synergy ✓
- D. Facilitating military-grade arms transfer among QUAD nations

✓ **Answer: C.**

Explanation:

- The mission allows **officers from QUAD nations** (India, Japan, US, Australia) to **embark on each other's Coast Guard vessels**, boosting interoperability.
- **Option A** is wrong: No base is being established.
- **Option B** is wrong: It involves maritime, not air, coordination.
- **Option D** is incorrect: The mission focuses on cooperation, not arms transfer.

Q6. In the context of new materials in electronics, which of the following statements about Altermagnets is/are correct?

1. Altermagnets exhibit external net magnetism.
2. They show both p-type and n-type conductivity based on direction.
3. CrSb is the first known altermagnet with Direction-Dependent Conduction Polarity (DDCP).

- A. 2 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 2 and 3 only ✓
- D. 1, 2 and 3

✓ **Answer: C. 2 and 3 only**

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Altermagnets have **zero net magnetism externally**, despite internal magnetic ordering.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** CrSb shows **n-type** conduction **within layers** and **p-type** conduction **across layers**.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** CrSb is the **first altermagnet** discovered with this DDCP feature.

Q7. GOSAT-GW Satellite launched by Japan is significant because:

1. It monitors both greenhouse gases and water cycles.
2. It is the first Indian-Japanese joint space mission.
3. It continues the legacy of the GOSAT series for climate monitoring.

A. 1 and 2 only

B. 1 and 3 only ✓

C. 2 and 3 only

D. 1, 2 and 3

✓ **Answer: B. 1 and 3 only**

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** It monitors **GHGs** and **hydrological cycles**.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** It is **not an Indo-Japan mission**, but a Japanese effort led by JAXA.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** It is the **third satellite** in the **GOSAT series**.

Q8. Which of the following are correct regarding the Akash Air Defence System?

1. It is a supersonic surface-to-air missile.
2. It is indigenously developed under Make in India.
3. It can intercept both ballistic and cruise missiles.

A. 1 and 2 only ✓

B. 2 and 3 only

C. 1 and 3 only

D. 1, 2 and 3

✓ **Answer: A. 1 and 2 only**

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Akash travels at **Mach 1.8 to 2.5**.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Developed by **DRDO, BEL, BDL** under Make in India.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Akash is not designed to intercept **ballistic missiles**; it targets **aircraft, drones, and cruise missiles**.

Q9. The newly discovered plant species *Begonia nyishiorum* is significant because:

1. It is found only in Arunachal Pradesh.

2. It is the first begonia species found in India.
3. It shows unique crimson-fringed petioles not found in other begonias.

- A. 1 and 2 only
B. 2 and 3 only
C. 1 and 3 only ☒
D. 1, 2 and 3

☒ Answer: C. 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** It is **endemic to East Kameng, Arunachal Pradesh**.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** India has **over 200 begonia species** already.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** It has a **distinct crimson-fringed petiole**, never seen before in Asian begonias.

Q10. With reference to Kombucha, consider the following statements:

1. It is a fermented drink rich in probiotics and polyphenols.
2. It can modulate gut microbiota positively in obese individuals.
3. It contains no alcohol and is non-carbonated.

- A. 1 and 2 only ☒
B. 1 and 3 only
C. 2 and 3 only
D. 1, 2 and 3

☒ Answer: A. 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Kombucha is made using **SCOBY** and is rich in **probiotics, polyphenols, and antioxidants**.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** New research links it to **positive gut modulation** in **obese individuals**.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Kombucha contains **trace alcohol** (due to fermentation) and is **naturally carbonated**.