



P.L.RAJ IAS & IPS ACADEMY

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MCQ

1. Consider the following statements about Supreme Court's Suo motu cognizance:

1. Between 2020-2024 Supreme Court registered 35 Suo motu matters exceeding total 31 cases recorded in entire preceding 15 years
2. Article 235 of the Constitution vests power of control and administration over district and subordinate courts in respective High Courts not the Supreme Court
3. Sahara India Real Estate Corp. v. SEBI 2012 established courts' authority to pass postponement orders against media publications when there is real and substantial risk of prejudice to justice
4. Article 142 of the Constitution gives High Courts administrative and disciplinary control over subordinate courts including postings and transfers

Which statements are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only (b) 1, 3 and 4 only (c) 2, 3 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: (a)

EXPLANATION:

- **Statement 1 is CORRECT:** Between 2020-2024 SC registered 35 suo motu matters; exceeded total 31 cases in entire preceding 15 years; sharp multi-fold increase raising concerns about media-driven selection criteria.
- **Statement 2 is CORRECT:** Article 235 vests power of control, administration over district-subordinate courts in respective High Courts (NOT Supreme Court); covers postings, promotions, transfers, disciplinary matters ensuring independence, efficiency of subordinate judiciary.
- **Statement 3 is CORRECT:** Sahara India Real Estate Corp. v. SEBI (2012) five-judge Constitution Bench established courts have strict legal authority passing postponement orders against media publications when "real and substantial risk of prejudice" to administration of justice exists; formal legal tool currently underutilized.
- **Statement 4 is WRONG:** Article 142 gives Supreme Court extraordinary power to do complete justice (NOT High Courts' control over subordinate courts); Article 235 (NOT Article 142) gives High Courts administrative-disciplinary control over subordinate courts including postings and transfers.

2. Consider the following statements about JWST's exoplanet discovery:

1. WASP-94A b is classified as "Hot Jupiter" located in constellation Microscopium with volume almost twice Jupiter but only half its mass
2. Clouds on WASP-94A b are made of magnesium silicate, iron and magnesium sulphide unlike Earth's water vapor clouds
3. Transit Method involves tracking slight dimming of star's light when exoplanet passes in front of it while Transmission Spectroscopy identifies atmospheric chemicals through wavelength absorption
4. JWST is located at Lagrange Point 1 approximately 1.5 million km from Earth observing in ultraviolet wavelengths

Which statements are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only (b) 1, 3 and 4 only (c) 2, 3 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: (a)

- **Statement 1 is CORRECT:** WASP-94A b is Hot Jupiter gas giant in constellation Microscopium; almost twice Jupiter's volume but only half Jupiter's mass (lower density); orbits star in just four Earth days; tidally locked.
- **Statement 2 is CORRECT:** Unlike Earth's water vapor clouds, WASP-94A b clouds made of magnesium silicate (vaporized rock), iron, magnesium sulphide; form on cooler nightside, transported to dayside by winds, evaporate at $>1,000^{\circ}\text{C}$.
- **Statement 3 is CORRECT:** Transit Method tracks slight dimming of star's light when exoplanet passes in front (measures planet size); Transmission Spectroscopy reads missing wavelengths as starlight filters through planet's atmosphere during transit identifying exact atmospheric chemicals.
- **Statement 4 is WRONG:** JWST located at Lagrange Point 2 (L2) NOT L1; approximately 1.5 million km from Earth (away from Sun); observes in INFRARED wavelengths (NOT ultraviolet); launched December 25, 2021.

3. Consider the following statements about Chandrayaan-2's lunar ice discovery:

1. Scientists used Circular Polarization Ratio greater than 1.0 combined with Degree of Polarization less than 0.13 as refined diagnostic criterion for subsurface ice detection
2. Doubly Shadowed Craters are smaller craters located within larger Permanently Shadowed Regions receiving neither direct sunlight nor significant scattered radiation
3. In-Situ Resource Utilization refers to using local space resources such as extracting water from lunar ice instead of carrying all supplies from Earth
4. Chandrayaan-2's Vikram lander successfully achieved soft landing near lunar south pole in 2019

Which statements are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only (b) 1, 3 and 4 only (c) 2, 3 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: (a)

EXPLANATION:

- **Statement 1 is CORRECT:** Study proposed refined diagnostic criterion combining $\text{CPR} > 1.0$ AND $\text{DOP} < 0.13$ for volumetric scattering indicating subsurface ice-bearing material; CPR alone insufficient as both rough terrain and ice produce high CPR values.
- **Statement 2 is CORRECT:** Doubly Shadowed Craters are smaller craters within larger Permanently Shadowed Regions; receive neither direct sunlight nor significant scattered radiation/thermal radiation from nearby terrain; among coldest known locations on Moon.
- **Statement 3 is CORRECT:** ISRU (In-Situ Resource Utilization) refers to using local space resources instead of carrying supplies from Earth; lunar ice extraction for drinking water, oxygen, hydrogen-oxygen rocket propellant production through electrolysis.
- **Statement 4 is WRONG:** Chandrayaan-2's Vikram lander did NOT successfully achieve soft landing; it crashed during landing attempt in September 2019; Chandrayaan-3's Vikram lander successfully soft-landed near lunar south pole on August 23, 2023 making India 4th nation achieving lunar soft landing.

4. Consider the following statements about the Aravalli Range:

1. Aravalli Range is India's oldest mountain range stretching approximately 692 kilometres traversing Gujarat, Rajasthan, Haryana before culminating in Delhi
2. Rivers Sabarmati and Luna originate from the Aravalli Range and Rajasthan accounts for nearly two-thirds of the range
3. Aravalli Green Wall initiative launched in 2025 aims to restore 26 million hectares of degraded land by 2030 covering 29 districts across four states
4. Dust storms in north western India primarily occur during post-monsoon months of October to December

Which statements are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only (b) 1, 3 and 4 only (c) 2, 3 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: (a)

EXPLANATION:

- **Statement 1 is CORRECT:** Aravalli Range is India's oldest mountain range; stretches ~692 km in northeastern direction; traverses Gujarat, Rajasthan, Haryana before culminating in Delhi; geologically among world's oldest fold mountains.
- **Statement 2 is CORRECT:** Rivers Sabarmati and Luna originate from Aravalli Range supporting water-recharge systems; Rajasthan accounts for nearly two-thirds of the range making it the primary state of the Aravalli system.
- **Statement 3 is CORRECT:** Aravalli Green Wall initiative launched 2025 by Union Government; aims to expand green cover in five-kilometre buffer around range; restore 26 million hectares degraded land by 2030; covers 29 districts across Gujarat, Rajasthan, Haryana, Delhi.
- **Statement 4 is WRONG:** Dust storms in north western India primarily occur during PRE-MONSOON months of April to June (NOT post-monsoon October-December); intense land heating creates dry unstable atmospheric conditions; strong south-westerly winds transport dust from Thar Desert.

5. Consider the following statements about microfinance and meso-finance in India:

1. India's microfinance sector is largely based on Joint Liability Group model and SHG-Bank Linkage Programme has empowered over 17 crore households through more than 144 lakh Self-Help Groups
2. Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana provides collateral-free loans up to ₹20 lakh to micro and small enterprises
3. Meso-finance refers to financial services bridging gap between microfinance and traditional bank lending providing larger, more flexible financing than microfinance
4. Grameen Bank was established by Muhammad Yunus in Bangladesh in 1990 popularizing group-based lending

Which statements are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only (b) 1, 3 and 4 only (c) 2, 3 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: (a)

EXPLANATION:

- **Statement 1 is CORRECT:** India's microfinance largely based on JLG model; SHG-Bank Linkage Programme (NABARD) empowered 17 crores+ households through 144 lakhs+ Self-Help Groups; 46% loans to households with monthly income below ₹20,000.

- **Statement 2 is CORRECT:** PM MUDRA Yojana provides collateral-free loans up to ₹20 lakh (three categories: Shisha up to ₹50,000; Kishore ₹50,000–₹5 lakh; Tarun ₹5–₹20 lakh) to micro, small enterprises.
- **Statement 3 is CORRECT:** Meso-finance bridges gap between microfinance and traditional bank lending; provides financing larger-more flexible than microfinance but smaller-less formal than conventional bank loans; supports business expansion, asset creation, employment generation.
- **Statement 4 is WRONG:** Grameen Bank established by Muhammad Yunus in Bangladesh in 1976 (NOT 1990); gained global prominence popularizing group-based lending to poor households without collateral; Yunus awarded Nobel Peace Prize 2006.

6. Consider the following statements about India-Oman CEPA:

1. India-Oman CEPA came into force on 1 June 2026 providing duty-free access on 99.38% of India's exports compared to 15.33% under MFN regime
2. Oman opened 127 service sub-sectors with 100% FDI for Indian companies making it most comprehensive services offer by any GCC country to India
3. Unlike most Gulf countries Oman's coastline lies directly on Arabian Sea and Gulf of Oman making ports like Salalah and Duqm accessible even when Strait of Hormuz is disrupted
4. India is the first country to secure a comprehensive bilateral trade pact with Oman

Which statements are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only (b) 1, 3 and 4 only (c) 2, 3 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: (a)

EXPLANATION:

- **Statement 1 is CORRECT:** India-Oman CEPA came into force June 1, 2026; provides duty-free access on 99.38% of India's exports; significant expansion from only 15.33% under Most Favoured Nation (MFN) regime.
- **Statement 2 is CORRECT:** Oman opened 127 service sub-sectors (most comprehensive offer by any GCC country to India); 100% FDI allowed for Indian companies in major services sectors; benefits IT, healthcare, logistics, professional services.
- **Statement 3 is CORRECT:** Unlike most Gulf countries depending on Strait of Hormuz shipping, Oman's coastline lies directly on Arabian Sea and Gulf of Oman; ports Salalah, Duqm, Sohar remain accessible even when Hormuz traffic disrupted providing geopolitical resilience.
- **Statement 4 is WRONG:** India is the SECOND country (NOT first) to secure comprehensive bilateral trade pact with Oman; United States secured the first comprehensive bilateral trade pact with Oman; India-UAE CEPA (2022) was India's first Gulf comprehensive agreement.