



# P.L.RAJ IAS & IPS ACADEMY

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## DAILY UPSC PRILIMS MCQ 29.06.2026

### 1. With reference to the Delhi Electric Vehicle (EV) Policy 2.0, recently notified by the Government of Delhi, consider the following statements:

- I. The policy aims to accelerate the transition towards 100% electric mobility and improve urban air quality.
- II. It provides purchase incentives for eligible two-wheelers, three-wheelers and N1 category commercial trucks.
- III. The policy extends financial subsidies to hybrid vehicles as an intermediate clean mobility option.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two**
- (c) All three
- (d) None

**Answer: (b)**

#### Explanation

Statements I and II are correct, whereas Statement III is incorrect.

The **Delhi EV Policy 2.0** seeks to accelerate the adoption of electric mobility between **1 July 2026 and 31 March 2030**.

Major provisions include:

- **100% electric mobility** as the long-term objective.
- Purchase incentives for **electric two-wheelers, three-wheelers and N1 commercial trucks**.
- Waiver of **road tax and registration fee** for eligible EVs.
- Scrapping incentives for older **BS-IV and below vehicles**.
- Expansion of charging infrastructure.

The policy **does not provide subsidies for hybrid vehicles**, signalling a clear preference for **zero-emission vehicles**.

### 2. Which one of the following provisions has been specifically introduced under the Delhi EV Policy 2.0 to promote commercial electric freight transport?

- (a) Lifetime exemption from toll charges for all electric trucks.
- (b) Ten-year exemption from 'No Entry' restrictions for eligible electric N2 trucks.**
- (c) Mandatory conversion of all heavy commercial vehicles to hydrogen fuel by 2028.
- (d) Free battery replacement for electric buses.

**Answer: (b)**

### Explanation

A distinctive feature of the policy is the **special incentive for electric N2 trucks**.

Under the policy:

- The **first 1,000 eligible electric N2 trucks** purchased within the prescribed period receive a **10-year exemption from 'No Entry' restrictions**.
- The objective is to encourage **commercial electrification** while reducing freight-related emissions in urban areas.

### Value Addition

The policy also proposes:

- **32,000 EV charging points** over four years.
- Dedicated **EV Portal** for registration, subsidy applications and **Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)**.

### 3. With reference to the White-rumped Vulture (*Gyps bengalensis*), recently seen in the news, consider the following statements:

- It is listed as **Critically Endangered** on the IUCN Red List.
- It is protected under **Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**.
- Veterinary use of diclofenac has been identified as one of the principal causes of its population decline.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one  
(b) Only two  
**(c) All three**  
(d) None

**Answer: (c)**

### Explanation

All three statements are correct.

The **White-rumped Vulture (*Gyps bengalensis*)** is among India's most threatened scavenging birds.

Important facts:

- **IUCN Status: Critically Endangered**
- **Wildlife (Protection) Act: Schedule I**
- Native to the **Indian Subcontinent and Southeast Asia**.

Major threats include:

- **Veterinary diclofenac toxicity**.
- Electrocutation from power transmission lines.

- Habitat degradation.
- Human disturbance.
- Food contamination.

The recent incident involving a **radio-tagged captive-bred vulture** in Mudumalai Tiger Reserve highlights the growing concern regarding **power-line mortality**.

**4. Which one of the following conservation measures is considered most effective in reducing mortality of large soaring birds such as vultures from power infrastructure?**

- (a) Construction of artificial nesting towers.
- (b) Installation of bird diverters and insulation of power transmission lines.**
- (c) Supplemental feeding through captive breeding centres alone.
- (d) Restricting migration routes through protected areas.

**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation**

Electrocution and collision with overhead transmission lines constitute a major threat to vultures.

Recommended mitigation measures include:

- **Bird diverters** on transmission lines.
- **Insulated conductors.**
- **Bunch-cabling** in sensitive habitats.
- Underground cabling wherever feasible.
- Radio telemetry for monitoring reintroduced birds.

These measures significantly reduce accidental mortality of large soaring birds.

**5. With reference to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) Yearbook 2026, consider the following statements:**

- I. SIPRI has, for the first time, classified a portion of India's nuclear arsenal as "operationally deployed."
- II. Operationally deployed nuclear warheads refer to weapons mated with delivery systems and maintained in a state of readiness.
- III. Operational deployment necessarily implies that the weapons are on immediate launch status.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two**
- (c) All three
- (d) None

**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation**

Statements **I** and **II** are correct, whereas Statement **III** is incorrect.

According to the **SIPRI Yearbook 2026**:

- India possesses an estimated **190 nuclear warheads**, with **12 assessed as operationally deployed**.
- **Operationally deployed** means that the warheads are **mated with delivery systems** and maintained in a condition enabling **rapid deployment after authorised political decision**.

However, this **does not imply immediate launch readiness** or that the weapons are on continuous launch alert.

#### Value Addition

- **SIPRI** is an independent international institute established in **1966**.
- Headquarters: **Stockholm, Sweden**.
- It conducts research on **armaments, arms control, military expenditure, international security and conflict**.

#### 6. With reference to recent discussions on Global Climate Finance, consider the following statements:

- Climate finance includes financial resources mobilised for both mitigation and adaptation measures.
- Under the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC), developed countries are expected to support developing countries through finance and technology transfer.
- The New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) replaces all existing climate finance commitments under the Paris Agreement.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- Only one
- Only two**
- All three
- None

**Answer: (b)**

#### Explanation

Statements **I** and **II** are correct, whereas Statement **III** is incorrect.

Climate finance refers to **financial resources provided for addressing climate change** through:

- **Mitigation** (reducing greenhouse gas emissions).
- **Adaptation** (building resilience to climate impacts).

Under the **UNFCCC** and the **Paris Agreement**, developed countries have committed to supporting developing countries through:

- **Climate finance**

- **Technology transfer**
- **Capacity building**

The **New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG)** establishes a **new post-2025 climate finance target**, but **does not replace the broader obligations** under the Paris Agreement.

**7. Which one of the following best explains the significance of the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) under the UNFCCC framework?**

- (a) It establishes legally binding emission reduction targets for all countries.
- (b) It determines a new global climate finance target to support developing countries after 2025.**
- (c) It creates a global carbon tax applicable to all fossil fuel producers.
- (d) It replaces the Green Climate Fund as the principal financing mechanism.

**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation**

The **New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG)** is the successor to the earlier **USD 100 billion annual climate finance goal**.

Its objective is to:

- Mobilise **scaled-up climate finance**.
- Support developing countries in achieving **mitigation** and **adaptation** goals.
- Improve **predictability** and **accessibility** of climate finance.

It **does not impose emission reduction targets**, nor does it replace existing climate institutions such as the **Green Climate Fund (GCF)**.

**8. With reference to National Statistics Day, consider the following statements:**

- I. It is observed annually on 29 June to commemorate the birth anniversary of Professor P. C. Mahalanobis.
- II. P. C. Mahalanobis founded the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI).
- III. The Mahalanobis Distance is widely used in multivariate statistical analysis.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three**
- (d) None

**Answer: (c)**

**Explanation**

All three statements are correct.

**National Statistics Day** is observed every year on **29 June** to honour **Professor Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis**.

His major contributions include:

- Founder of the **Indian Statistical Institute (ISI)** in **1931**.
- Pioneer of India's modern statistical system.
- Architect of the **National Sample Survey (NSS)**.
- Developer of the **Mahalanobis Distance**, a widely used statistical measure in multivariate analysis.
- Significant contributor to India's **Second Five-Year Plan**.

His work laid the foundation for **evidence-based policymaking** in India.

### 9. Consider the following pairs:

| Institution                      | Primary Function                                                       |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| I. SIPRI                         | Research on international peace, arms control and military expenditure |
| II. Indian Statistical Institute | Statistical research and higher education                              |
| III. Central Statistics Office   | Regulation of monetary policy in India                                 |
| IV. National Sample Survey       | Collection of large-scale socio-economic data                          |

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three**
- (d) All four

**Answer: (c)**

#### Explanation

Pairs **I, II and IV** are correctly matched.

- **SIPRI** conducts research on **international security, military expenditure and arms control**.
- **Indian Statistical Institute (ISI)** is India's premier institution for **statistics, mathematics, computer science and quantitative research**.
- **National Sample Survey (NSS)** collects nationwide socio-economic data used in policymaking.
- The **Central Statistics Office (CSO)** (now part of the **National Statistical Office**) **does not regulate monetary policy**. Monetary policy is the responsibility of the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**.

**10. Consider the following pairs:**

| <b>Initiative/Institution</b>        | <b>Associated Feature</b>                                    |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| I. Delhi EV Policy 2.0               | Promotion of zero-emission urban mobility                    |
| II. White-rumped Vulture             | Critically Endangered scavenging bird affected by diclofenac |
| III. SIPRI                           | Stockholm-based institute on international security          |
| IV. Mahalanobis Distance Measurement | Measurement of atmospheric greenhouse gases                  |

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three**
- (d) All four

**Answer: (c)**

**Explanation**

Pairs **I, II and III** are correctly matched, whereas Pair **IV** is incorrect.

- **Delhi EV Policy 2.0** promotes **electric mobility, charging infrastructure and clean urban transport**.
- **White-rumped Vulture** is a **Critically Endangered scavenger**, with **veterinary diclofenac toxicity** being a major cause of its decline.
- **SIPRI** is an **independent research institute headquartered in Stockholm, Sweden**, specialising in peace and security studies.
- **Mahalanobis Distance** is a **statistical measure used in multivariate analysis** to determine the distance of a data point from a distribution. It has **no connection with atmospheric greenhouse gas measurement**.