Agriculture Current Affairs January 2020 MCQ

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1 Who chairs the 7-member Group of Ministers (GoM) that reviews the crop insurance scheme, "Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)"?

1) Nirmala Sitharaman

2) Rajnath Singh

3) Amit Shah

4) Prakash Javadekar

5) None of these

Answer – 2) Rajnath Singh

Explanation:
On December 28, 2019, The central Government has formed a 7-member group of ministers (GoM) headed by Defense Minister Rajnath Singh to review the crop insurance scheme, "Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)" & make suggestions to improve it according to the needs of the farmers.

The group also includes Home Minister (HM) Amit Shah and Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar and Minister of State for Agriculture, Finance, Tribal Affairs and Animal Husbandry.

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2. Which State/UT has utilized the Poshan Abhiyaan funds well & emerged as the best performer?

1) Mizoram
2) Lakshadweep
3) Himachal Pradesh
4) Bihar

Answer – 1) Mizoram

Explanation: Best performers in Poshan Abhiyaan: Among the states that utilised the Poshan Abhiyaan funds well, Mizoram(65.12%) emerged as the best performer.

It was followed by Lakshadweep (61.08%), Bihar(55.17%), Himachal Pradesh (53.29%) and Meghalaya (48.37%) in the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th place respectively.

Worst performers: The top worst performers were Punjab (0.45%), Karnataka (0.74%),Kerala (8.75%), Jharkhand (13.94%) and Assam (23.01%).

3. Census of which animal, is set to be conducted in May 2020 by Wildlife Institute of India (WII) in Gujarat using 8,000-10,000 cameras?

1) Asiatic Lion

2) Cape lion

3) American lion

4) Barbary lion

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5) None of these

Answer – 1) Asiatic Lion

Explanation: On January 1, 2020,The Wildlife Institute of India (WII),an autonomous institution under the Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate change(MoFCC), is set to conduct the Asiatic Lion Census in May 2020 by using around 8,000-10,000 cameras across 25,000 sqkm (Square kilometre) area spanning 7 districts in Gujarat.

National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)'s technology will be used for the lion census.

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4. Name the Prize unveiled by Britain's Prince William to solve "Earth's greatest environmental problems," from climate change to air pollution?

1) Earth Saver Prize

2) Climate Changer Prize

3) Earthshot Prize

4) Climate Change Prize

5) None of these

Answer – 3) Earthshot Prize

Explanation: On 2nd January 2020, Prince William 37 has announced a multi-million-pound prize for "visionaries" working to solve "Earth's greatest environmental problems," from climate change to air pollution.

The Earth shot Prize will be awarded to five winners, every year, for the next 10 years.

The initiative's goal is to provide "at least 50 solutions to the world's greatest problems by 2030."

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5. How many States have finalized action plan for Agriculture Export Policy (AEP) to enhance exports?

1) 5
2) 6
3) 7
4) 8
5) None of these

Answer – 4) 8

Explanation: On January 5, 2020, As per Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), eight states namely Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Nagaland, Tamil Nadu, Assam, Punjab, and Karnataka finalized an action plan for Agriculture Export Policy (AEP) to enhance exports.

6. Mahadayi Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which state?

Answer – Goa

Explanation: Mahadayi Wildlife Sanctuary is located in Goa.It was in news recently because the carcass of a tiger was found in Sanctuary.

During the last tiger census, the presence of big cats was reported in the Mahadayi Wildlife Sanctuary, with experts claiming these were ones traveling from nearby Bhimgad and Hanshi-Dandeli sanctuaries.

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7. Name the scheme, under which nearly eight crore farmer families have benefited by receiving Rs.6000 per year?

1) Prime Minister Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY)

2) Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM Kisan) scheme

3) Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY)

4) Prime Minister Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojna (PMJJBY)

5) None of these

Answer – 2) Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM Kisan) scheme

Explanation: On January 8,2020 Nearly eight crore farmer families have benefited under PM Kisan (Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi) scheme.

The scheme was launched on 24 February 2019 by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh.

Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Ministry reported more than 48 thousand 937 crore rupees has been released under the scheme till date.

Under this scheme an income of Rs.6000 per year in three equal installments of Rs.2000 is provided to small and regional farmers.

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8. Which state will set up 121 acres zoological garden named after the freedom fighter and revolutionary Shaheed Ashfaqullah Khan?

1) Jaipur, Rajasthan

2) Guwahati, Assam

3) Nagpur, Maharashtra

4) Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh

5) None of these

Answer – 4) Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh

Explanation: On January 8,2020 The Uttar Pradesh Cabinet has approved a proposal to set aside Rs.234 crore for a zoological garden spread across 121 acres in Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh to be named after the freedom fighter and revolutionary Shaheed Ashfaqullah Khan.

AIM: To attract tourists and to increase employment opportunities.

The purpose of the zoological garden is conservation of the wildlife.

Shaheed Ashfaqullah Khan zoological garden was proposed in 2008-2009.

At present there are two zoological gardens in Uttar Pradesh namley, Nawab Wajid Ali Shah Zoological Garden in Lucknow and Kanpur Zoological Park in Kanpur.

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9. Tamil Nadu (TN)'s Fishery and Music universities were named after which politician recently?

1) K. Kamaraj

2) M. Karuna nidhi

3) J.Jaya lalithaa

4) M. G. Ramachandran

5) None of these

Answer – 3) J.Jayalalithaa

Explanation: On January 9, 2020 Tamil Nadu (TN) Assembly passed the Bills to rename 'Tamil Nadu Fisheries University' and 'Tamil Nadu Music and Fine Arts University', after the late Chief Minister and AIADMK leader Jayaram Jayalalithaa as 'Tamil Nadu Dr.J.Jayalalithaa Fisheries University (TNJFU)' and 'Tamil Nadu Dr. J.Jayalalithaa Music and Fine Arts University (TNMFAU)' respectively.

10. Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary located in which state?

Answer - Andhra Pradesh

Explanation: Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary is located in Andhra Pradesh.

This is in news recently because the annual bird census has been commenced in the Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary and surrounding wetlands in the Godavari mangroves on the east coast in Andhra Pradesh.

The census aims at the documentation of migratory and resident birds so that a better management plan of the

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complex ecosystem supporting the water bird species can be prepared.

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11. Kaziranga National Park is seen in news recently, it is located in which state?

Answer – Assam

Explanation: Kaziranga National Park is located in Assam.It is seen in news recently because officials of the Kaziranga National Park and avian specialists conducted the second wetland bird count on January 9-10.

The teams counted a total of 19,225 birds belonging to 96 species under 80 families. The first waterfowl census in 2018 had yielded 10,412 birds covering 80 families from 21 families.

12.Name the state, that has signed a loan agreement worth Rs.711 crores with Kfw, Germany Development bank for expanding the climate-resilient Zero-Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF) for the next five years?

1) Arunachal Pradesh

2) West Bengal

3) Kerala

4) Andhra Pradesh

Answer – 4) Andhra Pradesh

Explanation: On January 8, 2020 Andhra Pradesh government signs a loan pact for Rs.711 crore with Kfw, Germany Development bank for expanding the climate-resilient Zero-Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF) in the state

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for the next five years.

To take up the insurance scheme Andhra Pradesh government will spend Rs 304 crore in addition to encourage 2.39 lakh farmers in 591 village panchayats.

ZBNF already covers about 1.28 lakh hectares in 3,011 villages of Andhra Pradesh and the financial assistance from German bank helps to cover about 2 lakh hectares in the addition.

13.Under which scheme, Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) allowed forests to be traded as a commodity?

1) Green India Mission (GIM)

2) Intensification of Forest Management Scheme (IFMS)

3) National Afforestation Programme (NAP)

4) Green Credit Scheme

Answer – 4) Green Credit Scheme

Explanation: On January 09, 2020 the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) which is an apex body that considers questions on the diversion of forest land for non-forest uses such as mining, industrial projects, townships etc and also issues granting of forest clearances has approved Green Credit Scheme that would allow forests to be traded as a commodity.

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14.Which state has became 1st in India to initiate the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)'s 'red listing' of orchids?

1) Andhra Pradesh (AP)

2) Assam

3) Kerala

4) Arunachal Pradesh (AR)

5) None of these

Answer – 4) Arunachal Pradesh (AR)

Explanation: On January 17, 2020, Arunachal Pradesh (AR) has became the 1st State in India to initiate the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)'s 'red listing' of orchids at the state level after it has inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in Itanagar, AR. According to the MoU, the state government of Arunachal Pradesh will cooperate with IUCN and conduct a red-list evaluation of orchids in the state.

15. Which state celebrates the "Magh Bihu festival" recently?

1) West Bengal

2) Assam

3) Odisha

4) Uttar Pradesh

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5) Gujarat

Answer – 2) Assam

Explanation:
On January 15,2020 Magh Bihu, an harvest festival is being celebrated in Assam.

Magh Bihu falls in the local month of 'Magh' during mid-january.

It is also called 'Bhogali Bihu' or 'Maghor Bihu' as it is celebrated with community feasts after the annual harvest takes place.

The night before 'Magh Bihu' is called 'Uruka' meaning the night of feasts.

The villagers make bamboo huts called 'Bhelghor' or community kitchen where they begin with the preparations for the festival.

16. Which Indian city hosted the 1st edition of the Krishi Manthan, Food, Agri-business and Rural Development Summit of Asia organized by Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIMA)?

1) Kolkata, West Bengal

2) New Delhi, Delhi

3) Mumbai, Maharashtra

4) Ahmedabad, Gujarat

5) Guwahati, Assam

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Answer – 4) Ahmedabad, Gujarat

Explanation: The 1st edition of the Krishi Manthan which is a Food, Agri-business and Rural Development Summit of Asia was held in Ahmedabad, Gujarat from January 16, 2020.

The event was organised by Food and Agribusiness Committee of Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIMA).

17. How many Agri products testing laboratories are there in India after Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has set up additional 135 laboratories recently?

1) 190

2) 195

3) 180

4) 186

5) 179

Answer – 4) 186

Explanation: On January 20, 2020 Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has set up additional 135 Agri products testing laboratories under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MOCI).

Now APEDA recognized Agri products testing laboratories has reached 186 across the Country.

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The number of Agri product testing laboratories have increased in states like Maharashtra (35), Gujarat (23), Andhra Pradesh & Telangana (10), Tamil Nadu (23) and Karnataka (17).

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18. Which state government has launched 'Mukhyamantri Krishak Durghatna Kalyan Yojana' that will provide Rs 5 lakh to the farmers' family in case of farmer's death while working in the state's fields?

1) Maharashtra

2) Andhra Pradesh (AP)

3) Uttar Pradesh (UP)

4) West Bengal (WB)

5) Assam

Answer – 3) Uttar Pradesh (UP)

Explanation: On January 21, 2020 Uttar Pradesh (UP) government has implemented 'Mukhyamantri Krishak Durghatna Kalyan Yojana' for the farmers in the state.

The assistance of Rs 5 lakh will be provided to the farmers' family in case of farmer's death or disabled due to the accident.

The age limit of the scheme is between 18 to 70 years.

This scheme is fully funded by the government of UP.

With in 45days, the beneficiaries will receive the amount under this scheme.

UP government will launch a web portal for this scheme for its easy access.

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19. Which state topped in vegetable production in 2018-19 (3rd advance estimates) by producing 29.55 million tonnes of vegetables?

1) Uttar Pradesh (UP)

2) Assam

3) West Bengal (WB)

4) Arunachal Pradesh (AR)

5) Andhra Pradesh (AP)

Answer – 3) West Bengal (WB)

Explanation: On January 20, 2020, According to the State-wise horticulture production data released at a conference organised by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, the state of West Bengal (WB) has been at the forefront of vegetable production in 2018-19 (3rd advance estimates), where the production of vegetables was 29.55 million tonnes (MT).

It was followed by Uttar Pradesh –UP (27.70 MT) and Madhya Pradesh (17.77 MT).

Andhra Pradesh (AP) continued to hold the top spot in fruits with 17.61MT in 2018-19.

It was followed by Maharashtra (10.82 mt) and UP (10.65 mt).

20. Name the organization that collaborated with National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj

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(NIRDPR) to establish 'Communication Resource Unit' (CRU)?

1) International Atomic Energy Agency, NewDelhi (Delhi)

2) International Solar Alliance, NewDelhi (Delhi)

3) Indian-Ocean Rim Association, NewDelhi (Delhi)

4) UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund), Hyderabad (Telangana)

5) United Nation, NewDelhi (Delhi)

Answer – 4) UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund), Hyderabad (Telangana)

Explanation: On January 24, 2020, National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRDPR),an autonomous organisation under the Union Ministry of Rural Development has entered into the partnership with UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund), Hyderabad (Telangana) field office to set up 'Communication Resource Unit' (CRU).

21. Which bank has signed a loan agreement of $210 million for Maharashtra's Agribusiness & rural transformation project?

1) World Bank (WB)

2) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)

3) New Development Bank (NDB)

4) Asian Development Bank (ADB)

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5) International Monetary Fund (IMF)

Answer – 1) World Bank (WB)

Explanation: On January 24, 2020 the govt of India, Govt of Maharashtra and the World Bank(WB) signed a loan agreement of $210 million for Maharashtra's Agribusiness & rural transformation project.

This project will help the farmers in Maharashtra to take part in competitive agriculture value chains, enhance agribusiness investments thereby increasing productivity of commodities.

All 36 districts of Maharashtra will be implemented with the project and would benefit nearly 1 million farming households.

22. Where was the world's largest solar park, Pavagada Solar Park located?

Answer – Karnataka

Explanation:
Pavagada Solar Park, the world's largest solar power park is located in Karnataka.

This was seen in news recently because it becomes operational.

It will generate 2050MW of clean energy .

The park is located on land leased from farmers, utilising the drought-hit area & adding to farmers' income.

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23. As per the, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare's 1st advance report for 2019-20, what is the estimated total horticulture production in 2019-20?

1) 353.35 million tonnes (mt)

2) 343.35 million tonnes (mt)

3) 333.35 million tonnes (mt)

4) 313.35 million tonnes (mt)

Answer – 4) 313.35 million tonnes (mt)

Explanation: On January 27,2020, The Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India (GoI) has presented the first advance report for 2019-20 & as well as the final estimate for 2018-19 for Area and Production of various Horticulture Crops.

Horticulture production: According to the report,horticulture production in 2019-20 can be 313.35 million tonnes (mt),0.84% higher than in 2018-19(310.74 mt).

24. Padma Shri awardee and Indian Social Worker Tushar Kanjilal passed away recently, he worked for the preservation of which forest?

1) Khasi rainforest, Meghalaya

2) Vandalur Forest Reserve, Tamil Nadu

3) Kaziranga Forest, Assam

4) Mangrove forests in Sunderbans, West Bengal

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5) Gir Forest, Gujarat

Answer – 4) Mangrove forests in Sunderbans, West Bengal

Explanation: On January 29,2020 Famous social worker, environmentalist, educationist & writer Tushar Kanjilal, 85 years old, passed away in Kolkata, West Bengal.

He was born on March 1, 1935 at Noakhali, Bangladesh and was attracted to Marxist ideologies & quit politics in 1967.

The Government of India awarded Tushar Kanjilal the 4th highest civilian honour of Padma Shri in 1986.

He also received Jamnalal Bajaj Award in 2008.

He was an environmental activist & worked for the preservation of the Mangrove forests in the Sunderbans, West Bengal.

He also wrote a book 'Who killed the Sunderbans?"— that deals with the issue of the destruction of Mangrove forests.

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