

IAS PRELIMS EXAM 2016

General Studies Model Test Paper I



International
Solar Alliance



Introduction

The Jagranjosh's **IAS Prelims Exam 2016 General Studies Paper I Model Test Paper I eBook** is the first of its kind Model Test Paper where each and every question is meticulously designed in conformity to the UPSC IAS Prelims Exam Pattern. Moreover each and every question has the explanation covering Socio-Economic dimensions of the Topic.

Current Events of National and International Importance are also incorporated in this Model Test paper and the explanation is provided to fully explain the Topic with the Basic Concept and their interaction with the other related entities. The questions from the traditional sections is now oriented in multi-disciplinary direction and can be solved only when the Candidates study in a composite manner.

This meticulously designed eBook is aligned with the needs of the candidate's requirement and the perception required for the IAS Prelims Preparation.

The questions are taken from each and every section of the IAS Prelims Syllabus and keeping their proportion in the Model Test paper in consonance with the Previous Year IAS Prelims Questions Paper. The aspirants must read the explanation given with each and every question which will help them to clear their doubts related to concepts and can get the real meaning hidden behind the complex texts of the government policies and declarations.

This Model Test paper will help the candidates to give a feel of the real question paper of IAS Prelims if they take the test in the time bound manner. Moreover it is also designed to be useful as an eBook if the candidates gave a thorough reading and learn the explanation given after each of the Question.

Our team at Jagranjosh.com wishes all the students appearing for the examination **All the Best**

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IAS Prelims Exam 2016 GS Model Test Paper I

Q 1. Special safeguard mechanism (SSM) as under WTO relates to:

- a. Allowing developing countries to raise tariffs temporarily to deal with import surges or price falls
- b. Support for farmers that is not linked to prices or production
- c. Licensing companies or individuals other than the patent owner to use the rights of the patent
- d. Governments recognizing other countries' measures as acceptable even if they are different from their own, so long as an equivalent level of protection is provided

Answer: a

Explanation: WTO's Special Safeguard Mechanism (SSM) is a protection measure allowed for developing countries to take contingency restrictions against agricultural imports that are causing injuries to domestic farmers.

In WTO's terms, safeguards are contingency or emergency restrictions on imports taken temporarily to deal with special circumstances such as a surge in imports. Contingency restriction means imposition of an import tax if the imports are causing injuries to domestic agricultural sector. The original GATT itself allows such restrictions to protect domestic economy.

At the Doha Ministerial Conference, the developing countries were given a concession to adopt a Special Safeguard Mechanism (SSM) besides the existing safeguards (like the Special Agricultural Safeguard or the SSG). This SSM constituted an important part of the promises offered to the developing world at Doha (known as Doha Development Agenda) and the Doha MC became known as a development round. As mentioned, the Special Safeguard Mechanism (SSM) allowed developing countries to raise import duties on agricultural products in response to import surges.

Difference between SSM and other safeguards under Agreement on Agriculture

The SSG was available to all countries- both developing and developed whereas the SSM is allowable only to the developing countries. It is to be mentioned that the SSG was available as it was inducted under the GATT agreement; whereas the SSM was the invention of the Doha MC.

World Trade Organisation

World Trade Organization, as an institution was established in 1995. It replaced General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT) which was in place since 1946. In pursuance of World War II, western countries came out with their version of development, which is moored in promotion of free trade and homogenization of world economy on western lines. This version claims that development will take place only if there is seamless trade among all the countries and there are minimal tariff and non- tariff barriers.

Bretton Woods Institutions

That time along with two Bretton wood institutions – IMF and World Bank, an International Trade Organization (ITO) was conceived. ITO was successfully negotiated and agreed upon by almost all countries. It was supposed to work as a specialized arm of United Nation, towards promotion of free trade. However, United States along with many other major countries failed to get this treaty ratified in their respective legislatures and hence it became a dead letter. Consequently, GATT became de-facto platform for issues related to international trade. It has to its credit some major successes in reduction of tariffs (custom duty) among the member countries. Measures against dumping of goods like imposition of Anti-Dumping Duty in victim countries, had also been agreed upon.

It was signed in Geneva by only 23 countries and by 1986, when Uruguay round started (which was concluded in 1995 and led to creation of WTO in Marrakesh, Morocco), 123 countries were already its member. India has been member of GATT since 1948; hence it was party to Uruguay

Round and a founding member of WTO. China joined WTO only in 2001 and Russia had to wait till 2012. While WTO came in existence in 1995, GATT didn't cease to exist. It continues as WTO's umbrella treaty for trade in goods.

Q 2. Consider the below statements regarding colors used in Indian paintings:

- (i) Inorganic or chemical colours: Infinite colours provided by nature from flowers, leaves, stones and even cow dung or soot collected from inside a chimney.
- (ii) Organic colours such as acrylic, emulsion etc. came into existence as a result of industrialisation. They are commercially sold and since they are easily available, they are widely used.
- (iii) For centuries, in western countries (Europe), oil was used to fix colours and the paintings were called oil paintings. When water is used, it is called water colour paintings.
- (iv) Resin extracted from trees is used as an adhesive agent.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- a. (i), (ii) and (iii)
- b. (i) and (iii)
- c. (iii) and (iv)
- d. All of them

Answer. c

Explanation: Organic colours are provided by nature from flowers, leaves, stones and even cow dung or soot collected from inside a chimney that fill the artist's palette. Inorganic or chemical colours such as acrylic, emulsion etc. came into existence as a result of industrialisation. They are commercially sold and since they are easily available, they are widely used.

Q 3. As per WHO, the Zika virus, which is suspected of causing serious birth defects, is likely to spread to all countries in America except Canada and Chile. Consider the following:

- (i) It is a mosquito-borne disease
- (ii) It was first identified in Uganda in 1947
- (iii) It is transmitted by bite of infected Anopheles mosquito

Select the correct options:

- a. (i) and (ii)
- b. (i) and (iii)
- c. (ii) and (iii)
- d. All of the above

Answer: a

Explanation: It is transmitted by bite of infected Aedes egypti mosquito. No vaccine or antiviral medicine is available yet. Zika virus is an emerging mosquito-borne virus that was first identified in Uganda in 1947 in rhesus monkeys through a monitoring network of sylvatic yellow fever. It was subsequently identified in humans in 1952 in Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania. Outbreaks of Zika virus disease have been recorded in Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific.

Zika virus is transmitted to people through the bite of an infected mosquito from the Aedes genus, mainly Aedes aegypti in tropical regions. This is the same mosquito that transmits dengue, chikungunya and yellow fever. Zika virus can be spread by a man to his sex partners.

Zika virus can be spread from a pregnant woman to her fetus and has been linked to a serious birth defect of the brain called microcephaly in babies of mothers who had Zika virus while pregnant.

What is microcephaly?

Microcephaly is a condition where a baby's head is much smaller than expected. During pregnancy, a baby's head grows because the baby's brain grows. Microcephaly can occur because a baby's brain has not developed properly during pregnancy or has stopped growing after birth, which results in a smaller head size. Microcephaly can be an isolated condition, meaning that it can occur with no other major birth defects, or it can occur in combination with other major birth defects.

Microcephaly can happen for many reasons. Some babies have microcephaly because of

- Changes in their genes
- Certain infections during pregnancy
- A woman being close to or touching toxins during pregnancy

Recent media reports have suggested that a pesticide called pyriproxyfen might be linked with microcephaly. Pyriproxyfen has been approved for the control of disease-carrying mosquitoes by the World Health Organization. Pyriproxyfen is a registered pesticide in Brazil and other countries, it has been used for decades, and it has not been linked with microcephaly. In addition, exposure to pyriproxyfen would not explain recent study results showing the presence of Zika virus in the brains of babies born with microcephaly.

Treatment

Zika virus disease is usually relatively mild and requires no specific treatment. People sick with Zika virus should get plenty of rest, drink enough fluids, and treat pain and fever with common medicines. If symptoms worsen, they should seek medical care and advice. There is currently no vaccine available.

Fact Sheets of Zika Virus

- Zika virus disease is caused by a virus transmitted by Aedes mosquitoes.

- People with Zika virus disease usually have symptoms that can include mild fever, skin rashes, conjunctivitis, muscle and joint pain, malaise or headache. These symptoms normally last for 2-7 days.
- There is no specific treatment or vaccine currently available.
- The best form of prevention is protection against mosquito bites.
- The virus is known to circulate in Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific.

Q 4. Which among the following are not correct about the Tax Administrative Reforms Commission?

- (i) In line with the international practice of spending 10-15 per cent of the administration's budget, a minimum of 10 per cent of the tax administration's budget must be spent on taxpayer services
- (ii) It suggested that Income Tax return forms should also include Wealth tax details
- (iii) It recommended that the post of Revenue Secretary should be abolished
- (iv) CBDT and CBEC should be merged and use of PAN (Personal Account Number) to be widened

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

- a. (i), (ii) and (iii)
- b. (i) and (iii)
- c. (i), (ii) and (iv)
- d. All of them

Answer. d

Explanation: The TARC was appointed by the UPA government and submitted its report in June 2014. The recommendations are in an advanced stage of consideration by the government.

Some of the important recommendations are as follows:

- The panel, which has submitted its first report to Finance Minister Arun Jaitley, also pitched for a separate budget allocation to ensure time bound tax refund and a passbook scheme for TDS
- The post of revenue secretary should be abolished.
- the report said it should be developed as a common business identification number (CBIN), to be used by other government departments also such as customs, central excise, service tax, DGFT and EPFO.
- The panel further said it is also necessary to provide for de-registration, cancellation or surrender of registration numbers and PAN.
- The panel suggested I-T returns should also include wealth tax return so that the taxpayer need not separately file wealth tax returns. These returns should also be processed together in the CPC at Bengaluru.
- It also made a case for a passbook scheme for TDS. "Once TDS is deducted from a payment, TDS should get credited to the taxpayer's account. This should be like an account with running balance, to be utilised by the taxpayer at his option to set off his tax liabilities,"
- The CBDT should also come out with clear Foreign Tax Credit (FTC) guidelines, which should also cover the timing differences between different tax jurisdictions.
- Also it made a case that "pre-filled tax returns" should be provided to all individuals and the taxpayer will have the option to accept the tax return as it is or modify it.
- The report has also recommended that CBDT needs to put in the public domain a national database of the non-profit sector to bring transparency.
- A tax council to develop a common tax policy, analysis and legislation for both direct and indirect taxes

Q 5. Consider the following pairs of places of famous wall paintings and their location:

(i) Alchi monastery in Sikkim

(ii) Bagh caves in Madhya Pradesh

(iii) Kailashnath Temple in Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu

(iv) Brihadesvara Temple in Thanjavur, Kerala.

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

a) (i), (ii) and (iii)

b) (ii) and (iii)

c) (i), (ii) and (iv)

d) All of them

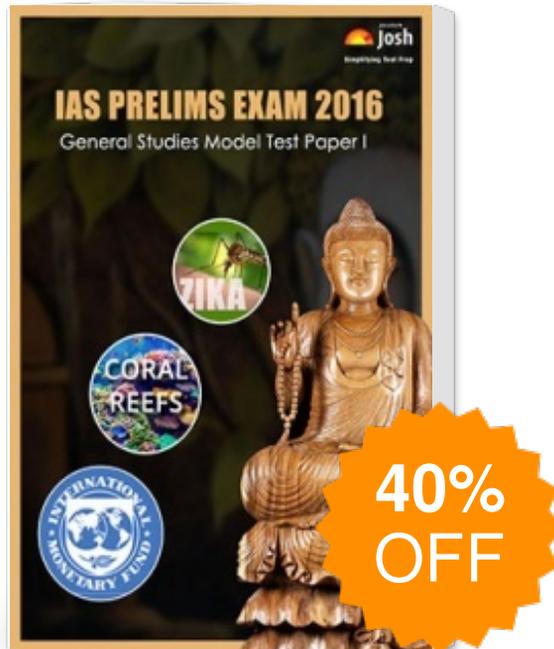
Answer. b

Explanation: Alchi monastery is in Ladakh, Brihadesvara Temple is in Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu.

Alchi Monastery

The village of Alchi is situated around 70 kms. from Leh on the left banks of the Indus river. The village Alchi differentiate itself from other villages of Ladakh by being so lush green. The flood plain at Alchi is very fertile and provides good and relatively extensive agricultural land. Now most of the small houses are made of bricks. The main road at both side is covered by the Apricot trees. It is a normal sight to see the donkeys (Mules) laden with wares and building material during the summers when all the activities are at their peak. The Alchi region too received cultural influence from other areas. Alchi had contacts with Buddhism, Islam and Hinduism, however the Alchi's isolation helped the village and the Gompa to keep their culture and traditions intact. Alchi was also on the main trade route of central Asia. The route along the Indus via Leh was connected to the Chinese Turkestan.

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