

**EVA STALIN IAS ACADEMY – BEST IAS COACHING IN CHENNAI**

12/24, Muthurangan Muthali St, West Tambaram, Chennai - 600045

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**Q1.** Countries that are included in the FATF Grey list may face which of the following:

- 1) Economic sanctions from IMF and World Bank.
- 2) Problem in getting loans from other countries.
- 3) International boycott.

Select the correct answer code:

- A.** 1, 2
- B.** 1, 3
- C.** 2, 3
- D.** 1, 2, 3

• **Solution:**

- (D)**
- Black List: Countries known as Non-Cooperative Countries or Territories (NCCTs) are put in the blacklist.
  - These countries support terror funding and money laundering activities.
  - The FATF revises the blacklist regularly, adding or deleting entries.
  - **Grey List:**
  - Countries that are considered safe haven for supporting terror funding and money laundering are put in the FATF grey list.
  - This inclusion serves as a warning to the country that it may enter the blacklist.
  - **Countries put into the grey list may face:**
  - Economic sanctions from IMF, World Bank, ADB.
  - Problem in getting loans from IMF, World Bank, ADB and other countries.
  - Reduction in international trade.
  - International boycott.

**Q2.** Consider the following statements regarding Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC):

- 1) Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) is an inter-governmental forum for Pacific Rim member economies that promotes free trade throughout the Asia-Pacific region.
- 2) APEC is recognized as one of the highest-level multilateral blocs and oldest forums in the Asia-Pacific region.
- 3) China, Russia and India are the members of APEC.

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Which of the above statements is/are correct:

- A. 1, 3
- B. 1, 2
- C. 2, 3
- D. 1, 2, 3

• **Solution:**  
(B)

- Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) is an inter-governmental forum for 21 Pacific Rim member economies that promotes free trade throughout the Asia-Pacific region.
- Headquartered in Singapore, the APEC is recognized as one of the highest-level multilateral blocs and oldest forums in the Asia-Pacific region, and exerts a significant global influence.
- India has requested membership in APEC, and received initial support from the United States, Japan, Australia and Papua New Guinea.

**Q3.** Consider the following statements regarding ‘Group – 4’ (G4) nations:

- 1) G4 nations are group of four countries which support each other’s bids for permanent seats on the United Nations Security Council.
- 2) G4 nations includes Brazil, India, Australia and Japan.

Which of the above statements is/are correct:

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

• **Solution:**  
(A)

- The G4 nations comprising Brazil, Germany, India, and Japan are four countries which support each other's bids for permanent seats on the United Nations Security Council.
- Unlike the G7, where the common denominator is the economy and long-term political motives, the G4's primary aim is the permanent member seats on the Security Council.

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**Q4.** Consider the following statements regarding United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS):

- 1) UNCLOS is a UN specialised agency that defines the rights and responsibilities of nations with respect to their use of the world's oceans and the management of marine natural resources.
- 2) International Seabed Authority (ISA) and International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) were established by the UNCLOS.

Which of the above statements is/are correct:

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

• **Solution:**  
**(B)**

- The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) defines the rights and responsibilities of nations with respect to their use of the world's oceans, establishing guidelines for businesses, the environment, and the management of marine natural resources.
- International Seabed Authority (ISA) was established to organize, regulate and control all mineral-related activities in the international seabed area beyond the limits of national jurisdiction (referred to as "the Area"), an area underlying most of the world's oceans.
- It is an organization established by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.
- The International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) is an intergovernmental organization created by the mandate of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea. It was established by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

**Q5.** Afghanistan is a member of which of the following organisations and Agreements:

- 1) South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation (SASEC)
- 2) South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA)
- 3) Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)
- 4) South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)
- 5) Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)

Select the correct answer code:

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- A.** 1, 2, 4, 5
- B.** 2, 4, 5
- C.** 2, 3, 4, 5
- D.** 1, 4, 5

• **Solution:**  
**(B)**

- Afghanistan is a member of WTO, SAARC, Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), and OIC.
- It holds an observer status in SCO. South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) is an agreement reached on January 6, 2004, at the 12th SAARC summit in Islamabad, Pakistan.
- It created a free-trade area in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

**Q6.** Consider the following statements:

- 1) India is not a signatory to the 1951 UN Convention relating to the Status of Refugees.
- 2) India has its own refugee policy according to which India accepts refugees who are unable or unwilling to return owing to the fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion and nationality.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect:

- A.** 1 only
- B.** 2 only
- C.** Both 1 and 2
- D.** Neither 1 nor 2

• **Solution:**  
**(B)**

- Under the 1951 UN Convention on the Status of Refugees and the subsequent 1967 Protocol, the word refugee pertains to any person who is outside their country of origin and unable or unwilling to return owing to well founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion.
- India has welcomed refugees in the past, and on date, nearly 300,000 people here are categorised as refugees.

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- But India is not a signatory to the 1951 UN Convention or the 1967 Protocol.
- Nor does India have a refugee policy or a refugee law of its own.
- Over the last four years, all efforts by Bangladesh to persuade Myanmar to take back the Rohingya at Cox's Bazaar have been unsuccessful.
- India managed to send back a handful with much difficulty.
- But in terming Rohingya in India as “illegal” (in contrast to calling them refugees in Bangladesh) and pledging to send them back to Myanmar, India is going against the principle of “non-refoulement”, to which it is bound as a signatory to other international treaties such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
- Nonrefoulement means no refugee shall be returned in any manner to any country where he or she would be at risk of persecution.

**Q7.** Consider the following statements regarding Arctic Council:

- 1) Arctic Council is an intergovernmental forum that addresses issues faced by the Arctic governments and the indigenous people of the Arctic.
- 2) Russia, Canada, United Kingdom and Norway are the members of the Arctic Council.
- 3) India has the Observer status in Arctic Council.

Which of the above statements is/are correct:

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

• **Solution:**  
(B)

- The Arctic Council is a high-level intergovernmental forum that addresses issues faced by the Arctic governments and the indigenous people of the Arctic.
- **The eight countries with sovereignty over the lands within the Arctic Circle constitute the members of the council:**
- Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden, and the United States.
- Observer status is open to non-Arctic states approved by the Council at the Ministerial Meetings that occur once every two years.
- Observers have no voting rights in the Council.

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- As of May 2019, thirteen non-Arctic states have Observer status.
- India has the Observer status in Arctic Council.

**Q8.** Which of the following country is not a member of Gulf Co-operation Council:

- A.** Saudi Arabia
- B.** Oman
- C.** United Arab Emirates
- D.** Iran

• **Solution:**  
**(D)**

- Gulf Cooperation Council is a regional intergovernmental political and economic union consisting of all Arab states of the Persian Gulf: Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates - except Iraq.

**Q9.** Which of the following countries are the members of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC):

- 1) Afghanistan
- 2) Bhutan
- 3) Myanmar
- 4) Bangladesh
- 5) Sri Lanka

Select the correct answer code:

- A.** 1, 2, 3, 4
- B.** 1, 2, 4
- C.** 1, 2, 4, 5
- D.** 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

• **Solution:**  
**(C)**

- SAARC comprises of eight Member States: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.



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**Q10.** Consider the following statements regarding Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC):

- 1) Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC) is a not-for-profit international arbitration organisation which administers arbitrations under United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) Arbitration Rules.
- 2) Under the rules of SIAC, parties can move SIAC to appoint an emergency arbitrator to get urgent interim relief.
- 3) India has the track record of referring minimum number of cases to SIAC in the South-Asian region.

Which of the above statements is/are correct:

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

• **Solution:**

- (A)
- Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC) is a not-for-profit international arbitration organisation based in Singapore, which administers arbitrations under its own rules of arbitration and the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) Arbitration Rules.
  - According to the 2019 annual report of SIAC, India was the top user of its arbitration seat with 485 cases being referred to SIAC.
  - Under the rules of SIAC, parties can move SIAC to appoint an emergency arbitrator to get urgent interim relief, even as the process of appointment of the main arbitral tribunal is underway.
  - Currently under Indian law, there is no express mechanism for enforcement of the orders of the Emergency Arbitrator.
  - But, the parties voluntarily comply with the Emergency Award.
  - However, if the parties don't comply with the order voluntarily, then the party which has won the emergency award, can move the High Court in India under Section 9 of the Arbitration & Conciliation Act, 1996, to get similar reliefs as granted by the Emergency Arbitrator.