

**10 July 2025**

**Question 1. The recently launched 'Mission Antriksh' aims to promote the private sector in space. Which of the following are components of this mission?**

1. A venture capital fund for seed funding.
2. A 'Plug-and-Play' facility for manufacturing.
3. Exclusive transfer of ISRO's proprietary rocket engine technology to start-ups.
4. A mentorship program with retired ISRO scientists.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

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

**Answer: (a)**

**The news report details the three core components of 'Mission Antriksh':**

- A Venture Capital fund of ₹2,000 crore (**Statement 1 is correct**).
- A 'Plug-and-Play' facility at a new 'Space Park' (**Statement 2 is correct**).
- A mentorship program connecting start-ups with retired ISRO scientists (**Statement 4 is correct**).
- The article mentions providing access to ISRO's facilities and expertise, but it does not mention an "exclusive transfer of proprietary rocket engine technology." This is a much more specific and sensitive action not covered in the mission's description. Therefore, statement 3 is not a stated component.

**10 July 2025**

**Question 2. The evolution of the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), as indicated by the launch of its Phase-V, represents a shift in focus from:**

- (a) Rural to urban water supply.
- (b) Surface water sources to groundwater sources.
- (c) Infrastructure creation to service delivery and quality assurance.
- (d) Individual household connections to community-level water points.

**Answer: (c)**

- The news report clearly outlines this shift. It states that after achieving the initial target of providing tap connections ('Har Ghar Jal'), Phase-V's focus is on 'Water Quality Assurance and Sustainability' ('Har Ghar Nirmal Jal').
- The minister is quoted as saying the mission is moving from a purely infrastructural to a service-delivery model, emphasizing quality testing, source sustainability, and community-led governance.
- This directly corresponds to the shift from simply creating infrastructure to ensuring quality service delivery.

**10 July 2025**

**Question 3. The operationalization of INS Vikrant's Carrier Battle Group (CBG) is of significant strategic importance for India primarily because it:**

- (a) Makes India the third country to operate two CBGs after the USA and China.
- (b) Allows the Indian Navy to deploy one CBG on each seaboard simultaneously.
- (c) Completes India's nuclear triad.
- (d) Enables the Navy to phase out all its dependence on Russian-origin military hardware.

**Answer: (b)**

- The article explicitly states that the key milestone is "allowing the Navy to deploy one CBG on each seaboard—the Western and Eastern—simultaneously."
- This significantly enhances its power projection in the Indian Ocean Region. While the move is a step towards self-reliance, the Vikrant's battle group still includes Russian-origin MiG-29K jets, so (d) is incorrect.
- The nuclear triad (c) involves land, air, and sea-based nuclear delivery platforms, which is a different strategic concept.
- Whether India is the third country to do this (a) is a specific fact not central to the strategic importance highlighted in the article, which is the two-seaboard deployment capability.

**10 July 2025**

**Question 4. With respect to the National Carbon Market of India, the term 'cap-and-trade' refers to a system where:**

- (a) The government sets a limit on the total amount of greenhouse gases that can be emitted, and companies can trade emission permits among themselves.
- (b) Companies voluntarily cap their emissions and trade renewable energy certificates.
- (c) The government provides a fixed subsidy ('cap') for every tonne of carbon reduced, which can be traded.
- (d) The government caps the price of carbon credits and trades them on international exchanges.

**Answer: (a)**

- The news report describes the Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS) as a 'cap-and-trade' system. This is a market-based approach to controlling pollution.
- The 'cap' is the limit on emissions set by a regulator (like the BEE setting emission intensity targets).
- The 'trade' part means that companies that reduce their emissions below their cap can sell their extra allowances (Carbon Credit Certificates) to companies that emit more than their cap. This is precisely what option (a) describes.

**10 July 2025**

**Question 5. The first-ever DDC elections for PoK-reserved seats, as reported, signify which of the following?**

- (a) A referendum on the status of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.
- (b) The de-reservation of the 24 seats in the J&K Legislative Assembly.
- (c) An administrative exercise to directly govern PoK from Jammu.
- (d) A political step to provide representation to PoK refugees in local governance.

**Answer: (d)**

- The article describes the election as a "symbolic yet significant democratic exercise" where PoK refugees living in J&K voted to elect representatives to their respective District Development Councils (DDCs).
- The J&K Lieutenant Governor's statement confirms the goal was to give these displaced persons "a voice in local governance."
- The article clarifies that this does not alter the status of the Assembly seats, which remain vacant, ruling out (b).
- It is not a referendum (a) or an attempt to govern PoK (c), but an act of enfranchisement for the refugee community within the existing local governance structure of J&K.