

**14 July 2025**

**Question 1. The 'Van Adhikar Abhiyan', launched by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, is primarily aimed at:**

- (a) Promoting the sale of minor forest produce through a new e-commerce platform.
- (b) Creating new eco-tourism circuits in forest areas managed by tribal communities.
- (c) Accelerating the implementation of the Forest Rights Act, 2006, and digitizing claims.
- (d) Amending the Forest Rights Act to include non-tribal communities living in urban areas.

**Answer. (c)**

- **Statements (a) and (b) are incorrect.** While related to tribal welfare, the core focus of this specific mission is rights-based, not commerce or tourism.
- **Statement (c) is correct.** The news report explicitly states that the mission's purpose is to "accelerate the implementation of the... Forest Rights Act, 2006," process pending claims, and create a digital record through the 'FRA Adhikar Portal'.
- **Statement (d) is incorrect.** The mission is about implementing the existing Act, not amending it. The Act already has provisions for 'Other Traditional Forest Dwellers', but its scope is not for urban communities.

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**Question 2. With reference to the second phase of India's Carbon Market, consider the following statements:**

1. It is a mandatory compliance mechanism based on the 'polluter pays' principle.
2. The steel and cement industries have been included in this phase.
3. The Ministry of Finance has been designated as the sole regulator for trading Carbon Credit Certificates.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**Answer. (a)**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The report describes a cap-and-trade system where companies must comply with an emissions cap or pay (by buying credits), which is a market-based application of the 'polluter pays' principle.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The report explicitly mentions that in the second phase, "the steel and cement industries have now been included under the mandatory compliance mechanism."
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** The news report specifies that the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) acts as the regulator for the trading scheme, not the Ministry of Finance.

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**Question 3. The 'Ayushman Swasth Manas' mission represents a strategic shift in India's public health focus by integrating which two key areas into primary healthcare?**

- (a) Geriatric Care and Palliative Care
- (b) Non-Communicable Diseases and Mental Health
- (c) Communicable Diseases and Vector Control
- (d) Occupational Health and Industrial Safety

**Answer. (b)**

- The news report clearly states that the 'Ayushman Swasth Manas' mission was launched to "comprehensively address the growing burden of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) and mental health issues across the country." It also mentions integrating mental health services into primary healthcare as a significant component. The other options, while important aspects of public health, are not the stated primary focus of this new mission.

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**Question 4. The Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC), recently in the news, is best described as:**

- (a) A government-owned e-commerce platform competing with Amazon and Flipkart.
- (b) A unified payment gateway for all e-commerce transactions.
- (c) An open-source protocol that allows sellers to be discoverable across various buyer-side apps, decentralizing e-commerce.
- (d) A regulatory body that sets prices for goods sold on online platforms.

**Answer. (c)**

- **Statement (a) is incorrect.** ONDC is not a single platform but a network or protocol that connects multiple platforms and services.
- **Statement (b) is incorrect.** While ONDC allows sellers to choose payment partners, it is not a payment gateway itself. UPI is a better example of a payment interface.
- **Statement (c) is correct.** This accurately describes the core principle of ONDC. The report calls it an "Open Network," a "decentralized e-commerce protocol," and states that it "enables sellers to be discoverable on any compatible buyer-side app," which is the essence of decentralization and interoperability.
- **Statement (d) is incorrect.** ONDC is a network facilitator, not a price-setting regulatory body.

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**Question 5. At the recent Quad Leaders' Summit, which of the following initiatives was a key focus?**

1. Formation of a formal military alliance with a mutual defence pact.
2. Launch of an initiative to build resilient supply chains for critical technologies.
3. Expansion of the Maritime Domain Awareness partnership to combat illegal fishing.

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

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

**Answer. (c)**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** The Quad remains a strategic dialogue, not a formal military alliance like NATO. The report does not mention any mutual defence pact.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The report explicitly mentions the launch of the 'Quad Critical and Emerging Technology Supply Chain Initiative' to map vulnerabilities and diversify production.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** The report states that the leaders announced a new phase of the Indo-Pacific Partnership for Maritime Domain Awareness (IPMDA) to use advanced data to combat illegal fishing and other maritime crimes.