

# **UPSC Prelims Exam Based on Current Affairs MCQs - 25 Sept 2025**

**Question 1: The recent judgment of the Supreme Court on state surveillance established the "proportionality and necessity" test. This implies that:**

- (a) Any act of state surveillance is permissible as long as it is necessary for national security.
- (b) The state must prove that surveillance is the least intrusive means available to achieve a legitimate aim.
- (c) The judiciary has the final say in all matters of national security, including surveillance.
- (d) Tech companies are now required to provide a backdoor for government access to encrypted data.

**Answer: (b)**

- The "proportionality test" in law means that the action taken (in this case, surveillance) must not be excessive in relation to the objective. It must be the least intrusive measure possible to achieve the state's aim.
- **Option (a) is incorrect** because it ignores the proportionality aspect.
- **Options (c) and (d)** describe outcomes that are not the core meaning of the proportionality test itself.



**Question 2: The 'Social Security Code for Gig and Platform Workers Bill, 2025', recently passed by the Parliament, includes which of the following provisions?**

1. Mandatory contribution to a social security fund by aggregator companies.
2. Guarantee of a minimum wage for all gig workers.
3. Establishment of a tripartite board for grievance redressal.
4. Recognition of gig workers' right to form unions and engage in collective bargaining.

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

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

**Answer: (a)**

- **Statement 1 is correct** as the news highlights the mandatory contribution from aggregators. **Statement 3 is also correct** as it mentions the establishment of a tripartite board. However, the analysis section of the news item explicitly states that the law does not address critical issues like minimum wage guarantees (**making statement 2 incorrect**) or the right to collective bargaining (**making statement 4 incorrect**).



**Question 3: The primary strategic objective behind the creation of Integrated Theatre Commands in the Indian military is to:**

- (a) Increase the number of personnel in the armed forces.
- (b) Enhance synergy and jointness among the Army, Navy, and Air Force for modern warfare.
- (c) Reduce the defence budget by consolidating military assets.
- (d) Focus exclusively on counter-terrorism operations.

**Answer: (b)**

- The core rationale for Theatre Commands, as described in the news, is to integrate the three services (Army, Navy, Air Force) to enhance joint fighting capability. This synergy is crucial for modern warfare. The other options are incorrect; the goal is not to increase personnel (a), primarily reduce the budget (c), or focus only on one type of operation (d).



**Question 4: The recently launched 'Connect Central Asia' policy is significant for India primarily due to the region's:**

1. Vast energy resources.
2. Strategic location bordering Afghanistan.
3. Lack of Chinese or Russian influence provides a vacuum for Indian leadership.
4. Direct and undisputed land connectivity with India.

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

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

**Answer: (a)**

- **Statement 1 is correct** as the news mentions the region's vast energy resources. **Statement 2 is correct** as the strategic location and shared concerns over Afghanistan are cited as key reasons for engagement. **Statement 3 is incorrect;** the analysis explicitly states that India will face stiff competition from China and Russia, which have deep-rooted influence. **Statement 4 is also incorrect;** the news highlights the lack of direct land connectivity as the biggest hurdle.



**Question 5: A recent study published in 'The Lancet Planetary Health' has established a direct link between air pollution and antibiotic resistance. What is the most plausible mechanism described for this phenomenon?**

- (a) Air pollutants cause genetic mutations in humans, making them resistant to antibiotics.
- (b) Pollutants like PM2.5 act as carriers for bacteria containing antibiotic resistance genes.
- (c) Poor air quality weakens the human immune system, rendering antibiotics ineffective.
- (d) The chemical composition of pollutants directly neutralizes the antibiotic drugs in the atmosphere.

**Answer: (b)**

- The news item on the study clearly states that particulate matter (PM2.5) can carry bacteria containing antibiotic resistance genes (ARGs), allowing them to spread. This is the direct mechanism identified in the research. The other options are plausible-sounding but not what was described in the source article.