PRELIMS MANTRA - 1 (12/02/2025)

- Shakti Semiconductor Chip: Indian Institute of Technology Madras and Indian Space Research Organisation have developed an indigenous aerospace quality Shakti-based semiconductor chip. Shakti is backed by Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology, under its Digital India RISC-V initiative (DIRV).
- Ten Al Weapon System (TAIWS): An artificial intelligence weapon system developed in-house by Army personnel, promises to enhance border surveillance, especially to prevent infiltration of terrorists
- Su-57, Russian fifth generation fighter aircraft (FGFA):
 Rosoboronexport, Russia's state-owned defence exports company
 has offered to partner with India for its joint production.
- Konkan LNG Ltd. (KLL), a GAIL (India) subsidiary, would soon
 operationalise the Dabhol Breakwater project (in Ratnagiri district
 of Maharashtra) which will make the Dabhol LNG terminal facility
 an all-weather port.
- Elephants live up to around 70 years. Elephants' use of sounds to communicate. They talk to each other using four main types of calls: trumpets, roars, rumbles, and chirps. They combine them in different ways to convey different messages.
- Hawaii is earning title of 'Rainbow Capital of the World' for its
 frequent and stunning rainbows. Hawaii's regular sunshine, short
 rain showers & clean air come together to create some of planet's
 best conditions for viewing rainbows.
- Plan to retain only 294 of over 10,000 staff Established by a US/ ID Congressional statute in 1961, the agency can FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE Alleviate poverty, disease and tend to strategically important interests by supporting economic growth countries/those in conflict humanitarian needs Total \$42 billion In billions in 2023 from Eurasia Including \$16.4bn to Ukraine USAID* \$17.2bn East Asia Multiple 1 5.5 regions South \$2.2bn on health Central Asia programmes Western hemisph Incl. \$4.8bn Incl. \$595m to Colombia and Venezuela on humanitarian (humanitarian assistance for Venezuelan refugees) assistance, \$4bn on health TOP RECIPIENTS **TARGETS** Economic Ethiopia development \$9.4bn 1.37 \$18.8bn Health 1.19 Jordan \$7.2bn 0.97 Somalia Environment Programme 0.94 DRC \$0.01bn Afghanistan \$3.7bn 0.81 Nigeria Democracy, human 0.75 Syria security \$0.36bn 0.72 rights, governance Education \$1.2bn South Sudan \$1.8bn 0.69
- Gross Domestic Knowledge Product (GDKP): It aims to quantify the contributions of knowledge, innovation, and intellectual
 assets to the economy. It recognises that GDP alone does not fully capture the value generated by knowledge-based
 activities. The idea was first discussed in 2021 by NITI Aayog.
- 22nd Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which was ratified in 1951, says that no one can be elected more than twice as President. It was enacted after President Franklin D Roosevelt had been elected four consecutive times, from 1932 to 1944. However, if a Vice President becomes President during the term of their predecessor, they can still serve two full terms as long as they serve less than half of their predecessor's remaining term.

PM Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement (PM E-DRIVE) Scheme

- Notified on 29.09.2024 for two years.
- Electric Mobility Promotion Scheme (EMPS) 2024 implemented for a period of six months from 01.04.2024 to 30.09.2024, is subsumed in PM E-DRIVE scheme.
- It includes incentives for consumers and not manufacturers.
- Project Implementation and Sanctioning Committee (PISC), an inter-ministerial empowered committee, headed by the Secretary of Heavy Industries, is constituted for overall monitoring, sanctioning, and implementation of scheme.

Salient features:

- Ministry of Heavy Industry (MHI) has introduced **E-vouchers** for Electric vehicle buyer to avail the demand incentive.
- New vehicle segments: e-ambulances and e-trucks.
- Upgradation of vehicles testing agencies.
- Funding for establishing public charging infrastructure.

Mission Amrit Sarovar

- It was launched in April 2022 to construct or rejuvenate 75 Amrit Sarovars (ponds) in each district, totalling 50,000 across the country. It has been completed on 15th August 2023.
- Every Amrit Sarovar will have a pondage area of at least 1 acre with a water holding capacity of about 10,000 cubic metre.
- No specific funding rather convergence from various schemes of centre and states.
- Public contribution like crowd funding and Corporate Social Responsibility is also allowed for the work.
- Every Amrit Sarovar site is a place for flag hoisting on every Independence Day.

- Q.1 Consider the following statements about the PM e-DRIVE Scheme:
 - 1. It includes incentives for both consumers and manufacturers of e-vehicles.
 - 2. It has introduced new vehicle segments of e-ambulances and e-trucks.
 - 3. Electric Mobility Promotion Scheme is subsumed under PM e-DRIVE.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- a) Only one
- Only two
- All three c)
- d) None

Answer: B (Only 2 and 3 are correct)

- Q2. Which of the following places has earned the title of 'Rainbow Capital of the World' for its frequent and stunning rainbows?
 - Dehradun, India
 - b) Hawaii, USA
 - Los Angeles, USA
 - Santorini, Greece

Answer: B

- Q3. Consider the following statements:
 - 1. According to U.S. Constitution, no one can be elected more than twice as President.
 - 2. If a Vice President becomes President during the term of their predecessor, they can still serve two full terms.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

- Q4. Consider the following statements about USAID:
 - It was established to oversee and administer international humanitarian aid.
 - It was established under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961
 - 3. It can be legally dismantled only by the Congress.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- Eebrating 13 years of its establishment 1 and 2 only
- 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D

- Q5. Which of the following statements is incorrect about Mission Amrit Sarovar?
 - a) It is a Central Sector Scheme.
 - b) It was launched in April 2022 to construct or rejuvenate 75 Amrit Sarovars (ponds) in each district.
 - Every Amrit Sarovar will have a pondage area of at least 1 acre.
 - d) Every Amrit Sarovar site is a place for flag hoisting on every Independence Day.

Answer: A