

Que 1. Answer the following three questions in 10 words each.

(a) Ozone Hole

A region in the ozone layer, severely depleted by ozone, particularly over the Arctic & caused majorly by CFCs.

(b) Vande Bharat Express

A semi-high speed, engine-less train under Make in India Scheme from New Delhi to Katra to promote spiritual tourism.

(c) Cyclone Nisarga

A severe cyclonic storm in Arabian sea which hit the western areas of Indian states of Maharashtra & Gujarat on 2nd June 2020.

(d) Madrid Climate Conference

It is the 25th United Nations Climate Change Conference as per UNFCCC in Madrid, Spain from 2-13 December 2019.

Que 2. Answer the following three questions in 50 words each.

(a) The National Population Register

NPR is a list of all the people residing in India. It includes citizens & non-citizens both. It is prepared as ~~the~~ per the Citizenship Act 1955. All those who are living here for 6 months & are planning to live for another 6 months has to register in NPR. It is the first step in implementing NRC. It will contain biometrics & demographics. It will be implemented in the whole country except Assam. It will be conducted between April & September 2020.

(b) The NIA-Act 2019

Features of NIA-Act 2019 :-

- ⇒ Now NIA can probe into terrorist attacks against Indians & Indian citizens abroad
- ⇒ Now NIA can investigate offences like cybercrime, human trafficking, counterfeit currency etc.
- ⇒ Now NIA officers have same powers as other police officers & they can investigate offences committed outside India.
- ⇒ Now Central Govt will designate sessions courts as special courts for NIA cases' trials.

(c) SC verdict on Ayodhya

The Ram Janambhumi - Babri Masjid dispute ended as the SC pronounced its verdict on 9 Nov 2019. It ruled that Hindus would get the entire 2.77 acres of land as the archaeological evidences shows that Babri Masjid was constructed on a Non-Islamic structure. It directed the Centre to allot 5 acres of plot to Sunni Waqf Board for building a mosque. It also ruled the 2010 Allahabad HC decision was incorrect.

(d) Recent locust attack in India

Recently India has faced a locust attack in the states of Rajasthan & Gujarat, emanating from the desert area in Pakistan. It was the biggest in 25 years. It caused heavy damage to the standing crops. Currently the Locust Warning Organisation (LWO) & Ministry of Agriculture are trying to monitor and control the locust situation mainly in Rajasthan, Gujarat, Punjab & Haryana by using organophosphate chemicals by aerial sprays and vehicle-mounted method.