

VAID ICS LUCKNOW

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS QUIZ

24/07/2025

ANSWER & EXPLANATION:

Qn 1:

Answer: b) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Westarctica claims the uninhabited region of Marie Byrd Land in Antarctica, which is not claimed by any sovereign nation under the Antarctic Treaty System.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** No country or United Nations member recognizes Westarctica as a legitimate nation.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Travis McHenry, the founder of Westarctica, is a former U.S. naval officer.

Qn 2:

Answer: d. 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 – Correct:**
Bakshi Jagabandhu led the Paika Rebellion of 1817. He was a commander under the Raja of Khurda, a Gajapati ruler. The rebellion was triggered by multiple factors, including **oppressive land policies, disbandment of the Paika militia, and economic distress.**
- **Statement 2 – Incorrect:**
The **Gajapati Rebellion (1804–1817)** preceded the Paika Rebellion and laid the groundwork for it. The **Khurda Rebellion (1817–1818)** was closely **contemporaneous** with the Paika Rebellion and **merged into it**, not separate or independent.
- **Statement 3 – Correct:**
The **Bhitara Paika Rebellion (1835–1837)** was a **post-Paika** uprising in the interior

regions of Odisha, involving **Paikas and tribals**, and was triggered by British **land revenue settlements** and taxation.

Qn 3:

Correct Answer: a. 3 only

Explanation:

Statement 1 – Incorrect

- The advice given by the Supreme Court under Article 143 **is not binding** on the President in **any case**, whether it pertains to fundamental rights or not.
- The President **may or may not accept** the advisory opinion. This was affirmed in the **In re Kerala Education Bill (1958)** and **In re Cauvery Disputes Tribunal (1992)**.

Statement 2 – Incorrect

- The Supreme Court **is not bound to answer** every reference.
- It has **discretion** under Article 143(1) to decline a reference, especially when the question is vague or not justiciable.
- Example: The Court declined to answer the Presidential reference in the **Special Courts Bill, 1978** due to lack of clarity.

Statement 3 – Correct

- Article 143(1) allows the President to refer to the Supreme Court **any question of law or fact**, provided it is of **public importance**.
- This is a **broad scope**, and the reference can include issues relating to both **law and fact**.

Qn 4:

Answer:c. 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Court is **not bound** to answer a Presidential Reference. Article 143(1) uses the term "**may**", indicating **discretion**.

- **Statement 2 is correct:** In *In Re: Special Courts Bill (1978)*, the Court clarified that it **may** give its opinion, confirming the discretionary nature.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** In **1993**, the Court **refused** to answer the **Ayodhya-Babri Masjid dispute Reference**, terming it **unconstitutional** and violating secularism.

Qn 5:

Answer: A 1 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The key objective of NAMASTE is to eliminate hazardous manual cleaning and replace it with mechanised solutions.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** It is a joint initiative of the **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment** and the **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs**.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Waste pickers were added as beneficiaries **from FY 2024–25**, not from inception.