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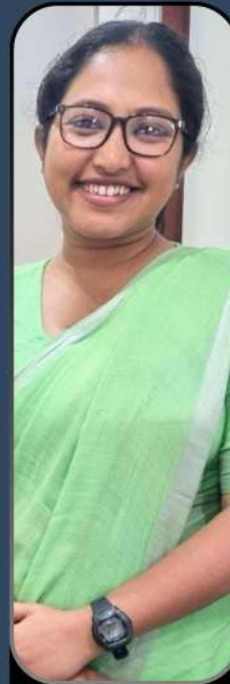
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October CA MCQs

Q1. Which of the following statements about the Ichamati River is/are correct?

1. It is a trans-boundary river forming part of the India–Bangladesh border.
2. It originates from the Kalindi River in North 24 Parganas, West Bengal.
3. It is a bifurcation of the Mathabhanga River, a distributary of the Padma.
4. The river forms oxbow lakes near Bangaon.

Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1, 3, and 4 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) All of the above

Answer:

B) 1, 3, and 4 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct – Ichamati is a trans-boundary river forming part of the India–Bangladesh border.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect – It originates from Mahjdia village in Nadia district, not the Kalindi River.
- **Statement 3:** Correct – It is a bifurcation of the Mathabhanga River, which is a distributary of the Padma.
- **Statement 4:** Correct – The river and its tributaries form oxbow lakes near Bangaon.

Q2. Which of the following statements about Trichloroethylene (TCE) is/are correct?

1. TCE is a naturally occurring volatile organic compound.
2. It is commonly used as a metal degreasing agent and in dry cleaning.
3. Long-term exposure to TCE may increase the risk of Parkinson's disease and kidney/liver disorders.
4. TCE breaks down quickly in the environment and does not persist in soil or water.

Options:

- A) 2 and 3 only
- B) 1 and 4 only
- C) 1, 2, and 3 only
- D) 2, 3, and 4 only

Answer:

A) 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect** – TCE is man-made, not naturally occurring.
- **Statement 2: Correct** – It is widely used for metal degreasing, refrigerant production, and dry cleaning.
- **Statement 3: Correct** – Long-term exposure is linked to liver/kidney toxicity, cancer, reproductive and developmental effects, and Parkinson's disease.
- **Statement 4: Incorrect** – TCE breaks down slowly and persists in air, soil, and groundwater.

Q3. Consider the following statements about the Bathukamma Festival:

1. It is a floral festival celebrated primarily by women in Telangana.
2. The festival is historically linked to the Chola dynasty and promoted by the Mughals.
3. Bathukamma is celebrated during Durga Navratri and has been declared the Telangana State Festival.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) All of the above

Answer:

C) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct** – Celebrated by women in Telangana as a floral festival.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect** – Historically linked to Goddess Gauri legends and promoted by the Kakatiya dynasty, not Cholas or Mughals.
- **Statement 3: Correct** – Celebrated during Durga Navratri; officially recognized as the Telangana State Festival.

Q4. Which of the following statements about False Smut Disease in rice is/are correct?

1. It is caused by the fungus *Ustilaginoidea virens* and also known as Haldi Rog.
2. The disease primarily affects the leaves and stems of the rice plant.
3. Warm, humid conditions and high soil nitrogen favour the disease's spread.

Options:

- A) 1 only
- B) 1 and 2 only

- C) 1 and 3 only
D) All of the above

Answer:

C) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct – Caused by *Ustilagoidea virens*; also called Haldi Rog, Lakshmi disease, or Oothupathi disease.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect – Disease affects panicles/grains, not leaves or stems.
- **Statement 3:** Correct – Warm (25–30°C), humid conditions (>80%), crop debris, and high soil nitrogen favour infection.

Q5. Consider the following statements about the Philippines:

1. It shares land borders with Malaysia and Indonesia.
2. The highest point in the country is Mayon Volcano.
3. It has a temperate climate with four distinct seasons.
4. The Philippines is an island country in Southeast Asia with tropical monsoonal climate and rich natural resources.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
B) 2 and 3 only
C) 1, 2 and 3 only
D) 4 only

Answer:

D) 4 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Incorrect – Philippines shares maritime borders with Malaysia and Indonesia, not land borders.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect – Highest point is Mount Apo, not Mayon Volcano.
- **Statement 3:** Incorrect – The climate is tropical and monsoonal, not temperate.
- **Statement 4:** Correct – It is an island country in Southeast Asia, has tropical monsoonal climate, and abundant natural resources like timber, petroleum, nickel, and gold.

Q6. Which of the following statements about Thumri music is/are correct?

1. Thumri is a semi-classical vocal form of Hindustani music, often emphasizing bhava (emotion) over strict raga rules.

2. Purbi Thumri is associated with the Patiala Gharana and is typically fast-paced and lively.
3. Thumri is traditionally linked with the Kathak dance form.

Options:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, and 3

Answer:**B) 1 and 3 only****Explanation:**

- **Statement 1: Correct** – Thumri emphasizes bhava and allows improvisation, making it a semi-classical form.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect** – Purbi Thumri is slow, emotional, and associated with Banaras Gharana; Punjabi Thumri (fast, lively) is linked to Patiala Gharana.
- **Statement 3: Correct** – Thumri is closely associated with Kathak, as the dance enhances its expressive storytelling.

Q7. The Sir Creek dispute between India and Pakistan arises primarily due to differences in interpreting:

- A. The 1971 Simla Agreement regarding border demarcation
- B. The 1914 Bombay Government Resolution concerning the boundary in Rann of Kutch
- C. The UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)
- D. The Treaty of Amritsar (1846)

Answer:**B) The 1914 Bombay Government Resolution concerning the boundary in Rann of Kutch****Explanation:**

- The dispute centers on the 96 km tidal estuary in the Rann of Kutch, between Gujarat (India) and Sindh (Pakistan).
- India claims the boundary should follow the thalweg principle (mid-channel line) as the creek is navigable at high tide.
- Pakistan claims the boundary lies along the eastern bank, giving the creek to Sindh.
- The disagreement stems from differing interpretations of the 1914 Bombay Government Resolution.

Q8. Consider the following statements about Exercise Drone Kavach conducted by the Indian Army:

1. It was conducted in the forward areas of Eastern Arunachal Pradesh by the Spear Corps.
2. The exercise focused on combat readiness for drone warfare, including target acquisition and counter-drone measures.
3. The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) also participated in the exercise.
4. It is primarily aimed at testing naval warfare capabilities in the Indian Ocean.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1, 2, and 3 only
- B. 1 and 4 only
- C. 2 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3, and 4

Answer:

A) 1, 2, and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statements 1, 2, and 3 are correct** – the exercise was conducted in Eastern Arunachal Pradesh, focused on drone warfare readiness, and included ITBP personnel.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect** – Exercise Drone Kavach is a land-based multi-domain exercise for drone warfare, not focused on naval operations.

Q9. Which of the following statements about the Banni Festival is/are correct?

1. It is a traditional stick-fight festival celebrated during Vijaya Dasami (Dussehra night).
2. The festival commemorates the victory of Lord Mala Malleswara Swamy and Goddess Parvati over demons Mani and Mallasura.
3. It is primarily celebrated in the Karnataka region.

Options:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 2 only
- D. 1, 2, and 3

Answer:

A) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statements 1 and 2 are correct** – it is a stick-fight festival on Dussehra night, celebrating the divine victory over demons.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect** – the festival is celebrated in Andhra Pradesh, not Karnataka.

Q10. Consider the following statements regarding Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve (TATR):

1. It is located in Chandrapur district, Maharashtra.
2. It consists of Tadoba National Park and Andhari Wildlife Sanctuary.
3. The reserve is part of the Western Ghats Tiger Landscape.
4. It is the largest and oldest tiger reserve of Maharashtra and has corridor linkages with Nagzira-Navegaon and Pench Tiger Reserves.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 3 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1, 2, and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, and 4 only

Answer:

D) 1, 2, and 4 only

Explanation:

- **Statements 1, 2, and 4 are correct** – TATR is in Chandrapur, comprises Tadoba National Park + Andhari Wildlife Sanctuary, is Maharashtra's largest and oldest tiger reserve, and has corridor linkages with Nagzira-Navegaon and Pench.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect** – TATR is part of the Central India Tiger Landscape, not the Western Ghats.

Q11. Pulicat Lake, recently in news due to siltation threatening fishermen livelihoods, is known for which of the following?

1. It is the largest brackish water lagoon in India.
2. It is a Ramsar site spanning Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.
3. It is separated from the Bay of Bengal by Sriharikota Island.
4. It supports rich biodiversity including migratory birds and seagrass beds.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- (a) 1, 2, and 3 only
- (b) 2, 3, and 4 only
- (c) 1 and 4 only
- (d) All of the above

Answer: (b) 2, 3, and 4 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Pulicat Lake is the **second largest brackish water lagoon** in India after Chilika Lake.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Designated a **Ramsar site in 2002**, spanning **Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu**.

- **Statement 3 is correct:** Separated from the **Bay of Bengal by Sriharikota Island**.
- **Statement 4 is correct:** Supports rich biodiversity — aquatic life (mudskippers, oyster reefs, seagrass) and **>200 migratory bird species**.

Q12. Consider the following statements about Valmiki Tiger Reserve (VTR):

1. It is located on the India-Nepal border in West Champaran, Bihar.
2. It is the only tiger reserve in Bihar and spreads over ~880 sq. km.
3. The reserve comprises Valmiki National Park and Valmiki Wildlife Sanctuary.
4. It is situated in the Eastern Ghats bio-geographic zone.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1, 2, and 3 only
- (b) 2 and 4 only
- (c) 1 and 4 only
- (d) All of the above

Answer: (a) 1, 2, and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statements 1–3 are correct:** VTR is on the **India-Nepal border, West Champaran**, the **only tiger reserve in Bihar (~880 sq. km)**, and comprises **Valmiki National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary**.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** It lies in the **Gangetic Plains bio-geographic zone**, not the Eastern Ghats.

Q13. Consider the following statements regarding Mono Ethylene Glycol (MEG):

1. It is produced by the reaction of ethylene oxide with water.
2. It is miscible with water and alcohols and is hygroscopic.
3. Its major uses include polyester fibre, PET resin, and antifreeze.
4. It is highly toxic and not safe for industrial use.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (d) 1, 2, and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** MEG is produced by **ethylene oxide + water reaction**.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It is **miscible with water/alcohols** and **hygroscopic**.

- **Statement 3 is correct:** Used in **textiles, PET resin, coolant, antifreeze**, etc.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** MEG has **low toxicity** and is considered safe for many industrial uses.

Q14. Which of the following statements about Dark Stars is/are correct?

1. They are powered by dark matter annihilation instead of nuclear fusion.
2. They are smaller than the Sun but extremely hot.
3. They are hypothetical early-universe stars that may be the first phase of stellar evolution.
4. They emit visible light like ordinary stars.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Answer: (c) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Dark Stars are powered by **dark matter heating** instead of nuclear fusion.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** They are **hypothetical first-generation stars** in the early universe.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** They are **much larger than the Sun** and cooler due to absence of fusion.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** They **do not emit visible light**, appearing as giant, puffy clouds.

Q15. Consider the following statements regarding Dhvani Missile:

1. It is a hypersonic missile developed by DRDO with glide vehicle capability.
2. It has a maximum speed of Mach 2–3 and range up to 3,000 km.
3. It is designed for both land and maritime precision strikes and features stealth-optimized geometry.
4. It uses conventional steel for thermal protection during reentry.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 and 3 only
- (b) 2 and 4 only
- (c) 1, 2, and 3 only
- (d) All of the above

Answer: (a) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Dhvani is a **hypersonic glide vehicle** developed by **DRDO**.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Designed for **land and maritime targets**, with **stealth geometry**.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Speed is **Mach 5–6 (~7,400 km/h)** and range **6,000–10,000 km**, not Mach 2–3 or 3,000 km.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** Thermal protection uses **ultra-high-temperature ceramic composites**, not conventional steel.

Q16. Consider the following statements regarding the Manjeera River:

1. It forms part of the border between Maharashtra and Telangana in its final stretch.
2. Its total catchment area is over 30,000 sq.km.
3. It drains into the Krishna River near Basara in Telangana.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, and 3

Answer: A. 1 and 2 only

Solution:

- **Statement 1:** Correct – The final stretch of Manjeera forms the border between **Maharashtra and Telangana**.
- **Statement 2:** Correct – Total catchment area is **30,844 sq.km**.
- **Statement 3:** Incorrect – It drains into the **Godavari River** at Basara, not the Krishna River.

Q17. Consider the following statements about the Ortolan Bunting:

1. It is a Palearctic migrant songbird with the scientific name *Emberiza hortulana*.
2. Its recent sighting in India was in Baruipur, West Bengal.
3. It inhabits dense forest areas and oceanic climates.
4. It is classified as 'Least Concern' by the IUCN.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- A. 1, 2, and 4 only
- B. 1 and 3 only

- C. 2 and 3 only
D. 1, 2, 3, and 4

Answer: A. 1, 2, and 4 only

Solution:

- **Statement 1:** Correct – Scientific name is *Emberiza hortulana*, a Palearctic migrant.
- **Statement 2:** Correct – Rare sighting reported in **Baruipur, West Bengal**.
- **Statement 3:** Incorrect – It **avoids forests and oceanic climates**, preferring open areas.
- **Statement 4:** Correct – IUCN status: **Least Concern**.

Q18. Consider the following regarding the Coral Triangle:

1. It includes countries such as Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Solomon Islands.
2. It is referred to as the “Amazon of the Seas.”
3. It is home to all seven species of marine turtles.
4. It sustains the food security and livelihoods of over 100 million people.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- A. 1 and 3 only
B. 2 and 3 only
C. 1, 2, and 4 only
D. 1, 2, 3, and 4

Answer: C. 1, 2, and 4 only

Solution:

- **Statement 1:** Correct – Countries include **Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, Philippines, Timor-Leste, Solomon Islands**.
- **Statement 2:** Correct – Known as the “**Amazon of the Seas**” due to high biodiversity.
- **Statement 3:** Incorrect – Only **6 of 7 marine turtle species** are found here.
- **Statement 4:** Correct – Supports **food security and livelihoods of 120+ million people**.

Q19. Consider the following statements about Phosphine (PH₃):

1. It is a compound of one phosphorus atom and three hydrogen atoms, also called hydrogen phosphide.
2. It has been detected in the atmosphere of brown dwarf Wolf 1130C by the James Webb Space Telescope.
3. On Earth, it is produced naturally by bacteria in high-oxygen environments.
4. It is a colourless, flammable, highly toxic gas with a garlic-like odour.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1, 2, and 4 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 3, and 4 only

Answer: B. 1, 2, and 4 only

Solution:

- **Statement 1:** Correct – PH_3 = one phosphorus + three hydrogen atoms; also called **hydrogen phosphide**.
- **Statement 2:** Correct – Recently detected in **brown dwarf Wolf 1130C** by JWST.
- **Statement 3:** Incorrect – Produced by bacteria in **low-oxygen environments**, not high-oxygen.
- **Statement 4:** Correct – It is **colourless, flammable, toxic, with garlic-like odour**.

Q20. Which of the following statements about Baratang Island's mud volcano is/are correct?

1. It is India's only mud volcano and a popular tourist spot.
2. Mud volcanoes erupt lava along with mud and gases.
3. The island is home to the Jarawa tribe.
4. Mud volcanoes can form islands and alter coastline topography.

Options:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 3, and 4 only

Answer: D. 1, 3, and 4 only

Solution:

- **Statement 1:** Correct – India's **only mud volcano**, popular among tourists.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect – Mud volcanoes **do not erupt lava**, only mud, water, and gases.
- **Statement 3:** Correct – Inhabited by the **Jarawa tribe**.
- **Statement 4:** Correct – Mud volcanoes can **form islands and alter coastline topography**.

Q21. Viridans streptococci, commonly found in the oral cavity, have recently been linked to heart attacks. What is the primary mechanism by which they contribute to cardiovascular events?

- A) By directly infecting heart valves and causing immediate clot formation
- B) By forming biofilms in atherosclerotic plaques that trigger inflammation and plaque rupture
- C) By producing toxins that weaken the myocardium
- D) By increasing blood pressure and cholesterol levels

Answer: B) By forming biofilms in atherosclerotic plaques that trigger inflammation and plaque rupture

Explanation:

- Viridans streptococci are **oral commensals** that can colonize atherosclerotic plaques.
- They form **biofilms**, which **evade immune detection**.
- Fragments of these biofilms trigger **inflammation**, weakening the fibrous cap of plaques.
- Plaque rupture leads to **blood clot formation**, resulting in **heart attacks**.
- While they are also associated with **infective endocarditis**, their role in sudden cardiac events is mainly via **plaque destabilization**.

Q22. The Karnak Temple complex, a UNESCO World Heritage Site in Egypt, is historically significant because:

- A) It was the first pyramid built in the Old Kingdom
- B) It served as the main tomb complex for pharaohs
- C) It was primarily dedicated to Ra, the sun god
- D) It is one of the largest religious complexes, developed over centuries, dedicated to Amun, Mut, and Khonsu

Answer: D) It is one of the largest religious complexes, developed over centuries, dedicated to Amun, Mut, and Khonsu

Explanation:

- **Karnak Temple**, located in **Luxor, Egypt**, evolved from 2055 BC to 100 AD, spanning the **New Kingdom to early Christian periods**.
- Dedicated mainly to **Amun**, along with **Mut and Khonsu**, it is the **largest religious structure in ancient Egypt**.
- Contributions came from **pharaohs like Hatshepsut, Tuthmose III, Seti I, and Ramesses II**.
- It forms part of the **UNESCO World Heritage Site** along with **Luxor Temple** and **Valley of the Kings**.

Q23. The PM-SETU scheme, recently launched by the Prime Minister, primarily aims to:

- A) Provide free higher education in central universities
- B) Promote entrepreneurship among rural youth

- C) Upgrade ITIs with industry-aligned courses and modern infrastructure
 D) Establish new AI research centres in India

Answer: C) Upgrade ITIs with industry-aligned courses and modern infrastructure

Explanation:

- **PM-SETU** stands for **Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs**.
- Objective: Transform **1,000 ITIs** into **modern, industry-aligned training institutes** with placement support.
- Model: **Hub-and-Spoke** (200 hubs linked to 800 spokes).
- Investment: **Rs 60,000 crore**, backed by **World Bank and ADB**.
- **Centres of Excellence** include National Skill Training Institutes in **Bhubaneswar, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kanpur, Ludhiana**.
- **First Phase:** Focus on **Patna and Darbhanga ITIs**.

Q24. Consider the following statements about Exercise KONKAN-25:

1. It is a bilateral naval exercise between India and the UK.
2. The exercise is conducted in two phases: Harbour Phase and Sea Phase.
3. The Indian Navy deployed the INS Vikrant carrier battle group during the exercise.
4. The exercise is part of the India-US Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI).

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
 B) 1, 2, and 3 only
 C) 2 and 4 only
 D) All of the above

Answer: B) 1, 2, and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct – Exercise KONKAN-25 is **India-UK** bilateral naval exercise.
- **Statement 2:** Correct – Two phases: **Harbour Phase** (interactions, cultural events) and **Sea Phase** (maritime drills).
- **Statement 3:** Correct – **INS Vikrant carrier battle group** participated from India.
- **Statement 4:** Incorrect – The exercise is **India-UK Vision 2035**, not part of **India-US DTTI**.

Q25. Consider the following statements regarding UNESCO:

1. UNESCO was established in 1945 to promote international collaboration in education, science, culture, and communication.

2. It currently has 194 member states and 12 associate members.
3. One of its key functions is to maintain and designate World Heritage Sites.
4. UNESCO has the authority to enforce educational policies in member countries.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A) 1, 2, and 3 only
- B) 1 and 4 only
- C) 2 and 4 only
- D) All of the above

Answer: A) 1, 2, and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct – UNESCO was founded in 1945 to promote **education, science, culture, and communication**.
- **Statement 2:** Correct – It has **194 member states and 12 associate members**.
- **Statement 3:** Correct – UNESCO **designates and maintains World Heritage Sites**.
- **Statement 4:** Incorrect – UNESCO **does not enforce educational policies**; it **advises, facilitates cooperation, and provides technical support**, but implementation is the responsibility of individual member states.

Q26. *Nesolynx banabitanæ*, recently discovered in West Bengal, is ecologically significant because it:

- A) Pollinates endangered plants in urban parks
- B) Acts as a hyperparasitoid, parasitising other parasitoid wasps
- C) Feeds on crop pests directly as a primary predator
- D) Is a pollinator and a predator in equal measure

Answer: B) Acts as a hyperparasitoid, parasitising other parasitoid wasps

Explanation:

Nesolynx banabitanæ is a hyperparasitoid wasp, meaning it parasitises other parasitoid wasps (*Charops aditya*), which themselves attack caterpillars like the common palmfly and common castor butterflies. This adds a complex layer to ecological interactions and helps maintain ecosystem balance, rather than acting directly as a pollinator or primary predator.

Q27. Easter Island (Rapa Nui), a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is characterised by which of the following features?

1. It is a triangular volcanic island with three extinct volcanoes – Terevaka, Poike, and Rano Kau.
2. It is located in the southeastern Pacific Ocean, about 3,540 km west of mainland Chile.

3. The island is famous for over 900 Moai statues placed on stone platforms called ahu.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D) 1, 2 and 3

Explanation:

Easter Island is a **triangular volcanic island** in the southeastern Pacific Ocean, about **3,540 km west of Chile**, comprising three extinct volcanoes. It is renowned for **over 900 Moai statues**, which were placed on stone platforms called **ahu**, serving as tombs for ancestors or chieftains. All three statements are correct.

Q28. Consider the following statements regarding the Gaza Strip:

1. The Netzarim Corridor is located in the northern part of the Gaza Strip near Beit Hanoun.
2. The Magen Oz Corridor is situated near Khan Younis in the southern Gaza Strip.
3. The Rafah Crossing provides access from Gaza into Egypt.
4. The Erez Crossing connects Gaza with Israel.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1, 3, and 4 only
- D) 1, 2, 3, and 4

Answer: D) 1, 2, 3, and 4

Explanation:

- The **Netzarim Corridor** is in northern Gaza near **Beit Hanoun**.
 - The **Magen Oz Corridor** is located near **Khan Younis** in the south.
 - **Rafah Crossing** connects Gaza to **Egypt**, while **Erez Crossing** connects Gaza to **Israel**.
- All four statements are correct.

Q29. The Online National Drugs Licensing System (ONDLs) has been introduced in India with the aim of:

- A) Providing a single-window digital platform for processing drug-related licences across States and Union Territories.
- B) Regulating only the pricing of essential medicines under the National Pharmaceutical Pricing

Authority (NPPA).

C) Manufacturing vaccines and biologics under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

D) Conducting clinical trials for new drugs exclusively in government hospitals.

Answer: A

Explanation:

- ONDLS is designed as a **single-window digital platform** to streamline and digitize the issuance of drug manufacturing, sales licences, blood bank approvals, and certificates such as COPP, GMP, WHO-GMP, and market standing.
- It ensures a **uniform, transparent, and accountable licensing process** across States/UTs.
- Options B, C, and D are incorrect as they pertain to pricing regulation, manufacturing, or clinical trials, which are outside the scope of ONDLS.

Q30. The Indian Radio Software Architecture (IRSA) Standard 1.0, developed by DRDO and Tri-Services, primarily aims to:

A) Manufacture Software Defined Radios (SDRs) for civilian wireless networks.

B) Standardize the hardware components of all Indian military communication devices.

C) Provide a standardized software architecture for SDRs, ensuring secure and interoperable communication.

D) Replace all legacy communication protocols in India's civilian telecom sector.

Answer: C

Explanation:

- **IRSA** is India's **first national standard for Software Defined Radios (SDRs)**, focusing on **software architecture**, including interfaces, APIs, waveform portability, and certification.
- Its main goal is to ensure **secure, efficient, and interoperable communication** across defense platforms.
- Options A, B, and D are incorrect because IRSA is **not about manufacturing hardware**, nor is it targeted at civilian telecom protocols.

Q31. Which of the following statements about the Nobel Prize in Literature is/are correct?

1. It was established by Alfred Nobel in 1895 and first awarded in 1901.
2. It is awarded by the Swedish Academy to authors whose works have outstanding literary merit.
3. The prize can be awarded posthumously to authors who have passed away within the last five years.

Options:

A) 1 and 2 only

- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

Solution:

- Statement 1 Correct – Established in Alfred Nobel’s 1895 will; first awarded in 1901.
- Statement 2 Correct – Awarded by the **Swedish Academy** for outstanding literary achievement.
- Statement 3 Incorrect – The Nobel Prize in Literature is **not awarded posthumously** (except in cases where laureate dies after announcement but before ceremony).

Q32. Great Coco Island, located in the Bay of Bengal and only 55 km from India’s Andaman & Nicobar Islands, is geopolitically significant. To which country does it belong?

Options:

- A) India
- B) Thailand
- C) Myanmar
- D) Bangladesh

Answer: C) Myanmar

Explanation:

- Great Coco Island is part of **Myanmar’s Yangon Region**.
- Its proximity to India’s Andaman & Nicobar Islands makes it strategically important in the Bay of Bengal.
- It is **geologically linked to the Arakan/Rakhine mountain range**, not part of India.

Q33. Which of the following statements about the IUCN World Conservation Congress are correct?

1. Held every four years; largest global conservation gathering.
2. Members’ Assembly approves programmes, elects Council, and votes on policies.
3. Founded in 1948 as a union of governments and civil society organisations.
4. 2025 theme: “Powering transformative conservation”; India unveiled National Red List Roadmap.

Options:

- A) 1, 2, 3 only
- B) 1, 2, 4 only

- C) 2, 3, 4 only
D) 1, 2, 3, 4

Answer: D) 1, 2, 3, 4

Explanation: All statements are correct based on IUCN facts and 2025 Congress highlights.

Q34. The Mera Hou Chongba festival, celebrated in Manipur, primarily signifies:

- A) Harvesting of crops in the valley regions
B) Victory of Meitei kings over hill tribes
C) Hill-Valley unity and communal harmony among indigenous communities
D) Beginning of the Meitei lunar calendar year

Answer: C) Hill-Valley unity and communal harmony among indigenous communities

Explanation: The festival emphasizes unity among all indigenous communities of Manipur, symbolized through rituals like the ceremonial fire, gift exchange, and cultural performances.

Q35. Which of the following statements about PM-KUSUM Scheme are correct?

1. Launched in 2019 by MNRE for farmers' energy and water security.
2. Component A allows 500 kW–2 MW solar plants on barren land, selling power to DISCOMs.
3. Component B provides solarisation of grid-connected pumps, and Component C provides standalone off-grid pumps.
4. Targets 34,800 MW solar capacity by 2026 and reduces diesel use.

- A) 1, 2, 3
B) 1, 2, 4
C) 1, 3, 4
D) 2, 3, 4

Answer: B) 1, 2, 4

Explanation: Component B is for standalone off-grid pumps and Component C is for grid-connected pumps; statement 3 is reversed.

Q36. Consider the following statements regarding the Surrogacy (Regulation) Act, 2021:

1. The Act allows commercial surrogacy under certain conditions.
2. A surrogate must be a married woman between 25–35 years who has at least one child and can act as a surrogate only once.
3. The intended couple must have no surviving children and must be married for at least five years.

4. The Supreme Court ruled in 2025 that age limits under the Act do not apply to couples who froze embryos and initiated surrogacy before January 25, 2022.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- A) 1, 2, 3, and 4
 B) 2, 3, and 4 only
 C) 1 and 3 only
 D) 2 and 4 only

Answer:

B) 2, 3, and 4 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect** – The Act **prohibits commercial surrogacy**; only altruistic surrogacy is permitted.
- **Statement 2 is correct** – Surrogate eligibility criteria match the Act.
- **Statement 3 is correct** – Intended couple eligibility criteria are accurate.
- **Statement 4 is correct** – SC ruling in 2025 exempts pre-frozen embryo cases from age limits.

Q37. Consider the following statements about the International Solar Alliance (ISA):

1. It is a treaty-based international organization launched by India and France in 2015 at COP21, Paris.
2. Its headquarters is at New Delhi, India.
3. Membership is open to countries lying fully or partially between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn.
4. The ISA's 'Towards 1000' strategy aims to install 1000 GW of solar capacity and provide energy access to 1 billion people by 2030.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1, 2, and 3 only
 B) 1, 3, and 4 only
 C) 2 and 4 only
 D) 1, 2, 3, and 4

Answer:

B) 1, 3, and 4 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct** – ISA was launched by India and France in 2015 at COP21.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect** – Headquarters is at **Gurugram, Haryana**, not New Delhi.

- **Statement 3 is correct** – Membership is for countries between Tropic of Cancer & Tropic of Capricorn.
- **Statement 4 is correct** – ‘Towards 1000’ strategy aims for 1000 GW capacity and 1 billion people with energy access by 2030.

Q38. Consider the following statements about the AIM-120 AMRAAM missile:

1. It is a medium-range, radar-guided, active air-to-air missile with beyond-visual-range (BVR) capability.
2. It can achieve speeds exceeding Mach 4 and has a range of over 160 km.
3. The missile uses fire-and-forget technology and a two-way data link for real-time updates.
4. It is exclusively used by the United States and not exported to other countries.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1, 2, and 3 only
- B) 1 and 4 only
- C) 2 and 4 only
- D) 1, 2, 3, and 4

Answer:

A) 1, 2, and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct** – AIM-120 is a BVR, radar-guided, active air-to-air missile.
- **Statement 2 is correct** – Speed > Mach 4; range > 160 km.
- **Statement 3 is correct** – Fire-and-forget capability and two-way data link enable real-time updates.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect** – The missile is used by 35+ countries, not exclusively by the US.

Q39. Consider the following statements about the AgriEnIcs Programme:

1. It is a national programme by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) focused on agriculture and environmental technologies.
2. The programme integrates AI, IoT, machine vision, and sensor-based solutions for precision agriculture and environmental management.
3. It is implemented solely by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) without industry or academic participation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only
- B) 2 only
- C) 1 and 2 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

Answer:

C) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct** – AgriEnIcs is a national programme under MeitY for agriculture and environment technologies.
- **Statement 2 is correct** – It uses AI, IoT, machine vision, and sensors for precision agriculture and environmental management.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect** – It is implemented by **C-DAC Kolkata** with participation from academia, R&D labs, and industry, not solely by ICAR.

Q40. Consider the following statements about the DRAVYA Portal:

1. It is an initiative under the Ministry of AYUSH to create a comprehensive database of Ayurvedic ingredients and products.
2. The portal integrates classical Ayurvedic texts, contemporary scientific literature, and field studies.
3. It features QR code integration and is planned to interlink with the Ayush Grid.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1 and 3 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

Answer:

D) 1, 2, and 3

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct** – DRAVYA Portal is implemented by CCRAS under the Ministry of AYUSH for Ayurvedic data.
- **Statement 2 is correct** – It consolidates information from classical texts, modern research, and field studies.
- **Statement 3 is correct** – Features QR code integration and planned linkage with Ayush Grid and other initiatives.

Q41. Consider the following statements about the Green Sea Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*):

1. It is the largest hard-shelled sea turtle, and its name refers to the color of its carapace.
2. Juveniles are carnivorous, while adults are omnivorous.
3. It is considered a keystone species in tropical marine ecosystems.
4. It has visible external ears but poor sense of smell.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1, 2, and 3 only
- D) 1, 3, and 4 only

Answer: B) 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is **incorrect**: The term “green” refers to the **green fat under its shell**, not the carapace color (which is olive to black).
- Statement 2 is **correct**: Juveniles are **carnivorous**, adults are **omnivorous**.
- Statement 3 is **correct**: Green Sea Turtles are **keystone species**, maintaining balance in tropical marine ecosystems.
- Statement 4 is **incorrect**: They have **no visible external ears**, but possess **excellent low-frequency hearing and sense of smell**.

Q42. Which of the following statements about the Palamau Tiger Reserve is/are correct?

1. It is located in Latehar district, Jharkhand, and forms part of Betla National Park.
2. The reserve was one of the first 9 tiger reserves under Project Tiger and conducted the first tiger census using pugmarks in 1932.
3. The Burha River in the reserve is seasonal, while the North Koyal and Auranga are perennial.
4. The reserve’s major forest types are moist and dry deciduous, dominated by Sal and bamboo.

Options:

- A) 1, 2, and 4 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1, 3, and 4 only
- D) All of the above

Answer: A) 1, 2, and 4 only

Explanation:

- Statement 1: **Correct** – Palamau Tiger Reserve is in **Latehar district**, part of **Betla National Park**.
- Statement 2: **Correct** – One of the first 9 **Project Tiger reserves**; first **tiger census by pugmarks** in 1932.
- Statement 3: **Incorrect** – **Burha River is the only perennial river**; North Koyal and Auranga are seasonal.
- Statement 4: **Correct** – Forest types include **moist and dry deciduous**, dominated by **Sal and bamboo**.

Q43. Consider the following statements about the Atacama Desert:

1. It is the driest desert in the world, located in northern Chile, stretching nearly 1,000 km along the Pacific coast.
2. The desert is bordered by Argentina, Peru, and Bolivia.
3. It hosts the oldest artificially mummified human remains, known as Chinchorro mummies.
4. The desert flora includes *Cistanthe longiscapa*, which can switch between C3 and CAM photosynthesis.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

Options:

- A) 1, 2, and 3 only
- B) 2, 3, and 4 only
- C) 1, 2, 3, and 4
- D) 1 and 4 only

Answer: C) 1, 2, 3, and 4

Explanation:

- Statement 1: **Correct** – Atacama is the **driest desert**; ~1,000 km along northern Chile.
- Statement 2: **Correct** – Borders **Argentina, Peru, and Bolivia**.
- Statement 3: **Correct** – **Chinchorro mummies**, oldest artificially mummified humans, were found here.
- Statement 4: **Correct** – *Cistanthe longiscapa* (**pata de guanaco**) adapts to extreme dryness by switching **C3 ↔ CAM photosynthesis**.

Q44. Consider the following statements about the SPARK-4.0 initiative:

1. It is launched by the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) under the Ministry of AYUSH.

2. The program provides research opportunities and stipend for undergraduate BAMS students.
3. SPARK–4.0 supports students to undertake short-term independent research projects under faculty mentorship.
4. It is open to postgraduate (MD/MS) students of Ayurveda for long-term research programs.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

Options:

- A) 1, 2, and 3 only
- B) 2, 3, and 4 only
- C) 1 and 4 only
- D) 1, 2, 3, and 4

Answer: A) 1, 2, and 3 only

Explanation:

- Statements 1, 2, and 3 are correct as SPARK–4.0 focuses on **undergraduate BAMS students**, providing **stipends and hands-on research experience** under faculty guidance.
- Statement 4 is **incorrect**, as SPARK–4.0 is **not designed for postgraduate students** or long-term research programs.

This question integrates **Ayurveda, education policy, and research promotion**.

Q45. With reference to the Tele-MANAS initiative, consider the following statements:

1. Tele-MANAS was launched by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in 2022 to provide 24×7 mental health services across India.
2. The initiative operates through a two-tier system involving state-level counsellors and specialists, and district-level specialists via e-Sanjeevani.
3. The Tele-MANAS digital platform is available in multiple languages, including English, Hindi, and 10 regional languages.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

Answer: D) 1, 2, and 3

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct — Tele-MANAS was launched in 2022 to provide accessible mental health care nationwide.
- **Statement 2:** Correct — It functions via a two-tier system with state-level counsellors and district-level specialists connected through e-Sanjeevani.
- **Statement 3:** Correct — The platform is multilingual: English, Hindi, and 10 regional languages including Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Tamil, Telugu, Odia, and Punjabi.

Q46. The Somnath Temple in Gujarat is historically and culturally significant for several reasons. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It has been destroyed and rebuilt multiple times throughout history.
2. The present temple was built in Nagara style of architecture.
3. Somnath is considered a Jyotirlinga of Lord Shiva.
4. It is situated on the banks of the river Narmada.

Options:

- A) 1 and 3 only
- B) 1, 2 and 3 only
- C) 2 and 4 only
- D) 1, 3 and 4 only

Answer: A) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct. The temple was repeatedly destroyed by invaders (including Mahmud Ghazni) and reconstructed multiple times.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect. The present temple was built in **Chalukya style**, not Nagara style.
- **Statement 3:** Correct. Somnath is the first of the twelve **Jyotirlingas** of Lord Shiva.
- **Statement 4:** Incorrect. It is located near the **Triveni Sangam** of Kapila, Hiran, and Saraswati rivers, not the Narmada.

Q47. Consider the following statements about India's Maitri II Station in Antarctica:

1. It is proposed to be larger than the existing Maitri I.
2. It will rely entirely on fossil fuels for operations.
3. NCPOR is the nodal agency responsible for the station.
4. It is planned to be operational by 2029.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- A) 1, 2 and 3 only

- B) 1, 3 and 4 only
- C) 2 and 4 only
- D) All of the above

Answer: B) 1, 3 and 4 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct. Maitri II will be larger than Maitri I.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect. The station will use renewable energy (solar and wind), not fossil fuels.
- **Statement 3:** Correct. NCPOR under the Ministry of Earth Sciences is the nodal agency.
- **Statement 4:** Correct. The station is expected to be operational by January 2029.

Q48. Consider the following statements regarding the Blue Flag Certification:

1. It is a global eco-label awarded by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE), Denmark, for beaches, marinas, and sustainable tourism initiatives.
2. The certification evaluates sites based on water quality, environmental management, environmental education, and safety & services.
3. The Blue Flag programme was first introduced in India in 2021.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) All of the above

Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct. The Blue Flag is a globally recognized eco-label awarded by FEE (Denmark) to beaches, marinas, and sustainable tourism initiatives.
- **Statement 2:** Correct. Certification criteria include water quality, environmental management, environmental education, and safety & services.
- **Statement 3:** Incorrect. The Blue Flag programme was introduced in India in 2001, not 2021.

Q49. Consider the following statements regarding Exercise AUSTRALIND:

1. It is an annual joint military exercise between India and Australia aimed at enhancing interoperability and sharing tactical expertise.

2. The exercise primarily focuses on conventional warfare and large-scale armored operations.
3. Other India–Australia military exercises include AUSINDEX and PITCHBLACK.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1 and 3 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) All of the above

Answer: B) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct. Exercise AUSTRALIND is an annual India–Australia exercise to enhance military cooperation, interoperability, and exchange of tactics, particularly in sub-conventional warfare.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect. The exercise focuses on sub-conventional warfare, urban/semi-urban, and semi-desert operations, not conventional large-scale armored warfare.
- **Statement 3:** Correct. Other India–Australia military exercises include AUSINDEX (naval) and PITCHBLACK (air force).

Q50. Consider the following statements regarding the Kiru Hydroelectric Project:

1. It is a 624 MW run-of-river project located on the Chenab River in Jammu & Kashmir.
2. The project includes a concrete gravity dam and an underground powerhouse with vertical Francis turbines.
3. Kiru project is a joint venture between NHPC, JKSPDC, and Power Grid Corporation of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) All of the above

Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct. Kiru is a 624 MW run-of-river hydroelectric project on the Chenab River in Kishtwar, J&K.

- **Statement 2:** Correct. It features a 135 m concrete gravity dam and an underground powerhouse with four 156 MW vertical Francis turbines.
- **Statement 3:** Incorrect. The project is developed by Chenab Valley Power Projects, a JV of NHPC (49%), JKSPDC (49%), and PTC (2%), not Power Grid Corporation of India.

Q51. Consider the following statements about the Indian Wolf (*Canis lupus pallipes*):

1. It is a subspecies of the Grey Wolf found in the Indian subcontinent and parts of Southwest Asia.
2. It generally lives in large packs of more than 15 individuals and is highly vocal.
3. It is listed as Vulnerable by the IUCN and protected under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- A) 1 only
- B) 1 and 2 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

Answer: C) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct. The Indian wolf is a subspecies of the Grey Wolf found in India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Israel, Turkey, Iran, and Syria.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect. Indian wolves live in **small packs** (6–8 individuals), are nocturnal, territorial, and relatively less vocal.
- **Statement 3:** Correct. The Indian wolf is classified as **Vulnerable** by IUCN, included in **Schedule I** of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, and listed in **CITES Appendix I**.

Q52. Consider the following statements about Armenia:

1. It is a landlocked country located south of the Caucasus Mountains.
2. It shares borders with Georgia, Azerbaijan, Iran, and Turkey.
3. Mount Aragats, an active volcano, is the highest peak of Armenia.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct. Armenia is landlocked and lies south of the Caucasus Mountains.
- **Statement 2:** Correct. It borders Georgia (N), Azerbaijan (E), Iran (SE), and Turkey (W).
- **Statement 3:** Incorrect. Mount Aragats (4,090 m) is **extinct**, not active.

Q53. Consider the following statements about the NATO exercise “Steadfast Noon”:

1. It is an annual exercise to test NATO’s conventional combat readiness.
2. The 2025 edition is hosted by the Netherlands at Volkel Air Base.
3. France participates actively in all editions of Steadfast Noon.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- A) 1 only
- B) 1 and 2 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) 2 only

Answer: D) 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Incorrect. Steadfast Noon focuses on **nuclear deterrence**, not conventional combat readiness.
- **Statement 2:** Correct. The 2025 edition is hosted by the **Netherlands** at **Volkel Air Base**.
- **Statement 3:** Incorrect. **France does not participate** as it maintains independent nuclear forces outside NATO’s command.

Q54. Consider the following statements about the Virtual Museum of Stolen Cultural Objects:

1. It is an initiative by UNESCO to digitally showcase stolen cultural heritage.
2. The museum was launched at MONDIACULT 2025 in collaboration with INTERPOL and supported by Saudi Arabia.
3. It displays only Indian cultural objects.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- A) 1 only
- B) 1 and 2 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct. UNESCO launched the virtual museum to reconnect communities with stolen cultural objects.
- **Statement 2:** Correct. It was launched at **MONDIACULT 2025**, supported by **Saudi Arabia**, and developed with **INTERPOL**.
- **Statement 3:** Incorrect. The museum displays cultural objects from **46 countries**, not just India.

Q55. Consider the following statements about LEAPS 2025:

1. It is an initiative under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) to benchmark logistics excellence.
2. LEAPS 2025 focuses solely on road and rail transport.
3. The initiative aligns with the National Logistics Policy and PM GatiShakti.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- A) 1 only
- B) 1 and 2 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: C) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct. LEAPS 2025 is launched by **DPIIT** to promote logistics excellence in India.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect. LEAPS 2025 covers **air, road, rail, sea, multimodal transport, warehousing, MSMEs, startups, and academia**, not just road and rail.
- **Statement 3:** Correct. It is aligned with **National Logistics Policy** and **PM GatiShakti** for integrated, cost-efficient logistics.

Q56. Consider the following statements about *Impatiens rajibiana*:

1. It is a newly discovered species of balsam in Arunachal Pradesh.
2. It belongs to the family Fabaceae.
3. It grows in moist, shaded forests at elevations above 2,000 meters.
4. Many balsam species in India are endemic.

Which of the above statements are correct?

Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1, 3, and 4 only

- C) 2, 3, and 4 only
D) All of the above

Answer: B) 1, 3, and 4 only

Explanation:

- *Impatiens rajibiana* is a newly discovered species of balsam in Arunachal Pradesh (**statement 1 – correct**).
- It belongs to the family **Balsaminaceae**, not Fabaceae (**statement 2 – incorrect**).
- It grows in moist, shaded forests at high elevations (>2,000 m) (**statement 3 – correct**).
- Many balsam species in India are **endemic** with limited distribution (**statement 4 – correct**).

Q57. Consider the following statements regarding the Naying Hydroelectric Project:

1. It is a proposed 1,000 MW hydropower project on the Siyom River in Arunachal Pradesh.
2. The project will be implemented by the North Eastern Electric Power Corporation (NEEPCO).
3. Siyom River is a left-bank tributary of the Brahmaputra and flows entirely outside Arunachal Pradesh.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
B) 2 and 3 only
C) 1 and 3 only
D) All of the above

Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct: The Naying project is a proposed 1,000 MW hydropower project on the Siyom River, implemented by NEEPCO.
- Statement 3 is incorrect: Siyom River is a **right-bank tributary** of the Brahmaputra and flows in Arunachal Pradesh.

Q58. Consider the following statements regarding the Crew Escape System (CES):

1. The Puller type CES is used in ISRO's Gaganyaan and SpaceX Falcon 9.
2. The CES ensures the crew module reaches a safe distance and then uses multistage parachutes for controlled splashdown.
3. The Integrated Vehicle Health Management (IVHM) system monitors crew and vehicle health and can automatically trigger the CES during anomalies.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1 and 3 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) All of the above

Answer: C) 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- Statement 2 is correct: CES moves the module to a safe distance and decelerates it with multistage parachutes.
- Statement 3 is correct: IVHM monitors vehicle and crew parameters to trigger CES automatically when needed.
- Statement 1 is incorrect: Puller type is **not used in SpaceX Falcon 9**; Falcon 9 uses the Pusher type CES.

Q59. Consider the following statements regarding the SAIME Initiative:

1. SAIME promotes climate-adaptive shrimp aquaculture linked with mangrove restoration.
2. It is implemented solely by the West Bengal state government.
3. Mangroves act as natural buffers, sequester carbon, and support biodiversity.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) All of the above

Answer: C) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: SAIME integrates shrimp aquaculture with mangrove restoration.
- Statement 2 is incorrect: SAIME is implemented as a **multi-stakeholder partnership** (GNF, NEWS, Naturland, BEDS) and not solely by the state government.
- Statement 3 is correct: Mangroves provide ecological services like buffering storms, carbon sequestration, and biodiversity support.

Q60. Consider the following statements about Mission Drishti:

1. It is India's first multi-sensor Earth observation satellite developed by a private startup.

2. It will carry Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) and high-resolution optical payloads for all-weather imaging.
3. The satellite weighs 500 kg and offers 0.5 metre resolution.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- A) 1 and 3 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 2 only
- D) 1 and 2 only

Answer: D) 1 and 2 only; statement 3 is incorrect

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: Mission Drishti is India's first multi-sensor EO satellite developed by the Bengaluru-based startup GalaxEye.
- Statement 2 is correct: It carries SAR and high-resolution optical payloads for all-weather, day/night imaging.
- Statement 3 is incorrect: The satellite weighs **160 kg** and offers **1.5 metre resolution**, not 500 kg and 0.5 metre.

Q61. Which of the following statements about Silent Valley National Park is/are correct?

1. It is located in the southwest Nilgiris, Kerala, and forms part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.
2. The park is home to the endangered Lion-tailed macaque, endemic to the Western Ghats.
3. It was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2012.

Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D) 1, 2 and 3

Explanation: Silent Valley is a pristine rainforest in Kerala, part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, hosts endemic Lion-tailed macaques, and was recognized by UNESCO in 2012.

Q62. Consider the following statements about Chiron:

1. It is a centaur located between Jupiter and Neptune, showing characteristics of both asteroids and comets.

2. It was discovered in 1977 by Charles Kowal.
3. Recent observations confirmed that Chiron has a ring system.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D) 1, 2 and 3

Explanation: Chiron is a centaur between Jupiter and Neptune, discovered by Charles Kowal in 1977. Recent studies using stellar occultation revealed a four-ring system around it.

Q63. Consider the following statements about Uruguay:

1. It is influenced by the Brazil Current along its coast, which is a warm northward-flowing current.
2. The Malvinas (Falkland) Current, a cold southward-flowing current, also affects its coastline.
3. The Haedo Ridge is located in the southeast, while the Grande Ridge is in the north.
4. The Uruguay River forms part of the border with Argentina.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- A) 1, 2 and 3 only
- B) 1, 2 and 4 only
- C) 2, 3 and 4 only
- D) 1, 3 and 4 only

Answer: B) 1, 2 and 4 only

Explanation: Uruguay's coastline is influenced by both the warm Brazil Current (northward) and the cold Malvinas Current (southward). The Uruguay River forms the border with Argentina. The ridge locations are reversed: Haedo Ridge in the north and Grande Ridge in the southeast, making statement 3 incorrect.

Q64. Consider the following statements about Exercise Samudra Shakti:

1. It is a bilateral maritime exercise between India and Indonesia.
2. The exercise aims to enhance interoperability, tactical coordination, and mutual understanding between the two navies.
3. It is exclusively a land-based military exercise with no naval or maritime operations.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

Explanation: Exercise Samudra Shakti is a **maritime** (not land-based) exercise between India and Indonesia aimed at improving naval interoperability, tactical coordination, and mutual understanding.

Q65. Consider the following statements about the Public Trust Doctrine:

1. It mandates that certain natural resources are preserved for public use, with the government acting as a trustee.
2. It originated in Indian constitutional law and applies only to natural waterbodies like rivers and lakes.
3. The doctrine extends to man-made or artificial waterbodies serving ecological or environmental purposes, as clarified by the Supreme Court.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: C) 1 and 3 only

Explanation: The Public Trust Doctrine establishes that the government must protect resources for public use (statement 1) and, as per recent Supreme Court rulings, also applies to artificial/ecological waterbodies (statement 3). Statement 2 is incorrect because the doctrine did **not originate in Indian law** and is not limited to natural waterbodies.

Q66. Consider the following statements about the Blackbuck (*Antelope cervicapra*):

1. It is the state animal of Punjab, Haryana, and Andhra Pradesh.
2. Only female blackbucks have long spiral horns.
3. Its natural habitat includes open grasslands and dry scrub forests.
4. It is classified as 'Vulnerable' under the IUCN Red List.

Which of the above statements are correct?

Options:

- A) 1 and 3 only
- B) 2 and 4 only
- C) 1, 2, and 3 only
- D) 1, 3, and 4 only

Answer: A) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct – Blackbuck is the state animal of Punjab, Haryana, and Andhra Pradesh.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect – Only **males** have long spiral horns; females are hornless.
- **Statement 3:** Correct – Their habitat includes open grasslands, dry scrub, and lightly forested areas.
- **Statement 4:** Incorrect – Blackbuck is classified as **Least Concern**, not Vulnerable, by IUCN.

Q67. Consider the following statements about Chikungunya:

1. It is transmitted by *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes.
2. The disease can be transmitted directly from one person to another.
3. Chikungunya was first identified in Tanzania in 1952.
4. There is currently no vaccine or specific antiviral treatment for Chikungunya.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

Options:

- A) 1 and 3 only
- B) 1, 3, and 4 only
- C) 2 and 4 only
- D) All of the above

Answer: B) 1, 3, and 4 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct – Chikungunya is transmitted by ***Aedes aegypti*** and ***Aedes albopictus***.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect – It is **not transmitted person-to-person**.
- **Statement 3:** Correct – First outbreak recorded in Tanzania, 1952.
- **Statement 4:** Correct – Treatment is **symptomatic; no vaccine or antiviral exists**.

Q68. Consider the following statements about Taftan Volcano:

1. It is a semi-active stratovolcano located in southeastern Iran, near the Pakistan border.

2. Taftan Volcano is part of the Ring of Fire in the Pacific Ocean.
3. It was formed due to the subduction of the Arabian plate under the Eurasian plate.
4. The volcano has two summits named Narkuh and Matherkuh.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

Options:

- A) 1, 2, and 3 only
- B) 1, 3, and 4 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) All of the above

Answer: B) 1, 3, and 4 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct – Taftan is a semi-active stratovolcano in southeastern Iran, near Pakistan.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect – It is **not part of the Pacific Ring of Fire**, but part of the Makran volcanic arc.
- **Statement 3:** Correct – Formed due to **Arabian plate subduction under the Eurasian plate**.
- **Statement 4:** Correct – The volcano has two summits: **Narkuh** and **Matherkuh**.

Q69. Consider the following statements about the IN–RoKN Exercise:

1. It is a bilateral naval exercise between the Indian Navy and the Republic of Korea Navy.
2. The exercise includes only sea-phase drills, without any harbour-phase activities.
3. INS Sahyadri, a Shivalik-class stealth frigate, participates in the exercise and is indigenously built.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1 and 3 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) All of the above

Answer: B) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct – IN–RoKN is a **bilateral exercise** between India and South Korea.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect – The exercise has **two phases**: harbour (training, cross-deck visits, diplomacy) and sea (joint drills).

- **Statement 3:** Correct – **INS Sahyadri**, a Shivalik-class stealth frigate, is **indigenously built** and participates in the exercise.

Q70. Consider the following statements regarding the Henley Passport Index 2025:

1. India ranks 85th, slipping 5 places from the previous year.
2. The index ranks passports based on the number of visa-free destinations, using IATA data.
3. Singapore tops the index with visa-free access to 193 countries.
4. The United States ranks below 15th position in 2025.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1, 2, and 3 only
- C) 2 and 4 only
- D) All of the above

Answer: D) All of the above

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct – India ranks **85th**, down 5 spots.
- **Statement 2:** Correct – Ranking is based on **visa-free access**, using IATA data.
- **Statement 3:** Correct – Singapore tops the index with **193 destinations**.
- **Statement 4:** Correct – The US ranks **12th**, which is below 15th.

Q71. Tuvalu, which recently became the 90th member of the IUCN, is located in which ocean?

- A) Atlantic Ocean
- B) Indian Ocean
- C) Pacific Ocean
- D) Arctic Ocean

Answer: C) Pacific Ocean

Explanation:

Tuvalu, formerly the Ellice Islands, is a small island nation in the **Pacific Ocean**, located between Australia and Hawaii. It is highly vulnerable to sea-level rise due to its low elevation, with the highest point just 4.5 m above sea level.

Q72. The Rakchham Chitkul Wildlife Sanctuary, recently in the news for hosting an international bird-watching programme, is located in which Indian state?

- A) Uttarakhand

- B) Himachal Pradesh
- C) Sikkim
- D) Arunachal Pradesh

Answer: B) Himachal Pradesh

Explanation:

Rakchham Chitkul Wildlife Sanctuary is situated in **Kinnaur district, Himachal Pradesh**, in the Western Himalayas. It spans 30.98 sq. km, features high-altitude terrain (3,200–5,486 m), and is known for species like **snow leopard, Himalayan black bear, and musk deer**.

Q73. Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), recently reported in deer populations, is caused by:

- A) Virus
- B) Bacteria
- C) Prions
- D) Fungi

Answer: C) Prions

Explanation:

CWD, also called **Zombie Deer Disease**, is a fatal neurological disorder affecting deer, elk, moose, and reindeer. It is caused by **prions**, which are misfolded proteins, not bacteria or viruses, and spreads through body fluids and contaminated environments.

Q74. Consider the following statements about Nafithromycin:

1. It is the first indigenously developed antibiotic in India.
2. It is primarily used to treat malaria.
3. It targets infections caused by drug-resistant bacteria.
4. It has been developed with support from BIRAC.

Which of the above statements are correct?

Options:

- A) 1, 2, and 3
- B) 1, 3, and 4
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) 1 and 2 only

Answer: B) 1, 3, and 4

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct – Nafithromycin is India's first indigenously developed antibiotic.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect – It is **not used for malaria**; it treats **Community-Acquired Bacterial Pneumonia (CABP)** and resistant respiratory infections.

- **Statement 3:** Correct – It targets **drug-resistant bacteria** addressing Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR).
- **Statement 4:** Correct – Developed with support from **BIRAC**.

Q75. Consider the following statements about the New Development Bank (NDB):

1. It was established by the BRICS countries to finance infrastructure and sustainable development projects.
2. Its headquarters is in Shanghai, China.
3. Each member country has equal voting power in the bank.
4. Membership is open to all UN member states.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1, 3, and 4 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, 3, and 4

Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct – NDB was established by BRICS to fund infrastructure and sustainable development.
- **Statement 2:** Correct – The **headquarters is in Shanghai, China**.
- **Statement 3:** Incorrect – While equal voting exists among founding members, this is not true for new members joining later.
- **Statement 4:** Incorrect – Membership is open to **UN members**, but not all provisions of equal voting automatically apply.

Q76. Which of the following statements about the Gulf of Kutch and dugongs is/are correct?

1. The Gulf of Kutch, located in Gujarat, is home to India's first Marine National Park.
2. Dugongs, India's only herbivorous marine mammals, feed primarily on mangrove leaves.
3. Dugongs are found along the Indian coast in the Gulf of Kutch, Gulf of Mannar, Palk Bay, and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Options:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B. 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct. The Gulf of Kutch hosts India's first Marine National Park on its southern shore.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect. Dugongs are herbivorous but feed on **seagrass beds**, not mangrove leaves.
- **Statement 3:** Correct. Dugongs inhabit the Gulf of Kutch, Gulf of Mannar, Palk Bay, and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Q77. Consider the following statements about the Markanda River:

1. It is a tributary of the Ghaggar River and was historically known as Aruna.
2. It originates from the Aravalli hills in Rajasthan and flows into Haryana.
3. The Markandeshwar Temple, dedicated to Maharshi Markandeya, is located on its banks.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B. 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct. The Markanda River is a tributary of the Ghaggar and historically called Aruna.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect. It originates from the **lower Shiwalik Hills in Himachal Pradesh**, not the Aravalli hills.
- **Statement 3:** Correct. The **Markandeshwar Temple** stands on its banks.

Q78. Which of the following statements about Kurinji flowers is correct?

1. Neelakurinji (*Strobilanthes kunthiana*) blooms once every 12 years and is classified as Vulnerable by the IUCN.
2. Kurinji flowers are found only in Tamil Nadu and nowhere else in the Western Ghats.
3. The mass flowering of Kurinji supports pollinators and indicates healthy grasslands.

Options:

- A. 1 and 3 only
- B. 2 and 3 only

C. 1 and 2 only

D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A. 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct. Neelakurinji blooms once every 12 years and is listed as **Vulnerable**.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect. Kurinji species are **endemic to the Western Ghats**, not limited to Tamil Nadu.
- **Statement 3:** Correct. Mass flowering supports **pollinators** and indicates healthy **grasslands**.

Q79. Consider the following statements about the International Maritime Organisation (IMO):

1. IMO is a UN specialised agency responsible for shipping safety, security, and marine pollution prevention.
2. Its headquarters is in New York, USA.
3. IMO regulations become part of domestic law once adopted by member states.
4. IMO contributes to UN Sustainable Development Goal 14 – Life Below Water.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

A. 1 and 2 only

B. 2 and 3 only

C. 1 and 3 only

D. 1, 3 and 4 only

Answer: D. 1, 3 and 4 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct. IMO ensures **shipping safety, security, and prevention of marine pollution**.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect. IMO's **headquarters is in London, UK**, not New York.
- **Statement 3:** Correct. Regulations become part of **domestic law once adopted** by member states.
- **Statement 4:** Correct. IMO contributes to **SDG 14 – Life Below Water**.

Q80. Which of the following statements about UN Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) is/are correct?

1. UN-GGIM is a UN body responsible for global policymaking on geospatial information.

2. UN-GGIM-AP represents 56 Asia-Pacific nations, and India has been elected as its Co-Chair for 2025–2028.
3. Geospatial data refers only to satellite images and does not include location-based statistical information.

Options:

- A. 1 and 3 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 2 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: C. 1 and 2 only**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1:** Correct. UN-GGIM sets policies for **geospatial information and development challenges**.
- **Statement 2:** Correct. UN-GGIM-AP covers **56 Asia-Pacific nations**, and India is Co-Chair for 2025–2028.
- **Statement 3:** Incorrect. Geospatial data includes **all location-based, time-referenced data**, not just satellite images.

Q81. Consider the following statements about MAM01 Monoclonal Antibody:

1. MAM01 is developed to prevent malaria by targeting *Plasmodium falciparum* circumsporozoite protein.
2. It provides months-long protection through a single long-acting injection.
3. Monoclonal antibodies are naturally occurring antibodies found in human blood.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A) 1 and 2 only**Explanation:**

- Statement 1 is correct: MAM01 targets the *Plasmodium falciparum* circumsporozoite protein to prevent malaria infection.
- Statement 2 is correct: It provides months-long protection through a single long-acting injection, especially useful for children and pregnant women.

- Statement 3 is incorrect: Monoclonal antibodies are **lab-made clones of a single antibody**, not naturally occurring in human blood. They are produced by cloning B cells and are highly specific to target antigens.

Q82. Consider the following statements about Carabid Beetles:

1. They belong to the family Carabidae and are commonly called ground beetles.
2. They are primarily herbivorous, feeding on leaves and plant matter.
3. They can serve as bioindicators for soil microplastics.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1 and 3 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: Carabid beetles belong to **Carabidae** and are commonly called ground beetles.
- Statement 2 is incorrect: They are **predators**, feeding on snails, caterpillars, slugs, and other small invertebrates, not herbivorous.
- Statement 3 is correct: Recent research shows they can act as **bioindicators for soil microplastics**.

Q83. Consider the following statements about the Malabar Gliding Frog:

1. Its scientific name is *Rhacophorus malabaricus* and it is endemic to the Western Ghats.
2. It can glide several meters using the webbing between its toes.
3. It is currently listed as Endangered in the IUCN Red List.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: *Rhacophorus malabaricus* is endemic to **Western Ghats, India**.
- Statement 2 is correct: It can **glide 9–12 meters** using webbed toes.
- Statement 3 is incorrect: Its **IUCN status is Least Concern**, not Endangered.

Q84. Which of the following statements about Konark-Balukhand Wildlife Sanctuary is/are correct?

1. It is located in Puri district, Odisha, and was declared a sanctuary in 1984.
2. The sanctuary is established on a sandy tract between Puri and Konark and is traversed by rivers like Nuanai and Kusabhadra.
3. Spotted deer found here is listed as Endangered on the IUCN Red List.

- A) 1 and 2 only
 B) 2 and 3 only
 C) 1 and 3 only
 D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct: The sanctuary is in **Puri district, Odisha**, established in **1984**, on a **sandy tract between Puri and Konark**, with rivers **Nuanai, Kusabhadra, Kadua, and Prachi**.
- Statement 3 is incorrect: **Spotted deer is listed as Least Concern**, not Endangered.

Q85. Consider the following statements about Sinapic Acid:

1. It is a synthetic compound used primarily in pharmaceuticals.
2. It is derived from amino acids and found in animal tissues.
3. It has no known role in wound healing or diabetes management.
4. It is a natural phenolic acid found in plants, with antioxidant and wound-healing properties, particularly useful in diabetic conditions.

Which of the above statement is correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
 B) 2 and 3 only
 C) 1, 2 and 3 only
 D) 4 only

Answer: D) 4 only

Explanation:

- Statement 4 is correct: **Sinapic acid is a natural phenolic acid**, found in **spices, fruits, vegetables, cereals, and oilseeds**.
- It has **antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, antitumor, antibacterial, and neuroprotective properties**, and accelerates **wound healing in diabetic conditions via the SIRT1 pathway**.

- Statements 1, 2, and 3 are incorrect as it is **natural, plant-derived, and medically significant**.

Q86. Which of the following statements about *Chrysanthemum* is/are correct?

1. *Chrysanthemum* belongs to the family Asteraceae and is a perennial flowering plant.
2. It is native to South America and Africa.
3. The ideal growing temperature for *Chrysanthemum* is 20–28°C during the day and 15–20°C at night.

Options:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, and 3

Answer: B. 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct. *Chrysanthemum* belongs to the genus *Chrysanthemum*, family Asteraceae, and is a perennial plant.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect. It is native to Asia and northeastern Europe, not South America or Africa.
- **Statement 3:** Correct. Optimal growth occurs at 20–28°C during the day and 15–20°C at night.

Hence, the correct combination is **1 and 3 only**.

Q87. Consider the following statements regarding *Anagyrus lopezi* and its role in agriculture:

1. *Anagyrus lopezi* is a parasitic wasp used to control the cassava mealybug in South India.
2. It was originally imported from the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), Benin, West Africa.
3. Tapioca (cassava) is a major crop in Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Puducherry, and all parts of the plant contain cyanogenic glucosides (CNGs).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, and 3

Answer: D. 1, 2, and 3

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct. *Anagyrus lopezi* is a tiny parasitic wasp introduced in South India to control the cassava mealybug biologically.
- **Statement 2:** Correct. It was imported from IITA, Benin, West Africa.
- **Statement 3:** Correct. Tapioca is widely cultivated in Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Puducherry; all parts contain cyanogenic glucosides, which are toxic compounds. Hence, all three statements are correct.

Q88. The Indian Scops-Owl (*Otus bakkamoena*) is correctly described by which of the following statements?

1. It is a small, nocturnal woodland owl found in India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Iran.
2. It is a migratory species that travels long distances seasonally.
3. Its conservation status is listed as 'Least Concern' by the IUCN.

Options:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, and 3

Answer: B. 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct. The Indian Scops-Owl is small, nocturnal, and found in forests, scrublands, and agricultural areas across India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Iran.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect. It is non-migratory and tends to stay in the same area year-round.
- **Statement 3:** Correct. Its conservation status is 'Least Concern' according to the IUCN Red List.

Q89. Consider the following statements regarding JAIMEX 2025 (Japan-India Maritime Exercise):

1. It is a bilateral naval exercise between India and Japan aimed at enhancing interoperability and regional security.
2. The exercise includes both sea-phase drills like Anti-Submarine Warfare and harbour-phase activities like professional and cultural exchanges.
3. INS Sahyadri, an indigenously built Shivalik-class stealth frigate, participated in JAIMEX 2025.
4. JAIMEX is an Air Force exercise focusing on joint aerial combat operations.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- A. 1, 2, and 3 only
- B. 1 and 4 only
- C. 2 and 4 only
- D. All of the above

Answer: A. 1, 2, and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statements 1–3:** Correct. JAIMEX is a naval exercise between India and Japan, involving sea-phase (e.g., Anti-Submarine Warfare) and harbour-phase (professional and cultural exchanges) activities. INS Sahyadri participated.
- **Statement 4:** Incorrect. JAIMEX is a naval exercise, not an Air Force exercise. Air Force exercises with Japan include 'Veer Guardian'.

Q90. Consider the following statements about Sabarimala Temple:

1. It is located in the Western Ghats of Kerala at an altitude of over 4,000 ft and is dedicated to Lord Ayyappa.
2. Pilgrims traditionally observe a 41-day vratham before visiting the temple.
3. The temple includes Vavaru Nada, symbolizing interfaith harmony.
4. The 2018 Supreme Court verdict allowed all women of menstruating age (10–50 years) unrestricted entry permanently.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- A. 1, 2, and 3 only
- B. 1 and 4 only
- C. 2 and 4 only
- D. All of the above

Answer: A. 1, 2, and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statements 1–3:** Correct. Sabarimala is in Pathanamthitta, Kerala, dedicated to Lord Ayyappa; pilgrims observe 41-day austerity; Vavaru Nada represents religious harmony.
- **Statement 4:** Incorrect. The 2018 Supreme Court verdict ruled the ban on women 10–50 unconstitutional, but the matter is under review by a larger bench, so unrestricted entry is not yet permanently established.

Q91. Which of the following statements about *Pseudorhombus bahudaensis* is/are correct?

1. It is a newly discovered species of flounder found in the Bahuda estuary, Odisha.

2. It belongs to the order Pleuronectiformes and is a bottom-dwelling migratory fish.
3. It is closely related to *Pseudorhombus arsius*, commonly known as the Gangetic largemouth flounder.

Options:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, and 3

Answer: D. 1, 2, and 3

Explanation:

Pseudorhombus bahudaensis is a new species of flounder discovered in the Bahuda estuary, Odisha. It belongs to the order Pleuronectiformes, is a bottom-dwelling and migratory fish inhabiting inshore waters up to 50 m, and can tolerate both salt and freshwater. It bears close resemblance to *Pseudorhombus arsius* (Gangetic largemouth flounder). All three statements are therefore correct.

Q92. Where is Barnawapara Wildlife Sanctuary, known for the blackbuck revival, located?

- A. Bastar, Chhattisgarh
- B. Mahasamund, Chhattisgarh
- C. Raipur, Chhattisgarh
- D. Korba, Chhattisgarh

Answer: B. Mahasamund, Chhattisgarh

Explanation:

Barnawapara Wildlife Sanctuary is located in northern Mahasamund district, Chhattisgarh, covering 245 sq.km. It is notable for tropical dry deciduous forests, diverse fauna, and the successful reintroduction of blackbucks after 50 years of local extinction.

Q93. What is "leachate" commonly associated with municipal landfills?

- A. Methane gas released from waste decomposition
- B. Highly toxic liquid formed from waste decomposition and water infiltration
- C. Biodegradable compost produced from organic waste
- D. Solid residue left after incineration of waste

Answer: B. Highly toxic liquid formed from waste decomposition and water infiltration

Explanation:

Leachate is a contaminated liquid generated when rainwater or other water percolates through

landfill waste, dissolving organic and inorganic pollutants, heavy metals, and microbial contaminants. Improper management can lead to environmental pollution, groundwater contamination, and health risks, as seen in cases like illegal discharge into the Aravalis.

Q94. The Hyunmoo-5 missile, recently developed by South Korea, is primarily designed for:

- A. Nuclear deterrence against China
- B. Anti-ship operations in the Pacific
- C. Short-range tactical battlefield strikes
- D. Deep penetration conventional strikes against fortified underground targets

Answer: D. Deep penetration conventional strikes against fortified underground targets

Explanation:

Hyunmoo-5 is a South Korean ballistic missile under the KMPR (Korean Massive Punishment and Retaliation) framework, designed to target heavily fortified underground facilities without using nuclear weapons. It carries a massive conventional warhead, can penetrate targets buried over 100 meters, and is launched from a mobile platform.

Q95. Consider the following statements regarding the International Convention against

Doping in Sport:

1. It is a multilateral treaty adopted under UNESCO to harmonize anti-doping laws globally.
2. The Conference of Parties (COP) is the governing body of the Convention and meets biennially.
3. India currently holds the Chairperson position of the Asia-Pacific Bureau under the Convention.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All 1, 2, and 3

Answer: A. 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: The Convention aims to harmonize anti-doping legislation, rules, and regulations internationally.
- Statement 2 is correct: The COP oversees implementation and meets every two years (biennially).

- Statement 3 is incorrect: India holds the **Vice-Chairperson** position of the Asia-Pacific Bureau, not Chairperson.

Q96. With reference to Pilot Whales, consider the following statements:

1. They belong to the family *Delphinidae*, which also includes dolphins.
2. Short-finned pilot whales are found mainly in cold-temperate waters.
3. They live in matrilineal pods and primarily feed on squid.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 – Correct:** Pilot whales are among the largest members of the *Delphinidae* family (same family as dolphins).
- **Statement 2 – Incorrect:** Short-finned pilot whales inhabit **tropical and warm-temperate waters**, while **long-finned** species live in cold-temperate and sub-polar regions.
- **Statement 3 – Correct:** They are highly social, live in **matrilineal pods**, and mainly **feed on squid**.

Q97. With reference to Timor Leste (East Timor), consider the following statements:

1. It shares its land border with Indonesia.
2. It is bounded by the Timor Sea to the north and the Wetar Strait to the south.
3. Its capital city is Dili, and its highest peak is Mount Tatamailau.
4. It was the most recent country to be admitted to ASEAN in 2025.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b) 1, 3 and 4 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 – Correct:** Timor Leste shares its land border with **West Timor (Indonesia)**.

- **Statement 2 – Incorrect:** It is bounded by the **Wetar Strait (north)**, **Ombai Strait (northwest)**, and **Timor Sea (southeast)** — not the other way around.
- **Statement 3 – Correct:** **Dili** is the capital, and **Mount Tatamailau** is the highest point.
- **Statement 4 – Correct:** Timor Leste was **formally admitted to ASEAN in 2025**, marking the group's **first expansion since the 1990s**.

Q98. With reference to the Kamlang Tiger Reserve, consider the following statements:

1. It is located in Arunachal Pradesh and forms part of the Eastern Himalayan Biodiversity Hotspot.
2. It is bordered by the Namdapha National Park to the north and the Lang River to the south.
3. All four big cats — Tiger, Leopard, Clouded Leopard, and Snow Leopard — are found in this reserve.
4. The reserve is named after a river that ultimately joins the Brahmaputra.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a) 1, 3 and 4 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 – Correct:** Kamlang Tiger Reserve lies in **Lohit district, Arunachal Pradesh**, and is part of the **Eastern Himalayan Biodiversity Hotspot**.
- **Statement 2 – Incorrect:** It is bordered by **Namdapha National Park to the south** (not north), and the **Lang River to the north**.
- **Statement 3 – Correct:** The reserve hosts **all four big cats** — Tiger, Leopard, Clouded Leopard, and Snow Leopard.
- **Statement 4 – Correct:** It is named after the **Kamlang River**, which **joins the Brahmaputra**.

Q99. With reference to ICGS Ajit and ICGS Aparajit, recently launched by the Indian Coast Guard, consider the following statements:

1. Both vessels are part of a series of indigenously built Fast Patrol Vessels (FPVs) constructed by Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL).
2. They are equipped with Water Jet Propulsion Systems to enhance speed and agility in shallow waters.

3. These vessels are designed for multi-mission roles such as anti-smuggling, coastal patrol, and search & rescue operations within India's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 – Correct:** ICGS Ajit and ICGS Aparajit are the **7th and 8th Fast Patrol Vessels (FPVs)** built **indigenously by Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL)**.
- **Statement 2 – Incorrect:** They use **Controllable Pitch Propellers (CPP)**, not water-jet propulsion.
- **Statement 3 – Correct:** These vessels perform **multi-mission roles** such as **anti-smuggling, coastal patrol, fisheries protection, anti-piracy, and search & rescue** within the **EEZ**.

Q100. With reference to the MAHA MedTech Mission, consider the following statements:

1. It has been jointly launched by the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF), Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.
2. The mission aims to promote import of advanced medical technologies to strengthen India's healthcare infrastructure.
3. It provides milestone-linked funding and includes initiatives like Patent Mitra and MedTech Mitra to support innovators.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Correct Answer: (c) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 – Correct:** The MAHA MedTech Mission is a collaborative initiative of **ANRF, ICMR, and the Gates Foundation**.

- **Statement 2 – Incorrect:** The mission's goal is to **reduce import dependence** by promoting **indigenous development and commercialization** of affordable medical technologies, not to promote imports.
- **Statement 3 – Correct:** It offers **milestone-linked funding** (₹5–25 crore per project, up to ₹50 crore in exceptional cases) and includes mechanisms like **Patent Mitra** (for IP support) and **MedTech Mitra** (for regulatory guidance).

Q101. With reference to the *Bondla Wildlife Sanctuary*, consider the following statements:

1. It is the smallest wildlife sanctuary of Goa, located in the foothills of the Western Ghats.
2. It is primarily covered with tropical thorn forest vegetation.
3. The Matti tree (*Terminalia crenulata*), Goa's state tree, is commonly found here.
4. It is the only sanctuary in Goa that houses a zoo within its premises.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (b) 1, 3 and 4 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 – Correct:** Bondla Wildlife Sanctuary, located in **northeastern Goa** (~3000 ft in the Western Ghats foothills), is the **smallest WLS of the state** (~8 sq. km).
- **Statement 2 – Incorrect:** It is dominated by **moist deciduous forest** with patches of **semi-evergreen vegetation**, not thorn forest.
- **Statement 3 – Correct:** ***Terminalia crenulata* (Matti)**, Goa's **state tree**, is found here.
- **Statement 4 – Correct:** It houses **Goa's only zoo**, along with a deer park and botanical garden.

Q102. With reference to *Loktak Lake*, consider the following statements:

1. It is the largest freshwater lake in Northeast India, famous for its floating biomass called *phumdis*.
2. The Keibul Lamjao National Park, the only floating national park in the world, is located within this lake.
3. It is a designated Ramsar Site and is also listed under the Montreux Record.
4. The lake receives inflow mainly from the Brahmaputra River system.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (b) 1, 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 – Correct:** Loktak Lake in **Manipur** is the **largest freshwater lake in Northeast India**, noted for **phumdis**, the floating masses of vegetation and soil.
- **Statement 2 – Correct:** **Keibul Lamjao National Park**, home to the **Sangai (brow-antlered deer)**, is the **only floating national park in the world**, located within the lake.
- **Statement 3 – Correct:** It is a **Ramsar Site (1990)** and features in the **Montreux Record (1993)** due to ecological degradation.
- **Statement 4 – Incorrect:** The lake receives water from local rivers such as **Khuga, Nambul, Imphal, Thoubal, etc.**, *not* from the Brahmaputra system.

Q103. With reference to the *Taal Volcano*, consider the following statements:

1. It is located in the Batangas province of the Philippines, about 70 km south of Manila.
2. It is classified as a complex volcano consisting of multiple vents and domes.
3. It is situated on the island of Sumatra and has not erupted in the last 100 years.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 – Correct:** Taal Volcano is located in **Batangas province**, around **70 km south of Manila** in the Philippines.
- **Statement 2 – Correct:** It is a **complex (compound) volcano** with **multiple vents, domes, and craters** within a large caldera.
- **Statement 3 – Incorrect:** Taal is **not in Sumatra**; it is in the **Philippines** and has recorded **several eruptions in the last 450 years**, including recent ones.

Q104. Consider the following statements regarding the Dilmun Civilization:

1. It served as a vital trade link between Mesopotamia and the Indus Valley Civilization.

2. It was primarily located around present-day Yemen and Oman.
3. It was known to Mesopotamians as the “Land of Copper.”

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct — Dilmun was a major trading hub connecting Mesopotamia and the Indus Valley.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect — It was mainly located in present-day Bahrain and Failaka Island (Kuwait), not Yemen.
- **Statement 3:** Correct — Mesopotamians referred to Dilmun as the “Land of Copper.”

Q105. Consider the following statements regarding the Dogri language:

1. It belongs to the Dravidian branch of the Indian language family.
2. It was originally written in the Takri script, now replaced by Devanagari.
3. It evolved from Shauraseni Prakrit and belongs to the Indo-Aryan group.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Incorrect — Dogri is part of the *Indo-Aryan* (not Dravidian) language family.
- **Statement 2:** Correct — Historically written in *Takri* script, Dogri now uses *Devanagari*.
- **Statement 3:** Correct — Linguistically, it descends from *Shauraseni Prakrit*, confirming its Indo-Aryan roots.

Q106. Consider the following statements regarding Satkosia Tiger Reserve:

1. It is located entirely within the Deccan Plateau region of Odisha.
2. The Mahanadi River flows through the reserve, dividing it into two parts.
3. Satkosia is part of the Mahanadi Elephant Reserve.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b) 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 – Incorrect:** Satkosia lies at the *junction of the Deccan Peninsula and Eastern Ghats* biogeographic zones, not entirely within the Deccan Plateau.
- **Statement 2 – Correct:** The *Mahanadi River* indeed divides the reserve into two parts, forming the famous *Satkosia Gorge*.
- **Statement 3 – Correct:** The reserve is *part of the Mahanadi Elephant Reserve*.

Q107. With reference to the *Karakoram Wildlife Sanctuary*, consider the following statements:

1. It is located in Ladakh and shares its borders with Pakistan's Deosai National Park.
2. The sanctuary is characterized by alpine meadows and cold desert vegetation.
3. The Shyok and Nubra rivers flow through this sanctuary.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 – Correct:** The sanctuary lies in *Ladakh*, along the *India–Pakistan border*, and is located *east of Deosai National Park (Pakistan)*.
- **Statement 2 – Correct:** The terrain includes *snow peaks, alpine meadows, and cold desert flora* such as *Rosa webbiana* and *Ephedra*.
- **Statement 3 – Incorrect:** While the *Shyok* and *Nubra* rivers flow in the broader region, they *do not pass directly through* the sanctuary area.

Q108. With reference to the *Koyna Shakti Dashboard*, consider the following statements:

1. It is a smart analytics platform launched by the Ministry of Coal for real-time monitoring of coal sector operations.

2. It integrates data from Coal PSUs, private miners, and multiple ministries such as Power, Railways, and Ports.
3. The dashboard provides analytical tools for forecasting, incident alerts, and standardized performance reporting.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (d) 1, 2 and 3

Explanation:

- The **Koyla Shakti Dashboard**, launched by the **Ministry of Coal**, is a **smart coal analytics platform** aimed at **real-time monitoring** and **data integration** across the coal ecosystem.
- It draws information from **Coal PSUs, private miners**, and multiple ministries such as **Power, Railways, Ports, Finance, and Roads**, ensuring seamless coordination.
- It offers **analytical tools for policy forecasting, incident response alerts**, and **standardized performance metrics**, promoting transparency and efficiency in the coal supply chain.

Q109. With reference to the *SJ-100 aircraft*, consider the following statements:

1. It is a long-range, wide-body aircraft jointly developed by India and Russia.
2. It can operate in extreme temperature conditions ranging from -55°C to $+45^{\circ}\text{C}$.
3. It is primarily used for short-haul commercial aviation purposes.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c) 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- The **SJ-100** (formerly *Sukhoi Superjet 100*) is a **twin-engine, narrow-body, short-haul jet** of **Russian origin**, not a long-range aircraft.
- It can operate efficiently under **extreme temperature ranges** (-55°C to $+45^{\circ}\text{C}$).
- It is used mainly in **commercial civil aviation**, with a seating capacity of around **103 passengers** and a range of **$\sim 3,530$ km**.

- HAL and Russia's **United Aircraft Corporation (UAC)** have signed an **MoU** for its joint production in India.

Q110. With reference to the *Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI)*, consider the following statements:

1. It is a statutory body functioning under the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.
2. It maintains a Central Rehabilitation Register of qualified professionals working in the field of rehabilitation and special education.
3. It was established as a statutory body through an Act of Parliament in 1986.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- The **Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI)** was originally set up as a **registered society in 1986**, but became a **statutory body** only after the **RCI Act, 1992** came into effect on **22 June 1993**.
- It works under the **Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment**.
- It regulates and monitors training and services in the field of **rehabilitation and special education**, and maintains a **Central Rehabilitation Register** of qualified professionals.

Q111. With reference to *Coelacanth*, recently in the news, consider the following statements:

1. It is a prehistoric lobe-finned fish once thought to be extinct but rediscovered alive in the 20th century.
2. It possesses limb-like fins supported by bones, indicating evolutionary links to amphibians.
3. All known species of Coelacanth are found only in freshwater environments.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

Coelacanth is a prehistoric lobe-finned fish (order *Coelacanthiformes*), rediscovered in 1938 off South Africa after being thought extinct for ~66 million years. It has limb-like fins with bone structures linking it to early tetrapods. However, living species inhabit **deep marine** waters, not freshwater.

Q112. With reference to the *Sunni Dam Hydroelectric Project*, consider the following statements:

1. It is a run-of-the-river project being developed on the Satluj River in Himachal Pradesh.
2. The project is implemented by Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN), a joint venture of the Government of India and the Government of Himachal Pradesh.
3. It is an independent project, not part of any multi-stage hydroelectric series.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

The *Sunni Dam HEP* (382 MW) is a **run-of-the-river** project on the **Satluj River** in **Shimla and Mandi districts**, developed by **SJVN**, a GoI–GoHP joint venture. It is **part of the Luhri HEP series**, not an independent project.

Q113. With reference to *Benzene*, consider the following statements:

1. It belongs to the BTEX family of aromatic hydrocarbons.
2. It was first discovered by August Kekulé, who also proposed its cyclic structure.
3. Long-term exposure to benzene is associated with blood-related disorders like leukemia.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

Benzene was **discovered by Michael Faraday in 1825**, while **August Kekulé proposed its ring**

structure later. It is part of the **BTEX group** (Benzene, Toluene, Ethylbenzene, Xylene) and is **carcinogenic**, linked to **acute myeloid leukemia and aplastic anemia**.

Q114. With reference to INS Ikshak, consider the following statements:

1. It is an indigenously built Survey Vessel (Large) constructed by Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata.
2. It has over 80% indigenous content and can serve as a Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) platform.
3. It is the first Survey Vessel (Large) to feature dedicated accommodation for women officers and sailors.
4. It will be commissioned at the Naval Base Kochi.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Explanation:

INS **Ikshak** is an indigenously built **Survey Vessel (Large)** by **GRSE, Kolkata**, with **over 80% indigenous content**. It performs **hydrographic surveys** and also acts as a **HADR and hospital ship** during emergencies. It is the **first SVL with accommodation for women officers and sailors**, and will be **commissioned at Naval Base Kochi**.

Q115. With reference to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), consider the following statements:

1. It functions as an autonomous body under the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.
2. It was established in 1952 under the Agricultural Research and Education Act.
3. It coordinates and manages research and education in agriculture and allied fields across India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

ICAR is an autonomous organisation under the Department of Agricultural Research & Education (DARE), Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare. It was established in 1929 as the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research and coordinates research and education in agriculture, horticulture, animal sciences, and fisheries.

Q116. Consider the following statements regarding *Hemiphyllodactylus venkatadri*:

1. It is a newly discovered slender gecko species found in the Seshachalam Biosphere Reserve of Andhra Pradesh.
2. It was discovered by the Botanical Survey of India (BSI).
3. It is the first slender gecko species recorded from Andhra Pradesh.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a) 1 only

Explanation:

- *Hemiphyllodactylus venkatadri* was discovered by the **Zoological Survey of India (ZSI)**, not BSI.
- It is the **second** slender gecko species from Andhra Pradesh, after *H. arakuensis*.
- Found in the **Tirumala hill ranges** of the **Seshachalam Biosphere Reserve** (declared in 2010).

Q117. reference to recent digital initiatives in the coal sector, consider the following statements:

1. The CLAMP Portal aims to integrate the entire coal value chain from mine to market.
2. The Koyla Shakti Dashboard focuses on land acquisition, compensation, and rehabilitation in coal mining areas.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c) Neither 1 nor 2

Explanation:

- **CLAMP Portal (Coal Land Acquisition, Management & Payment Portal)** deals with **land acquisition, compensation, and R&R** in the coal sector.
- **Koyla Shakti Dashboard** integrates the **entire coal value chain—from mine to market—** for real-time coordination and transparency.

Q118. With reference to the AmazonFACE Project, consider the following statements:

1. It uses the Free-Air CO₂ Enrichment (FACE) technology to study the impact of elevated carbon dioxide on tropical forests.
2. The project is jointly supported by the governments of Brazil and the United Kingdom.
3. It is located in the Congo Basin near Kinshasa.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- The **AmazonFACE Project** is located **near Manaus, Brazil**, not in the Congo Basin.
- It uses **Free-Air CO₂ Enrichment (FACE)** technology to examine how tropical trees respond to rising CO₂.
- It is **jointly supported by Brazil's Federal Government and the UK.**

Q119. With reference to Transit Oriented Development (TOD) in India, consider the following statements:

1. It promotes compact, mixed-use urban growth around major public transport nodes to reduce dependence on private vehicles.
2. It encourages multi-modal integration and pedestrian-friendly infrastructure.
3. It aims to utilize value-capture financing mechanisms arising from increased land values.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (d) 1, 2 and 3

Explanation:

All three statements accurately describe the principles and objectives of **Transit Oriented Development (TOD)**, which integrates dense, mixed-use development with public transport accessibility, non-motorized mobility, and innovative financing models like value capture.

Q120. With reference to the Model Youth Gram Sabha (MYGS) initiative recently launched in India, consider the following statements:

1. It is a simulation-based initiative inspired by the Model United Nations (MUN) concept to promote participatory local governance among school students.
2. It is implemented jointly by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, the Ministry of Education, and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
3. It is limited to Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs) and Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) only.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

The **Model Youth Gram Sabha (MYGS)** engages students (Classes 9–12) in mock Gram Sabha sessions to foster awareness about local self-governance. It is implemented in **over 1,000 schools**, including JNVs, EMRSs, and state government schools — not limited to the first two, hence statement 3 is incorrect.