

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY):

1. It was launched by the Indian government as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. It is designed to provide financial assistance to economically weaker sections affected by the pandemic.
3. The scheme encompasses the distribution of 15 kg of free food grains each month.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

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

Ans: a

Explanation:

- Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) was launched by the Indian government in April 2020 as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- It is designed to provide financial assistance to economically weaker sections affected by the pandemic.
- The scheme encompasses the distribution of 5 kg of free food grains each month, along with cash transfers to women and elderly individuals.
- It was introduced as part of the broader Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package, aiming to offer relief to those adversely affected by the pandemic, especially the poor and marginalised.
- As per the scheme, the government offers 5 kg of free food grains each month in addition to the subsidised ration given to families covered by the Public Distribution System under the National Food Security Act.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS):

1. It is a non-chronic disease.
2. It is caused by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).
3. It can also be spread from mother to child during pregnancy.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

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

Ans: b

Explanation:

- Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) is a chronic, potentially life-threatening condition caused by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).
- HIV attacks the body's immune system, making a person more vulnerable to other infections and diseases.
- If HIV is not treated, it can lead to AIDS.
- It is a sexually transmitted infection (STI).
- It can also be spread by contact with infected blood, from illicit injection drug use, or by sharing needles.
- It can also be spread from mother to child during pregnancy, childbirth, or breastfeeding.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding INS Kadmat:

1. It is an indigenous stealth anti-submarine warfare corvette.
2. It has been named after the Kadmat Island of India's Lakshadweep Islands.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Ans: c

Explanation:

- INS Kadmat is an indigenous stealth anti-submarine warfare corvette.
- It is the second of four anti-submarine warfare corvettes built for the Indian Navy by the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers of Kolkata under Project 28.
- It was commissioned into the Indian Navy in January 2016.
- The ship was inducted into the Eastern Naval Command of the Indian Navy.
- It has been named after the Kadmat Island of India's Lakshadweep Islands.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary:

1. It is part of the Sariska-Delhi Wildlife Corridor.
2. The vegetation falls under the Northern Tropical Thorn Forests type
3. The native plants exhibit xerophytic adaptations.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

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

Ans: d

Explanation:

- Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary covers an area of 32.71 sq. km on the Southern Delhi Ridge of the Aravalli hill range on the Delhi-Haryana border.
- It lies in Southern Delhi and the northern parts of Faridabad and Gurugram districts of Haryana state.
- It is also part of the Sariska-Delhi Wildlife Corridor, which runs from the Sariska Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan to Delhi Ridge.
- As per Champion & Seth (1968), the vegetation falls under the Northern Tropical Thorn Forests type.
- The native plants exhibit xerophytic adaptations such as thorny appendages, wax-coated, succulent, and tomentose leaves.
- It is mainly influenced by its remote inland position and prevalence of air of continental character, which is characterized by extreme summer heat alternating with great winter cold.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Santjordia Pagesi:

1. It is considered "rare" and has been found only in the Ogasawara Islands in Japan.
2. "Santjordia" refers to Saint George in Catalan.
3. It does not fall under the category of fish.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

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

Ans: a

Explanation:

- Santjordia pagesi, also called St. George's Cross medusa jellyfish, is a newly discovered species of jellyfish.
- It is considered "rare" and has been found only in the Sumisu Caldera near the Ogasawara Islands, about 600 miles southeast of Tokyo, Japan.
- "Santjordia" refers to Saint George in Catalan, representing its cross-shaped stomach.
- It is considered large at 4 inches wide and 3 inches tall.
- It boasts a circular body with around 240 tentacles.
- Its body looks almost like a see-through cushion. It has a thick white ring running along its lower edge.
- Smaller vein-like structures stretch from its prominent central stomach to the outer ring.
- Its most distinctive feature is a bright red, cross-shaped stomach.

- The jellyfish's distinct features suggest it may possess a novel cnidarian venom.