

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Staghorn coral:

1. It is one of the most important corals in the Caribbean.
2. These provide important habitat for other reef animals, especially fish
3. They can form dense groups in very dense water.

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:

- Staghorn coral is one of the most important corals in the Caribbean.
- It, along with elkhorn coral and star corals built Caribbean coral reefs over the last 5,000 years.
- Staghorn coral can form dense groups called “thickets” in very shallow water.
- These provide important habitat for other reef animals, especially fish.
- Staghorn coral colonies are golden tan or pale brown with white tips and they get their color from the algae that live within their tissue.
- These corals have antler-like branches and typically stem out from a central trunk and angle upward.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Pygmy hog:

1. These mammals does not build its own home, or nest.
2. It is the smallest and rarest species of wild pig in the world.
3. They are found in the Manas Tiger Reserve in Assam.

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:

- Pygmy hog is the smallest and rarest species of wild pig in the world.
- It is one of the very few mammals that build its own home, or nest, complete with a ‘roof’.
- It is an indicator species as its presence reflects the health of its primary habitat, tall and wet grasslands.
- It prefers undisturbed patches of grassland dominated by early succession riverine communities, typically comprising dense tall grass intermixed with a wide variety of herbs, shrubs and young trees.
- Currently, the viable population of this pig in the wild is in the Manas Tiger Reserve in Assam.
- IUCN: Critically Endangered
- The Wildlife Protection Act, 1972: Schedule I

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Macrophages:

1. They are a type of white blood cell that plays an important role in the human immune system.
2. They are essential for the maintenance and defence of host tissues.

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:

- Macrophages are a type of white blood cell that plays an important role in the human immune system.
- They are involved in the detection, phagocytosis, and destruction of bacteria and other harmful organisms.
- The term macrophage is formed by the combination of the Greek terms "makro" meaning big, and "phagein" meaning eat.
- They are essential for the maintenance and defence of host tissues, doing so by sensing and engulfing particulate matter and, when necessary, initiating a pro-inflammatory response.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Sela Tunnel Project:

1. It is located in Arunachal Pradesh.
2. It is being built by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) under Project Vartak.
3. It will ensure all-weather connectivity between Guwahati in Assam and Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh.

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:

- Sela Tunnel Project It is located in the West Kameng district of Arunachal Pradesh.
- Once completed, the Sela tunnel will be the world's longest bi-lane tunnel at an altitude above 13,000 feet.
- It will ensure all-weather connectivity between Guwahati in Assam and Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh.
- It is being excavated below the Sela Pass on the NH-13 component of the Trans-Arunachal Highway system.
- It is being built by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) under Project Vartak and the tunnel's construction commenced on April 1, 2019.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Financial Stability Board (FSB):

1. It was created expressly to coordinate at the international level the work of national financial authorities.
2. The FSB's decisions are not legally binding on its members.
3. FSB was established by the World Bank

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:

- Financial Stability Board (FSB) was established by the G20 in 2009 in the wake of the financial crisis.
- It was created expressly to coordinate at the international level the work of national financial authorities and international standard-setting bodies and to develop and promote the implementation of effective regulatory, supervisory, and other financial sector policies in the interest of financial stability.
- The FSB brings together national authorities responsible for financial stability (central banks, supervisory authorities, and finance ministries), international organisations, and standard-setting bodies.
- The FSB operates by monitoring, analyzing, and making recommendations on key aspects of the financial system. It assesses emerging issues that could impact global financial stability.
- The FSB's decisions are not legally binding on its members.
- The board includes all G20 major economies.

