

Q: Consider the following statements with respect to Ramsar Convention

1. It is named after the Iranian city of Ramsar located on the coast of Caspian Sea.
2. Currently, 80 wetlands from India were listed under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance.
3. Maharashtra has the highest number of Ramsar sites in India.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All Three
- d) None of the above

Ans: b

Explanation:

- A Ramsar site is a wetland that has been designated as being of international importance.
- The Ramsar Convention is an international treaty for the conservation and wise use of wetlands.
- It is named after the Iranian city of Ramsar, on the Caspian Sea, where the treaty was signed on February 2, 1971.
- The total number of Ramsar sites in Tamil Nadu is 16, highest in India.
- The United Kingdom has most number of Ramsar sites in the earth.
- The world's first Ramsar Site was the Cobourg Peninsula in Australia, designated in 1974.
- The largest Site is Rio Negro in Brazil (120,000 square kilometres), which is followed by Ngiri-Tumba-Maindombe in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Queen Maud Gulf in Canada.

Q: Consider the following statements with respect to Geotagging

1. It refers to the process of adding geographical identification to a media based on the location of GPS-enabled electronic devices.
2. Geotags can be applied to photos, videos, websites, text messages and QR codes.
3. Geo-tagging the properties will help in boosting the tax collection potential.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All Three
- d) None of the above

Ans: c

Explanation:

- Geotagging is the process of allotting geographic coordinates to media based on the location of a mobile device.
- It involves digitally mapping properties using the geographic information system (GIS), assigning unique latitude and longitude coordinates to each property.
- Geotags can be applied to photos, videos, websites, text messages and QR codes.
- Geotagging properties means digitally mapping a property with the geographic information system (GIS).
- It allows a property to be identified on a map with its unique and permanent latitude and longitude coordinates.
- According to an MCD official, geo-tagging properties will prove instrumental in boosting tax collection potential.
- By distinguishing between tax-paying and non-tax-paying entities, it will reduce tax evasion and help enhance revenue collection.
- Geotagging has the ability to pinpoint illegal and unauthorised properties and colonies.
- This will help in urban planning, as it will allow the civic body to take corrective actions as required.

Q: Consider the following statements with respect to Deputy Chief Minister

1. The office of Deputy Chief Minister is defined under the Article 163(1) of Indian Constitution.
2. The office of Deputy Chief Minister is equivalent in rank to that of a cabinet minister in the state.

3. Currently, less than half of the states in India have Deputy Chief Ministers.

How many of the statements given above are incorrect?

- Only one
- Only two
- All Three
- None of the above

Ans: a

Explanation:

- The post of Deputy CM is understood as being equivalent in rank to that of Cabinet Minister (in the state).
- The Deputy CM enjoys the same pay and perks as a Cabinet Minister.
- The post is second-in-command after the chief minister in the State Government.
- The post is not mentioned in the Constitution of India.
- Article 163(1) of the Constitution states that there shall be a Council of Ministers with the Chief Minister at the head to aid and advise the Governor in the exercise of his functions.
- Neither Article 163 nor Article 164 or sub clauses of the Articles mentions a deputy Chief minister.
- At least 13 other states in the country apart from Bihar currently have Deputy CMs.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Subika Painting:

- It is a performing art.
- This art is linked to Gond community.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

- Only 1
- Only 2
- Both 1 and 2
- None of the above

Ans: d

Explanation:

- Subika paintings are an early visual art form from Manipur.
- The paintings are based on stories and events from the Hindu epic and Puranas.
- The style is intricately linked to the Meitei community's cultural history.
- The awareness about this unique art form has dwindled over the years, leading to its near extinction.
- It is a traditional art form that originated in the Basohli town of Jammu and Kashmir, known for its rich cultural heritage.

Q: Diamond Rain is possible in which of the following planets

- Neptune
- Uranus
- mini-Neptunes
- Mars
- Mercury

Choose the correct codes

- 1, 2 and 3 only
- 1, 3 and 4 only
- 2, 3 and 5 only
- 3, 4 and 5 only

Ans: a

Explanation:

- The recent study published by the Department of Energy's SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory have unveiled new insights into the formation of diamonds within the icy giants of our solar system, Neptune and Uranus.
- There is a high possibility of diamonds raining on hundreds of exoplanets in space.
- Diamond rain may become a common phenomenon inside ice-giant planets like Uranus and Neptune.
- Diamonds are gradually forming from the polystyrene at temperatures around 2200 degrees Celsius and pressures around 19 gigapascals, conditions which are similar to those in the interiors of Uranus and Neptune.
- Diamond rain is a possibility on several of the smaller planets such as mini-Neptunes, which are abundant outside our solar system.
- These diamonds is result of extremely compressed carbon compounds present deep inside the core of exoplanets at extremely low temperatures.