

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding ordinance making power of the President:**

1. Article 123 of the Indian Constitution grants the President of India to Promulgate Ordinances.
2. The Ordinances may have a retrospective effect
3. The President cannot withdraw an ordinance.

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:

- Article 123 of the Indian Constitution grants the President of India certain Lawmaking powers, i.e., to Promulgate Ordinances when either of the two Houses of the Parliament is not in session, which makes it impossible for a single House to pass and enact a law.
- These Ordinances have the same effect as an Act of Parliament.
- Ordinances may relate to any subject that the Parliament has the power to make law, and would be having the same limitations.
- The Ordinances may have a retrospective effect and may modify or repeal any act of Parliament or other ordinances. It may be used to amend a tax law, but it can never amend the Constitution.
- The President may withdraw an ordinance at any time. However, he exercises his power with the consent of the Council of Ministers headed by the President.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO):**

1. The SCO currently comprises seven Member States.
2. China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan are the founding member of this organisation.
3. India and Pakistan became permanent members in 2017.

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:

- Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) is an intergovernmental organization founded in Shanghai, China, on 15 June 2001 by the leaders of China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.
- Apart from Uzbekistan, the other five countries have been a part of the 'Shanghai Five' constituted in 1996 by China to address border security issues with four of its neighbours.
- The cooperation was renamed SCO after Uzbekistan joined the organization in 2001.
- The SCO currently comprises eight Member States: China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.
- India and Pakistan became permanent members in 2017.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding Satpura Tiger Reserve (STR):**

1. It is located in the Satpura ranges.
2. It lies south of the river Narmada.

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:

- Satpura Tiger Reserve (STR) is located in the Hoshangabad district of Madhya Pradesh.
- It is located in the Satpura ranges of the Central Indian Landscape.
- It lies south of the river Narmada.

- Satpura, basically meaning "Seven Folds", forms a watershed between Narmada and Tapti Rivers.
- It has corridor connectivity with Pench National Park.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding Belle Robot:**

1. It is an autonomous underwater robot designed to collect DNA samples.
2. It employs artificial intelligence (AI) to autonomously manoeuvre.
3. Belle is silent, moves like a fish and doesn't create a disruptive wake.

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:

- Belle Robot is an autonomous underwater robot designed to collect DNA samples and film underwater without disrupting the delicate ecosystem it explores.
- By analysing DNA samples and video footage collected by the robot, researchers aim to better understand the impact of human activities on marine life and develop targeted conservation strategies.
- Belle is silent, moves like a fish and doesn't create a disruptive wake as she moves through her environment.
- It employs artificial intelligence (AI) to autonomously manoeuvre and capture isolated e-DNA samples, as well as high-resolution video footage.
- Measuring just under a metre and weighing almost 10 kg out of the water, Belle is propelled by a silicone fin with two cavities into which water is pumped in cycles.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding Leatherback Sea turtle:**

1. It is the largest turtle in the world.
2. It is listed as endangered species by IUCN.
3. It is found in Arctic and Antarctic Ocean.

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:

- Leatherback Sea turtle is the largest turtle in the world.
- It is the only species of sea turtle that lack scales and a hard shell.
- They are named for their tough rubbery skin and have existed in their current form since the age of the dinosaurs.
- These turtles are highly migratory which can swim over 10,000 miles a year between nesting and foraging grounds.
- They are also accomplished divers with the deepest recorded dive reaching nearly 4,000 feet deeper than most marine mammals.
- It has a unique thermoregulatory adaptation allows them to maintain core body temperatures at extremely cold depths.
- It is found in every ocean except the Arctic and Antarctic.
- They have the widest global distribution of any reptile, with nesting mainly on tropical or subtropical beaches.
- Conservation status
- It is listed as endangered species by IUCN.