

**Q: Consider the following statement:**

1. Friendship Shield 2023 was conducted between PLA and the Laotian People's Armed Forces (LPAF).
2. PLA STC conducted the 'Golden Dragon' drills with Indonesia.

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: a

Explanation:

- The PLA and the Laotian People's Armed Forces (LPAF) have recently concluded their bilateral military exercise, Friendship Shield 2023.
- Before this, in 2023, the PLA STC conducted the 'Golden Dragon' drills with Cambodia from late March to early April.

**Q: Consider the following statements with respect to Combined Maritime Forces (CMF):**

1. India joined as a member to this organization.
2. It is Bahrain based multinational, voluntary maritime coalition.
3. Its main focus areas are defeating terrorism, preventing piracy, encouraging regional cooperation, and promoting a safe maritime environment.

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:

- Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) is a multi-national naval partnership, which exists to promote security, stability and prosperity across international waters, which encompass some of the world's most important shipping lanes.
- It aims to uphold the Rules-Based International Order (R BIO).
- Its main focus areas are defeating terrorism, preventing piracy, encouraging regional cooperation, and promoting a safe maritime environment.
- It has 34 member nations.
- Commanded by a U.S. Navy Vice Admiral, who also serves as Commander U.S. Naval Forces Central Command and U.S. 5th Fleet.
- All three commands are co-located at U.S. Naval Support Activity Bahrain.
- Deputy Commander is a UK Royal Navy Commodore.
- Participation is purely voluntary.
- No nation is asked to carry out any duty that it is unwilling to conduct.
- India is not a member of CMF.
- In 2022, at the India-US 2+2, India announced it would join the Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) as an Associate Partner.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding Acinetobacter Baumanni:**

1. It is a Gram-negative bacillus that is aerobic, pleomorphic and non-motile.
2. It is an opportunistic bacterial pathogen.

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:

- Acinetobacter Baumanni is a Gram-negative bacillus that is aerobic, pleomorphic (Occurring in various distinct forms) and non-motile (not capable of movement).
- It is an opportunistic bacterial pathogen primarily associated with hospital-acquired infections.

- It occurs particularly those who have experienced a prolonged (> 90 days) hospital stay.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding Abaucin:**

1. It is an effective drug against *A.baumannii*.
2. It appears to work by disrupting lipoprotein trafficking.
3. A lipoprotein is a molecular framework required to transport fat inside cells.

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:

- Abaucin is an effective drug against *A.baumannii*.
- It appears to work by disrupting lipoprotein trafficking in *A. baumannii*.
- A lipoprotein is a molecular framework required to transport fat inside cells.
- Based on genetic studies, the researchers believe that abaucin could be preventing lipoprotein produced inside the bacteria from moving to the outer membrane.
- Abaucin is also species-selective it only disrupts the growth of *A. baumannii*, not other Gram-negative bacteria.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding Ahilyabai Holkar:**

1. She appointed Tukojirao Holkar as the Chief of Army.
2. She rebuilt Kashi Vishwanath temple in Kashi.
3. She moved the capital to Vidisha.

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:

- Ahilyabai Holkar was born in 1725 into a Marathi Hindu family to Mankoji Shinde and Sushila Shinde in the Chaundi village (present-day Ahmednagar district) of Maharashtra.
- Ahilyabai took control of Malwa after her husband's death in the Battle of Kumbher against the king of Bharatpur in 1754.
- She excelled at administrative and military strategies under the guidance of her father-in-law.
- She moved the capital to Maheshwar, south of Indore on the Narmada River.
- She appointed Tukojirao Holkar as the Chief of Army and also personally led armies into battle.
- She built hundreds of temples and Dharmashalas throughout India.
- In 1780, she had the Kashi Vishwanath temple in Varanasi rebuilt, nearly a century after Mughal king Aurangzeb ordered its destruction.