

**Q: Consider the following statements with respect to Nano DAP:**

1. It is indigenously developed by the Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited.
2. It is the top most commonly used fertiliser in India.
3. India's first Nano DAP plant is located in the state of Punjab.

How many of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

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

Ans: a

Explanation:

- DAP, or di-ammonium phosphate, is the second most commonly used fertiliser in India after urea.
- It is high in phosphorus (P) that stimulates root establishment and development, without which plants cannot grow to their normal size, or will take too long to mature.
- It is thus applied just before, or at the time of sowing.
- Home Minister Amit Shah, last April, launched Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative's (IFFCO's) Nano DAP, containing 8% Nitrogen and 16% Phosphorus by volume.
- Unlike conventional DAP, which comes in granular form, IFFCO's Nano DAP is in liquid form.
- This tiny particle size makes Nano DAP more efficient than its conventional counterpart.
- This enables the fertilizer to enter easily inside the seed surface or through stomata and other plant openings.
- Nano DAP is more pocket-friendly than its conventional counterpart.
- India's first Nano DAP Plant is located in Kalol (Gandhinagar), Gujarat.

**Q: Consider the following statements with respect to the Panel of Vice Chairperson:**

1. The Chairman of Rajya Sabha nominates from amongst the members, a panel of vice-chairpersons.
2. Any one of them can preside over the House in the absence of the Chairman or the Deputy Chairman.
3. A member of the panel of vice chairpersons cannot preside over the House, when the office of the Chairman is vacant.

How many of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

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

Ans: c

Explanation:

- Under the Rules of Rajya Sabha, the Chairman nominates from amongst the members a panel of vice-chairpersons.
- Any one of them can preside over the House in the absence of the Chairman or the Deputy Chairman.
- He/she has the same powers as the Chairman when so presiding.
- He/she holds office until a new panel of vice-chairpersons is nominated.
- When a member of the panel of vice chairpersons is also not present, any other person as determined by the House acts as the Chairman.
- A member of the panel of vice chairpersons cannot preside over the House, when the office of the Chairman or the Deputy Chairman is vacant.
- During such time, the Chairman's duties are to be performed by such member of the House as the president may appoint for the purpose.

**Q: Consider the following statements with respect to the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY):**

1. The scheme is an initiative of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
2. The main aim of the PMAY-G scheme is to provide pucca house with some of the basic amenities.

How many of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: c

Explanation:

- It is implemented by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs.
- The scheme aims to provide a pucca house with basic amenities to all houseless households.
- Under the scheme, beneficiaries can avail a loan of up to Rs.70,000 from financial institutions.
- Beneficiaries are identified using parameters from Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC) and verified by Gram Sabhas.
- Payments are made electronically directly to bank accounts or post office accounts that are linked to Aadhaar.

**Q: Consider the following statements with respect to the C-CARES:**

1. It is a web portal designed by the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC).
2. The portal works under the aegis of the Ministry of Coal.
3. The portal aims at digitizing the records of the Ministry.

How many of the above statement(s) is/are incorrect?

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

Ans: d

Explanation:

- It is the web portal for Coal Mines Provident Fund Organization (CMPFO), working under aegis of the Ministry of Coal.
- The portal is developed by the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), an R&D organization under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.
- The portal marks a significant leap in the digitization journey of CMPFO aiming to address the long-standing issue of digitizing its records and work processes.
- Coal Mines Provident Fund Organization (CMPFO) is an autonomous organization under the aegis of Ministry of Coal.
- CMPFO was established in the year 1948 for administering Provident Fund and Pension schemes for the purpose of providing social security to the coal sector workers.
- At present, CMPFO process settlement claims of Provident Fund subscribers and pensioners manually.
- With launch of the portal, settlement of PF and pension claims will now be processed and settled online.
- It will facilitate faster processing, transparency in operations, better record management and monitoring.
- It will also instil confidence in the subscribers and pensioners.

**Q: Consider the following statements with respect to Bilateral Investment Treaties (BITs):**

1. BITs establish terms for private investment by nationals and companies of one country in the other country.
2. India signed its first BIT with the United Kingdom.
3. India has no BITs with any of its neighbours.

How many of the above statement(s) is/are incorrect?

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

Ans: a

Explanation:

- A BIT is an agreement between two countries that establishes the terms and conditions for private investment by nationals and companies of one country in the other country.
- BITs are designed to promote and protect foreign direct investment (FDI).
- India signed its first BIT with in 1994 with the United Kingdom.
- India signed a BIT with SriLanka in 1997.