

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding Mount Marapi:**

1. Its name means Mountain of Fire.
2. It is one the most active volcano.
3. It is located in Java.

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:

- Not to be mistaken with Mount Merapi in Java, this Mount Marapi is located in West Sumatra.
- Its name means Mountain of Fire. With over 60 eruptions to its credit since the late 18th century, Marapi claims the title of the most active volcano in Sumatra.
- It also known as the Circum-Pacific Belt, is a path along the Pacific Ocean characterised by active volcanoes and frequent earthquakes.
- Its length is approximately 40,000 kilometres (24,900 miles).
- It traces boundaries between several tectonic plates—including the Pacific, Juan de Fuca, Cocos, Indian-Australian, Nazca, North American, and Philippine Plates.

**Q: The Reserve Bank of India recently retained the stance of the monetary policy as ‘withdrawal of accommodation’. What does it mean?**

- a) The central bank is going to increase the money supply in the market.
- b) The central bank is going to reduce the money supply in the market.
- c) The central bank is going to increase its inflation target.
- d) The central bank is going to reduce its inflation target.

Ans: b

Explanation:

- When the central bank retains the stance of the monetary policy as ‘withdrawal of accommodation’, it will be focused on curbing money supply in the economy.
- An accommodative stance of the RBI means the central bank is prepared to expand the money supply to boost economic growth while withdrawal of accommodation means reducing the money supply in the system to control inflation in the economy.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding International Maritime Organisation (IMO):**

1. It was founded in 1958 and headquartered in London, UK.
2. Recently, India was re-elected to the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Council.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

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

Ans: c

Explanation:

- India was re-elected to the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Council with the highest tally at elections held at its Assembly in London.
- The IMO is the premier body that oversees the maritime sector, which in turn underpins international trade, transport and all maritime activities.
- IMO currently has 175 Member States and three Associate Members.
- India joined the IMO in 1959.

**Q: The Leadership Group for Industry Transition (LeadIT), was launched by India and which of the following countries?**

- a) The USA
- b) France
- c) Denmark
- d) Sweden

Ans: d

Explanation:

- The Leadership Group for Industry Transition (LeadIT) was launched by the governments of Sweden and India at the UN Climate Action Summit in 2019 and is supported by the World Economic Forum.
- LeadIT members subscribe to the notion that energy-intensive industry can and must progress on low-carbon pathways, aiming to achieve net-zero carbon emissions.
- It gathers countries and companies that are committed to action to achieve the Paris Agreement.

**Q: Consider the following statements regarding the World Malaria Report 2023:**

1. It was released by the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC).
2. Pakistan saw the largest increase in Malaria.
3. India saw 80% decline in malaria cases in 2022 as compared to the previous year.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Ans: a

Explanation:

- World Malaria Report 2023 recently published by the World Health Organization (WHO). It delves into the nexus between climate change and malaria.
- In 2022, there were estimated 249 million cases globally, exceeding the pre-pandemic level of 233 million in 2019 by 16 million cases.
- Globally there were an additional five million malaria cases in 2022 over the previous year and five countries bore the brunt of these increases.
- India saw a 30% decline in malaria cases and 34% decline in deaths in 2022 as compared to the previous year
- Pakistan saw the largest increase, with about 2.6 million cases in 2022 compared to 500 000 in 2021.
- Significant increases were also observed in Ethiopia, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea and Uganda.