

Q: The terms “Amini and Kalpeni” sometimes seen in the news are related to which of the following?

- Inhabited islands of Lakshadweep (Union Territory).
- Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) in Madhya Pradesh.
- Newly named Indian research stations in Arctic region.
- Cattle breeds in Gujarat.

Ans: a

Explanation:

- Agatti, Amini, and Kalpeni are islands in the Union Territory of Lakshadweep, India.
- The tiniest Union Territory of India, Lakshadweep is an archipelago consisting of 12 atolls, 3 reefs and 5 submerged banks.
- The inhabited islands are Kavaratti, Agatti, Amini, Kadmat, Kiltan, Chetlat, Bitra, Andrott, Kalpeni and Minicoy.
- More than 93% of the population who are indigenous, are Muslims and majority of them belong to the Shafi School of the Sunni Sect.
- Kochi-Lakshadweep islands submarine optical fiber connection (KLI-SOFC) Project – It covers a wide range of sectors including technology, energy, water resources, healthcare and education.
- The project submarine cable connectivity from Mainland (Kochi) to 11 Lakshadweep Islands, that includes:
- Kavaratti, Agatti, Amini, Kadmat, Chetlet, Kalpeni, Minicoy, Androth, Kiltan, Bangaram and Bitra.
- It will lead to an increase in internet speed unlocking new possibilities & opportunities.

Q: Consider the following statements with respect to Access, Watch and Reserve (AWaRe)

- It is a tool for monitoring antibiotic consumption that was developed by the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC).
- It defines the targets and monitors the effects of stewardship policies that aim to optimize antibiotic use and curb antimicrobial resistance.

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

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: b

Explanation:

- Access, Watch and Reserve (AWaRe) is a classification tool for monitoring antibiotic consumption that was developed by World Health Organization in 2017.
- The tool defines the targets and monitors the effects of stewardship policies that aim to optimize antibiotic use and curb antimicrobial resistance.
- The 2021 update of the AWaRe classification includes an additional 78 antibiotics not previously classified, bringing the total to 258.
- This classification is a helpful tool for assessing the results of stewardship policies that seek to maximize antibiotic use and reduce antimicrobial resistance.
- The National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) is the nodal agency for India’s national programme on AMR containment, of which one of the key components is the surveillance of antibiotic usage.

Q: Consider the following statements with respect to Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956:

- The act aims to prevent ‘the commercialisation of vices’ and the ‘trafficking of females’.
- A customer in a brothel cannot be charged under this Act.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2

d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: a

Explanation:

- The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 aims to prevent ‘the commercialisation of vices’ and the ‘trafficking of females’.
- Section 2 of the act defines a “brothel” to include “any house, room, or place, or any portion of any house, room or place, which is used for purposes of sexual exploitation or abuse.
- The term “prostitution” is defined as “the sexual exploitation or abuse of persons, for commercial purposes.
- The term “procure” is not defined in the Act.
- In its recent judgment, the Kerala High Court ruling has expanded the meaning of the term “procure” in Section 5 of the ITP Act.
- It has expanded by adding that a customer will be held liable in addition to pimps/brothel-keepers who “hire” persons for prostitution.
- Cases related to the act – “Mathew vs the State of Kerala”, in this case the Kerala high court ruled that a customer caught in a brothel can be prosecuted under the ITP Act.
- In “Goenka Sajan Kumar vs The State Of AP (2014)” and “Sri Sanauulla vs State Of Karnataka (2017)” the respective high courts have ruled against prosecuting brothel customers under sections 3-7 of the ITP Act.

Q: Consider the following statements with respect to Indian Science Congress

1. It is the largest gathering of scientists and students of science in India.
2. The first meeting of the Congress was held in 1914.
3. The principal organiser of the event is Department of Science and Technology (DST).

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:

- Indian Science Congress is the largest gathering of scientists and students of science in the country and a permanent annual fixture in the calendar of the participant group for more than a century.
- With the exception of the two years following the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic (2021 and 2022), the Indian Science Congress has been held every year since 1914.
- The first meeting of the Congress was held from January 15-17, 1914 at the premises of the Asiatic Society, Calcutta.
- Department of Science and Technology is the main funding agency of the event.
- The principal organiser of the event is the Indian Science Congress Association (ISCA), a registered society in Kolkata.

Q: Consider the following statements with respect to Tsunami

1. It is a harbour wave that are caused by earthquakes or volcanic eruptions under the ocean.
2. All earthquakes or volcanic eruptions does not result in tsunamis.
3. The Indian Tsunami Early Warning Centre (ITEWC) works under the aegis of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA).

How many of the statements given above are incorrect?

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

Ans: a

Explanation:

- Tsunami is a Japanese word that means “harbour wave” is a series of giant ocean waves caused by earthquakes or volcanic eruptions under the ocean.
- When an earthquake takes place under the ocean, a large chunk of the ocean floor can suddenly move upward or downward, leading to a sudden displacement of a large volume of water, thereby causing tsunami waves.
- Big tsunamis usually begin in the deep ocean, where a large volume of water can be displaced.
- Not all earthquakes or volcanic eruptions lead to tsunamis.
- The formation of a tsunami can depend on a host of factors, including the shape of the ocean floor and the earthquake’s distance and direction.
- The Indian Tsunami Early Warning Centre (ITEWC) – Is the national authority to issue tsunami advisories for India.
- It works under the aegis of Ministry of Earth Sciences.
- It is established at Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Sciences (INCOIS), Hyderabad.