

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. Akash is the first state-of-the-art indigenous surface-to-air missile system.
2. It is inducted by Indian Army only.

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:

- Akash is the first state-of-the-art indigenous surface-to-air missile system which has been with Armed Forces for nearly a decade defending the Indian skies and providing national security.
- It is inducted by Indian Army and Indian Air Force with order value worth Rs 30,000 crore, which is one of the largest single system orders for indigenous missile system.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Valmiki Tiger Reserve:

1. There is continuous decrease in Tiger population from this reserve.
2. The reserve plays a critical role in maintaining genetically robust populations of tigers.
3. The forest corridors between India and Nepal are extensively used by tigers and other large mammals.

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:

- The Valmiki Tiger Reserve was recently in news as a man-eater tiger that had killed nine people and scores of domestic animals, was shot dead in October 2022.
- The reserve plays a critical role in maintaining genetically robust populations of tigers.
- The forest corridors between India and Nepal are extensively used by tigers and other large mammals.
- The state government has taken several measures to protect the habitats of the big cats and conserve its population based on the National Tiger Conservation Authority's guidelines.
- The tiger population of the state jumped by over 50 per cent between 2014 and 2018, from 32 to around 50.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Earth shot Prize 2022:

1. The award was founded by Prince William.
2. The aim of greenhouse-in-a-box is to reduce costs and increase yields.

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:

- Kaushik Kappagantulu of Kheyti, had launched the solution for at least 100 million local smallholder farmers who are most impacted by climate change.
- The aim of greenhouse-in-a-box is to **reduce costs and increase yields** which in turn would help protect the livelihoods of these farmers.
- Founded by Prince William, this was the second edition of the **Earthshot prize** which has also been dubbed the 'Eco Oscars' and witnessed the presence of several celebrities who walked the green carpet.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Digital Rupee:

1. It will be issued by RBI.
2. It can be used for both person-to-person and person-to-merchant transactions.
3. It is recognised as legal tender by the RBI.

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:

- The Reserve Bank of India recently launched the digital rupee on a pilot basis.
- The digital currency will be offered by a select group of public and private banks in a few major cities initially, which can be **used for both person-to-person** and person-to-merchant **transactions**.
- The digital rupee, or the e-rupee, is a central bank digital currency issued by the RBI.
- The digital rupee is recognised as legal tender by the RBI, and thus has to be accepted by everyone in the country as a medium of exchange.
- It is, however, different from deposits that you hold in a bank. Unlike deposits which are paid interest, the digital rupees in your wallet are not paid any interest by the central bank. **Deposits held in banks can be converted into digital rupees and vice-versa.**

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. World Soil Day (WSD) 2022, will be observed on December 10.
2. The main drivers contributing to soil degradation are industrial activities.
3. WSD 2022, with its guiding theme, 'Soils: Where food begins'.

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:

- World Soil Day (WSD) 2022, annually observed on December 5.
- WSD 2022, with its guiding theme, 'Soils: Where food begins', is a means to raise awareness on the importance of maintaining healthy soils, ecosystems and human well-being by addressing the growing challenges in soil management, encouraging societies to improve soil health, and advocating the sustainable management of soil.
- Today, nutrient loss and pollution significantly threaten soils, and thereby undermine nutrition and food security globally. The main drivers contributing to soil degradation are industrial activities, mining, waste treatment, agriculture, fossil fuel extraction and processing and transport emissions.