

Q: Consider the following statement regarding United Nations Statistical Commission:

1. It is the functional Commission of the UN Economic and Social Council.
2. India has been elected to this body from 2024.
3. This council meets every year.

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:

- India has been elected to the highest statistical body of the United Nations for a four-year term beginning January 1, 2024.
- The United Nations Statistical Commission is a Functional Commission of the UN Economic and Social Council established in 1946.
- Since July 1999 the Commission meets every year, as set forth by the Economic and Social Council.
- It oversees the work of the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

Q: Recently, the Centre has approved the installation of 10 nuclear reactors in different states across India. Consider the following statement:

1. Government had approved the sanction of 10 boiling water nuclear reactor in different states of India.
2. Nuclear reactor will come up in the states of in Karnataka, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan.
3. Two nuclear reactors will each be installed in Kaiga, Chutka, and Gorakhpur nuclear power plants.

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 Center has accorded administrative approval and financial sanction for 10 indigenous Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors of 700 MW each in fleet mode.
- The 10 reactors will come up in Karnataka, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan.
- Two nuclear reactors will each be installed in Kaiga, Chutka, and Gorakhpur nuclear power plants, while the Mahi Banswara nuclear power plant in Rajasthan will get four nuclear reactors.

Q: Recently, India Grid Trust commissioned its first battery energy storage system (BESS) project. Consider the following statement:

1. It is the first infrastructure investment trust in the Indian power sector.
2. The investment manager of IndiGrid is wholly owned by KKR.

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:

- IndiGrid is the first infrastructure investment trust in the Indian power sector.
- It owns 17 power projects, consisting of 46 transmission lines with more than 8,416 ckms (circuit kilometers) length, 13 substations with 17,550 MVA transformation capacity and 100 MW (AC) of solar generation capacity.
- IndiGrid has assets under management (AUM) of over Rs 22,700 crore (USD 2.7 billion). The investment manager of IndiGrid is wholly owned by KKR.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPIs):

1. It is a payment method that can be used to purchase goods and services and send/receive money by using the stored value in the wallet.
2. Users have to pre-load the wallet with a desired amount.

3. It can be in the form of mobile wallets, physical smart cards and secure tokens.

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:

- Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPIs) are payment methods that can be used to purchase goods and services and send/receive money by using the stored value in the wallet.
- Users have to pre-load the wallet with a desired amount. The amount can be loaded/reloaded against cash or through debit to bank account, or by using credit/debit cards, UPI, or any other approved payment method in India. PPIs can only be used in Indian rupees.
- PPIs can be in the form of mobile wallets, physical smart cards, secure tokens, vouchers, or any other method that allows access to prepaid funds.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. In 1999, plant-breeder named T.E. Michaels suggested an approach to seeds innovation based on the principles of open-source software.
2. Plant-breeders' rights is the only major modes of IPR protection in agriculture.

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:

- There are two major modes of IPR protection in agriculture — plant-breeders' rights and patents. Together, they restrict farmers' rights and the freedom to develop new varieties using germplasm from IP-protected varieties, and have thus increased the number of IP-protected plant varieties.
- The high prices of genetically modified seeds and IP claims triggered many problems and issues, including the State's intervention in Bt cotton seeds in India.
- As public sector breeding declined and the private sector began to dominate the seed sector, the need for alternatives became keenly felt. This is when the success of open-source software inspired a solution. In 1999, plant-breeder named T.E. Michaels suggested an approach to seeds innovation based on the principles of open-source software.