

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. Intelligence and security chief participated in Raisina Security Dialogue.
2. This security conference was modelled on the lines of the Munich Security Conference.
3. Only the representatives of G-20 members participated in this conference.

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:

- Amid the G-20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting and ahead of the Raisina Dialogue, India quietly held the second conference of intelligence and security chiefs and top officials from around the world, called the Raisina Security Dialogue, on March 1 which saw participation from over 26 countries.
- Prime Minister Modi and National Security Adviser addressed the conference, which is modelled on the lines of the Munich Security Conference, the 59th edition of which took place from February 17 to 19, and Singapore's Shangri-La Dialogue.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding High Sea treaty:

1. The treaty regulates overfishing.
2. The treaty also requires environmental impact assessments for potentially harmful activities.
3. Sharing with all nations any bounty from harvesting marine genetic resources.

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 UN high seas biodiversity treaty could build in new hurdles for corporations operating on the high seas; defined as the 60% of the ocean beyond any nation's jurisdiction including for those companies proposing to remove carbon dioxide from the ocean.
- The treaty does not regulate overfishing, a prime threat to ocean biodiversity, as fishing in international waters is managed by other organizations. But it does allow for the establishment of marine protected areas on the high seas, where fishing could be banned. That would enable the UN to move toward a target of conserving 30% of the ocean by 2030.
- The treaty also requires environmental impact assessments for potentially harmful activities, such as proposals to conduct geoengineering experiments in the ocean to combat climate change.
- Another main provision requires sharing with all nations any bounty from harvesting marine genetic resources, which includes marine molecules, bacteria and algae that could be used in pharmaceuticals and other products. The treaty also provides for the transfer of marine technology to developing countries.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. China announced a hike in defence spending by 7.2%.
2. China spending in defence is three times the Indian defence budget.

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:

- Recently, China announced a hike in defence spending by 7.2% to \$225 billion in 2023, saying the rise was needed to deal with "complex security challenges".
- China's still sizeable Budget remains around three times that of India's.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. No. 28 Squadron of the Indian Air Force (IAF), nicknamed 'The First Supersonic'.
2. In March 1963, the Squadron inducted the Soviet-era MiG-21s.
3. On 16 October 1987, No. 28 Squadron transitioned from the MiG-21s to MiG-29s.

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:

- Recently, the No. 28 Squadron of the Indian Air Force (IAF), nicknamed 'The First Supersonic', completed 60 years in service.
- In March 1963, the Squadron inducted the Soviet-era MiG-21s in Chandigarh which marked a turning point in the IAF's inventory, as they were its first supersonic fighters.
- Significantly, India got the MiG-21s as a counter to Pakistan being given 12 F-104 Starfighter supersonic aircraft by the US. The Starfighter was the first supersonic aircraft in the Indian subcontinent.
- On 16 October 1987, after over two decades since induction, the No. 28 Squadron transitioned from the MiG-21s to MiG-29s.

Q: Consider the following:

1. Malacca Strait
2. Lombok Strait
3. Bonifacio Strait

Which among the following strait is located in Indian Ocean?

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: a

Explanation:

- The Andaman and Nicobar Islands house the tri-service Andaman and Nicobar military command. What makes these islands strategically important is their proximity to the Indo-Pacific as well as to major choke-points or sea lines of communication (SLOC) in the Bay of Bengal — the Malacca Strait, Sunda Strait, Lombok Strait and the Ombai-Wetar straits.
- Most of the world's shipping trade passes through these choke-points.
- The islands offer India the potential to play a critical role towards enhancing its influence in the Indian Ocean region and support its military operations in the area.