

Q: Consider the following statement regarding HMS Tamar:

1. It is deployed to replace existing river class vessels.
2. It has been named after the Tamar River in France.

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:

- The HMS Tamar is a river-class offshore patrol vessel of the Royal Navy that has been deployed in the Indo-Pacific since September 2021.
- It has been named after the Tamar River in England.
- It is the fourth of five new vessels that have been deployed to replace the existing river class vessels.
- The HMS Tamar has a top speed of 20+ knots, can accommodate a maximum crew of 60, and has a range of 5,500 nautical miles.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding American foulbrood:

1. It is a stress related disease.
2. It is caused by the spore-forming bacterium *Paenibacillus larvae*.
3. The disease cannot be cured.

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:

- American foulbrood (AFB) is caused by the spore-forming bacterium *Paenibacillus larvae*. Infected broods usually die at the pre-pupal or pupal stage.
- It is not a stress-related disease and can infect the strongest to the weakest colony in an apiary. Heavy infections can affect most of the brood, severely weakening the colony and eventually killing it.
- The disease cannot be cured, meaning that the destruction of infected colonies and hives or irradiation of infected material is the only way to manage AFB.
- The bacteria *Melissococcus plutonius* causes another similar disease, European foulbrood. However, the incidence of EFB is generally higher when the colony is under stress.

Q: The Department of Telecommunications under the Ministry of Communications has formulated the Indian Telegraph (Infrastructure Safety) Rules 2022. Consider the following salient features:

1. The person digging or excavating shall take appropriate action on precautionary measures provided by the licensee.
2. Any person wishes to exercise a legal right to dig or excavate any property which is likely to cause damage to a telegraph infrastructure shall give notice to the licensee.

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:

- Any person wishes to exercise a legal right to dig or excavate any property which is likely to cause damage to a telegraph infrastructure shall give notice to the licensee, prior to commencement, through common portal.
- The information shall include the name and address of the person exercising the legal, agency details, contact details, date and time of start of the exercise, description and location of the exercise, and the reasons for such dealing.
- The licensee shall, as expeditiously as possible, provide through the common portal, the details of telegraph infrastructure owned/ controlled/ managed by them, falling under/ over/ along the property with which the person intends to deal, alongwith precautionary measures for coordination in avoiding damages to the telegraph infrastructure.

- Excavators/utility asset owners will be given alerts via SMS, email and in-app notification and will also have the facility of 'Click to call' from the app itself.
- The person digging or excavating shall take appropriate action on precautionary measures provided by the licensee.
- In case no licensee provides details within the prescribed time, the person having legal right to dig or excavate shall be free to dig or excavate the property thereafter.

Q: Recently, Joshimath is making headlines for the reason that it is sinking. Consider the following statement regarding the cause of it:

1. Geography of the town
2. Increased construction
3. Erosion due to the running streams from Vishnuprayag

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 biggest reason why Joshimath is sinking is related to the geography of the town. The landslide debris on which the city was established has a low bearing capacity and experts have long warned that it cannot support a high rate of construction.
- Increased construction, hydroelectric projects, and the widening of the National Highway have made the slopes highly unstable in the last couple of decades.
- Erosion due to the running streams from Vishnuprayag and sliding along the natural streams are the other reasons behind the city's fate. Scattered rocks in the area are covered with old landslide debris comprising boulders, gneissic rocks, and loose soil.

Q: The commission that reported the government about the Joshimath located in ancient landslide is

- a) Mishra Commission
- b) Singhanian Commission
- c) Kothari Commission
- d) Sarkaria Commission

Ans: a

Explanation:

- While the panic over the Joshimath sinking is making headlines now, scientists and geologists working in the area have been sounding the alarm for decades.
- The first such report indicating the grave problem that could threaten life and property came in 1976. That report by the government-appointed Mishra Commission pointed that Joshimath is located on the site of an ancient landslide.