

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. Silk Route connected India with Central Asia.
2. Kazakhstan has one of the biggest reserves of uranium.
3. Tajikistan has one of the world's largest reserves of natural gas.

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:

- The Silk Route connected India with Central Asia from the 3rd century BC to the 15th century AD. From the export of Buddhism to the lasting influence of Bollywood, India has shared old and deep cultural ties with the region.
- Central Asia is extremely rich in mineral and natural resources. Kazakhstan has one of the biggest reserves of uranium, besides stores of coal, lead, zinc, gold, and iron ore.
- The Kyrgyz Republic is rich in gold and hydro-power, and Turkmenistan has one of the world's largest reserves of natural gas. Tajikistan has huge hydro-power potential and Uzbekistan has gold, uranium, and natural gas.

Q: Recently, the Rajya Sabha passed the Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Bill, 2022. Consider the following statement:

1. With the passage of bill, it will prohibit the transport of a captive elephants for religious and other purposes.
2. The bill intended to amend the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to incorporate more species protected under the law.
3. The bill will help country to regulate the trade of all listed specimens through permits.

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:

- Recently, the Rajya Sabha passed the Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Bill, 2022 which is intended to amend the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to incorporate more species protected under the law.
- The Bill seeks to implement India's obligations under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), which requires countries to regulate the trade of all listed specimens through permits.
- After being passed, the Bill will allow the transfer or transport of a captive elephant for religious and other purposes by a person with a valid ownership certificate.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. Barchan are sand dunes formed on the surface of the Earth.
2. Barchans are formed on the ocean floor and on the surface of the Earth.

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:

- Researchers have been studying the dynamics of how crescent-shaped sand dunes are formed.
- Until now, however, there has been a glaring lack of grain-scale computations of the growth and evolution of barchan dunes.
- Known as barchans, these formations are commonly found in various sizes and circumstances, from finger-length dunes on the ocean floor, to stadium-sized dunes in the Earth's deserts, to dunes that extend for a kilometer across the surface of Mars.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Global Combat Air Programme:

1. It is a joint programme of India and France.
2. It is a next generation Combat Air Teaming System (CATS) programme.

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: d

Explanation:

- Japan, Britain and Italy will jointly develop a next-generation fighter jet in a project that holds scope for future cooperation with allies including the United States.
- The joint project is called the Global Combat Air Programme.
- The new jet, to be ready by 2035, is expected to merge the nations' current research into cutting-edge air combat technology, from stealth capacity to high-tech sensors.
- The "ambitious endeavour" would "accelerate our advanced military capability and technological advantage" at a time when "threats and aggression are increasing" worldwide.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. The National Water Development Agency (NWDA) is under the Ministry of Jal Shakti.
2. National Perspective Plan (NPP) was formulated for providing storages and transfer of surplus waters to water deficit regions.

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:

- The National Water Development Agency (NWDA) under the Ministry of Jal Shakti has identified 16 links under peninsular rivers component and 14 links under Himalayan component of National Perspective Plan (NPP) for inter basin transfer.
- Pre-feasibility reports of all the 30 links have been completed and feasibility reports of 24 links and detailed project reports of eight links have been completed.
- The NPP for water resources development was formulated by the government of India in 1980 for providing storages and transfer of surplus waters to water deficit regions so as to mitigate the effect of annually recurring floods and also to minimise the incidence of droughts.