

**Q: According to a UNICEF report, the prevalence of child marriage is decreasing globally. Consider the following statement regarding the condition in Africa:**

1. Lower levels of child marriage are found in Eastern and Southern Africa.
2. In the regions of Ethiopia, child marriage has on average more than doubled in a year as of June 2022.
3. Incidences of child marriage was the highest in Southern and northern Africa.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

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

Ans: a

Explanation:

- Incidences of child marriage was the highest in West and Central Africa, where nearly 4 in 10 young women were married off before 18 years of age.
- Lower levels of child marriage are found in Eastern and Southern Africa (32 per cent), South Asia (28 per cent) and Latin America and Caribbean (21 per cent).
- More than 100 million additional adolescent girls will marry by 2030 if efforts to curb the menace are not ramped up.
- In the regions of Ethiopia worst affected by the drought, child marriage has on average more than doubled in a year as of June 2022.
- The number of children at risk of dropping out of school across Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia due to the impact of the crisis tripled within three months.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding the 18<sup>th</sup> Persistent Organic Pollutants (POP) Review Committee (POPRC-18):**

1. It has included three more chemical in its agenda.
2. The listed chemicals include a pesticide, a flame retardant and some plastic stabilising substances.
3. POPRC-18 aims to list each of these chemicals in Annex A (elimination), B (restriction) and/or C (unintended release) of the Stockholm Convention.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

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

Ans: b

Explanation:

- The 18th meeting of the Persistent Organic Pollutants (POP) Review Committee (POPRC-18) to the Stockholm Convention held in Rome has included five more chemicals in its agenda.
- The listed chemicals include a pesticide, a flame retardant and some plastic stabilising substances.
- Three of the listed chemicals; chlorpyrifos, chlorinated paraffin beyond prescribed standards and long-chain perfluoro carboxylic acids were already nominated at the 17th meeting (POPRC-17) in January 2022.
- Two chemicals; dechlorane plus, a flame retardant and UV-328, a stabiliser used in some personal care products which qualified for risk management evaluation at POPRC-17 will be evaluated at this session.
- POPRC-18 aims to list each of these chemicals in Annex A (elimination), B (restriction) and/or C (unintended release) of the Stockholm Convention.

**Q: Consider the following statement:**

1. United Nations marks October 1as International Day for Older Persons.
2. By 2050, those older than 65 years will be twice as many as children under five.

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 United Nations marks today as International Day for Older Persons (October 1), as part of the organisation's efforts to draw attention to healthy ageing.
- The theme for the International Day of Older Persons is "Resilience of Older Persons in a Changing World".
- Recently, a report by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), "World Population Prospects 2022", has projected big shifts in global demographic patterns in the coming decades.
- As global birth rates stabilise and shrink, 16% of the world population by 2050 is expected to be made up of people over 65 years.
- The "World Population Prospects 2022" report estimates that by 2050, the global population will be 9.7 billion people. By then, those older than 65 years will be twice as many as children under five. That year is also projected to be a pivotal year for India's population too.

**Q: Consider the following statement:**

1. Russia formally annexed five Ukrainian regions to Russia.
2. Russia is now in control of 25 per cent of Ukraine's territory.

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:

- Recently, the Russian President Vladimir Putin signed an accord to formally annex four Ukrainian regions to Russia.
- He said that the people living in the four regions are "Russian citizens forever" and any attack on the annexed regions will be an "attack on Russia."
- He announced the annexation of Lugansk, Donetsk, Kherson and Zaporizhzhia.
- With the formal announcement of the four regions; Russia is now in control of 15 per cent of Ukraine's territory.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding President's Bodyguard:**

1. It is the senior-most Regiment of Indian Army.
2. The President's Bodyguard, raised by Governor-General Lord Wellesley

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:

- President's Bodyguard is the senior-most Regiment of Indian Army.

- The President's Bodyguard, raised by Governor-General Warren Hastings in September 1773, is the senior most regiment in the order of precedence of the units of the Indian Army and it is a regiment carrying out ceremonial duties for the President of India.
- The personnel are excellent equestrians, capable tank men and paratroopers.
- It is equipped as a mounted unit, with horses for ceremonies at the presidential palace and BTR-80 vehicles for use in combat.