

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding Atlantic Puffin:**

1. It is a species of small seabird in the auk family.
2. It is a migratory species.
3. It's the only puffin species found in Atlantic Ocean and Pacific Ocean.

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:

- Atlantic Puffin is a species of small seabird in the auk family.
- It's the only puffin species found in the Atlantic Ocean.
- It is found on rocky coasts in the Northern Atlantic Ocean during the breeding season and on the open ocean in the non-breeding season.
- It is a migratory species, spending most of the time traveling back and forth across the Atlantic Ocean, returning every breeding season to its native breeding areas.
- Sixty percent of the individuals inhabit the coast of Iceland during the breeding season.
- It has also been found off the coast of Greenland, the United Kingdom, Eastern Canada, and the Netherlands, as well as Ireland.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding Gaza Strip:**

1. It is bordered by Jordan to the north and Syria to the south.
2. It is a self-governing Palestinian territory located on the eastern coast of the Mediterranean Sea.
3. The population is predominantly Palestinian, with the majority being Sunni Muslims.

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 Gaza Strip is a self-governing Palestinian territory located on the eastern coast of the Mediterranean Sea.
- The territory takes its name from Gaza, its main city.
- It forms the smaller of the two Palestinian territories — the other being the West Bank.
- It is bordered by Israel to the north and east and Egypt to the south.
- It is a 41km (25-mile) long and 10km-wide territory.
- It has a temperate climate, with mild winters, and dry, hot summer.
- It is one of the most densely populated areas in the world. More than 2 million people live in the territory.
- The population is predominantly Palestinian, with the majority being Sunni Muslims.

**Q: Consider the following statement:**

1. White goods are large home appliances.
2. Brown goods are relatively light electronic consumer durables.

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:

- White goods are large home appliances such as stoves, refrigerators, freezers, washing machines, tumble driers, dishwashers, and air conditioners.
- They are large consumer durables for the house which were traditionally available only in white.
- Brown goods are relatively light electronic consumer durables such as computers, digital media players, TVs and radios.
- Unlike large household appliances (white goods), brown goods are more focused on entertainment, communication, and convenience.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding Lakhpati Didi Initiative:**

1. Its objective is to encourage women to start micro-enterprises within their villages.
2. The programme is aimed at training women in self-help groups (SHGs).
3. The initiative has been initiated by DAY-NRLM.

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:

- Lakhpati Didi Initiative was announced by the Prime Minister in his Independence Day speech on August 15, 2023.
- To encourage women to start micro-enterprises within their villages.
- Under the Lakhpati Didi Initiative, the government aims to train two crore women.
- The programme is aimed at training women in self-help groups (SHGs) so that they can earn a sustainable income of at least Rs 1 lakh per annum per household.
- The initiative has been initiated by DAY-NRLM, wherein each SHG household is encouraged to take up multiple livelihood activities coupled with value chain interventions, resulting in a sustainable income of Rs 1 lakh or more per year.
- Under this scheme, women will be trained in various skills, such as plumbing, LED bulb making, drone operation and repair, and tailoring and weaving.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding Dancing Frog:**

1. It is also the fifth most threatened genus in the world.
2. The species was found to prefer habitats in areas with thick canopy cover of at least 70-80 per cent.
3. These are endemic to the Eastern Ghats.

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:

- Dancing frogs are endemic to the Western Ghats.
- The species was found to prefer habitats in areas with thick canopy cover of at least 70-80 per cent
- It belongs to the Micrixalus genus.
- It is also the fifth most threatened genus in the world with 92 per cent of its species in the threatened category

- The dancing frogs that are found near the streams do a unique display to mate.
- The males stretch up their hind legs one at a time and wave their webbed toes in the air in a rapid motion akin to a dance.
- This is to attract mates as well as ward off competition, probably preferred because their mating calls are drowned out by the gurgling of the streams.
- This act is called “foot flagging” and gives the species their name.