

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Arctic Council:

1. Ottawa declaration led to the formation of this council.
2. United States of America is also the member of this council.
3. Observer country of this council also has the voting right.

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:

- Ottawa Declaration declares Canada, the Kingdom of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, the Russian Federation, Sweden and the United States of America as a member of the Arctic Council.
- It is open to non-Arctic states, along with inter-governmental, inter-parliamentary, global, regional and non-governmental organizations that the Council determines can contribute to its work. It is approved by the Council at the Ministerial Meetings that occur once every two years.
- Observers have no voting rights in the Council.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Prof. Govind Swarup:

1. He is widely regarded to be the founder of Indian Space programme.
2. Ooty Radio Telescope (ORT) and the Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope was also constructed by him.
3. He was the early proponents of the Square Kilometre Array (SKA).

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:

- Prof. Swarup is widely regarded to be the founder of Indian radio astronomy.
- He conceived of and led the construction of the Ooty Radio Telescope (ORT) and the Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (GMRT) using innovative, cost-effective ideas optimized for the Indian environment.
- He was a visionary and one of the strongest early proponents of the Square Kilometre Array (SKA).
- He was the founding director of the National Centre for Radio Astrophysics (NCRA), Pune.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding She-Box:

1. It is launched by Ministry of Women & Child Development.
2. It is an effort to provide a single window access for working woman only.
3. Any woman facing sexual harassment at the workplace can register their complaint through this portal.

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: c

Explanation:

- The Ministry of Women & Child Development has launched Sexual Harassment electronic Box (SHe-Box).
- It is an effort to provide a single window access to every woman, irrespective of her work status, whether working in organised or unorganised, private or public sector, to facilitate the registration of complaint related to sexual harassment.
- Any woman facing sexual harassment at the workplace can register their complaint through this portal.
- Once a complaint is submitted to the 'SHe-Box', it will be directly sent to the concerned authority having jurisdiction to take action into the matter.

Q: Which among the following city became the first city to adopt the localisation of the United Nations-mandated sustainable development goals (SDG)?

- a) Ahmadabad
- b) Mumbai

- c) Indore
- d) Bhopal

Ans: d

Explanation:

- Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh has become the first city in India to adopt the **localisation of the United Nations-mandated sustainable development goals (SDG)**.
- It will now have **voluntary local reviews (VLR)** demonstrate local government's capacity and commitments.

Q: Recently, the California state Senate passed a Bill to ban caste-based discrimination in the state. Consider the following statement:

1. The Bill provides explicit protections to those who have been systemically harmed due to caste bias and prejudice.
2. It also provides firm legal consequences for those participating in caste discrimination and caste-based violence.
3. The Bill fails to add caste as a protected category to an existing law.

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 Bill adds caste as a protected category to an existing law, the Unruh Civil Rights Act, which provides that all people in California are entitled to full and equal accommodations, facilities, or services in all establishments.
- The Bill provides explicit protections to those who have been systemically harmed due to caste bias and prejudice.
- It also provides firm legal consequences for those seeking to avoid responsibility or ramifications for permitting or participating in caste discrimination and caste-based violence.