

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Elephant Reserve in India:

1. Recently Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary in Kerala is notified as new Elephant reserve.
2. Total number of elephant reserve in the country is 31.
3. Singphan elephant reserve is in Assam.

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:

- Recently, the Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change announced the notification of one more elephant reserve (ER) in the country in Tamil Nadu during a programme in the Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary in Kerala.
- The new reserve will be spread over an area of 1,197 square kilometres in Agasthiyamalai.
- This will be the 31st ER in the country after Singphan ER in Nagaland was notified in 2018.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Indian Elephant:

1. Their presence is absent in southern Western Ghats.
2. It is included in Schedule I of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
3. It is also included in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna (CITES).

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 Indian elephant (*Elephas maximus*) is found in the central and southern Western Ghats, North East India, eastern India and northern India and in some parts of southern peninsular India.
- It is included in Schedule I of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna (CITES).
- The Indian elephant is found in 16 states in the country and is showing an increasing trend across its distributional range.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. Environment Ministry hadn't notified National Coastal Zone Management Authority (NCZMA) as a permanent body.
2. The State Coastal Zone Management Authorities (SCZMA) had not been reconstituted in Karnataka.

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 audit pointed out various categories of violations. For one, the Environment Ministry hadn't notified National Coastal Zone Management Authority (NCZMA) as a permanent body and it was being reconstituted every few years. In the absence of defined membership, it was functioning as an ad-hoc body.
- The State Coastal Zone Management Authorities (SCZMA) had not been reconstituted in Karnataka and there was delayed reconstitution in the States of Goa, Odisha and West Bengal.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. "Roshni" is the first Saline Water Lantern in India.
2. The Saline Water Lantern will bring "Ease of Living" to the poor, particularly the fishing community.
3. Saline Water Lantern will also boost and supplement Prime Minister's UJALA scheme.

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:

- Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh unveiled the first-of-its kind lantern named "Roshni" during a visit to SAGAR ANVESHKA, a Coastal Research Vessel, operated and used by the National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai for coastal research.
- The Saline Water Lantern will bring "Ease of Living" to the poor and needy, particularly the fishing community living along the 7500 Kilometres long coastal line of India.
- Saline Water Lantern will also boost and supplement Prime Minister's UJALA scheme launched in 2015 for distribution of LED bulbs across the country.
- Roshini Lamps along with Power Ministry's schemes like Solar Study Lamps will be driving a vibrant renewable energy programme aimed at achieving energy security, energy access and reducing the carbon footprints of the national economy.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. Twenty-eight Indian sites have been declared wetlands of international importance this year.
2. Odisha had the highest number of declared Wetland this year.

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:

- Of the 11 sites, four are in Tamil Nadu, three in Odisha, two in Jammu and Kashmir and one each in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.
- Twenty-eight Indian sites have been declared wetlands of international importance this year itself.
- A total of 26 sites were added to the Ramsar list from 1982 to 2013. Since 2014, 49 sites have bagged the coveted tag.