

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding Lac production in India:**

1. Lac is used in folk medicine as a hepatoprotective and anti-obesity drug.
2. Jharkhand is the largest producer of lac in India.
3. China is the largest producer of lac in the world.

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:

- Lac dye has been used since ancient times in India and neighbouring areas as wood finish, lacquerware, skin cosmetic, and for wool and silk.
- In China, it is used as traditional dye for leather goods. Synthetic dyes are seen as replacement for lac in dye though it still remains in use in some juices, carbonated drinks, wine, jam, sauce, and candy for colour.
- Lac is used in folk medicine as a hepatoprotective and anti-obesity drug.
- India is the largest producer of lac in the world, catering to over 70 per cent of the global demand.
- Lac is found in the belt that stretches from Maharashtra to West Bengal with Jharkhand as the top producer, followed by Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, and Maharashtra.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding Leadership Group for Industry Transition (LeadIT):**

1. It was launched by USA and European Union.
2. It gathers countries and companies that are committed to action to achieve the Paris Agreement.
3. It aiming to achieve net-zero carbon emissions.

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 Leadership Group for Industry Transition (LeadIT) gathers countries and companies that are committed to action to achieve the Paris Agreement.
- It was launched by the governments of Sweden and India at the UN Climate Action Summit in September 2019 and is supported by the World Economic Forum.
- LeadIT members subscribe to the notion that energy-intensive industry can and must progress on low-carbon pathways, aiming to achieve net-zero carbon emissions.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding Yudh Abhyas 22:**

1. It is conducted annually between India and USA.
2. The last exercise 2021, was conducted in USA.

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:

- Exercise Yudh Abhyas is conducted annually between India and USA with the aim of exchanging best practices, Tactics, Techniques and Procedures between the Armies of the two nations.
- The previous edition of the exercise was conducted at Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson, Alaska (USA) in October 2021.

**Q: Boreal Forest encircle/(s) the area of**

- a) Canada
- b) Scandinavia
- c) Russia
- d) All the above

Ans: d

Explanation:

- Burning, drifting, and being devoured by insects, Canada's Boreal forest is shrinking and climate change is to blame.
- Second only to the South American Amazon forest, the Boreal forest is vital to ensuring the future of planet Earth.
- The forest which encircles the Arctic and stretches across Canada, Scandinavia, Russia and Alaska has in recent times been weakened by forest fires, the melting of permafrost, an insect infestation, warming temperatures and drifting trees.

**Q: Consider the following statement:**

1. It took about 12 years for the world population to grow from 7 to 8 billion.
2. According to UNFPA estimates, 68 per cent of India's population is between 15-64 years old in 2022.
3. India is expected to experience an absolute decline in its population as early as 2023.

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 world added a billion people in the last 12 years.
- It took about 12 years for the world population to grow from 7 to 8 billion, but the next billion is expected to take about 14.5 years (2037), reflecting the slowdown in global growth.
- World population is projected to reach a peak of around 10.4 billion people during the 2080s and is expected to remain at that level until 2100.
- For the increase from 7 to 8 billion, around 70 per cent of the added population was in low-income and lower-middle-income countries.
- According to UNFPA estimates, 68 per cent of India's population is between 15-64 years old in 2022, while people aged 65 and older were seven per cent of the population.
- China is expected to experience an absolute decline in its population as early as 2023.