

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Eurasian otter:

1. They are semi-aquatic carnivorous mammal.
2. They were tapped from Neeru stream of the Chenab catchment.
3. They are classified as 'vulnerable' on the IUCN Red List.

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, a trio of scientists from the University of Jammu's Institute of Mountain Environment (IME) at Bhaderwah camera-trapped three Eurasian otters (*Lutra lutra*); two adults and one sub-adult in the Neeru stream of the Chenab catchment.
- They are semi-aquatic carnivorous mammal.
- Since the Eurasian otter, classified as 'near threatened' on the IUCN Red List is regarded as a flagship species and indicator of high-quality aquatic habitats, its presence is encouraging for the health of the Neeru stream.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Far side of the Moon:

1. It is not permanently hidden from the Earth.
2. It is one of the best locations in the solar system for making radio observations.
3. The region receives 14 days of highly bright sunlight followed by 15 days of complete darkness.

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 far side of the Moon is one of the most challenging locations on the lunar surface, since it is permanently hidden from Earth. As the Moon is tidally locked with Earth, we just see one side, making the other side an unfamiliar space filled with massive impact craters.
- However, scientists consider this one of the best locations in the solar system for making radio observations, shielded from the noise generated by Earth. The region receives 14 days of highly bright sunlight followed by 15 days of complete darkness.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY):

1. It is a Central Sector Scheme funded from Senior Citizens' Welfare Fund.
2. The Scheme is being implemented by Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India.

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:

- Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY) is a Central Sector Scheme funded from Senior Citizens' Welfare Fund.
- Under the Scheme of RVY, aids and assistive living devices are provided to senior citizens belonging to BPL category or those senior citizens who earn less than 15000/- per month and suffer from age related disabilities such as low vision, hearing impairment, loss of teeth and loco-motor disabilities.
- The aids and assistive devices viz. walking sticks, elbow crutches, walkers/crutches, tripods/quadpods, hearing aids, wheelchairs, artificial dentures and spectacles are provided to eligible beneficiaries, free of cost.
- The Scheme is being implemented by Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO) which is a Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

Q: Recently, Union Minister Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying (FAHD) unveiled the department's annual publication, the 'Basic Animal Husbandry Statistics 2022'. Consider the following statement:

1. Rajasthan is the largest milk producing state.
2. Maharashtra is the largest meat producing state.
3. Rajasthan is the largest wool producing state.

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:

- Top five major milk producing States are Rajasthan (15.05%), Uttar Pradesh (14.93%), Madhya Pradesh (8.06%), Gujarat (7.56%) and Andhra Pradesh (6.97%).
- Total five major egg producing States are Andhra Pradesh (20.41%), Tamil Nadu (16.08%), Telangana (12.86%), West Bengal (8.84%) and Karnataka (6.38%).
- The total five major meat producing States are Maharashtra (12.25%), Uttar Pradesh (12.14%), West Bengal (11.63%), Andhra Pradesh (11.04%), and Telangana (10.82%).
- The top five major wool producing States are Rajasthan (45.91%), Jammu and Kashmir (23.19%), Gujarat (6.12%), Maharashtra (4.78%) and Himachal Pradesh (4.33%).

Q: Consider the following statement regarding REACHOUT scheme:

1. The scheme is implemented by Ministry of Earth Science.
2. Its objective is to develop skilled and trained manpower in Earth Sciences.
3. It will be implemented only in States and not in Union Territories.

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, Union Minister of Ministry of Earth Science in a written reply to a question in Lok Sabha said that the REACHOUT scheme is being implemented for entire country and not State/UT-wise.
- He said that an umbrella scheme Research, Education and Training Outreach (REACHOUT) is being implemented by the Ministry of Earth Sciences for capacity building.
- Its objective is to develop skilled and trained manpower in Earth Sciences with the support of academic institutions in the country and abroad.