

Q: Consider the following statement regarding India-Arab-Mediterranean corridor:

1. This corridor links India, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Israel, and Greece.
2. The entire exercise of transshipment is assumed to be 40 per cent faster than Suez Canal maritime route.
3. Mykolaiv, Nakhodka, Port of Aqaba and Port of Kandla are the major port involved in this corridor.

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:

- This corridor links India, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Israel, and Greece through renewed infrastructure diplomacy paving the way for free trade transcontinental economic space.
- As envisaged, the goods from India through its Mumbai ports are chartered to be transhipped to the UAE port and from there by railroad passing through Saudi Arabia and Jordan, they are to be transported to Haifa port in Israel and subsequently by sea to the port in Piraeus, Greece.
- The entire exercise of transshipment is expected to be covered in a period of 10 days. This duration is assumed to be 40 per cent faster than the conventional and busy Suez Canal maritime route.
- The four major ports to be involved to operationalise this corridor are Mumbai Port Trust and Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust from India, Dubai's Jebel Ali Port, Israel's Haifa and Greece's Piraeus.

Q: Consider the following statement and choose the incorrect option:

- a) Abraham Accords signed in 2020 that could bring Israel, UAE, Bahrain and USA together.
- b) Kuwait, Iran and Egypt has led to the formulation of the India-Middle East food corridor project.
- c) The rail connection from Dubai port to Al Ghweifat at the UAE- Saudi Arabia border has been completed.
- d) UAE and Saudi Arabia have invested significantly in India for modernising its agriculture and water management system.

Ans: b

Explanation:

- The rail connection from Dubai port to Al Ghweifat at the UAE- Saudi Arabia border consisting of a 139 km track has been completed by UAE's Etihad Rail.
- It was the Abraham Accords signed in 2020 that could bring Israel, UAE, Bahrain and USA together to work jointly in the region keeping aside decades-long animosity.
- Moreover, UAE and Saudi Arabia have invested significantly in India for modernising its agriculture and water management system. This is going to encourage scientific farming in India and reinforce the importance of agriculture.
- The multilateral partnership between India, UAE, Saudi Arabia and Israel has led to the formulation of the India-Middle East food corridor project.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. India is a party to the Montreal Protocol.
2. India phased out Chlorofluorocarbons for control use.

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:

- India, as Party to the Montreal Protocol since June 1992, has been successfully implementing the Montreal Protocol and projects and activities for phasing out of ozone depleting substances, in line with the phase out schedule of the Protocol.
- India phased out Chlorofluorocarbons, Carbon tetrachloride, Halons, Methyl Bromide and Methyl Chloroform for controlled uses as on 1 January 2010, in line with the Montreal Protocol schedule.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Hackathon 3.0 ‘KRITAGYA’:

1. Indian Council of Agricultural Research with its National Agricultural Higher Education Project and Crop Science Division is organizing this event.
2. It will help in promoting ‘speed breeding for crop improvement’.
3. It will also encourage greater adoption of technology enabled solutions in the country.

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:

- Indian Council of Agricultural Research with its National Agricultural Higher Education Project and Crop Science Division is organizing Hackathon 3.0 ‘KRITAGYA’ on promoting ‘speed breeding for crop improvement’.
- Through National Education Policy-2020, this program will provide an opportunity to students/faculties/entrepreneurs/innovators and others to showcase innovative approaches and technology solutions to promote innovation for crop improvement.
- It will also encourage greater adoption of technology enabled solutions in the country.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. Kohinoor, which means “Mountain of Light”.
2. Elgin Marbles, also known as the Parthenon Marbles.
3. Rosetta Stone has been taken from the kingdom of Benin.

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 Kohinoor, which means “Mountain of Light,” was originally about 186 carats, and while its exact origins are unknown, it was most likely discovered in South India in the 13th century. The Kohinoor was unearthed from the Golconda mines in central southern India before it was handed to the British monarchy in 1849.
- Greece has been demanding for the return of the Elgin Marbles since 1925.
- The Elgin Marbles, also known as the Parthenon Marbles, are a collection of different types of marble architectural decoration from the temple of Athena (the Parthenon) on the Acropolis in Athens. Today, they sit inside the British Museum.
- In 1803, Britain’s Lord Elgin allegedly removed the marbles from the Parthenon’s decaying walls in Greece and transported them to London. This is also the reason those precious marbles are called Elgin Marbles.
- The Egyptians want to bring back the Rosetta Stone, which is currently on display at the British museum.
- The Rosetta Stone, a granodiorite stele, has unlocked the mysterious hieroglyphic script of ancient Egypt. It is perhaps the most famous piece of rock in the world.