

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Pangolins:

1. They are nocturnal, toothless mammals.
2. Chinese Pangolin are 'Critically Endangered'
3. Indian Pangolin is recognised as 'Vulnerable'.

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:

- Pangolins are nocturnal, toothless mammals that dig burrows and feed on ants and termites.
- Of the two species found in India, the Indian Pangolin (*Manis crassicaudata*) is recognised as 'Endangered' and the Chinese Pangolin (*Manis pentadactyla*) as 'Critically Endangered' in the International Union for Conservation of Nature List of Threatened Species.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM):

1. This report is released by World Bank.
2. India has been ranked fourth out of 51 countries.
3. It also discusses results from the Adult Population Survey (APS).

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:

- India has been ranked fourth out of 51 countries in having a quality entrepreneurship ecosystem, as per NECI report.
- India's ranking in the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) National Entrepreneurship Context Index (NECI) report is a drastic turnaround following a much lower score in 2021, which was 16th overall.
- The GEM 2022/2023 Global Report also discusses results from the Adult Population Survey (APS) carried out in India with more than 2,000 respondents which found Indians excelling in several arenas of start-ups.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. India is a dialogue partner at the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF).
2. India establishes the Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC) in 2014.

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:

- Since 2003, India has been a dialogue partner at the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF), the region's premier political and economic policy organisation. However, geographical distance and limited resources to devote to the region contributed to India's limited engagement with the PICs.
- In 2014, the increasingly volatile geopolitical landscape and the accompanying strategic and financial imperatives drove India to establish the Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC), a multilateral grouping established with 14 PICs.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. Pangolin play a vital role in the ecosystem management.
2. They also keep in check the population of certain insects they prey on.
3. The burrows made by pangolins also get utilised as shelters by other species within their ecosystem.

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:

- Pangolin play a vital role in the ecosystem management, mostly in aerating and adding moisture to the soil as well as succession of plant communities through burrowing.
- They also keep in check the population of certain insects they prey on.
- The burrows made by pangolins also get utilised as shelters by other species within their ecosystem.
- Over 30 species have been reported to use the burrows made by Chinese Pangolin, including mammals, birds, reptiles and invertebrates, for different purposes.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Cheetah:

1. It is the world's fastest mammal.
2. It is endemic to the savannahs of Africa.
3. In southern Africa, Cheetah is declared extinct.

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 Cheetah, *Acinonyx jubatus*, is the world's fastest mammal, and is endemic to the savannahs of Africa.
- While southern Africa is the cheetah's regional stronghold, it is considered to be a vulnerable under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and is listed in Appendix I.
- The cheetah was declared extinct in India in 1952.