

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Plankton:

1. Plankton are microscopic organisms.
2. They don't have any facilities to actively propel themselves.
3. Halteria plankton are not ciliates.

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:

- Plankton are microscopic organisms that can only move with a current. They don't have any facilities to actively propel themselves.
- Halteria plankton are ciliates, meaning they have hair-like structures called cilia on their surface.
- Sometimes they can beat some of these cilia to jump short distances, but not often as it they can't do this often because it requires too much energy.

Q: Consider the following:

1. Centre -State Cooperation
2. Public-Private Cooperation
3. Multi-Stakeholder Partnership

Which among the following is the pillar of Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution in India (C4IR)?

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: b

Explanation:

- The Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution in India (C4IR) was established in October 2018 to focus on the role of emerging technologies across different sectors and to plug the challenges that will emanate.
 1. The first is the 4IR technologies such as artificial intelligence, the internet of things, blockchain and others.
 2. The second focus is on public-private cooperation. India recently announced drone services, an area where it with the Centre and several state governments.
 3. The third pillar is a multi-stakeholder partnership. The role of technology in various sectors, include government, industries, start-ups, civil society, and consumers for inclusiveness. The overall focus is to bring in greater social good by leveraging technologies.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding G20:

1. It is an intergovernmental forum of the world's major developed and developing economies.
2. Russia, Saudi Arabia and Turkey are the members of G20.

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 G20 or Group of 20 is an intergovernmental forum of the world's major developed and developing economies.
- It comprises Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Italy, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the UK, the US and the European Union (EU).

Q: Consider the following statement regarding 'Spot Bellied Eagle Owl':

1. These birds are found on large trees in thick forests across the Indian sub-continent.
2. They are also called the 'Ghost of the Forest' in India.
3. These birds are also spotted in Nagarjunasagar Srisailem Tiger Reserve.

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:

- Spot Bellied Eagle Owl habitat, found on large trees in thick forests, is spread across the Indian sub-continent.
- But it was sighted only twice in the State earlier, and both the times it was at Nagarjunasagar Srisaïlam Tiger Reserve (NSTR).
- The bold predatory bird, measuring 20-25 inches in length and weighing between 1.5 kg and 2 kg, feeds on small rodents and lizards.
- The bird makes a strange scream similar to humans and it is hence called the 'Ghost of the Forest' in India and 'Devil Bird' in Sri Lanka.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding protected area:

1. It covers 5.26% of India's land area as 108 national parks and 564 wildlife sanctuaries.
2. Forest Rights Act (FRA) does not recognise the customary and traditional rights of forest-dwellers on forest land.

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:

- Protected areas cover 5.26% of India's land area as 108 national parks and 564 wildlife sanctuaries. They are notified under the Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972.
- Protected areas do away with even those activities permitted in 'reserve forests', where the rights of forest-dependent communities, those residing on and/or accessing forest land are extinguished, unless specifically allowed.
- However, this rights-negating 'fortress conservation model', has come under repeated criticism from conservation scientists, bringing in the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006 which is also known as the Forest Rights Act (FRA).
- FRA recognises the customary and traditional rights (both individual and collective) of forest-dwellers on forest land, including in protected areas.