

Q: Consider the following statement regarding International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA):

1. It is a unified authority for the development and regulation of financial products, financial services and financial institutions.
2. The Government of India under the IFSCA Act 2019 established it.
3. Mumbai is the maiden International Financial Services Centre in India (IFSC).

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 International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) is a unified authority for the development and regulation of financial products, financial services and financial institutions in the International Financial Services Centres in India.
- Housed in Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City) in Gandhinagar (Gujarat), GIFT-IFSC is the maiden International Financial Services Centre in India (IFSC).
- Established by the Government of India under the IFSCA Act 2019, IFSCA has laid down principle-based regulatory frameworks governing myriad of activities, such as banking, finance companies, capital markets, funds management, insurance, aircraft & ship leasing, etc., which have been globally benchmarked and designed to ensure ease of doing business.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Elephant Corridor:

1. There are total 60 elephant corridor in India.
2. An elephant corridor is a stretch of forested (or otherwise) land that connects larger elephant habitats.
3. Elephants regularly use 77.3 percent of the total corridors.

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:

- An elephant corridor is a stretch of forested (or otherwise) land that connects larger elephant habitats and serves as a conduit for animal movement.
- There are 20 corridors in south India, 12 in north western India, 20 in central India, 14 in northern West Bengal and 22 in north-eastern India.
- Elephants regularly use 77.3 percent of the total corridors.
- The Ministry is also revisiting 88 elephant corridors in the country to ascertain whether these are “active or have become dysfunctional and if any new corridor has been created”.
- The corridors could also be notified to give legal protection to the movement of elephants.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Project Cheetah:

1. Indian Air force with the help of this project will weaponise the Israeli Heron unmanned aerial vehicles.
2. This drone will now be upgraded with laser-guided bombs, air-to-ground, and air-launched anti-tank guided missiles.

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:

- Indian Air Force (IAF) is all set to introduce Project Cheetah, which will help weaponise Israeli drones in all defence wings via Indian manufacturing units.
- Under the ambitious Project Cheetah, the Indian Air Force wants to upgrade its existing fleet of Israeli-origin Heron unmanned aerial vehicles with better communication facilities and missiles which can target enemy positions from long range.
- The IAF is the main lead in the project under which the Israeli drones in the Navy and the Army are also planned to be upgraded with strike capabilities and better surveillance and reconnaissance pods.
- Heron drones of the three services, the Indian Air Force (IAF), Indian Army, and the Indian Navy will be upgraded to be armed with laser-guided bombs, air-to-ground, and air-launched anti-tank guided missiles.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS):

1. Exchange rate
2. Foreign reserves
3. Investor education

Which among the following does MAS manage?

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

Ans: d

Explanation:

- The Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) is Singapore's central bank and integrated financial regulator. As a central bank, MAS promotes sustained, non-inflationary economic growth through the conduct of monetary policy and close macroeconomic surveillance and analysis.
- It manages Singapore's exchange rate, official foreign reserves, and liquidity in the banking sector.
- It is also responsible for well-functioning financial markets, sound conduct, and investor education.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Asiatic caracal:

1. It is an elusive medium-sized and locally threatened felid (cat) species.
2. Large-scale hunting, illegal trading and loss of natural habitats are the cause of its extinction.
3. It is not included in Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972

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 Asiatic caracal (*Caracal caracal schmitzi*) is an elusive medium-sized and locally threatened felid (cat) species, which has been widely reported to be on the brink of extinction in India.
- The reasons are large-scale hunting, illegal trading and loss of natural habitats are considered significant threats to the species.
- The caracal is currently included in Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and the Near Threatened category by the Conservation Assessment and Management Plan and International Union for Conservation of Nature Red list assessment in India.