

Q: Which of the following statements is correct regarding the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework?

1. The framework was adopted at the 15th Conference of Parties to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity.
2. The framework has 23 targets that the world needs to achieve by 2050.

Choose the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: a

Explanation:

- The ambitious Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF), recently completed one year of its adoption.
- It was adopted at the Convention on Biological Diversity's (CBD) 15th Conference of Parties (CoP15).
- The framework has 23 targets that the world needs to achieve by 2030.
- It has set a target of protecting 30% of the world's land and seas by the decade's end, a goal known as "30-by-30".
- The deal also directs countries to allocate \$200 billion per year for biodiversity initiatives from both the public and private sectors.
- The Global Environment Facility has been requested to establish a Special Trust Fund (GBF Fund) to support the implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework .

Q: The 'Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Act, 2023' was recently passed in Indian Parliament, is related to which of the following:

- a) Restoration of Statehood of Jammu and Kashmir
- b) Postal Services
- c) Goods and Services Tax (GST)
- d) Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita

Ans: b

Explanation:

- Parliament of India passed the Post Office Bill, 2023 to replace the Indian Post Office Act, 1898.
- It has one of the features like Removal of offences and penalties.
- It specified various offences and penalties, all of which were removed by the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Act, 2023.
- The Bill does not provide for any offences or consequences, except one. Amounts not paid by a user will be recoverable as arrears of land revenue.

Q: Which of the following water bodies are connected by the Bab-el-Mandeb Strait ?

- a) Red Sea and Gulf of Oman
- b) Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman
- c) Red Sea and Gulf of Aden
- d) Persian Gulf and Gulf of Aden

Ans: c

Explanation:

- Recently, the United States has announced the creation of a new multinational task force, named Operation Prosperity Guardian to counter the Houthi threat in the Red Sea.
- Red Sea is a critical waterway that is anchored by two strategic waterways – the Suez Canal and the Bab-el-Mandeb.
- A total of 6 countries of Asia and Africa border the Red Sea-which includes Yemen and Saudi Arabia to the east, Egypt to the north and west, and Sudan, Eritrea, and Djibouti to the west.

- The Bab-el-Mandeb, the Gate of Grief or the Gate of Tears, is a strait between Yemen on the Arabian Peninsula, Djibouti, and Eritrea in the Horn of Africa.
- It connects the Red Sea to the Gulf of Aden.

Q: With reference to the Migration and Development Briefs Report 2023, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The report is released by the World Economic Forum (WEF).
2. Mexico saw the highest amount of remittance inflows in the world in 2023 surpassing India.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: d

Explanation:

- The World Bank has released the Migration and Development Briefs Report 2023.
- India saw the highest amount of remittance inflows in the world in 2023.
- The growth of remittances to low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) slowed to 3.8 percent in 2023 after averaging about 9 percent over the previous two years.
- The United States continued to be the largest source of remittances.
- The top five remittance recipient countries in 2023 are India (\$125 billion), Mexico (\$67 billion), China (\$50 billion), the Philippines (\$40 billion), and Egypt (\$24 billion).

Q: With reference to the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Treaty, consider the following statements:

1. It applies to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ), including the high seas and the deep seabed.
2. It does not cover areas within national borders or activities under existing legal frameworks.
3. The treaty was developed within the framework of UNCBD.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: a

Explanation:

- The BBNJ Agreement is an international agreement on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction, which accounts for more than 60% of the world's oceans.
- Adopted in: March 2023.
- Scope: Protecting and managing marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction, including the high seas, the deep seabed, and the water column.
- Areas within national borders, such as territorial waters and exclusive economic zones.
- This agreement was developed within the framework of UNCLOS.