

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. The green sea turtles are inhabitants of the kelp forests in Kumejima.
2. Green sea turtles are commonly found in subtropical and tropical oceans across the world.
3. All species of turtles are considered critically endangered.

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 green sea turtles are inhabitants of the kelp forests in Kumejima—located in one of the tiny islands that lies about 2,000km south of Japanese mainland.
- They are commonly found in subtropical and tropical oceans across the world. Their populations have been found in the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific Oceans.
- All species of turtles are considered endangered and are on the list of International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) red list.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding the committee formed revised regulatory framework for Urban Cooperative Banks:

1. N. Rangarajan headed the committee.
2. The RBI has decided to adopt a simple four-tiered regulatory framework.
3. A minimum net worth of two crore rupees for Tier 1 UCBs operating in a single district and five crore rupees for all other UCBs has been stipulated.

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:

- Recently, the Reserve Bank of India has issued a revised regulatory framework for Urban Cooperative Banks as per the recommendations of the expert committee formed under the Chairmanship of RBI's former Deputy Governor Mr. N S Vishwanathan.
- The RBI has decided to adopt a simple four-tiered regulatory framework based on the size of deposits of the banks and their area of operations.
- A minimum net worth of two crore rupees for Tier 1 UCBs operating in a single district and five crore rupees for all other UCBs has been stipulated.
- In order to boost growth opportunities in the sector, RBI has decided to introduce an automatic route for branch expansion for UCBs, allowing them to open new branches as per the revised Financially Sound and Well Managed criteria.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding the objectives in the draft National Youth Policy:

1. Inclusion of marginalised and disadvantaged youths.
2. Strengthening the volunteering ecosystem.

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 National Youth Policy draws a detailed roadmap towards the vision outlined for the youth in the coming decade and delineates the actions within each priority area.
- The policy envisions an education system in sync with National Education Policy, 2020 that imparts career opportunities and life skills to all young people.
- To develop India's youth, both men and women, as leaders of tomorrow, the policy prescribes strengthening the volunteering ecosystem, expanding opportunities for leadership development and mobilising technology to establish a vibrant youth enablement platform.
- Further efforts for the inclusion of marginalised and disadvantaged youths in volunteering and leadership opportunities are identified.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. Australia has witnessed a 10 per cent increase in the intensity of short-duration extreme rainfall.
2. Low rainfall and high evaporation are taking a toll on Australian rivers.
3. The heat and particulate matter in the bushfire smoke plumes have triggered the formation of thunderstorms.

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:

- Australia has witnessed a 10 per cent increase in the intensity of short-duration (hourly) extreme rainfall events in some regions in recent decades.
- The southwest part of Western Australia saw its average rainfall dropping by 15-20 per cent between 1970 and 2020. Low rainfall and high evaporation are taking a toll on Australian rivers. Since 2016, water storage in many had fallen below 10 per cent.
- Australia's fire season has shown an increasing trend since the 1950s. The 2019-2020 bushfire was due to a long preceding dry spell. Further, the heat and particulate matter in the bushfire smoke plumes have triggered the formation of thunderstorms in recent years.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding the monuments connected to the landscape:

1. Rock-cut sanctuaries from Barabar is connected to canyons.
2. Viramgam's Munsar Talav were tied to markets, palaces, and gardens.

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:

- Historically, each monument was integrally connected to the landscape around it. Here are a few examples.
- Rock-cut sanctuaries from Barabar (Bihar) to Ajanta (Maharashtra) and from Masrur (Himachal Pradesh) to Guntupalli (Andhra Pradesh) were physically connected to outcrops and canyons. Pattadakal's temples (Karnataka) were symbolically linked to the Malaprabha River that flowed past them.
- Viramgam's Munsar Talav (Gujarat) was the centrepiece of a landscape consisting of interlocking ponds, sluice gates, decanting wells, irrigation canals, and farmlands.
- Lucknow's imambaras were tied to markets, palaces, processional roads, and gardens.