

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH):

1. The organisation serves as a focal point to position India as a global innovation hub.
2. It aims to promote and facilitate an environment that accelerates innovation across the financial sector.
3. It is not a subsidiary of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

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 Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) set up to promote and facilitate an environment that accelerates innovation across the financial sector.
- RBIH will provide the platform to anchor a shared vision among all financial ecosystem stakeholders and aid them in crafting forward-looking innovation strategies while addressing the most pressing issues in the Indian financial sector.
- The organisation serves as a focal point to position India as a global innovation hub for a network of financial services providers, fintech innovation hubs, policymakers, technologists, academia, and the investor community.
- The network will be empowered to ideate, incubate new capabilities, and enable access to sustainable, secure, and frictionless financial services for over a billion Indians.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding the ancient Harappan city, Lothal:

1. It was the only port city of Harappan civilisation.
2. It is one of the southernmost sites of the Indus Valley Civilisation.
3. The word 'Lothal' is a combination of Loth and thal, meaning the mound of the dead in Gujarati.

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:

- Lothal is one of the southernmost sites of the Indus Valley Civilisation, **situated in the Bhal region** in the present-day Gujarat.
- Said to be built in 2,200 BC, this port city was a thriving trade centre in ancient times with its trade of beads, gems and ornaments reaching West Asia and Africa.
- The other port cities of Harappan civilization were Sutkagendor, Balakot, Allahdino, and Kuntasi.
- The **word 'Lothal' is a combination of Loth and thal**, meaning the **mound of the dead** in Gujarati.
- The port city was discovered after a team of archaeologists led by SR Rao started the search for Harappan civilisation post 1947 in the Saurashtra region.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding HTT-40:

1. It will be used for basic flight training, aerobatics and instrument flying.
2. It boasts of unique features like running change-over of pilots, hot-refuelling and short-turnaround time.

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:

HTT-40

- Built around a meticulously-tested turbo-prop engine, the aircraft is equipped with the latest avionics, an air-conditioned cabin and ejection seats.
- It boasts of unique features like running change-over of pilots, hot-refuelling and short-turnaround time.
- The HTT-40 would be used for basic flight training, aerobatics, instrument flying and close formation flights whereas its secondary roles would include navigation and night flying.
- It is a testament to the cutting-edge technology designed to meet primary training requirements of the Indian defence services.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Sakharov Prize:

1. It is awarded annually to an individuals or an organisations for defending human rights and freedom.
2. For 2022, this prestigious award is awarded to Ukrainian people.
3. Nelson Mandela, Malala Yousafzai and Alexei Navalny were the winner of this award.

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:

- Recently, the European Parliament awarded its annual **Sakharov Prize for 'Freedom of Thought'**, a prestigious human rights prize to the Ukrainian people to honour their ongoing fight against the Russian invasion of their country.
- The Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought is named after the Soviet dissent Andrei Sakharov.
- Since 1988 has been awarded annually to individuals and organisations for defending human rights and freedom.
- Notably, this prize was awarded to Kremlin critic Alexei Navalny in 2021.
- Past laureates also include South African President Nelson Mandela, Pakistani education activist Malala Yousafzai and Belarus' democratic opposition.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding India Post Payments Bank (IPPB):

1. It has been established under Ministry of Communication.
2. The fundamental mandate of IPPB is to remove barriers for the unbanked and under-banked and reach the last mile.
3. Government of India own only 55 percent equity of IPPB.

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:

- India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) has been established under the Department of Posts, Ministry of Communication with 100% equity owned by the Government of India. IPPB was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on September 1, 2018.
- The bank has been set up with the vision to build the most accessible, affordable and trusted bank for the common man in India.

- The fundamental mandate of IPPB is to remove barriers for the unbanked and under-banked and reach the last mile leveraging a network comprising 160,000 post offices (145,000 in rural areas) and 400,000 postal employees.
- IPPB's reach and its operating model is built on the key pillars of India Stack - enabling Paperless, Cashless and Presence-less banking in a simple and secure manner at the customers' doorstep, through a CBS-integrated smartphone and biometric device.