

Q: Operation Prosperity Guardian is sometimes mentioned in news in reference to:

- a) Counter the Houthi threat in the Red Sea
- b) Combat deforestation in Amazon forests
- c) Counter the Human trafficking in border areas
- d) Combat misuse of Deep Fakes

Ans: a

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.
- The Task Force will include the Navies of Bahrain, Canada, France, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Seychelles, Spain, and the United Kingdom.

Q: With reference to the disqualification of legislatures in India, consider the following statements:

1. It comes under the Tenth Schedule and is decided by the President of India.
2. It can be reversed if a higher court grants a stay on the conviction.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: b

Explanation:

- Disqualification under the Tenth Schedule: It is decided by the Chairman in the case of Rajya Sabha and the Speaker in the case of Lok Sabha (and not by the President of India).
- The Supreme Court of India, in 1992, ruled that the decision of the Chairman/Speaker in this regard is subject to Judicial Review.
- The disqualification can be reversed if a higher court grants a stay on the conviction or decides the appeal in favour of the convicted lawmaker.

Q: Which of the following countries borders the Red Sea?

- a) Egypt, Djibouti and Ethiopia
- b) Saudi Arabia, Niger and Ethiopia
- c) Egypt, Djibouti and Eritrea
- d) Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Niger

Ans: c

Explanation:

- 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.

Q: With reference to the Lumpy skin disease, consider the following statements:

1. It is a bacterial and fungal disease that primarily affects cattle and buffalo.
2. It can be transmitted to humans by close contact with the animal and consuming the infected meat.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: d

Explanation:

- Lumpy skin disease (LSD) is a serious viral disease that primarily affects cattle and buffalo. The disease can result in animal welfare issues and significant production losses.
- LSD is a disease of animals, not humans, it is not transmitted to humans by eating infected meat.
- LSD is carried by live animals and reproductive material. It can also be spread by contaminated equipment and biting insects or parasites, such as flies, mosquitos and ticks.

Q: The recently erupted Grindavik volcano, is located in which of the following countries?

- a) Iceland
- b) Greenland
- c) Norway
- d) Sweden

Ans: a

Explanation:

- The eruption recently began just north of Grindavik, located on the Reykjanes Peninsula in the southwest of Iceland.
- The Reykjanes Peninsula has not seen volcanic eruptions for the last 800 years. The current Grindavik eruption is the fourth it has experienced in less than three years.
- These eruptions could be a new era of volcanic activity on the peninsula, quoted experts.