

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD):

1. It was established in 1977 and has 26 countries as full members.
2. It is mandated to achieve a vibrant and cohesive electronic media environment in the Asia-Pacific region.
3. It is a unique regional inter-governmental organisation servicing countries under International Telecommunication Union.

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 Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD), established in 1977 under the auspices of UNESCO, is a unique regional inter-governmental organisation servicing countries of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-ESCAP) in the field of electronic media development.
- The AIBD is mandated to achieve a vibrant and cohesive electronic media environment in the Asia-Pacific region through policy and resource development.
- The AIBD currently has 26 countries as full members represented by 43 organizations, and 52 affiliate members.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding PM-PRANAM Yojana:

1. The government under the proposed scheme will increase the subsidy on chemical fertilisers.
2. The scheme encourage states to cut down on their use of fertilisers.
3. There will be no separate funding for this scheme.

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:

- The Centre will soon introduce its Pradhan Mantri-Promotion of Alternate Nutrients for Agriculture Management Yojana (PM-PRANAM) to encourage states to cut down on their use of fertilisers.
- The government under the proposed scheme will reduce the subsidy on chemical fertilisers which is expected to increase to Rs 2.25 lakh crore in 2022-2023 – a 39 per cent hike compared to the previous year's Rs 1.62 lakh crore.
- There will be no separate funding for this scheme.
- The scheme would be financed by the 'savings of existing fertiliser subsidy' and that 50 per cent savings would be passed on to states that save money and that 70 per cent of the grant under the scheme would be used to create assets related to using alternate fertilisers and their production at village, block and district levels.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. El-Nina spread over 19 month is termed as "Godzilla".
2. La-Nina that prevail for last 24 month has been classified as 'triple dip' La Niña.

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:

- El Niño and La Niña episodes typically last for about nine months to a year. They usually develop in the March-June period, and are the strongest during winter (November-January in the northern hemisphere), before weakening or dissipating by March or April of next year.
- Occasionally, however, they continue for much longer periods. In recent years, the El Niño of 2015-16, spread over 19 months, was one of the longest on record, and was dubbed 'Godzilla' due to its sustained high intensity.
- The current La Niña episode has already surpassed that in length. Having started in September 2020, it has prevailed for the last 24 months, and looks set to continue for another six months, and has thus been classified as a 'triple dip' La Niña.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. In the Indian context, La Niña suppress monsoon rainfall.
2. ENSO condition does not affect monsoon condition in India.

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: d

Explanation:

- In the Indian context, La Niña is associated with good rainfall during the monsoon season. This is the opposite of El Niño which is known to suppress monsoon rainfall. Thus, a continued spell of La Niña could lead to expectation of another year of good, or normal, rainfall during the monsoon.
- Until now, the monsoon season this year has produced 7% more rain compared to normal. In 2022, the seasonal rainfall was almost 100%.
- But, even though powerful, ENSO condition is only one of the several factors affecting monsoon rainfall in India. There is no one-on-one correlation between the ENSO condition and the amount of rainfall.
- Also, the influence of ENSO is at a macro level. There are wide variations in rainfall at the local level, which are getting exacerbated by climate change.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Lumpy Skin Disease:

1. It is caused by the lumpy skin disease virus.
2. It shares antigenic similarities with the sheeppox virus and goatpox virus.
3. It is a zoonotic virus.

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:

- Lumpy skin disease is caused by the lumpy skin disease virus (LSDV), which belongs to the genus capripoxvirus, a part of the poxviridae family (smallpox and monkeypox viruses are also a part of the same family).
- The LSDV shares antigenic similarities with the sheeppox virus (SPPV) and the goatpox virus (GTPV) or is similar in the immune response to those viruses.
- It is not a zoonotic virus, meaning the disease cannot spread to humans.