

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Papua New Guinea:

1. It is a country in Oceania that comprises the eastern half of the island of New Guinea.
2. Its capital is Port Moresby.
3. The country is the world's largest island country.

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:

- Papua New Guinea is a country in Oceania that comprises the eastern half of the island of New Guinea and its offshore islands in Melanesia (a region of the southwestern Pacific Ocean north of Australia).
- Its capital, located along its southeastern coast, is Port Moresby. The country is the world's third largest island country,
- New Guinea's island has shores on both sides with world-famous diving spots and beautiful coral and fish.
- Divers can also dive and find World War II aviation wreckage and shipwrecks. As a result, it is ranked third out of the top ten largest islands globally.

Q: Which of the following are members of Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC)?

1. Fiji
2. Philippines
3. New Zealand
4. Marshall Islands
5. Papua New Guinea

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

- a) 1 and 5 only
- b) 1, 4 and 5 only
- c) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only
- d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Ans: b

Explanation:

- Recently, PM Modi and Papua New Guinea's PM James Marape led the third India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC) Summit 2023. 14 countries from the Pacific Islands (PICs) attended the summit.
- The **Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC)** was launched during PM Modi's visit to Fiji in November 2014.
- FIPIC includes 14 island countries – Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu – that are located in the Pacific Ocean, to the northeast of Australia.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding INDUS-X:

1. It was launched under the Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET).
2. It will promote partnerships between United States and India in defence innovation 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:

- INDUS-X will be launched under the Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET).
- It will promote partnerships between United States and India in defence innovation ecosystem.
- It focused on advancing high-tech cooperation.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Navigation with Indian Constellation (NavIC):

1. It is a regional navigation satellite system developed by ISRO.
2. It is India's answer to the GPS.
3. The network provides navigational services to general users, strategic users, namely the armed forces.

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:

- The Global Positioning System (GPS) is a free service that is provided by a series of satellites in orbit maintained by the US government. NavIC is India's answer to the GPS.
- The **Navigation with Indian Constellation (NavIC)** is a regional navigation satellite system developed by ISRO that is a constellation of seven satellites in orbit that work in tandem with ground stations.
- The network provides navigational services to both general users and the strategic users, namely the armed forces.
- The seven satellites in the Navic constellation include IRNSS-1A, IRNSS-1B, IRNSS-1C, IRNSS-1D, IRNSS-1E, IRNSS-1F, and IRNSS-1G satellites.

Q: Consider the following statements with respect to Papua New Guinea

1. It lies in the southwest Pacific Ocean and northeast of Australia.
2. It is situated on the Pacific Ring of Fire.
3. Honiara, a key port built with assistance from China, is located in Papua New Guinea.

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:

- Papua New Guinea lies in the southwest Pacific, just south of the equator and northeast of Australia.
- The country is situated on the Pacific Ring of Fire, at the point of collision of several tectonic plates.
- It is prone to volcanic activity, earthquakes and tidal waves.
- Most of the terrain is covered by tropical rain forest.
- A Chinese state-backed company has won a contract to develop Honiara, a key port in the Solomon Islands. This is a major victory for China, which is seeking to gain a strategic foothold in the South Pacific.