

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Mineral Security Partnership:

1. It is an ambitious new initiative to bolster critical mineral supply chains.
2. The goal of the alliance is to ensure that critical minerals are produced, processed and recycled
3. The major critical minerals are Radium, Caesium and Francium.

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:

- Mineral Security Partnership is an ambitious new initiative to bolster critical mineral supply chains, announced by the United States (US) and key partner countries in June 2022.
- The goal of the alliance is to ensure that critical minerals are produced, processed, and recycled in a manner that supports the ability of countries to realise the full economic development benefit of their geological endowments.
- The focus of the grouping would be on the supply chains of minerals such as Cobalt, Nickel, Lithium and also the 17 “rare earth” minerals.
- The major critical minerals are Graphite, Lithium and Cobalt.
- They are used for making EV batteries and are also critical for making semiconductors and high-end electronics manufacturing.
- These minerals are also used in manufacturing fighter jets, drones, radio sets and other critical equipment.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Kalasa-Banduri Project:

1. It is built on Godavari River.
2. The project remains a dispute between Karnataka, Goa and Maharashtra.
3. The main goal of the project is to meet the drinking water needs in the district of Karnataka.

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:

- Kalasa-Banduri Project involves the construction of dams and a canal system to divert water from the Mahadayi River, located in Goa, to the Malaprabha River (a tributary of Krishna River) basin in Karnataka.
- The main goal of the project is to meet the drinking water needs of the districts of Belagavi, Dharwad, Bagalkot, and Gadag in Karnataka.
- Though the project was first proposed in the early 1980s, it has remained on paper owing to a dispute between Karnataka, Goa and Maharashtra.
- As per plans, barrages are to be built against Kalasa and Banduri streams — tributaries of Mahadayi — and water will be diverted towards Karnataka’s parched districts.
- The Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary is located on the island of Chorao in the Mandovi River.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)

1. It is an independent, non-governmental international organisation.
2. It works under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution.

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:

- BIS is the National Standards Body of India established under the BIS Act 2016.
- Objective: Harmonious development of the activities of standardisation and quality assurance of goods and articles.
- It works under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution.

- BIS represents India in International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC).
- ISO is an independent, non-governmental international organisation with a membership of 167 national standard bodies.
- Through its members, it brings together experts to share knowledge and develop voluntary, consensus-based, market-relevant International Standards that support innovation and provide solutions to global challenges.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Belize:

1. It is located on the northeast coast of Central America and south of the Yucatán Peninsula.
2. It has a land of mountains, swamps, and tropical jungle.
3. It is bounded by Mexico to the north, Guatemala to the west and south, and the Caribbean Sea to the east.

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:

- Belize is located on the northeast coast of Central America and south of the Yucatán Peninsula.
- It has a land of mountains, swamps, and tropical jungle.
- It is bounded by Mexico to the north, Guatemala to the west and south, and the Caribbean Sea to the east.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Abohar wildlife sanctuary:

1. The entire area of Sanctuary is community-owned land.
2. It is located in the state of Assam.

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:

- Abohar wildlife sanctuary is located in the state of Punjab.
- The entire area of Sanctuary is private or community-owned land of 13 Bishnoi villages.
- Albizia lebbek, Acacia nilotica, Azadirachata indica, A. tortilis etc. are flora of this sanctuary.
- Wild Boar, Blue Fauna Bull, Porcupines, Hare, Jackal, etc. are Fauna of this sanctuary