

**Q: Consider the following statement:**

1. Lac Bangles manufactured in Hyderabad recently applied for GI Tag.
2. The first product in India to be accorded with GI tag was Madhubani paintings.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) 1 and 2 Both
- d) None of the above

Ans: a

Explanation:

- Recently, Hyderabad-based Creasant Handicraft Artisans Welfare Association has filed an application for securing a **Geographical Indications tag for lac bangles** that are manufactured in the city.
- The Geographical Indications Registry, Chennai has accepted the application.
- In India, Geographical Indications registration is administered by the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999 which came into force with effect from September 2003.
- The first product in India to be accorded with GI tag was Darjeeling tea in the year 2004-05.

**Q: Recently, a new species of spider discovered from the Thar Desert of Rajasthan. Choose the incorrect option:**

- a) The new species name is Pseudomogrus sudhii.
- b) It is not the first report of this genus from India.
- c) This species inhabits dry grass blades of the desert.
- d) Head of the female is yellow with black eyes.

Ans: b

Explanation:

- The **new species of jumping spider**, Pseudomogrus sudhii, has been named after Sudhikumar A.V.
- This species inhabits dry grass blades of the desert. It is the first report of this genus from India.
- There is a dark mid-longitudinal band traversing the pale-yellow coloured abdomen.
- Head of the female is yellow with black eyes. There are white spots on its light-yellow abdomen.

**Q: Recently, the GSAT-24 satellite was launched by India. Consider the following statement:**

1. It is a 24-Ku band communication satellite.
2. It was the first "demand driven" communication satellite mission by NSIL.
3. 'Measat-3d', accompanied the GSAT 24.

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:

- GSAT-24 is a **24-Ku band communication satellite** weighing 4180 kg with pan-India coverage for meeting DTH application needs.
- It was the **first "demand driven" communication satellite mission undertaken by NSIL** post space sector reforms.
- During its journey to space, India's GSAT-24 was not alone, atop the European Ariane 5 rocket.
- It was accompanied by a co-passenger satellite dubbed 'Measat-3d', which is meant to meet the communication needs of Malaysia.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding the roadmap for reducing fertilizer consumption in India:**

1. Reduce consumption of high-analysis fertilisers.
2. Increase the rate at which urea is hydrolysed.
3. By reducing ammonia volatilisation and nitrate leaching.

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: c

Explanation:

- There is a need, first of all, **to cap or even reduce consumption of high-analysis fertilisers** – particularly urea (46 per cent N content), DAP (18 per cent N and 46 per cent P) and MOP (60 per cent).
- One way to do this is by **incorporating urease and nitrification inhibition compounds** in urea. These are basically chemicals that **slow down the rate at which urea is hydrolysed** (resulting in the production of ammonia gas and its release into the atmosphere) and nitrified (leading to below-ground loss of nitrogen through leaching).
- By **reducing ammonia volatilisation and nitrate leaching**, more nitrogen is made available to the crop, enabling farmers to harvest the same, if not better, yields with a lesser number of urea bags.
- Together with products such as **liquid “nano urea”** – their ultra-small particle size is conducive to easier absorption by the plants than with bulk fertilisers, translating into higher nitrogen use efficiency – it is possible to achieve a 20 per cent or more drop in urea consumption from the present 34-35 mt levels. That works out to 6.5-7 mt fewer imports, equivalent to \$4.5-5 billion at current prices.

**Q: The government of India announced the launch of the pilot phase of Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC). Consider the following statement:**

1. It will standardise operations like cataloguing, inventory management, order management and order fulfilment.
2. It is initially started in cities of more the 10 lakh population.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) 1 and 2 Both
- d) None of the above

Ans: a

Explanation:

- The ONDC will **standardise operations like cataloguing, inventory management, order management and order fulfilment**, hence making it simpler and easier for small businesses to be discoverable over network and conduct business.
- Presently, ONDC is in its **pilot stage in five cities** — Delhi NCR, Bengaluru, Bhopal, Shillong and Coimbatore with a target of onboarding around 150 retailers.
- The government has also **constituted an advisory council to analyse the potential of ONDC** as a concept and to advise the government on measures needed to accelerate its adoption.