

**Q: India commemorated 23 years of its victory over Pakistan in the Kargil War. Consider the following statement:**

1. Intruders from Pakistan overlooked the NH 1A in the Drass and Batalik Sectors of Kargil in the Ladakh region.
2. The direct-firing weapon was used for the first time by artillery.
3. Operation Gibraltar is associated with Kargil War.

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 Kargil War was fought against intruders from Pakistan, who had crossed the Line of Control (LoC) into Indian territory during the winters of 1998.
- They took up residence in fortified defences that overlooked the NH 1A in the Drass and Batalik Sectors of Kargil in the Ladakh region.
- In 1999, the war went on from May 8 to July 26 in 1999, when India successfully completed Operation Vijay.
- India used conventional military force to combat the militarised insurgency by Pakistan. Kargil offered a tactical puzzle piece for military strategists as well. The direct-firing weapon was used for the first time by artillery.

**Q: The Centre plans to repeal the existing Coffee Act and has proposed a new “Coffee (Promotion and Development Bill), 2022” to promote development of the Indian coffee industry. Consider the following statement:**

1. The existing law was enacted in 1930.
2. It aims to modernise the functioning of the Coffee Board of India.
3. It will also protect the interests of the labour in plantations, processing units and coffee communities

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:

- By new law, the government aims to modernise the functioning of the Coffee Board of India that is responsible for boosting production and the quality of Indian coffee, push exports and support the development of the domestic market.
- The existing law was enacted in 1942, with provisions relevant to that time. Currently, many rules and regulations, especially those pertaining to the marketing of coffee, are redundant. Besides, over the past 10 years, there has been a paradigm shift in the way coffee is grown, marketed and consumed.
- It will also protect the interests of the labour in plantations, processing units and coffee communities.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding SWOT Satellite:**

1. NASA and French space agency Centre is jointly developing it.
2. The satellite will provide a better understanding of Earth’s water cycle.

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:

- Surface Water and Ocean Topography (SWOT) satellite is developed jointly by NASA and the French space agency Centre National d'Études Spatial (CNES), the mission will fill the enormous gap in data about sources of water on the planet.
- To identify these hidden sources, the Surface Water and Ocean Topography (SWOT) satellite will map the planet. The satellite will provide a better understanding of Earth's water cycle, aid in better management of water resources, and expand knowledge of how climate change affects lakes, rivers, and reservoirs.

**Q: Consider the following statement:**

1. Chairman of the Rajya Sabha has the power to suspend any member.
2. A MP is not paid while he/she is in suspension.

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 Lok Sabha, the decision rests with the Speaker under Rule 375 of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in case of a grave disorder arising in the House.
- However, in the Rajya Sabha, the Chairman does not have the power to suspend a member.
- MP get paid while he/she is in suspension. Though the 'no work, no pay' policy has been under consideration for decades by successive governments at the Centre, it has not been introduced yet.

**Q: Consider the following statement:**

1. Indermit Gill is the second Indian to serve as chief economist at the World Bank.
2. Raghuram Rajan was the first Indian to serve as chief economist at the World Bank.

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:

- Recently, the World Bank has appointed Indermit Gill, an Indian national, chief economist and senior vice-president for development economics at the multilateral development bank.
- He will be only the second Indian to serve as chief economist at the World Bank. Kaushik Basu was the first, having served in the job from 2012-2016.
- Raghuram Rajan and Gita Gopinath have served as chief economists at the International Monetary Fund.