

**Q: Recently United World Wrestling (UWW) had suspended the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI). Consider the following statement:**

1. Indian wrestlers cannot compete under the national flag in UWW events.
2. National anthem will be played if an Indian wrestler wins a gold medal.

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:

- In the backdrop of the wrestlers' protest over various issues, **United World Wrestling (UWW)**, the world governing body for the sport, has provisionally **suspended the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI)** primarily for not conducting its elections on time.
- This means that Indian wrestlers cannot compete under the national flag in UWW events, including the World championships in Belgrade in September.
- No national anthem will be played if an Indian wrestler wins a gold medal.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding invasive species:**

1. It is an organism that is indigenous, or native, to a particular area.
2. They are capable of reducing biodiversity.
3. They can be introduced to an area by ship ballast water.

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:

- An invasive species is an organism that is not indigenous, or native, to a particular area and causes harm to the native species.
- They are capable of causing extinctions of native plants and animals, reducing biodiversity, competing with native organisms for limited resources, and altering habitats.
- They can be introduced to an area by ship ballast water, accidental release, and most often, by people.

**Q: Consider the following statement:**

1. The role of stable sea ice in the emperor penguin breeding cycle is crucial.
2. Eggs hatch in August after which parent emperor penguins take turns to feed their chick.

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:

- The role of stable sea ice in the emperor penguin breeding cycle is crucial.
- The birds arrive from the sea to their preferred breeding sites on sea-ice in late March to April. They court and mate, and then lay eggs in May and June.
- Eggs hatch in August after which parent emperor penguins take turns to feed their chick.

- By late December or early January, the fledgling period comes to an end, leading chicks to go into the water and look for food themselves.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding Common Research and Technology Development Hub:**

1. It is part of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.
2. These hubs would facilitate MSEs to undertake new/improved skill enhancement activities.
3. This programme aimed at the creation of Common Research and Technology Development Hubs

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:

- Common Research and Technology Development Hub is part of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR)-Industrial R&D Programme (IRD).
- This programme aimed at the creation of Common Research and Technology Development Hubs (CRTDHs) to encourage research and technology development activities by Micro and Small enterprises (MSEs).
- Partial financial support would be provided to eligible institutions as grant-in-aid to establish CRTDHs for enabling MSEs to conduct industrial R&D and innovation activities.
- These hubs would facilitate MSEs to undertake new/improved product/process development and skill enhancement activities.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding ‘self-respect’ marriages:**

1. It is extended only to the state of Tamil Nadu.
2. The amendment was made to do away with the need for priests and rituals.
3. Section 10-A deals with the special provision on “self-respect and secular marriages”.

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:

- On January 17, 1968, the Hindu Marriage (Tamil Nadu Amendment) Act, 1967, received the President’s approval and became the law. This amendment modified the Hindu Marriage Act of 1955, by inserting Section 7-A into it. However, it extended only to the state of Tamil Nadu.
- Section 7-A deals with the special provision on “self-respect and secular marriages”. It legally recognises “any marriage between any two Hindus”, which can be referred to as “suyamariyathai” or “seerthiruththa marriage” or by any other name.
- The rationale behind the Tamil Nadu government amending the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, to include “suyamariyathai” or “self-respect” marriages, was to radically simplify weddings by shunning the need for mandatory Brahmin priests, holy fire and saptapadi (seven steps). This allowed marriages to be declared in the presence of the couple’s friends or family or any other persons.