

Q: Recently Indian passengers with chartered flight to Nicaragua from UAE have been raised questions about illegal immigration. Consider the following statement regarding Nicaragua:

1. It is the largest country in Central America.
2. It is home to the Bosawas Biosphere Reserve
3. It was the only country in Latin America to be colonized by Portuguese.

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:

- Nicaragua is a country in Central America, located between the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean.
- It is the largest country in Central America and is known as the "land of lakes and volcanoes".
- Nicaragua is home to the Bosawas Biosphere Reserve, the 2nd largest rainforest in the American continent.
- It was the only country in Latin America to be colonized by both the Spanish and the British.
- The country's name is derived from Nicarao, chief of the indigenous people.

Q: Consider the following pairs

Terms	Meaning
1. Basadis	Jain shrine or temple.
2. Nishidis	Buddhist monastery.
3. Bhattarakas	Heads of Digambara Jain institutions.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All Three
- d) None of the above

Ans: b

Explanation:

- Recently two small towns, Moodbidri and Karkala in Karnataka are reviving water bodies-built thousands of years ago.
- Moodbidri town is known as 'Jain Kashi' which is home to Jain temples.
- Basadis and Nishidis refer to Jain shrine or temple.
- Bhattarakas are the Heads of Digambara Jain institutions.

Q: Consider the following statements with respect to Trend and Progress of Banking in India Report, 2022-23:

1. The report is released by the Reserve Bank of India.
2. According to the report, the amount of NPAs decreased for all bank groups, except small finance banks.
3. According to the report, the gross non-performing asset (GNPAs) of scheduled commercial banks fell to the decadal low of 3.2% at end of September 2023.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All Three
- d) None of the above

Ans: c

Explanation:

- The Trend and Progress of Banking in India Report, 2022-23 is released by the Reserve Bank of India.
- Banks' asset quality has improved to a decadal high by the end of September 2023 quarter.
- The gross non-performing asset (GNPAs) of scheduled commercial banks fell to the decadal low of 3.2% at end of September 2023.
- During 2022-23, around 45% of reduction in GNPAs of Scheduled Commercial Banks was contributed by recoveries and upgradations.
- The amount of NPAs decreased for all bank groups, except small finance banks.
- The share of large Borrowal accounts (with total exposure of Rs 5 crore and above) in total advances declined to 46.4% at end-March 2023 from 47.8% a year ago.

Q: Who among the following is the author of the Abhyudaya, a Hindi Weekly?

- Jugal Kishore Shukla
- Bhupendra Nath Bose
- Thakkar Bapa
- Madan Mohan Malaviya

Ans: d

Explanation:

- Abhyudaya is a hindi weekly magazine which is authored by Madan Mohan Malaviya.
- MM Malaviya is the founder of the Banaras Hindu University.
- To propagate the idea of the Banaras Hindu University, the Hindi weekly was started by him.
- The weekly Abhyudaya was brought into being for this purpose in the year 1907.

Q: Consider the following statements with respect to the Golden Quadrilateral

1. It connects four metropolitan cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Bangalore, forming a quadrilateral.
2. It is India's longest highway network and 5th longest highway in the world.
3. It passes through 12 states and a union territory.

How many of the statements given above are incorrect?

- Only one
- Only two
- All Three
- None of the above

Ans: a

Explanation:

- The Golden Quadrilateral connects four metropolitan cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai, forming a quadrilateral.
- The Golden Quadrilateral passes through 12 states and a union territory.
- It is India's longest highway network with a total length of 5,846 kilometres and ranks 5th in the list of longest highways in the world.
- It is the dream project of former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee who had laid the foundation in 1999.
- The project commenced in 2001 and was completed in 2012.
- The project is managed by the National Highways Authority of India.