

**Q: China is set to launch the first solar-powered plant in space. Consider the following statement:**

1. The solar station will be capable of transporting solar energy to Earth.
2. The Space Solar Power Station is likely to be a hotspot technology.
3. The solar space station aims at converting solar energy into electricity and microwaves.

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:

- The solar space station aims at converting solar energy into electricity and microwaves.
- They can be used to power the moving satellites in orbit and may direct the energy beams to Earth at fixed locations through a wireless power transmission.
- The solar station will be **capable of transporting solar energy to Earth**.
- The Space Solar Power Station is likely to be a **hotspot technology** that will be used in the ongoing project of the expedition to Space for power generation.
- The power plant will have a capacity of 10 kilowatts.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding Pay Roll Automation for Disbursement of Monthly Allowances (PADMA):**

1. It is an automated platform leveraging latest technology, which will provide seamless and timely disbursement of Pay & Allowances Indian Coast Guard personnel.
2. This module has been developed under the aegis of Defense Accounts Department.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 and 2

Ans: c

Explanation:

- PADMA is an automated platform leveraging latest technology which will provide seamless and timely disbursement of Pay & Allowances to around 15,000 Indian Coast Guard personnel.
- This module has been **developed under the aegis of Defense Accounts Department** and will be operated by Pay Accounts Office Coast Guard, Noida.

**Q: Consider the following statement:**

1. In Nabam Rebia v Bemang Felix case Supreme Court upheld the power vested in the Speaker and said that only the final order of the Speaker will be subject to judicial review.
2. Under Article 179 of the Constitution, a speaker can be removed by a resolution of the Assembly passed by a majority of all the then members of the Assembly

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 and 2

Ans: b

Explanation:

- The Tenth Schedule or the anti-defection law, introduced in 1985, gives the Speaker of the House the power to disqualify legislators who 'defect' from the party.
- In the landmark case *Kihoto Hollohan versus Zachillhu in 1992*, the Supreme Court upheld the power vested in the Speaker and said that only the final order of the Speaker will be subject to judicial review.
- Under **Article 179 of the Constitution**, a Speaker can be removed by a resolution of the Assembly passed by a majority of "all the then members of the Assembly". **The process begins with notice of at least 14 days.**
- In the 2016 Nabam Rebia ruling, the **Supreme Court interpreted Article 179, specifically the term "all the then members of the Assembly"**, to mean the composition of the house at the date/time of giving the notice for the removal of the Speaker.

**Q: China has been investing across the African continent throughout the last decade. Consider the following statement:**

1. China's interests are related to four major areas of infrastructural projects, financial assistance, natural resources and maritime interests.
2. China is building Addis-Djibouti railway line connecting the land-locked country with Eritrean ports in the Red Sea.
3. China has also invested in the Mombasa-Nairobi rail link in Rwanda.

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:

- China has been investing across the African continent throughout the last decade. While the emphasis has been on investments and raw materials, it took a new turn recently, with the **first "China-Horn of Africa Peace, Governance and Development Conference."**
- China's first special envoy to the region Xue Bing, said that this is the first time **China aims "to play a role in the area of security"**.
- The conference held in Ethiopia witnessed the participation of foreign Ministries from the following **countries of the Horn: Kenya, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Sudan, Somalia, South Sudan, and Uganda.**
- China's interests are related to **four major areas: infrastructural projects, financial assistance, natural resources and maritime interests.**
- It has also made significant investments in railways; it is building the **Addis-Djibouti railway line connecting the land-locked country with Eritrean ports** in the Red Sea.
- China has also invested in the **Mombasa-Nairobi rail link in Kenya**, and has already delivered on railway projects in Sudan.

**Q: Consider the following statement:**

1. Padma Multipurpose Bridge built across the Padma River.
2. Bangladesh confirm to be part of China-led Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 and 2

Ans: a

Explanation:

- Recently, Bangladesh's Prime Minister inaugurated the **Padma Multipurpose Bridge** across the Padma River, calling it "a symbol of pride." The bridge is currently the longest in the country.

- The bridge will connect nearly 30 million people living in the country's less-developed southwestern region with the capital Dhaka and other areas.
- A few days ahead of the inauguration, the Bangladesh government issued a clarification, **dismissing reports linking the construction of the bridge to the China-led Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).**