

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Purana Qila:

1. The fort was built by Sher Shah and Humayun.
2. Historian Alexander Cunningham identified the fort with that of Indraprastha.
3. Buland darwaza is one of the arch gate.

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:

- Purana Qilla, the 16th-century fort, was built by Sher Shah Suri and second Mughal emperor Humayun. The fort is standing on a site with thousands of years of history.
- Identified as ancient settlement of Indraprastha, a continuous habitation of 2500 years at Purana Qila was established in earlier excavations.
- Painted grey ware, belonging to 900 BC, an earthen pottery sequence from Maurya to Shunga, Kushana, Gupta, Rajput, Sultanates, and Mughal periods.
- Excavated Artefacts such as sickles, parers, terracotta toys, kiln-burnt bricks, beads, terracotta figurines, seals and dealings excavated.
- Historian Alexander Cunningham identified the fort with that of Indraprastha
- A fortification wall about 30 metre long was also found.
- Three arched gateways: the Bara Darwaza (Big Gate) facing west, which is still in use today; the south gate, also popularly known as the 'Humayun Gate' and lastly, the 'Talaqi Gate', often known as the "forbidden gate".

Q: Consider the following statements with respect to NVS-01 Mission:

1. It is the first of the 2nd generation satellites envisaged for the Navigation with Indian Constellation (NavIC) services.
2. It was launched using Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) into a Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit.
3. For the first time, an indigenous atomic clock will be flown in this mission.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: b

Explanation:

- NVS-01 Mission is indigenously designed and developed by Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO).
- It is the first of the 2nd generation satellites envisaged for the Navigation with Indian Constellation (NavIC) services.
- For the first time, an indigenous atomic clock will be flown in NVS-01.
- The satellite would provide real-time positioning and timing services over India and a region approximately 1,500 km around the mainland.
- This mission is the 6th operational flight of the GSLV with indigenous cryogenic stage.
- Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) or GSLV Mk-II is designed to carry the navigation satellite.
- Terrestrial, aerial and maritime navigation, precision agriculture, location-based services in mobile devices and marine fisheries.

Q: The term Zombie Lending recently seen in the news is related to?

- a) It refers to the funding of an insolvent NBFC by a nationalized bank for their restructuring process
- b) It refers to the practice of lending to a shell company and diverting its funds
- c) It refers to the practice of providing credit to entities that do not have the capability to repay
- d) It refers to a Foreign Portfolio Investments in the budding MSMEs

Ans: c

Explanation:

- Zombie lending refers to the practice of providing credit to entities that do not have the capability to repay.
- - If an account turns into a non-performing asset (NPA), banks are required to make higher provisions which will impact their profitability.
- A loan turns into a nonperforming asset, if the interest or instalment remains unpaid for more than 90 days.

- So, to avoid classifying a loan as an NPA, banks adopt the evergreening of loans.
- In the past, many banks had indulged in dressing up bad loans and given additional funds to companies who didn't have the capacity to repay.
- An increase in lending to unproductive firms, popularly referred to as zombies will inflates credit growth and the resultant loan defaults haunt financial institutions at a later stage.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Tiangong space station:

1. It was built by China after the USA barred NASA from working with the Asian country.
2. The permanently inhabited space station's first module entered orbit in 2021.
3. It is expected to become the sole in-orbit outpost for scientific research after the end of operations for the International Space Station in 2030

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 Tiangong space station was built by China after the USA barred NASA from working with the Asian country, citing a high risk of espionage.
- It is operated by China Manned Space Agency (CMSA).
- The permanently inhabited space station's first module entered orbit in 2021 and two more modules were added to it in the following years.
- It is expected to become the sole in-orbit outpost for scientific research after the end of operations for the International Space Station in 2030.

Q: Black-winged stilts use platforms rising out of water to build their nests. Consider the following statements with respect to Black-winged Stilts:

1. It is found in wetlands with open shallow water, often in brackish habitats.
2. It is listed as vulnerable in IUCN's Red list of threatened species.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: a

Explanation:

- Black-winged Stilts species do not normally occur in forests.
- It is found in wetlands with open shallow water, often in brackish habitats.
- The black-winged stilt species are partially migrant birds.
- It is listed as Least Concern (LC) by IUCN.
- It is closely related to the black stilt (*Himantopus novaezelandiae*).
- It is distributed in Asia, Africa, Australia, Europe, North America and South America.
- The black-winged stilt populations in temperate, sub-tropical and tropical ranges are usually sedentary and resident.
- They use platforms rising out of water to build their nests.