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1. Consider the following statements with reference to the "India-Middle East Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC)" project.

- 1. The proposed IMEC will include railways, ship-to-rail networks and road transport routes.
- 2. Its signatory countries include Gulf members including India, UAE, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait.
- 3. It aims to create a comprehensive transportation network connecting India, the Middle East and Europe.
- 4. It was announced at the 2023 summit of the G7 countries.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- a) 2, 3 and 4 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3 only
- d) 3 and 4 only

Ans: b)

Information about the India-Middle East Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) project;

- The India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) project was signed at the G20 Summit 2023 in New Delhi. Hence statement 4 is not correct.
- India, America, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, European Union, Italy, France and Germany are its signatory countries. Hence statement 2 is not correct.
- It aims to create a comprehensive transport network connecting India, the Middle East and Europe, including rail, road and sea routes. Hence statement





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3 is correct.

- The proposed IMEC will include railways, ship-to-rail networks and road transport routes spanning two corridors, viz.
- (i) Eastern Corridor connects India with the Arabian Gulf,
- (ii) Northern Corridor connects the Gulf to Europe.

Hence statement 1 is correct.

2. Which of the following countries became the newest 32nd member of NATO

on 7 March 2024?

a) Ukraine



- c) Turkey
- d) Norway

Ans: b)

• Sweden applied to join the alliance in May 2022, which was accepted in March. Before this, Finland had become the 31st member of NATO.

3. Consider the following statements with reference to Electoral Bonds.

- 1. Electoral bonds shall be valid for thirty days from the date of issue. And the electoral bond deposited in the account of any eligible political party will be deposited on the same day.
- 2. As per the provisions of the Scheme, electoral bonds can be purchased by any Indian citizen or foreign person, incorporated or established in India.





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- 3. Only those political parties which are registered under the Representation of the People Act, 1951 and which have secured at least six per cent of the votes polled in the last election to the House of the People or Legislative Assembly, will be eligible to receive electoral bonds.
- 4. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has been authorized to issue and encash electoral bonds.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- a) Only 2, 3 and 4
- b) 1, 2 and 3 only
- c) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- d) none of these





Ans: d)

- The Government of India had notified the Electoral Bond Scheme on 02 January 2018.
- As per the provisions of the Scheme, electoral bonds can be purchased by a person who is a citizen of India or incorporated or established in India. A person can purchase electoral bonds individually or jointly with other persons.
- Only those political parties which are registered under Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 (43 of 1951) and which have secured at least one percent of the votes polled in the last general election to the House of the People or Legislative Assembly of the State, will be eligible to receive electoral bonds. The electoral bond will be encashed by the eligible political party only through its bank account with an authorized bank.
- State Bank of India (SBI) was authorized to issue and encash electoral bonds through.





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 The electoral bonds shall be valid for fifteen calendar days from the date of issue and if the electoral bond is deposited after the expiry of the validity period, no payment shall be made to any paying political party. The electoral bond deposited in the account of an eligible political party will be deposited on the same day.

4. Tiger Triumph military exercise 2024 took place between which two countries?

- a) Pakistan China
- b) India UAE
- c) USA South Korea
- d) India USA



Ans: d)

 Joint exercise "Tiger Triumph-2024" was held between the armies of India and America on the eastern seaboard from 18 to 31 March. The objective of this exercise is to enhance mutual understanding between the armies of both the countries and to fine tune the guidelines for quick and smooth coordination for Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) operations.

5. List-I To list-II Match them and select the correct answer from the codes given below the lists -

List – I
(India's military exercise)

List - II
(Respected Country/Army)





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(A) Limitiye-2024

(1) USA

(B) Defenders-2024

(2) Indian Navy

(C) Operation Sankalp 2024

(3) Seychelles

Code -

(a) A-(1), B-(2), C-(3)

(b) A-(3), B-(2), C-(1)

(c) A-(1), B-(3), C-(2)

(d) A-(3), B-(1), C(2)

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Ans: d

The correct matching is as follows;

- (A) LAMITI-2024: Held between India and Seychelles from 18-27 March 2024.
- (B) Defenders-2024: The joint maritime security exercise 'Defenders-2024' of Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and United States Coast Guard (USCG) concluded at Port Blair on March 9, 2024.
- (C) Operation Sankalp 2024: Maritime security operation 'Operation Sankalp' was conducted by the Indian Navy from December 14, 2023 to March 23, 2024.