

Q: Recently Kai chutney got GI Tag. Consider the following statement:

1. This savoury food item, rich in proteins, calcium, zinc etc.
2. Weaver ants, *Oecophylla smaragdina*, are abundantly found in Mayurbhanj.
3. The tribes of Bhuyan consume Kai chutney.

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:

- The weaver ants are popular among the people, mostly of the tribes, of Mayurbhanj district in Odisha for the mouth-watering dish made of them, the Kai chutney.
- This savoury food item, rich in proteins, calcium, zinc, vitamin B-12, iron, magnesium, potassium, sodium, copper, fibre and 18 amino acids, is known to boost the immune system and keep diseases at bay.
- Weaver ants, *Oecophylla smaragdina*, are abundantly found in Mayurbhanj throughout the year. They make nests with leaves of host trees.

Q: Recently, the Central government has made seven key amendments to existing rules of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA) rules 2011. Consider the following statement:

1. The act extends only to the citizen of India within Indian Territory.
2. The FCRA is applicable to all associations, groups and NGOs
3. Members of the legislature and political parties, government officials, judges and media persons are prohibited from receiving any foreign contribution.

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:

- The Act extends across India and also applies to the citizens of India outside India. Associate branches or subsidiaries, outside India, of companies or bodies corporate, registered or incorporated in India also have to follow the rules of the Act.
- The FCRA regulates foreign donations and ensures that such contributions do not adversely affect internal security. First enacted in 1976, it was amended in 2010 when a slew of new measures were adopted to regulate foreign donations.
- The FCRA is applicable to all associations, groups and NGOs, which intend to receive foreign donations. It is mandatory for all such NGOs to register themselves under the FCRA.
- Members of the legislature and political parties, government officials, judges and media persons are prohibited from receiving any foreign contribution.

Q: A recent study indicate bone loss of the astronauts who flew aboard the International Space Station. Consider the following statement:

1. The bone loss occurs because weight-bearing bone on Earth do not carry weight in space.
2. Bone loss that occur in space cannot be regained once back to Earth.

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:

- A year after returning to Earth, the astronauts on average exhibited 2.1% reduced bone mineral density at the tibia and 1.3% reduced bone strength. Nine did not recover bone mineral density after the space flight, experiencing permanent loss.
- The bone loss occurs because bones that typically would be weight-bearing on Earth do not carry weight in space.
- During spaceflight, fine bone structures thin, and eventually some of the bone rods disconnect from one another. Once the astronaut comes back to Earth, the remaining bone connections can thicken and strengthen, but the ones that disconnected in space can't be rebuilt, so the astronaut's overall bone structure permanently changes.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. All UN member adopted Lisbon Declaration on protection on Biodiversity.
2. Participants at the conference also agreed to work on preventing, reducing and controlling marine pollution.
3. Member nations have also committed to empowering women and girls.

Choose the incorrect option from the codes given below:

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

Ans: d

Explanation:

- All 198 members of the United Nations unanimously adopted July 1, 2022 the Lisbon Declaration on ocean conservation.
- They also recognised that developing countries, particularly small island developing states and least developed countries, need assistance with capacity building.
- Participants at the conference also agreed to work **on preventing, reducing and controlling marine pollution.**
- Member nations have also committed to **empowering women and girls**, recognising their participation is crucial to building a sustainable ocean-based economy and achieving the UN-mandated Sustainable Development Goal 14.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding National Investigation Agency (NIA):

- It is a central agency mandated to investigate all the offences affecting the sovereignty, security and integrity of India.
- It investigate terror acts and their possible links with crimes like smuggling of arms, drugs and fake Indian currency and infiltration from across the borders.

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:

- National Investigation Agency (NIA) is a central agency mandated to investigate all the offences affecting the sovereignty, security and integrity of India, friendly relations with foreign states, and the offences under the statutory laws enacted to implement international treaties, agreements, conventions and resolutions of the United Nations, its agencies and other international organisations.

- These include terror acts and their possible links with crimes like smuggling of arms, drugs and fake Indian currency and infiltration from across the borders. The agency has the power to search, seize, arrest and prosecute those involved in such offences.
- Headquartered in Delhi, the NIA has its branches in Hyderabad, Guwahati, Kochi, Lucknow, Mumbai, Kolkata, Raipur, Jammu, Chandigarh, Ranchi, Chennai, Imphal, Bengaluru and Patna.