

Q: Consider the following statement regarding UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities (GNLC):

1. It is an international network consisting of cities that successfully promote lifelong learning across their communities.
2. A track record of good practices and policy initiatives are key prerequisites for becoming a learning city.
3. From India, Allahabad, Kolkata and Banaras joined UNESCO GLNC.

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:

- Warangal and two cities from Kerala have joined the **UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities (GNLC)** in recognition of their outstanding efforts to make lifelong learning a reality for all at the local level.
- **Warangal in Telangana, Thrissur and Nilambur** are among the 77 cities from 44 countries which have joined UNESCO GLNC.
- Other cities that have joined the network are the Ukrainian capital Kyiv, Durban in South Africa and Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) among others.
- UNESCO GNLC is an international network consisting of cities that successfully promote lifelong learning across their communities.
- A strong commitment to lifelong learning by the mayor and city administration and a track record of good practices and policy initiatives are key prerequisites for becoming a learning city.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding “Diamond Rain”:

1. Scientists have discovered this phenomenon recently in Mars.
2. It is the extremely high pressure, which squeezes hydrogen and carbon.
3. It is found in the interior the planets to form solid diamonds that sink slowly further into the interior.

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:

- Recently, scientists have discovered the presence of oxygen, which makes diamond formation more likely, as they investigated the process that more closely resembles the chemical makeup of Neptune and Uranus.
- It has revealed that diamond rains on planets are more common than previously thought and that this exotic precipitation is boosted by oxygen, which reveals a new path to make nanodiamonds on Earth.
- Researchers in 2017 observed “diamond rain” for the first time as it formed in high-pressure conditions, the same as that experienced on Uranus and Neptune.
- It is the extremely high pressure, which squeezes hydrogen and carbon found in the interior of these planets to form solid diamonds that sink slowly further into the interior.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding India’s first Nasal COVID Vaccine:

1. Bharat Biotech’s nasal vaccine uses a chimpanzee cold virus to deliver coronavirus spike protein to the lining of the nose.
2. The vaccine is non-invasive and does not require trained health care workers.

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:

- India may have a game-changer on its hands with the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) approving Bharat Biotech's intranasal COVID vaccine for restricted emergency use for those above 18.
- Bharat Biotech's ChAd36-SARS-CoV-S COVID-19 (Chimpanzee Adenovirus Vected) recombinant nasal vaccine was approved.
- Bharat Biotech's nasal vaccine uses a chimpanzee cold virus to deliver a harmless copy of the coronavirus spike protein to the lining of the nose.
- As the vaccine is easy to administer as it is non-invasive and does not require trained health care workers.
- It further eliminates needle-associated risks such as injuries and infections, has higher compliance and is scalable as far as manufacturing is concerned.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding the India- Bangladesh ties in the field of connectivity:

1. Inauguration of the Maitree Shetu over River Feni.
2. Mitali Express, connecting New Jalpaiguri, India with Dhaka.
3. Recently inaugurated Padma rail-road bridge in Bangladesh

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:

- Ties between India and Bangladesh have witnessed considerable progress in recent years, especially in connectivity, with a number of initiatives being undertaken, such as inauguration of the Maitree Shetu over River Feni, Bangladesh's offer to India to use its Chittagong Port, and the inauguration of the Mitali Express, connecting New Jalpaiguri, India with Dhaka.
- The recently inaugurated Padma rail-road bridge in Bangladesh also holds the potential to connect the two countries.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Ramon Magsaysay Award:

1. After the death of President Ramon Magsaysay in 1957, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund (RBF) established the Ramon Magsaysay Awards.
2. Later, the Fund set up the Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation.
3. The category of 'emergent leadership' was removed from the list of categories.

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:

- Following the death of President Ramon Magsaysay in 1957, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund (RBF) established the Ramon Magsaysay Awards in the President's honour in agreement with the Philippines government.
- Later, the Fund set up the Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation, a non-profit organisation to manage Asia's biggest honour that recognises selfless work transforming lives.

- Regarded as Asia's version of the Nobel Prize, the award was initially given for contributions to government service, public service, community leadership, journalism, literature and creative communication arts, and peace and international understanding.
- The category of 'emergent leadership' was added later.
- From India, 58 have bagged the international honour. Some of the past awardees include Mother Teresa, Satyajit Ray, Verghese Kurien, Arvind Kejriwal, Mahasweta Devi and Aruna Roy.