

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. 103rd Constitutional Amendment provides 10% reservation in government jobs and educational institutions to the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS).
2. The 10 per cent reservation applies to those not covered under the existing scheme of 50 per cent reservations.
3. The newly-inserted Articles 15(6) and 16(6) of the Constitution, do not allow the state government to decide whether or not to provide reservations.

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:

- Recently, a Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court, in a 3:2 majority decision, upheld the validity of the 103rd Constitutional Amendment.
- The 103rd Constitutional Amendment provides 10% reservation in government jobs and educational institutions to the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) of society but excludes the “poorest of poor” among Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBC) and Other Backward Classes (OBC) from its scope.
- The 10 per cent reservation applies to those not covered under the existing scheme of 50 per cent reservations for the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes, and the Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBCs).
- The Constitution (103rd Amendment) Act 2019 passed by Parliament enables both the central and state governments to provide reservations to the EWS.
- The newly-inserted Articles 15(6) and 16(6) of the Constitution, however, allow the state government to decide whether or not to provide reservations to the EWS for appointment in state government jobs and admission to state government educational institutions.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding National Register of Citizens (NRC):

1. The NPR could not be updated through self-enumeration.
2. The NPR, first prepared in 2010 and updated in 2015 by collecting information of all usual residents of the country.
3. The NPR is prepared under various provisions of the Citizenship Rules, 2003.

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 NPR, first prepared in 2010 and updated in 2015 by collecting information of all usual residents of the country, according to the Citizenship Rules, 2003, is the first step towards compilation of a National Register of Citizens (NRC).
- The Union government has clarified on multiple occasions that there was no proposal to compile the NRC as of now.
- The NPR is prepared under various provisions of the Citizenship Rules, 2003, framed under the Citizenship Act, 1955.
- In 2015, a few fields such as name, gender, date and place of birth, place of residence and father’s and mother’s name were updated and Aadhaar, mobile and ration card numbers were collected. To incorporate the changes due to birth, death and migration, there is a need to update it again.
- The NPR could be updated through self-enumeration as it is proposed to allow residents to update their own data fields after following some authentication protocols on a web portal.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. Xenotransplantation is the process of transplanting organs from one species to another.
2. Electric stimulus originates in a specific part of the heart muscle called the sinus node.

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:

- The genetically modified pig heart took longer to generate a heartbeat than hearts of pigs or humans usually do, recently researchers have said.
- Xenotransplantation is the process of transplanting organs from one species to another.
- Electric stimulus originates in a specific part of the heart muscle called the sinus node. From there, it travels in a particular path to the heart's lower chambers and across the bottom chambers to complete a heartbeat cycle.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Submersible Platform for Acoustic Characterisation & Evaluation (SPACE):

1. This facility is based on the concept design and requirements projected by NPOL.
2. This will be mainly utilised for evaluating sonar systems.
3. The uniqueness of this facility lies in the specially designed submersible platform, which can be lowered up to depths of 100 metres

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 DRDO launched Hull Module of Submersible Platform for Acoustic Characterisation & Evaluation (SPACE) facility at Naval Physical and Oceanographic Laboratory (NPOL), Kochi.
- The SPACE facility is based on the concept design and requirements projected by NPOL and has been constructed by L&T Shipbuilding, Chennai.
- This will be mainly utilised for evaluating sonar systems, allowing for quick deployment and easy recovery of scientific packages such as sensors and transducers.
- The SPACE is one-of-a-kind facility in the world.
- The uniqueness of this facility lies in the specially designed submersible platform, which can be lowered up to depths of 100 metres using a series of synchronously operated winches.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Mastodon:

1. It is a users pick "servers" which host their data.
2. Servers are organised by general or specific topics.
3. It was founded and developed by Elon Musk.

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:

- Mastodon was founded by developer Eugen Rochko, Mastodon was released in 2016.
- The social media platform's main appeal was that it was decentralised, open source, and represented a vision of what its founder wanted Twitter to be.
- Rather than being controlled by a CEO or a centralised moderation team, Mastodon users pick "servers" which host their data and let them access the same platform.
- Servers are organised by general or specific topics, including "LGBTQ+," "Activism," and even "Furry." Some are open to join while others require users to get on a waitlist.