

**Q: A recent released report by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) states that sustainable use of wild species can meet needs of billions. Consider the following statement:**

1. It presented effective regulations without which the unsustainable use and trade would increase.
2. It also cited illegal use and illegal trade in wild species.
3. About 66 per cent of marine wild fish stocks are overfished

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:

- IPBES report has stated that about 50,000 wild species globally can meet the needs of billions of people.
- The report is the first of its kind and has been conceived after a period of four years.
- Recent global estimates confirm that about 34 per cent of marine wild fish stocks are overfished and 66 per cent are fished within biologically sustainable levels. But within this global picture, there are significant local and contextual variations.
- It presented concerns of effective regulations without which the unsustainable use and trade would increase, leading to population collapse.
- It also cited illegal use and illegal trade in wild species which is estimated to be about \$199 billion (Rs 150,000,000 lakh).

**Q: India celebrates Van Mahotsav or the Forest Festival in the first week of July every year. Consider the following statement:**

1. The total area occupied by primary forests in India has increased by 3.6%.
2. According to IUCN, deforestation and forest degradation contribute around 12% of global greenhouse gas emissions.
3. Annually, forests absorb roughly 2.6 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide.

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:

- According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), deforestation and forest degradation contribute around 12% of global greenhouse gas emissions. The total area occupied by primary forests in India has decreased by 3.6%.
- Annually, forests absorb roughly 2.6 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide. This absorption includes nearly 33% of the carbon dioxide released from burning fossil fuels.

**Q: Consider the following countries:**

1. Israel
2. Gulf Cooperation Council
3. EU
4. UK

With which among the following countries India is currently negotiating Free Trade Agreement (FTA)

- a) 1, 2 and 3
- b) 2, 3 and 4

- c) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- d) 1 and 3

Ans: c

Explanation:

- India has revamped its strategy towards free trade agreements (FTAs) to boost exports as an engine of growth. It is **currently negotiating/planning several FTAs** with the UK, EU, Canada, Israel, Gulf Cooperation Council, among others.

**Q: Consider the following statement:**

1. A cancer driver gene is one whose mutations increase the net cell growth in body beyond normal.
2. TSGs regulate the cell during replication and division.
3. Oncogenes are those that can cause cancer when activated.

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:

- A cancer driver gene is one whose mutations increase the net cell growth in body beyond normal, leading to formation of tumours and cancers.
- These genes that are involved in the cancer-driving mechanism are either tumour suppressors or oncogenes.
- TSGs regulate the cell during replication and division, preventing uncontrollable growth resulting in a tumour.
- Oncogenes are those that can cause cancer when activated. When a cell malfunctions, it is naturally programmed to die.

**Q: Consider the following statement:**

1. According to IPCC, agricultural activities account for around a fifth of the greenhouse gases emitted.
2. World Food Programme created the concept of Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA).

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: a

Explanation:

- According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), agricultural activities account for around a fifth of the greenhouse gases emitted because of human action.
- Today, the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> in the Earth's atmosphere is almost 412 parts per million (ppm), and it is constantly rising. This is a 47% increase since the dawn of the industrial period when the concentration was around 280 ppm, and an 11% increase since 2000, when it was 370 ppm.
- The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations created the concept of Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) 12 years ago, to manage farming, livestock, forests, and fisheries holistically. CSA is now being increasingly accepted globally, in countries rich and poor.