

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Water hyacinth:

1. It is one of the most invasive weed species in the world.
2. It is causing significant adverse ecological impacts in tropical and subtropical regions.
3. This is an indigenous species.

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:

- Water hyacinth (*Pontederia crassipes*, also referred to as *Eichhornia crassipes*) is one of the most invasive weed species in the world.
- It is causing significant adverse economic and ecological impacts, particularly in tropical and subtropical regions.
- This is not an indigenous species but was introduced to India during British colonial rule as an ornamental aquatic plant from South America.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Lake Victoria:

1. It is world largest fresh water lake.
2. The lake is located Tanzania, Uganda, and Kenya.
3. It is a source of the White Nile River.

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:

- Lake Victoria is the world's second-largest freshwater lake.
- It is located in East Africa, bordered by Tanzania, Uganda, and Kenya.
- It is also called Victoria Nyanza in Kenya, Nalubaale in Uganda, and Ukerewe in Tanzania.
- It is a source of the White Nile River, which flows northward and eventually joins the Blue Nile in Sudan to form the Nile River.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding GRIHA norms:

1. It is a rating tool that helps people assess the performance of their building.
2. It evaluates the environmental performance of a building holistically over its entire life cycle.

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:

- GRIHA is an acronym for Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment. GRIHA is a Sanskrit word meaning – 'Abode'.
- It is a rating tool that helps people assess the performance of their building against certain nationally acceptable benchmarks.

- It evaluates the environmental performance of a building holistically over its entire life cycle, thereby providing a definitive standard for what constitutes a 'green building'.
- The rating system, based on accepted energy and environmental principles, will seek to strike a balance between the established practices and emerging concepts, both national and international.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding PM-DAKSH Yojana:

1. It is a National Action Plan for skilling marginalised persons.
2. Artisans, women and youth are its target group.
3. Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment is the only nodal ministry for implementing this scheme.

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 Pradhan Mantri Dakshata Aur Kushalata Sampanna Hitgrahi (PM-DAKSH) Yojana is a Central Sector Scheme.
- It was launched during 2020-21.
- The main objective of the Scheme is to enhance the competency level of the target groups to make them employable both in self-employment and wage-employment for their socio-economic development.
- It is a National Action Plan for skilling marginalised persons covering SCs, OBCs, EBCs, DNTs, Sanitation workers and waste pickers.
- Target Group:
 - ❖ Artisans- who may be able to improve their revenue generation capacities within their practising vocations;
 - ❖ Women- who may be able to enter into self-employment and financially empower themselves without neglecting their domestic activities and
 - ❖ Youth- who may acquire long-term training and specialisation in employable vocations and gain a better standing in the job market.
- Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (MoSJ&E) is the nodal ministry for implementing this scheme.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Zealandia:

1. It is mostly submerged in the South Pacific Ocean.
2. It is situated along the boundary of Australian Plate, Pacific Plate, and Indo-Australian Plate.
3. Australia, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu are part of Zealandia.

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:

- Zealandia is a long, narrow microcontinent that is mostly submerged in the South Pacific Ocean.
- It is located in the southwestern Pacific Ocean, primarily to the east of Australia and to the south of New Caledonia. It encompasses the region that includes New Zealand and New Caledonia.
- The part of Zealandia that is above water forms the foundation of New Zealand's north and south islands as well as the island of New Caledonia.
- Zealandia is situated along the boundary of several tectonic plates, including the Australian Plate, Pacific Plate, and Indo-Australian Plate.