

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Shivaji:

1. He was known as the Father of the Indian Navy.
2. He was called the 'Mountain Rat'.
3. He was not a secular ruler.

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:

- Shivaji was known as the Father of the Indian Navy. Shivaji was the first to realise the importance of having a naval force, and therefore he strategically established a navy and forts at the coastline to defend the Konkan side of Maharashtra.
- He was called the 'Mountain Rat' and was widely known for his guerrilla warfare. He was called so because of his awareness of geography of his land and guerrilla tactics like raiding, ambushing, and surprise attacks on his enemies.
- He was a secular ruler who was very accommodating of all religions. He had numerous Muslim soldiers in his army.
- Shivaji was a dependable supporter of women and their honour. Anyone under his rule caught violating woman's rights was severely punished.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Burevestnik Missile:

1. The Burevestnik is one of the strategic weapons of USA.
2. Its nuclear propulsion gives the missile much longer range.
3. The missile is also designed to fly at low altitudes.

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 Burevestnik is one of six strategic weapons that the Russian President introduced in a 2018 speech.
- It is code-named 'SSC-X-9 Skyfall' by NATO.
- Burevestnik Missile is powered by a small nuclear reactor, which heats up air to propel the missile forward.
- Its nuclear propulsion gives the missile much longer range than traditional turbojet or turbofan engines that are limited by how much fuel they can carry.
- It has a range of up to 14,000 miles (22,000 km).
- The missile is also designed to fly at low altitudes, much lower than a conventionally powered cruise missile, which would make it harder for air-defence radar to detect.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Teesta River:

1. The River flows through the Indian states of Sikkim and West Bengal and, Rangpur in Bangladesh.
2. Its main tributary is Rangeet River.

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:

- Teesta River is a trans-Himalayan river flowing through the Indian states of Sikkim and West Bengal and, Rangpur in Bangladesh.
- It is a tributary of Brahmaputra River.
- It originates in the Himalayas and flows through the Indian States of Sikkim and West Bengal before entering Bangladesh, where it flows into the Brahmaputra.
- It has a total length of about 309 kilometers.
- Its main tributary is Rangeet River.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Hakki Pikkis tribes:

1. It is one of the major tribal communities in Karnataka.
2. They are recognized as a Scheduled Tribe in India.
3. Their mother tongue was designated as 'Vaagri' by scholars.

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:

- Hakki Pikkis (Hakki in Kannada means 'bird' and Pikki means 'catchers') are a semi-nomadic tribe, traditionally of bird catchers and hunters.
- It is one of the major tribal communities in Karnataka. They also reside in the Western and Southern states of India, mostly near forest areas.
- The community migrated from Northern India, mainly Gujarat and Rajasthan, and is now mainly concentrated in Shivamogga, Davanagere, and Mysuru district of Karnataka.
- They are recognized as a Scheduled Tribe in India.
- Their mother tongue was designated as 'Vaagri' by scholars.
- UNESCO has listed 'Vaagri' as one of the endangered languages.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Kolleru Wildlife Sanctuary:

1. It is a crucial wetland ecosystem.
2. It is located in the West Godavari and Krishna districts.
3. It is not listed in Wildlife Protection Act of 1972.

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:

- Kolleru Wildlife Sanctuary is a significant wetland sanctuary located in the West Godavari and Krishna districts of the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh.
- It was established in November 1999, under the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972.
- The sanctuary protects part of the Kolleru Lake wetland, which gained Ramsar Convention for International importance in 2002.
- It is a crucial wetland ecosystem and serves as a stopover point for migratory birds.