

Q: Consider the following statement regarding River Cities Alliance:

1. The Alliance is open to all river cities of India.
2. It focuses on three broad themes- Networking, Capacity Building and Technical Support.
3. It is a first-of-its-kind Alliance in the world launched by Ministry of Jal Sakti only.

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:

- River Cities Alliance was launched in 2021.
- It is a first-of-its-kind Alliance in the world, symbolising the successful partnership of the two Ministries i.e., the Ministry of Jal Shakti and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
- To provide the member cities with a platform to discuss and exchange information on aspects that are vital for sustainable management of urban rivers, sharing best practices and supporting innovation.
- The Alliance is open to all river cities of India. Any river city can join the Alliance at any time.
- The alliance has been launched initially with 30 cities namely Dehradun, Rishikesh, Haridwar, Srinagar, Varanasi, Kanpur, Prayagraj, Farrukhabad, Mirzapur, Mathura, Bijnor, Ayodhya, Patna, Bhagalpur, Begusarai, Munger, Sahibganj, Rajmahal, Howrah, Jangipur, Hugli-Chinsurah, Berhampore, Maheshtala, Aurangabad, Chennai, Bhubaneswar, Hyderabad, Pune, Udaipur and Vijayawada.
- It focuses on three broad themes- Networking, Capacity Building and Technical Support.
- The Secretariat of the Alliance is set up at the National Institute for Urban Affairs (NIUA).

Q: Consider the following statement regarding PM Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme:

1. This scheme is operational for a period of three year.
2. The scheme is a centrally sponsored scheme launched in 2020.
3. 60:40 ratios with UTs with legislature, and 100% by Centre for other UTs.

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:

- PM Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme is a centrally sponsored scheme launched in 2020.
- Duration: The scheme is operational for a period of five years from 2020-21 to 2024-25 with an outlay of Rs. 10,000 Crore for supporting 2 lakh micro food processing enterprises.
- Funding:
 - ❖ 90:10 ratios with North Eastern and Himalayan States.
 - ❖ 60:40 ratios with UTs with legislature, and 100% by Centre for other UTs.
 - ❖ 60:40 ratios between Central and State Governments for other states.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Interest Equalisation Scheme (IES):

1. The scheme shall be implemented by the RBI through various Public and non-Public Sector banks.
2. The scheme is primarily meant for the labour-intensive sectors.

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:

- Interest Equalisation Scheme (IES) was first implemented on 1st April, 2015, to provide pre- and post-shipment export credit to exporters in rupees.
- The scheme shall be implemented by the RBI through various Public and non-Public Sector banks who provide pre- and post-shipment credit to the exporters.
- The Scheme is jointly monitored by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) and the RBI through a consultative mechanism.
- The scheme helps the identified export sectors to be internationally competitive and to achieve a high level of export performance.
- The scheme is primarily meant for the labour-intensive sectors.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Koya Tribe:

1. They live on both sides of the Godavari River.
2. Most Koya speak either Gondi or Telugu.
3. They reside in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa.

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:

- Koya are one of the few multi-racial and multi-lingual tribal communities in India.
- They live in the forests, plains, and valleys on both sides of the Godavari River, which lies in Andhra Pradesh.
- Many also live in the states of Madhya Pradesh and Orissa.
- They believe their main deity still resides in a cave in the Bastar region.
- Most Koya speak either Gondi or Telugu, in addition to Koyi.
- Koyi is closely related to Gondi and has been strongly influenced by Telugu.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Mesechinus orientalis:

1. It is a new species of Hedgehog.
2. It can be found in scrubland and subtropical broad-leaf evergreen forests.
3. It is a large-bodied hedgehog.

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:

- Mesechinus orientalis is a new species of Hedgehog.
- It is currently known from southern Anhui and northwestern Zhejiang, both in eastern China.
- It is currently the southeasternmost species of Mesechinus (Mesechinus is a small genus of mammals in the hedgehog family).
- It can be found in scrubland and subtropical broad-leaf evergreen forests at elevations from 30 to 700 m.

- It is a small-bodied hedgehog.
- It has the shortest spines in the genus (1.8-2 cm).