

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS):

1. It is also referred to as Bonn Convention.
2. It provides a global platform for the conservation and sustainable use of migratory animals and their habitats.
3. It is not the only global and UN-based intergovernmental organisation for the conservation and management of terrestrial, aquatic and avian migratory 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:

- Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) also referred to as the Bonn Convention, is an environmental treaty under the aegis of the United Nations Environment Programme.
- It was signed in Bonn, Germany, on 23 June 1979.
- It provides a global platform for the conservation and sustainable use of migratory animals and their habitats.
- CMS is the only global and UN-based intergovernmental organisation established exclusively for the conservation and management of terrestrial, aquatic and avian migratory species throughout their range.
- The parties to the convention acknowledge the importance of conserving migratory species, and the need to pay special attention to species whose conservation status is unfavourable.
- Activities by CMS Parties may range from legally binding treaties (called Agreements) to less formal instruments, such as Memoranda of Understanding.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding TAPI Pipeline:

1. The project is being funded by the World Bank.
2. It will pass through Turkmenistan Afghanistan, Pakistan and finally, India.
3. It is also called the 'Peace Pipeline'.

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:

- Turkmenistan–Afghanistan–Pakistan–India (TAPI) Pipeline is an 1,814-kilometre pipeline that aims to transport 33 billion cubic metres of gas from Turkmenistan to Afghanistan, Pakistan and finally, India.
- It is also called the 'Peace Pipeline'.
- It will start from the Galkynysh gas field in Turkmenistan.
- It will then pass through Afghanistan and Pakistan to finally reach the Indian town of Fazilka (near the Indo-Pak border).
- The TAPI project is being funded by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), which is also acting as transaction adviser for the development.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. Circulation of winds around the cyclones is in the anticlockwise direction.
2. The monsoon trough is a low-pressure region.

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:

- Some cyclones in the North Indian Ocean have had both positive and negative impacts on the onset of the monsoon. Since the circulation of winds around the cyclones is in the anticlockwise direction, the location of the cyclone is critical as far as the cyclone's impact on the transition of the monsoon trough is concerned.

- The monsoon trough is a low-pressure region that is a characteristic feature of the monsoons. For example, if a cyclone lies further north in the Bay of Bengal, the back-winds blowing from the southwest to the northeast can pull the monsoon trough forward, and assist in the monsoon's onset.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding First Loss Default Guarantee (FLDG):

1. The fintech originates a loan and promises to compensate the partners up to a pre-decided percentage in case customers fail to repay.
2. It will also rationalise the existing prudential norms to implement resolution plans.
3. It includes everything from payment processing solutions to mobile banking apps.

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:

- First Loss Default Guarantee (FLDG) is a lending model between fintech firms and their partner banks and non-banking finance companies where the initial hit on a default is taken by the fintech firm that originated the loan.
- Under these agreements, the fintech originates a loan and promises to compensate the partners up to a pre-decided percentage in case customers fail to repay.
- The bank/NBFC partners lend through the fintech but from their books.
- FLDG helps expand the customer base of traditional lenders but relies on the fintech's underwriting capabilities.
- It will also rationalise the existing prudential norms to implement resolution plans in respect of exposures affected by natural calamities.
- The fintech industry includes everything from payment processing solutions to mobile banking apps.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Pulsars:

1. They are rotating neutron stars observed to have pulses of radiation at very regular intervals.
2. They are among the few celestial objects that emit circular polarised light.
3. They have weak magnetic field.

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:

- Pulsars are rotating neutron stars observed to have pulses of radiation at very regular intervals that typically range from milliseconds to seconds.
- Pulsars have very strong magnetic fields which funnel jets of particles out along the two magnetic poles.
- These accelerated particles produce very powerful beams of light.
- Often, the magnetic field is not aligned with the spin axis, so those beams of particles and light are swept around as the star rotates.
- Pulsars are among the few celestial objects that emit circular polarised light.