

Q: Consider the following statement regarding the 4th edition of Joint Military Exercise 'AL NAJAH-IV' 2022:

1. The exercise is held between India and Oman.
2. The joint exercise would focus on Counter Terrorism Operations, Regional Security Operations and Peace Keeping Operations.
3. This exercise is organised at Muscat.

Choose the correct option from the code given below:

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: a

Explanation:

- The 4th Edition of India Oman Joint Military Exercise 'AL NAJAH-IV' between contingents of Indian Army and the Royal Army of Oman is scheduled to take place from 01 to 13 August 2022.
- It will be held at the Foreign Training Node of Mahajan Field Firing Ranges (Rajasthan).
- The previous edition of Ex AL NAJAH IV was organised at Muscat from 12 to 25 March 2019.
- The joint exercise would focus on Counter Terrorism Operations, Regional Security Operations and Peace Keeping Operations under United Nations charter apart from organising joint physical training schedules, tactical drills, techniques and procedures.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. Indian Air force raised its first LCH squadron in Bengaluru.
2. India acquire Apache attack helicopter from US.
3. The Army has three Aviation Brigades at Leh, Missamari and Jodhpur.

Choose the correct option from the code given below:

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: b

Explanation:

- Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL) has received the Letter of Intent from the Services for the manufacture of 12 Light Utility Helicopters (LUH), which have been designed and developed indigenously.
- In June, the Army raised its first LCH squadron in Bengaluru, which will move to the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Eastern Command once complete next year.
- The Cabinet Committee on Security had earlier given sanction for the procurement of 39 AH-64 Apache attack helicopters from the U.S.
- The Army has three Aviation Brigades at Leh, Missamari and Jodhpur. It operates around 145 indigenous Advanced Light Helicopters (ALH), 75 of which are the Rudra-weaponised variants.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. "Ex VINBAX 2022" exercise are held between India and Vietnam.
2. Vietnam is the 15th largest trade partner of India and India.

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:

- The Third Edition of Vietnam-India Bilateral Army Exercise "Ex VINBAX 2022" is scheduled to be conducted at Chandimandir from August 1 to 20, 2022.
- The theme of Ex VINBAX - 2022 is employment and deployment of an Engineer Company and a Medical Team as part of United Nations Contingent for Peace Keeping Operations.
- Vietnam is the 15th largest trade partner of India and India is its 10th largest partner with bilateral trade standing at USD 11.12 billion in 2020-21.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding International North South Transport Corridor (INSTC):

1. It is a trilateral agreement signed between China, Oman and Kazakhstan.
2. India is not the member of INSTC.

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: d

Explanation:

- The legal framework for the INSTC is provided by a trilateral agreement signed by India, Iran and Russia at the Euro-Asian Conference on Transport in 2000.
- Since then Kazakhstan, Belarus, Oman, Tajikistan, Azerbaijan, Armenia and Syria have signed instruments of accession to become members of the INSTC.
- Once fully operational, the INSTC is expected to reduce freight costs by 30% and journey time by 40% in comparison with the conventional deep sea route via the Suez Canal. Indeed, the need for an alternative route was deeply felt in 2021, when the Ever Given container ship was stuck in the Suez, halting maritime traffic between the Mediterranean Sea and the Red Sea.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. India's Public Stockholding (PSH) policy is based on procuring food from farmers at MSP.
2. Public Stockholding (PSH) policy does not provide subsidy to the underprivileged.

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:

- India's Public Stockholding (PSH) policy is based on procuring food from farmers at an administered price (minimum support price or MSP), which is generally higher than the market price.
- The PSH policy serves the twin objectives of offering remunerative prices to farmers and providing subsidised food to the underprivileged.