

**Q: Consider the following statements with respect to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD):**

1. It is an initiative of the World Health Organization (WHO).
2. The National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) serves as the WHO Collaboration Centre for ICD-related activities in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: a

Explanation:

- The World Health Organization (WHO) has developed a classification series called International Classification of Diseases (ICDs) to classify diseases internationally.
- Infectious diseases like Malaria and lifestyle diseases like chronic insomnia are included in this classification.
- The global data on diseases currently available is mainly based on healthcare practices to be diagnosed through modern biomedicine.
- The Ministry of Ayush has already developed the Code for Ayurveda, Siddha, and Unani Medicine through the National Ayush Morbidity and Standardized Electronic Portal (NAMSTE).

**Q: Consider the following statements with respect to Sisal Plants:**

1. It has the ability to store water and thrive in drought-prone areas.
2. It is native to India and are used in making ropes, paper and cloth.
3. The ancient Aztec and Mayan civilisations were the first to begin making paper out of sisal leaves.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All Three
- d) None of the above

Ans: b

Explanation:

- Sisal (*Agave sisalana*) is a plant of the family Asparagaceae and its fibre, the most important of the leaf fibre group.
- The lifespan of a sisal plant is about 7-10 years, during which it produces 200-250 usable leaves.
- Each leaf has about a thousand fibres that can be used to make ropes, paper, and cloth. Now, it could be used to make a highly absorbent material as well.
- The plant is native to Central America, where its fibre has been used since pre-Columbian times.
- The ancient Aztec and Mayan civilisations were the first to begin making paper out of sisal leaves.
- The plant itself is also used to make mezcal, a distilled alcoholic beverage.
- The absorption capacity of the material is high and found to be higher than those found in commercial menstrual pads.
- The material can potentially replace cotton, wood pulp and chemical absorbents in sanitary napkins.

**Q: NUTEC Plastics, sometimes seen in the news, is an initiative of which of the following organisations?**

- a) International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
- b) United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- c) International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- d) World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)

Ans: a

Explanation:

- NUTEC Plastics is a flagship initiative by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).
- It aims to address the global challenge of plastic pollution.
- It brings together countries and partners from around the world to fight plastic pollution on 2 fronts:
- At point of source, by introducing new technologies to improve plastic recycling.
- In the ocean, where the bulk of plastic waste ends up.
- 63 countries are participating in marine monitoring of micro-plastics and 30 around the world are developing innovative recycling technology.
- India is part of the NUTEC Plastics Initiative.

**Q: Consider the following statements with respect to Active rock glaciers (ARGs)**

1. ARGs are permafrost landforms in alpine regions that contain significant amounts of ice and move downslope or down valley.
2. They are not found in the young fold mountains.
3. It can contribute to natural disasters as the region warms.

How many of the statements given above are incorrect?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All Three
- d) None of the above

Ans: a

Explanation:

- Rock glaciers typically form in mountainous regions where there is a combination of permafrost, rock debris, and ice.
- Over time, if the glacier recedes or thaws, the debris-covered ice can transform into a rock glacier.
- These are called ‘active glacial rocks’ and may contribute to natural disasters as the region warms.
- ARGs are permafrost landforms in alpine regions that contain significant amounts of ice and move downslope or down valley.
- Permafrost are thick ground layers frozen for at least 2 years, is at an advanced stage in places like Greenland, Alaska and Siberia.
- ARGs can also be found on the young fold mountains including Himalayas.
- The Kashmir Himalayas are dotted with permafrost structures called ‘rock glaciers’.
- More than 100 of these had ridges and bulges on their body, which indicates that the permafrost in them has started moving or melting.
- Across the Jhelum basin, active rock glaciers store a trillion litres of frozen water.

**Q: Consider the following statements with respect to Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Warfare/Disasters**

1. The CBRN defence teams of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) is the first respondent of any disaster related to CBRN in India.
2. TARKASH is an exercise between USA and India to address the terror threat related to CBRN.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: c

Explanation:

- CBRN is the acronym for nuclear, radiological, biological and chemical agents.
- Material from nuclear fission or fusion, or other radioactive material with the potential to affect human health,
- Biological agents causing infection or disease and

- Toxic chemicals that can cause poisoning.
- CBRN emergency can occur as a result of industrial disaster, occupational exposure, natural catastrophe, warfare or acts of terrorism.
- The CBRN teams of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) is the first respondent of any disaster related to CBRN in India.
- The CBRN defence teams of the NDRF were also deployed at the G20 Summit venue in Delhi.
- TARKASH – Is a joint exercise by the National Security Guard (NSG), India and US Special Operations Forces (SOF), USA.
- It aims to address the threats related to the CBRN terror attacks.