

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. MoHUA launched the Urban Outcomes Framework 2022.
2. Ease of Living Index is based on the Quality of Life, Economic Ability, and Sustainability.
3. Citizen Perception Survey is not the part of Ease of Living Index.

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:

- MoHUA launched the Urban Outcomes Framework 2022 in April, 2022 as an initiative to undertake a transparent and comprehensive assessment of cities based on cross-city outcomes across major sectors.
- The Framework also includes the third round of Ease of Living Index.
- The Ease of Living Index, as a 360-degree assessment, aims to evaluate cities across India based on the Quality of Life, Economic Ability, and Sustainability.
- As part of the Ease of Living Index, a Citizen Perception Survey is being conducted (which carries 30% of the marks under the Ease of Living Index). This is a very important component of the assessment exercise as it will help in directly capturing of citizen feedback with respect to their city liveability.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Malabar Exercise:

1. It was a bilateral drill between India and Japan.
2. Australia participated in the Malabar exercise in 2020.
3. This year the exercise is being conducted at Yokosuka Island near the East China Sea.

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:

- Recently, the Malabar Exercise featuring the navies of all four Quad countries; India, the US, Australia and Japan began off the Yokosuka Island near the East China Sea in the backdrop of China's increasing military muscle-flexing in the region.
- The Malabar exercise started in 1992 as a bilateral drill between the Indian Navy and the US Navy in the Indian Ocean.
- Japan became a permanent member of the exercise in 2015.
- Following India's invitation, Australia participated in the Malabar exercise in 2020, effectively making it a drill by all four member nations of the Quad or Quadrilateral coalition.
- Australia participated in 2021's exercise as well.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding SVAMITVA Yojana:

1. The scheme was launched on Panchayati Raj Diwas.
2. It aims to provide the 'Record of Rights' to village household owners possessing houses in inhabited areas.

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:

- SVAMITVA (Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improvised Technology in Village Areas) Yojana' was launched on Panchayati Raj Diwas (April 24th, 2020).
- The scheme aims to cover 6.62 lakh villages in the country from Financial Year 2020-21 to Financial Year 2024-25.
- It aims to provide the 'Record of Rights' to village household owners possessing houses in inhabited areas, called Abadi in some States, with legal ownership rights (Property cards/Title deeds).
- Under the scheme, the land parcels in rural inhabited area of all the villages are surveyed using drone technology.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Green Bond:

1. These are financial instruments that generate proceeds for investment in environmentally sustainable and climate-suitable projects.
2. Green bonds command a relatively lower cost of capital vis-à-vis regular bonds.
3. India's first Sovereign Green Bonds framework was formulated as per the provisions of the framework, Green Finance Working Committee (GFWC).

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:

- Green bonds are financial instruments that generate proceeds for investment in environmentally sustainable and climate-suitable projects.
- By virtue of their indication towards environmental sustainability, green bonds command a relatively lower cost of capital vis-à-vis regular bonds and necessitates credibility and commitments associated with the process of raising bonds.
- India's first Sovereign Green Bonds framework was formulated and as per the provisions of the framework, Green Finance Working Committee (GFWC) was constituted to validate key decisions on issuance of Sovereign Green Bonds.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Shahtoosh:

1. It is the fine undercoat fibre obtained from the Tibetan Antelope.
2. Tibetan Antelope, known locally as 'Chiru'.
3. Tibetan Antelope was included in CITES in 1979.

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:

- Shahtoosh is the fine undercoat fibre obtained from the Tibetan Antelope, known locally as 'Chiru', a species living mainly in the northern parts of the Changthang Plateau in Tibet.
- As they offer high levels of smoothness and warmth, Shahtoosh shawls became a highly expensive commodity.
- Unfortunately, due to commercial poaching of the animal, their population declined dramatically.
- CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna & Flora) included the Tibetan Antelope in 1979 leading to prohibition in sale and trade of Shahtoosh shawls and scarves.