

Q: Consider the following statement regarding United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific:

1. It is the regional development arm of the United Nations for the Asia-Pacific region.
2. Its objective is to overcome some of the region's greatest challenges by providing results-oriented projects.
3. India is not the member of this union.

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:

- The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) is the regional development arm of the United Nations for the Asia-Pacific region.
- It has 53 Member States and 9 Associate Members from Asia-Pacific Region including India.
- It was established in 1947
- Its headquarters is in Bangkok, Thailand.
- Its objective is to overcome some of the region's greatest challenges by providing results-oriented projects, technical assistance and capacity building to member States.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Graphene:

1. It is arranged in octagonal lattice.
2. It is the thinnest, most electrically and thermally conductive material in the world.
3. Graphene could replace Indium and thereby bring down the cost of OLED screens in smartphones.

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:

- Graphene is a one-atom-thick layer of carbon atoms arranged in a hexagonal lattice. It is the building-block of Graphite, but graphene is a remarkable substance on its own with a multitude of astonishing properties.
- It is the thinnest, most electrically and thermally conductive material in the world, while also being flexible, transparent and incredibly strong.
- Often referred to as a wonder material for its extraordinary electrical and electronics properties, graphene could replace Indium and thereby bring down the cost of OLED (organic light-emitting diode) screens in smartphones, studies have shown.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY):

1. It is a one-year life insurance scheme.
2. Persons in the age group of 18-50 years having an individual bank or a post office account are entitled to enroll under the scheme.

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:

- PMJJBY is a one-year life insurance scheme renewable from year to year offering coverage for death due to any reason.
- Persons in the age group of 18-50 years having an individual bank or a post office account are entitled to enroll under the scheme. People who join the scheme before completing 50 years of age can continue to have the risk of life covered up to age of 55 years upon payment of regular premium.
- Life cover of Rs. 2 Lakh in case of death due to any reason against a premium of Rs. 436/- per annum.

Q: Consider the following statements with respect to Enforcement Directorate (ED):

1. It is assigned with investigation of offence of money laundering and violations of foreign exchange laws.

2. It works under the aegis of the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance.
3. The Centre promulgated an ordinances to extend the tenure of the Enforcement Directorate from 2 years to up to 5 years.

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:

- Enforcement Directorate (ED) is a law enforcement agency and economic intelligence agency responsible for enforcing economic laws and fighting economic crime in India.
- It is part of the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance.
- It is a multi-disciplinary organization
- The statutory functions of the Directorate include enforcement of following Acts:
 - ❖ The Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA)
 - ❖ The Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA)
 - ❖ The Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018 (FEOA)
 - ❖ The Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 (FERA)
- The concern of extending the term of superannuated officer
- There is an implied extension for an officer appointed to one of these protected posts if the appointment comes within 2 years of retirement.
- The Centre promulgated an ordinances to extend the tenure of the Enforcement Directorate from 2 years to up to 5 years and issued an order to amend the Fundamental Rules, 1922.

Q: With reference to the Galapagos Islands, consider the following statements:

1. The Islands are named after their giant tortoises.
2. Darwin's Theory of evolution by means of natural selection was inspired by his study on the endemic species on the Islands.
3. These Islands are located in Suriname.

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:

- ❖ The Galapagos Islands are an archipelago of volcanic islands belonging to south American country 'Ecuador'.
- ❖ The archipelago is located in the Eastern Pacific around the Equator.
- ❖ Straddling the equator, islands in the chain are located in both the northern and southern hemispheres.
- ❖ The archipelago is located on the Nazca Plate (a tectonic plate), which is moving east/southeast, diving under the South American Plate.
- ❖ Volcanism has been continuous on the Galápagos Islands.