

Q: Consider the following statement regarding new US bill on Climate Change:

1. It provides a tax deduction to low and middle-income households to go electric.
2. The Bill provides significant investment in renewable energy.
3. There is no funding to benefit from zero-emission technologies.

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 Bill marks the largest American investment aimed toward making the U.S. a leader in clean energy. It includes packages worth \$369 billion for the clean energy transition.
- It provides a tax deduction to low and middle-income households to go electric and seeks to lower the energy bills of American households. It also aims to bolster the domestic production of heat pumps and critical minerals.
- For disadvantaged low-income communities and tribal communities, the Bill provides funding to benefit from zero-emission technologies which reduce greenhouse gas emissions, enhance climate resilience, and mitigate risks from extreme heat.
- The Bill provides significant investment in renewable energy through heavy tax credits for wind and solar energy projects and electric vehicles.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-U):

1. The scheme was launched in 2018.
2. It aims to provide all weather pucca houses to all eligible beneficiaries in the urban areas of the country.
3. The scheme covers the entire urban area of the country.

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:

- PMAY-U is Housing for All is one of the major flagship programmes being implemented by Government of India to provide all weather pucca houses to all eligible beneficiaries in the urban areas of the country through States/UTs/Central Nodal Agencies.
- Launched in June, 2015, the original deadline for the scheme - Housing for All' Mission - aimed at providing pucca houses to all eligible urban beneficiaries was March 2022.
- The scheme covers the entire urban area of the country, i.e., all statutory towns as per Census 2011 and towns notified subsequently, including Notified Planning/ Development Areas.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD):

1. It is a disease in cattle.
2. Rajasthan reports the highest death of cattle in 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:

- Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) is primarily a disease in cattle. Emerging evidence suggests that the LSD virus can also cause mild illness in buffalo, camels, deer and horses.
- Rajasthan has reported 2,111 deaths of cattle, followed by Gujarat at 1,679, Punjab at 672, Himachal Pradesh at 38, Andaman & Nicobar at 29 and Uttarakhand at 26.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. Nuclear power used in the production of electricity is non- renewable source of energy.
2. Raw material that is used to generate nuclear power through a process called fission is renewable energy.

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:

- Nuclear power, mostly used in the production of electricity, is widely considered to be a renewable source of energy.
- However, the raw material that is used to generate nuclear power through a process called fission is non-renewable. Nuclear power plants need a specific form of uranium called Uranium-235. Now, this is a depleting resource.
- Uranium reserves found naturally are on a course to reach exhaustion within a century, which means that countries will have to look for alternatives to generate this critical element that powers nuclear plants across the world.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. The new US bill on climate action will reduce 50-52% emissions below 2005 levels by 2030.
2. US is a leading producer of solar energy.

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:

- The new US Bill on climate action is being the largest-ever investment in addressing the climate crisis in U.S. history, will help the nation get closer to its climate target of reducing 50-52% emissions below 2005 levels by 2030.
- The investments in the Bill could reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 31 to 44% by 2030.
- The Bill can help the U.S. compete with China in terms of renewable production as China is a leading producer of solar energy. It can also facilitate the creation of domestic jobs.