

Q: Consider the following statements regarding Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhuyday Yojana (PM-AJAY):

1. The scheme aims to reduce poverty of the SC Communities.
2. The scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
3. Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana is a sub-scheme to PM-AJAY.

How many of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

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

Ans: b

Explanation:

- Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhuyday Yojana (PM- AJAY) is a merged scheme of Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely:
 - ❖ Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY),
 - ❖ Special Central Assistance to Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCA to SCSP)
 - ❖ Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojana (BJRCY)
- The scheme has been implemented since 2021-22.
- The scheme works with an aim to reduce poverty of the SC communities.
- The scheme works to improve socio-economic developmental indicators by ensuring adequate infrastructure and requisite services in the SC dominated villages.
- The scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.

Q: Consider the following statements with respect to Swami Vivekananda:

1. Vivekananda preached neo-Vedanta, an interpretation of Hinduism through a Western lens.
2. He was the chief disciple of Ramakrishna Paramhansa and established the Ramakrishna Mission.
3. The Powers of the Mind is a book written by Swami Vivekananda.

How many of the above statement(s) is/are incorrect?

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

Ans: d

Explanation:

- Swami Vivekananda was born in 1863 as Narendranath in a Bengali family.
- He was monk, a chief disciple of the Indian mystic Ramakrishna and the founder of Ramakrishna Mutt.
- In 1888, Narendra left the monastery and travelled extensively in India for five years.
- In 1893 Vivekananda represented India and Hinduism in The Parliament of the World's Religion in Chicago.
- In 1894, he founded the Vedanta Society in New York to study, practice and propagate the principles of Vedanta.
- He was a key figure in the introduction of the Indian philosophies of Vedanta and Yoga to the Western world.
- He raised interfaith awareness, as his two favourite books being Bhagavad Gita and The Imitation of Christ and contributed to the concept of nationalism in colonial India.
- In 1902, he died at the age of 39, with the rupture of a blood vessel in his brain being the possible cause of death.
- Vivekananda preached neo-Vedanta, an interpretation of Hinduism through a Western lens.
- The Powers of the Mind is a book written by Swami Vivekananda.

Q: Consider the following statements with respect to the Volatiles Investigating Polar Exploration Rover (VIPER) Mission:

1. It is a 100-day Mission conducted by NASA.
2. It is a mobile robot to map resources on another celestial body.

3. VIPER is part of NASA's Artemis mission.

How many of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

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

Ans: c

Explanation:

- The Volatiles Investigating Polar Exploration Rover mission was aimed to be launched in 2023 by NASA.
- For the 100-day mission, the launch vehicle and lander will be supplied by NASA's Commercial Lunar Payload Services (CLPS).
- VIPER is a mobile robot and the mission is to map resources, is the first on another celestial body.
- The rover will study the Moon's water and understand the environment where it plans to land the first woman and first person of color under its Artemis program.

Q: Arrange the following cities (cleaner to less cleaner) based on the recent Swachh Survekshan Awards, 2023:

- 1. Indore
- 2. Mumbai
- 3. Navi Mumbai
- 4. Visakhapatnam
- 5. Tirupati

Choose the correct code:

- a) 5, 4, 3, 2, 1
- b) 2, 4, 1, 3, 5
- c) 3, 1, 4, 5, 2
- d) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Ans: d

Explanation:

- The list categorised Maharashtra as one of the best-performing states followed by Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh.
- Indore and Surat were declared the 'cleanest cities' in the country with Navi Mumbai maintaining its third position in the annual cleanliness survey conducted by the Central government.
- Indore bagged its title for the seventh time in a row.

Q: Consider the following statements with respect to the Atal Setu Nhava Sheva Sea Link:

- 1. It is the countries longest bridge over the Sea.
- 2. The bridge is built over the Thane Creek in the Arabian Sea.

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

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

Ans: c

Explanation:

- It is also known by the name Mumbai Tans Harbour Link (MTHL).
- The bridge that was first conceptualised six decades ago will cut the travel time between Sewri and Chirle to under 20 minutes.
- The Mumbai Trans Harbour Link (MTHL) is a 22-km-long twin-carriageway six-lane bridge over the Thane Creek in the Arabian Sea.

- The bridge connects Sewri in the island city of Mumbai to Chirle in Raigad district on the mainland.
- The MTHL includes a 16.5 km sea link and viaducts on land at either end with a cumulative length of 5.5 km.
- To improve connectivity in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region which comprises the districts of Mumbai, Thane, Palghar, and Raigad, and promote the region's economic development.
- The MTHL will bring Mumbai and Navi Mumbai closer by dramatically cutting travel time, and will decongest the existing route over the Vashi bridge.