

**Q: Consider the following statement:**

1. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has revamped the “Special Central Assistance” to Tribal Sub-Scheme.
2. It aims at transforming villages with significant tribal population into model village.
3. It includes preparing Village Development Plan based on the needs, potential, and aspirations.

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 Ministry of Tribal Affairs has revamped the existing Scheme of ‘Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Scheme (SCA to TSS) with nomenclature ‘Pradhan Mantri Adi Adarsh Gram Yojna (PMAAGY)’, for implementation during 2021-22 to 2025-26.
- It aims at transforming villages with significant tribal population into model village (Adarsh Gram) covering about population of 4.22 crore (About 40% of the total Tribal Population).
- It includes preparing Village Development Plan based on the needs, potential, and aspirations.

**Q: Consider the following statement:**

1. Patna is the most polluted city in Bihar.
2. Dust is the main reason for deterioration of AQI in Bihar.
3. AQI from 0 to 50 is considered as good.

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:

- While the temperature is dipping across most of the country, the Air Quality Index (AQI) continues to remain above severe in most of the cities.
- In the list of 10 cities with the most air pollution, six are in Bihar.
- Saharsa is considered as the most air polluted city in the country having an air quality index of 366 which comes as health hazards for people having asthmatic problems.
- The dust is the main reason for deterioration of AQI in these cities.
- Rampant construction, and transportations of sand and construction materials are the main reasons for AQI deterioration.
- As a result of this, PM 2.5 and PM 10 levels increased five and three-folds from the normal days.
- AQI from 0 to 50 is considered as good, from 51 to 100 moderate, from 101 to 150 is considered "unhealthy for the sensitive group, from 151 to 200 is considered unhealthy for all, from 201 to 300 is very unhealthy, and from 301 to 500 are hazardous for human health.

**Q: Which among the following is not among the non-fossil sources?**

- a) Green hydrogen
- b) Green ammonia
- c) Hydropower
- d) Ethanol

Ans: c

Explanation:

- There are two constituents of non-fossil sources: one is renewable energy (solar, wind, hydropower and biomass) and the other is nuclear energy.
- Non-fossil sources, including green hydrogen, green ammonia, biomass and ethanol are for energy and feedstock.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding Andaman Smooth hound:**

1. It is facing the risk of extinction due to overfishing.
2. It has been included in the Red List as Vulnerable.
3. This new species is currently only known from the Andaman Sea and endemic to India.

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:

- The Andaman Smoothhound (*Mustelus andamanensis*) has been included in the Red List as Vulnerable. This recently described shark is found in the Andaman Sea in the Eastern Indian Ocean off the coast of Myanmar, Thailand, and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- It is subject to fishing pressure across its spatial and depth range. It is taken as a bycatch in industrial and artisanal fisheries with multiple fishing gears including trawl, longline, and gillnet.
- A small fish, discovered in April 2021 as new to science Andaman Smoothhound is facing the risk of extinction due to overfishing.
- Growing demand for fish and fish meat is a major reason. This new species is currently only known from the Andaman Sea and endemic to India.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding Yellow Himalayan Fritillary plant:**

1. In the Indian Himalayas, the species is threatened due to unorganised harvest.
2. It has been included in the Red List as Critically Endangered.

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 Yellow Himalayan Fritillary plant (*Fritillaria cirrhosa*), which has been included in the Red List as Vulnerable, is mostly found in the Himalayas.
- It occurs in Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal and Pakistan.
- In the Indian Himalayas, the species is threatened due to unorganised harvest, over-extraction, unsustainable and premature harvesting of bulbs, coupled with illegal hidden markets.
- A rapid decline has been reported and raised high conservation concerns on the rapid population decline of *Fritillaria cirrhosa* in the Western Himalayas.
- Harvested and traded with a new trade name i.e., Jangli lehsun' probably to disguise common *Allium* species, the species is facing tremendous decline in wild populations due to its illegal harvesting and trade in Himachal Pradesh.