

**Q: Recently, the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance recommended various changes to Competition (Amendment) Bill. Consider the following statement:**

1. It proposed to reduce the timeline for CCI to 20 days.
2. It has proposed cutting down the timeline for approval of combinations to 150 days from 210 days.
3. Reducing the timeline, will relief understaffed commission.

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:

- Under the Competition (Amendment) Bill, 2022 that was introduced in the Parliament on August 5, the Corporate Affairs Ministry has proposed reducing the timeline for CCI to form a prima-facie opinion on a case to 20 days from 30 days.
- It has proposed cutting down the timeline for approval of combinations to 150 days from 210 days.
- In this regard, the committee said that apprehensions were raised by the Competition Commission of India (CCI) and stakeholders that it will put the authority in a difficult and onerous position.
- The committee is of the opinion that reducing the timeline can be burdensome for an already understaffed commission.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding recently published UNEP Report 2022:**

1. Global GHG emissions must be reduced by 35% by 2030.
2. The total global GHG emissions were estimated at around 53 GTCO<sub>2</sub>eq in 2021.
3. India has set a national target of net zero emissions by 2070.

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:

- According to the recent UNEP 2022 report, global GHG emissions must be reduced by 45% by 2030 to get on track to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees. The total global GHG emissions were estimated at around 53 GTCO<sub>2</sub>eq in 2021.
- The recently concluded COP27 reiterated the need to ramp-down GHG emissions. India has set a national target of net zero emissions by 2070.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced India's pledge at the COP26 Glasgow Summit in November 2021.

**Q: Recently, the Kerala government has tabled University Laws (amendment) Bill in the State Assembly to remove Governor from the post of Chancellor of State universities. Consider the following statement:**

1. The Bill will supplant the Governor and give the government power to appoint eminent academicians as Chancellors.
2. The Bill also provides provision to limit the term of the appointed chancellor to five years.

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:

- The proposed legislation will amend the statutes of 14 universities established by legislative Acts in Kerala and remove the Governor as the Chancellor of those universities.
- The Bill will supplant the Governor and give the government power to appoint eminent academicians as Chancellors of various universities, thus ending the Governor's watchdog role in university administration.
- The Bill also provides provision to limit the term of the appointed chancellor to five years. However, it also says that the serving chancellor can be reappointed for another term.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding fusion reaction:**

1. It happens when two light nuclei merge to form a single heavier nucleus.
2. The total mass of that single nucleus is less than the mass of the two original nuclei.
3. Current efforts focus on fusing a pair of hydrogen isotopes, deuterium and tritium to release more energy.

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 fusion reaction happens when two light nuclei merge to form a single heavier nucleus.
- Because the total mass of that single nucleus is less than the mass of the two original nuclei, the leftover mass is energy that is released in the process.
- In the case of the sun, its intense heat and the pressure exerted by its gravity allow atoms that would otherwise repel each other to fuse.
- Scientists have long understood how nuclear fusion has worked and have been trying to duplicate the process on Earth as far back as the 1930s.
- Current efforts focus on fusing a pair of hydrogen isotopes; deuterium and tritium, which says that particular combination releases "much more energy than most fusion reactions" and requires less heat to do so.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding Tawang sector in Arunachal Pradesh:**

1. Yangtse area lies in this sector.
2. This area hold the strategic importance for China as it provides a strategic entry into India's northeastern region.
3. To the south of Tawang lies the important Bum La Pass.

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:

- Tensions are running high between India and China once again after the recent clashes between the troops of both armies at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Yangtse area of Tawang sector in Arunachal Pradesh.
- Besides the cultural aspect, Tawang also holds tactical importance for China. The town provides a strategic entry into India's northeastern region.
- To the north of Tawang lies the important Bum La Pass, which is a border pass between India's Tawang district and Chinese-occupied Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR). Incidentally, it was this pass that the Chinese troops used to invade India in 1962.
- China has always claimed Arunachal Pradesh as its own and there's a strategy there too. If India wished to attack China, Arunachal would be the closest location for India to deploy its missiles.