

Q: Consider the following statement regarding “Vibrant Villages Programme” (VVP):

1. Improving the quality of life
2. Reversing the outmigration
3. Will be implemented in all the States and Union territory of 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: a

Explanation:

- Recently, the Union Cabinet has approved Centrally Sponsored Scheme- “Vibrant Villages Programme” (VVP) for the Financial Years 2022-23 to 2025-26 with financial allocation of Rs. 4800 Crore.
- Comprehensive development of villages of blocks on northern border thus **improving the quality of life** of people living **in identified border villages**.
- This will help in encouraging people to stay in their native locations in border areas and **reversing the outmigration** from these villages adding to improved security of the border.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding MQ9B Sea Guardian:

1. It is not used in anti-surface warfare mission.
2. It has a 360° maritime surveillance radar.
3. It is the maritime variant of the Predator MQ9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)

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:

- MQ9B Sea Guardian is the maritime variant of the Predator MQ9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV).
- It has a maximum endurance of 40 hours and a maximum flying altitude of 40,000 feet.
- It has a 360° maritime surveillance radar and an optional multimode maritime surface search radar.
- It can be used in operations such as Anti-Surface Warfare, Anti-Submarine Warfare, Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Relief, Search and Rescue, Law Enforcement (Drug Trafficking, Illegal Immigration and Piracy), etc.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. The beetle is important for forensic science as it helps detect the time of death of an animal or human.
2. The bug was discovered by Zoological Survey of 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:

- Recently, a new beetle species has been discovered in India. The beetle is important for forensic science as it helps detect the time of death of an animal or human.
- The bug was discovered by scientist Aparna Sureshchandra Kalawate who works with Zoological Survey of India, Western Regional Centre (WRC), Pune.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Muscat Conference regarding Antimicrobial Resistance:

1. It recognised the need to accelerate political commitments in the implementation of One Health action for controlling the spread of AMR.
2. It also recognised the need to address the impact of AMR not only on humans but also on animals.
3. It deals with areas of environmental health, food security and economic growth and development.

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:

- India's commitment to the cause was evident at the Third Global High-Level Ministerial Conference on Antimicrobial Resistance (November 24-25, 2022) held in Muscat, where over 30 countries adopted the Muscat Ministerial Manifesto on AMR.
- The Muscat Manifesto recognised the need to accelerate political commitments in the implementation of One Health action for controlling the spread of AMR.
- It also recognised the need to address the impact of AMR not only on humans but also on animals, and in areas of environmental health, food security and economic growth and development.

Q: Recently, a new beetle species has been discovered in India. Consider the following statement:

1. The new species belongs to the Trogidae family.
2. The beetles of this group are sometimes called hide beetles.
3. They are photogenic.

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 new species belongs to the Trogidae family. With the addition of this new species, now there are a total of 14 extant species of this family in India.
- The beetles of this group are sometimes called hide beetles as they tend to cover their body under the soil and hide.
- They are not photogenic; they are usually black or grey and encrusted in dirt. Their bumpy appearance is distinct, with short, dense setae all over the body.
- The new species is morphologically most similar to *Omorgus rimulosus*.
- *Omorgus Khandesh* is mainly associated with bird and mammal nests or burrows and the details of their life histories are poorly known. They feign death upon being disturbed and become motionless.