

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Central Road and Infrastructure Fund:

1. It was established under the Central Road Fund Act, 2000.
2. It was previously known as Central Road Fund.
3. Its subject matter belongs to the Ministry of Road and Transport.

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:

- Central Road and Infrastructure Fund was established in 2000 under the Central Road Fund Act, 2000.
- It was previously known as Central Road Fund.
- Its subject matter belongs to the Ministry of Finance.
- The fund consists of a cess imposed along with excise duty on petrol and diesel.
- The Central Road Fund Act, 2000, was amended in 2018 and its objectives are as follows
- To use proceeds of the road cess under CRIF to finance other infrastructure projects such as waterways, some portion of the railway infrastructure, and even social infrastructure, including education institutions and medical colleges.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Buff-breasted Sandpiper:

1. IUCN conservation is listed as critically endangered.
2. It breeds in the open arctic tundra of North America and usually in winters in South America.
3. It is one of the most delicately beautiful of the shorebirds.

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:

- Buff-breasted Sandpiper is one of the most delicately beautiful of the shorebirds.
- It breeds in the open arctic tundra of North America and usually in winters in South America.
- Shortgrass prairies; in summer, tundra ridges. Migrants in North America mostly live on dry, open ground, such as prairies, pastures,
- The male Buff-breasted Sandpipers gather in groups on display territories called leks, where they flash their eye-catching underwings to compete for females' attention.
- It is a champion long-distance migrant, leaving high-Arctic dry tundra nesting grounds and migrating thousands of miles to winter on the grasslands of Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, and Paraguay.
- Conservation status is IUCN: Near Threatened

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Mt. Vesuvius:

1. It is an active volcano
2. It is the only active volcano in mainland Europe

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:

- Mt. Vesuvius is an active volcano that rises above the Bay of Naples on the plain of Campania in southern Italy.
- It is the only active volcano in mainland Europe.
- The volcano is classified as a complex stratovolcano because its eruptions typically involve explosive eruptions as well as pyroclastic flows.
- A pyroclastic flow is a high-density mix of hot lava blocks, pumice, ash, and volcanic gas.
- It is most famous for the 79 AD eruption that destroyed the Roman cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Amazon River:

1. It is the world's largest river by water volume and width.
2. It is the second-longest river in the world after the Nile.
3. Its journey begins high in the Andes Mountains.

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:

- Amazon River is the world's largest river by water volume and width.
- It is the second-longest river in the world after the Nile.
- Its journey begins high in the Andes Mountains.
- The river then makes its way east through thousands of miles of rainforests and lowlands until it empties into the Atlantic Ocean on the northeastern coast of Brazil.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Marshall Islands:

1. It is located in the western Pacific Ocean.
2. It is a presidential republic with a parliamentary system.
3. Only English is used as an official language

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 Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) is located in the western Pacific Ocean.
- It is a chain of five volcanic islands and 29 coral atolls.
- Official languages: English and Marshallese
- It is a presidential republic with a parliamentary system.
- The President of the Marshall Islands is both the head of state and the head of government.
- Economy: Agriculture and tourism are the mainstays of the economy.
- Official currency: US dollar
- In 2018, RMI became the first country to issue its own cryptocurrency and certify it as legal tender.