

Q: Recently, the Prime Minister launched the historic torch relay for the 44th Chess Olympiad. Consider the following statement:

1. The 44th Chess Olympiad will be held in India.
2. In 2018, Chess Olympiad was held in Georgia.
3. Singapore last hosted Chess Olympiad from Asia in 1992.

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:

- India is hosting the prestigious Chess Olympiad for the first time and in the process, Asia gets to host the event after a gap of 30 years.
- Philippines last hosted it from Asia in 1992.
- Being the host, India is set to field 20 players at the 44th FIDE Chess Olympiad. India is entitled to field 2 teams each in the Open and Women's category. Over 2000 participants will be representing at the event from 188 countries.
- The 44th Chess Olympiad will be held in Chennai from 28th July to 10th August, 2022.
- India, who made its debut at the event in 1956 Moscow (27th position), has a gold medal (joint winners with Russia in 2020) and two bronze medals (2021, 2014) from the Chess Olympiad.
- While the 2020 and 2021 editions were held virtually owing to the Covid 19 pandemic, the 2022 edition will be the first over-the-board Chess Olympiad being held since 2018 in Georgia.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding UNESCO's King Hamad Bin Isa Al-Khalifa Prize:

1. The prize was established with the support of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
2. The prize recognizes innovative approaches in leveraging new technologies.

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: b

Explanation:

- **UNESCO's King Hamad Bin Isa Al-Khalifa Prize** award “**recognizes innovative approaches in leveraging new technologies** to expand educational and lifelong learning opportunities for all, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and **its Goal 4 on Education**.”
- **Established in 2005** with the **support of the Kingdom of Bahrain**, the Prize rewards individuals and organizations that are implementing outstanding projects and promoting the creative use of technologies to enhance learning, teaching and overall educational performance in the digital age.
- An international Jury selects two best projects annually.
- Each **prize winner receives US\$ 25,000**, a medal and a diploma during a ceremony at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris”, which this year will be held on 24th June, 2022.

Q: Recently, Chinese scientists have found signs of water on the moon. Consider the following statement:

1. Scientist had revealed presence of water in the form of hydroxyl.
2. Hydroxyl comprise of two oxygen and one hydrogen atom.
3. The water on the moon was the result of chemical processes triggered by the bombardment of charged particles from the sun on the lunar surface.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3
- d) None of the above

Ans: c

Explanation:

- The scientists had analysed remnants of solidified lava retrieved by an uncrewed Chinese mission from the plain known as the '**Ocean of Storms**' and found evidence of water in the form of hydroxyl encased in a crystalline mineral known as apatite.
- **Hydroxyl, comprising a single hydrogen atom and an oxygen atom** versus two hydrogen to one oxygen in a water molecule, was also found in samples retrieved by NASA decades ago.
- It was widely held that most of the water on the moon was the result of chemical processes triggered by the bombardment of charged particles from the sun on the lunar surface.
- The source of hydroxyl in minerals such as apatite is very likely indigenous.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. India has decided to import 8-10 cheetahs from South Africa and Namibia.
2. Kuno Palpur National Park is in Meghalaya.

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 comprehensive study conducted by the CITES group of the **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)** with two other organisations comes at the time when **India has decided to import 8-10 cheetahs from South Africa and Namibia** for breeding in captivity in **Madhya Pradesh's Kuno Palpur National Park**.

Q: Which among the following project did India failed to deliver on time to Nepal?

- a) Arun Three project
- b) Sutlej Vidhyut Nigam
- c) Upper Karnali project
- d) All the above

Ans: c

Explanation:

- An ambitious **Mahakali treaty was signed back in 1996, to produce 6,480 MW**, but India has still not been able to come out with the Detailed project Report.
- The **Upper Karnali project**, for which the multinational GMR signed the contract, has not made any headway for years. Also, one reason SMEC had to wind up was its failure to enter into a power purchase agreement with India.
- What has helped build faith recently is India's success in executing the **900-MW Arun Three project** in eastern Nepal's Sankhuwa Sabha.
- It is being **executed by India's Sutlej Vidhyut Nigam under a BOOT scheme**, and whose foundation was laid in 2018 and which is set for completion by 2023.
- During his first visit as PM to Nepal in 2014, Modi had said India must start executing its projects timely.