

Q: Consider the following statement regarding SANKALP Programme:

1. The project focuses on transforming the overall skilling ecosystem of India.
2. Its nodal ministry is Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE)
3. It is an International Monetary Fund (IMF) loan-assisted project.

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 Skills Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood Promotion (SANKALP) programme was launched in 2018.
- Its nodal ministry is Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE)
- It is a World Bank loan-assisted project and is aligned with the overall objectives of the National Skill Development Mission (NSDM).
- The project focuses on transforming the overall skilling ecosystem of India, covering both central and state-level agencies for improved outcomes.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Fujiwhara effect:

1. It was observed for the first time over the North Atlantic Ocean.
2. It is formed when two cyclone pass each other with common centre.
3. This types of cyclone caused wreaking havoc along coastlines.

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:

- Fujiwhara effect was identified by a Japanese meteorologist, Sakuhei Fujiwhara.
- It was observed for the first time over the western Pacific Ocean when typhoons Marie and Kathy merged in 1964.
- When two hurricanes (or cyclones), spinning in the same direction, are brought close together, they begin ‘an intense dance around their common centre’ – this interaction between two cyclones is called the Fujiwhara effect.
- On the other hand, if two storms of similar strengths pass by each other, they may gravitate towards each other until they reach a common centre and merge or merely spin each other around for a while before shooting off on their own paths.
- In rare instances, the two ‘dancing’ cyclones, if they are intense enough, may merge with one another, leading to the formation of a mega cyclone capable of wreaking havoc along coastlines.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis:

1. It is a neurodegenerative disease in which special nerve cells called motor neurons are affected.
2. It’s also known as Lou Gehrig’s disease.

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:

- Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis is a neurodegenerative disease in which special nerve cells called motor neurons in the brain and spine, which control an individual's voluntary functions like walking, chewing, talking, and moving their arms- are affected.
- It's also known as Lou Gehrig's disease.
- As these nerve cells progressively die, the muscles dependent on them are unable to function or move, due to which they begin to atrophy or waste away.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Zika Virus:

1. It is a mosquito-borne virus first identified in Uganda.
2. It is primarily transmitted to humans through the bite of infected Aedes mosquitoes.
3. It can also spread through sexual contact.

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:

- Zika Virus is a mosquito-borne virus that was first identified in the Zika Forest of Uganda in 1947.
- It is primarily transmitted to humans through the bite of infected Aedes mosquitoes, particularly Aedes aegypti and Aedes albopictus.
- It can also spread through sexual contact, blood transfusion, and from an infected mother to her baby during pregnancy or childbirth.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Lion-tailed macaque:

1. These are only native to India.
2. The biggest threat to the overall population of this species is the destruction of their rainforest habitat.
3. Conservation status by IUCN is Near Threatened.

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 Lion-tailed macaque (*Macaca silenus*) is an Old World monkey.
- In the wild, these are only native to India.
- It is a primate endemic to small and severely fragmented rainforests of the Western Ghats in Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.
- The biggest threat to the overall population of this species is the destruction of their rainforest habitat.
- Conservation status by IUCN is endangered.