

**Q: Consider the following statement:**

1. India proposed to transfer Leith's Softshell Turtle (*Nilssonia leithi*) from Appendix II to Appendix I.
2. India proposes to include Jeypore Hill Gecko (*Cyrtodactylus jeyporensis*) in Appendix II.
3. India proposes to transfer of Red-Crowned Roofed Turtle (*Batagur kachuga*) to Appendix II of CITES.

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's proposal for transferring Leith's Softshell Turtle (*Nilssonia leithi*) from Appendix II to Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild fauna and flora (CITES) has been adopted by the Conference of Parties (CoP) to CITES in its 19th Meeting at Panama.
- The 19th meeting of the CoP to CITES is being held in Panama from 14th to 25th November 2022.
- India's proposal for inclusion of Jeypore Hill Gecko (*Cyrtodactylus jeyporensis*) in Appendix II and the transfer of Red-Crowned Roofed Turtle (*Batagur kachuga*) from Appendix II to Appendix I of CITES have also been adopted by the CoP in this meeting.

**Q: Consider the following statement:**

1. The unemployment ratio is defined as the percentage of persons unemployed in the country.
2. The worker-population ratio (WPR) is defined as the percentage of employed persons in the population.
3. The labour force participation rate (LFPR) is defined as the percentage of persons in the labour force who are working.

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:

- The unemployment ratio is defined as the percentage of persons unemployed among the persons in the labour force.
- The worker-population ratio (WPR) is defined as the percentage of employed persons in the population.
- The labour force participation rate (LFPR) is defined as the percentage of persons in the labour force who are working or seeking or available for work in the population

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding Naseem Al Bahr-2022:**

1. The exercise is conducted between Navy of Oman and India.
2. This year marks the 30 years of this exercise.

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 13th edition of bilateral exercise between the Indian and the Royal Oman navies, Naseem Al Bahr-2022, commenced off the coast of Oman on 20 November 2022.
- The first IN-RNO exercise was conducted in 1993.
- This year marks 30 years of IN-RNO bilateral exercises.

**Q: Consider the following statement:**

1. India has an Arctic research programme.
2. Climate and environmental protection is one of the pillars of Arctic research programme.
3. India is also one of the 13 Observers in the Arctic Council.

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:

- Since 2007, India has an Arctic research programme with as many as 13 expeditions undertaken till date.
- In March 2022, India unveiled its first Arctic policy titled: 'India and the Arctic: building a partnership for sustainable development' which lays down six pillars:
  - a) strengthening India's scientific research and cooperation,
  - b) climate and environmental protection,
  - c) economic and human development,
  - d) transportation and connectivity,
  - e) governance and international cooperation, and
  - f) national capacity building in the Arctic region.
- India is also one of the 13 Observers in the Arctic Council, the leading intergovernmental forum promoting cooperation in the Arctic.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding Leith's Softshell Turtle:**

1. It is a large fresh water soft-shelled turtle.
2. The species is listed on Schedule IV of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
3. It is classified as vulnerable by the IUCN.

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:

- Leith's Softshell Turtle is a large fresh water soft-shelled turtle which is endemic to peninsular India and it inhabits rivers and reservoirs.
- The species has been subject to intensive exploitation over the past 30 years. It has been poached and illegally consumed within India. It has also been illegally traded abroad for meat and for its calipee.
- The population of this turtle species is estimated to have declined by 90% over the past 30 years such that the species is now difficult to find.
- It is classified as 'Critically Endangered' by the IUCN.
- The species is listed on Schedule IV of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, which gives it protection from hunting as well as trade. However, poaching and illegal trade of protected turtle species is a major challenge in India with seizures of thousands of specimens reported every year.