

Q: Recently, India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and Singapore's PayNow were officially connected to allow for "real-time payment linkage". Consider the following statement:

1. Singapore is the first country with which cross-border Person-to-Person (P2P) payment facilities have been launched.
2. India has also considered allowing UPI remittances from United Arab Emirates.
3. Axis Bank and DBS India will only facilitate outward remittances

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:

- Singapore is the first country with which cross-border Person-to-Person (P2P) payment facilities have been launched.
- The plan was first announced by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) in September 2021 to facilitate instant low-cost, cross-border fund transfer.
- For users at the Indian end, State Bank of India, Indian Overseas Bank, Indian Bank and ICICI Bank will facilitate both inward and outward remittances, while Axis Bank and DBS India will only facilitate inward remittances for now.
- India has also considered allowing UPI remittances from other countries like the United Arab Emirates (UAE), which hosts a large Indian population.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Venice:

1. Venetian lagoon is separated from the Aegean Sea.
2. It is a collection of over 118 small islands spread over a lagoon.

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:

- Located in northern Italy, the city of Venice has a unique geography. It is a collection of over 118 small islands spread over a lagoon, which is a kind of water body that is separated from a larger water body through some kind of land formation.
- Covering 70,176.4 ha., the Venetian lagoon is separated from the Adriatic Sea. A NASA image shows the red tile roofs of buildings in the Venetian Lagoon.
- According to UNESCO, temporary settlements in the 5th century gradually became permanent here, comprising land-dwelling peasants and fishermen.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. Basolateral Amygdala (BLA) is a region in brain.
2. It is an essential region for fear.

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:

- Brain-imaging studies in humans have shown that the neuronal activities of the anterior cingulate cortex (ACC) and the amygdala change during observation of others experiencing fear or others' fearful facial expressions.
- It was also known that another region of the brain; basolateral amygdala (BLA) is essential for observational fear.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. The strawberry harvest is possible in tropical deciduous forest.
2. Most people in Sunabeda are from the Chuktia Bhunjia tribe.
3. Sunabeda plateau is found along the Odisha-Chhattisgarh boundary.

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:

- The strawberry harvest has triggered a celebration in the houses of 10 farmers who live in one of the 56 villages in the tropical deciduous forest of the Sunabeda Wildlife Sanctuary.
- Most people in Sunabeda are from the Chuktia Bhunjia tribe, one of the particularly vulnerable tribal groups (PVTGs).
- The rugged Sunabeda plateau, 3,000 feet above sea level, along the Odisha-Chhattisgarh boundary, has always been a difficult terrain to traverse.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding One District One Product (ODOP) programme:

1. It is aimed at creating sustainable employment at the district level while promoting holistic socio-economic development.
2. It comes under ministry of Finance.

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 One District One Product (ODOP) programme under Department of Commerce (DoC) and Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce & Industry is aimed at creating sustainable employment at the district level while promoting holistic socio-economic development.
- The idea is to select, brand, and promote one product from each district of the country.
- In pursuance of the Prime Minister's clarion call on Aatma Nirbhar Bharat and with India's current G20 Presidency, several initiatives are being undertaken by DPIIT.