

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Asteroid Bennu:

1. Asteroids are the ancient materials left over from the original era of planet formation.
2. The asteroid was discovered in 1999 by the Lincoln.
3. It was named after Persian God.

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 asteroid was discovered in 1999 by the Lincoln Near-Earth Asteroid Research (opens in new tab) (LINEAR) telescope in New Mexico and is named after the heron God Bennu from Egyptian Mythology.
- Asteroids are the ancient materials left over from the original era of planet formation and may contain molecular precursors to life.
- It added that scientists have learned a great deal from studying asteroid fragments that have naturally reached the ground as meteorites.
- But to understand whether asteroids played a role in delivering these compounds to Earth's surface over 4 billion years ago, scientists need a pristine sample from space, free from terrestrial contaminants.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Geomagnetic storms:

1. They are the major disturbance on Earth's Troposphere.
2. They occur when there is a very efficient exchange of energy from the solar wind into space.
3. These storms result from variations in the solar wind that produce major changes in the currents and plasmas.

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:

- Geomagnetic storms are a major disturbance of Earth's magnetosphere that occurs when there is a very efficient exchange of energy from the solar wind into the space environment surrounding Earth.
- These storms result from variations in the solar wind that produce major changes in the currents, plasmas, and fields in Earth's magnetosphere.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. *Lily Thomas versus Union of India* struck down Section 8(4) of the RPA, 1951.
2. Section 8(4) of the Act was declared unconstitutional.

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:

- There is considerable discussion now as to whether the earlier protection enjoyed by serving legislators from immediate disqualification must be restored. Section 8(4) of the RPA, 1951, was struck down in 2013 by the Supreme Court in a landmark verdict in *Lily Thomas versus Union of India*.
- Section 8(4) of the Act was declared unconstitutional on the ground that Parliament lacked the legislative competence to enact it.
- The apex Court had cited Article 102 of the Constitution (and Article 191, the corresponding article for State Assembly and Legislative Council members) to lay down that Parliament was mandated to enact a common law prescribing what sort of situation would disqualify a person for both 'being chosen as' and 'being a member' of Parliament.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Finance Bill:

1. The bill is a part of the Union Budget.
2. The bill shall not be introduced or moved except with the President's recommendation.
3. The Finance Bill, as a Money Bill, needs to be passed by the Lok Sabha

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:

- As per Article 110 of the Constitution of India, the Finance Bill is a Money Bill. The Finance Bill is a part of the Union Budget, stipulating all the legal amendments required for the changes in taxation proposed by the Finance Minister.
- This Bill encompasses all amendments required in various laws pertaining to tax, in accordance with the tax proposals made in the Union Budget. The Finance Bill, as a Money Bill, needs to be passed by the Lok Sabha. Post the Lok Sabha's approval, the Finance Bill becomes Finance Act.
- In the case of a Finance Bill, Article 117 of the Constitution categorically lays down that a Bill pertaining to sub-clauses (a) to (f) of clause (1) shall not be introduced or moved except with the President's recommendation. Also, a Bill that makes such provisions shall not be introduced in the Rajya Sabha.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. Deep Ocean Mission
2. Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana
3. Bharatmala Project

Which among the following initiatives are undertaken by government of India to promote the development of a blue economy?

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: a

Explanation:

The Government of India has launched bold initiatives to promote the development of a blue economy.

- The Sagarmala initiative promotes port-led development.
- The Shipbuilding Financial Assistance Policy encourages domestic ship-building.
- The Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana is actively engendering a 'blue revolution' through sustainable and responsible development of the fisheries sector.
- The Sagar Manthan dashboard tracks vessels in real-time.
- The Deep Ocean Mission explores deep-sea resources in the EEZ and continental shelf as well as development of technology for harnessing them.
- India adopted the Coastal Regulation Zone notification to classify and better manage coastal regions and conserve ecologically sensitive coastal and marine areas including ecosystems.