

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding the key recommendation of Parliamentary Panel:**

1. There should be a dedicated hour during the Rajya Sabha proceedings.
2. The tenure of the Parliamentary committees should be increased from the present one year to two years.
3. Their field visits should not be increased from the present two visits.

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

- Recently, a Parliamentary panel headed by former General Secretary and advisor P.P.K. Ramacharyulu submitted its report.
- There should be a dedicated hour during the Rajya Sabha proceedings to discuss the “import and implications” of the reports finalised by Parliamentary Standing Committees.
- The committee suggested that the **tenure of the Parliamentary committees should be increased** from the present one year to two years.
- Their field visits should also be increased from the present two visits for a maximum of 10 days in a year to three visits and 15 days.
- The panel said that these reports should be made more accessible to the stakeholders and general public.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding Nairobi Flies:**

1. This flies infected student of Manipur.
2. This flies is also known as dragon bugs.
3. These flies secrete pederin, a type of acid that cause burn.

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

- Around 100 students of an engineering college in East Sikkim have reported skin infections after coming in contact with Nairobi flies.
- The population of Nairobi flies, a **species of insect native to East Africa**, is growing at a fast pace on campus of the Sikkim Manipal Institute of Technology (SMIT) in Majhitar.
- Nairobi flies, also called **Kenyan flies or dragon bugs**, are small, beetle-like insects that belong to two species, *Paederus eximius* and *Paederus sabaeus*.
- Usually, the insects attack pests that consume crops and are beneficial for humans but at times, they come in contact with humans directly are cause harm. These flies do not bite, but if disturbed while sitting on anyone’s skin, they release a potent acidic substance that causes burns.
- This substance is called **pederin**, and can cause irritation if it comes in contact with the skin, leading to lesions or unusual marks or colouring on the skin.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding the recently released the first State Ranking Index for implementation of the National Food Security Act, 2013:**

1. Odisha, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh scored the top three positions in the Index.
2. This index is based on three parameters for the year 2022.

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

- Recently, the Union Food Minister released the **first State Ranking Index for implementation of the National Food Security Act, 2013**.
- Overall, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh scored the highest and secured the top three positions in the Index. The states performed very well on all the parameters and indicators governing the implementation of NFSA through TPDS (targeted public distribution system).
- The states and UTs were ranked based on **three parameters for the year 2022**.
- The first measures “coverage of NFSA, rightful targeting, and implementation of all provisions under NFSA” while the second “analyzes the delivery platform while considering the allocation of foodgrains, their movement, and last-mile delivery to Fair Price Shops (FPS)”.
- The third “focuses on nutrition initiatives of the department”.

**Q: Consider the following statement and choose the incorrect option:**

- a) RIMPAC is one of the largest biennial multilateral Naval Exercises.
- b) The RIMPAC started in 1971.
- c) India first participated in RIMPAC in 2014.
- d) 28th edition of the biennial Rim of Pacific (RIMPAC-22) was organized in Taiwan.

Ans: d

Explanation

- RIMPAC is one of the largest biennial multilateral Naval Exercises, which is led by US.
- The RIMPAC started in 1971 as an annual exercise by the US, Australia, and Canada but from 1974, maritime exercise became a biennial event.
- India first participated in RIMPAC in 2014.
- Indian Navy participated in the **28th edition of the biennial Rim of Pacific (RIMPAC-22)**, the world's largest international maritime exercise. It was organised at Pearl Harbour in Hawaii.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding India-China competition in Sri Lanka.**

1. In Sri Lanka, India and Japan jointly developing the East Container Terminal at the Colombo.
2. In March 2022, Sri Lanka picked India to build three hydropower projects.

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

- Sri Lanka in the last couple of years has witnessed competition between India and China in port terminal and energy projects.
- In 2021, Colombo ejected India and Japan out of a deal to develop the East Container Terminal at the Colombo Colombo port, getting China to take up the project. It then awarded the project for the Western Side of the Terminal to the Adani Group.
- In March 2022, **Sri Lanka picked India to build three hydropower projects**, scrapping a deal it had signed with China for the same projects last year. India was offering a grant, unlike China’s loan.