

Q: A multinational Joint Exercise “Ex Khaan Quest 2022” is hosted by

- a) Mongolia
- b) Kazakhstan
- c) Kyrgyzstan
- d) Turkmenistan

Ans: a

Explanation:

- A Multinational Peacekeeping exercise “Ex Khaan Quest 2022” featuring participation from military contingents from 16 countries has commenced in Mongolia.
- The 14 day exercise is aimed at enhancing interoperability, building military to military relationships, developing peace support operations and military readiness among participating nations.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding BIMSTEC:

1. It has a free trade agreement amongst its members.
2. It has adopted Master Plan for Connectivity supported by the Asian Development Bank.
3. The grouping has talked about the Blue Economy but it is yet to begin any work on it.

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:

- BIMSTEC had no role to play in this growth story because unlike ASEAN, it doesnot have a free trade agreement amongst its members.
- Unlike the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, post-2014, BIMSTEC has continued to hold its summits and meetings of Foreign Ministers.
- Unlike the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), which held only one summit since its establishment in 1997, BIMSTEC has succeeded in holding five summits so far; it has now resolved to hold regular summits once in two years.
- The grouping has also registered progress in combating terrorism, forging security cooperation, and creating mechanisms and practices for the better management of humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.
- Only limited progress has been achieved so far, despite the adoption of the Master Plan for Connectivity supported by the Asian Development Bank (ADB).
- BIMSTEC Development Fund is minimal. The grouping has talked about the Blue Economy but is yet to begin any work on it. The involvement of the ‘Third Space’ needs to be expanded significantly.

Q: Recently Supreme Court Judgement asserted that sex workers and their children cannot be deprived of their right to live with dignity. Consider the following statement:

1. No child of a sex worker should be separated from the mother merely on the ground that the mother is in the sex trade.
2. Government should involve sex workers or their representatives in the process of decision-making.

Which among the above following recommendation are made by Supreme Court?

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Ans: c

Explanation:

- Supreme Court recommended that no child of a sex worker should be separated from the mother merely on the ground that the mother is in the sex trade. If a minor is living in a brothel or with sex workers, it should not be presumed that he/she has been trafficked.
- The Court also recommended that the government should involve sex workers or their representatives in the process of decision-making or in the process of drafting reforms in laws relating to sex work.
- As the purpose of this exercise is to rehabilitate sex workers and improve their living conditions, their involvement in decision-making will surely make the reforms more enforceable.

Q: Recently, the Delhi High Court issued notice to the Centre on a petition challenging provisions of the Surrogacy Act and the Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) Act. Consider the following statement:

1. Both married and unmarried couple can opt for surrogacy on medical grounds.
2. Couple having their own child can also opt for surrogacy.

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: d

Explanation:

- As per the Surrogacy Act that commissioned in from January 2022, a **married couple can opt for surrogacy only on medical grounds**.
- Additionally, **the couple should not have a child of their own**. Though the law allows single women to resort to surrogacy, she should either be a widow or a divorcee, between the age of 35 to 45 years. Single men are however, not eligible.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding the solar energy potential in the North East Region of India:

1. The realized potential of solar power in North Eastern Region is less than 1 percent.
2. North Eastern Region has vast hydro potential capacity.

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:

- As against a potential of about 62,300 MW of solar power in NER, the **realized potential is only 176 MW (less than 0.3% of potential)**.
- Though the solar intensity in the North East is less than in say, Rajasthan, but the high average cost of supply of electricity in the region, would be able to absorb this constraint, to be able to supply RE power in a financially viable manner.
- As solar power is intermittent, the **vast hydro potential of the region** would help in providing Round the Clock (RTC) RE power in the region.