

Q: Recently, the World Health Organization (WHO) issued an alert over four cough and cold syrups, which had unacceptable amounts of diethylene glycol and ethylene glycol as contaminants. Consider the following statement:

1. Diethylene Glycol (DEG) or ethylene glycol when consumed can prove fatal.
2. The chemical is used in antifreeze, brake fluids, cosmetics, and lubricants.
3. It can cause brain hemorrhage and heart attack.

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:

- Diethylene Glycol (DEG) or ethylene glycol is toxic to humans when consumed and can prove fatal.
- It can cause kidney and neurological toxicity and has been associated with several cases of mass poisoning when consumed via drugs.
- The chemical is used in antifreeze, brake fluids, cosmetics, and lubricants and causes renal insufficiency and failure and could even lead to coma and death.
- The chemical tastes sweet and is water-insoluble.
- The toxic effects of the chemical include abdominal pain, vomiting, diarrhoea, inability to pass urine, headache, altered mental state, and acute kidney injury.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding International Union of Geological Sciences:

1. The IUGS Secretariat is headquartered in Tokyo.
2. The Petrified Forest of Lesvos and Volcanic Caldera have made it to the list.
3. The Petrified Forest is a rare fossil forest ecosystem from Greece.

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 International Union of Geological Sciences was founded in 1961 with 121 national members. The organisation is represented by over a million geoscientists and is one of the World's largest scientific organisations.
- The IUGS Secretariat is headquartered in Beijing.
- IUGS saw the nomination of 181 candidates from 56 countries.
- Two geological sites from Greece have made it to the list: The Petrified Forest of Lesvos and Volcanic Caldera of Santorini.
- The Petrified Forest is a rare fossil forest ecosystem that includes large concentrations of petrified trees and animal fossils that were covered with volcanic material 18 million years ago.
- The shape of Volcanic Caldera was formed more than 3500 years ago, when a volcanic eruption changed the Mediterranean topography forever. The site sees thousands of tourists every year who come to witness the beauty of the place.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. Meghalaya's Mawmluh Cave is UNESCO International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) Geological Sites' list.
2. Mawmluh Cave is fourth longest in the Indian subcontinent.

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:

- Meghalaya's Mawmluh Cave is now on the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation's (UNESCO) 'First 100 International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) Geological Sites' list.
- The caves, which are also called Krem Mawmluh, are the fourth longest in the Indian subcontinent.

Q: Who among the following is awarded Nobel Prize in Literature for 2022?

- a) Louise Gluck
- b) Abdulrazak Gurnah
- c) Olga Tokarczuk
- d) Annie Ernaux

Ans: d

Explanation:

- French author Annie Ernaux has been awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature for 2022.
- She is the 17th woman to win the prestigious prize, out of 119 literature laureates since the first Nobel was awarded in 1901.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding the process followed by Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC):

1. Corporate Debtor (CD) or a Company if failed to pay loan can apply for the initiation of a Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP).
2. Presently the minimum amount of default which the creditor or debtor could apply for insolvency is ₹1 lakh.

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:

- When a corporate debtor (CD), or a company which has taken loans to run its business, defaults on its loan repayment, either the creditor or the debtor can apply for the initiation of a Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP) under Section 6 of the IBC.
- Earlier, the minimum amount of default after which the creditor or debtor could apply for insolvency was ₹1 lakh, but considering the stress on companies amid the pandemic, the government increase the minimum amount to ₹1 crore.