

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the Codex Alimentarius Commission:

1. The Codex Alimentarius Commission was established jointly by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO).
2. Codex standards are legally binding international regulations that supersede the food laws of sovereign nations.
3. One of the principal objectives of the Codex system is to safeguard the health of consumers worldwide.
4. Codex standards are recognized as international reference standards under the World Trade Organization (WTO) framework.

Which one of the following conclusions based on the above statements is correct?

- (A) There are four correct statements.
(B) There are three correct statements, including Statement 1.
(C) There is no correct statement.
(D) There is only one correct statement.

Answer: (B)

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The Codex Alimentarius Commission was established in **1963** jointly by the **FAO** and the **WHO** to develop harmonized international food standards, guidelines, and codes of practice.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** Codex standards are **voluntary** rather than legally binding. Countries retain the authority to formulate and enforce their own food laws, although Codex standards often influence national regulations.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** A primary objective of the Codex system is to **protect consumer health** while ensuring fair practices in international food trade.
- **Statement 4 is correct.** Under the **WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures**, Codex standards serve as internationally recognized food safety references in trade disputes and regulatory harmonization.

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding the Tibetan Plateau:

1. The Tibetan Plateau was formed due to the collision between the Indian Plate and the Eurasian Plate.
2. The plateau was uplifted because the Eurasian Plate was subducted beneath the Indian Plate, resulting in crustal thickening.
3. The Qiangtang region in northern Tibet is a cold, arid, high-altitude landscape containing numerous saline lakes.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 1 and 3 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (B)

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The Tibetan Plateau originated from the **continental collision between the Indian Plate and the Eurasian Plate**, which began around **50–60 million years ago**. This collision caused crustal shortening, thickening, and uplift, forming both the Himalayas and the Tibetan Plateau.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** The tectonic process occurred in the opposite direction. It is the **Indian Plate that is underthrust beneath the Eurasian Plate**, leading to crustal thickening and uplift.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** The **Qiangtang Plateau** is characterized by a **cold, arid climate**, extensive permafrost, sparse vegetation, and numerous **saline lakes** within internally drained basins.

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding Trial in Absentia under the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023:

1. Trial in Absentia refers to a criminal trial conducted in the absence of the accused person.
2. The provision applies to all minor offences punishable with imprisonment of less than two years.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 only
- (C) Both 1 and 2
- (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (A)

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct.** Trial in Absentia is a judicial proceeding conducted without the physical presence of the accused when the individual deliberately evades the legal process despite repeated efforts to secure appearance.
 - **Statement 2 is incorrect.** The provision **does not apply to minor offences**. Under the **BNSS, 2023**, it is applicable only to **proclaimed offenders** accused of offences punishable with **ten years or more imprisonment, life imprisonment, or death**, who continue to evade arrest despite prescribed legal procedures.
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Q4. Consider the following statements regarding the Index of Services Production (ISP):

1. The Index of Services Production is compiled and published monthly by NITI Aayog.
2. The index measures short-term changes in the volume of output of India's formal services sector.
3. The trial series of the ISP adopts **2024–25** as its base year.

Which one of the following conclusions based on the above statements is correct?

- (A) All three statements are correct.
(B) There is no correct statement.
(C) There are two correct statements, including Statement 3.
(D) There is only one correct statement.

Answer: (C)

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** The **Index of Services Production (ISP)** is compiled and released by the **National Statistics Office (NSO)** under the **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)**, not by NITI Aayog.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The ISP measures **short-term changes in the volume of output** of India's formal services sector and functions as a high-frequency indicator similar to the **Index of Industrial Production (IIP)**.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** The trial ISP series uses **2024–25 as the base year**, ensuring consistency with the latest revisions in India's official statistical framework.

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding the Ravidassia community:

1. The Ravidassia community is a distinct Dalit religious community primarily associated with the Punjab region.
2. Guru Ravidas was a revered saint of the ancient Vedic period.
3. The principal religious scripture of the Ravidassia community is the **Amritbani Guru Ravidass Ji**.

Which one of the following conclusions based on the above statements is correct?

- (A) There are two correct statements, including Statement 2.
(B) There are two correct statements, namely Statements 1 and 3.
(C) All three statements are correct.
(D) There is only one correct statement, namely Statement 2.

Answer: (B)

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The **Ravidassia community** is a distinct Dalit religious community with its largest concentration in **Punjab**, along with a significant global diaspora.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** **Guru Ravidas** was a **15th–16th century Bhakti movement saint, poet, and social reformer**, not a saint of the Vedic period.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** The community regards the **Amritbani Guru Ravidass Ji** as its principal religious scripture, containing the hymns and teachings of Guru Ravidas.

Q6. Consider the following statements regarding Forward Deployed Engineering (FDE):

1. Forward Deployed Engineering is a specialized professional role that combines software engineering with systems integration and business consulting.
2. Forward Deployed Engineers work directly with clients to design, deploy, and optimize real-world AI solutions.

Which of the above statements are incorrect?

- (A) 1 only
(B) 2 only
(C) Both 1 and 2
(D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (D)

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct.** Forward Deployed Engineering (FDE) integrates **software engineering, systems integration, and business consulting**. FDEs bridge the gap between technical development and business requirements by translating customer needs into practical AI and software solutions.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** FDEs work closely with clients to **design, deploy, customize, and optimize AI applications** in real-world environments. They also troubleshoot implementation challenges, gather user feedback, and continuously refine deployed solutions to maximize operational value.

Q7. Consider the following statements regarding the Abathsayeswarar Temple at Thukkachi:

1. The Abathsayeswarar Temple is a historic Hindu shrine located in the Thanjavur district of Tamil Nadu.
2. The temple is regarded as an important example of the architectural style of the Later Chola period.
3. The temple received international recognition through the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Award of Distinction for Cultural Heritage Conservation.

How many of the above statements are incorrect?

- (A) Only one
- (B) Only two
- (C) All three
- (D) None

Answer: (D)

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The **Abathsahayeswarar Temple**, dedicated to **Lord Shiva**, is situated at **Thukkachi near Kumbakonam in Thanjavur district, Tamil Nadu**.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The monument is closely associated with the **Later Chola dynasty**, particularly the reigns of **Kulottunga I** and **Vikrama Chola**, and represents the refinement of **Later Chola Dravidian architecture**.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** The temple's conservation project received the **UNESCO Asia-Pacific Award of Distinction for Cultural Heritage Conservation**, recognizing the successful integration of traditional restoration methods with modern conservation techniques.

Q8. Match the following Service Sub-sectors of the Index of Services Production (ISP) with the primary data source used to compile their output:

Column I (Service Sub-sector)

Column II (Primary Data Source)

A. Road Transport and Professional Services

1. Administrative / Secondary Data Registries

B. Air and Railway Transport Operations

2. Goods and Services Tax (GST) Data Ecosystem

C. Non-Government Health and Education Sectors

3. Annual Survey of Incorporated Services Sector Enterprises (ASISSE)

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (A) A-2, B-1, C-3
- (B) A-2, B-3, C-1
- (C) A-1, B-2, C-3
- (D) A-3, B-1, C-2

Answer: (A)

Explanation

- **A → 2: Road Transport and Professional Services** are primarily estimated using the **Goods and Services Tax (GST) data ecosystem**, which provides high-frequency information on market-based service activities.
- **B → 1: Air and Railway Transport Operations** rely mainly on **Administrative and Secondary Data Registries**, including operational records maintained by government agencies and transport authorities.

- **C → 3: Non-Government Health and Education Services** are estimated using the **Annual Survey of Incorporated Services Sector Enterprises (ASISSE)** because these sectors require dedicated survey-based information beyond GST coverage.

Hence, the correct matching is **A–2, B–1, C–3**.

Q9. Match the following maritime choke points with the water bodies they connect to:

Column I (Choke Point) Column II (Connecting Water Body)

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|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Taiwan Strait | X. Indian Ocean / Andaman Sea |
| 2. Luzon Strait | Y. Philippine Sea |
| 3. Strait of Malacca | Z. East China Sea |

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (A) 1–Y, 2–X, 3–Z
(B) 1–X, 2–Y, 3–Z
(C) 1–Z, 2–Y, 3–X
(D) 1–X, 2–Z, 3–Y

Answer: (C)

Explanation

- **1 → Z:** The **Taiwan Strait** lies between mainland China and Taiwan, connecting the **South China Sea** with the **East China Sea**.
- **2 → Y:** The **Luzon Strait**, located between Taiwan and Luzon Island in the Philippines, links the **South China Sea** with the **Philippine Sea**.
- **3 → X:** The **Strait of Malacca** connects the **South China Sea** with the **Andaman Sea**, providing access to the **Indian Ocean** and serving as one of the world's busiest maritime trade routes.

Hence, the correct matching is **1–Z, 2–Y, 3–X**.

Q10. Consider the following pairs regarding Vehicle-to-Everything (V2X) communication and their applications:

**V2X Communication Mode /
Application**

Target Use Case

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Vehicle-to-Infrastructure (V2I) | Emergency Vehicle Signal Preemption (EVP) and Traffic Signal Priority (TSP) |
|------------------------------------|---|

**V2X Communication Mode /
Application**

Target Use Case

- | | |
|--|--|
| 2. Vehicle-to-Pedestrian (V2P) | Smart Crossings (PED-SIG) providing alerts through smartphones or wearable devices |
| 3. Advanced Work Zone Queue Management | Vehicle-to-Device (V2D) smart home hardware synchronization |

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

- (A) 1 and 2 only
(B) 2 only
(C) 1 and 3 only
(D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (A)

Explanation

- **Pair 1 is correct. Vehicle-to-Infrastructure (V2I)** communication enables vehicles to exchange real-time information with roadside infrastructure, supporting applications such as **Emergency Vehicle Signal Preemption (EVP)** and **Traffic Signal Priority (TSP)** to improve emergency response and traffic flow.
- **Pair 2 is correct. Vehicle-to-Pedestrian (V2P)** communication enhances pedestrian safety by enabling interaction between vehicles and pedestrians through **smartphones or wearable devices**. Applications such as **Smart Crossings (PED-SIG)** issue alerts to reduce collision risks.
- **Pair 3 is incorrect. Advanced Work Zone Queue Management** is a roadway safety application that warns motorists about congestion or queues near construction zones. It is **not associated with Vehicle-to-Device (V2D) communication** for smart home hardware synchronization.

Q11. Consider the following statements regarding the 'Oilseeds Kisaan Mitra' platform:

1. Oilseeds Kisaan Mitra is a multilingual, AI-powered digital advisory chatbot accessible through a dedicated standalone mobile application developed for Android devices.
2. The platform has been developed by the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare in collaboration with NITI Aayog.
3. The platform provides location-specific advisory services for major oilseed crops, including groundnut, mustard, soybean, and sunflower.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 and 2 only
(B) 3 only

(C) 1 and 3 only

(D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (B)

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** *Oilseeds Kisaan Mitra* is a **24×7 multilingual, AI-powered digital advisory chatbot** that is accessible directly through **WhatsApp**. Farmers can use the service without downloading a separate mobile application or accessing a web portal.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** The platform has been developed by the **ICAR–Indian Institute of Oilseeds Research (ICAR-IIOR), Hyderabad**, and not by the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare in collaboration with NITI Aayog.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** The platform offers **location-specific scientific advisory services** for major oilseed crops, including **groundnut, mustard, soybean, sunflower, sesame, and niger**, covering the entire crop cycle from seed selection to post-harvest management.

Q12. Consider the following statements regarding Flamingos:

1. Flamingos are highly social, colonial wading birds belonging to the family **Phoenicopteridae**.
2. Flamingos possess a specialized filter-feeding bill that is used upside down while feeding in shallow water.
3. Flamingos construct cone-shaped mud nests in deep-water ecosystems primarily to protect their eggs from terrestrial predators.

How many of the above statements are correct?

(A) Only one

(B) Only two

(C) All three

(D) None

Answer: (B)

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct.** Flamingos are **highly gregarious colonial wading birds** belonging to the family **Phoenicopteridae**, the only family within the order **Phoenicopteriformes**. They often breed and forage in large colonies.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Flamingos possess a **specialized filter-feeding bill**, which they hold **upside down** while feeding in shallow waters. Their bills filter algae, diatoms, crustaceans, and other microscopic organisms from mud and water.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** Although flamingos construct **cone-shaped mud nests**, these are built in **shallow wetlands**, not deep-water ecosystems. Their primary function is to keep eggs above fluctuating water levels and reduce the risk of flooding rather than protecting them from terrestrial predators.

Q13. Consider the following statements regarding the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 (AFSPA):

1. The Act confers extraordinary operational powers upon both the Central armed forces and the state police forces.
2. A region can be declared a disturbed area under the Act solely on the recommendation of the National Security Council.
3. Under the Act, security personnel may open fire on unlawful assemblies or destroy fortified militant camps only after issuing prior warning.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (A) Only one
(B) Only two
(C) All three
(D) None

Answer: (D)

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** AFSPA grants **special operational powers only to members of the Central armed forces** deployed in notified disturbed areas. These statutory powers are **not automatically extended to state police forces**.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** Under **Section 3 of AFSPA**, the authority to declare an area as **disturbed** rests with the **Central Government**, the **Governor of a State**, or the **Administrator of a Union Territory**, and **not** with the National Security Council.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** Under **Section 4(a)**, armed forces personnel may use force, including opening fire upon unlawful assemblies, **after giving due warning**. However, **Section 4(b)**, which authorizes the destruction of arms dumps, fortified positions, shelters, or training camps used by insurgents, **does not require prior warning**. Therefore, the statement is incorrect because it combines two provisions under a single mandatory condition.