

**Que-1 What is kala-azar or black fever disease?**

- 1- Kala-azar or Visceral Leishmaniasis is a protozoan parasitic disease.
- 2- It is spread by Mosquitoes.
- 3- The disease affects some of the poorest people and is linked to malnutrition, population displacement, poor housing, a weak immune system and a lack of financial resources.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-2 With reference to wildfires, consider the following statements**

- 1- Rising temperatures suck moisture out of plants, creating an abundance of dry fuel.
- 2- Drought and high heat can kill plants and dry out dead grass, and other material on the forest floor that fuel the fire once it starts sweeping through a patch.
- 3- While dry vegetation is the burnable fuel that serves as kindling for fires, the spark is always caused by lightning.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

- |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| a) 1 and 2 only | b) 1 and 3 only |
|-----------------|-----------------|

- |               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| c) 1, 2 and 3 | d) 2 and 3 only |
|---------------|-----------------|

**Que-3 With reference to INS Sindhudhvaj, consider the following statements**

- 1- Sindhudhvaj, was one of the 10 Kilo-class submarines.
- 2- India acquired this from Russia.
- 3- Commissioned into the Indian Coast Guard in June 1987.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-4 What are Eco-Sensitive Zones?**

- 1- Land within 10 km of the boundaries of national parks and wildlife sanctuaries is to be notified as eco-fragile zones or Eco-Sensitive Zones (ESZ).
- 2- The ESZs are meant to hamper the daily activities of people living in the vicinity.
- 3- ESZs are created as “shock absorbers” for the protected areas, to minimize the negative impact on the “fragile ecosystems” by certain human activities taking place nearby.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

- |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| a) 1 and 2 only | b) 1 and 3 only |
|-----------------|-----------------|

- c) 1, 2 and 3                      d) 2 and 3 only

**Que-5 Consider the following statements about Green Grids Initiative — One Sun, One World, One Grid (GGI-OSOWOG)**

1- India announced the launch of the Green Grids Initiative — One Sun, One World, One Grid (GGI-OSOWOG) in partnership with the France.

2- GGI-OSOWOG was conceived in 2018 to develop global interconnected solar energy systems.

3- The initiative aims to build a framework for global cooperation on the effective utilisation of renewable resources and to help ensure that clean and efficient energy is a reliable option for all nations to meet their energy requirements by 2030.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-6 Consider the following statements about e-Shram portal**

1- Over 270 million unorganised workers registered on the e-Shram portal will soon get pension and health benefits, over and above the accidental cover.

2- Some of the beneficial schemes that can be added include Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan Yojana, the National Pension

Scheme for traders and self-employed, the Atal Pension Yojana and the Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana.

3- Currently, workers who register themselves on the e-Shram portal get ₹5 lakh accidental coverage under the Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-7 Consider the following statements about diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (DTP3) Vaccine**

1- It is a class of combination vaccines against three infectious diseases in humans: diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), and tetanus.

2- The vaccine components include diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and either killed whole cells of the bacterium that causes pertussis or pertussis antigens.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

- a) 1 only                      b) 2 only  
c) Both 1 and 2                      d) Neither 1 and 2

**Que-8 Consider the following statements about 'SPRINT challenges', unveiled recently by Prime Minister**

1- This aimed at giving a boost to the usage of indigenous technology in the Indian Navy.

2- SPRINT -- Supporting Pole-Vaulting in R&D through iDEX (Innovations for Defence Excellence), NIIO and TDAC (Technology Development Acceleration Cell).

Which of the following given above is/are correct

- a) 1 only      b) 2 only  
c) Both 1 and 2      d) Neither 1 and 2

## ANSWER

1- (b)

- Kala-azar or Visceral Leishmaniasis is a protozoan parasitic disease, spread by sandfly bites. Sandflies are brown in colour and have hairs on their bodies. The flies are infected with the parasite called 'leishmania donovani'.
- The disease affects some of the poorest people and is linked to malnutrition, population displacement, poor housing, a weak immune system and a lack of financial resources.
- The vector sandfly is known to live in cracks and crevices of muddy houses, especially in dark and humid corners. According to the WHO, there are 3 main forms of leishmaniasis of which kala-azar is the most serious form.
- The disease affects some of the poorest people and is linked to malnutrition, population displacement, poor housing, a weak immune system and a lack of financial resources. Leishmaniasis is also linked to environmental changes such as deforestation, and urbanisation, according to WHO.
- In 2020, more than 90 per cent of new cases reported to WHO occurred in 10 countries: Brazil, China, Ethiopia,

Eritrea, India, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Yemen.

2- (a)

- While dry vegetation is the burnable fuel that serves as kindling for fires, the spark is sometimes caused by lightning, at other times by accident or recklessness of the local population.

3- (a)

- Commissioned into the Navy in June 1987, Sindhudhvaj, was one of the 10 Kilo-class submarines India acquired from Russia between 1986 and 2000. Of these, INS Sindhurakshak was lost in an accident in Mumbai harbour in August 2013, while Sindhuvir was transferred to Myanmar in 2020, making it the South East Asian nation's first underwater platform.
- The Navy's Kilo-class submarine, INS Sindhudhvaj, was decommissioned from service at Visakhapatnam after 35 years in service. With this, the Navy now has 15 conventional submarines in service.

4- (b)

- As per the National Wildlife Action Plan (2002-2016), issued by the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, land within 10 km of the boundaries of national parks and wildlife sanctuaries is to be notified as

eco-fragile zones or Eco-Sensitive Zones (ESZ).

- Areas beyond 10-km can also be notified by the Union government as ESZs, if they hold larger ecologically important "sensitive corridors."
- These areas are meant to act as a transition zone from areas requiring higher protection to those requiring lesser protection.
- The ESZs are not meant to hamper the daily activities of people living in the vicinity, but are meant to guard the protected areas and "refine the environment around them".
- To do so, the guidelines list the activities prohibited in an ESZ, such as commercial mining, saw mills, commercial use of wood, etc., apart from regulated activities like felling of trees. Lastly, there are permitted activities like ongoing agricultural or horticultural practices, rainwater harvesting, organic farming, among others.

5- (d)

- India announced the launch of the Green Grids Initiative — One Sun, One World, One Grid (GGI-OSOWOG) in partnership with the United Kingdom.
- This project aspires to harness the sun's energy and build a global

interconnected electricity grid to accelerate the transition to renewable energy.

8- (c)

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**The development of the grids will take place in three stages:**

- The interconnection of the Indian grids with the Middle East, South Asia and Southeast Asian (MESASEA) grids
- MESASEA grids' interconnection with the African power grid
- Finally, global interconnectivity

The initiative is expected to connect more than 80 countries across a large geographical area, with varying levels of sunlight. A transitional system will enable countries with low levels of sunlight to obtain energy from areas with an excess of it.

6- (a)

- Currently, workers who register themselves on the e-Shram portal get ₹2 lakh accidental coverage under the Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana.
- India has an estimated 480 million workers, out of which 380 million are in the unorganised sector and the remaining 100 million in the organised sector, getting pension and provident fund benefits.

7- (c)