

Que-1 Consider the following statements about Lancang-Mekong Cooperation

- 1- It is a multilateral format established in 2016 for cooperation between the riparian states of the Lancang River and Mekong River.
- 2- The Lancang is the part of the Mekong that flows through Cambodia.
- 3- Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Vietnam and Thailand are five downstream countries of the Mekong River.

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 only

Que-2 With reference to Gluta travancorica tree, recently in News, consider the following statements

- 1- A species endemic to the Agasthyamala Biosphere Reserve
- 2- Known as 'Chenkurinji' in local parlance.
- 3- Flowering of Gluta travancorica usually happens in June-July.

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 only

Que-3 With reference to Chakma people, consider the following statements

- 1- They are a tribal group from the Assam.
- 2- They are the largest ethnic group in the Chittagong Hill Tracts region of southeastern Bangladesh.
- 3- The name Chakma derives from the Sanskrit word sakthimaha, which means powerful and great.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

Que-4 With reference to Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP), consider the following statements

- 1- Set to benefit 13 districts of Rajasthan through interlinking of three rivers.
- 2- The ambitious project stipulates transfer of excess water from the Chambal river basin to the regions facing water scarcity.
- 3- Interlinking of Saraswati, Tons and Chambal rivers.

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-5 Consider the following statements

- 1- Australia is the world's largest exporter of lithium.
- 2- Lithium and cobalt, are crucial for clean energy technologies such as batteries and electric vehicles, as well as mobile phones and computers.
- 3- Australia had recently announces commitment of A\$5.8 million for Critical Mineral partnership with India.

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 India-European Union (EU)

- 1- EU is India's largest trading partner after US.
- 2- EU is the largest destination for Indian exports.
- 3- The bilateral trade achieved an annual growth of 43.5% in 2021-22.

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-7 The results of the third edition of Ranking of States on Support to Startup Ecosystems were released recently. With reference to result, consider the following statements

- 1- Punjab and Haryana emerged as the Best Performers in a category of States which included NCT of Delhi.
- 2- Kerala, Maharashtra, Orissa and Telangana got the Top Performers award among states, Jammu & Kashmir emerged as the Top Performer among UTs and NE states.
- 3- Meghalaya won the top honour among UTs and North-eastern (NE) States.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

Que-8 With reference to recently commissioned Indian Naval Air Squadron (INAS) 324 into the Indian Navy, consider the following statements about

- 1- INAS 324 has been named "KESTRELS" which are birds of prey and have good sensory capabilities.
- 2- The Insignia of the Squadron depicts a 'KESTREL' searching over vast blue and

White Sea waves, which signifies the integral Maritime Reconnaissance (MR) and Search and Rescue (SAR) role of the Squadron.

3- ALH Squadron INAS 324 Commissioned at Visakhapatnam.

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

ANSWER

1- (b)

- The Lancang is the part of the Mekong that flows through China.
- The grouping is a Chinese-led initiative that includes the countries of the Mekong Delta, a potential source of regional tensions due to an increasing number of hydroelectric projects that are altering the flow and raising concerns of ecological damage. China has built 10 dams along the upper stretch of the Mekong, the part it calls the Langcang.
- China is Myanmar's biggest trading partner and an old ally. Beijing has invested billions of dollars in Myanmar's mines, oil and gas pipelines and other infrastructure and is its major arms supplier, together like Russia.

2- (a)

- The Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary derives its name from *Gluta travancorica*, a species endemic to the Agasthyamala Biosphere Reserve known as 'Chenkurinji' in local parlance.
- Belonging to the Anacardiaceae family, the tree was once abundant in the hills on the southern parts of Aryankavu Pass but its presence has been fast receding from the area over the years.
- *Gluta travancorica* is very susceptible to climate change and the present condition of the species is quite bad with low regeneration performance.
- Though the flowering of *Gluta travancorica* usually happens in January, of late, the species has reported a tendency to extend the process due to climate change.
- It's reported to have medicinal properties and is used to lower blood pressure and treat arthritis.

3- (d)

- They are the largest ethnic group in the Chittagong Hill Tracts region of southeastern Bangladesh, and the second-largest in Mizoram, India (Chakma Autonomous District). Other

places in Northeast India also have significant Chakma populations.

- They are a tribal group from the eastern-most regions of the Indian subcontinent.

4- (a)

- Interlinking of Parvati, Kali Sindh and Chambal rivers.
- Madhya Pradesh had itself built the Mohanpura dam on the Newaj river, a tributary of Parvati river, and the Kundalia dam on Kalisindh river, because of which about 2.65-lakh hectare irrigation area could be developed in that State.
- The national project status, if accorded, will fix the share of the Centre and the State in the expenditure in the ratio of 90:10 and facilitate solution to the water scarcity issue in eastern and south-eastern districts at least till 2051.
- The districts which will benefit from the project are Jhalawar, Baran, Kota, Bundi, Sawai Madhopur, Ajmer, Tonk, Jaipur, Karauli, Alwar, Bharatpur, Dausa and Dholpur, where a population of 3.5 crore resides. The national project status has been sought on the ground of the fact that the huge project cost could not be borne by the State government alone.

5- (c)

6- (b)

- Currently EU is India's second largest trading partner after US.
- EU is the second largest destination for Indian exports.
- Despite the global disruptions, the bilateral trade achieved an impressive annual growth of 43.5% in 2021-22.
- India and the European Union concluded the first round of negotiations for India-EU Trade and Investment Agreements, including the Geographical Indicators (GI), in New Delhi.
- The second round of negotiations is scheduled to take place in September 2022 at Brussels.

7- (d)

- Gujarat and Karnataka emerged as the Best Performers in a category of States which included NCT of Delhi.
- For the purposes of the Ranking, States and Union Territories are classified into 5 Categories, viz. Best Performers, Top Performers, Leaders, Aspiring Leaders and Emerging Start-up Ecosystems.
- Assam, Punjab, Tamil Nādu, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh were

adjudged the winners in the Leaders category among states; Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh and Goa bagged the Leaders honour among the UTs and NE states. Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan were declared as Aspiring Leaders among the States. Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli & Daman and Diu, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Nagaland, Puducherry and Tripura were the Aspiring Leaders from the UTs and NE states. Andhra Pradesh and Bihar from States category and Mizoram and Ladakh from the UTs/NE States were clubbed under the Emerging Start-up Ecosystem.

- The call for mentors for MAARG portal was also announced during the event. The portal is developed with the idea to develop a tool for start-ups in India that can be accessed from every corner of the country to request and connect with a mentor.

8- (c)

- The Insignia of the Squadron depicts a 'KESTREL' searching over vast blue and white sea waves, which signifies the integral Maritime Reconnaissance (MR) and Search and Rescue (SAR) role of the Squadron.
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