

Q1. Which of the following ministry has recently launched a scheme called Five Star Villages?

- (a) Ministry of Panchayati Raj
- (b) Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
- (c) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
- (d) Ministry of Communications

Answer: D

Explanation:

In News- In midst of the pandemic crisis, the Department of Posts/Postal department of India has recently launched the 'Five Star Villages scheme

Option D is correct: The scheme is launched by the Department of Posts (Ministry of Communication) that seeks to bridge the gaps in public awareness and reach of postal products and services, especially in interior villages. The scheme has three components I. E 1. Product and Service Availability; 2. Product and Service Publicity; 3. Product and Service Marketing. The Branch offices will function as one-stop shops to cater to all post-office-related needs of the villagers.

Q2. With reference to the National Service Scheme, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a Central- Sector scheme for orienting the student youth towards community service while they are studying in educational institutions.
- 2. It is implemented by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

Explanation:

In News- President of India confers the National Service Scheme(NSS) Awards for the year 2018-19.

Both the statements are correct: National Service Scheme (NSS) was launched during 1969, the birth centenary year of Mahatma Gandhi, in 37 universities involving 40000 students. NSS is an extension dimension to the higher education system to orient the student youth to community service while they are studying in educational institutions. It is being implemented by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India.

Q3. Consider the following statements:

1. Adjournment sine die is terminating the both sitting and session of Parliament for an indefinite period.
2. The maximum gap between two sessions of Parliament cannot be more than six months.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: B

Explanation:

In News- Lok Sabha was adjourned sine die after passing the Major Port Authorities Bill, 2020.

Statement 1 is not correct: Adjournment sine die means when the House is adjourned without naming a day for reassembly. Here, sitting of Parliament is terminated for an indefinite period. It is the prorogation in which the President dismisses the House, resulting in termination of the session itself. In the Adjournment, only sitting is terminated not the session of the House.

Statement 2 is correct: This statement is correct. In the Summoning process it is the duty of Indian President to summon each House of the Parliament from time to time. The maximum gap between two sessions of Parliament cannot be more than six months. In other words, the Parliament should meet at least twice a year.

Q4. Which of the following statements is/are **not correct** with respect to the International Whaling Commission (IWC)?

1. It is an international body established under the UN Convention.
2. It regulates the commercial whaling but its schedule is not legally binding.
3. India is not a member state of the IWC.

Choose the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Answer: D

In News- At least 380 whales have died in a mass stranding in southern Australia.

All the statements are not correct: The IWC was set up under the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling which was signed in Washington DC on 2nd December 1946. The preamble to the Convention states that its purpose is to provide for the proper conservation of whale stocks and thus make possible the orderly development of the whaling industry. An integral part of the Convention is its legally binding 'Schedule.' The body is the first piece of International Environmental Legislation established in 1946. Commercial whaling was banned by the IWC in 1986 after some species were almost driven to extinction. 89 countries have the membership of in IWC and all the member countries are signatories to this convention. India is a member state of the IWC.

Q5. A hackathon named "KRITAGYA" has been planned by which of the following?

- (a) NITI Aayog
- (b) Ministry of Science & Technology
- (c) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)
- (d) Bombay Natural History Society

Answer: C

Option C is correct: A hackathon named "KRITAGYA" has been planned by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP). This hackathon has been planned to promote potential technology solutions for enhancing farm mechanization with special emphasis on women friendly equipments. Students, faculties and innovators/entrepreneurs from any university / technical institution across the country can apply and participate in the event in the form of a group. This will give an opportunity to the students, faculties, entrepreneurs, innovators and other stakeholders to showcase their innovative approaches and technology solutions to promote farm mechanization in India.

