

Q1. Which among the following statement(s) is/are correct with respect to Hypersonic Technology Demonstrator Vehicle, recently launched by India?

1. It is an unmanned vehicle with a capability to travel at six times the speed of sound.
2. It uses the indigenously developed Ramjet propulsion engine at hypersonic speed.
3. After this, India is the second country after the US to have this technology.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

In News: Recently, the hypersonic air-breathing scramjet technology was successfully demonstrated by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) with the flight test of the Hypersonic Technology Demonstration Vehicle (HSTDV).

Statement 1 is correct: The Hypersonic Technology Demonstrator Vehicle (HTDV) project is an ambitious project of DRDO and is intended to serve multiple military and civil purposes.

Statement 2 is not correct: Scramjet engine is used in this. Air goes inside the engine at supersonic speed and comes out at hypersonic speeds. A scramjet engine is an improvement over the ramjet engine as it efficiently operates at hypersonic speeds and allows supersonic combustion. Thus it is known as Supersonic Combustion Ramjet or Scramjet.

Statement 3 is not correct: India the fourth country in the world after the US, China and Russia to develop such technology.

Q2. With reference to the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) Act, consider the following statements:

1. Under this, only registered foreign NGOs required to upload details of foreign contributions received and utilized by them every three months.
2. It is regulated and implemented under the ambit of the Ministry of Finance.

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: D

Explanation:

In News- Four Christian associations license was suspended by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs under the **Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA)**

Statement 1 is not correct: It is a law enacted by Parliament to regulate foreign contribution (especially monetary donation) provided by certain individuals or associations to NGOs and other organizations within India. The act, in its consolidating form, was originally passed in 1976 and majorly modified in 2010. An FCRA licence is mandatory for a non-profit organisation to receive foreign funds.

Statement 2 is not correct: The Act falls under the purview of the Ministry of Home Affairs(MoHA).

Q3. Which among the following states/UT launched the “Back to Village” programme?

- (a) Haryana
- (b) Uttar Pradesh
- (c) Bihar
- (d) Jammu and Kashmir

Answer: D

Explanation:

Option D is correct: Recently, the Jammu and Kashmir administration announced the third phase of its ambitious 'Back to Village' (B2V) programme for 10 days starting October 2. The Back to Village programme is aimed to involve the people of the union territory and government officials in a joint effort to deliver the mission of equitable development. The programme is

aimed at energising panchayats and directing development. The Phase-I of B2V was an introductory and interactive programme to understand the people's grievances and demands. While Phase-II focused on the devolution of powers to panchayats and tried to understand how these panchayats are functioning and what...

Q4. With reference to National Council for Transgender Persons, consider the following statements:

1. It is a statutory body established under Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019.
2. It is to be headed by the transgender person having knowledge of, or practical experience in the welfare of transgender's community.
3. It will advise the central government regarding the impact of policies, legislation and projects and for redressing the grievances of transgender persons.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

In News- Recently, The Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment constituted the National Council for Transgender Persons under the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019.

Statement 1 is correct: The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019 is an act of the Parliament of India with the objective to provide for protection of rights of transgender persons, their welfare, and other related matters. Under the act, the National Council for Transgender persons (NCT) is created, the NCT will consist of: (i) Union Minister for Social Justice (Chairperson); (ii) Minister of State for Social Justice (Vice- Chairperson); (iii) Secretary of the Ministry of Social Justice; (iv) one representative from ministries including Health, Home Affairs, and Human Resources Development.

Statement 2 is not correct: The Union Minister for Social Justice is the chairman of the body.

Statement 3 is correct: The Council will advise the central government as well as monitor the impact of policies, legislation and projects with respect to transgender persons. It will also redress the grievances of transgender persons.

Q5. Leo Pargil Peak was seen in the news recently, it is located in-

- (a) Arunachal Pradesh
- (b) Himachal Pradesh
- (c) Sikkim
- (d) Nepal

Answer: B

Explanation:

Option B is correct: It is located in Himachal, recently, a group of mountaineers of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) have successfully scaled Leo Pargil Peak, which is 22,222 ft above sea level. Leo Pargil is counted among the toughest and one of the technical peaks in the country to take over. The peak remains covered with a sheet of white snow throughout the year. However, because of low oxygen, extreme harsh winters, and high altitude sicknesses, the place is considered quite difficult to live in.

Q6. 'Nord Stream 2' was in the news recently, it is -

- (a) An astronomical phenomenon
- (b) A sea exploration programme of Baltic nations
- (c) The German-Russian gas pipeline project
- (d) A mission of NASA to study the asteroid Vesta and dwarf planet Ceres.

Answer: C

Explanation:

In News- Recently, tensions between Russia and Germany have deepened over the alleged poisoning of Russian opposition figure Alexei Navalny. Warning that a lack of support by Moscow in the investigation could force Germany to rethink the fate of a German-Russian gas pipeline project.

Option C is correct: Nord Stream 2 is a nearly constructed 1,200-kilometre pipeline from Russia to Germany via the Baltic Sea. It will run alongside the already constructed Nord Stream

and will double the amount of gas being funnelled through the Baltics to 110 billion cubic meters per year.

