1. Volcanic eruptions are an indirect source of information.

2. Earthquake is an indirect source of information.

3. Meteors are a direct source of information.

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) Only 1 and 2

(B) Only 2

(C) Only 2 and 3

(D) None of the above

Explanations:

Statement 1 is incorrect: Volcanic eruption forms another source of obtaining direct information. As and when the molten material (magma) is thrown onto the surface of the earth, during volcanic eruption it becomes available for laboratory analysis.

Statement 2 is correct: The study of seismic waves generated during earthquake provides a complete picture of the layered interior.
Statement 3 is incorrect: Another source of information is the meteors that at times reach the earth. However, it may be noted that the material that becomes available for analysis from meteors, is not from the interior of the earth. The material and the structure observed in the meteors are similar to that of the earth.

2 Consider the following statement about seismic wave:

1. P – wave shadow zone lies between 105 to 105 degrees.
2. S – wave shadow zone lies between 105 to 145 degrees.

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) Only 1
(B) Only 2
(C) Both 1 and 2
(D) None of the above

Ans: (D)

3 Consider the following pairs and match it correctly

Discontinuities Layesrs of earth

1 Moho Discontinuity I Mantle - Core
2 Lehmann Discontinuity II Crust – Mantle
3 Repetti Discontinuity III Outer core – Inner core
4 Guttensberg Discontinuity IV Upper Mantle – Lower Mantle

Choose the answer from the following code:

1 2 3 4
A II IV III I
B II III IV I
C I IV III II
D IV II III I

Ans: (B)
Explanation:

4 Which of the following is not an Intrusive volcanic landform?

(A) Laccoliths
(B) Sills
(C) Cinder cone
(D) Dyke

Ans: (c)

5 Which of the following provides support for continental drift theory?

1. Jig – Saw fit of continents on either side of Atlantic Ocean
2. Distribution of fossil
3. Rocks of same age across the ocean
4. Placer deposits

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) 1 and 3
(B) 1, 3 and 4
(C) 1, 2 and 4
(D) All the above

Ans: (D)
6 Which of the following is not a Hot Spot on the surface of earth?

(A) Hawaii
(B) Java trench
(C) Yellow stone
(D) Galapagos

Ans: (B)

7 Consider the following statements:

1. Solifluction is an example of rapid mass movement
2. Mud-flow is an example of slow mass movement

Choose the correct answer from the following code

(A) Only 1
(B) Only 2
(C) Both 1 and 2
(D) None of the above

Ans: (D)

Explanation:
Statement 1 is incorrect: Solifluction is an example of slow mass movement.
Statement 2 is incorrect: Mud-Flow is an example of rapid mass movement.

8 Which of the following are erosional features in a fluvial landscape?
1. River terrace
2. Incised Meander
3. Fans
4. Deltas

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) Only 1 and 2
(B) Only 1, 2 and 4
(C) Only 2, 3 and 4
(D) Only 2 and 3

Ans: (A)

Explanation:
River terraces are surfaces marking old valley floor or floodplain levels. They may be bedrock surfaces without any alluvial cover or alluvial terraces consisting of stream deposits. River terraces are basically products of erosion as they result due to vertical erosion by the stream into its own depositional floodplain.
It is common to find meandering courses over floodplains and delta plains where stream gradients are very gentle. But very deep and wide meanders can also be found cut in hard rocks. Such meanders are called incised or entrenched meanders.

Fans and deltas are depositional features.

9 Which of the following is not a feature of krast landforms?

(A) Sinkholes

(B) Uvalas

(C) Point bars

(D) Stalactite

Ans: (C)

Explanation:

Point bars are also known as meander bars. They are found on the convex side of meanders of large rivers and are sediments deposited in a linear fashion by flowing waters along the bank.

All others are features of krast landforms.

10 Consider the following about High energy Coast:

1. The rate of erosion exceeds the rate of deposition.

2. Characteristics landform include beaches and spits

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) Only 1

(B) Only 2

(C) Both 1 and 2

(D) None of the above

Ans: (A)

Explanations:

High-energy coasts

- waves are powerful (for a significant part of the year)
• the rate of erosion exceeds the rate of deposition
• characteristic landforms include headlands, cliffs and wave-cut platforms

Low energy coasts

• waves are not powerful (for a significant part of the year)
• the rate of deposition exceeds the rate of erosion
• characteristic landforms include beaches and spits

11 Which of the following statements are NOT true regarding Sansad Adarsh gram Yojana?
1. MPs are allowed to pick any village of their choice for rural development.
2. The only drawback of the yojana is that public participation is not promoted under the current plan.

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) 1 Only
(B) 2 Only
(C) Both 1 and 2
(D) None of the above

Ans: (C)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: MPs are required to pick one village with a population of 3000-4000 in plains and 1000-3000 in hills within a month of the launch. MPs cannot pick villages which belong to themselves or their spouses.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The scheme requires them to draft a village development plan, motivate inhabitants to participate in growth via different activities, identify gaps in funding and mobilizing MPLAD funds to create additional resources specifically from CSR initiatives of various corporate houses, in areas of sanitation and water supply.

12 Which of the following activities are carried out to fulfill SAGARMALA SCHEMES?

Objectives:

1. Port led development
2. Setting up of new ports
3. Port connectivity
4. Geo-tagging of ships
5. Port modernization

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) 1, 2 and 5 only
(B) 1, 2, 3 and 5 only
(C) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only
(D) All of the above

Ans: (B)

Explanation:

Sagarmala Scheme:

To promote port-led direct and indirect development and to provide infrastructure to transport goods to and from ports quickly, efficiently and cost-effectively

Three pillars:

1. Supporting and enabling Port-led Development

2. Port Infrastructure Enhancement, including modernization and setting up of new ports, and

3. Efficient Evacuation to and from hinterland.

The programme aims to promote port-led development in the country by harnessing India's 7,500-km long coastline, 14,500-km of potentially navigable waterways and strategic location on key international maritime trade routes.

13 The logistics data bank project is associated with which of the following:

(A) Movement of trucks across the country

(B) Movement of Railways
(C) Movement of aero planes

(D) None of the above

Ans: (D)

Explanation:
It is associated with Shipping Industry. The logistics Data Bank Service would bring
Efficiency in the current Logistics & Supply Chain through use of information technology that would be
helpful for tracking and viewing the movement of containers across the port to the ICD and end users.

14 Which of the following organisation releases the GLOBAL ECONOMIC PROSPECTS(GEP) REPORT:

(A) World economic forum

(B) World Bank

(C) International Monetary Fund

(D) G20

Ans: (B)

Explanation:
GEP is World Bank Group’s flagship report that examines global economic developments and prospects
with special focus on developing and emerging market economies. The 2018 Global Economics Prospect
(GEP) released by the World Bank has projected India’s growth rate to 7.3% in 2018 and 7.5 for the next
two years.

15 Which of the following pairs are not correctly matched?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Report</th>
<th>Published by</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Universal health coverage index</td>
<td>WHO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 World trade outlook indicator</td>
<td>WTO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Global financial stability report</td>
<td>IMF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 World development report</td>
<td>World Bank</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) 1only
Answer with Explanation

1. Arrange the following atmospheric gases in decreasing order of their concentration:

1. Argon
2. Xenon
3. Krypton
4. Neon

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) 1>2>3>4
(B) 1>4>3>2
(C) 2>4>1>3
(D) 4>3>1>2

Ans: (B)

Explanation:

2. Which of the following are correctly matched?
Layer of Atmosphere Temperature

1. Stratosphere Increase
2. Mesosphere Decrease
3. Exosphere Increase

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) Only 1
(B) Only 1 and 3
(C) Only 1 and 2
(D) All the above

Ans: (D)

3. Consider the following statement about Isotherms

1. In Northern hemisphere, the Isotherm on land surface moves towards north during the summer season with respect to oceanic surface.

2. In Northern hemisphere, the isotherm on oceanic surface moves towards North during winter season with respect to land surface.

Choose correct answer from the following code:

(A) Only 1
(B) Only 2
(C) Both 1 and 2
(D) None of the above

Ans: (C)

Explanation:

In general the effect of the latitude on temperature is well pronounced on the map, as the isotherms are generally parallel to the latitude. The deviation from this general trend is more pronounced in January than in July, especially in the northern hemisphere. In the northern hemisphere the land surface area is
much larger than in the southern hemisphere. Hence, the effects of land mass and the ocean currents are well pronounced.

In January the isotherms deviate to the north over the ocean and to the south over the continent. Similarly in July the isotherms deviate towards north in continent and to the south over the ocean.

4 Which of the following does not affect the temperature of a place?

(A) Air Mass

(B) Ocean currents

(C) Longitude

(D) Altitude

Ans: (C)

Explanation:

Latitude affects the temperature distribution of a place and not its longitude as latitude determines the insolation received in an area and thereby its temperature.

5 Consider the following statements:

1. The Inversion of temperature is a common phenomenon in Polar region

2. Inversion of temperature is associated with air drainage in hilly areas.

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

Only 1

Only 2

Both 1 and 2

None of the above

Ans: (C)

6 Consider the following about Tropical Cyclone

1. The eye is a region of calm with uplifting air.

2. The wind reaches its maximum velocity in wall region

Choose the correct answer from the following code:
The eye is a region of calm with subsiding air. Around the eye is the eye wall, where there is a strong spiraling ascent of air to greater height reaching the tropopause. The wind reaches maximum velocity in this region, reaching as high as 250 km per hour. Torrential rain occurs here.

7 Consider the following statements:

1. If the environmental lapse rate is less than both the dry and moist adiabatic lapse rates, the environment is unstable.

2. If the environmental lapse rate is greater than both the dry and moist adiabatic lapse rates, the environment is stable.

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) Only 1
(B) Only 2
(C) Both 1 and 2
(D) None of the above

Ans: (D)

Explanation:

If the environmental lapse rate is less than both the dry and moist adiabatic lapse rates, the environment is stable.

If the environmental lapse rate is greater than both the dry and moist adiabatic lapse rates, the environment is unstable.

8 Consider the following about air mass?

1. The air with distinctive characteristics in terms of temperature and humidity is called an air mass.
2. Air mass has little vertical variation in temperature and moisture.

3. The interaction of cold and warm air mass leads to front genesis.

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) Only 1
(B) Only 1 and 3
(C) Only 2 and 3
(D) All the above

Ans: (B)

Explanation:

When the air remains over a homogenous area for a sufficiently longer time, it acquires the characteristics of the area. The homogenous regions can be the vast ocean surface or vast plains. The air with distinctive characteristics in terms of temperature and humidity is called an air mass. It is defined as a large body of air having little horizontal variation in temperature and moisture. The homogenous surfaces, over which air masses form, are called the source regions.

When two different air masses meet, the boundary zone between them is called a front.

The process of formation of the fronts is known as front genesis.

9 Consider the following statements:

1. Jet stream is high velocity wind in the upper layer of troposphere.

2. Jet Stream is produced in area where temperature gradient is weak.

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) Only 1
(B) Only 2
(C) Both 1 and 2
(D) None of the above

Ans: (A)

Explanation:
Jet streams are wind streams that reach great speeds in narrow zones at a high altitude.

Jet streams are streams of fast-moving air aloft that occur where atmospheric temperature gradients are strong. Each hemisphere normally exhibits westerly polar and Subtropical jet streams. An easterly jet occurs in summer over Asia and Africa.

10 Which of the following is not a warm local wind?

(A) Fohn
(B) Chinook
(C) Bora
(D) Sirocco

Ans: (C)

11 Which of the following statement best explains the mission of Pradhan Mantri Yuva yojana?

A: To build an ecosystem of entrepreneurship for youngsters
B: To impart skill training to youth, focusing on improved curricula, better pedagogy and trained instructors
C: To provide greater opportunities for apprenticeship training for the youth
D: To provide financial incentives to the employers to engage apprentices

Ans: (A)

Explanation:

PMYY is MSDE’s flagship scheme on entrepreneurship education and training. The scheme spans over five years (2016-17 to 2020-21) with a project cost of 499.94 crore rupees. It will provide entrepreneurship education and training to over 7 lakh students in 5 years through 3,050 institutes. It will provide easy access to information and mentor network, incubator, credit and accelerator and advocacy to create a pathway for the youth.

12 Which of the following cities will be developed under the PRASAD scheme?

1. Puri
2. Varanasi
3. Badami
4. Gaya

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) 1 and 3 only
(B) 2 and 4 only
(C) 1, 2 and 3 only
(D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Ans: (C)

Explanation:

Twelve cities identified for development under PRASAD are:

- Amaravati (Andhra Pradesh),
- Gaya (Bihar),
- Dwaraka (Gujarat),
- Amritsar (Punjab),
- Ajmer (Rajasthan),
- Kanchipuram (Tamil Nadu),
- Velankanni (Tamil Nadu),
- Puri (Odisha),
- Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh),
- Mathura (Uttar Pradesh),
- Kedarnath (Uttarakhand) and
- Kamakhya (Assam)

13 Consider the following statements:

1. Under Swadesh Darshan Scheme 12 thematic circuits have been identified for development.

2. The scheme is 100% centrally funded for the project components undertaken for public funding

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) 1 Only
(B) 2 only
(C) Both 1 and 2
(D) None of the above
Ans: (B)

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is incorrect: Under this scheme, 13 thematic circuits have been identified for development.
- They are Buddhist Circuit, North-East India Circuit, Coastal Circuit, Himalayan Circuit, Krishna Circuit, Desert Circuit, Eco Circuit, Wildlife Circuit, Tribal Circuit, Rural Circuit, Spiritual Circuit, Ramayana Circuit and Heritage Circuit.
- Statement 2 is correct: The scheme is 100% centrally funded for the project components undertaken for public funding. Recently Centre has approved the Sabarimala spiritual circuit under the scheme.

14 Which of the following organisation brings out the Ease of living index?

(A) World economic forum
(B) UN -Habitat
(C) World Bank
(D) United Nations Development agency

Ans: (C)

Explanation:
The World Bank Group brings out ‘ease of living’ index that ranks cities globally, even as it is looking at tweaking the methodology used in its country-wise ease of doing business rankings to better capture reforms being carried out in large and diverse nations like India.

15 Consider the following statements:

1. The world happiness report is brought out by the World Bank group
2. India has improved its rank considerably in the recently published world happiness report

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

A: 1 Only
B: 2 Only
C: Both 1 and 2
D: Neither 1 nor 2

The UN ranking takes into account factors like per capita income, social support, healthy life expectancy, social freedom, generosity and absence of corruption to arrive at the annual index. India underperformed in ‘freedom to make life choices’ and ‘generosity’, according to the index.

Statement 2 is incorrect: India ranked 133 out of 156 countries surveyed by the UN. That is an 11-places drop from last year, and 15 spots behind the year before. India now lags all SAARC nations barring war-torn Afghanistan in the global happiness index. It means India’s less developed neighbours- Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan and Sri Lanka are ahead of it on this count.

Answer with Explanation

1 Consider the statements:

1. Continental shelves have sedimentary deposits that forms the source of fossil fuel

2. Canyons and trenches are observed in the continental shelves

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) Only 1
(B) Only 2
(C) Both 1 and 2
(D) None of the above
Ans: (A)

Explanation:

- The continental shelves are covered with variable thicknesses of sediments brought down by rivers, glaciers, wind, from the land and distributed by waves and currents.
- Massive sedimentary deposits received over a long time by the continental shelves, become the source of fossil fuels.
- The continental slope connects the continental shelf and the ocean basins. It begins where the bottom of the continental shelf sharply drops off into a steep slope.
- The gradient of the slope region varies between 2-5°. The depth of the slope region varies between 200 and 3,000 m. The slope boundary indicates the end of the continents.
- Canyons and trenches are observed in this region.

2 Consider the following statements:

1. Sea mount is a mountain with pointed summit that reach the ocean surface
2. Guyots are flat topped seamount which show evidence of submergence

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) Only 1
(B) Only 2
(C) Both 1 and 2
(D) None of the above

Ans: (B)

Explanation:

- Seamount is a mountain with pointed summits, rising from the seafloor that does not reach the surface of the ocean. Seamounts are volcanic in origin.
- These can be 3,000-4,500 m tall. The Emperor seamount, an extension of the Hawaiian Islands in the Pacific Ocean, is a good example.

- Guyots are a flat topped seamount. They show evidences of gradual subsidence through stages to become flat topped submerged mountains. It is estimated that more than 10,000 seamounts and Guyots exist in the Pacific Ocean alone.

3 Which of the following affect the temperature distribution of ocean water?
1. Distribution of land and water

2. Prevailing wind

3. Ocean current

Choose the answer from the following code:

(A) Only 2 and 3

(B) Only 1 and 3

(C) Only 1 and 2

(D) All the above

Ans: (D)

Explanation:

Unequal distribution of land and water: the oceans in the northern hemisphere receive more heat due to their contact with larger extent of land than the oceans in the southern hemisphere.

Prevailing wind: the winds blowing from the land towards the oceans drive warm surface water away from the coast resulting in the upwelling of cold water from below. It results into the longitudinal variation in the temperature. Contrary to this, the onshore winds pile up warm water near the coast and this raises the temperature.

Ocean currents: warm ocean currents raise the temperature in cold areas while the cold currents decrease the temperature in warm ocean areas. Gulf Stream (warm current) raises the temperature near the eastern coast of North America and the West Coast of Europe while the Labrador current (cold current) lowers the temperature near the northeast coast of North America.

4 Consider the following statements:

1. A Thermocline is a layer in ocean where there is sharp decrease in temperature of water with depth

2. Thermocline is absent in Arctic and Antarctic Ocean

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) Only 1

(B) Only 2

(C) Both 1 and 2
(D) None of the above

Ans: (C)

Explanation:

The second layer in temperature profile of ocean is called the Thermocline layer lies below the first layer and is characterized by rapid decrease in temperature with increasing depth. The Thermocline is 500 - 1,000 m thick.

The third layer is very cold and extends upto the deep ocean floor. In the Arctic and Antarctic circles, the surface water temperatures are close to 0° C and so the temperature change with the depth is very slight. Here, only one layer of cold water exists, which extends from surface to deep ocean floor.

5 Which of the following affect salinity of ocean?

1. Density
2. Temperature
3. Precipitation
4. Prevailing wind

Choose the answer from the given code:

(A) Only 2 and 3
(B) Only 1, 2 and 3
(C) Only 2, 3 and 4
(D) All the above

Ans: (D)

Explanation:

Factors affecting ocean salinity are mentioned below:

(i) The salinity of water in the surface layer of oceans depends mainly on evaporation and Precipitation.

(ii) Surface salinity is greatly influenced in coastal regions by the fresh water flow from rivers, and in Polar Regions by the processes of freezing and thawing of ice.

(iii) Wind, also influences salinity of an area by transferring water to other areas.
(iv) The ocean currents contribute to the salinity variations. Salinity, temperature and density of water are interrelated. Hence, any change in the temperature or density influences the salinity of water in an area.

6 Arrange the following water bodies in increasing order of salinity

1. Dead sea
2. Red sea
3. Atlantic Ocean
4. Black Sea

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) 4<3<2<1
(B) 3<4<1<2
(C) 4<3<2<1
(D) 3<2<4<1

Ans: (C)

Explanation:

Water body Salinity
1 Dead Sea 238
2 Red Sea 41
3 Atlantic Ocean 36
4 Black Sea 18

7 Consider the following statements:

1. North Atlantic Drift raises the salinity of North Sea
2. Arabian Sea has lower salinity than Bay of Bengal due to influx of river water

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) Only 1
(B) Only 2
(C) Both 1 and 2

(D) None of the above

Ans: (A)

Explanation:

The North Sea, in spite of its location in higher latitudes, records higher salinity due to more saline water brought by the North Atlantic Drift.

The average salinity of the Indian Ocean is 35 o/oo. The low salinity trend is observed in the Bay of Bengal due to influx of river water. On the contrary, the Arabian Sea shows higher salinity due to high evaporation and low influx of fresh water. Figure 13.5 shows the salinity of the World’s oceans.

8 Consider the following statement about salinity

1. Halocline is a layer of water where salinity rapidly decreases with depth

2. Other factors being constant density of ocean water increases with salinity and this leads to stratification of ocean water as water mass

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) Only 1

(B) Only 2

(C) Both 1 and 2

(D) None of the above

Ans: (B)

Explanation:

Salinity, generally, increases with depth and there is a distinct zone called the halocline, where salinity increases sharply.

Other factors being constant, increasing salinity of seawater causes its density to increase. High salinity seawater, generally, sinks below the lower salinity water. This leads to stratification by salinity which leads to formation of water mass.

9 Which of the following is not a cold current?

(A) Falkland
10 Consider the following statements

1. The best fishing ground are present in region where warm and cold current mixes.
2. West Coast of continents in tropical and sub-tropical regions are bordered by warm water.
3. West coast of continents in middle and higher latitude are bordered by cold water.

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) Only 1
(B) Only 1 and 3
(C) Only 2 and 3
(D) All the above

Ans: (A)

Explanation:

- The mixing of warm and cold currents help to replenish the oxygen and favour the growth of planktons, the primary food for fish population.
- The best fishing grounds of the world exist mainly in these mixing zones.
- West coasts of the continents in tropical and sub-tropical latitudes (except close to the equator) are bordered by cool waters.
- West coasts of the continents in the middle and higher latitudes are bordered by warm waters which cause a distinct marine climate. They are characterised by cool summers and relatively mild winters with a narrow annual range of temperatures.

11 The Namami Gange Project aims to clean and protect the Ganga River in a comprehensive manner. Identify the major components involved in the project from the options given below:

1. Expanding waste/sewage treatment
2. Ganga gram
3. Afforestation
4. River surface cleaning
5. River front development

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) 1, 2 and 3 only
(B) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only
(C) 2, 4 and 5 only
(D) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Ans: (D)

Explanation:

Namami Gange is also known as Integrated Ganga Conservation Mission project. Local people's participation is envisaged in it.

Main components:

- Expanding waste/sewage treatment
- River Front Development
- River surface cleaning
- Bio-diversity
- Afforestation
- Public awareness
- Industrial affluent monitoring
- Ganga Gram

12 UJJAWALA Scheme is associated with which of the following:

(A) Distribution of LPG connections
(B) Adoption of LEDs
(C) Prevention of trafficking
(D) Skill development of women

Ans: (C)

Explanation:
Ujjwala Scheme: Aims at prevention of trafficking and at providing support for rescue, rehabilitation, reintegration and repatriation of victims of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation. The Scheme is being implemented mainly through NGOs.

13 Mission XI Million is the biggest school sports outreach program in the country. The Program aims to promote which of the following sports:

(A) Football
(B) Hockey
(C) Cricket
(D) Chess

Ans: (A)

Explanation:

Mission XI Million

It is the biggest school sports outreach programme in the country launched in New Delhi.

The programme is to make football as the sport of choice in India, to encourage children gain healthy habits and learn important life lessons in teamwork and sportsman spirit.

8. It aims to take football to at least 11 million boys and girls around the country.

14 The travel and tourism competitiveness report is released by which of the following?

(A) World Bank
(B) OECD
(C) World economic forum
(D) UNESCO

Ans: (C)

Explanation:

The Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Report was first published in 2007 by the World Economic Forum. The index is a measurement of the factors that make it attractive to develop business in the
travel and tourism industry of individual countries, rather than a measure of country attractiveness as a tourist destination. The report ranks selected nations according to the Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Index (TTCI), which scores from 1 to 6 the performance of a given country in each specific sub-index.

15 Consider the following statements:

1. The World Economic Forum (WEF) is an agency working under the aegis of United Nations.
2. The Forum is best known for its annual winter meeting held in London
3. The inclusive development index is published by World economic forum.

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) 1 and 3 only
(B) 3 only
(C) 2 only
(D) None of the above

Ans: (B)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: The World Economic Forum (WEF) is a Swiss nonprofit foundation, based in Colony, Geneva. Recognized by the Swiss authorities as the international institution for public-private cooperation, its mission is cited as “committed to improving the state of the world by engaging business, political, academic, and other leaders of society to shape global, regional, and industry agendas”.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Forum best known for its annual winter meeting for five days in Davos, a mountain resort in Graubünden, in the eastern Alps region of Switzerland. The meeting brings together some 2,500 top business leaders, international political leaders, selected intellectuals, and journalists for up to five days (winter) to discuss the most pressing issues facing the world.

Statement 3 is correct: Inclusive Development Index is released by the World Economic Forum. India has been ranked 62 out of 74 emerging economies on a metric focused on the living standards of people and future-proofing of economies by the WEF.
1. Consider the following statements:

1. Himalayas are young and weak mountains

2. Most of the east flowing rivers form big deltas before entering the Bay of Bengal

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

Ans: (C)

Explanation

Statement 1 is correct: The Himalayas along with other peninsular mountains are young, weak and flexible in their geological structure unlike the rigid and stable Peninsular Block.

Statement 2 is correct: Most of the east flowing rivers form deltas before entering into the Bay of Bengal. The deltas formed by the Mahanadi, the Krishna, the Kaveri and the Godavari is important examples.

2. Karewa formations are found in which region?

(A) Punjab Himalayas

(B) Kashmir Himalayas

(C) Himachal Himalayas

(D) None of the above

Ans: (B)

Explanation
Karewas are the thick deposits of glacial clay and other materials embedded with moraines. The Kashmir Himalayas are also famous for Karewa formations, which are useful for the cultivation of Zafran, a local variety of saffron.

3. Which of the following are the tributaries of river Brahmaputra?

1. Dihang
2. Dibang
3. Lohit
4. Dhansiri

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

(A) 1, 3 and 4 only
(B) 1, 2 and 3 only
(C) 2, 3 and 4 only
(D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Ans: (C)

Explanation

Dihang is not a tributary of Brahmaputra but another name of Brahmaputra River.

Dibang, Lohit and Dhansiri are all tributaries of Brahmaputra.

4. With reference to the differences between Himalayan and Peninsular rivers, consider the following statements:

1. Himalayan rivers have dendritic drainage pattern, while, peninsular rivers have trellis, radial and rectangular patterns
2. Peninsular rivers have large basins as compared to Himalayan Rivers
3. Peninsular rivers are perennial in nature, while, Himalayan Rivers are seasonal

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(A) 1 only
(B) 1 and 3 only
5. With reference to the Indian monsoons, consider the following statements:

1. Arabian Sea branch of monsoon is more powerful than the Bay of Bengal branch
2. Tamil Nadu coast remains dry during the monsoon season
3. Monsoonal rainfall is primarily orographic in nature

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (D)

Explanation

Statement 1 is correct: Arabian Sea branch of monsoon is more powerful than the Bay of Bengal branch because of these two reasons:

1. Arabian sea is larger than Bay of Bengal
2. Entire Arabian Sea current advances towards India, while, only a part of the Bay of Bengal current enters India and the rests drifts towards Myanmar, Thailand and Malaysia.

Statement 2 is correct: Tamil Nadu coast remains dry during this season. There are two factors responsible for it:

1. The Tamil Nadu coast is situated parallel to the Bay of Bengal branch of southwest monsoon.
2. It lies in the rain-shadow area of the Arabian Sea branch of the south-west monsoon.
Statement 3 is correct: In the case of the monsoon, the cause is primarily orographic, due to the presence of highlands in the path of the winds.

6. Which of the following forests are the most widespread in India?
(A) Tropical deciduous forests
(B) Tropical thorn forests
(C) Littoral and Swamp forests
(D) Montane Forests
Ans: (A)
Explanation
These are the most widespread forests in India. They are also called the monsoon forests. They spread over regions which receive rainfall between 70-200 cm. On the basis of the availability of water, these forests are further divided into moist and dry deciduous.

7. The term ‘self-ploughing’ can be associated with which type of soil?
(A) Alluvial soil
(B) Laterite soil
(C) Red soil
(D) Black soil
Ans: (D)
Explanation
The black soils are generally clayey, deep and impermeable. They swell and become sticky when wet and shrink when dried. So, during the dry season, these soils develop wide cracks. Thus, there occurs a kind of ‘self-ploughing’.

8. Purvanchal range is made up of which of the following hills?
1. Patkai Hills
2. Manipur Hills
3. Mizo Hills
4. Naga Hills

Select the correct answer from the code given below:

(A) 1, 2 and 3 only
(B) 2, 3 and 4 only
(C) 1, 3 and 4 only
(D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Ans: (D)

Explanation
The Purvanchal range includes the hill ranges of the Patkai, Barail range, Manipur, Mizoram Mizo, and Naga Hills.

9. Which of the following Indian states/UTs lie in the Cauvery basin?

1. Tamil Nadu
2. Kerala
3. Karnataka
4. Puducherry

Select the correct answer from the code given below:

(A) 1, 2 and 4 only
(B) 1, 2 and 3 only
(C) 2, 3 and 4 only
(D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Ans: (D)

Explanation
River Cauvery rises in southwestern Karnataka, it flows southeast some 800 kilometers to enter the Bay of Bengal. River's basin covers three states – Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka - and a Union Territory - Puducherry.

10 Consider the following statements
1. Eastern coast of India is an emergent coast

2. Emergent coast are characterized by estuaries and deep natural ports

Choose the correct answer from the following code

(A) Only 1

(B) Only 2

(C) Both 1 and 2

(D) None of the above

Ans: (A)

Explanation:

As compared to the western coastal plain, the eastern coastal plain is broader and is an example of an emergent coast. There are well-developed deltas here, formed by the rivers flowing eastward into the Bay of Bengal. These include the deltas of the Mahanadi, the Godavari, the Krishna and the Kaveri. Because of its emergent nature, it has less number of ports and harbours. The continental shelf extends up to 500 km into the sea, which makes it difficult for the development of good ports and harbours. Name some ports on the eastern coast.

11. Consider the following statements related to SABLA Scheme:

1. It is a central sector scheme

2. Ministry of women and child development is the nodal agency

3. Nutrition and skill development are the major objectives.

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) 2 only

(B) 1 and 2 only

(C) 2 and 3 only

(D) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (C)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: It is a centrally sponsored scheme.
Statement 2 is correct: It was launched by ministry of women and child development.

Statement 3 is correct: 2 major focus areas:

a. Nutrition: Take Home Ration or Hot Cooked Meal
b. Skill development: Health check-up, Supplements, Vocational training etc.

12 Consider the following statements related to Beto Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme:

4. It aims to arrest the decline of child sex ratio.
5. Scheme is being implemented in the entire country.

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) 1 Only
(B) 2 Only
(C) Both 1 and 2
(D) None of the above

Ans: (A)

Explanation

Statement 1 is correct: It aims to arrest the declining child sex ratio in the country

Statement 2 is incorrect: Scheme is being implemented only in selected districts. In the beginning it was implemented in 100 districts. Later 61 more districts were added

13 Agriculture produce marketing committees are established by:

(A) Central agriculture ministry
(B) Parliament
(C) Respective state governments
(D) Panchayats

Ans: (C)

Explanation:

An Agricultural Produce Market Committee is a marketing board established by state governments of India. One main function of which is basically to provide a platform for farmers to sell their produce
14. The Global Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Threat Assessment (GTA) report provides an assessment of the global systemic Money laundering threats. This document is released by which of the following:

(A) World economic forum

(B) Interpol

(C) Financial action task force (FATF)

(D) United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI)

Ans: (C)

15. Consider the following statements:

1. The global hunger index (GHI) is released by the World Bank group

2. The components of GHI are undernourishment and child mortality only

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) 1 Only

(B) 2 Only

(C) Both 1 and 2

(D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (D)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: GHI is designed to measure and track hunger globally and by country and region. It is calculated each year by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).

Statement 2 is incorrect: The components are

1. Undernourishment - The proportion of undernourished people as a percentage of the population.

2. Child wasting - The proportion of children under the age of five who suffer from wasting i.e low weight for their height, reflecting acute under-nutrition.

3. Child stunting - The proportion of children under the age of five who suffer from stunting i.e low height for their age, reflecting chronic under-nutrition &

4. Child mortality - The mortality rate of children under the age of five.
1 Scarborough shoal is a disputed territory among which of the following countries?

1. China
2. Philippines
3. Taiwan

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

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

Ans: (A)

Explanation

Scarborough shoal located in the south china has been a bone of contention between China and Philippines.

2 Assumption Island is located in which of the following countries:

(A) Maldives
(B) Vietnam
(C) Seychelles
Assumption Island is located in Seychelles. It is a joint project between India and Seychelles with an objective to secure a vast exclusive economic zone.

3 Which of the following is considered as the driest desert in the world?

(A) Sahara
(B) Atacama
(C) Patagonian
(D) Mojave

Ans: (B)

Explanation

Atacama is the driest desert in the world because it is located in the rain shadow area between the Andes and the Chilean coastal range. Also, the cold Humboldt Current and the anticyclone of Pacific help maintaining its dryness.

4 With reference to the types of winds, consider the following:

1. Fohn
2. Mistral
3. Westerly
4. Sirocco

Which of these is/are a type of local wind?

(A) 1, 2 and 3 only
(B) 2, 3 and 4 only
(C) 1 and 3 only
(D) 1, 2 and 4 only

Ans: (D)
Westerlies are planetary winds while Fohn, Mistral and Sirocco are local winds.

5 Which among the following countries boasts of the largest reservoir of natural gas in the world
(A) India
(B) China
(C) Russia
(D) USA
Ans: (D)

Explanation
Nearly 80% of the world's total proven natural gas reserves are located in ten countries. Russia tops the list, holding about a quarter of world's total gas reserves, followed by Iran and Qatar in the Middle East.

6 Which of the following is a land locked country?
(A) Republic of Congo
(B) Ethiopia
(C) Ghana
(D) Cameroon
Ans: (B)

7 Which of the following country does not borders Caspian Sea?
(A) Armenia
(B) Iran
(C) Turkmenistan
(D) Azerbaijan
Ans: (A)

8 Italy is surrounded by which of the following water bodies?
1. Adriatic Sea
2. Ionian Sea
3. Aegean Sea
4. Tyrrhenian Sea

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) Only 1 and 2
(B) Only 1 and 3
(C) Only 3 and 4
(D) Only 1, 2 and 4

Ans: (D)

9 Strait of Gibraltar connects which of the following water bodies?

(A) Red Sea and Arabian Sea
(B) Atlantic Sea and Mediterranean Sea
(C) Aegean Sea and Sea of Marmara
(D) Sea of Japan and Sea of Okhotsk

Ans: (B)

10 Arrange the following water bodies from east to west

1. Banda Sea
2. Arafura Sea
3. Java Sea
4. Coral Sea

Choose the answer from the following code:

(A) 4<3<1<2
(B) 4<2<1<3
(C) 2<4<3<1
11 Consider the following statements related to ASMITA Scheme:

1. Ministry of women and child development is the nodal agency
2. It aims to empower women by providing all round support and training

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

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

Ans: (D)

Explanation:
Statement 1 is incorrect: It is launched by Ministry of Human Resource development.

ASMITA is acronym for All School Monitoring Individual Tracing Analysis and shall be launched under Shala Asmita Yojana (SAY).

Statement 2 is incorrect: Scheme aims to track the educational journey of school students from Class I to Class XII.

12 National Missions on agriculture extension and technology (NMAET) comes under:

(A) Ministry of agriculture and farmers welfare
(B) Ministry of rural development
(C) Ministry of Science and technology
(D) Ministry of North eastern region

Ans: (A)

Explanation:
It is a mission launched by Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture. The objective of the Scheme is to make the extension system farmer-driven and farmer-accountable by way of new institutional arrangements for technology dissemination. It aims to restructure and strengthen agricultural extension to enable delivery of appropriate technology and improved agronomic practices to farmers.

NMAET consists of 4 Sub Missions

- Sub Mission on Agricultural Extension (SMAE)
- Sub-Mission on Seed and Planting Material (SMSP)
- Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM)
- Sub Mission on Plant Protection and Plant Quarantine (SMPP)

13 The Gender inequality index is released by which of the following organisation?

(A) United Nations development program

(B) World Bank

(C) World economic forum

(D) UN Sustainable solutions development network

Ans: (A)

Explanation:

The Gender Inequality index is published by United Nations development programme. It measures gender inequalities in three important aspects of human development—reproductive health, measured by maternal mortality ratio and adolescent birth rates; empowerment, measured by proportion of parliamentary seats occupied by females and proportion of adult females and males aged 25 years and older with at least some secondary education; and economic status, expressed as labour market participation and measured by labour force participation rate of female and male populations aged 15 years and older.

14 The Global Environment Outlook is a series of reports periodically issued by which of the following organisation?

(A) World wildlife fund for Nature

(B) International Union for Conservation of Nature

(C) Intergovernmental panel for climate change

(D) United Nations Environment program
Global Environment Outlook (GEO) is a series of reports on the environment issued periodically by the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP). The GEO project was initiated in response to the environmental reporting requirements of UN Agenda 21 and to a UNEP Governing Council decision of May 1995 which requested the production of a new comprehensive global state of the environment report.

Consider the following statements:

1. The world energy outlook is published by International energy agency (IEA)
2. The recent world energy outlook report affirms that India is emerging as a major driving force in global energy trends

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

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

Statement 1 is correct: The IEA is an autonomous agency, which seeks to promote energy security among its member countries through collective response to physical disruptions in oil supply, and to provide authoritative research and analysis on ways to ensure reliable, affordable and clean energy for its 29 member countries and beyond. The WORLD ENERGY OUTLOOK is its flagship publication.

Statement 2 is correct: World Energy Outlook confirms that India is emerging as a major driving force in global energy trends, with all modern fuels and technologies playing a part. Showing remarkable growth, half a billion people have gained access to electricity in India since 2000, almost doubling the country's electrification rate. The pace has accelerated in the recent years, with an additional 40 million people gaining access every year since 2011.
Answer with Explanation

Date 28/04/2018

1. Consider the following statement about Black Soil

1. They swell and become sticky when wet and shrink when dried.
2. The black soil cannot retain the moisture for a very long time and needs irrigation.

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) Only 1
(B) Only 2
(C) Both 1 and 2
(D) None of the above

Ans: (A)

Explanation:

The black soil is very deep. These soils are also known as the ‘Regur Soil’ or the ‘Black Cotton Soil’. The black soils are generally clayey, deep and impermeable. They swell and become sticky when wet and shrink when dried. So, during the dry season, these soil develop wide cracks. Thus, there occurs a kind of ‘self ploughing’. Because of this character of slow absorption and loss of moisture, the black soil retains the moisture for a very long time, which helps the crops, especially, the rain fed ones, to sustain even
during the dry season.

2. Which of the following soil type has the given characteristics
   1. The soil develop in areas of high temperature and rainfall
   2. Soil is rich in Iron oxide and aluminum compound

   Choose the answer from the following code:
   (A) Red Soil
   (B) Laterite Soil
   (C) Alluvial soil
   (D) Forest soil

   Ans: (B)

   Explanation:
   Laterite has been derived from the Latin word ‘Later’ which means brick. The laterite soils develop in areas with high temperature and high rainfall. These are the result of intense leaching due to tropical rains. With rain, lime and silica are leached away, and soils rich in iron oxide and aluminium compound are left behind.

3. Consider the following about saline soil
   1. Excessive irrigation with dry climatic condition can result in saline soil.
   2. Problem of saline soil can be resolved by adding Lime in the soil.

   Choose the correct answer from the following code:
   (A) Only 1
   (B) Only 2
   (C) Both 1 and 2
   (D) None of the above

   Ans: (A)
In the areas of intensive cultivation with excessive use of irrigation, especially in areas of green revolution, the fertile alluvial soils are becoming saline. Excessive irrigation with dry climatic conditions promotes capillary action, which results in the deposition of salt on the top layer of the soil. In such areas, especially in Punjab and Haryana, farmers are advised to add gypsum to solve the problem of salinity in the soil.

4 Consider the following statements:
1. The soil is rich in humus and organic content
2. The soil is alkaline in nature
3. Found in North Bihar, coastal part of West Bengal, Odisha and Tamil Nadu

Which of the soil has the characteristics mentioned above?
(A) Red Soil
(B) Forest Soil
(C) Peaty Soil
(D) Black Soil

Ans: (C)

Explanation:
They are found in the areas of heavy rainfall and high humidity, where there is a good growth of vegetation. Thus, large quantity of dead organic matter accumulates in these areas, and this gives a rich humus and organic content to the soil. Organic matter in these soils may go even up to 40-50 per cent. These soils are normally heavy and black in colour. At many places, they are alkaline also. It occurs widely in the northern part of Bihar, southern part of Uttarakhand and the coastal areas of West Bengal, Orissa and Tamil Nadu.

5 Arrange the soil type found in India while moving east to west along the line passing...
through 20 degree latitude

1. Black soil
2. Alluvial Soil
3. Red and yellow soil
4. Laterite soil

Choose the answer from the following code:

(A) 1>4>3>2
(B) 2>4>3>1
(C) 2>3>4>1
(D) 1>3>4>2

Ans: (B)

Explanation:

6 Consider the following about monsoon break

1. In northern region break occurs due to absence of rain bearing storm in the monsoon trough
2. In western coast break occurs when winds are parallel to the cost

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) Only 1
(B) Only 2
(C) Both 1 and 2
(D) None of the above

Ans: (C)

Explanation:

During the south-west monsoon period after having rains for a few days, if rain fails to occur for one or more weeks, it is known as break in the monsoon. These dry spells are quite common during the rainy season. These breaks in the different regions are due to different reasons:
(i) In northern India rains are likely to fail if the rain-bearing storms are not very frequent along the monsoon trough or the ITCZ over this region.

(ii) Over the west coast the dry spells are associated with days when winds blow parallel to the coast.

7 Which of the following is not responsible for monsoon in India?

(A) Easterly Jet Stream

(B) Movement of ITCZ

(C) Revolution of Earth

(D) High pressure over Indian Sub-Continent

Ans: (D)

Explanation:
The Pressure is Low over the Indian Sub-Continent due to heating of Land in summer season.

8 Consider the following statement about Indian Ocean dipole

1. Positive IOD - Indian Ocean with cooler than normal water in the east and warmer than normal water in the west

2. Negative IOD - Indian Ocean, with warmer than normal water in the east and cooler than normal water in the west

Choose the answer from the following code:

(A) Only 1

(B) Only 2

(C) Both 1 and 2

(D) None of the above

Ans: (C)

Explanation:
Positive IOD phase
Westerly winds weaken along the equator allowing warm water to shift towards Africa.
Changes in the winds also allow cool water to rise up from the deep ocean in the east.

This sets up a temperature difference across the tropical Indian Ocean with cooler than normal water in the east and warmer than normal water in the west.

Generally this means there is less moisture than normal in the atmosphere to the northwest of Australia. This changes the path of weather systems coming from Australia's west, often resulting in less rainfall and higher than normal temperatures over parts of Australia during winter and spring.

Negative IOD phase

Westerly winds intensify along the equator, allowing warmer waters to concentrate near Australia. This sets up a temperature difference across the tropical Indian Ocean, with Warmer than normal water in the east and cooler than normal water in the west.

A negative IOD typically results in above-average winter–spring rainfall over parts of southern Australia as the warmer waters off northwest Australia provide more available moisture to weather systems crossing the country.

9 Match the following pair

State Rainfall in cm
1 Meghalaya I Less than 50
2 Odisha II More than 200
3 Gujarat III 100 - 200
4 Rajasthan IV 50 - 100

Choose the correct answer from the following code

1 2 3 4
A II IV III I
B II III IV I
C III II I IV
D III I II IV

Ans: (B)

Explanation:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Rainfall in cm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meghalaya</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Odisha</td>
<td>100 - 200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>50 - 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rajasthan</td>
<td>Less than 50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10 Match the following pair

State Koppen’s Climatic Classification
1 Odisha I Monsoon with dry summer
2 Uttar Pradesh II Tropical Savana Type
3 Eastern Tamil Nadu III Monsoon type with dry winter
4 Kerala IV Monsoon with short dry season

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

1 2 3 4

A IV III II I  
B IV I III II  
C II III I IV  
D II I III IV  

Ans: (C)

Explanation:

<table>
<thead>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>Monsoon type with dry summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kerala</td>
<td>Monsoon with short dry season</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11 Consider the following statements about trachoma:
1. Trachoma is set to be eliminated in India by 2020

2. Trachoma is a bacterial infection which affects the conjunctival covering of the eye

3. It is often associated with poverty and lack of proper hygiene

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

(A) 1 and 2 Only

(B) 2 and 3 Only

(C) 1 and 3 Only

(D) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (B)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: AIIMS had recently announced that Trachoma has been eliminated from the country.

Statement 2 is correct: Trachoma is a potentially blinding infectious eye disease spread by direct or indirect contact with infected individuals. Trachoma is a bacterial infection which affects the conjunctival covering of the eye, the cornea, and the eyelids.

Statement 3 is correct: It is often associated with poverty and lack of proper hygiene.

The disease is found predominantly in poor tropical or semi-tropical countries.

12 Which of the following is the new form of matter that has been discovered recently?

(A) Bose-Einstein Condensate

(B) Plasma

(C) Interstitium

(D) Excitonium

Ans: (D)

Explanation:

Scientists have proven the existence of new form of matter called excitonium.
Excitonium exhibits macroscopic quantum phenomena, like a superconductor and is made up of excitons, particles that are formed in a very strange quantum mechanical pairing.

13 Gelator- a compound developed by IISER is known for which of the following:

(A) It is a rice variety which provides better yields under submerged conditions in Assam Mainly in the Barak Valley.

(B) It is one of the four essential genes that can reprogramme the cells in our body and can be used to regenerate old cells or grow new organs.

(C) It is a compound to recover marine oil spills with a simple, efficient and cost-effective method.

(D) Is a compound using genetically modified mosquitoes to suppress wild female Aedes aegypti mosquito populations that transmit dengue, chikungunya and Zika.

Ans: (C)

Explanation:

Gelator is a compound developed by researchers at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Thiruvananthapuram. It is a compound to recover marine oil spills with a simple, efficient and cost-effective method. It is partly hydrophobic and partly hydrophilic - hydrophilic part forms gelator fibres, the hydrophobic part is responsible for diffusion into the oil layer.

14 Which of the following organisation releases the Corruption Perception index which ranks 180 countries and territories by their perceived levels of public sector corruption?

(A) World economic forum

(B) Transparency International

(C) German Watch

(D) Fortune

Ans: (B)

Explanation:

India has been ranked 81st in the global corruption perception index for 2017, released by Transparency International, which named the country among the "worst offenders" in terms of graft and press freedom in the Asia Pacific region. In the latest ranking New Zealand and Denmark were placed the highest, with scores of 89 and 88, respectively. On the other hand Syria, South Sudan and Somalia were ranked lowest with scores of 14, 12 and 9, respectively.
15 Consider the following statements:

1. World press freedom index is released annually by Walk free foundation
2. India is ranked in top 50 in the recently released world press freedom index

Choose the correct answer from the following code:

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

Ans: (D)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: Published every year since 2002 by Reporters without Borders (RSF), the World Press Freedom Index is an important advocacy tool based on the principle of emulation between states.

Statement 2 is incorrect: India is ranked 136 in the World Press Freedom Index, three points down from last year. Norway is at the apex and North Korea at the bottom of the 180-strong list of nations.