December 29, 2016

Q.1) Consider the following statements about 'Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana'

- 1. It is launched by Ministry of Tribal Affairs
- 2. It aims at creating enabling environment for need based and outcome oriented holistic development of the tribal people
- 3. Maximum selling price for Minor Forest Produce (MFP) is being implemented in schedule V States

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3
- d) All of the above

Q.1) Solution (d)

The Government of India, Ministry of Tribal Affairs has launched Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana (VKY) for welfare of Tribals. VKY aims at creating enabling environment for need based and outcome oriented holistic development of the tribal people. This process envisages to ensure that all the intended benefits of goods and services under various programmes/schemes of Central as well as State Governments actually reach the target groups by convergence of resources through appropriate institutional mechanism.

It covers all tribal people and all areas with tribal population across the country.

Under the scheme maximum selling price for MFP is being implemented in schedule V States. Web based portal has also been developed which indicate current price of MFPs on real time basis across different mandis of the States.

In News - http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/Status-of-tribal-development-remains-poor-Ministry-report/article16951999.ece

Q.2) Recently, the annual report of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs was released. Consider the following statements in this regard

- 1. The tribal population registered the highest child mortality and infant mortality rates, when compared to other social groups
- 2. Tribal population, with a vast majority engaged in agricultural labour, has the largest number of anaemic women

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Which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

Q.2) Solution (c)

Findings

- Tribal population, with a vast majority engaged in agricultural labour, has the largest number of anaemic women
- The community also registered the highest child mortality and infant mortality rates, when compared to other social groups.
- While educational achievements on the whole have improved, the Report shows that the gross enrolment ratio among tribal students in the primary school level has declined in 2015-16.
- The dropout rate among tribal students has been at an alarming level.
- While the overall poverty rates among the tribal population have fallen compared to previous years, they remain relatively poorer when weighed against other social groups.

In News - http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/Status-of-tribal-development-remains-poor-Ministry-report/article16951999.ece

Q.3) Kerala's State Board for Wildlife sought Union Government's approval for using deer antlers in Ayruveda drugs. Consider the following statements in this regard.

- 1. Deer antlers are mass of solid bone and are shed on regular intervals and regrow again
- 2. The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, has included antler in the definition of wildlife trophy
- 3. All the three deer varieties found in Kerala, including spotted deer, sambar, and barking deer, shed their antlers annually and is listed by IUCN as 'Least Concern'

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

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- c) 1 and 3
- d) All of the above

Q.3) Solution (a)

Antlers

- Antlers are the extensions of the skull of the deer.
- Deer belongs to the Bovidae class but there are many distinctions which separates them from this class
- Deer antlers are mass of solid bone and are shed on regular intervals and regrow again, whereas in all other bovidae's the horns are permanent and are not shed.

Wildlife Trophy

- The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, has included antler in the definition of wildlife trophy.
- A wildlife trophy is defined as the "whole or any part of any captive animal or wild animal".
- Wildlife and wildlife trophies are considered as owned by the government. The Act also prescribes imprisonment up to three years and fine of RS. 25,000 for offences involving wildlife trophies.

All the three deer varieties found in Kerala, including spotted deer (Least Concern), sambar (Vulnerable), and barking deer (Least Concen), shed their antlers annually.

In News - http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala/Antlers-could-end-up-in-medicines/article16952009.ece

Q.4) The Treaty of Yandaboo is concerned with which of the following countries?

- a) Vietnam
- b) Myanmar
- c) Cambodia
- d) Laos

Q.4) Solution (b)

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The Treaty of Yandabo was the peace treaty that ended the First Anglo-Burmese War. The treaty was signed on 24 February 1826, nearly two years after the war formally broke out on 5 March 1824, by General Sir Archibald Campbell on the British side, and the Governor of Legaing Maha Min Hla Kyaw Htin from the Burmese side. With the British army at Yandabo village, only 80 km (50 mi) from the capital Ava, the Burmese were forced to accept the British terms without discussion.

In News - http://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/Chronicle-of-a-conflict-foretold/article16950462.ece

Q.5) Which of the following statements about The United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) is true?

- a) It is the core legal body of the United Nations system in the field of international trade law
- b) India is a founding member of UNCITRAL
- c) India is only one of eight countries which have been a member of UNCITRAL since its inception
- d) All of the above

Q.5) Solution (d)

UNCITRAL

UNCITRAL was established in 1966 with a recognition that "international trade cooperation among States is an important factor in the promotion of friendly relations and, consequently, in the maintenance of peace and security.

The Commission comprises 60 member States elected by the United Nations General Assembly for a term of six years. Membership is structured to ensure representation of the world's various geographic regions and its principal economic and legal systems.

India is a founding member of UNCITRAL. India is only one of eight countries which have been a member of UNCITRAL since its inception. Last year, it was re-elected for a term of six years (2016-2022).

In News - http://indianexpress.com/article/business/business-others/improved-legal-standards-needed-to-deal-with-trade-disputes-says-mea-4401963/