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Q.1) Consider the following statements about International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)

- 1. It is headquartered in Philippines
- 2. A South Asia regional centre of the global rice research institute IRRI will be set up in Varanasi

Select the correct statements

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

Q.1) Solution (c)

IRRI is an international agricultural research and training organization with headquarters in Los Baños, Philippines. It is also the largest non-profit agricultural research centre in Asia.

The Institute, established in 1960 aims to reduce poverty and hunger, improve the health of rice farmers and consumers, and ensure environmental sustainability of rice farming. It advances its mission through collaborative research, partnerships, and the strengthening of the national agricultural research and extension systems of the countries IRRI works in.

IRRI is known for its work in developing rice varieties that contributed to the Green Revolution in the 1960s which preempted the famine in Asia.

IRRI is one of 15 agricultural research centers in the world that form the CGIAR Consortium of International Agricultural Research Centers, a global partnership of organizations engaged in research on food security. It is also the largest non-profit agricultural research center in Asia.

The Union Cabinet has approved establishment of International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) set up a regional centre International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), a global rice research institute. It will be named as IRRI South Asia Regional Centre (ISARC) and will be set up at campus of National Seed Research and Training Centre (NSRTC) in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.

Source: <u>http://indianexpress.com/article/india/modi-pm-constituency-cabinet-gives-nod-for-irris-regional-centre-in-varanasi-4747369/</u>

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Q.2) Consider the following statements about Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISC) which is being set up in Punjab.

- 1. It will be set up by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) and World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
- 2. The Cell for IPR Promotion and Management (CIPAM) is designated as the National Focal Point for the TISC national network

Select the correct statements

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

Q.2) Solution (c)

Technology and Innovation Support Centers

The WIPO Technology and Innovation Support Center (TISC) program provides innovators in developing countries with access to locally based, high quality technology information and related services, helping them to exploit their innovative potential and to create, protect, and manage their intellectual property (IP) rights.

Services offered by TISCs may include:

- Access to online patent and non-patent (scientific and technical) resources and IPrelated publications;
- Assistance in searching and retrieving technology information;
- Training in database search;
- On-demand searches (novelty, state-of-the-art and infringement);
- Monitoring technology and competitors;
- Basic information on industrial property laws, management and strategy, and technology commercialization and marketing.

The Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) had signed an agreement to establish India's first Technology and Innovation Support Centre (TISC) in Punjab. The DIPP signed the institutional agreement with Punjab State Council of Science and Technology to establish the TISC at Patent Information Centre, Punjab, under the World Intellectual Property Organisation's (WIPO) TISC programme.

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The Cell for IPR Promotion and Management (CIPAM) is designated as the National Focal Point for the TISC national network. As the national focal point, CIPAM shall identify potential host institutions, assess their capacities and support them in joining the TISC programme.

CIPAM will also act as the main intermediary between WIPO and TISC host institutions and coordinate all the activities of the National TISC network.

CIPAM plans to establish TISCs in universities, state science councils and research and development institutions. TISC will give an impetus to knowledge sharing, sharing of best practices among the TISCs, capacity building, generation and commercialization of IPs.

Source: <u>http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-miscellaneous/tp-others/un-agency-sets-up-support-centre-in-punjab/article19288002.ece</u>

Q.3) The drainage basin of the Godavari river is present in

- 1. Maharashtra
- 2. Telangana
- 3. Andhra Pradesh
- 4. Odisha
- 5. Madhya Pradesh

Select the correct code:

- a) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- b) 1, 2, 3 and 5
- c) 1, 2 and 3
- d) All of the above

Q.3) Solution (d)

The Godavari is the second longest river in India after the river Ganges having its source at Triambakeshwar, Maharashtra. It starts in Maharashtra and flows east for 1,465 kilometres (910 mi) emptying into Bay of Bengal draining the Indian states Maharashtra (48.6%), Telangana (18.8%), Andhra Pradesh (4.5%), Chhattisgarh (10.9%), Madhya Pradesh (10.0%), Odisha (5.7%), Karnataka (1.4%) and Puducherry (Yanam)[5] through its extensive network of tributaries.

Measuring up to 312,812 km2 (120,777 sq mi), it forms one of the largest river basins in the Indian subcontinent, with only the Ganges and Indus rivers having a drainage basin larger

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than it in India. In terms of length, catchment area and discharge, the Godavari river is the largest in peninsular India and had been dubbed as the 'Dakshina Ganga' – the South Ganges river.

Source: <u>http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/sensor-network-to-map-and-predict-pollution-effluents-in-godavari/article19260863.ece</u>

Q.4) Ottan Thullal and Chakyar koothu are folk dances of

- a) Karnataka
- b) Kerala
- c) Assam
- d) Tamil Nadu

Q.4) Solution (b)

Ottan Thullal is a dance and poetic performance form of Kerala, India. It was introduced in the 18th century by Kunchan Nambiar, one of the Prachina Kavithrayam (three famous Malayalam language poets). It is accompanied by a mridangam (a barrel shaped double headed drum) or an idakka (drum and cymbal).

Chakyar Koothu is a performance art from Kerala, South India. It is primarily a type of highly refined monologue where the performer narrates episodes from Hindu epics (such as the Ramayana and the Mahabharata) and stories from the Puranas. Sometimes, however, it is also a traditional equivalent of the modern stand-up comedy act, incorporating commentary on current socio-political events (and personal comments directed at the members of the audience).

Q.5) The folk music named 'Bhatiali' hails from which state?

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Karnataka
- c) Uttar Pradesh
- d) None of the above

Q.5) Solution (d)

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Bhatiali or bhatiyali is a form of folk music in both Bangladesh and West Bengal, India. Bhatiali is known as river song (or related with river as metaphor) mostly sung by boatmen while going down streams of the river. The word bhatiyali comes from bhata meaning "ebb" or downstream.

It is mostly sung in several parts of greater riparian Bengal delta. Researchers [who?] have claimed Mymensingh District along the Brahmaputra River or the Bhati (lower region of a river) area as its place of origin. Bhaitaili lyrics are traditionally about boating, fishing and rivers. Among the 14 subjects of folk music in Bangladesh, that includes Deha-tatva (about the body) and Murshid-tatva (about the guru), Bhatiali deals with Prakriti-tatva (about nature).

