

Q.1) Consider the following statements about the Ocean Energy Systems Technology Collaboration Programme (OES)

1. It is established by the International Energy Agency
2. India was one of the inaugural signatories to the OES

Select the correct statements

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

Q.1) Solution (a)

The Ocean Energy Systems Technology Collaboration Programme (OES) is an intergovernmental collaboration between countries, which operates under framework established by the International Energy Agency in Paris.

The Ocean Energy Systems Energy Technology Collaboration Programme (OES) was launched in 2001. The need for technology cooperation was identified in response to increased activity in the development of ocean wave and tidal current energy in the latter part of the 1990's and the beginning of this decade, primarily in Denmark, Portugal and the United Kingdom. These three countries were the inaugural signatories to the OES.

The OES brings together countries to advance research, development and demonstration of conversion technologies to harness energy from all forms of ocean renewable resources, such as tides, waves, currents, temperature gradient (ocean thermal energy conversion and submarine geothermal energy) and salinity gradient for electricity generation, as well as for other uses, such as desalination, through international cooperation and information exchange.

The OES completed its second five-year mandate on 28 February 2012. Thus, a request for a new 5-year term, including the End-of-Term Report and a new Strategic Plan, had been submitted to the CERT in July 2011, and was approved on 1 February 2012. The ExCo prepared a 5-year Strategic Plan to the IEA to secure this third 5-year mandate. A key component of this Plan is a Communications Plan, which will raise the profile of OES and of its efforts "to realize cost-competitive, environmentally sound ocean energy on a sustainable basis to provide a significant contribution to meeting future energy demands".

OES consists of 20 member countries (as of Feb. 2013). Each country is represented by contracting parties - who nominates participants in the OES Executive Committee.

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Participants in the OES are specialists from government departments, national energy agencies, research or scientific bodies and academia, nominated by the Contracting Parties.

India is one of them. The National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) represents India in the OES.

Source: <http://www.newindianexpress.com/cities/chennai/2017/nov/13/indias-first-wave-powered-navigational-buoy-launched-in-chennai-1700392.html>

Q.2) Which of the following countries is not a part of BASIC countries?

- a) South Africa
- b) South Korea
- c) China
- d) Brazil

Q.2) Solution (b)

The BASIC countries (also Basic countries or BASIC) are a bloc of four large newly industrialized countries – Brazil, South Africa, India and China – formed by an agreement on 28 November 2009. The four committed to act jointly at the Copenhagen climate summit, including a possible united walk-out if their common minimum position was not met by the developed nations.

Source: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/basic-countries-reiterate-commitment-to-implementation-of-climate-treaties/articleshow/61647557.cms>

Q.3) Rashtriya Garima Abhiyaan' is a national campaign to

- a) rehabilitate the homeless and destitute persons and provide them with suitable sources of livelihood
- b) release the sex workers from their practice and provide them with alternative sources of livelihood
- c) eradicate the practice of manual scavenging and rehabilitate the manual scavengers
- d) release the bonded labourers from their bondage and rehabilitate them

Q.3) Solution (c)

Rashtriya Garima Abhiyan (National Campaign for Dignity and Eradication of Manual Scavenging)

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is responsible for rehabilitation of manual scavengers and it implements the 'Self Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers' (SRMS). Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has associated reputed NGOs like Safai Karamchari Andolan, Rashtriya Garima Abhiyan, Sulabh International etc. for identification of manual scavengers and their rehabilitation.

Source: <http://indianexpress.com/article/india/manual-scavenging-law-to-be-amended-to-hike-compensation-for-deaths-4937937/>

Q.4) Consider the following statements about Disability-Adjusted Life Year (DALY)

1. It is the sum of years of potential life lost due to premature mortality and the years of productive life lost due to disability.
2. It was originally developed by Harvard University for the World Bank in 1990

Select the correct statements

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

Q.4) Solution (c)

The disability-adjusted life year (DALY) is a measure of overall disease burden, expressed as the number of years lost due to ill-health, disability or early death. It was developed in the 1990s as a way of comparing the overall health and life expectancy of different countries.

The DALY is becoming increasingly common in the field of public health and health impact assessment (HIA). It "extends the concept of potential years of life lost due to premature death...to include equivalent years of 'healthy' life lost by virtue of being in states of poor health or disability." In so doing, mortality and morbidity are combined into a single, common metric.

Originally developed by Harvard University for the World Bank in 1990, the World Health Organization subsequently adopted the method in 1996 as part of the Ad hoc Committee on Health Research "Investing in Health Research & Development" report. The DALY was first conceptualized by Murray and Lopez in work carried out with the World Health Organization

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and the World Bank known as the Global Burden of Disease Study, which was published in 1990. It is now a key measure employed by the United Nations World Health Organization in such publications as its Global Burden of Disease.

Read More - http://www.who.int/healthinfo/global_burden_disease/metrics_daly/en/

Source: http://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/health-crisis-from-lifestyle-disease-to-malnutrition-117111500044_1.html

Q.5) Which of the following are sexually transmitted diseases?

1. Syphilis
2. Gonorrhoea
3. Chlamydia

Select the correct statements

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

Q.5) Solution (d)

Chlamydia - A common sexually transmitted infection that may not cause symptoms.

Gonorrhoea - A sexually transmitted bacterial infection that, if untreated, may cause infertility.

Syphilis - A bacterial infection usually spread by sexual contact that starts as a painless sore.

