

December 13, 2017

Q.1) Supreme Court banned production and distribution of 'Endosulfan'. It caused which of the following?

1. Abnormalities related to male reproductive system
2. Physical deformities
3. Neurobehavioral disorders

Select the correct code:

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

Q.1) Solution (d)

Endosulfan is an off-patent organochlorine insecticide and acaricide that is being phased out globally. Endosulfan became a highly controversial agrichemical due to its acute toxicity, potential for bioaccumulation, and role as an endocrine disruptor. Because of its threats to human health and the environment, a global ban on the manufacture and use of endosulfan was negotiated under the Stockholm Convention in April 2011.

Endosulfan pesticide was used widely on crops like cashew, cotton, tea, paddy, fruits and others until 2011, when the Supreme Court banned its production and distribution. The health effects of the chemical include neurotoxicity, late sexual maturity, physical deformities, poisoning, among others. People, especially newborns, have suffered deformities, health complications and loss of family members due to exposure to the agrochemical.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/sc-notice-to-kerala-on-contempt-plea-by-endosulfan-victims/article21426446.ece>

Q.2) 'RuTAG' is often seen in news. Which of the following statements is correct?

- a) It is a mechanism to achieve rural advancement through S&T interventions
- b) It enables automatic deduction of toll charges
- c) It is a low-cost small satellite launcher by ISRO
- d) It is a payment app using Unified Payments Interface (UPI)

Q.2) Solution (a)

RuTAGs (Rural Technology Action Groups)

It is helping towards

- Addressing defused rural economy through S&T Platform.
- Dissemination of refined technologies reaching to rural areas.
- Technology delivery for non-farm/ agriculture sectors.
- Benefiting Rural groups through network of NGOs.
- Adding value to the produce and Enhancing quality of rural life.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/modified-kiln-a-boon-for-bangle-makers-in-rajasthan/article21461550.ece>

Q.3) Manipur is bordered by which of the following states?

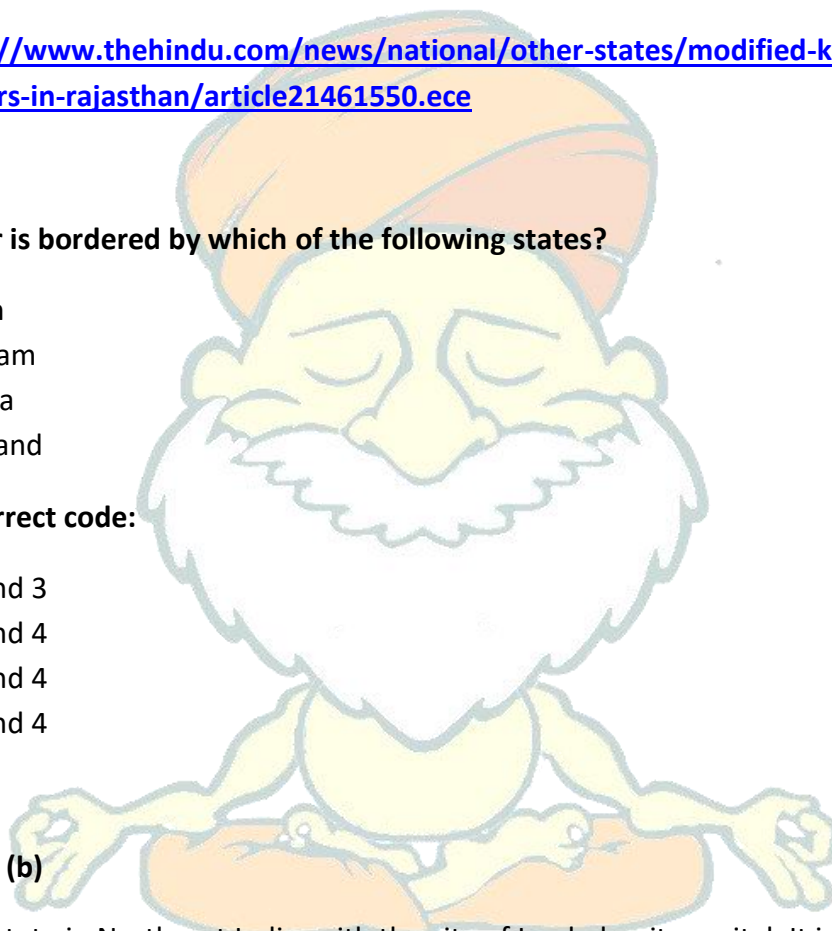
1. Assam
2. Mizoram
3. Tripura
4. Nagaland

Select the correct code:

- a) 1, 2 and 3
- b) 1, 2 and 4
- c) 2, 3 and 4
- d) 1, 3 and 4

Q.3) Solution (b)

Manipur is a state in Northeast India, with the city of Imphal as its capital. It is bounded by Nagaland to the north, Mizoram to the south, and Assam to the west; Myanmar lies to its east.



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Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-otherstates/manipur-beefs-up-security-along-border/article21456816.ece>

Q.4) World Economic Situation and Prospects (WESP) Report is published by

- a) United Nations
- b) World Economic Forum
- c) World Trade Organisation
- d) World Bank

Q.4) Solution (a)

The report is a joint product of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN/DESA), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the five United Nations regional commissions (Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)).

Source: <http://www.livemint.com/Politics/0dUJm3AN1K6HH6G3hGKJJI/Indian-economy-to-grow-at-72-in-2018-says-UN-report.html>

Q.5) Consider the following statements National Informatics Centre (NIC)

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1. It is under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
2. It was established during the 1991 economic reforms

Select the correct code:

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

Q.5) Solution (a)

The National Informatics Centre (NIC) (Rashtriya Suchna Vigyan Kendra) is the premier science & technology organisation of Government of India in informatics services and information and communication technology (ICT) applications. The NIC is a part of the Indian Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology's Department of Electronics & Information Technology.

It plays a pivotal role in steering e-governance applications in the governmental departments at national, state and district levels, enabling the improvement in, and a wider transparency of, government services. Almost all Indian-government websites are developed and managed by NIC.

National Informatics Centre (NIC) was established in 1976, and has since emerged as a "prime builder" of e-Government / e-Governance applications up to the grassroots level as well as a promoter of digital opportunities for sustainable development.

Source: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/ites/government-sets-up-nic-cert-centre-to-detect-prevent-cyber-attacks/articleshow/62024388.cms>

