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Q.1) Which of the following countries shares its borders with Caspian Sea?

1. Russia
2. Azerbaijan
3. Georgia

Select the correct code:

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

Q.1) Solution (a)

The coastlines of the Caspian are shared by Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Russia, and Turkmenistan.



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Q.2) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) focuses on

1. Disaster management
2. Democratic governance
3. Climate resilience

Select the correct code:

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

Q.2) Solution (c)

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is the United Nations' global development network.

Headquartered in New York City, UNDP advocates for change and connects countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. It provides expert advice, training and grants support to developing countries, with increasing emphasis on assistance to the least developed countries. The status of UNDP is that of an executive board within the United Nations General Assembly.

UNDP focuses on helping countries build and share solutions in three main areas:

- Sustainable development
- Democratic governance and peacebuilding
- Climate and disaster resilience

Q.3) Consider the following statements about 'Washington Convention'

1. It is a multilateral treaty to protect endangered plants and animals
2. India is a party to the convention
3. It is legally binding on the Parties

Select the correct statements

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

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Q.3) Solution (d)

CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) also known as the Washington Convention is an international agreement between governments. Its aim is to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival. It was drafted as a result of a resolution adopted in 1963 at a meeting of members of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

CITES is an international agreement to which States and regional economic integration organizations adhere voluntarily. States that have agreed to be bound by the Convention ('joined' CITES) are known as Parties. Although CITES is legally binding on the Parties – in other words they have to implement the Convention – it does not take the place of national laws. Rather it provides a framework to be respected by each Party, which has to adopt its own domestic legislation to ensure that CITES is implemented at the national level.

Source: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/mumbai-a-transit-hub-for-trafficking-of-protected-animals-says-report/story-4oEhUsp2VHiGnudClO0i2K.html>

Q.4) An interim mechanism called the 'Peace Clause' is available for developing nations. It is concerned with

- a) International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- b) World Trade Organisation (WTO)
- c) UNFCC
- d) International Solar Alliance (ISA)

Q.4) Solution (b)

According to the 'Peace Clause' to which they cannot be challenged at the WTO Dispute Settlement Mechanism (DSM) even if they breach the cap of the product-specific domestic support (10% of the value of production).

Read More - <http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/opinion/all-you-wanted-to-know-about-peace-clause/article6280907.ece>

Source: <https://www.livemint.com/Politics/KVv4iAN9DwZw7UBe36K1ZK/India-may-face-greater-scrutiny-at-WTO-after-13-MSP-hike-fo.html>

Q.5) Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI) is often in news in the context of India and

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- a) Israel
- b) Japan
- c) France
- d) USA

Q.5) Solution (d)

The DTTI aims to:

- Transform the bilateral defence relationship into one that is limited only by independent strategic decisions, rather than bureaucratic obstacles or inefficient procedures
- Strengthen India's defence industrial base by moving away from the traditional "buyer-seller" dynamic toward a more collaborative approach
- Explore new areas of technological collaboration from science and technology cooperation through co-development and co-production
- Expand U.S.-Indian business ties

Source: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/india-us-military-ties-take-a-hit-after-american-sanctions-against-russia/story-rVmKaCMQViX5J2nu4XqF2M.html>

