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Q.1) Consider the following statements about 'Chandrayaan-1'

- 1. It is a remote sensing lunar satellite
- 2. It had a mass of 1,380 kg at launch
- 3. Presence of frozen water deposits on the Moon's Polar Regions was confirmed by NASA using data collected from 'Chandrayaan -1'

Select the correct statements

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

Q.1) Solution (d)

It was India's first lunar probe. It was launched by the Indian Space Research Organisation in October 2008, and operated until August 2009. The mission included a lunar orbiter and an impactor. India launched the spacecraft using a PSLV-XL rocket, serial number C11.

The remote sensing lunar satellite had a mass of 1,380 kg (3,040 lb) at launch and 675 kg (1,488 lb) in lunar orbit.

NASA Scientists have confirmed the presence of frozen water deposits in the darkest and coldest parts of the Moon's Polar Regions using data from the Chandrayaan-I spacecraft that was launched by India 10 years ago

The ice deposits are patchily distributed and could possibly be ancient, according to the study published in the journal PNAS.

At the southern pole, most of the ice is concentrated at lunar craters, while the northern pole's ice is more widely, but sparsely spread.

Source: https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/chandrayaan-1-data-confirms-presence-of-ice-on-moon/article24742929.ece

Q.2) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Blast Fishing'

- 1. It is the practice of using explosives to stun or kill schools of fish
- 2. It destroys the calcium carbonate coral skeletons and is one of the continual disruptions of coral reefs

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Select the correct statements

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

Q.2) Solution (c)

Blast fishing or dynamite fishing is the practice of using explosives to stun or kill schools of fish for easy collection. This often illegal practice can be extremely destructive to the surrounding ecosystem, as the explosion often destroys the underlying habitat (such as coral reefs) that supports the fish.

Researchers believe that destructive fishing practices like blast fishing are one of the biggest threats to the coral reef ecosystems. Blown up coral reefs are no more than rubble fields. The long-term impact associated with blast tanks is that there is no natural recovery of the reefs. Coral reefs are less likely to recover from constant disturbance such as blast fishing than from small disturbance that does not change the physical environment. Blast fishing destroys the calcium carbonate coral skeletons and is one of the continual disruptions of coral reefs. In the Indo-Pacific, the practice of blast fishing is a main cause of coral reef degradation. As a result, weakened rubble fields are formed and fish habitat is reduced.

Source: https://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-life/blast-fishing-thrives-in-libyas-chaos/article24740673.ece

Q.3) '#MeToo Movement' is against

- a) Sexual harassment
- b) Data Privacy
- c) Global Inequality
- d) Global Hunger

Q.3) Solution (a)

The Me Too Movement (or #MeToo Movement) with many local/international alternatives is a movement against sexual harassment and assault.

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#MeToo spread virally in October 2017 as a hashtag used on social media in an attempt to demonstrate the widespread prevalence of sexual assault and harassment, especially in the workplace

Q.4) RBI is looking to set up a 'Public Credit Registry (PCR)'—an information repository that collates all loan information of individuals and corporate borrowers. Consider the following statements wrt. PCR.

- A High Level Task Force headed by Y.M. Deosthalee recommended the setting up of PCR by RBI in a phased and modular manner
- 2. RBI Act does not empower the central bank to regulate the PCR

Select the correct statements

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

Q.4) Solution (c)

PCR aims to be an extensive database of credit information that is accessible to all stakeholders. From the point of origination of credit to its termination, the PCR will capture all lender-borrower accounts at one place. A high-level task force was set up under the chairmanship of Y.M. Deosthalee, which recommended the setting up of PCR by RBI in a phased and modular manner.

A credit repository will help banks distinguish between a bad and a good borrower and accordingly offer attractive interest rates to good borrowers and higher interest rates to bad borrowers.

The public credit repository will address information asymmetry, improve access to credit and strengthen the credit culture among consumers. It can also go a long way in addressing the bad loans problem facing the banking system, as corporate borrowers will be unable to lend from multiple banks without disclosing their existing debt.

The RBI Act does not empower the central bank to regulate the registry as it does not fall within the definition of a financial institution. Besides, PCR being a "consent-based architecture" will require consent from different sources for sharing information. This will entail amending legislations separately, allowing an exemption to sharing of information.

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Source: https://www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/credit-registry-rbi-act-may-need-tweak/article24738910.ece

Q.5) 'Ngari' was in news recently. It is located in

- a) Patagonia
- b) Eastern Africa
- c) Central Asia
- d) None of the above

Q.5) Solution (d)

Ngari Prefecture is a prefecture of Tibet Autonomous Region