Q.1) 'Punch Tantra' was recently in news. What is it related to?

a) Guidelines to double farmers' income by 2022
b) Tribal handlooms and handicraft
c) Air-to-Air Missile developed by DRDO
d) Indigenously developed Supercomputer

Q.1) Solution (b)

The Punch Tantra is a range of tribal artifacts include handlooms and handicrafts. The Punch Tantra is a magnificent collection of such excellence and powerful tribal legacy, which comprises of a range of ethnic and traditional tribal handicraft and handloom products like Sarees, Stoles, Dupatas, Shawls, Kurtas/Kurtis, Lamp shades (Kandels), Sky Lanters, Diyas, Gift hampers, etc. specially introduced for the coming Diwali and festival season.

It will be organised by TRIFED and Tribes India under Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

TRIFED promotes tribal products through network of Tribes India Showrooms, Aadi Mahotsavs /Exhibitions and various e-commerce platforms namely, Amazon, Flipkart, Snapdeal and GeM which provide a window to National & International markets. TRIFED has brought more and more tribal artisans in its ambit of operations for improving their livelihood and upgrade their economic status.

Source: http://pib.nic.in/PressReleseDetail.aspx?PRID=1547368

Q.2) Consider the following statements about 'WAYU'

1. It is developed by Council of Scientific and Industrial Research – National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-NEERI)
2. It works by converting pollutants such as PM2.5 and PM10 particles, carbon monoxide and volatile organic compounds into carbon dioxide using a filter.

Select the correct code:

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

Q.2) Solution (c)

Air pollution control device WAYU (Wind Augmentation Purifying Unit) is developed by Council of Scientific and Industrial Research – National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-NEERI) as a part of Technology Development Project being funded by Department of Science and Technology.

The device works on two principles mainly Wind generation for dilution of air pollutants and Active Pollutants removal. The device has filters for Particulate Matter removal and activated carbon (charcoal) and UV lamps for poisonous gases removal such as VOCs and Carbon Monoxide. The device has one fan and filter for sucking and removing Particulate Matter. There are two UV lamps and half kg of activated carbon charcoal coated with special chemical Titanium Dioxide.

Source: http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=183664

Q.3) Consider the following statements about 'SDG Media Compact'

1. It is an initiative marking a new drive to advance awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that were unanimously adopted by all world leaders at the United Nations in 2015.
2. India's Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is one of the founding compact members

Select the correct code:

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

Q.3) Solution (c)

SDG Media Compact is initiative of United Nations, in collaboration with UN Foundation. It is alliance of news and entertainment media and it is committing to work with United Nations to foster public discourse and spur action on SGDs.

It seeks to inspire media and entertainment companies around the world to leverage their resources and creative talent to advance SDGs adopted by all world leaders at UN in 2015.

India's ministry of information and broadcasting is among more than 30 founding compact members.

Source: https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/indias-ministry-of-information-and-broadcasting-in-un-global-media-compact/articleshow/65932745.cms

Q.4) Consider the following statements about 'Tx2'

1. It was launched by CITES at the 2010 St Petersburg Tiger Summit.
2. It is an ambitious and visionary species conservation goal set by the governments of the tiger range countries to double the number of wild tigers by 2022.

Select the correct code:

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

Q.4) Solution (b)

An ambitious and visionary species conservation goal was set by the governments of the 13 tiger range countries: to double the number of wild tigers by 2022 – the next Chinese year of the tiger. This is the Tx2 goal.

The initiative was started in 2010 at the St. Petersburg Tiger Summit. The International Tiger Day 2016 is especially important since it marks the halfway point of Tx2 and a shout-out to governments and countries across the world to review and strengthen its existing efforts to save the animal.

It was launched by World Wildlife Foundation (WWF) at the 2010 St Petersburg Tiger Summit held in Russia. Under it, 13 tiger range countries had agreed to double the world tiger population by 2022, which is the year of tiger in Chinese calendar. These 13 countries are Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Russia, Thailand and Vietnam.

The Tx2 approach looks at doubling the number of tigers in the wild, rather than just saving the animal in each of the countries in which it is present. This strategic focus looks at not only protecting tigers but protecting landscapes including source sites and corridors. It also encourages trans-boundary collaboration between countries for tiger conservation. The Tx2 initiative marks the first time that all tiger range countries have come together to collaborate and work together towards a global goal of protecting this apex predator.

WWF is a major driving force behind the Tx2 campaign and is running a "Thumbs-Up for Tigers" campaign to mark the International Tiger Day 2016.

Source: http://www.newindianexpress.com/world/2018/sep/24/nepal-becomes-first-country-to-double-tiger-population-1876537.html

Q.5) Project UNNATI is associated with

a) Allocation of coal mines
b) Digital Literacy in Rural India
c) Improving operational and financial performance of Ports
d) Monitor high value transactions and detect tax evaders

Q.5) Solution (c)

The aims and objectives of Project UNNATI of the Ministry of Shipping are

- Benchmark operational and financial performance of the 12 major ports with selected Indian private ports and best-in-class international ports for identifying improvement areas.
- Undertake capability maturity assessment for key processes and functional capabilities (e.g., IT, HR, Environment, and Health) and identify gaps and areas for further strengthening.
- Detailed deep-dive diagnosis and root cause analysis for the identified opportunity areas in each of the 12 major ports to understand underlying reasons for performance bottlenecks.
- Develop practical and actionable solutions on the basis of root cause findings, and develop a comprehensive improvement roadmap for each of the 12 major ports.