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Q.1) Consider the following statements about 'Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority (EPCA)'

1. It was constituted with the objective of 'protecting and improving' the quality of the environment and 'controlling environmental pollution' in the National Capital Region.
2. It was constituted at the behest of the Supreme Court.
3. It is mandated to enforce Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) as per the pollution levels.

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)

News: The Centre has reconstituted the Supreme Court-empowered Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority or the EPCA, which is tasked with taking various measures to tackle air pollution in the National Capital Region.

Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority, also known as the EPCA, is a statutory body constituted by the central government in 1998 at the behest of the Supreme Court. One of the initial and significant achievements of this authority was introducing compressed natural gas as a fuel for vehicles in Delhi after an order of the Supreme Court. This was aimed to address pollution problems. But that is not surprising as the EPCA was constituted with the objective of 'protecting and improving' the quality of the environment and 'controlling environmental pollution' in the National Capital Region. The EPCA also assists the apex court in various environment-related matters in the region.

The EPCA was constituted with the objective of protecting and improving the quality of the environment and preventing and controlling the environmental pollution in the National Capital Region. The EPCA is also mandated to enforce Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) in the city as per the pollution levels.

Source: <https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/india/centre-reconstitutes-epca-the-authority-tasked-with-tackling-environment-pollution-in-ncr-3022131.html>

Q.2) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Rapid Action Force (RAF)'

IASbaba's Daily Quiz

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1. It is a specialised wing of the Central Industrial Security Force.
2. It is headed by an officer of the rank of Inspector general.
3. It is governed by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.2) Solution (b)

The Rapid Action Force (RAF) is a specialised wing of the Indian CRPF (Central Reserve Police Force) to deal with riot and crowd control situations.

This specialized force has 15 battalions which are numbered 99 to 108 and 83, 91, 97, 114, 194. It is headed by an officer of the rank of Inspector general.

The smallest functional unit in the force is a 'Team' commanded by an inspector, has three components namely riot control element, tear smoke element and fire element. It has been organised as an independent striking unit.

The RAF battalions are based in various parts of the country in order to cut down response time and rush the teams in the shortest possible time to counter an incident.

Source: https://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/pm-modi-s-constituency-varanasi-among-5-new-rapid-action-force-bases-118100700299_1.html

Q.3) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Bisphenol A'

1. It is used primarily to make plastics.
2. It is used in food packaging items to extend shelf life and protect food from contamination and spoilage.

Select the correct statements

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

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Q.3) Solution (c)

Bisphenol A is used primarily to make plastics. Bisphenol A based plastics have been in commercial use since 1957. It is a key ingredient in polymers that are used to make adhesives, containers, electronic coatings, boat hulls. In terms of consumer goods, reusable drink containers, food storage containers, canned foods, children's toys, and even receipts from stores.

BPA is used safely in food packaging items to extend shelf life and protect food from contamination and spoilage.

Q.4) Which one of the following is a purpose of 'UDAY', a scheme of the Government?

- a) Providing technical and financial assistance to start-up entrepreneurs in the field of renewable sources of energy
- b) Providing electricity to every household in the country by 2018
- c) Replacing the coal-based power plants with natural gas, nuclear, solar, wind and tidal power plants over a period of time
- d) Providing for financial turnaround and revival of power distribution companies

Q.4) Solution (d)

Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana (UDAY) is the financial turnaround and revival package for electricity distribution companies of India (DISCOMs) initiated by the Government of India with the intent to find a permanent solution to the financial mess that the power distribution is in.

Q.5) Other than poaching, what are the possible reasons for the decline in the population of Ganges River Dolphins?

1. Construction of dams and barrages on rivers
2. Getting trapped in fishing nets accidentally
3. Use of synthetic fertilizers and other agricultural chemicals in crop-fields in the vicinity of rivers

Select the correct code:

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3

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- c) 1 and 3
- d) All of the above

Q.5) Solution (d)

In India, the Ganges River Dolphin is threatened by river water pollution and siltation, accidental entanglement in fishing nets, and poaching for their oil. In addition, alterations to the rivers in the form of barrages and dams are separating populations. Various organizations, including the WWF-India in Uttar Pradesh, have initiated programs for conservation and re-introduction of the River Dolphin.

Read More -

http://wwf.panda.org/knowledge_hub/endangered_species/cetaceans/about/river_dolphins/ganges_river_dolphin/

