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Q.1) Consider the following statements about Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC)

1. The Chairman of the FSDC is the Finance Minister of India
2. Heads of SEBI, IRDA, RBI, and PFRDA are members of the FSDC

Select the correct statements

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

Q.1) Solution (c)

The Chairman of the FSDC is the Finance Minister of India and its members include the heads of the financial sector regulatory authorities (i.e, SEBI, IRDA, RBI, PFRDA) , Finance Secretary and/or Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs (Ministry of Finance), Secretary, (Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance) and the Chief Economic Adviser.

A sub-committee of FSDC has also been set up under the chairmanship of Governor RBI. The Sub-Committee discusses and decides on a range of issues relating to financial sector development and stability including substantive issues relating to inter-regulatory coordination.

Q.2) What is 'Salwa Judum'?

- a) A terrorist outfit in Nigeria
- b) Drug cartels of Medijin and Cali
- c) A militia that was mobilised and deployed as part of anti-insurgency operations in Chhattisgarh
- d) None of the above

Q.2) Solution (c)

Salwa Judum was mobilised in 2005 by the late Congress leader Mahendra Karma, who was assassinated by Naxals in 2013, and deployed in parts of Chhattisgarh. Those in favour of the idea claim that the Judum was a "spontaneous uprising" of tribal people against Maoist

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violence in Bastar, and helped in countering Naxals in the region. Yet, by the time the force was banned by the Supreme Court in 2011, it had acquired a bloody and controversial reputation.

Q.3) 'Taiwan Strait' connects which of the following?

1. East China Sea
2. South China Sea
3. Philippines Sea
4. Yellow Sea

Select the correct code:

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

Q.3) Solution (a)



Q.4) Consider the following statements with respect to 'World Water Development Report (WWDR)'

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- a) World Water Council
- b) UN-Water
- c) International Water Resource Association
- d) Water Aid

Q.4) Solution (b)

The United Nations World Water Development Report (WWDR) is a global report that provides an authoritative, comprehensive assessment of the world's freshwater resources. It is produced annually by the World Water Assessment Programme and released by UN-Water.

The United Nations World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP) hosted and led by UNESCO, is a Programme Office on Global Water Assessment. It was founded in 2000 in response to a call from the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) to produce a UN system-wide periodic global overview of the status (quantity and quality), use and management of freshwater resources. To meet this challenge, WWAP coordinates the work of 31 UN-Water members, and 38 international partners under the umbrella mechanism of UN-Water, in the production of the World Water Development Report (WWDR). The WWDR is the UN flagship report on water issues; it is a comprehensive review that gives an overall picture of the state, use and management of the world's freshwater resources and aims to provide decision-makers with tools to formulate and implement sustainable water policies. The WWDR is released every year with a different focus on different strategic water issues, and it is a comprehensive review that gives an overall picture of the state of freshwater resources around the world, with the aim of providing managers and key decisions-makers with the information, data, tools and skills necessary to enable them to effectively participate in the development of policies. Consequently, WWAP aims to equip water managers and policy- and decision-makers with knowledge, tools and skills necessary to formulate and implement sustainable water policies.

The United Nations World Water Development Report, Nature-based Solutions for Water, launched 19 March 2018 during the 8th World Water Forum, and in conjunction to the World Water Day, demonstrates how nature-based solutions (NBS) offer a vital means of moving beyond business-as-usual to address many of the world's water challenges while simultaneously delivering additional benefits vital to all aspects of sustainable development.

NBS use or mimic natural processes to enhance water availability (e.g., soil moisture retention, groundwater recharge), improve water quality (e.g., natural and constructed wetlands, riparian buffer strips), and reduce risks associated with water-related disasters and climate change (e.g., floodplain restoration, green roofs).

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Currently, water management remains heavily dominated by traditional, human-built (i.e. 'grey') infrastructure and the enormous potential for NBS remains under-utilized. NBS include green infrastructure that can substitute, augment or work in parallel with grey infrastructure in a cost-effective manner. The goal is to find the most appropriate blend of green and grey investments to maximize benefits and system efficiency while minimizing costs and trade-offs.

Q.5) 'MILAN naval exercise' is associated with which of the following groupings?

- a) The Quad
- b) IOR-ARC
- c) BIMSTEC
- d) None of the above

Q.5) Solution (d)

Milan 2018

- It is a congregation of littoral navies conducted biennially by Indian Navy at the Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- It is being organised at the Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- The exercise is being hosted by the Indian Navy under the aegis of the Andaman and Nicobar Command.
- It was first held in 1995 and saw participation of four littoral navies
- Theme - 'Friendship Across the Seas'
- The theme of this year's MILAN International Maritime Seminar is 'In Pursuit of Maritime Good Order - Need for Comprehensive Information Sharing Apparatus'
- Participating countries - Australia, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Myanmar, New Zealand, Oman, Vietnam, Thailand, Tanzania, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Kenya and Cambodia.