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Q.1) 'Aipan' is a traditional terracotta and white motifs drawn on floors and walls on ceremonial occasions. It belongs to which state?

- a) Uttarakhand
- b) Karnataka
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Rajasthan

Q.1) Solution (a)

Aipan is a traditional folk art specifically made by women of Uttarakhand. This art is done on floor over brick red background with white paste made out of rice flour. The typical art is done on all special occasions and household ceremonies and rituals. It is believed that these motifs evoke divine power which brings good fortune and wards off evil.

Source: https://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/cheli-aipan-a-unique-initiative-to-make-traditional-folk-art-lucrative-118110201699 1.html

Q.2) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Kordylewski clouds'

- 1. They are large concentrations of dust that exist at the L4 and L5 Lagrangian points of the Earth—Moon system
- 2. They are exceptionally faint, which makes it very difficult to observe from Earth

Select the correct code:

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

Q.2) Solution (c)

Kordylewski clouds are large concentrations of dust that exist at the L4 and L5 Lagrangian points of the Earth–Moon system. They were first reported by Polish astronomer Kazimierz Kordylewski in the 1960s, and confirmed to exist in October 2018.

The Kordylewski clouds are exceptionally faint, and whether one can see them with the naked eye or normal cameras depends heavily on the state of the weather.

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It is very difficult to detect the Kordylewski clouds against the galactic light, star light, zodiacal light, and sky glow.

According to the new findings, each Kordylewski cloud is about 15 by 10 degrees wide, or equal to 30 by 20 lunar disks in the night sky. This translates to an area in space about 65,000 by 45,000 miles in actual size—nearly nine times wider than Earth.

The clouds themselves are enormous, but the individual particles that comprise them are estimated to measure just a micrometer across. Sunlight reflecting off these particles makes them glow ever so slightly—just like the pyramid-shaped glow of the zodiacal light that results from dust scattered between the orbits of the planets.

Source: https://www.space.com/42293-earth-orbiting-dust-clouds-confirmed.html

Q.3) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Border Area Development Programme (BADP)'

- 1. The funds under BADP are provided to the States for execution of projects relating to infrastructure, livelihood, education and health
- 2. It was initiated during the Second Five Year Plan period

Select the correct statements

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

Q.3) Solution (a)

It was initiated during the Seventh FYP.

Read More -

https://mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/BordDevel%28BADP%29 16022018.PDF

Q.4) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Shakti- India's first microprocessor'

1. It has been designed by researchers at Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT-B)

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2. It can work with various devices such as consumer electronic devices, mobile computing devices, embedded low-power wireless systems and networking systems

Select the correct statements

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

Q.4) Solution (b)

Shakti- India's first microprocessor has been designed and booted by researchers at Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT-M). The researchers say that the chip can be used for mobile computing and other devices. The chip can be used in low-power wireless systems and networking systems.

The researchers say that the chip can help reduce the reliance on imported chips in the communications and defence sector. The researchers also claim that the chip is on par with international standards.

Semi-Conductor Laboratory (SCL), Indian Space Research Organizations (ISRO) in Chandigarh fabricated the Shakti family of processors. This makes it the first 'RISC V Microprocessor' that is designed and manufactured in India completely.

The initial batch of 300 chips, named RISECREEK was produced under Project Shakti, in July 2018. The chips were fabricated at the Multinational Chip Manufacturer Intel's facility at Oregon, USA. The chips were used to successfully boot the Linux operating system. Now, the fabrication has been done in India.

Q.5) Which of the following states is converting 'INS Viraat' into a museum?

- a) Andhra Pradesh
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Tamil Nadu
- d) Gujarat

Q.5) Solution (b)

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Maharashtra is converting Indian Navy's longest-serving aircraft carrier INS Viraat, into India's first-ever moored maritime museum-cum-marine adventure centre.

Source: https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/ins-viraat-to-be-turned-into-maritime-museum/articleshow/66469224.cms



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