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Q.1) The nation-wide 'Soil Health Card Scheme' aims at

1. Expanding the cultivable area under irrigation.
2. Enabling the banks to assess the quantum of loans to be granted to farmers on the basis of soil quality.
3. Checking the overuse of fertilizers in farmlands.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Q.1) Solution (b)

Soil Health Card Scheme has been taken up for the first time in a comprehensive manner across the country. Under the scheme soil health cards are provided to all farmers so as to enable the farmers to apply appropriate recommended dosages of nutrients for crop production and improving soil health and its fertility.

The unique features of SHC scheme are:-

- Collecting soil samples at a grid of 2.5 ha in irrigated area and 10 ha in un-irrigated areas.
- Uniform approach in soil testing adopted for 12 parameters viz. primary nutrients (NPK); secondary nutrient (S); micronutrients (B,Zn, Mn. Fe & Cu); and other (pH, EC & OC) for comprehensiveness.
- GPS enabled soil sampling to create a systematic database and allow monitoring of changes in the soil health over the years.

Source: <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1554812>

Q.2) 'Peru' is bordered by

1. Colombia
2. Brazil
3. Bolivia
4. Venezuela

Select the correct code:

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

Q.2) Solution (a)

It is bordered in the north by Ecuador and Colombia, in the east by Brazil, in the southeast by Bolivia, in the south by Chile, and in the west by the Pacific Ocean.

Q.3) 'Gilets jaunes movement' is associated with which of the following countries?

- a) France
- b) Australia
- c) Hog Kong
- d) Taiwan

Q.3) Solution (a)

The yellow vests movement (French: Mouvement des gilets jaunes, pronounced), also referred to as the yellow jacket movement in English, is a protest movement that began with demonstrations in France and subsequently spread to nearby countries.

Galvanized by rising fuel prices, the high cost of living and claims that a disproportionate burden of the government's tax reforms were falling on the working and middle classes (especially those in rural and peri-urban areas), protesters called for the end of such changes and the resignation of the President of France, Emmanuel Macron.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/france-drops-fuel-tax-as-yellow-vest-anger-persists/article25677805.ece>

Q.4) Consider the following statements with respect to 'ExseedSAT1'

1. It is an open radio transponder that works on ham radio frequencies
2. It is a CubeSat
3. It was launched in space through the Falcon 9 rocket of SpaceX

Select the correct code:

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

Q.4) Solution (d)

The 'Made in India' micro satellite ExseedSAT1, built by a small start-up is the first built in the private sector to go into space.

It was launched through the Falcon 9 rocket of SpaceX.

The satellites of this form are called Cubesats as they are 10 cm across and 1kg weight.

It is an open radio transponder that works on ham radio frequencies.

Source: <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/science/india-made-micro-satellite-to-fly-on-spacex-tonight/article25648064.ece>

Q.5) Who was the author of 'Gathasattasati'

- a) Gautamiputra shatakarani
- b) Hala
- c) Krishnadevaraya
- d) Bana

Q.5) Solution (b)

The Satvahana King Hala was a poet of high order. He composed Gatha Saptasati (700 stories)/ Gathasaptapadi in Prakrti. He was also called as kavi-vatsala or one who has parental affection to the Poets.

All the poems are couplets. The poems mostly have love as a theme.