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Q.1) With regard to 'International Criminal Court (ICC)', consider the following statements

1. It is an international non-governmental organization
2. The Roman Statute, 2002 serves as the ICC's foundational and governing document
3. It seeks to replace national courts of a country in crimes related to war and genocide

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Q.1) Solution (b)

The International Criminal Court (ICC) is an intergovernmental organization and international tribunal that sits in The Hague in the Netherlands. The ICC has the jurisdiction to prosecute individuals for the international crimes of genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes. The ICC is intended to complement existing national judicial systems and it may therefore only exercise its jurisdiction when certain conditions are met, such as when national courts are unwilling or unable to prosecute criminals or when the United Nations Security Council or individual states refer investigations to the Court.

The ICC began functioning on 1 July 2002, the date that the Rome Statute entered into force. The Rome Statute is a multilateral treaty which serves as the ICC's foundational and governing document. States which become party to the Rome Statute, for example by ratifying it, become member states of the ICC. Currently, there are 124 states which are party to the Rome Statute and therefore members of the ICC. However, Burundi, South Africa, and Gambia have given formal notice that they will withdraw from the Rome Statute.

As a court of last resort, it seeks to complement, not replace, national Courts. Governed by an international treaty called the Rome Statute, the ICC is the world's first permanent international criminal court.

Q.2) Consider the following statements about 'National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO)'

1. It is the nodal agency for inspecting the mills and granting certificates on plant health for export purposes
2. A phytosanitary certificate for export is issued by NPPO

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Select the correct statements

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

Q.2) Solution (c)

Phytosanitary certification is used to attest that consignments meet phytosanitary (regarding plants) import requirements and is undertaken by an NPPO (National Plant Protection Organization).

To export to nations, it is mandatory that Indian rice exporters are registered with NPPO, the Indian government agency for inspecting the mills and granting certificates on plant health for export purposes.

Q.3) With reference to 'Sangai deer', consider the following statements:

- 1. It is found only in Dachigam National Park
- 2. It is listed as a critically endangered species by the IUCN

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Q.3) Solution (b)

The deer is endemic to Keibul Lamjao National Park (KLNP). It is listed as a critically endangered (Mentioned in Red pages and not the yellow pages) species by International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Q.4) With reference to 'Biodiversity Heritage sites', consider the following statements:

- 1. These are areas of rich biodiversity, which lie outside the protected area network under the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 as amended.

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2. They are notified by Central Government in consultation with State Government.
3. They are created under Biological Diversity Act, 2002.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Q.4) Solution (c)

“Biodiversity Heritage Sites” (BHS) are well defined areas that are unique, ecologically fragile ecosystems - terrestrial, coastal and inland waters and, marine having rich biodiversity comprising of any one or more of the following components: richness of wild as well as domesticated species or intra-specific categories, high endemism, presence of rare and threatened species, keystone species, species of evolutionary significance, wild ancestors of domestic/cultivated species or their varieties, past pre-eminence of biological components represented by fossil beds and having significant cultural, ethical or aesthetic values and are important for the maintenance of cultural diversity, with or without a long history of human association with them.

Under Section 37 of Biological Diversity Act, 2002 (BDA) the State Government in consultation with local bodies may notify in the official gazette, areas of biodiversity importance as Biodiversity Heritage Sites (BHS).

As far as possible those sites may be considered which are not covered under Protected Area network under the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 as amended. But not a necessary condition.

For more details, check

<http://nbaindia.org/uploaded/ut/Final%20BHS%20guidelines%20approved%20in%20the%2019th%20Authority.pdf>

Q.5) Consider the following statements about ‘International Humanitarian Law’

1. International humanitarian law applies to armed conflict, internal tensions or disturbances such as isolated acts of violence.
2. A major part of international humanitarian law is contained in the four Geneva Conventions of 1949

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3. It protects those who do not take part in the fighting, such as civilians and medical and religious military personnel.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

Q.5) Solution (b)

International humanitarian law is a set of rules which seek, for humanitarian reasons, to limit the effects of armed conflict. It protects persons who are not or are no longer participating in the hostilities and restricts the means and methods of warfare. International humanitarian law is also known as the law of war or the law of armed conflict.

A major part of international humanitarian law is contained in the four Geneva Conventions of 1949. Nearly every State in the world has agreed to be bound by them. The Conventions have been developed and supplemented by two further agreements: the Additional Protocols of 1977 relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts.

International humanitarian law applies only to armed conflict; it does not cover internal tensions or disturbances such as isolated acts of violence. The law applies only once a conflict has begun, and then equally to all sides regardless of who started the fighting.

International humanitarian law protects those who do not take part in the fighting, such as civilians and medical and religious military personnel. It also protects those who have ceased to take part, such as wounded, shipwrecked and sick combatants, and prisoners of war.

Read More - https://www.icrc.org/eng/assets/files/other/what_is_ihl.pdf