

February 5, 2019

Q.1) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Black softshell turtle'

1. It is a species of freshwater turtle found in Assam
2. It is listed as 'Critically Endangered' under the IUCN Red List

Select the correct statements

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

Q.1) Solution (a)

The black softshell turtle or Bostami turtle (*Nilssonia nigricans*, previously placed in genus *Aspideretes*) is a species of freshwater turtle found in India (Assam) and Bangladesh (Chittagong and Sylhet). It was long believed to be inbred individuals of the Ganges softshell turtle (*A. gangeticus* or *N. gangeticus*) or the Indian peacock softshell turtle (*A. hurum* or *N. hurum*), but while it is a close relative of the latter, it is a distinct species.

The black softshell turtle (*Nilssonia nigricans*) figures in the International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) Red List as "extinct in the wild".

THINK!

- Haduk Beel (wetland) of Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/in-assam-temples-stave-off-extinction-of-turtles/article26163446.ece>

Q.2) 'Arikamedu' was recently in news. Where is it located?

- a) Goa
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Puducherry
- d) Kerala

Q.2) Solution (c)

It is the ancient Roman trade centre. It is situated in the south of Puducherry on the right bank of Ariyankuppam River.

THINK!

Garibpet - <https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/when-romans-wore-garibpet-garnets/article22758145.ece>

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/society/history-and-culture/finding-an-amphora-in-arikamedu/article26148454.ece>

Q.3) 'Nilavembu kudineer' was recently in news. It is associated with

- a) Petroglyphs
- b) Dengue
- c) Night Frog
- d) Invasive Plant Species

Q.3) Solution (b)

Tamil Nadu government has distributed nilavembu kudineer (a Siddha medicine) concoction to treat people infected with dengue during the outbreak.

Under in vitro conditions, nilavembu kudineer (a Siddha medicine) was found to provide protection against chikungunya virus while it was effective as a treatment during acute phase of dengue infection.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/nilavembu-kudineer-kills-dengue-virus-protects-from-chikungunya/article26161732.ece>

Q.4) Consider the following statements with respect to 'The Strategic Framework on Accessible Elections'

1. It aims to build on sensitization through education and training, community involvement of different sections of society, effective partnership with institutions and originations and creation of facilities to cater to the specific needs of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) with a view to increasing their participation.
2. It is a compilation of guidelines issued by Election Commission of India along with the Department for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities

Select the correct statements

- a) 1 Only

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

Q.4) Solution (c)

The Strategic Framework on Accessible Elections are a compilation of guidelines issued by Election Commission of India and the Department for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India. It aims to build on sensitization through education and training, community involvement of different sections of society, effective partnership with institutions and organizations and creation of facilities to cater to the specific needs of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) with a view to increasing their participation. The Election Commission of India is committed to building an equal access framework for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) supported by the fundamentals of responsiveness, respect and dignity to enhance elector confidence among them; and support initiatives for improved service offerings to enhance their electoral participation.

Read More - <http://ecisveep.nic.in/news/election-commission-of-india-unveils-strategic-framework-on-accessible-elections-r3/>

Q.5) 'Hoveizeh cruise missile' is developed by

- a) Iran
- b) Pakistan
- c) Russia
- d) Israel

Q.5) Solution (a)

Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/middle-east/iran-in-successful-test-of-new-cruise-missile-on-revolution-anniversary/articleshow/67815478.cms>