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Q.1) Consider the following statements with respect to 'United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)'

1. The Convention addresses specifically the arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas.
2. It stems from a direct recommendation of the Rio Conference's Agenda 21.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.1) Solution (c)

Established in 1994, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) is the sole legally binding international agreement linking environment and development to sustainable land management.

The Convention, the only convention stemming from a direct recommendation of the Rio Conference's Agenda 21, was adopted in Paris, France on 17 June 1994 and entered into force in December 1996.

The Convention addresses specifically the arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas, known as the drylands, where some of the most vulnerable ecosystems and peoples can be found.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/india-to-host-un-meet-on-land-degradation-in-september/article28022138.ece>

Q.2) 'Operation Sunrise' was carried out on which of the following borders?

- a) Sudan and South Sudan
- b) Indo-Myanmar
- c) Israel-Palestine
- d) North & South Korea

Q.2) Solution (b)

During "Operation Sunrise 2", the Indian and Myanmar armies coordinated with each other to bust camps of militant outfits, including the Kamtapur Liberation Organisation (KLO), the

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NSCN (Khaplang), the United Liberation Front of Assam (I) and the National Democratic Front of Boroland (NDFB).

Source: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/armies-of-india-myanmar-target-ne-militants-in-coordinated-operation/articleshow/69810618.cms>

Q.3) Consider the following statements with respect to 'National Anti-Profitteering Authority (NAA)'

1. It was constituted to ensure that the benefit of input tax credit is passed on to the recipient by way of commensurate reduction in prices.
2. It has been constituted under Section 101 of the Integrated Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017.

Select the correct statements

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



Q.3) Solution (a)

The National Anti-Profitteering Authority (NAA) has been constituted under Section 171 of the Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017 to ensure that the reduction in rate of tax or the benefit of input tax credit is passed on to the recipient by way of commensurate reduction in prices.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/gst-council-to-give-one-year-extension-to-anti-profitteering-authority/article27955226.ece>

Q.4) 'Protocol on Establishment of Joint Ocean Observation Station' is seen in news in the context of

- a) Maldives
- b) Seychelles
- c) Socotra
- d) Comoros

Q.4) Solution (a)

The Joint Ocean Observation Station is a planned maritime observatory to be built on Makunudhoo in the Maldives, to be operated by the State Oceanic Administration of China and the Ministry of Environment and Energy of the Maldives.

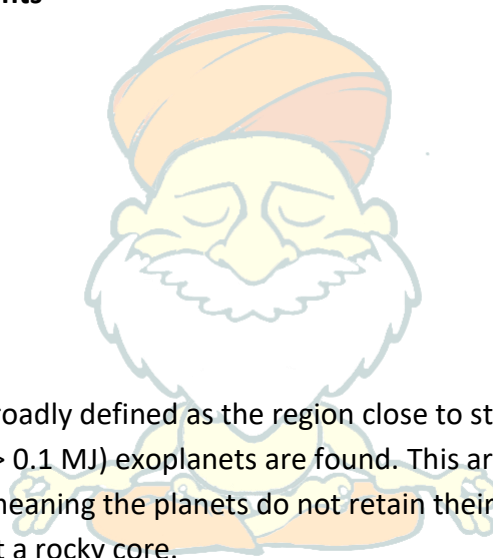
Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/in-relief-to-india-maldives-may-scrap-ocean-deal-with-china/articleshow/69818016.cms>

Q.5) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Neptunian Desert'

1. It is the region close to stars where no Neptune-sized exoplanets are found
2. This area receives strong irradiation from the star

Select the correct statements

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



Q.5) Solution (c)

The Neptunian Desert is broadly defined as the region close to stars (period < 2–4 days) where no Neptune-sized (> 0.1 MJ) exoplanets are found. This area receives strong irradiation from the star, meaning the planets do not retain their gaseous atmosphere as they evaporate leaving just a rocky core.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/forbidden-planet-discovered-in-neptunian-desert/article27332548.ece>