

June 17, 2019

**Q.1) Which of the following countries are party to the 'Shanghai Pact'?**

1. India
2. Pakistan
3. Russia
4. Nepal

**Select the correct code:**

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

**Q.1) Solution (b)**

The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), or Shanghai Pact, is a Eurasian political, economic, and security alliance.

**Members**

- China
- Kazakhstan
- Kyrgyzstan
- Russia
- Tajikistan
- Uzbekistan
- India
- Pakistan



**Q.2) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Rhizoctonia solani'**

1. It is a plant pathogenic bacterium endemic to India.
2. It causes the Sheath Blight disease in rice.

**Select the correct statements**

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

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**Q.2) Solution (b)**

Rhizoctonia solani is a fungal pathogen that causes the dreaded Sheath Blight disease in rice. Sheath Blight disease is a major issue in rice cultivation. It can cause up to 60% reduction in rice yield.

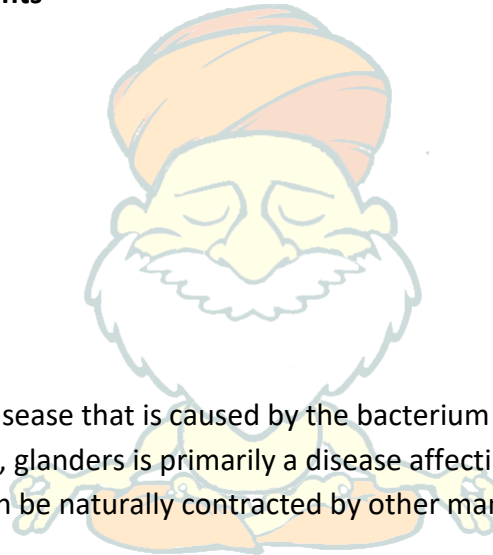
Source: <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/science/scientists-unravel-the-fungus-responsible-for-sheath-blight-disease-in-rice/article27900452.ece>

**Q.3) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Glanders Disease'**

1. While people can get the disease, glanders is primarily a disease affecting horses
2. Glanders is an infectious disease that is caused by a virus

**Select the correct statements**

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



**Q.3) Solution (a)**

Glanders is an infectious disease that is caused by the bacterium Burkholderia mallei. While people can get the disease, glanders is primarily a disease affecting horses. It also affects donkeys and mules and can be naturally contracted by other mammals such as goats, dogs, and cats.

Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/india/three-horses-test-positive-for-glanders-disease-euthanised-5781567/>

**Q.4) 'Global Wage Report' is published by**

- a) World Economic Forum
- b) World Bank
- c) International Labour Organisation
- d) International Monetary Fund

**Q.4) Solution (c)**

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According to Global Wage Report 2018-19 published by International Labour Organization (ILO), women are paid most unequally in India, compared to men, when it comes to hourly wages for labour. This gap in wages, known as gender wage gap is the highest among 73 countries studied in the report.

**Q.5) Which of the following statements is/are correct?**

1. 'Strait of Hormuz' connects Red Sea and the Gulf of Aqaba
2. Qatar and Yemen opens up into the Persian Gulf

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.5) Solution (d)**

Strait of Hormuz is a strait between the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman.

Yemen does not open up into the Persian Gulf.

