

July 10, 2019

Q.1) Recently, scientists from Mumbai-based Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) developed a new material known as 'Black Gold'. Consider the following statements

1. It can potentially be used for solar energy harvesting and desalinating seawater
2. It was developed using gold nanoparticles and by rearranging size and gaps between them

Select the correct statements

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

Q.1) Solution (c)

Scientists at the Mumbai-based Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) used gold nanoparticles and by rearranging size and gaps between them developed a new material, which has unique properties such as capacity to absorb light and carbon dioxide. Gold does not have these properties, therefore 'black gold' is being called a new material. In appearance it is black, hence the name 'black gold.'

Source: <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/science/indian-scientists-develop-wonder-material-black-gold/article28320764.ece>

Q.2) Consider the following statements with respect to 'World Food Programme'

1. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization addressing hunger and promoting food security.
2. The WFP operations are funded by voluntary donations from governments of the world, corporations and private donors

Select the correct statements

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

Q.2) Solution (c)

July 10, 2019

The World Food Programme (WFP) is the food-assistance branch of the United Nations and the world's largest humanitarian organization addressing hunger and promoting food security.

It is a member of the United Nations Development Group and part of its executive committee.

The WFP operations are funded by voluntary donations from governments of the world, corporations and private donors.

Q.3) Which of the following is India's first UNESCO heritage city?

- a) Jaipur
- b) Ahmedabad
- c) Varanasi
- d) New Delhi

Q.3) Solution (b)

Read More - <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/ahmedabad-declared-indias-first-heritage-city-by-unesco/article19244478.ece>

Q.4) Godavari River drains which of the following states?

- 1. Maharashtra
- 2. Telangana
- 3. Andhra Pradesh
- 4. Chhattisgarh
- 5. Odisha

Select the correct code:

- a) 1 and 3
- b) 1, 2 and 3
- c) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Q.4) Solution (d)

July 10, 2019

The Godavari is India's second longest river after the Ganga. Its source is in Triambakeshwar, Maharashtra.[3] It flows east for 1,465 kilometres (910 mi), draining the states of Maharashtra (48.6%), Telangana (18.8%), Andhra Pradesh (4.5%), Chhattisgarh (10.9%), Odisha (5.7%), ultimately emptying into the Bay of Bengal through its extensive network of tributaries.

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

1. Shahtoosh shawls are prepared from the fur in the undercoat of Pashmina goats
2. Selling or owning of shahtoosh was made illegal in all countries that signed the CITES Convention

Select the correct statements

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

Q.5) Solution (b)

Shahtoosh (also written shahtush, a Persian word meaning "king of fine wools") is the name given to a specific kind of shawl, which is woven with the down hair of the Tibetan antelope (chiru), by craftsmen and women of Kashmir. The Shahtoosh shawl is now a banned item with possession and sale being illegal in most countries for the Chiru is an endangered species under CITES. However, the weaving of Shahtoosh shawls continues in secret in Kashmir, India due to high demand by western buyers.