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1. With reference to Cloud burst, consider the following statements:

1. Any rainfall over 10 mm per hour over a small area is defined as cloud burst.
2. Cloudbursts can happen only in the mountains or high altitudes.
3. It takes place only during monsoon season.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. None of the above

Correct Answer : None of the above Explanation : D

• **Statement 1 is not correct:** The India Meteorological Department (IMD) labels rainfall over 100 mm per hour as cloudburst. Usually small areas anywhere between 20-80 square kilometre are affected.

• **Statement 2 is not correct:** A cloudburst can occur anytime and at any place which is affected by convective weather systems. Surrounded by oceans on three sides, peninsular India is a favoured location for the genesis of convective weather systems. In a short span of time, if the right combinations of atmospheric conditions like instability, moisture content and triggering mechanisms are available, cloudbursts are possible. It is not necessary that cloudbursts happen only in the mountains or high altitudes as the weather systems have compatibility and criticality in space and time.

• **Statement 3 is not correct:** Cloudburst can occur not only in the monsoon seasons but also during March to May which is known for severe convective weather activities

2. Consider the following statements regarding the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF)

1. NDRF is a specialised force constituted "for the purpose of specialist response to a threatening disaster situation or disaster".
2. The Environment Act ,1986 has the statutory provisions for the constitution of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF).

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct. The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) is a disaster response agency under National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) created by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India. It is a specialised force constituted "for the purpose of specialist response to a threatening disaster situation or disaster".

Statement 2 is incorrect.

The Disaster Management Act, 2005 has made the statutory provisions for constitution of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) for the purpose of specialized response to natural and man-made disasters.

Unique Features of the force

- The only dedicated disaster response force of the world.
- The only agency with comprehensive response capabilities having multi-disciplinary and multi-skilled, high-tech, stand alone nature.
- Experienced paramilitary personnel specially trained and equipped for disaster response.
- Capabilities for undertaking disaster response, prevention, mitigation and capacity building.

Role and Mandate of NDRF

- Specialized response during disasters
- Proactive deployment during impending disaster situations
- Acquire and continually upgrade its own training and skills
- Liaison, Reconnaissance, Rehearsals and Mock Drills

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- Impart basic and operational level training to State Response Forces (Police, Civil Defence and Home Guards)

Vis-à-vis Community-

- All NDRF Bns are actively engaged in various:
- Community Capacity Building Programme
- Public Awareness Campaign

3. Consider the following regarding cyclones and anticyclones.

1. Cyclones have low pressure conditions at their eye, whereas anticyclones have high pressure conditions.

2. Anticyclone moves in anti-clockwise direction in the northern hemisphere.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

Table 10.2 : Pattern of Wind Direction in Cyclones and Anticyclones

Pressure System	Pressure Condition at the Centre	Pattern of Wind Direction	
		Northern Hemisphere	Southern Hemisphere
Cyclone	Low	Anticlockwise	Clockwise
Anticyclone	High	Clockwise	Anticlockwise

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4. Bhutan does not share a border with which of the following Indian states?

- a) Arunachal Pradesh
- b) Assam
- c) Sikkim
- d) Manipur

Answer: D

Explanation:

Bhutan shares borders with the Indian states of Arunachal Pradesh in its east, Sikkim in the west and Assam and West Bengal in the south.



5. Consider the following pairs regarding the local names of shifting cultivation across the world

LIST-I

- 1. Milpa
- 2. Jhumming
- 3. Ladang
- 4. Roca

LIST-II

- A. Malaysia
- B. Mexico
- C. Brazil
- D. India

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

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	1	2	3	4
a)	B	D	A	C
b)	C	D	B	A
c)	A	D	B	C
d)	B	D	C	A

Ans : A

Explanation

Shifting cultivation is **known by different names in different parts of the world**

- Jhum - North-East India
- Milpa - Mexico
- Roca - Brazil.
- Ladang - Malaysia

- Shifting cultivation is practised in the **thickly forested areas of Amazon basin, tropical Africa, parts of Southeast Asia and Northeast India.**
- These are the **areas of heavy rainfall and quick regeneration of vegetation.**
- A plot of land is cleared by felling the trees and burning them. The ashes are then mixed with the soil and **crops like maize, yam, potatoes and cassava are grown.**
- **After the soil loses its fertility, the land is abandoned** and the cultivator moves to a new plot.
- Shifting cultivation is **also known as 'slash and burn' agriculture.**

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