

1. '90-90-90 target' indicates which of the following?

- a) Eradication of 90 percent of AIDS by 2020
- b) Reducing desertification by 90 percent
- c) 90 percent of Indian states acquiring open defecation free (ODF) status
- d) Achieving 90 percent enrollment ratio in higher education.

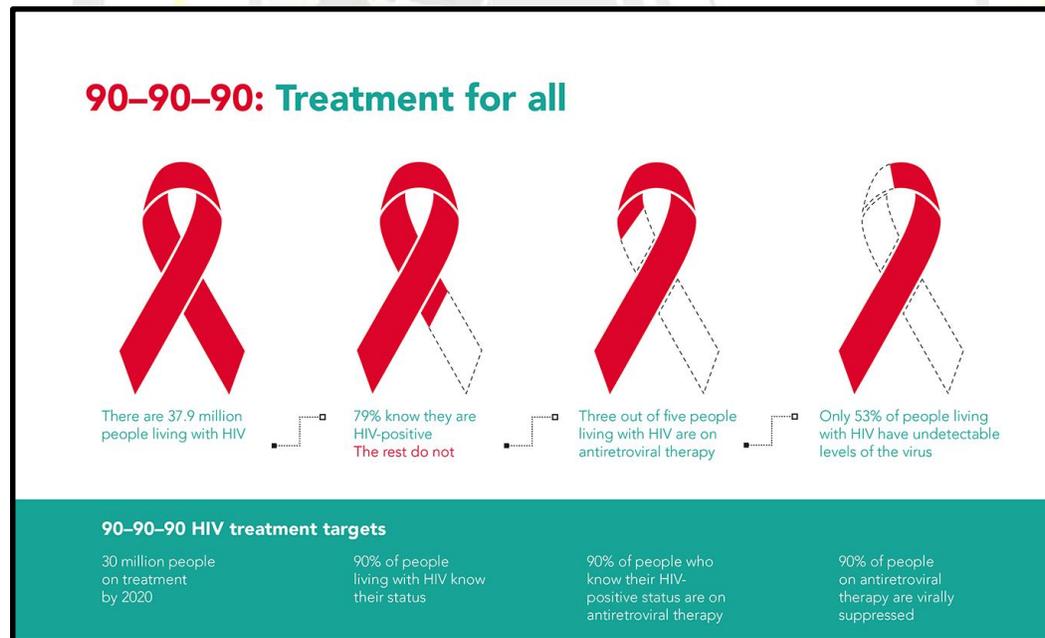
Answer: A

Explanation:

'90-90-90 target' is an ambitious treatment target of UNAIDS to help end the AIDS Epidemic.

The target is as follows,

- By 2020, 90% of all people living with HIV will know their HIV status.
- By 2020, 90% of all people with diagnosed HIV infection will receive sustained antiretroviral therapy.
- By 2020, 90% of all people receiving antiretroviral therapy will have viral suppression.



<https://www.unaids.org/en/resources/909090>

Why in the news?

- The theme of World AIDS Day this year, observed on December 1, is 'Ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic: resilience and impact'.
- The method to achieve this by 2030 is to ensure life saving anti-retroviral therapy (ART) reaches all those who are infected and that all persons living with HIV know their status. Also, the aim is to ensure that those on ART are viral suppressed so that infection is negligible.

<https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/health/world-aids-day-india-must-gear-up-to-end-hivaids-by-2030-experts/article33214273.ece>

2. Which of the following would be the benefits of implementing the National Agricultural Market (e-NAM)?

1. Increases farmers's access to a wide market
2. Promotion of Monopsony market structure
3. Removes information asymmetry between buyers and sellers
4. Single window services for all APMC related information and services

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

- A. 1 and 3 only
- B. 1, 3 and 4 only
- C. 1, 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: B

Explanation:

- The National Agricultural Market (e-NAM) is a pan-India electronic trading portal which targets to connect almost 7,000 existing mandis run by Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMC) to create a **unified national market for agricultural commodities**.
- e-NAM is completely funded by the Central Government and implemented by **Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC)**.

Benefits of the portal

- e-NAM platform promotes better marketing opportunities for the farmers to sell their produce through an online competitive and transparent **price discovery system** and **online payment facility**.
- e-NAM **removes information asymmetry** between buyers and sellers. It uses estimations based on actual demand and supply, and promotes transparency in the auction process. It allows farmers to access a nationwide market with prices commensurate with the quality of his produce.
- It also promotes prices commensurate with quality of produce.
- The e-NAM portal provides **single window services** for all APMC related information and services. This includes commodity arrivals, quality & prices, buy & sell offers & e-payment settlement directly into farmers' account, among other services.
- Farmers can access the information on e-NAM easily through their **mobile phones from anywhere**. This online trading platform aims at reducing transaction costs, bridging information asymmetry and helps in expanding the market access for farmers.
- **Monopsony**: Monopsony refers to a market structure where one buyer interacts with many sellers. This market structure gives the buyer an advantage over the sellers as they all try to sell to the same buyer. It is one of the criticisms of the present APMC structures in many states.
- Implementation of e-NAM will increase the choice to farmers to sell their produce to a wide range of buyers and undermine the Monopsony market structure.

3. Consider the following statements regarding the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)

1. It endeavors to safeguard and protect the interests of the Muslim world in the spirit of promoting international peace and harmony
2. It is the second largest intergovernmental organization after the United Nations

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

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

Ans: D

Explanation

- The Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) is the **second largest intergovernmental organization** after the United Nations with a membership of 57 states.
- It is the **collective voice of the Muslim world**. It endeavors to **safeguard and protect the interests of the Muslim world in the spirit of promoting international peace** and harmony among various people of the world.
- It was established upon a decision of the historical summit which took place in Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco on the 25th of September 1969
- **Headquarters:** Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
- **India is not a member of the OIC**

Why in the news?

The 47th session of the OIC Council of Foreign Ministers held recently at Niamey, Niger, had made a reference to India over its policies on J&K.

<https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-kashmir-india-and-the-oic-7074514/>

4. Consider the following statements with respect to Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)

1. All the members share their borders with China.
2. India is a founding member of SCO

Which among the above statements are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only

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- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: D

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect:

Uzbekistan, a member of the SCO does not share its border with China.

Statement 2 is incorrect:

India is merely a member of the SCO (Since 9th June 2017) and not a founding member. China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan are SCO's founding members.

Why in the news?

India hosted the Heads of Government (HoG) council meeting of the eight-nation Shanghai Cooperation Organisation recently.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/six-pms-to-attend-sco-heads-of-government-summit-hosted-by-india/article33201037.ece>

5. Arrange the following cities of BRICS countries from south to north:

1. Rio-de Janeiro
2. Johannesburg
3. Hong Kong
4. New Delhi
5. Vladivostok
6. Thiruvananthapuram

Select the correct options

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- a. 1,2,6,3,4,5
- b. 2,1,3,6,4,5
- c. 2,1,6,3,4,5
- d. 1,2,6,4,3,5

Answer: C

Refer Atlas:

1.Johannesburg latitude: 26.195246 S

2.Rio-de janeiro latitude: 22.752754 S

3.Thiruvananthapuram Latitude: 8.524139 N

4.Hong Kong: 22.286394 N

5.New Delhi latitude :28.644800 N

6.Vladivostok Latitude: 43.10562 N

