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Daily Mcqs- December 14th

1. On which of the following products, one can see the Bureau of Energy Efficiency's star label?

1. Solar Water Heaters
2. Ceiling fans
3. Room Air Conditioners
4. LED lamps

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

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

Answer: C

Explanation

- The Bureau of Energy Efficiency initiated the Standards & Labeling (Star) programme for equipment and appliances in 2006 to provide the consumer an informed choice about the energy saving and thereby the cost saving potential of the relevant marketed product.
- The energy efficiency labeling programs under BEE are intended to reduce the energy consumption of appliance without diminishing the services it provides to consumers
- The scheme is invoked for 24 equipment/appliances including 10 for which it is mandatory. The other appliances are presently under voluntary labeling phase. The estimated savings from these labeling programmes have been about 12000 MW since 2007.

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Products notified under mandatory appliance

- Frost Free (No-Frost) Refrigerator, Tubular Fluorescent Lamps, Room Air Conditioners, Distribution Transformers, **Room Air Conditioners** (Cassette, Floor Standing Tower, Ceiling, Corner AC), Direct Cool Refrigerator, Electric Geysers, Color TV, Room Air Conditioners (Inverter type), **LED lamps**

Products under voluntary labeling

- Induction Motors, Agricultural pump sets, **Ceiling fans**, Domestic Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) Stoves, Washing machine (This programme is under abeyance), Computer (Notebook/Laptops), Ballast (Electronic/Magnetic), Office equipment's (Printer, Copier, Scanner, MFD's), Diesel Engine Driven Monoset Pumps for Agricultural Purposes, Solid State Inverter, Diesel Generator, Chillers, Microwave Ovens **and Solar Water Heaters**
- ü Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) has **recently launched the star rating programme** for **Deep Freezer and Light Commercial Air Conditioners (LCAC)**. These were added under the voluntary regime. With this, there are **26 appliances now covered under this programme.**

Why in the news?

The **National Energy Conservation Day** is organized on 14th December every year by the **Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)** with an aim to showcase India's achievements in energy efficiency and conservation.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1596314>

2. Myristica swamp treefrog, a rare arboreal species is endemic to

- a) Eastern ghats
- b) Western ghats
- c) Northeastern Himalayas
- d) Western Himalayas

Answer: B

Explanation:

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- Myristica swamp treefrog, a rare arboreal species **endem-ic to the Western Ghats** that bears the scientific name **Mercurana myristicapalus- tris**, has been recorded for the first time north of the Shencottah gap in the Vazha-chal Reserve Forest in **Kera-la's Thrissur district**.

Unique trait

- These frogs are rare and elu-sive for the reason that they are **arboreal and active** only for a few weeks during their breeding season.
- During this season, there is a large aggregation of males that descend from the high canopy of the trees. The males vocalise in groups from the low perches in the swamps.
- They exhibit **unique breeding behaviour**.
- The breeding season, unlike for other frogs, starts in the pre monsoon season (May) and ends before the monsoon becomes fully active in June.
- Before the end of the breeding season, the female frogs along with their male counterparts descend on the forest floor. The female digs the mud and lays eggs in shallow burrows in mud.
- Af-ter breeding and egg laying, they retreat back to the high canopies of the tree and remain elusive till the next breeding season.

Significance of the finding:

- Extended distribution of such rare frogs in the West-ern Ghats have **conservation implications** and provide a **suitable niche** for further studies on the diverse amphibian fauna of the Ghats.

3. It is a national park in the state of Assam, India. The national park hosts two-thirds of the world's great one-horned rhinoceros. It is a World Heritage Site. It was declared a Tiger Reserve in 2006.

The above description refers to which of the following national parks?

- a) Kaziranga National Park
- b) Manas National Park
- c) Orang National Park
- d) Dibru Saikhowa National Park

Answer: A

Explanation

Kaziranga National Park

- Kaziranga National park is a 430 square kilometer area sprinkled with elephant-grass meadows, swampy lagoons, and dense forests are home to more than 2200 Indian one-horned rhinoceros, **approximately 2/3rd of their total world population.**
- It is located at the **edge of the Eastern Himalayan biodiversity hotspots** – Golaghat and Nagaon district of Assam.
- **The river Brahmaputra flows through this national park.**
- **In the year 1985, the park was declared as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.**
- The park is the breeding ground of elephants, wild water buffalo, and swamp deer, Hoolock Gibbon, Tiger, Leopard, Sloth Bear, etc.
- **Over the time, the tiger population also increased** in Kaziranga, and that's the reason why Kaziranga was declared as Tiger Reserve in 2006.
- Also, the park is recognized as an **Important Bird Area** by BirdLife International for the conservation of avifaunal species as good number of bird species migrate from Central Asia to this national park during the winter season.
- The other National Parks like **Dibruaikowa, , manas, nameri, orang** national park are also located in Assam.

Why in the news?

- Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve, billed as the best-conserved home of the one-horned animal can now be explored by boats apart from elephant and jeep safaris.

<https://www.kaziranga-national-park.com/>

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/eco-tourism-boats-bicycles-new-ways-of-exploring-kaziranga/article33319832.ece>

4. Haldibari-Chilahati railway line runs between which of the two countries?

- a) India and Bhutan

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- b) India and Myanmar
- c) India and Bangladesh
- d) India and Nepal

Answer: C

Explanation:

Why in the news?

The rail line between Haldibari in **West Bengal** and Chilahati in **Bangladesh** is finally set to open on December 17, after a period of 55 years.

<https://www.timesnownews.com/india/article/india-bangladesh-to-re-launch-cross-border-rail-route-after-55-years-the-significance-of-the-defunct-line/693363>

5. Consider the following statements with regards to vaccine hesitancy

- 1) Vaccine hesitancy refers to the delay in acceptance or refusal of vaccines despite availability of vaccination services.
- 2) Vaccine hesitancy is one of the greatest threats to human health which finds its place in ten global threats by WHO.

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: C

Explanation:

- As defined by WHO, Vaccine hesitancy is a “delay in acceptance or refusal of vaccines despite availability of vaccination services. Hence **statement 1 is correct**.
- More than 90% of countries in the world are facing the situation of vaccine hesitancy.

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- Vaccination is one of the most cost-effective ways of avoiding disease – it currently prevents 2-3 million deaths a year, and a further 1.5 million could be avoided if global coverage of vaccinations improved.
- According to WHO report, **Vaccine hesitancy is on the WHO's list of 10 threats to global health in 2019. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- **The 10 threats to Global Health includes:**
 - (i) Air pollution and Climate change
 - (ii) Non communicable Diseases
 - (iii) Global Influenza Pandemic
 - (iv) Fragile and vulnerable settings
 - (v) Antimicrobial Resistance
 - (vi) Ebola and other high threat pathogens
 - (vii) Weak Primary Healthcare
 - (viii) Vaccine hesitancy
 - (ix) Dengue
 - (x) HIV

[https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanchi/article/PIIS2352-4642\(19\)30092-6/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanchi/article/PIIS2352-4642(19)30092-6/fulltext)

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/ten-threats-to-global-health-in-2019>