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Daily MCQs: 20-08-2024

1. Biofortification contributes to addressing hidden hunger by

- A) Increasing the shelf life of crops
- B) Enhancing crop yield and productivity
- C) Improving the nutritional content of staple foods
- D) Reducing the risk of pest infestations in crops

2. Mitra Shakti is a bilateral military exercise between India and which of the following countries?

- A) Nepal
- B) Sri Lanka
- C) Bangladesh
- D) Bhutan

3. Consider the following statements about Amrit Dharohar

- 1) It is a government-led initiative in India aimed at enhancing mangrove coverage along coastlines.
- 2) It is launched by the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only
- B) 2 only
- C) Both 1 and 2
- D) Neither 1 nor 2

4. Which of the following are considered as Neglected Tropical Diseases?

- 1. Dengue
- 2. Leprosy
- 3. Lymphatic filariasis
- 4. Leishmaniasis

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

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

5. Consider the following statements about CPGRAMS

- 1) CPGRAMS is an online web-enabled system developed by the National Informatics Centre.
- 2) It provides the facility to lodge and track a public grievance online from any geographical location.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Solutions:

1. Answer: C

Explanation

- **Biofortification** is the **process of improving the nutritional quality of food crops. Hence Option C is correct.**
- This can be achieved through **agronomic practices, conventional breeding or biotechnology-based approaches** like genetic engineering and genome editing.
- Biofortification of staple crops such as rice is intended as a **sustainable, cost-effective and food-based means of delivering target micronutrients** to populations who do not have access to or cannot afford diverse diets and other existing interventions such as fortified foods and supplementation.
- Biofortification is a **promising approach to addressing hidden hunger**, which is a form of **malnutrition caused by deficiencies in essential micronutrients.**

2. Answer: B

Explanation

- Joint Exercise MITRA SHAKTI is an annual training event conducted alternatively in **India and Sri Lanka**. Last edition was conducted in Pune in Nov 2023.
- The 10th edition of **India- Sri Lanka Joint Military Exercise MITRA SHAKTI** commenced recently.
- Indian contingent comprising 106 personnel being represented by a Battalion of Rajputana Rifles along with personnel from other arms and services. The Sri Lankan contingent is being represented by personnel from Gajaba Regiment of Sri Lankan Army.
- Aim of the Joint Exercise is to enhance joint military capability of both sides to undertake counter insurgency operations in a Sub Conventional scenario under Chapter VII of the United Nations Mandate. The exercise will focus on operations in the semi-urban environment.

3. Answer: B

Explanation

What's in the News?

- The Government of India has launched the implementation strategy of "Amrit Dharohar" scheme which aims at **promoting the unique conservation values of wetlands** including their optimal use for enhancing biodiversity, carbon stock, ecotourism opportunities and income generation for local communities. **Hence statement 1 is incorrect.**
- The scheme was announced in the **Union Budget 2023-24.**

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About Amrit Dharohar

- Amrit Dharohar is a Central Government Scheme to **protect wetlands**.
- This is a scheme that will be implemented over the **next three years** to encourage optimal use of wetlands, and enhance biodiversity, carbon stock, eco-tourism opportunities and income generation for local communities.
- It is launched by the **Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change**. Hence **statement 2 is correct**.

4. Answer: D

Explanation:

- Neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) are a **diverse group of communicable diseases** that prevail in **tropical and subtropical conditions** in 149 countries which will affect more than one billion people and cost developing economies.
- Populations living in poverty without adequate sanitation and in close contact with infectious vectors and domestic animals and livestock are those worst affected.
- They are called "neglected" because they generally afflict the world's poor and historically have not received as much attention as other diseases.
- More than 70% of countries and territories that report the presence of neglected tropical diseases are low-income or lower middle-income economies.
- NTD includes **Dengue**, Blinding trachoma, Human dog-mediated rabies, **Leprosy** (Hansen disease), Endemic treponematoses (yaws), Human African trypanosomiasis (sleeping sickness), **Leishmaniasis**, **Lymphatic filariasis**, etc.

5. Answer: C

Explanation

- **Both the statements are correct.**
- Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) is an **online platform available to the citizens 24x7 to lodge their grievances to the public authorities on any subject related to service delivery**. It provides the facility to lodge and track a public grievance online from any geographical location.
- Launched in **2007**, it is a single portal connected to all the Ministries/Departments of Government of India and States.
- The online web-enabled system was developed by the **National Informatics Centre**, under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) in association with the **Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG)**.
- It has been developed with an objective of **speedy redress and effective monitoring of grievances** by Ministries/Departments/Organizations of Government of India.
- The **time limit** for redress of grievance is **30 days**. In case of delay an **interim reply** with reasons for delay is required to be given.
- CPGRAMS also provides an **appeal facility** to the citizens if they are not satisfied with the resolution by the Grievance Officer.