DATE: 31.10.2026

1) Consider the following statements regarding the powers and functions of the NCLT:
   1. It handles cases related to class action suits filed by members or depositors of a company.
   2. It has the jurisdiction to hear matters concerning the oppression and mismanagement of companies.
   3. It can initiate criminal prosecution and impose imprisonment terms on company directors independently.

   Which of the statements given above are correct?
   (a) 1 and 2 only
   (b) 1 and 3 only
   (c) 2 and 3 only
   (d) 1, 2, and 3

2) With reference to the Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV), consider the following statements:
   1. The first stage of GSLV utilizes a solid rocket motor augmented by four liquid strap-ons.
   2. The second stage of GSLV is powered by a cryogenic engine using liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen.
   3. GSLV has a higher payload capacity to Sun-Synchronous Orbits (SSO) than to Geosynchronous Transfer Orbits (GTO).

   Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
   (a) 1 only
   (b) 1 and 3 only
   (c) 2 and 3 only
   (d) 1, 2 and 3

3) Which of the following statements with regard to INS Tarkash is/are correct?
   1. INS Tarkash is a Talwar-class stealth frigate of the Indian Navy.
   2. Talwar-class frigates are guided-missile frigates designed for multiple naval warfare roles.
   3. Stealth technology makes a warship completely invisible to all detection systems.

   Which one of the following conclusions based on the above statements is correct?
   (a) There are two correct statements, which include statement 3.
   (b) There are two correct statements, which are statements 1 and 2.
   (c) There is only one correct statement.
   (d) All three statements are correct.

4) With reference to the BharatNet Project, consider the following statements:
   1. It aims to provide broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats in India through Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) networks.
   2. The project is implemented by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).

3. Under the Amended BharatNet Programme, optical fibre connectivity is envisaged for Gram Panchayats in a ring topology, along with connectivity to non-GP villages on demand.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

5) Consider the following assertion:
Geospatial technology plays an important role in disaster management.
Which of the following statements support/supports the above assertion?

1. Satellite imagery can help identify flood-affected areas.
2. GIS can be used to prepare hazard zonation maps.
3. Optical remote sensing satellites provide uninterrupted surface mapping of flood extent beneath dense cloud cover during active monsoons.
4. Remote sensing can assist in monitoring cyclones and forest fires. .

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Explanation

1) Answer: (A)

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Under **Section 245 of the Companies Act, 2013**, the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) has the power to entertain **class action suits**. Members or depositors can file an application on behalf of affected persons against the company, its directors, auditors, or experts for fraudulent, unlawful, or wrongful acts.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The NCLT is the primary quasi-judicial body with exclusive jurisdiction to hear and decide cases pertaining to **oppression and mismanagement** of companies under **Sections 241 and 242 of the Companies Act, 2013**.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The NCLT is a **quasi-judicial body** and does not have independent jurisdiction to initiate criminal trials or impose sentences of imprisonment. Penalties involving criminal liability and imprisonment under the Companies Act are adjudicated by designated **Special Courts** (criminal courts) set up under the Act, following criminal trial procedures.
- **Therefore, option A is the correct answer.**

2) Answer: (B)

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The first stage of the GSLV consists of a solid rocket motor (S139) augmented by four liquid strap-ons using hypergolic propellants.

- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The cryogenic engine (CE-7.5) forms the *third* (upper) stage of the GSLV, not the second stage. The second stage utilizes a liquid stage powered by the Vikas engine (fueling UH25 + N_2O_4).
- **Statement 3 is correct:** According to technical specifications, GSLV's payload capacity is 2,250 kg for Geosynchronous Transfer Orbits (GTO), whereas it can carry up to 3,000 kg into Sun-Synchronous Orbits (SSO).
- **Therefore, option B is the correct answer.**

3) Answer: (B)

- INS Tarkash is a Talwar-class stealth guided-missile frigate of the Indian Navy. It was built in Russia and commissioned into the Indian Navy in 2012. It is designed to perform multiple naval operations. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Talwar-class frigates are guided-missile warships designed to undertake multiple roles, including anti-surface warfare, anti-aircraft warfare and anti-submarine warfare. They are equipped with different weapons and surveillance systems to address threats from air, surface and underwater domains. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Stealth technology does not make a warship completely invisible. Instead, it reduces its chances of detection by minimising its radar cross-section through specialised structural design and the use of radar-absorbing materials. However, stealth objects can still be detected using suitable sensors and detection techniques. **Hence, statement 3 is incorrect.**
- **Therefore, option (b) is the correct answer.**

4) Answer: (B)

- **Statement 1 is correct:** BharatNet aims to provide broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats (GPs) across India through an Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) network. It seeks to bridge the digital divide between rural and urban areas and enable services such as e-governance, e-education and telemedicine.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** BharatNet is implemented under the Ministry of Communications, through the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), and not the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).
- **Statement 3 - correct:** The Amended BharatNet Programme (ABP), approved in August 2023, provides for:
  - OFC connectivity to approximately 2.64 lakh Gram Panchayats in a ring topology.
  - OFC connectivity to the remaining **non-GP villages on a demand basis.**
  - The **ring topology** improves network reliability by providing alternative routes for data transmission if one link fails.
- **Therefore, option B is the correct answer.**

5) Answer: (C)

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Satellite imagery (both optical and microwave) is widely used to map flood-inundated areas, assess damage, and assist in post-disaster relief operations.

- **Statement 2 is correct:** Geographic Information Systems (GIS) integrate multi-layered spatial data (topography, soil, rainfall, historical events) to prepare **hazard zonation maps** for landslides, earthquakes, and floods.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect: Optical** remote sensing satellites rely on visible light and cannot penetrate dense cloud cover. During active monsoons, cloud obstruction prevents optical imaging of flood extents; this requires cloud-penetrating **microwave (SAR - Synthetic Aperture Radar)** remote sensing instead.
- **Statement 4 is correct:** Remote sensing (specifically meteorological and earth observation satellites) is crucial for real-time tracking, forecasting of cyclone paths, and detecting thermal anomalies for early **forest fire monitoring**.
- Therefore, **option C** is the correct answer.