Daily Current Affairs Prelims Quiz 23-06-2025 (Online Prelims Test)

1) Consider the following statements regarding the 'Ghumot', a traditional musical instrument from Goa:

1. It was declared the State Heritage Instrument of Goa in 2019.
2. Traditionally, its membrane was made from monitor lizard skin, but now only synthetic materials are legally permitted.
3. Its craftsmanship involves sun-drying and kiln-firing of refined clay.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a. 1 only
b. 1 and 2 only
c. 1 and 3 only
d. 1, 2 and 3

Answer : c

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct**: The Ghumot was indeed declared the State Heritage Instrument of Goa in 2019, highlighting its cultural importance.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect**: While traditionally monitor lizard skin was used, and its use is now prohibited under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, the text states that **goat, buffalo, or synthetic materials** are now used for the membrane, not *only* synthetic materials. This makes the statement too restrictive and therefore incorrect.
- **Statement 3 is correct**: The Ghumot's craftsmanship, as described, involves crafting from refined clay, which is then sun-dried and kiln-fired.

2) The Digital Payments Award primarily acknowledges which of the following aspects concerning digital financial services?

1. Inclusive digital banking
2. Financial literacy
3. Accessibility
4. Secure payments

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

a. 1 and 2 only
b. 3 and 4 only
c. 1, 2 and 3 only
d. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer : d

Answer: (d)

- The "Key Features" section states the award acknowledges: "inclusive digital banking, financial literacy, accessibility, secure payments, and benchmarks innovation and outreach." All four listed aspects are acknowledged

3) Regarding the severity and hospitalizations related to NB.1.8.1 (Nimbus) variant, the provided text indicates:

a. It causes significantly more severe disease and a dramatic increase in hospitalizations.

b. There is no evidence it causes more severe disease than other circulating variants, though hospitalizations have increased in some countries, but not dramatically.

c. It causes milder disease compared to previous variants, leading to a decrease in hospitalizations.

d. Its impact on severity and hospitalizations is yet to be determined.

Answer : b

Answer: (b)

- **Explanation -** The text states: "So far, there is no evidence that NB.1.8.1 causes more severe disease than other circulating variants. Hospitalizations have increased in some countries, but not dramatically.

4) Which of the following are the major challenges associated with crop residue burning in India?

1. Contribution to air pollution.
2. Increase in greenhouse gas emissions.
3. Reduction in soil fertility.
4. Loss of valuable biomass for other uses.

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Select the correct answer using the code given below:

a. 1 and 2 only

b. 1, 2 and 3 only

c. 1, 2 and 4 only

d. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer : a

Answer: (a)

- **Explanation -** The text states that crop residue burning "Contribution to pollution – This contributes significantly to air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions." While crop residue burning can also affect soil fertility and represents a loss of biomass, the provided text only explicitly mentions air pollution and GHG emissions as contributions to pollution. Therefore, based strictly on the given text, only 1 and 2 are directly stated as "contributions to pollution".

5) The chemical process developed for converting rice straw into fodder primarily involves:

a. Fermentation

b. Pyrolysis

c. Delignification

d. Gasification

Answer : c

Answer: (c)

Explanation: The text explicitly mentions: "The process involves removing lignin (a complex polymer in plant cells) using a simple chemical method. This process is called **Delignification**

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