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1.What is the name of India's first indigenous micro-missile system designed to counter swarm drones?

- [A] Bhargavastra
- [B] Agni
- [C] Vayu
- [D] Saryu

Correct Answer: A [Bhargavastra]

India has successfully tested the Bhargavastra, its first micro-missile system to counter swarm drones. It is designed to counter the threat of swarm drones. It was developed by Economic Explosives Ltd. Bhargavastra detects small flying machines over 6 km and hits targets over 2.5 km. It uses guided micro-munitions and can fire more than 64 micro missiles simultaneously. The system operates in all terrains, including high-altitude areas. It fulfills Army Air Defence requirements, marking India's first counter-drone system with micro missiles.

2.Pavana River, which was seen in the news, flows through which state?

- [A] Odisha
- [B] Telangana

[C] Maharashtra

[D] Bihar

Correct Answer: C [Maharashtra]

The National Green Tribunal has directed a rejuvenation committee to set a new timeline for the action plan to reduce pollution in the Pavana River. The Pavana River flows in western Maharashtra, crossing Pune and dividing Pune and Pimpri-Chinchwad. It originates from the Western Ghats. It flows through Dehu, Chinchwad, Pimpri, and Dapodi before joining the Mula River near Pune. It is about 60 km long and feeds into the Bhima River.

3.The falcated duck was recently spotted at which protected area in Haryana?

[A] Nahar Wildlife Sanctuary

[B] Bhindawas Wildlife Sanctuary

[C] Sultanpur National Park

[D] Kalesar National Park

Correct Answer: C [Sultanpur National Park]

A Falcated Duck was recently spotted at Sultanpur National Park, Gurugram, Haryana. It is also known as falcated teal. The duck is a gadwall-sized dabbling species, found from eastern Siberia to northern Japan, wintering in Southeast Asia and eastern India. They inhabit freshwater lakes, ponds, and marshes, usually surrounded by forests. Falcated ducks are mainly herbivorous, feeding on plants, seeds, and occasionally small invertebrates. They are listed as Near Threatened by the IUCN.

4.Shikari Devi Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which state?

- [A] Himachal Pradesh
- [B] Madhya Pradesh
- [C] Rajasthan
- [D] Gujarat

Correct Answer: A [Himachal Pradesh]

The Government of India has designated areas around Shikari Devi Wildlife Sanctuary as eco-sensitive zones (ESZs) to protect it from urbanization and development. The sanctuary is located in Mandi district, Himachal Pradesh, in the Himalayan foothills. It covers altitudes between 1,800 and 3,400 m, showcasing a transition from pine forests to alpine meadows. The sanctuary is named after the goddess Shikari Devi, with a sacred temple at 2,850 m above sea level.

5.Which country has developed Electrokinetic Mining (EKM) for eco-friendly extraction of rare earth elements (REEs)?

- [A] Myanmar
- [B] China
- [C] Japan
- [D] India

Correct Answer: B [China]

Researchers at the Guangzhou Institute of Geochemistry, China, developed Electrokinetic Mining (EKM) for eco-friendly extraction of rare earth elements (REEs). EKM uses an electric field to concentrate REEs, simplifying their separation. REEs are 17 metallic elements with critical properties for modern technologies, including magnetic, electronic, and chemical applications. EKM relies on electrokinetics, which involves the movement of particles or fluids under an electric field to extract REEs from ore.

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