Q1. The common components of photochemical smog are:

1. ozone
2. nitric oxide
3. formaldehyde
4. peroxyacetyl nitrate (PAN)

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

A. 1 and 2

B. 2 and 3

C. 1,2 and 3 only

D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

ANSWER: D

Explanation: All the statements are correct.

Photochemical smog occurs in a warm, dry and sunny climate. The main components of the photochemical smog result from the action of sunlight on unsaturated hydrocarbons and nitrogen oxides produced by automobiles and factories. Photochemical smog has a high concentration of oxidising agents and is, therefore, called oxidising smog.

The common components of photochemical smog are ozone, nitric oxide, acrolein, formaldehyde and peroxyacetyl nitrate (PAN).

Photochemical smog causes serious health problems. Both ozone and PAN act as powerful eye irritants. Ozone and nitric oxide irritate the nose and throat, and their high concentration causes a headache, chest pain, dryness of the throat, cough and difficulty in breathing. Photochemical smog leads to the cracking of rubber and extensive damage to plant life.

Q2. Which of the following statements is the objective of the Stockholm Convention?

A. Protecting human health and the environment from Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs).
B. Quantifying global greenhouse gas emissions and their causes.
C. Promoting reuse, recycling, and eco-friendly disposal of waste
D. Building resilience to climate threats and disasters.

ANSWER:A

Explanation:

Stockholm Convention is a global treaty to protect human health and the environment from POPs. It is legally binding. India ratified the Stockholm Convention in 2006. Ministry of Environment had notified the 'Regulation of POP Rules' in 2018, under the Environment(Protection) Act, 1986.