

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only      (b) 2, 3 and 4 only  
(c) 4 and 5 only      (d) 1 and 5 only

**15. Consider the following statements :**

1. Coal ash contains arsenic, lead and mercury.
2. Coal-fired power plants release sulphur dioxide and oxides of nitrogen into the environment.
3. High ash content is observed in Indian coal.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

**16. What is the use of biochar in farming ?**

1. Biochar can be used as a part of the growing medium in vertical farming.
2. When biochar is a part of the growing medium, it promotes the growth of nitrogen-fixing microorganisms.
3. When biochar is a part of the growing medium, it enables the growing medium to retain water for longer time.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

**17. What are the advantages of fertigation in agriculture?**

1. Controlling the alkalinity of irrigation water is possible.
2. Efficient application of Rock Phosphate and all other phosphatic fertilizers is possible.
3. Increased availability of nutrients to plants is possible.
4. Reduction in the leaching of chemical nutrients is possible.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**18. With reference to chemical fertilizers in India, consider the following statements :**

1. At present, the retail price of chemical fertilizers is market-driven and not administered by the Government.
2. Ammonia, which is an input of urea, is produced from natural gas.
3. Sulphur, which is a raw material for phosphoric acid fertilizer is a by-product of oil refineries.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**19. What is/are the advantage/advantages of zero tillage in agriculture?**

1. Sowing of what is possible without burning the residue of previous crop.
2. Without the need for nursery of rice saplings, direct planting of paddy seeds in the wet soil is possible.
3. Carbon sequestration in the soil is possible.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**20. With reference to pulse production in India, consider the following sentences:**

1. Black gram can be cultivated as both Kharif and rabi crop.
2. Green-gram alone accounts for nearly half of pulse production.
3. In the last three decades, while the production of kharif pulses has increased, the production of rabi pulses has decreased.