



**Q. The Food Waste Index Report is published by the -**

- a UN World Food Programme**
- b United Nation Environment Programme**
- c World Bank**
- d International Monetary Fund**

**Answer** **b**

**EXPLANATION**

- Households across the globe wasted over one billion meals a day in 2022, even as 783 million people struggled with hunger and a third of humanity faced food insecurity, according to the Food Waste Index Report 2024, a study jointly authored by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and WRAP (Waste and Resources Action Programme), a U.K.-based non-profit.**
- The report, released ahead of the International Day of Zero Waste (March 30), noted that in 2022, there were 1.05 billion tonnes of food waste generated (including inedible parts), amounting to 132 kilograms per capita and almost one-fifth of all food available to consumers. "Out of the total food wasted in 2022, 60% happened at the household level, with food services responsible for 28%, and retail 12%," the report observed.**



**Q. Consider the following statements regarding the Kalam-250 :**

- 1 It is developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation.
- 2 It is the stage-2 of Vikram-1 space launch vehicle.

**Which of the above statement(s) is/are incorrect?**

- a 1 Only      b 2 Only  
c Both 1 and 2      d Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer** a

**EXPLANATION**

- ✓ Statement 1 is incorrect while statement 2 is correct.
- ✓ Skyroot Aerospace, the leading space-tech company, has successfully test-fired the Stage-2 of Vikram-1 space launch vehicle, called Kalam-250, at the propulsion testbed of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), at its Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.
- ✓ Vikram-1 launch is a landmark event for the Indian space sector as it is the first private orbital rocket launch, and it follows the suborbital space launch of India's first private rocket- the Vikram-S by Skyroot in November 2022.



**Q. CoViNet- a network of global laboratories with expertise in human, animal and environmental coronavirus surveillance, is launched by-**

- a United Nation Environment Programme**
- b World Bank**
- c World Health Organisation**
- d NITI Aayog**

**Answer c**

### **EXPLANATION**

- World Health Organization (WHO) has launched a new network for coronaviruses, CoViNet, to facilitate and coordinate global expertise and capacities for early and accurate detection, monitoring and assessment of SARS-CoV-2, MERS-CoV and novel coronaviruses of public health importance.**
- The CoViNet meeting brings together global experts in human, animal, and environmental health, embracing a comprehensive One Health approach to monitor and assess coronavirus evolution and spread. The collaboration underscores the importance of enhanced surveillance, laboratory capacity, sequencing, and data integration to inform WHO policies and support decision-making.**



**Q. The term 'Cicadas' was in the news recently, are -**

- a** Insects that lay eggs in water
- b** Single-celled organisms
- c** Non-venomous snakes
- d** Sound producing colourful insects

**Answer** **d**

#### **EXPLANATION**

- Scientists have uncovered a dazzling new cicada species known colloquially as "Butterfly Cicadas" from Meghalaya hinting at a tale of evolution yet untold. It is a group of sound producing colourful insects.
- The cicada was first found in and around the plateau of Balpakram National Park of South Garo Hills District of Meghalaya state in the year 2017. Later in 2020, the species was recorded from Nongkhrah community forest near Nongpoh in the Ri Bhoi district of Meghalaya.



Q. The Popocatepetl volcano, which was in the news recently, is located in-

a Japan

b Mexico

c Italy

d Kenya

Answer **b**

#### EXPLANATION

- ✓ According to Mexico's National Disaster Mitigation Center, Popocatepetl volcano erupted several times last month. The Popocatepetl volcano is located just 50 miles from the country's capital. Mexico is a country located in the southern part of North America. It is the 13th largest country in the world in terms of area.
- ✓ Popocatépetl - which means "smoking mountain" in the Aztec Nahuatl language - is located in central Mexico roughly 45 miles (72 kilometers) southeast of Mexico City. It has been blanketing the capital and the surrounding area with thick plumes of ash since last month.