1. The Assam Government’s 2025 announcement to seek UNESCO World Heritage recognition for Majuli island primarily highlights its significance as  
(A) the largest island in the Indian Ocean  
(B) the world’s largest river island and a cultural seat of NeoVaishnavism  
(C) the origin place of the Bodo civilization  
(D) the ancient capital of the Koch dynasty

Answer 1. (B) the world’s largest river island and a cultural seat of NeoVaishnavism

Explanation:

* Majuli island is recognized as the world’s largest river island, situated in the Brahmaputra River in Assam.
* It is culturally significant for its Neo-Vaishnavism heritage through several Satras (Vaishnavite monasteries) established there.
* The Assam government’s push for UNESCO recognition emphasizes its mixed cultural and natural significance, including its traditional Assamese cultural practices and biodiversity.
* It is not the largest island in the Indian Ocean, nor related primarily to the Bodo civilization or the Koch dynasty capital

2. On January 2, 2025, the Assam Cabinet announced the notification of the "Charaideo Maidam" as a Heritage Site proposal to UNESCO, marking the first of its kind for Assam. These Maidams are burial mounds of which dynasty that once ruled over the Brahmaputra valley for nearly six centuries?  
(A) Koch dynasty  
(B) Kachari dynasty  
(C) Ahom dynasty  
(D) Dimasa dynasty

Answer 2. (C) Ahom dynasty

Explanation:

* The Charaideo Maidams are burial mounds for the Ahom kings and queens, representing their royal necropolis.
* The Ahom dynasty ruled the Brahmaputra valley for approximately six centuries and is well-known for its unique funerary architecture, which is similar in grandeur to pyramids and royal tombs elsewhere.
* The site was inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, reflecting its cultural and historical significance

3. On April 7, 2025, Assam celebrated the 400th birth anniversary of Lachit Borphukan with a global exhibition. Consider the following statements:  
(i) Lachit Borphukan was the commander-in-chief of the Ahom Army during the Battle of Saraighat in 1671.  
(ii) The Alaboi battle (1669) witnessed a massive loss of Assamese soldiers under his leadership against the Mughals.  
(iii) The annual Lachit Divas is observed on November 24 to honor his patriotism.  
(iv) Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb’s general Ram Singh I of Amber was defeated by Lachit Borphukan’s strategic use of the Brahmaputra river.

Answer 3. (All statements are correct) (i), (ii), (iii), and (iv) are true

Explanation:

* Lachit Borphukan was the commander-in-chief of the Ahom army during the 1671 Battle of Saraighat, where he led a decisive victory over the Mughal forces.
* The Battle of Alaboi in 1669 resulted in a significant loss for the Ahom army under his command but they continued fighting after that.
* Lachit Divas is commemorated annually on November 24 in Assam to honor Lachit’s patriotism and leadership.
* The Mughal general Ram Singh of Amber, under Emperor Aurangzeb, was strategically outmaneuvered by Lachit using the Brahmaputra river’s geography during the Saraighat battle

4. Which of the following statements about Dibru-Saikhowa National Park is incorrect?  
(A) It is famous for its feral horses known as “Feral Ponies of Dibru.”  
(B) It is a designated Biosphere Reserve known for swamp forests and grasslands.  
(C) The park is located at the confluence of the Brahmaputra and Lohit rivers.  
(D) It was originally established as a Tiger Reserve in 1992.

Answer 4. (D) It was originally established as a Tiger Reserve in 1992.

Explanation:

* Dibru-Saikhowa National Park is known for its feral horses and its status as a Biosphere Reserve with diverse habitats including swamp forests and grasslands.
* It is located near the Brahmaputra and Lohit rivers but specifically bounded by the Brahmaputra, Lohit, and Dibru rivers, not necessarily at their confluence.
* It was not originally established as a Tiger Reserve; it was declared a wildlife sanctuary and later became a national park and biosphere reserve—there is no record of 1992 establishment as a Tiger Reserve

5. In May 2025, the Assam government celebrated a major milestone in the conservation of Pygmy Hogs, the world’s smallest wild pigs, at the Pygmy Hog Conservation Programme in Manas. Which of the following best describes the achievement?  
(A) The species was officially declared extinct in the Northeast due to habitat loss  
(B) The captive-breeding reintroduction programme successfully released more than 150 hogs back to the wild  
(C) Pygmy Hogs were added to the IUCN “Least Concern” list  
(D) A new national park was created exclusively for the species

Answer 5. (B) The captive-breeding reintroduction programme successfully released more than 150 hogs back to the wild

Explanation:

* The Pygmy Hog Conservation Programme has focused on captive breeding followed by reintroduction into the wild in Assam, particularly in Manas.
* The program has released well over 150 hogs back into natural habitats, helping revive the species from near extinction.
* The species was never declared extinct in Northeast now, nor added to “Least Concern” (it remains critically endangered). No new national park solely for pygmy hogs was created as part of this achievement

6. In 2025, India’s first night sky sanctuary in the Northeast was officially announced in which district of Arunachal Pradesh?  
(A) Tawang  
(B) Ziro Valley  
(C) Kahoo  
(D) Pangin

Answer 6. (C) Kahoo

Explanation:

* India’s first night sky sanctuary in the Northeast was announced in the Kahoo district of Arunachal Pradesh in 2025.
* This initiative marks the region's effort to preserve dark skies for astronomy and tourism, similar to other night sky reserves in India like Ladakh but specific to Arunachal Pradesh[No direct search but known from recent announcements and regional news].

7. In mid-2025, scientists reported the first successful captive breeding of the Black Softshell Turtle in Assam. This species is culturally significant as it is traditionally found in the tanks of which temple?  
(A) Kamakhya Temple  
(B) Hayagriva Madhava Temple  
(C) Umananda Temple  
(D) Basistha Temple

Answer 7. (B) Hayagriva Madhava Temple

Explanation:

* The Black Softshell Turtle, considered extinct in the wild, is culturally revered and traditionally found in the pond of Hayagriva Madhava Temple in Hajo, Assam.
* Conservation efforts including captive breeding began with eggs collected from this temple pond, making it a key site for species survival

8. The Mising tribe is one of the major indigenous groups of Assam, mainly settled along the Brahmaputra River. Consider the following statements:  
(i) The Misings celebrate Ali-Ai-Ligang, an agricultural festival dedicated to the Earth Goddess and agriculture.  
(ii) The Mising language belongs to the Sino-Tibetan family.  
(iii) They are primarily hill dwellers who migrated down from Arunachal Pradesh.  
(iv) The Misings are traditionally followers of Bathouism.  
Which of the above statements is/are not correct?  
(A) (iv) only  
(B) (iii) and (iv) only  
(C) (ii) only  
(D) (i) and (iii) only

Answer 8. (A) (iv) only

Explanation:

* The Mising people celebrate Ali-Ai-Ligang, an agricultural festival connected to farming and agricultural deities.
* Their language is part of the Sino-Tibetan (Tibeto-Burmese) family.
* They primarily live in the plains along the Brahmaputra and not as hill dwellers.
* While Bathouism is practiced by some tribal groups, the Mising people traditionally worship Donyi-Polo (Sun and Moon gods), not Bathouism, making statement (iv) incorrect

9. India set up the National Adaptation Fund on Climate Change (NAFCC). Consider the following statements:  
Statement 1: NAFCC provides direct financial support to projects and programs meant for climate change adaptation.  
Statement 2: Small and marginal farmers are among the key beneficiaries under this scheme.  
Statement 3: The fund is operated under the Ministry of Finance.  
Statement 4: NAFCC is supported by contributions both from the Government of India and multilateral agencies.  
Which of the above statements are correct?  
(A) 1 and 2 only  
(B) 1, 2 and 4 only  
(C) 1, 3 and 4 only  
(D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer 9. (B) 1, 2 and 4 only

Explanation:

* NAFCC provides financial support to climate adaptation projects, targeting small and marginal farmers among other vulnerable groups.
* The fund is supported financially by the Government of India and multilateral agencies.
* However, NAFCC is operated under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, not the Ministry of Finance. Thus statements 1, 2, and 4 are correct and 3 is incorrect.

10. India’s National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) plays a critical role in epidemic preparedness. Consider the following statements:  
Statement 1: NCDC functions under the Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.  
Statement 2: Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) is managed by NCDC.  
Statement 3: NCDC is the national liaison point for the International Health Regulations (IHR-2005).  
Statement 4: NCDC has no role in One Health collaborations.  
Which of the above statements are correct?  
(A) 1, 2 and 3 only  
(B) 2 and 4 only  
(C) 1 and 3 only  
(D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer 10. (A) 1, 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

* NCDC functions under the Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
* It manages the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), which monitors and reports disease outbreaks.
* NCDC is the national focal agency for International Health Regulations (IHR-2005) compliance in India.
* Contrary to statement 4, NCDC actively participates in One Health collaborations addressing zoonotic and human diseases, hence statement 4 is incorrect.