

September 13, 2017

**Q.1) Consider the following statements about Crested Black Macaque**

1. It is listed as 'Critically Endangered' by the IUCN
2. It is native Indian Subcontinent
3. It is a frugivorous

**Select the correct statements**

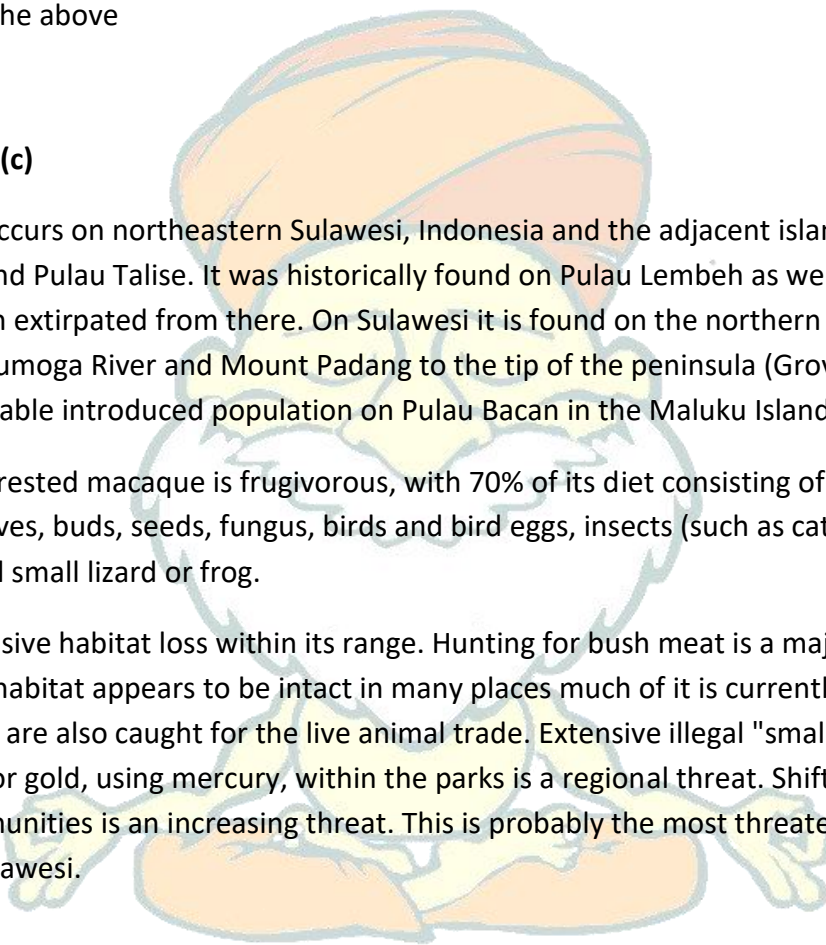
- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3
- d) All of the above

**Q.1) Solution (c)**

This species occurs on northeastern Sulawesi, Indonesia and the adjacent islands of Pulau Manadotua and Pulau Talise. It was historically found on Pulau Lembeh as well but has probably been extirpated from there. On Sulawesi it is found on the northern arm east of the Onggak Dumoga River and Mount Padang to the tip of the peninsula (Groves 2001). There is a sizeable introduced population on Pulau Bacan in the Maluku Islands (Indonesia).

The Celebes crested macaque is frugivorous, with 70% of its diet consisting of fruits. It also consumes leaves, buds, seeds, fungus, birds and bird eggs, insects (such as caterpillars), and the occasional small lizard or frog.

There is extensive habitat loss within its range. Hunting for bush meat is a major threat, so although the habitat appears to be intact in many places much of it is currently unoccupied. Some animals are also caught for the live animal trade. Extensive illegal "small scale" open area mining for gold, using mercury, within the parks is a regional threat. Shifting cultivation by local communities is an increasing threat. This is probably the most threatened primate species on Sulawesi.





Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/no-more-monkeying-around-macaque-selfie-case-settled/article19672351.ece>

**Q.2) Consider the following statements**

1. The Sundarbans mangrove forest lies on the delta of the Ganges, Brahmaputra and Meghna rivers on the Bay of Bengal
2. Sundarbans National Park is a UNESCO world heritage site

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.2) Solution (c)**

The Sundarbans mangrove forest, one of the largest such forests in the world (140,000 ha), lies on the delta of the Ganges, Brahmaputra and Meghna rivers on the Bay of Bengal. It is adjacent to the border of India's Sundarbans World Heritage site inscribed in 1987. The site is intersected by a complex network of tidal waterways, mudflats and small islands of salt-tolerant mangrove forests, and presents an excellent example of ongoing ecological processes. The area is known for its wide range of fauna, including 260 bird species, the Bengal tiger and other threatened species such as the estuarine crocodile and the Indian python.

The Sundarban National Park is a National Park, Tiger Reserve, and a Biosphere Reserve in West Bengal, India. It is part of the Sundarbans on the Ganges Delta, and adjacent to the Sundarban Reserve Forest in Bangladesh. The delta is densely covered by mangrove forests, and is one of the largest reserves for the Bengal tiger. It is also home to a variety of bird, reptile and invertebrate species, including the salt-water crocodile. The present Sundarban National Park was declared as the core area of Sundarban Tiger Reserve in 1973 and a wildlife sanctuary in 1977. On 4 May 1984 it was declared a National Park. It is a UNESCO world heritage site inscribed in 1987. It is considered as a World Network of Biosphere Reserve (Man and Biosphere Reserve) in 2001.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/a-fragile-ark-that-shelters-2626-creatures/article19673678.ece>

### Q.3) Consider the following statements about Nathu La

1. It connects the Indian state of Sikkim to Tibet Autonomous Region in China
2. It has been closed for trade since Indo-China 1962 conflict

### Select the correct statements

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

### Q.3) Solution (a)

Nathula located at the Indo China border at an altitude of 14,100 feet asl is a favorite hotspot place of visit for visitors coming to Sikkim. It is 56 km East of Gangtok and connects the Indian state of Sikkim to Tibet Autonomous Region in China. Nathu means "listening ears" and La means "pass" in Tibetan.

It is one of the highest motorable roads and is covered with rich alpine flora and fauna. Special permits are required to visit this site and excursions are organized by registered tour operators only. The Nathu La Pass was re-opened for border trade after a gap of 44 years in 2006.

It is guarded on both sides by the Chinese and Indian soldiers. At present domestic tourists are given permit to visit Nathu La 4 days a week (Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday & Sunday) and the number of vehicles are restricted to visit Nathula each day. Visitors need special permits to visit this high altitude pass.

During the 1962 Sino-Indian War, Nathu La witnessed skirmishes between soldiers of the two countries. Shortly thereafter, the passage was sealed and remained closed for more than four decades. Finally, after a decade of talks, Nathu La was opened on 6 July 2006.

Source: <http://indianexpress.com/article/explained/50-years-before-doklam-there-was-nathu-la-recalling-a-very-different-standoff-4840703/>

### Q.4) Article 27 of Constitution of India deals with

- a) Freedom as to payment of taxes for promotion of any particular religion
- b) Freedom of conscience and free profession, practice and propagation of religion
- c) Freedom to manage religious affairs
- d) Freedom as to attendance at religious instruction or religious worship in certain educational institutions

### Q.4) Solution (a)

**Article 27** of Constitution of India deals with Freedom as to payment of taxes for promotion of any particular religion.

- No person shall be compelled to pay any taxes, the proceeds of which are specifically appropriated in payment of expenses for the promotion or maintenance of any particular religion or religious denomination.

**Article 25** of Constitution of India deals with Freedom of conscience and free profession, practice and propagation of religion.

**Article 28** of Constitution of India deals with Freedom as to attendance at religious instruction or religious worship in certain educational institutions.

1. No religious instruction shall be provided in any educational institution wholly maintained out of State funds.
2. Nothing in clause (1) shall apply to an educational institution which is administered by the State but has been established under any endowment or trust which requires that religious instruction shall be imparted in such institution.
3. No person attending any educational institution recognised by the State or receiving aid out of State funds shall be required to take part in any religious instruction that may be imparted in such institution or to attend any religious worship that may be conducted in such institution or in any premises attached thereto unless such person or, if such person is a minor, his guardian has given his consent thereto.

Article 26 of Constitution of India deals with Freedom to manage religious affairs.

Source: <http://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/religion-faith-constitution-secular-india-supreme-court-articles-of-faith-2-4840710/>

**Q.5) Catalonia is one of the richest and most highly industrialised regions of**

- a) Italy
- b) Spain
- c) Switzerland
- d) Germany

**Q.5) Solution (b)**

With a distinct history stretching back to the early middle ages, many Catalans think of themselves as a separate nation from the rest of Spain.



A roughly triangular region in Spain's far north-east corner, Catalonia is separated by the Pyrenean mountains from southern France, with which it has close historical ties.

It is bordered by France and Andorra to the north, the Mediterranean Sea to the east, and the Spanish autonomous communities of Aragon to the west and Valencia to the south.

### History

- The area first emerged as a distinct entity with the rise of the County of Barcelona to pre-eminence in the 11th century. In the 12th century, the county was brought under the same royal rule as the neighbouring kingdom of Aragon, going on to become a major medieval sea power.
- Catalonia has been part of Spain since its genesis in the 15th century, when King Ferdinand of Aragon and Queen Isabella of Castile married and united their realms.

## IASbaba's Daily Quiz

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- Initially retaining its own institutions, the region was ever more tightly integrated into the Spanish state, until the 19th century ushered in a renewed sense of Catalan identity, which flowed into a campaign for political autonomy and even separatism. The period also saw an effort to revive Catalan, long in decline by then, as a language of literature.
- When Spain became a republic in 1931, Catalonia was soon given broad autonomy. During the Spanish Civil War, Catalonia was a key Republican stronghold, and the fall of Barcelona to Gen Francisco Franco's right-wing forces in 1939 marked the beginning of the end of Spanish resistance to him.
- Under Franco's ultra-conservative rule, autonomy was revoked, Catalan nationalism repressed and use of the Catalan language restricted.

