

**Q.1) Malimath Committee is concerned with**

- a) Judicial Appointment Reforms
- b) Railway Reforms
- c) Education Reforms
- d) Criminal Justice System

**Q.1) Solution (d)**

Justice Malimath Committee or The Committee on Reforms of the Criminal Justice System was constituted by the Home Ministry in 2000. It made recommendations on crime investigation and punishment.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/the-malimath-committees-recommendations-on-reforms-in-the-criminal-justice-system-in-20-points/article22457589.ece>

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

1. They are patches of stunted evergreen tropical and sub-tropical moist broad leaf forest
2. They are found in valleys separated by grassland in the higher mountain regions of South India

**Select the correct statements**

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

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

Sholas are the local name for patches of stunted tropical montane forest found in valleys amid rolling grassland in the higher montane regions of South India. These patches of shola forest are found mainly in the valleys and are usually separated from one another by undulating montane grassland. The shola and grassland together form the shola-grassland complex or mosaic.

The shola-forest and grassland complex has been described as a climatic climax vegetation with forest regeneration and expansion restricted by climatic conditions such as frost or soil characteristics while others have suggested that it may have anthropogenic origins in the burning and removal of forests by early herders and shifting agriculturists.

Shola forests are found in the higher altitude hill regions of the Nilgiris, Kanyakumari district, Idukki district, the Western Ghats and associated ranges in the states of Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Although generally said to occur above 2000 meters above sea level, shola forests can be found at 1600 meters elevation in many hill ranges.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/missing-the-grass-for-the-trees-in-western-ghats/article22452494.ece>

**Q.3) Consider the following statements about Nilgiri pipit**

1. They are endemic to Western Ghats
2. It is a non-migratory bird
3. It is listed as 'vulnerable' under IUCN Red List

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.3) Solution (d)**

The Nilgiri pipit (*Anthus nilghiriensis*) is a distinctive species of pipit that is endemic to the high altitude hills of southern India. Richer brown in colour than other pipits in the region, it is distinctive in having the streaking on the breast continuing along the flanks. It is non-migratory and has a tendency to fly into low trees when disturbed and is closely related to the tree pipits, *Anthus hodgsoni* and *Anthus trivialis*.

IUCN Status – Vulnerable

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/missing-the-grass-for-the-trees-in-western-ghats/article22452494.ece>

**Q.4) World Development Indicators (WDI) is compiled by**

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- a) World Economic Forum
- b) World Bank
- c) World Trade Organisation
- d) International Monetary Fund

### Q.4) Solution (b)

World Development Indicators (WDI) is the primary World Bank collection of development indicators, compiled from officially-recognized international sources. It presents the most current and accurate global development data available, and includes national, regional and global estimates. This statistical reference includes over 800 indicators covering more than 150 economies. The annual publication is released in April of each year. The online database is updated three times a year.

Source: [http://www.business-standard.com/article/opinion/new-world-development-indicators-reveal-indian-economy-is-improving-118011601508\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/opinion/new-world-development-indicators-reveal-indian-economy-is-improving-118011601508_1.html)

### Q.5) The concept of Eight-fold path forms the theme of

- a) Dipavamsa
- b) Divyavadana
- c) Mahaparinibban Sutta
- d) Dharma Chakara Pravartana Sutta

### Q.5) Solution (d)

The Dhammachakkappavattana Sutta (Pali; Sanskrit: Dharmachakrapravartana Sūtra; English: The Setting in Motion of the Wheel of the Dharma Sutta or Promulgation of the Law Sutta) is a Buddhist text that is considered by Buddhists to be a record of the first teaching given by Gautama Buddha after he attained enlightenment. The main topic of this sutta is the Four Noble Truths, which refer to and express the basic orientation of Buddhism in a formulaic expression. This sutta also refers to the Buddhist concepts of the Middle Way (the Noble Eightfold Path), impermanence, and dependent origination.