

August 21, 2018

**Q.1) 'Kasturirangan Committee Report' and 'Gadgil Committee Report' are concerned with**

- a) Labour Reforms
- b) Interlinking Rivers
- c) Protection of Western Ghats
- d) Ganga Action Plan

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

### **Gadgil Committee**

- Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel (WGEEP) headed by Madhav Gadgil was formed by MoEF in 2010 to study the impact of population pressure, climate change and development activities on the Western Ghats.
- It defined the boundaries of the Western Ghats for the purposes of ecological management
- It proposed that this entire area be designated as ecologically sensitive area (ESA)
- Within this area, smaller regions were to be identified as ecologically sensitive zones (ESZ) I, II or III based on their existing condition and nature of threat
- It proposed to divide the area into about 2,200 grids, each approximately 9 km × 9 km, of which 75 per cent would fall under ESZ I or II or under already existing protected areas such as wildlife sanctuaries or natural parks

### **Kasturirangan Committee**

- It was tasked with finding a “holistic” way of protecting the biodiversity of the Ghats and addressing the “rightful aspirations for inclusive growth and sustainable development” of the “indigenous residents”.
- It broadened the definition of Western Ghats and included a total of 1,64,280 square km in it
- It then classified it as comprising cultural landscape and natural landscape. It said nearly 60% of the Western Ghats was cultural landscape, where human settlements, agriculture and plantations existed
- The remaining was the natural landscape, of which the “biologically rich” area was only 37% or about 60,000 sq km
- Only this part needed to be classified as an ecologically sensitive area (ESA)

**Source:** <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/kerala-floods-the-prescriptions-for-the-western-ghats-5316449/>

**Q.2) Consider the following statements about 'International Nitrogen Initiative'**

1. It is an international program, set up in 2003 under sponsorship of the Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment (SCOPE) and from the International Geosphere-Biosphere Program (IGBP).
2. It is aimed at optimizing nitrogen's beneficial role in sustainable food production, and minimizing nitrogen's negative effects on human health and the environment resulting from food and energy production.

**Select the correct statements**

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

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

**News:** Indian scientist-academician, N Raghuram, has been elected Chair of the International Nitrogen Initiative (INI)

The International Nitrogen Initiative (INI) is an international program, set up in 2003 under sponsorship of the Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment (SCOPE) and from the International Geosphere-Biosphere Program (IGBP). The key aims of the INI are to:

- optimize nitrogen's beneficial role in sustainable food production, and
- minimize nitrogen's negative effects on human health and the environment resulting from food and energy production.

**Source:** <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/science/n-raghuram-elected-chair-of-international-nitrogen-initiative/article24677903.ece>

**Q.3) 'Panini Language Laboratory' was recently opened in**

- a) Maldives
- b) Mauritius
- c) Fiji
- d) Japan

**Q.3) Solution (b)**

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Panini language laboratory was recently inaugurated at Mahatma Gandhi institute in Mauritius to promote reading and writing Hindi amongst young and its further development.

Source: [https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/sushma-swaraj-inaugurates-panini-language-lab-in-mauritius-118081900721\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/sushma-swaraj-inaugurates-panini-language-lab-in-mauritius-118081900721_1.html)

**Q.4) Teesta River flows through which of the following states?**

1. West Bengal
2. Sikkim
3. Assam
4. Tripura

**Select the correct code:**

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 1, 3 and 4
- c) 1, 2 and 4
- d) All of the above

**Q.4) Solution (a)**

It flows through West Bengal and Sikkim, before going to Bay of Bengal through Bangladesh. It carves out from the verdant Himalayas in temperate and tropical river valleys and forms the border between Sikkim and West Bengal. It flows through the cities of Rangpo, Jalpaiguri and Kalimpong and joins the Jamuna (Brahmaputra) in Bangladesh.

**Q.5) Cyprus is located in**

- a) Southwestern Pacific Ocean
- b) Melanesia
- c) Mediterranean Sea
- d) Bismarck Sea

**Q.5) Solution (c)**

## IASbaba's Daily Quiz

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Cyprus is an island country in the Eastern Mediterranean and the third largest and third most populous island in the Mediterranean. It is located south of Turkey, west of Syria and Lebanon, northwest of Israel and Palestine, north of Egypt, and southeast of Greece.

