

**Q.1) With reference to ecological balance, consider the following statements:**

1. The stability of an ecosystem increases with the introduction of new species.
2. Ecological balance can happen when the diversity of the living organisms remains relatively stable

**Which of the above statement is/are correct?**

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

**Q.1) Solution (b)**

Ecological balance is a state of dynamic equilibrium within a community. It can happen when the diversity of the living organisms remains relatively stable. Gradual changes do take place but that happens only through natural succession. Any introduction of new species changes balance through change in interaction in the habitat and ecosystem.

**Q.2) The global climate finance architecture is channeled through multilateral funds, with respect to this consider the following pairs:**

- | Fund                              | Administered by        |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Biocarbon fund                 | : World Bank           |
| 2. Clean technology fund          | : world economic forum |
| 3. Global climate change alliance | : IPCC                 |
| 4. UN-REDD                        | : UNEP                 |

**Which of the above is/are correctly matched?**

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 4 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3 only
- d) 3 and 4 only

**Q.2) Solution (a)**

funds	Administered by
Strategic Climate Fund	World Bank
Biocarbon Fund	World Bank
Clean Technology Fund	World Bank
Least Developed Countries Fund	GEF
Global Climate Change Alliance	European Commission
UN-REDD Programme	UNDP

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Congo Basin Forest Fund

African Development Bank

**Q.3) With reference to color coding of industries for their pollution Index, Consider the following pairs:**

1. Red industries: Automobile Manufacturing, Sugar Industries
2. Orange industries: Aluminium & copper extraction from scrap, Ayurvedic and homeopathic medicine
3. White industries: cotton and woolen hosiers using dry processes, Brass and bell metal utensils

**Which of the above is/are correctly matched?**

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

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

In February 2016, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) unveiled a new categorization of industries based on their pollution load. The new classification is for entire industrial sectors and not for individual units.

Red industries	Orange industries	White industries
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hazardous chemicals</li><li>• Automobile manufacturing</li><li>• Sugar industries</li><li>• Fire crackers</li><li>• Milk and dairy products</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Aluminium and copper extraction from scrap</li><li>• Automobile servicing and repairing</li><li>• Ayurvedic and homeopathic medicine</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bicycles, baby carriages</li><li>• Bailing of waste papers</li><li>• Bio fertilizer / bio-pesticides</li></ul>

**Green industries:** Brass and bell metal utensils, Small Bakery /confectionery, Small Cotton spinning and weaving

**Q.4) Which of the following ecosystem(s) represent Ecotone between marine and terrestrial ecosystems?**

1. Mangrove forests
2. River banks
3. Deltas
4. Estuaries

**Which of the above is/are correct?**

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

**Q.4) Solution (c)**

An ecotone is a transition area between two biomes. It is where two communities meet and integrate. It may be narrow or wide, and it may be local (the zone between a field and forest) or regional (the transition between forest and grassland ecosystems)

An ecotone may appear on the ground as a gradual blending of the two communities across a broad area, or it may manifest itself as a sharp boundary line. Riverbank, is example for **ecotone between aquatic and terrestrial ecosystem**. Ecotone for marine and terrestrial ecosystem will be Estuary and Mangrove forests and deltas.

**Q.5) Consider the following statements with reference to the climate feedback mechanism:**

1. A negative feedback has a cooling effect, while positive feedback has a warming effect.
2. Ice albedo feedback is a strong negative feedback process.

**Which of the above statement is/are correct?**

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

**Q.5) Solution (a)**

- Climate feedbacks: These are the processes that can either amplify or diminish the effects of climate forcings. Feedback that increases an initial warming is called "positive feedback." A feedback that reduces an initial warming is a "negative feedback."
- The ice albedo effect is simply a name for how ice and snow reflect solar radiation, and thus help keep the Earth cool. Since a cool Earth also tends to have more ice and snow, the ice albedo effect is an example of a positive climate feedback.

**Q.6) Which can be the consequences of melting of permafrost in polar regions?**

1. It may further aggravate global warming due to release of methane gas.
2. It may pose a threat to local ecosystems.
3. It would add to global inequality

**Which of the above statement is/are correct?**

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

**Q.6) Solution (d)**

- As top soils melt due to global warming which is a great threat as there melt will aggravate the condition of global warming. As permafrost thaws, this carbon is released to the atmosphere in the form of methane, a powerful greenhouse gas. This process leads to more climate change and is an example of a positive feedback loop, which happens when warming causes changes that lead to even more warming.
- As permafrost thaws, it can also cause substantial changes in the local ecosystem, altering the flow of water atop and through the soil, as well as what plant and animal life can thrive in the area.
- It would also add to global inequality because most of the economic burden – equivalent to almost the entire world's current annual GDP – is likely to be borne by countries in warmer poorer regions such as India and Africa, which are most vulnerable to a rise in temperatures.

**Q.7) Which among the following are the factors that help in growth of Harmful algal blooms (HABs)?**

1. Warming of waters
2. Nitrogen enrichment in water
3. Pollution of water bodies
4. Changes in ocean currents

**Choose correct options from below:**

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

**Q.7) Solution (d)**

HABs are caused by organisms called phytoplankton, some of which can produce toxins. A HAB can occur in fresh, marine (salt), and brackish (a mixture of fresh and salt) water bodies around the world.

Various factors can cause rapid growth, or blooming of these organisms, including:

- Increases in nutrient levels (for example phosphorus and nitrates) from fertilizer run-off from residences and agricultural lands, sewage discharges, and run-off from urban

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areas and industrial facilities

- Changes in nutrient levels associated with ocean upwelling (El Niño, El Niña)
- Low water flows, such as those associated with drought
- Changes in water temperature, particularly increases in temperature
- Changes in chemical factors such as pH or turbidity
- Changes in ocean currents
- Changes in the local ecology (how organisms interact with each other)

### Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding Black Carbon:

1. Black carbon is emitted from burning biofuels, fossil fuels, and open biomass burning.
2. Black carbon stays in the atmosphere for years.
3. In India, Project Surya has been launched to reduce black carbon in atmosphere.

### Which of the above statement is/are correct?

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

### Q.8) Solution (b)

- Approximately 20% of black carbon is emitted from burning biofuels, 40% from fossil fuels, and 40% from open biomass burning.
- Black carbon stays in the atmosphere for only several days to weeks, whereas carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) has an atmospheric lifetime of more than 100 years.
- Project Surya has been launched to reduce black carbon in atmosphere by introducing efficient stove technologies, solar cookers, solar lamps and biogas plants.

### Q.9) Which Pyramid is most suitable to compare the functional roles of the trophic levels in an ecosystem?

- a) Pyramid of Energy
- b) Pyramid of Biomass
- c) Pyramid of Numbers-upright
- d) Pyramid of Numbers-inverted

### Q.9) Solution (a)

To compare the functional roles of the trophic levels in an ecosystem, an energy pyramid is most suitable. An **energy pyramid, reflects the laws of thermodynamics**, with conversion of

solar energy to chemical energy and heat energy at each trophic level and with loss of energy being depicted at each transfer to another trophic level. Hence the pyramid is always upward, with a large energy base at the bottom. Energy pyramid concept helps to explain the phenomenon of biological magnification--the tendency for toxic substances to increase in concentration progressively at higher levels of the food chain

**Q.10) With reference to 'Eco Sensitive Zone' (ESA), consider the following statements.**

1. ESA is the area that is declared under the Environment Protection Act, 1986.
2. The purpose of the declaration of ESA is to prohibit all kinds of human activities in these zones except agriculture.

**Which of the above statement is/are incorrect?**

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

**Q.10) Solution (b)**

- Eco-Sensitive Zones or Ecologically Fragile Areas are areas within 10 kms around Protected Areas, National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.
- ESZs are notified by MoEFCC, Government of India under Environment Protection Act 1986.
- The section 3(2)(v) of the Act, says that Central Government can restrict areas in which any industries, operations or processes or class of industries, operations or processes shall not be carried out or shall be carried out subject to certain safeguards.

**Q.11) The 'Forest Carbon Partnership Facility' is related to which among the following?**

- a) Man and Biosphere
- b) REDD+
- c) Montreaux Record
- d) Wetland International

**Q.11) Solution (b)**

The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility is a global partnership of governments, businesses, civil society, and Indigenous Peoples focused on reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, forest carbon stock conservation, the sustainable management of forests, and the enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries (activities commonly referred to as REDD+).

Some initiatives assisting countries that are engaged in REDD+ include the World Bank's



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Forest Carbon Partnership Facility, Norway's International Climate and Forest Initiative, the Global Environment Facility, Australia's International Forest Carbon Initiative, the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, and the Green Climate Fund

**Q.12) With respect to Biomedical waste rules-2016, Consider the following statements:**

1. Biomedical waste comprises of only human anatomical waste, treatment apparatus like needles, syringes and other materials used in health care facilities.
2. The hospitals servicing 1000 patients or more per month are required to obtain authorisation and segregate bio- medical waste
3. Phase-out the use of chlorinated plastic bags, gloves and blood bags within two years

**Which of the above statement is/are incorrect?**

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) None of the above

**Q.12) Solution (a)**

- Biomedical waste comprises **human & animal anatomical waste**, treatment apparatus like needles, syringes and other materials used in health care facilities in the process of treatment and research
- The hospitals servicing 1000 patients or more per month are required to obtain authorisation and segregate bio- medical waste in to 10 categories, pack five colour backs for disposal.
- Phase-out the use of chlorinated plastic bags, gloves and blood bags within two years;
- Pre-treatment of the laboratory waste, microbiological waste, blood samples and blood bags through disinfection or sterilization on-site in the manner as prescribed by WHO or NACO;

**Q.13) Consider the following statements with reference to Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules 2017.**

1. The new rules have replaced the Central Wetlands Regulatory Authority (CWRA) with the National Wetland Committee, which has decision making powers
2. The powers for managing Wetlands have been given to the State governments so that protection and conservation can be done at the local level.
3. Conservation and management of Wetlands would be based on the principle of wise use

**Which of the above statement is/are incorrect?**

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

**Q.13) Solution (a)**

Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017 supersede the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2010 for effective conservation and management of wetlands in the country.

**Key features:**

- Decentralisation of wetland management. Under the new rules, the powers have been given to the State governments so that protection and conservation can be done at the local level. The central government has mainly retained powers regarding monitoring.
- The new rules have replaced the Central Wetlands Regulatory Authority (CWRA) with the National Wetland Committee, which has a merely advisory role.
- The State or UT Wetlands Authority will have to prepare a list of all wetlands and also will develop a comprehensive list of activities to be regulated and permitted within notified wetlands and their zone of influence.
- The new rules also prohibit encroachments on wetlands, solid waste dumping, discharge of untreated waste and effluents from industries and human settlements
- It prescribes that conservation and management would be based on the principle of wise use, which is to be determined by the Wetlands Authority.

**Q.14) With reference to convention on the conservation of migratory species (Bonn convention), Consider the following statements.**

1. It is the only global convention specializing in the conservation of migratory species (CMS), their habitats and migration routes
2. Migratory species threatened with extinction are listed on Appendix I of the Convention.
3. The development of models tailored according to the conservation needs throughout the migratory range is a unique capacity to CMS.

**Which of the above statement is/are correct?**

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

**Q.14) Solution (d)**



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As an environmental treaty of the United Nations, CMS provides a global platform for the conservation and sustainable use of migratory animals and their habitats. CMS brings together the States through which migratory animals pass, the Range States, and lays the legal foundation for internationally coordinated conservation measures throughout a migratory range.

- As the only global convention specializing in the conservation of migratory species, their habitats and migration routes, CMS complements and co-operates with a number of other international organizations, NGOs and partners in the media as well as in the corporate sector.
- Migratory species threatened with extinction are listed on Appendix I of the Convention.
- CMS acts as a framework Convention. The agreements may range from legally binding treaties (called Agreements) to less formal instruments, such as Memoranda of Understanding, and can be adapted to the requirements of particular regions. The development of models tailored according to the conservation needs throughout the migratory range is a unique capacity to CMS.

### **Q.15) Barbados Programme of Action (BPOA) is related with?**

- a) Conservation of migratory species
- b) Conservation of Wetlands
- c) Sustainable development of small Island states
- d) Conference on the Human environment

### **Q.15) Solution (c)**

#### **BPOA (1994) - Barbados Programme of Action:**

Established by UN General Assembly resolution 47/189, the UN Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of small Islands developing states (SIDS) was held in Barbados from 25 April to 6 May 1994.

The Conference reaffirmed the principles and commitments to sustainable development embodied in Agenda 21 and translated these into specific policies, actions and measures to be taken at the national, regional and international levels. The Conference also adopted the Barbados Declaration, a statement of political will underpinning the commitments contained in the BPOA.

### **Q.16) Consider the following statements with respect to National Green Tribunal (NGT)**

1. It is established for the effective and expeditious disposal of cases relating to environmental protection and conservation of forests and other natural resources
2. NGT is mandated to dispose the cases within one year of their respective appeals.

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

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

**Q.16) Solution (a)**

**NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL (NGT):**

1. The Preamble of the act provides for the establishment of a National Green Tribunal for the effective and expeditious disposal of cases relating to environmental protection and conservation of forests and other natural resources
2. NGT is mandated to dispose the cases **within six months of their respective appeals.**
3. The specialized architecture of the NGT will facilitate fast track resolution of environmental cases and provide a boost to the implementation of many sustainable development measures
4. India is third country in the world to full fledged green tribunal followed by New Zealand and Australia.

**Q.17) The programme Harmony with Nature is Initiative of?**

- a) UNFCC
- b) IUCN
- c) UNCBD
- d) UN General Assembly

**Q.17) Solution (d)**

In 2009, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 22 April as International Mother Earth Day. In so doing, Member States acknowledged that the Earth and its ecosystems are our common home, and expressed their conviction that it is necessary to promote Harmony with Nature in order to achieve a just balance among the economic, social and environmental needs of present and future generations. The same year, the **General Assembly adopted its first resolution on Harmony with Nature.**

**Q.18) Which the below statements is/are correct?**

1. Farm forestry is where Individual farmers are being encouraged to plant trees on their own farmland to meet the domestic needs of the family.
2. Community forestry is the raising of trees on community land and not on private land as in farm forestry.

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3. Extension forestry is Planting of trees on the sides of roads, canals and rail- ways, along with planting on wastelands

**Choose correct option from below:**

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

### **Q.18) Solution (d)**

SOCIAL FORESTRY	Social forestry also aims at raising plantations by the common man so as to meet the growing demand for food, fuel wood, fodder, fiber and fertilizer etc, thereby reducing the pressure on the traditional forest area.
1. Farm forestry	Farm forestry is where Individual farmers are being encouraged to plant trees on their own farmland to meet the domestic needs of the family.
2. Community forestry	It is the raising of trees on community land and not on private land as in farm forestry. All these programmes aim to provide for the entire community and not for any individual. The government has the responsibility of providing seedlings, fertilizer but the community has to take responsibility of protecting the trees
3. Extension forestry	It is Planting of trees on the sides of roads, canals and rail- ways, along with planting on wastelands is known as 'extension' forestry, increasing the boundaries of forests. Under this project there has been creation of wood lots in the village common lands, government waste- lands and panchayat lands
4. Recreational forestry	Raising of trees with the major objective of recreation alone.

### **Q.19) Consider the following statements about Lighting a Billion Lives (LABL) initiative.**

- 1. LaBL is a campaign by MoFECC that promotes the use of solar lanterns specially designed and manufactured on a decentralized basis.
- 2. LaBL has been able to engage with government inter- ventions under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Madhya Pradesh Rural Livelihood Project etc.

**Which of the above statement is/are correct?**

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2

- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Q.19) Solution (b)**

LaBL is a **campaign by TERI** that promotes the use of solar lanterns specially designed and manufactured on a decentralized basis.

- LaBL has been able to engage with government interventions under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Madhya Pradesh Rural Livelihood Project, Rasthriya Gramin Vikas Nidhi, and has facilitated the spread of mobile telephony with support from Department of Telecommunications, Government of India.
- LaBL has successfully engaged the private sector and leveraged Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

**Q.20) Consider the following statements about The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA).**

1. The NBA is a Non-Statutory, Autonomous Body and it performs facilitative, regulatory and advisory function for the Government of India on issues of conservation, sustainable use of biological resources
2. The NBA will impose benefit-sharing conditions.
3. Ensures protection to the knowledge of local people relating to biodiversity through measures such as registration of such knowledge.

**Which of the above statement is/are correct?**

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

**Q.20) Solution (c)**

The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) was established in 2003 to implement India's Biological Diversity Act (2002).

- The NBA is a Statutory, Autonomous Body and it performs facilitative, regulatory and advisory function for the Government of India on issues of conservation, sustainable use of biological resources and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of biological resources.

**Objectives of the NBA:**

- Anybody seeking any kind of intellectual property rights on a research based upon biological resource or knowledge obtained from India has to obtain prior approval of the NBA.
- The NBA will impose benefit-sharing conditions.
- For ensuring equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of biological resources

and associated knowledge, Sections 19 and 21 stipulate prior approval of the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) before their access.

- Ensures protection to the knowledge of local people relating to biodiversity through measures such as registration of such knowledge.

**Q.21) Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)?**

1. It enforces the prohibition of the smuggling of items including drugs, gold, diamonds, electronics, foreign currency, and counterfeit Indian currency.
2. The NCB's national headquarters is located in Mumbai.
3. It comes under Ministry of Home Affairs.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 3 only
- d) 1, 2, and 3

**Q.21) Solution (c)**

**Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI)** is the major intelligence agency which enforces the prohibition of the smuggling of items including drugs, gold, diamonds, electronics, foreign currency, and counterfeit Indian currency.

**Narcotics Control Bureau**

- It was constituted by the Government of India in 1986 under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985.
- The act provides for the penalty of property derived from or used in illegal traffic in narcotic drugs.
- It is the apex drug law enforcement and intelligence agency responsible for fighting drug trafficking and the abuse of illegal substances in India.

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- The Narcotics Control Bureau's **national headquarters is located in Delhi** and it is affiliated to Ministry of Home Affairs.

### Functions:

- Coordination among various Central and State Agencies engaged in drug law enforcement;
- Assisting States in enhancing their drug law enforcement effort;
- Collection and dissemination of intelligence;
- Analysis of seizure data, study of trends and modus operandi;
- Preparation of National Drug Enforcement Statistics;
- Liaison with International agencies such as UNDCP, INCB, INTERPOL, Customs Cooperation Council, RILO etc;
- National contact point for intelligence and investigations

### Q.22) What is the main aim of 'Genome India' Project?

- a) To vastly add to the available information on the human species and advance the cause, both because of the scale of the Indian population and the diversity here.
- b) To decode of the entire human genome as done by an international programme-Human Genome Project (HGP 1990-2003).
- c) To ultimately build a grid of the Indian "reference genome", to understand fully the type and nature of diseases and traits that comprise the diverse Indian population.
- d) To create a database of genetic information and gene modification.

### Q.22) Solution (c)

- Genome India Project will involve 20 leading institutions including the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) in Bengaluru and a few IITs.
- The first stage of the project will look at samples of "10,000 persons from all over the country" to form a "grid" that will enable the development of a "reference genome".



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- The IISc's Centre for Brain Research, an autonomous institute, will serve as the nodal point of the project.
- The main aim of GIP ultimately build a grid of the Indian "reference genome", to understand fully the type and nature of diseases and traits that comprise the diverse Indian population.
- GIP aims to vastly add to the available information on the human species and advance the cause, both because of the scale of the Indian population and the diversity here.
- The Genome India Project is inspired by the Human Genome Project (HGP 1990-2003)- an international programme that led to the decoding of the entire human genome.

**Q.23) With reference to Inner Line Permit (ILP) and Protected Area Permit (PAP), Consider the following statements:**

1. No permits (ILP and PAP) are required to visit Assam, Meghalaya and Tripura for both Indian Nationals and foreigners.
2. Nagaland is the recent state to join the ILP state list.
3. Protected Area Permit is required for visiting certain parts of Uttarakhand.

**Which of the statements given above is/are Not Correct?**

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 2 only
- d) 1 only

**Q.23) Solution (c)**

- **Manipur is the last state** to join the ILP state list and Manipur has launched an online portal for the travellers to seek Inner Line Permits.

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- No permits (ILP and PAP) are required to visit Assam, Meghalaya and Tripura for both Indian Nationals and foreigners.
- Foreign nationals can apply for ILP and PAP if they have an E-Visa for India. It is not mandatory to have a regular Tourist Visa for applying permits for Northeast India for foreign nationals.
- Overseas Citizen of India card holders are classified as foreigners and they must obtain permits to visit North Eastern states.
- An ILP is issued by the state government concerned.

### Q.24) Consider the following statements regarding locust swarms

1. Desert Locusts are only found in Africa.
2. In a single day, a locust swarm can travel nearly 100 miles and eat its own weight in weight in fresh food.
3. Locusts carry diseases that can harm humans.

### Which of the statements given above is/are Not Correct?

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- b) 1 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 2 only

### Q.24) Solution (c)

- Major locust attacks have been observed in several countries in western and southern Asia and in eastern Africa.
- Four species of locusts are found in India: Desert locust (*Schistocerca gregaria*), Migratory locust (*Locusta migratoria*), Bombay Locust (*Nomadacris succincta*) and Tree locust (*Anacridium sp.*).
- Desert Locusts are usually restricted to the semi-arid and arid **deserts of Africa, the Near East and South-West Asia that receive less than 200 mm of rain annually.**

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- The locust swarms had damaged 100% of Somalia's staple crops of maize and sorghum, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.
- **Locusts does not carry any diseases that are known to harm humans.**
- In Kenya, up to 30% of pastureland has been lost.
- Locusts have gorged on crops in South Sudan, already reeling from years of civil war and widespread hunger.
- They have laid new eggs in Ethiopia, Eritrea, Djibouti and Uganda. The U.N. is still trying to assess the damage in many places.
- In a single day, a locust swarm can travel nearly 100 miles and eat its own weight in leaves, seeds, fruits and vegetables — as much as 35,000 people would consume. A typical swarm can stretch over 30 square miles.

**Q.25) Pakke Tiger Reserve is situated in which of the following state:**

- a) Assam
- b) Arunachal Pradesh
- c) Nagaland
- d) Manipur

**Q.25) Solution (b)**

Pakke Tiger Reserve is situated in the state of Arunachal Pradesh

Corridor, the highway aims to connect Arunachal Pradesh with Assam.

Pakke Tiger Reserve (declared in 1999 - 2000) lies in the foothills of the eastern Himalaya in the East Kameng district of Arunachal Pradesh. It is also known as Pakhui Tiger Reserve.

It falls within the Eastern Himalaya Biodiversity Hotspot.

It is known for its amazing sightings of four resident hornbill species

It is bounded by kameng river in the west and north and by pakke river in the east.

**Q.26) Which of the following statements is/are correct with respect to 'Nutrient-based subsidy (NBS)' scheme?**

1. A fixed amount of subsidy, decided on an annual basis, is provided on each grade of subsidised phosphatic and potassic (P&K) fertilisers.

2. A complex fertilizer, ammonium phosphate, was recently included under the nutrient-based subsidy scheme.

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.26) Solution (c)**

In 2010, the government had launched the nutrient-based subsidy (NBS) programme under which a fixed amount of subsidy, decided on an annual basis, is provided on each grade of subsidised phosphatic and potassic (P&K) fertilisers, except for urea, based on the nutrient content present in them.

Retail prices of non-urea fertilisers such as Di-ammonium Phosphate (DAP), Muriate of Potash (MoP) and NPK are decontrolled and are determined by manufacturers, while Centre gives a fixed subsidy each year.

Recently, CCEA also approved the inclusion of a complex fertilizer, ammonium phosphate, under the nutrient-based subsidy scheme.

**Q.27) Which of the following statements**

1. The numbers of vultures and eagles have decreased in the country.
2. The four species of bustards in India have all suffered continuous population declines because of historical hunting and widespread habitat loss.
3. The number of birds in the Western Ghats have significantly increased since 2000.

**Select the correct statements**

- a) 1 Only
- b) 1 and 2
- c) 1 and 3
- d) 1, 2 and 3

**Q.27) Solution (b)**

The number of birds in the Western Ghats, which is considered one of the world's foremost biodiversity hotspots, also declined by almost 75 per cent since 2000.

The numbers of vultures and eagles have decreased in the country.

The four species of bustards in India – the Great Indian Bustard, Macqueen's Bustard, Lesser

Florican and Bengal Florican, have all suffered continuous population declines because of historical hunting and widespread habitat loss, compounded with their slow growth and reproduction.

**Q.28) Which of the following pairs are correctly matched?**

1. Kalasa-Banduri Nala Project – Karnataka
2. Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project – Maharashtra
3. Paithan Hydroelectric Power Plant – Telangana

**Select the correct code:**

- a) 1 Only
- b) 1 and 2
- c) 2 and 3
- d) 1, 2 and 3

**Q.28) Solution (a)**

Kalasa-Banduri Nala Project – Karnataka

Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project – Telangana

Paithan Hydroelectric Power Plant – Maharashtra

**Q.29) The 'Neur' and 'Dinka' communities were in nrws recently. They belong to**

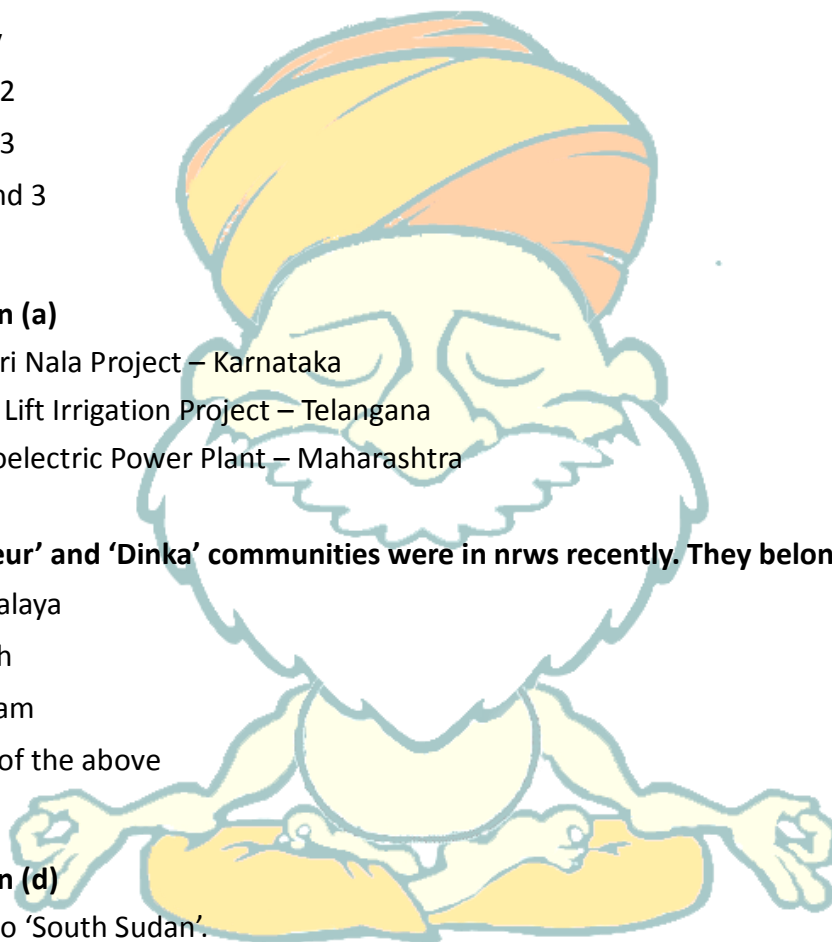
- a) Meghalaya
- b) Ladakh
- c) Mizoram
- d) None of the above

**Q.29) Solution (d)**

They belong to 'South Sudan'.

**Q.30) Which of the following national parks lost about 650 sq. km. in two decades from 1991?**

- a) Bandipur National Park
- b) Papikonda National Park
- c) Orang National Park
- d) Ranthambore National Park



**Q.30) Solution (b)**

By some estimates, the Eastern Ghats have shrunk by 16% over the past century, and just one region, Papikonda National Park, lost about 650 sq. km. in two decades from 1991.

**Source:**

<https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/a-browning-east-the-hindu-editorial-on-climate-change-impact-on-the-eastern-ghats/article30935306.ece>

