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**Q.1) Terrestrial part of biosphere is divided in to many Biomes. In this context consider the following.**

1. The most important climatic determinants are temperature, precipitation and soil.
2. No two biomes are alike
3. Savannah has landscape of tall grasses with scattered trees and huge animal diversity

**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.1) Solution (c)**

The terrestrial part of the biosphere is divisible into enormous regions called biomes, which are characterized, by climate, vegetation, animal life and general soil type.

- No two biomes are alike. The climate determines the boundaries of a biome and abundance of plants and animals found in each one of them.
- The most important climatic factors are temperature and precipitation.

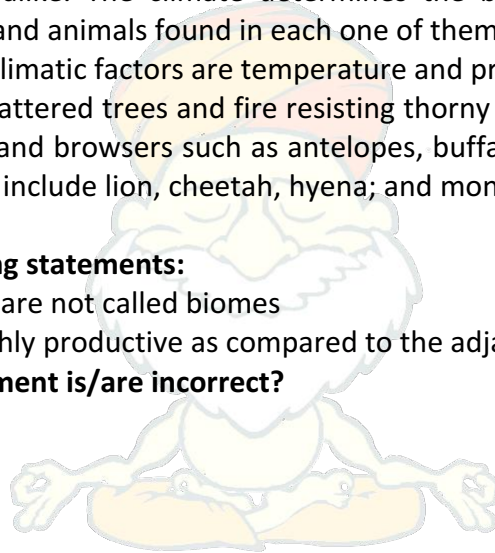
Savannah: Grasses with scattered trees and fire resisting thorny shrubs. The fauna include a **great diversity** of grazers and browsers such as antelopes, buffaloes, zebras, elephants and rhinoceros; the carnivores include lion, cheetah, hyena; and mongoose, and many rodents.

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

1. Aquatic systems are not called biomes
2. Estuaries are highly productive as compared to the adjacent river or sea.

**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.2) Solution (d)**

**Aquatic systems are not called biomes**, however they are divided into distinct life zones, with regions of relatively distinct plant and animal life. The major differences between the various aquatic zones are due to salinity, levels of dissolved nutrients, water temperature, depth of sunlight penetration.

Estuaries: In estuaries, fresh water from rivers meet ocean water and the two are mixed by action of tides. **Estuaries are highly productive** as compared to the adjacent river or sea.

**Q.3) Biosphere is a part of the earth where life can exist. With reference to this consider the following statements:**

1. The energy required for the life within the biosphere comes from the sun.
2. Living organisms are not uniformly distributed throughout the biosphere.
3. Diversity of living organism increases from Temperate to Tundra region

**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.3) Solution (b)**

Statement-1: correct	Statement-2: correct	Statement-3: incorrect
The energy required for the life within the biosphere comes from the sun. The nutrients necessary for living organisms come from air, water and soil. The same chemicals are recycled over and over again for life to continue.	Living organisms are not uniformly distributed throughout the biosphere. Only a few organisms live in the polar regions, while the tropical rain forests have an exceedingly rich diversity of plants and animals	Biodiversity goes on decreasing from Equator to Temperate to Tundra region

**Q.4) Consider the following statements:**

1. A Grazing food chain Always starts with producers
2. The source of energy to ecosystem is Always from Sun

**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.4) Solution (a)**

Statement-1: correct	Statement-2: incorrect
This energy is captured by plants. Thus the living part of a food chain always starts with plant life and ends with an animal. Plants are called producers because they are able to use light energy from the sun to produce food	The arrows in a food chain show the flow of energy, from the <b>sun or hydrothermal vent</b> to a top predator.

**Q.5) Consider the following statements:**

1. The flow of energy and nutrients in ecosystem is unidirectional
2. The hydrological cycle is driven by solar energy
3. Phosphorus, calcium and magnesium circulate by means of the sedimentary cycle.

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

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

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

Statement-1: incorrect	Statement-2 and 3: correct
The nutrient cycle is a concept that	The hydrologic cycle is the continuous

describes how nutrients move from the physical environment to the living organisms, and subsequently recycled back to the physical environment. While energy cycle is unidirectional, nutrition cycle is not	circulation of water in the Earth-atmosphere system which is driven by solar energy. Phosphorus, calcium and magnesium circulate by means of the sedimentary cycle.
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**Q.6) Consider the following**

1. Durban Declaration and Program of Action
2. Bali Action Plan
3. Copenhagen Accord
4. Cancun Agreement

**Which of the above includes commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions?**

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

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

Durban Declaration and Programme of Action	The DDPA reasserts the principles of equality and non-discrimination as core human rights, thus transforming victims of discrimination into rights-holders and States into duty bearers.
Bali Action Plan	The Bali Action Plan did not introduce binding commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions but included the request for developed countries to <b>contribute to the mitigation of global warming in the context of sustainable development</b> . In addition, the Bali Action Plan envisaged enhanced actions on adaptation, technology development and on the provision financial resources, as well as measures against deforestation.
Cancun Agreement	The agreements reached on December 11 in Cancun, Mexico, at the 2010 <b>United Nations Climate Change Conference</b> represent key steps forward in capturing plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to help developing nations protect themselves from climate impacts and build their own sustainable futures.
The Copenhagen Agreement	The Copenhagen Agreement is a document that delegates at the 15th session of the Conference of Parties (COP 15) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

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**Q.7) According to “United Nations Convention on The Law of Seas (UNCLOS)”. Consider the following:**

1. Territorial waters are up to 12 nautical miles.
2. Contiguous Zone is up to 35 nautical miles from the shore
3. The coastal nation has sole exploitation rights over all natural resources in Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ).

**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.7) Solution (b)**

The contiguous zone extends up to **24 nautical** miles from the shore. In a contiguous zone coastal nations can exercise their rights in four areas: customs, taxation, immigration and pollution.

In Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), which extends up to 200 nautical mile, the coastal nations have exclusive right to exploit the resources. International vessels are free to cross these waters without any restriction.

**Q.8) TRAFFIC, The Wildlife Trade Monitoring Network is a joint conservation programme of?**

- a) WWF and IUCN
- b) UNEP and IPCC
- c) WWF and UNDP
- d) UNEP and UNCBD

**Q.8) Solution (a)**

- TRAFFIC, the wildlife trade monitoring network, is a joint program of WWF and IUCN
- TRAFFIC works to ensure that trade in wild plants and animals is not a threat to the conservation of nature.
- TRAFFIC focuses on leveraging resources, expertise and awareness of the latest globally urgent species trade issues such as tiger parts, elephant ivory and rhino horn.

**Q.9) The decisions on REDD+ enumerate some "eligible activities" that developing countries may implement to reduce emissions and enhance removals of greenhouse gases. Identify the activities**

1. Reducing emissions from deforestation
2. Reducing emissions from land degradation
3. Conservation of forest carbon stocks
4. Enhancement of forest carbon stocks
5. Sustainable management of non-renewable energy

**Choose correct option from below:**

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

**Q.9) Solution (b)**

Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries (REDD+) encourages developing countries to contribute to climate change mitigation in the forest sector through the following activities:

- Reducing emissions from deforestation
- Reducing emissions from forest degradation
- Conservation of forest carbon stocks
- Sustainable management of forests
- Enhancement of forest carbon stocks

**Q.10) Readiness for Investment in Sustainable Energy (RISE) is developed by?**

- a) International Energy Agency
- b) International Monetary Fund
- c) United Nations Development Programme
- d) World Bank Group

**Q.10) Solution (d)**

Readiness for Investment in Sustainable Energy (RISE), developed by the World Bank Group, is a suite of indicators that **assesses the legal and regulatory environment for investment** in sustainable energy. It establishes a framework for better depicting the national enabling environment to attract investment into sustainable energy.

RISE is aimed at policymakers who focus on actions within their control. Creating this environment is directed by policymakers—the primary constituency RISE aims to influence. RISE supports the achievement of the objectives of the Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL) initiative.

**Q.11) Consider the following statements regarding National Mission on Sustainable Habitats:**

1. It is one of the missions under National Action Plan on Climate Change.
2. It aims to make cities sustainable through improvements in energy efficiency
3. The mission works on development of green corridors to connect protected areas of India.

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

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

**Q.11) Solution (a)**

The National Mission on Sustainable Habitat is one of the missions under National Action Plan on Climate Change and aims to make cities sustainable through improvements in energy efficiency in buildings, management of solid waste & shift to public transport.

**Q.12) World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) is a flagship initiative by**

- a) Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

- b) The Energy and Resources Institute's (TERI)
- c) UNESCO
- d) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

**Q.12) Solution (b)**

The World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS), TERI's flagship event, has been conceptualized as a single platform to accelerate action towards sustainable development and especially climate change. It is the leading forum for discussing sustainable development issues.

**Q.13) The term "Arribada" is related with?**

- a) Ecological Niche
- b) Ecosystem efficiency
- c) Pollution Index
- d) Mass nesting of turtles

**Q.13) Solution (d)**

The Olive Ridley Turtles are one of the smallest and most abundant of all sea turtles found in the world, inhabiting warm waters of the Pacific, Atlantic and Indian oceans.

- These turtles, along with their cousin, Kemp's Ridley turtle, are best known for their unique **mass nesting called Arribada**, where thousands of females come together on the same beach to lay eggs.
- IUCN Red list: Vulnerable; CITES: Appendix 1, CMS: Appendix 1.

**Q.14) Consider the following statements:**

1. Important Bird Area (IBA) was developed and sites are identified by BirdLife International.
2. Not all animals migrate by choice is launched by UN Environment India and Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB)
3. Sambhar is largest inland saltwater lake in India and also important Ramsar site

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

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

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

Statement-1: correct	Statement-2: correct	Statement-3: correct
An Important BIRD and Biodiversity Area (IBA) is an area identified using an internationally agreed set of criteria as being globally important for the conservation of BIRD populations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IBA was developed and sites are identified by BirdLife International.</li> </ul>	UN Environment India and Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) of India launched an awareness campaign 'Not all animals migrate by choice' to be displayed at major airports across the country	Sambhar is largest inland saltwater lake situated in Rajasthan. It has been designated as wetland of international importance under Ramsar Convention

**Q.15) With reference to homeostasis, consider the following statements:**

1. It refers to the maintenance of the constancy of an organism's internal environment despite varying external environmental conditions
2. Only mammals are capable of maintaining homeostasis.

**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.15) Solution (a)**

- The maintaining of the constancy of an organism's internal environment despite varying external environmental conditions is called homeostasis.
- An overwhelming majority (99 per cent) of animals and nearly all plants cannot maintain a constant internal environment. Their body temperature changes with the ambient temperature. Hence homeostasis is important for them

**Q.16) Consider the following statements:**

1. While eurythermal organisms are those organisms which can survive in a wide range of temperatures, stenothermal organisms are restricted to a narrow range of temperatures.
2. While all vertebrates are stenothermal, all invertebrates are eurythermal.

**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.16) Solution (b)**

Statement-1: correct	Statement-2: incorrect
Based on temperature tolerance, different groups of organisms are defined. Among them, eurythermal and stenothermal animals are two categories. Eurythermal animals are able to tolerate a wide range of temperature levels. Stenothermal animals are those which can tolerate a narrow range of temperature levels.	all stenothermal organisms are not necessarily vertebrates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• stenothermal animals include a penguin, python, crocodile</li> </ul>

**Q.17) An Ecological Pyramid is a diagrammatic presentation to describe trophic levels. How does the knowledge of Ecological Pyramid can help us in conservation of an ecosystem?**

1. It helps us in recognizing the keystone species.
2. It helps us to identify bioaccumulation
3. It helps us to identify biomagnifications.
4. It helps us recognize Invasive species

**Choose correct option from below:**



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

**Q.17) Solution (a)**

In order to take appropriate steps to preserve an ecosystem we must know the trophic levels of the ecosystem, by this we will be able to find out the keystone species. Through the study of the trophic levels, we will be able to know the impact of biomagnifications and bioaccumulation in that ecosystem and take corrective measures.

Invasive species are just one of species in trophic levels, which cannot be identified using ecological pyramid

**Q.18) Which one of the following is the best description of the term 'standing crop' in ecology?**

- a) It is the mass of living material at a particular time in each trophic level
- b) It is the amount of biomass of a forest
- c) It is the number of primary producers in an ecosystem
- d) It is the total amount of energy produced in a food chain.

**Q.18) Solution (a)**

In an ecosystem, total mass of living matter at a trophic level in an area at any time is called standing crop. It indicates the total biomass of an ecosystem.

Each trophic level has a certain mass of living material at a particular time called as the standing crop. The standing crop is measured as the mass of living organisms (biomass) or the number in a unit area. The biomass of a species is expressed in terms of fresh or dry weight

**Q.19) The ecological footprint is a measure of human demand on the Earth's ecosystems. It measures?**

1. How much of the biological capacity of the planet is demanded by a given human activity or population
2. Ecological Footprints is calculated for overall activity of a nation or population and activities such as industrialization etc.
3. The disadvantage of Ecological Footprint is that it cannot be calculated for individual people or area

**Choose correct option from below:**

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

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

- The Ecological Footprint is a resource accounting tool that measures how much biologically productive land and sea is used by a given population or activity, and compares this to how much land and sea is available. Productive land and sea areas support human demands for food, fibre, timber, energy, and space for infrastructure.
- Ecological Footprint accounts answer a specific research question: how much of the biological capacity of the planet is demanded by a given human activity or population\
- Ecological Footprints can be calculated for individual people, groups of people (such as a nation), and activities (such as manufacturing a product).

**Q.20) The Term “Bio-Mining is recently seen in news, it refers to?**

- Extraction of minerals using enzymes
- Use of genetic information of ores to extract minerals from microbes
- Use of biomedical devices in the recovery of minerals from ores
- Use of microorganisms in the recovery of minerals from ores

**Q.20) Solution (d)**

Biomining is an approach to the extraction of desired minerals from ores.

Microorganisms are used to leach out the minerals, rather than the traditional methods of extreme heat or toxic chemicals, which have a deleterious effect on the environment.

**In news:** <http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Tiruchirapalli/Bio-mining-helps-in-tackling-garbage-problem/article16438953.ece>

**Q.21) Pollution is defined as an addition or excessive addition of certain materials to the physical environment. With reference to this consider the following statements:**

- Primary pollutants persist in the form in which they are added to the environment
- Secondary Pollutants are formed by interaction among the primary pollutants.
- Qualitative Pollutants do not occur in nature and are man-made

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

- 1 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 2 and 3 only
- None of the above

**Q.21) Solution (d)**

Types of pollutants	Characteristics
Primary pollutants	These persist in the form in which they are added to the environment e.g. DDT, plastic.
Secondary Pollutants	These are formed by interaction among the primary pollutants. For example, peroxyacetyl nitrate (PAN)
Quantitative Pollutants	These occur in nature and become pollutant when their concentration reaches beyond a threshold level. E.g. carbon dioxide, nitrogen oxide.
Qualitative Pollutants	These do not occur in nature and are man-made. E.g. fungicides, herbicides, DDT etc

**Q.22) Indian cities are reeling under multiple problems, including environmental issues. What are the major causes of pollution in Indian cities?**

1. Crop burning
2. Vehicular emission
3. Poor waste management
4. Loss of tree cover
5. Construction activities

**Choose correct option from below:**

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

**Q.22) Solution (d)**

In 2016, a World Health Organisation (WHO) study found that fourteen of the twenty world's most polluted cities belonged to India.

- The sources of pollution are multiple. Vehicular emissions, crop burning, generation of dust- particularly from construction sites, depleting tree covers and poor waste management – all contribute towards the pollution in Indian cities

**Q.23) Consider the following statements with respect to short lived climate pollutants (SLCP)**

1. The main short-lived climate pollutants are black carbon, methane, tropospheric ozone, and fluorinated gases
2. SLCP'S contribute very less to climate change per molecule emitted as compared to Greenhouse gases

**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.23) Solution (a)**

Statement-1: correct	Statement-2: Incorrect
The most significant short-lived climate	Due to SLCP'S immense contributions to

pollutants are black carbon, methane, tropospheric ozone, and fluorinated gases due to their atmospheric impacts. They primarily come from fossil fuel production and combustion.

climate change per molecule emitted, reducing short-lived climate pollutants can be very cost-effective. Actions taken in the immediate future to address them could slow the planet's warming 0.6 degrees by mid-century

**Q.24) Climate change performance Index is issued by?**

- IPCCC
- UNFCCC
- Germanwatch
- UNEP

**Q.24) Solution (c)**

Recently, India has been ranked 14th in Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI).

- It is issued by Germanwatch, the New Climate Institute, and the Climate Action Network.
- Countries are ranked across four categories — Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Renewable Energy, Energy Use, and Climate Policy.

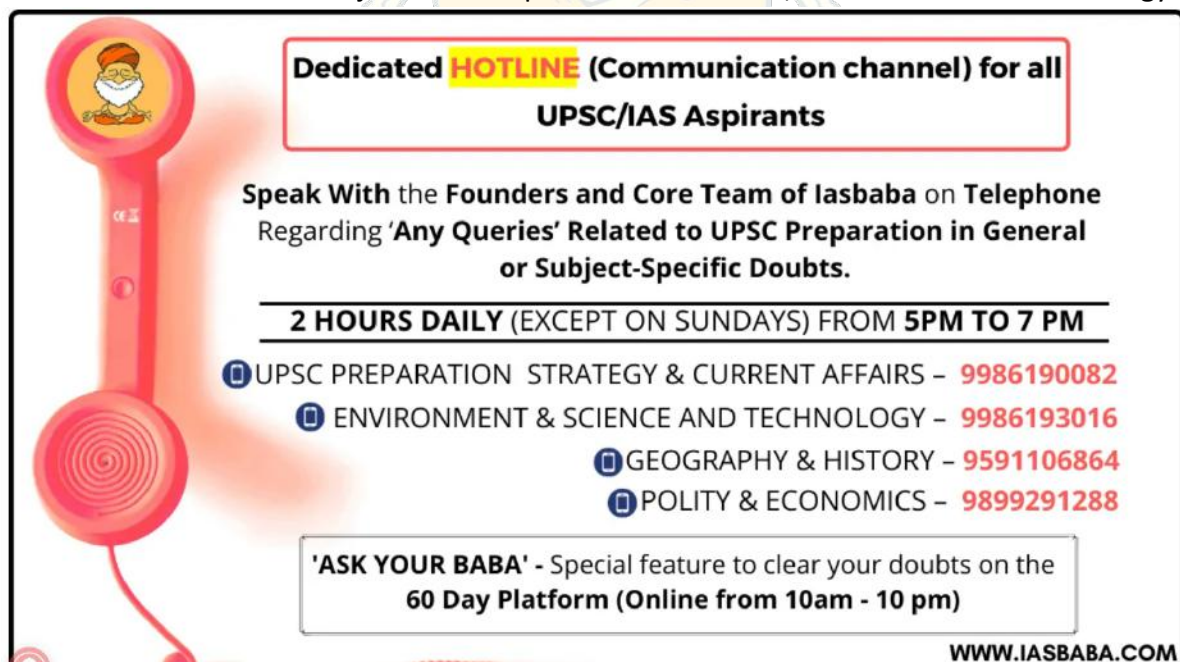
**Q.25) Sahara forest project (SFP) is related with?**

- Rejuvenation of degraded forest in Africa
- combating desertification and development
- Reversing Coral bleaching
- Livelihood programme for Saharan Tribes

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

Desertification refers to the land degradation in arid, semi-arid and sub-humid areas resulting from various factors, including climatic variations and human activities.

- The Sahara Forest Project aims to provide fresh water, food and renewable energy in



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hot, arid regions as well as re-vegetating areas of uninhabited desert.

**Q.26) Consider the following statements in the context of UNFCCC summits**

1. The Ocean Pathway was successfully launched in COP23 in Bonn with a strategy for 2020 supporting the goals of the Paris Agreement
2. Fiji Momentum for Implementation outlined the steps that need to be taken in 2018 to make the Paris Agreement operational
3. Talanoa dialogue is a facilitative dialogue among Parties to take stock of the collective efforts of Parties in relation to Paris agreement

**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.26) Solution (d)**

Fiji momentum	Talanoa dialogue
COP23 concluded with what was called the 'Fiji Momentum for Implementation,' which outlined the steps that need to be taken in 2018 to make the Paris Agreement operational	a process designed to help countries enhance and implement their Nationally Determined Contributions by 2020

**The ocean pathway:** The Ocean Pathway was successfully launched in COP23 in Bonn with a two track strategy for 2020 supporting the goals of the Paris Agreement that includes;

1. Increasing the role of the ocean considerations in the UNFCCC process and;
2. Significantly increasing action in priority areas impacting or impacted by ocean and climate change.

**Q.27) The first ever Gender Action Plan (GAP) is related to?**

- a) UNFCCC
- b) Lima work programmes
- c) Sustainable development goals
- d) Both a and b

**Q.27) Solution (d)**

At COP 25 Parties agreed a 5-year enhanced Lima work programme on gender and its gender action plan

**GAP priority areas:**

The enhanced gender action plan sets out objectives and activities under five priority areas that aim to advance knowledge and understanding of gender-responsive climate action and its coherent mainstreaming in the implementation of the UNFCCC and the work of Parties, the secretariat, United Nations entities and all stakeholders at all levels, as well as women's full, equal and meaningful participation in the UNFCCC process

**Q.28) Consider the following statements with respect to Mission Innovation (MI)**

1. MI is a global initiative working to accelerate clean energy innovation
2. MI seeks to double investments in clean energy innovation over five years.
3. Ministry of forest and climate change is nodal agency of this mission in India

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

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

**Q.28) Solution (b)**

- Mission Innovation (MI) is a global initiative of 24 countries and the European Commission (on behalf of the European Union) working to reinvigorate and accelerate global clean energy innovation with the objective to make clean energy widely affordable.
- Department of Biotechnology (DBT) under Ministry of Science & Technology is nodal agency coordinating and steering activities of Mission Innovation (MI) in India

**Q.29) Recently, new Moth species has been discovered in this wildlife sanctuary, it lies between subansiri, sipu and Pange Rivers. Both sub-tropical and temperate vegetation is found here and it is also one of home to clouded leopard.**

The above description is of which wildlife sanctuary?

- a) Pakke wildlife reserve
- b) Talle wildlife reserve
- c) Manas Park
- d) Kaziranga Park

**Q.29) Solution (b)**

Recently, new Moth species has been discovered in Talle Wildlife Sanctuary in Arunachal Pradesh. The scientific name of moth is *ElcysmaZiroensis*, and commonly called Apatani Glory, named after a local tribe called Apatani

**Talle Wildlife Sanctuary:**

- It lies roughly in between the Subansiri, Sipu and Pange Rivers.
- Sub-tropical broad leafed, temperate broad leafed and temperate conifer types of vegetation are found here
- It is one of the home for clouded leopard (Vulnerable IUCN status).

**Q.30) Red Sanders are in news for smuggling across borders. With reference to this consider the following statements:**

1. Red Sanders is an endemic tree of South India.
2. They are found in Tropical Dry Deciduous Forest of the Nilgiri hill ranges
3. IUCN has put it under the category of endangered species

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

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

**Q.30) Solution (a)**

Red Sanders:

- Red Sanders is an endemic tree of South India.

- They are found in Tropical Dry Deciduous **Forest of the Palakonda and Seshachalam hill** ranges of Andhra Pradesh and also found in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.
- Red Sanders usually grows in the rocky, degraded and fallow lands with Red Soil and hot and dry climate.
- IUCN has put it under the category of endangered species in the Red List due to the dwindling population because of illegal felling and smuggling

**Q.31) Secure Himalaya project is launched by?**

1. UNEP
2. UNDP
3. MOEFCCC
4. IUCN

**Choose correct option from below:**

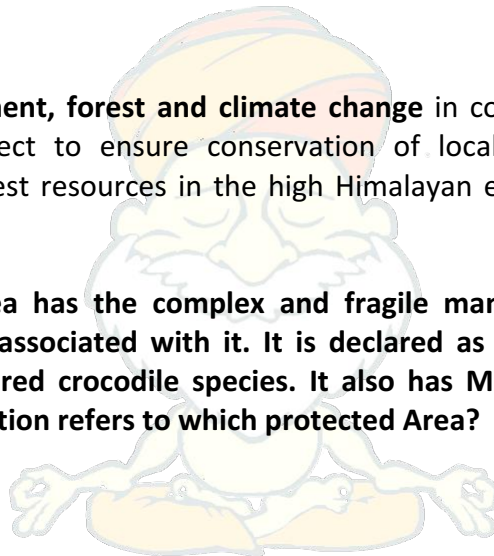
- a) 2 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) All of the above.

**Q.31) Solution (c)**

The **Ministry of Environment, forest and climate change** in collaboration with **UNDP** has launched a six-year project to ensure conservation of locally and globally significant biodiversity, land and forest resources in the high Himalayan ecosystem spread over four states in India.

**Q.32) This protected Area has the complex and fragile mangrove ecosystem and the endangered flora, fauna associated with it. It is declared as Ramsar site and is one of largest home to endangered crocodile species. It also has Marine sanctuary associated with it. The above description refers to which protected Area?**

- a) Chambal Basin
- b) Bhitarkanika
- c) Kolleru lake
- d) Sunderbans



**Q.32) Solution (b)**

About Bhitarkanika:

- Bhitarkanika is a unique habitat of Mangrove Forests crisscrossed with numerous creeks and mud flats located in Kendrapara district of Orissa.
- It is located in the estuary of Brahmani, Baitarani, Dhamra & Mahanadi river systems.
- The wetland is represented by as many as 3 protected Areas, namely “The Bhitarkanika National Park”, “The Bhitarkanika Wildlife Sanctuary” and “The Gahirmatha Marine Sanctuary”.
- Bhitarkanika is said to house 70% of India’s estuarine or salt water crocodiles whose conservation started in 1975.

**Q.33) Consider the following statements with respect to Biodiversity Heritage sites:**

1. They are well defined areas that are unique, ecologically fragile Inland water ecosystems only

2. Ameenpur Lake became the first water body in the country to be declared a Biodiversity Heritage Site.
3. Under the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 (BDA) the State Government in consultation with local bodies notifies Biodiversity Heritage Sites (BHS)

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

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

**Q.33) Solution (c)**

Biodiversity Heritage Site (BHS):

- They are well defined areas that are unique, ecologically fragile ecosystems - terrestrial, coastal and inland waters and, marine having rich biodiversity and other social, economic, cultural and ecological values
- Recently, Ameenpur Lake became the first water body in the country to be declared a Biodiversity Heritage Site. It is located on the western fringes of Hyderabad in Telangana state.
- Under the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 (BDA) the State Government in consultation with local bodies notifies Biodiversity Heritage Sites (BHS). Further, the State Government in consultation with the Central Government may frame rules for the management and conservation of BHS.

**Q.34) Recently government of India has brought new Wetland conservation rules, in this respect consider the following statements:**

1. Under the new rules, the central government has empowered the states and union territories to identify and manage their wetlands.
2. Central Wetlands Regulatory Authority (CWRA) replaced National Wetlands Committee
3. This new rules are applicable only to Wetlands categorised as 'wetlands of international importance' under the Ramsar Convention

**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.34) Solution (a)**

Recently, Central government notified Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017.

Some Provision under the new rules:

- Definition of wetlands: They are defined as “an area of marsh, fen, peatland or water; whether natural or artificial, permanent or temporary, with water that is static or flowing, fresh, brackish or salt, including areas of marine water the depth of which at low tide does not exceed six metres
- Under the new rules, the central government has empowered the states and union territories to identify and manage their wetlands.



- Setting Up National Wetlands Committee: it will replace Central Wetlands Regulatory Authority (CWRA), to monitor implementation of these rules and advise the Central Government on appropriate policies and action programmes for conservation and wise use of wetlands
- These rules shall apply to the following wetlands- Wetlands categorised as 'wetlands of international importance' under the Ramsar Convent and Wetlands as notified by the Central Government, State Government and Union Territory Administration

**Q.35) Consider the following statements with respect to PERMACULTURE:**

1. It is the conscious design and maintenance of agriculturally productive ecosystems
2. It incorporates traditional farming practices with modern technological and scientific knowledge to create efficient systems.

**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.35) Solution (c)**

**Permaculture:**

- It is the conscious design and maintenance of agriculturally productive ecosystems which have the diversity, stability, and resilience of natural ecosystems.
- It is the harmonious integration of landscape and people — providing their food, energy, shelter, and other material and non-material needs in a sustainable way.
- The term was coined by Bill Mollison in 1978.
- Environment friendly: It discourages uses of chemical and pesticide and promotes the uses of eco-friendly means to maintain soil health and increase productivity.
- Promotion of Traditional practice: It incorporates traditional farming practices with modern technological and scientific knowledge to create efficient systems. It can also reduce the dependency of farmers on multi-national companies for genetically modified seeds.

**Q.36) With respect to the Boreal biome, consider the following statements:**

1. Soils in the Boreal ecosystem are acidic and poor in nutrients.
2. The southern most part of the boreal ecosystem is flanked by tree line.

**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.36) Solution (a)**

1. The tree line is the edge of the habitat at which trees are capable of growing. It is found at high elevations and high latitudes. Beyond the tree line, trees cannot tolerate the environmental conditions. It occurs at the northern flank of the taiga ecosystem. Beyond the tree line, tundra ecosystem is present
2. Soils in the boreal forest are typically podzols, gray soils that are thin, acidic, and poor

in nutrients. These soils lie beneath a mat of coniferous tree needles and other organic material that accumulates due to the slow decomposition rates and limited soil microorganism activity that occurs in the cold climate.

**Q.37) The term stratification in Ecology refers to?**

- Vertical zones in an aquatic ecosystem with varying levels of salinity.
- Arrangement of essential minerals in the soil.
- Decrease in populations of species down a food chain
- Vertical distribution of different species occupying different levels.

**Q.37) Solution (d)**

The vertical distribution of different species occupying different levels is called stratification. For example, trees occupy top vertical strata or layer of a forest, shrubs the second and herbs and grasses occupy the bottom layers.

**Q.38) consider the following statements with reference to Ecotypes:**

- Ecotypes differ from each other on the basis of morphological and physiological characters.
- Different ecotypes of a species are inter- fertile

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

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

**Q.38) Solution (c)**

- Species having a wide range of distribution evolve genetically adapted local populations, called ecotypes. Ecotypes differ from each other on the basis of morphological and physiological characters
- Ecotypes are inter-fertile. Though the different ecotypes of a species are morphologically and genetically distinct, yet because of their inter-fertility, they are put into one taxonomic species

**Q.39) Room Of The River Project is recently seen in News, It is related with?**

- Hydro power generation
- Wetland conservation
- Flood mitigation
- Dam safety

**Q.39) Solution (c)**

In News: One of the flagship projects of the Netherland government, “Room of the river” is to be replicated in Kerala’s Kuttanad, which remained submerged for weeks during Kerala floods.

- It is a flood mitigation initiative which is aimed at protecting areas adjoining rivers from routine flooding and improving water management systems in delta regions.
- Key concept behind the project: To provide more space for the water body so that it can manage extraordinary high-water levels during floods. The project involves tailor-

made solutions for each River.

**Q.40) Consider the following statements:**

1. Sumatran Rhino is the only Asian Rhino with two horns.
2. Sumatran Rhino's IUCN status is Critically Endangered
3. The Sumatran rhino has become extinct in Malaysia

**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.40) Solution (d)**

The Sumatran rhino has become extinct in Malaysia after the last remaining individual died on November 23, 2019, due to natural causes.

- It is the smallest of all rhino species and one of the most endangered land mammals on the planet.
- It is the only Asian Rhino with two horns.
- Its IUCN status is Critically Endangered.
- Earlier, it has occurred in the parts of Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, India, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam.
- Now, it exists only in four isolated regions of rainforests on the Indonesian islands of Sumatra and Borneo.

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