

ForumIAS

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## Prelims Marathon

21<sup>st</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> November, 2022

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*HISTORY*  
*ECONOMICS*  
*POLITY*  
*SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY*  
*GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT*

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FORUMIAS



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## *Environment*

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**Q.1) Who among the following is the competent authority to declare certain areas as wildlife sanctuaries?**

- a) Central Government
- b) State Government
- c) National Green Tribunal
- d) Gram Sabha

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The Wild Life (Protection) Act of 1972 provided for the declaration of certain areas by the State Government as wildlife sanctuaries if the area was thought to be of adequate ecological, geo-morphological and natural significance.

**Source:** SHANKAR IAS Environment

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

1. National Parks enjoy a greater degree of protection than sanctuaries.
2. Certain activities which are regulated in sanctuaries, such as grazing of livestock, are prohibited in National Parks.

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** National Parks enjoy a greater degree of protection than sanctuaries. Certain activities which are regulated in sanctuaries, such as grazing of livestock, are prohibited in National Parks. Wildlife sanctuary can be created for a particular species (for e.g. grizzled giant squirrel w.l.s in srivalliputhur) whereas the national park is not primarily focused on a particular species.

**Source:** SHANKAR IAS Environment

**Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding “the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme”:**

1. It is an Intergovernmental Scientific Programme.
2. It proposes an interdisciplinary research agenda and capacity building that target the ecological, social and economic dimensions of biodiversity loss and the reduction of this loss.

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme is an Intergovernmental Scientific Programme aiming to set a scientific basis for the improvement of the relationships between people and their environment globally.

- Launched in the early 1970s, it proposes an interdisciplinary research agenda and capacity building that target the ecological, social and economic dimensions of biodiversity loss and the reduction of this loss.
- Concerned with problems at the interface of scientific, environmental, societal and development issues, MAB combines natural and social sciences, economics and education to improve human livelihoods and safeguard natural ecosystems, thus promoting innovative approaches to economic development that is socially and culturally appropriate and environmentally sustainable.
- The agenda of the MAB Programme is defined by its main governing body, the International Coordinating Council in concentration with the broader MAB Community.
- For implementation of its interdisciplinary work onground, MAB relies on the World Network of Biosphere Reserves, and on thematic networks and partnerships for knowledge-sharing, research and monitoring, education and training, and participatory decision making.

**Source:** SHANKAR IAS Environment

**Q.4) Which of the following is/are biodiversity hotspots of India?**

1. The Himalayas
2. Indo- Burma
3. The western Ghats

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** There are 4 biodiversity hot spots present in India.

They are:

1. The Himalayas
2. Indo- Burma and
3. The western Ghats & Sri Lanka

4. Sunderland

**Source:** SHANKAR IAS Environment

**Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding project tiger:**

1. It was launched on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1973.
2. It has been the largest species conservation initiative of its kind in the world.
3. The National Tiger Conservation Authority addresses the ecological as well as administrative concerns for conserving tigers, by providing a statutory basis for protection of tiger reserves.

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The Govt. of India had launched “Project Tiger” on 1st April 1973 to promote conservation of the tiger. Project Tiger has been the largest species conservation initiative of its kind in the world.

- While the field implementation of the project, protection and management in the designated reserves is done by the project States, who also provide the matching grant to recurring items of expenditure, deploy field staff/officers, and give their salaries, the Project Tiger Directorate of the Ministry of Environment and Forests was mandated with the task of providing technical guidance and funding support.
- Considering the urgency of the situation, Project Tiger has been converted into a statutory authority (NTCA) by providing enabling provisions in the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 through an amendment, viz. Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Act, 2006.
- This forms one of the urgent recommendations of the Tiger Task Force appointed by the Prime Minister.
- The NTCA addresses the ecological as well as administrative concerns for conserving tigers, by providing a statutory basis for protection of tiger reserves, apart from providing strengthened institutional mechanisms for the protection of ecologically sensitive areas and endangered species.
- The Authority also ensures enforcing of guidelines for tiger conservation and monitoring compliance of the same, apart from placement of motivated and trained officers having good track record as Field Directors of tiger reserves. It also facilitates capacity building of officers and staff posted in tiger reserves, apart from a time bound staff development plan.
- The Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Act, 2006 has come into force with effect from the 4th of September, 2006, and the NTCA has also been constituted on the same date.

**Source:** <https://www.tigernet.nic.in/aboutntca.html>

**Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding project elephant:**

1. It was launched in February, 1992 as centrally sponsored scheme.
2. States are being given only financial assistance in achieving the objectives of the Project.

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

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Project Elephant was launched in February, 1992 as centrally sponsored scheme to assist states having free ranging populations of wild elephants and to ensure long term survival of identified viable populations of elephants in their natural habitats.

- The Project is being mainly implemented in 13 States / UTs , viz. Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Uttaranchal, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. Small support is also being given to Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh.
- States are being given financial as well as technical assistance in achieving the objectives of the Project.
- Help is also provided to other states with small populations of elephants for the purpose of census, training of field staff and mitigation of human-elephant conflict.

**Source:** SHANKAR IAS Environment

**Q.7) “MIKE” programme is often seen in news is related to?**

- a) Elephant
- b) Tiger
- c) Butterflies
- d) Lions

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Monitoring of Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE) Programme: Mandated by COP resolution of CITES, MIKE program started in South Asia in the year 2003 with following purpose is:

To provide information needed for elephant range States to make appropriate management and enforcement decisions, and to build institutional capacity within the range States for the long-term management of their elephant populations.

**Source:** SHANKAR IAS Environment

**Q.8) “Dachigam National Park” is often seen in news is located at?**

- a) Himachal Pradesh
- b) Arunachal Pradesh
- c) Jammu & Kashmir
- d) Punjab

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Dachigam National Park is located 22 km (kilometer) from Srinagar in Jammu and Kashmir. It covers an area of 141 sq km (square kilometer).

## **PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER (FOURTH WEEK), 2022**

- The name literally stands for ‘ten villages’, which could be in memory of the ten villages that were relocated in order to create the park.
- Dachigam was initially established to ensure the supply of clean drinking water to Srinagar city. A protected area since 1910, it was declared as a national park in 1981.
- The park is best known as the home of the hangul, or Kashmir stag. Dachigam is open throughout the year, but the best time to visit is between April and August.
- The closest airport is at Srinagar. Habitat to Kashmir Stag: Only area where Kashmir stag is found.

**Source:** <https://srinagar.nic.in/tourist-place/dachigam-national-park/>

### **Q.9) Consider the following statements:**

1. Dolphins are listed in schedule I of wildlife protection act, 1972.
2. The Ministry of Environment and Forests notified the Ganges River Dolphin as the National Aquatic Animal.

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Dolphins are animals of aquatic ecosystems. They are found in the sea, brackish water and fresh water.

- A total of 15 species of marine and harbour dolphins have been reported from Indian waters and coasts. Besides, the Irrawady Dolphins are found in brackish waters of Odisha.
- Amongst the fresh water dolphins, the Gangetic Dolphin is found in the Ganges river and its tributaries. Apart from this, Indus River Dolphins have also been reported in Indus River in Punjab.
- All fresh water, brackish water and marine Dolphins (Cetaceans) are listed in Schedule-I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, thereby according them the highest degree of protection against hunting.
- Gangetic Dolphin is one of the 17 species identified for taking up ‘Recovery programme of Critically Endangered Species, under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of ‘Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitat’.
- The Ministry of Environment and Forests notified the Ganges River Dolphin as the National Aquatic Animal.
- The River Dolphin inhabits the Ganges-BrahmaputraMeghna and Karnaphuli-Sangu river **systems of Nepal, India, and Bangladesh.**

**Source:** SHANKAR IAS Environment

**Q.10) “Kazinag National Park” is located at?**

- a) Jammu & Kashmir
- b) Assam
- c) Nagaland
- d) Tripura

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Kazinag National Park is situated in north bank of Jhelum close to Line of Control in Baramulla district about 70 km away from the capital city of Srinagar.

- Climate:- Kazinag is a temperate system, with warm summers and cold winters, and a temperature range of -20 to +30°C.
- Precipitation is mainly in the form of snow in winter and rains in early spring with occasional showers during summer.
- Four distinct seasons can be classified during a year, viz. Spring, summer, Autumn and Winter.

**Source:** <http://jkwildlife.com/wild/Files/discover/kazinag.asp>

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## *Environment – Environmental Pollution*

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**Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding carbon monoxide:**

1. It is a colorless, odorless gas that is produced by the incomplete burning of carbon-based fuels.
2. It is also produced from the combustion of natural and synthetic products such as cigarettes.

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Carbon monoxide (CO):

It is a colourless, odourless gas that is produced by the incomplete burning of carbon-based fuels including petrol, diesel, and wood.

- It is also produced from the combustion of natural and synthetic products such as cigarettes.
- It lowers the amount of oxygen that enters our blood.

**Source:** SHANKAR IAS Environment

**Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding “Ozone”:**

1. It occurs naturally in the upper layers of the atmosphere.
2. Vehicles and industries are the major source of ground level ozone emissions.

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** It occurs naturally in the upper layers of the atmosphere. This important gas shields the earth from the harmful ultraviolet rays of the sun.

- However, at the ground level, it is a pollutant with highly toxic effects. Vehicles and industries are the major source of groundlevel ozone emissions.
- Ozone makes our eyes itch, burn, and water. It lowers our resistance to cold and pneumonia.

**Source:** SHANKAR IAS Environment



**Q.3) Which of the following pollutant/s is/are released due to burning of fossil fuels?**

1. Carbon dioxide
2. Hydro carbons
3. Suspended particulate matter

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:**

Name Of Pollutant	Sources	Health Effects
Sulphur Oxides	Thermal power plants and industries	Eye and throat irritation, cough, allergies, impairs enzyme function in respiratory system. Reduces exchange of gases from lung surface.
Nitrogen Oxides	Thermal power plant, industries and vehicles	Irritation and inflammation of lungs, breathlessness, impairs enzyme function in respiratory system and causes bronchitis and asthma.
Suspended Particulate Matter (SOM)	Vehicular emissions and burning of fossil fuels	Lung irritation reduces development of RBC and cause pulmonary malfunctioning.
Carbon Monoxide	Vehicular emissions and burning of fossil fuels	Difficulty in breathing, severe headaches, irritation to mucous membrane, unconsciousness and death
Carbon Dioxide	Burning of fossil fuels	Impairs reflexes, judgment and vision, severe headaches and heart strain.
Smog	Industries and vehicular pollution	Respiratory problems and intense irritation to the eyes.
Ozone	Automobile emissions	Breathlessness, asthma, wheezing, chest pain, emphysema and chronic bronchitis.
Chlorofluorocarbons	Refrigerators, sprays, emissions from jets	Depletion of stratospheric ozone layer, global warming.
Hydrocarbons	Burning of fossil fuels	Carcinogenic effect on lungs, kidney damage, hypertension, respiratory distress, irritation of eyes, nose and throat, asthma, bronchitis and impairs enzyme function in respiratory system.

**Source:** SHANKAR IAS Environment

**Q.4) Which of the following pollutant/s is/are has been identified for regular monitoring under National Air Quality Monitoring Programme?**

1. Sulfur dioxide
2. Oxides of nitrogen
3. Fine Particulate Matter

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Under N.A.M.P., four air pollutants viz ., Sulphur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), Oxides of

## **PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER (FOURTH WEEK), 2022**

Nitrogen as NO<sub>2</sub>, Respirable Suspended Particulate Matter (RSPM / PM<sub>10</sub>) and Fine Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) have been identified for regular monitoring at all the locations. The monitoring of meteorological parameters such as wind speed and wind direction, relative humidity (RH) and temperature were also integrated with the monitoring of air quality.

**Source:** <https://cpcb.nic.in/about-namp>

**Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding air quality index (AQI):**

1. It is a color coded index was launched in 2014.
2. There are six categories in AQI.

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** AQI is a number, which is a measure of air quality. The higher the AQI, the worse the air.

- After staying above 450 for a couple of days, the AQI in Delhi on Sunday had come down to around 320.
- The colour-coded AQI index was launched in India in 2014, and it helps the public and the government understands the condition of the air and what subsequent measures are to be taken to combat the situation, based on its severity.
- There are six categories of AQI, namely 'Good' (0-50), 'Satisfactory' (50-100), 'moderately polluted' (100-200), 'Poor' (200-300), 'Very Poor' (300-400), and 'Severe' (400-500).

**Source:** <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/everyday-explainers/what-is-aqi-delhi-air-pollution-8253034/>

**Q.6) "Putrescibility" process is related to which of the following?**

- a) Decomposition
- b) Hydrocarbons
- c) Solar Energy
- d) Bio pesticides

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Putrescibility is the process of decomposition of organic matter present in water by microorganisms using oxygen.

**Source:** SHANKAR IAS Environment

**Q.7) "MARPOL Convention" is related to which of the following?**

- a) Pollution from Ships
- b) Pollution from Automobiles
- c) Pollution from Bio fertilizers
- d) Pollution from radioactive substances

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) is the main international convention covering prevention of pollution of the marine environment by ships from operational or accidental causes.

## **PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER (FOURTH WEEK), 2022**

- The MARPOL Convention was adopted on 2 November 1973 at IMO. The Protocol of 1978 was adopted in response to a spate of tanker accidents in 1976-1977.
- As the 1973 MARPOL Convention had not yet entered into force, the 1978 MARPOL Protocol absorbed the parent Convention.
- The combined instrument entered into force on 2 October 1983. In 1997, a Protocol was adopted to amend the Convention and a new Annex VI was added which entered into force on 19 May 2005.

**Source:** [https://www.imo.org/en/About/Conventions/Pages/International-Convention-for-the-Prevention-of-Pollution-from-Ships-\(MARPOL\).aspx](https://www.imo.org/en/About/Conventions/Pages/International-Convention-for-the-Prevention-of-Pollution-from-Ships-(MARPOL).aspx)

### **Q.8) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) was established under?**

- a) The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974
- b) The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981
- c) The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986
- d) The National Environmental Tribunal Act, 1995

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), statutory organization, was constituted in September, 1974 under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. Further, CPCB was entrusted with the powers and functions under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

**Source:** <https://cpcb.nic.in/Introduction>

### **Q.9) “Minamata convention” is often seen in news is related to?**

- a) Cadmium
- b) Mercury
- c) Uranium
- d) Arsenic

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The Minamata Convention on Mercury is an international treaty designed to protect human health and the environment from anthropogenic emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds.

**Source:** <https://www.mercuryconvention.org/en>

### **Q.10) “Keibul Lamjao National Park” is often seen in news is located in which of the following state?**

- a) Manipur
- b) Nagaland
- c) Tripura
- d) Assam

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Manipur is the home of brow-antlered deer called "Sangai" (*Rucervus eldii eldii*), one of the endangered deer species in the world, now available only in Keibul Lamjao National Park of the State. It is also called as Manipur Dancing Deer.

**PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER (FOURTH WEEK), 2022**

- The National Park is located in the South-Eastern part of the Loktak Lake, which is the largest natural freshwater lake in North-East India.
- The unique floating biomass of vegetations, which forms meadows, locally called 'Phumdi' plays a crucial role as the habitat of Sangai.
- It has a combination of aquatic wetland and terrestrial eco-system. This National Park has also been declared as a Ramsar site.
- The Sangai was declared extinct in 1951 and then re-discovered at Keibul Lamjao in 1953. The first census of Sangai conducted in 1975, counted 14 heads only.
- Therefore, the Forest Department took initiative in 1975 and notified Keibul Lamjao National Park in 1977.
- With intensive in-situ conservation efforts by the Forest Department, the population has grown and as per the 2016 ground census, the population of Sangai has reached 260.

**Source:** <https://forest.manipurforest.gov.in/about-us>

## *Environment*

**Q.1) Which of the following document/s is/are part of United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED)?**

1. Rio Declaration on Environment and Development
2. Agenda 21
3. Forest principles

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) Also known as the Rio Summit, Rio Conference, Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992. The issues addressed included:

- Systematic scrutiny of patterns of production — particularly the production of toxic components, such as lead in gasoline, or poisonous waste including radioactive chemicals
- Alternative sources of energy to replace the use of fossil fuels which are linked to global climate change
- New reliance on public transportation systems in order to reduce vehicle emissions, congestion in cities and the health problems caused by polluted air and smog
- The growing scarcity of water

The Earth Summit resulted in the following documents:

- Rio Declaration on Environment and Development
- Agenda 21
- Forest Principles

**Source:** SHANKAR IAS Environment

**Q.2) Which of the following is/are goals of Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)?**

1. The conservation of biodiversity
2. Sustainable use of the components of biodiversity
3. Sharing the benefits arising from the commercial and other utilization of genetic resources in a fair and equitable way

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD): CBD is a legally binding Convention recognized for the first time, that the conservation of biological diversity is “a common concern

of humankind” and is an integral part of the development process. The agreement covers all ecosystems, species, and genetic resources.

Objectives: The conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and to technologies, and by appropriate funding.

Three main goals:

- The conservation of biodiversity
- Sustainable use of the components of biodiversity
- Sharing the benefits arising from the commercial and other utilization of genetic resources in a fair and equitable way

**Source:** SHANKAR IAS Environment

**Q.3) “Cartagena Protocol” is often seen in news is related to?**

- a) Bio safety
- b) Organic farming
- c) Solar Energy
- d) Ozone depleting substances

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Cartagena Protocol on Bio safety to the Convention on Biological Diversity Bio safety refers to the need to protect human health and the environment from the possible adverse effects of the products of modern biotechnology.

The Convention clearly recognizes these twin aspects of modern biotechnology.

- Access to and transfer of technologies
- Appropriate procedures to enhance the safety of biotechnology technologies.

**Source:** SHANKAR IAS Environment

**Q.4) “Aichi Targets” are often seen in news is related to?**

- a) Biodiversity
- b) Ozone depletion
- c) Coral Restoration
- d) Zero budget natural farming

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Aichi Biodiversity Targets are twenty actions adopted under 'Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020', which is a ten year framework for action by all countries and stakeholders to save biodiversity and enhance its benefits for people.

**Source:** <https://environmentandforest.assam.gov.in/information-services/aichi-targets-0>

**Q.5) “Waterfowl convention” is related to which of the following?**

- a) Benn convention
- b) Vienna convention
- c) Ramsar convention
- d) Stockholm convention

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Convention on Wetlands [waterfowl convention] is an intergovernmental treaty that provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources.

- It was adopted in the Iranian city of Ramsar in 1971 and came into force in 1975, and it is the only global environmental treaty that deals with a particular ecosystem.
- Ramsar is not affiliated with the United Nations system of Multilateral Environmental Agreements, but it works very closely with the other MEAs and is a full partner among the “biodiversity-related cluster” of treaties and agreements.

**Source:** SHANKAR IAS Environment

**Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)”:**

1. It is an international agreement between governments entered into force in 1975.
2. It is administered through the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** In the early 1960s, international discussion began focusing on the rate at which the world’s wild animals and plants were being threatened by unregulated international trade.

- The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) is an international agreement between governments entered into force in 1975, and became the only treaty to ensure that international trade in plants and animals does not threaten their survival in the wild. Currently 176 countries are Parties to CITES.
- CITES is administered through the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
- A Secretariat, located in Geneva, Switzerland, oversees the implementation of the treaty and assists with communications between countries.

**Source:** SHANKAR IAS Environment

**Q.7) “Bonn Convention” is often seen in news is related to?**

- a) Living modified organisms
- b) Migratory species
- c) Space debris
- d) Solar energy

**ANS: B**

**PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER (FOURTH WEEK), 2022**

**Explanation:** The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (also known as CMS or Bonn Convention) aims to conserve terrestrial, aquatic and avian migratory species throughout their range.

It is an intergovernmental treaty, concluded under the aegis of the United Nations Environment Programme, concerned with the conservation of wildlife and habitats on a global scale.

**Source:** SHANKAR IAS Environment

**Q.8) “Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants” is often seen in news is related to?**

- a) Rotterdam convention
- b) Basel convention
- c) Vienna convention
- d) Stockholm convention

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants was adopted at a Conference of Plenipotentiaries on 22 May 2001 in Stockholm, Sweden and entered into force on 17 May 2004.

**Source:** SHANKAR IAS Environment

**Q.9) “Bison National Park” is located in which of the following state?**

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Rajbari (Bison) National Park is a national park in the Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary, in Tripura, India. It covers an area of about 31.63 square kilometers.

**Source:** <https://forest.tripura.gov.in/forest-wildlife-resources>

**Q.10) “Kigali Agreement” is often seen in news is related to?**

- a) Peat lands
- b) Ozone depleting substance
- c) Sustainable agriculture
- d) Climate technology

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer held in Kigali, Rwanda amended the 1987 Montreal Protocol to phase out Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs).

**Source:** SHANKAR IAS Environment



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## *Environment*

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**Q.1) Which of the following is/are source/s of Black Carbon?**

1. Biomass burning
2. Cooking with solid fuels
3. Diesel exhaust

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Black carbon (BC) is a solid particle or aerosol, (though not a gas) contributes to warming of the atmosphere.

Black carbon, commonly known as soot, is a form of particulate air pollutant, produced from incomplete combustion. It consists of pure carbon in several linked forms.

**Source:**

- biomass burning,
- cooking with solid fuels, and
- Diesel exhaust, etc.

**Source:** SHANKAR IAS Environment

**Q.2) Which of the following has the highest green warming potential?**

- a) Carbon Dioxide
- b) Methane
- c) Nitrous Oxide
- d) Hydro Fluoro Carbons

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The Global Warming Potential (GWP) for a gas is a measure of the total energy that a gas absorbs over a particular period of time (usually 100 years), compared to carbon dioxide.

**PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER (FOURTH WEEK), 2022**

S. No	GAS	GWP (100-year)	LIFETIME (years)
1	Carbon di oxide	1	100
2	Methane	21	12
3	Nitrous oxide	310	120
4	Hydro fluoro carbons (HFCs)	140-11,700	1-270
5	Perfluoro carbons (PFCs)	6,500-9,200	800-50,000
6	Sulfur hexafluoride (SF6)	23,900	3,200

**Source:** SHANKAR IAS Environment

**Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding ocean acidification:**

1. Oceans are act as reservoir of carbon dioxide.
2. In ocean acidification, the concentration of hydrogen ions in the ocean increases.

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Oceans are an important reservoir for CO<sub>2</sub>, absorbing a significant quantity of it (one-third) produced by anthropogenic activities and effectively buffering climate change.

- Ocean acidification is the change in ocean chemistry - lowering of ocean pH (i.e. increase in concentration of hydrogen ions) driven by the uptake of carbon compounds by the ocean from the atmosphere.
- As the uptake of atmospheric carbon dioxide by the ocean increases, the concentration of hydrogen ions in the ocean increases, the concentration of carbonate ions decreases, the pH of the oceans decreases and the oceans become less alkaline – this process is known as ocean acidification.

**Source:** SHANKAR IAS Environment

**Q.4) “Dobson Unit” is related to which of the following?**

- a) Ozone measurement
- b) Ocean Acidification
- c) Soil organic matter
- d) Nuclear radiation

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The most common measure of total ozone abundance is the Dobson unit (named after the pioneering atmospheric physical Gordon Dobson) which is the thickness of the ozone

column (compressed at Standard Temperature and Pressure (STP)) in milli-centimeters. At STP one Dobson unit is equal to  $2.69 \times 10^{20}$  molecules per square meter.

**Source:** SHANKAR IAS Environment

**Q.5) Which of the following is/are comes under blue carbon?**

1. Mangroves
2. Tidal Marshes
3. Sea grasses

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Blue Carbon refers to coastal, aquatic and marine carbon sinks held by the indicative vegetation, marine organism and sediments.

- In particular, coastal ecosystems such as tidal marshes, mangroves, and sea grasses remove carbon from the atmosphere and ocean, storing it in plants and depositing it in the sediment below them by natural processes.
- These coastal ecosystems are very efficient at sequestering and storing carbon - each square mile of these systems can remove carbon from the atmosphere and oceans at rates higher than each square mile of mature tropical forests.

**Source:** <https://www.thebluecarboninitiative.org/about#ecosystems>

**Q.6) “Silent Valley National Park” is often seen in news is located at?**

- a) Kerala
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Karnataka
- d) Uttarakhand

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The core of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, the Silent Valley National Park is probably one of the most magnificent gifts of nature to mankind, a unique preserve of tropical rain forests in all its pristine glory with an almost unbroken ecological history.

- Silent Valley is closed on all sides with high and continuous ridges and steep escarpments, as a result the valley is shielded from the extremes of climate as well as anthropogenic interventions and so it remained an ecological island with a special micro climate.
- The river Kunthi descends from the Nilgiri Hills above an altitude of 2000 m and traverses the entire length of the valley finally rushing down to the plains through a deep gorge.

**Source:** <https://forest.kerala.gov.in/index.php/wildlife/2015-03-16-09-50-24/national-parks/silent-valley-national-park>

**Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding “Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment (GRIHA)”:**

1. It is a rating tool that helps people assesses the performance of their building against certain nationally acceptable benchmarks.
2. It is developed jointly by TERI and Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.

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

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** GRIHA is an acronym for Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment. GRIHA is a Sanskrit word meaning – ‘Abode’. Human Habitats (buildings) interact with the environment in various ways.

- Throughout their life cycles, from construction to operation and then demolition, they consume resources in the form of energy, water, materials, etc. and emit wastes either directly in the form of municipal wastes or indirectly as emissions from electricity generation.
- GRIHA attempts to minimize a building’s resource consumption, waste generation, and overall ecological impact to within certain nationally acceptable limits / benchmarks.
- GRIHA is a rating tool that helps people assesses the performance of their building against certain nationally acceptable benchmarks. It evaluates the environmental performance of a building holistically over its entire life cycle, thereby providing a definitive standard for what constitutes a ‘green building’.
- The rating system, based on accepted energy and environmental principles, will seek to strike a balance between the established practices and emerging concepts, both national and international.
- GRIHA has been conceived by TERI and developed jointly with the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India.

**Source:** <https://www.grihaindia.org/about-griha>

**Q.8) “Clean Development Mechanism” is often seen in news is related to?**

- a) Kyoto Protocol
- b) Montreal Protocol
- c) Cartagena Protocol
- d) Marrakesh accords

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), defined in Article 12 of the Protocol, allows a country with an emission-reduction or emission-limitation commitment under the Kyoto Protocol (Annex B Party) to implement an emission-reduction project in developing countries.

- Such projects can earn saleable certified emission reduction (CER) credits, each equivalent to one tonne of CO<sub>2</sub>, which can be counted towards meeting Kyoto targets.

## PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER (FOURTH WEEK), 2022

- The mechanism is seen by many as a trailblazer. It is the first global, environmental investment and credit scheme of its kind, providing standardized emissions offset instrument, CERs.
- A CDM project activity might involve, for example, a rural electrification project using solar panels or the installation of more energy-efficient boilers.
- The mechanism stimulates sustainable development and emission reductions, while giving industrialized countries some flexibility in how they meet their emission reduction or limitation targets.

**Source:** <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-kyoto-protocol/mechanisms-under-the-kyoto-protocol/the-clean-development-mechanism>

**Q.9) “Sunshine Coast Biosphere reserve” is recently seen in news is related to?**

- a) Australia
- b) Japan
- c) Canada
- d) Italy

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Located in Southeast Queensland, a short distance from Brisbane, the area features a picturesque coastline, dunes, beaches, extensive waterways and wetlands, as well as a range of mountain in the hinterland.

- Home to two First Nation groups, the Kabi Kabi and Jinibara peoples, and the biosphere reserve sustains a highly valued natural environment and rich biodiversity, particularly in the 2,585 km<sup>2</sup> terrestrial and marine protected areas.
- It supports both traditional and cutting-edge economic activities, including strong food, agribusiness and tourism sectors. The region receives about 8 million visitors per year.

**Source:** <https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/unesco-designates-11-new-biosphere-reserves>

**Q.10) “Mrugavani National Park” is often seen in news is located at?**

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Karnataka
- d) Telangana

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Mrugavani National Park is a national park located in Hyderabad, Telangana State, India. It is situated at Chilkur in Moinabad mandal, 20 km from MGBS and covers an area of 3.6 square kilometres (1.4 sq mi) or 1211 acres.

- It is home to a 600 different types of plant life. The Park is home to around 350 spotted deers. The animals include: indian hare, forest cat, civet, Indian rat snake, Russell’s viper, cheetal and the flower pecker
- It was declared as a National Park in 1994. The climate here is pleasant most of the time. There is a point in the park which is at a height for high point views and there is also a watch tower so as to watch animals closely.

**Source:** <https://rangareddy.telangana.gov.in/tourist-place/mrugavani-national-park/>

## *Environment - Contemporary Issues*

**Q.1) “SAMARTH Mission” is recently seen in news is related to?**

- a) Organic farming
- b) Bio fertilizers
- c) Zero carbon electricity
- d) Smart Agriculture

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** SAMARTH (Sustainable Agrarian Mission on use of Agro Residue in TPPs) Mission to promote use of agro-residue to produce zero-carbon electricity.

It mandates that all thermal power plants in the country use between 5-10% of biomass alongside coal to produce power.

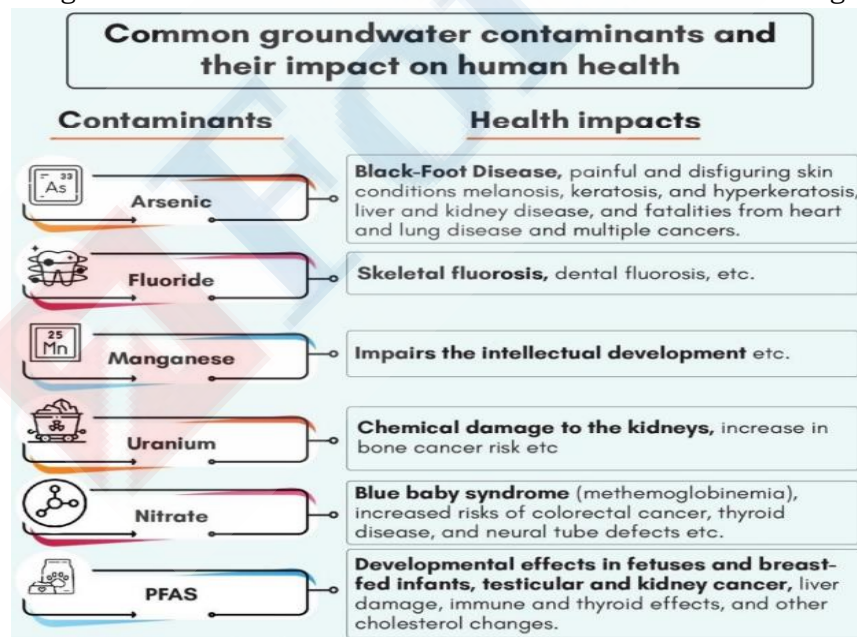
**Source:** FORUMIAS

**Q.2) “Blackfoot disease” is often seen in news is due to contamination of water with which of the following?**

- a) Arsenic
- b) Cadmium
- c) Nitrate
- d) Uranium

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Blackfoot disease is an endemic peripheral vascular disease found among the inhabitants of a limited area on the southwest coast of Taiwan, where artesian well water with a high concentration of arsenic has been used for more than eighty years.



**Source:** FORUMIAS

**PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER (FOURTH WEEK), 2022**

**Q.3) Consider the following statements:**

1. Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) is a subordinate office of the Ministry of Water Resources.
2. Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) was constituted under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), a subordinate office of the Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India, is the National Apex Agency entrusted with the responsibilities of providing scientific inputs for management, exploration, monitoring, assessment, augmentation and regulation of ground water resources of the country.

- Central Ground Water Board was established in 1970 by renaming the Exploratory Tube wells Organization under the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India.
- It was merged with the Ground Water Wing of the Geological Survey of India during 1972.
- Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) was constituted under sub-section (3) of Section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for the purposes of regulation and control of ground water development and management in the country.
- The Authority is engaged in various activities related to regulation of ground water development to ensure its long-term sustainability.

**Source:** <http://cgwb.gov.in/aboutcgwb.html>

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

1. National Institute of Wind Energy (NIWE) is located at Cochin, Kerala.
2. National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) is located at Palakaranai, Tamil Nadu.
3. National Institute of Oceanography headquarters is located at Goa.

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The National Institute of Oceanography (NIO) with its headquarters at Dona Paula, Goa, and regional centres at Kochi, Mumbai and Visakhapatnam, is one of the 37 constituent laboratories of the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), New Delhi.

- The National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) was established in November 1993 at Tamil Nadu, as an autonomous society under the Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India. NIOT is managed by a Governing Council and the Director is the head of the Institute.
- National Institute of Wind Energy (NIWE) has been established in Chennai in the year 1998, as an autonomous R&D institution by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), Government of India.

## **PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER (FOURTH WEEK), 2022**

- It is a knowledge-based institution of high quality and dedication, offers services and seeks to find complete solutions for the kinds of difficulties and improvements in the entire spectrum of the wind energy sector by carrying out further research.
- It has a Wind Turbine Test Station (WTTS) at Kayathar with the technical & partial financial support by DANIDA, Govt. of Denmark.

**Source:** FORUMIAS

**Q.5) “Sustainable use of Wild Species” report is recently seen in news is released by?**

- a) GEF
- b) WEF
- c) IUCN
- d) IPBES

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The IPBES Assessment Report on the Sustainable Use of Wild Species is a stark reminder that human beings are interdependent with all living beings.

- Millions of people are living in harmony with nature in UNESCO designated sites worldwide, from Biosphere reserves to World heritage sites. This is a wealth of experience and solutions to reconcile and make peace with nature.
- It is not too late to act, and UNESCO is fully committed to mobilize the full force of education, science and culture to lead this global transformative change.

**Source:** <https://ipbes.net/sustainable-use-assessment>

**Q.6) “Nanda Lake” is recently seen in news is located in which of the following state?**

- a) Goa
- b) Karnataka
- c) Tamil Nadu
- d) Andhra Pradesh

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The 10 new sites — six in Tamil Nadu and one each in Goa, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha — encompass an area of 1,51,842.41 hectares, bringing India’s total wetland area to 1.2 million hectares.

The sites are Koothankulam Bird Sanctuary, Gulf of Mannar Marine Biosphere Reserve, Vembannur Wetland Complex, Vellode Bird Sanctuary, Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary and Udhayamarthandapuram Bird Sanctuary, all in Tamil Nadu, Satkosia Gorge in Odisha, Nanda Lake in Goa, Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary in Karnataka, and Sirpur Wetland in Madhya Pradesh.

**Source:** <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/10-more-indian-wetland-sites-get-ramsar-tag-number-rises-to-64/article65722839.ece>



**Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding Natural Resource Accounting (NRA):**

1. It is an accounting system that deals with stocks and stock changes of natural assets, comprising biota, subsoil assets, water and land with their aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems.
2. It captures details of 34 major minerals, 58 minor minerals and all four fossils fuels.

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** NRA is an accounting system that deals with stocks and stock changes of natural assets, comprising biota (produced or wild), subsoil assets (proved reserves), water and land with their aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems.

- The asset accounts capture details of 34 major minerals, 58 minor minerals and all four fossils fuels.
- Its aim is to provide information on the state of natural resources and the changes affecting them.

**Source:** FORUMIAS

**Q.8) Which of the following is recently completed 50 years of its formation in 2022?**

- a) UNEP
- b) WEF
- c) Stockholm conference
- d) GEF

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Recently, Stockholm+50 meeting was held at Stockholm, Sweden to commemorate the 50 years since the 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (also known as the Stockholm Conference), which made the environment a pressing global issue for the first time.

**Source:** FORUMIAS

**Q.9) “Enhancing Coastal and Ocean Resource Efficiency (ENCORE)” project is funded by?**

- a) World Bank
- b) UNDP
- c) UNEP
- d) ADB

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Enhancing Coastal and Ocean Resource Efficiency (ENCORE) is part of the World Bank approved a \$400 million multi-year financing envelope to help India to- enhance its coastal resources, protect coastal populations from pollution, erosion, and sea level rise, and improve livelihood opportunities for coastal communities.

**Source:** <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/loans-credits/2020/04/28/india-enhancing-coastal-ocean-resources-efficiency>

**Q.10) “Pakhui tiger reserve” is recently seen in news is located at?**

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Pakhui Wildlife Sanctuary lies in the foothills of the Eastern Himalaya, in the East Kameng District of Arunachal Pradesh.

- It was given its status in 1977 and was earlier part of the Khellong Forest Division. It was declared a tiger reserve in 2002.
- The habitat is comprised of lowland semi-evergreen, evergreen and Eastern Himalayan broadleaf forests.
- Over 300 species of flowering plants (angiosperms) have been recorded in the lowland areas of the park. It is also abundant in orchids.
- The Pakhui Tiger Reserve (PTR) is home to large cats like the tiger, leopard and the clouded leopard, and canids like the wild dog and Asiatic jackal.
- The elephant, barking deer, Indian bison and sambar deer are the most commonly spotted herbivores here.

**Source:** SHANKAR IAS Environment

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## *Polity – Indian Constitution*

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**Q.1) Which of the following is/are functions of a constitution?**

1. It is to provide a set of basic rules that allow for minimal coordination amongst members of a society.
2. It is to specify who has the power to make decisions in a society.
3. It is to set some limits on what a government can impose on its citizens.

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The first function of a constitution is to provide a set of basic rules that allow for minimal coordination amongst members of a society.

- The second function of a constitution is to specify who has the power to make decisions in a society. It decides how the government will be constituted.
- So the third function of a constitution is to set some limits on what a government can impose on its citizens. These limits are fundamental in the sense that government may never trespass them.

**Source:** NCERT - Indian Constitution at Work

**Q.2) Which of the following section/s of the constitution has provision/s which enable/s the government to take welfare measures?**

1. Preamble of Indian Constitution
2. Fundamental Rights
3. Directive Principles of State Policy

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The Indian Constitution enables the government to take positive welfare measures some of which are legally enforceable.

- As we go on studying the Indian Constitution, we shall find that such enabling provisions have the support of the Preamble to our Constitution, and these provisions are found in the section on Fundamental Rights.
- The Directive Principles of State of Policy also enjoin government to fulfill certain aspirations of the people.

**Source:** NCERT - Indian Constitution at Work

**Q.3) Which of the following is/are provision/s of Cabinet Mission Plan?**

1. Each Province and each Princely State were allotted seats proportional to their respective population roughly in the ratio of 1:1, 00,000.
2. The seats in each Province were distributed among the three main communities, Muslims, Sikhs and general, in proportion to their respective populations.
3. Members of each community in the Provincial Legislative Assembly elected their own representatives by the method of proportional representation.

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Constituent Assembly was composed roughly along the lines suggested by the plan proposed by the committee of the British cabinet, known as the Cabinet Mission. According to this plan:

- Each Province and each Princely State or group of States were allotted seats proportional to their respective population roughly in the ratio of 1:10,00,000.
- As a result the Provinces (that were under direct British rule) were to elect 292 members while the Princely States were allotted a minimum of 93 seats.
- The seats in each Province were distributed among the three main communities, Muslims, Sikhs and general, in proportion to their respective populations.
- Members of each community in the Provincial Legislative Assembly elected their own representatives by the method of proportional representation with single transferable vote.
- The method of selection in the case of representatives of Princely States was to be determined by consultation.

**Source:** NCERT - Indian Constitution at Work

**Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding regulating act, 1773:**

1. It designated the Governor of Bengal as the Governor of India.
2. It permitted the servants of the Company from engaging in private trade.

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

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The features of Regulating Act, 1773 were as follows:

- It designated the Governor of Bengal as the 'GovernorGeneral of Bengal' and created an Executive Council of four members to assist him. The first such Governor General was Lord Warren Hastings.
- It made the governors of Bombay and Madras presidencies subordinate to the governor-general of Bengal, unlike earlier, when the three presidencies were independent of one another.

## **PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER (FOURTH WEEK), 2022**

- It provided for the establishment of a Supreme Court at Calcutta (1774) comprising one chief justice and three other judges.
- It prohibited the servants of the Company from engaging in any private trade or accepting presents or bribes from the 'natives'.

**Source:** Laxmikanth Polity

**Q.5) Which of the following act resulted in end of trade monopoly of East India Company?**

- a) Regulating Act, 1773
- b) Pitt's India Act, 1784
- c) Charter Act of 1793
- d) Charter Act of 1813

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Charter Act of 1813 abolished the trade monopoly of the company in India i.e., the Indian trade was thrown open to all British merchants. However, it continued the monopoly of the company over trade in tea and trade with China.

**Source:** Laxmikanth Polity

**Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding charter act, 1833:**

1. It deprived the Governor of Bombay and Madras of their legislative powers.
2. It ended the activities of the East India Company as a commercial body.

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Charter Act of 1833 was the final step towards centralization in British India. The features of this Act were as follows:

- It made the Governor-General of Bengal as the GovernorGeneral of India and vested in him all civil and military powers.
- Thus, the act created, for the first time, Government of India having authority over the entire territorial area possessed by the British in India.
- Lord William Bentick was the first Governor-General of India.
- It deprived the Governor of Bombay and Madras of their legislative powers. The Governor-General of India was given exclusive legislative powers for the entire British India.
- The laws made under the previous acts were called as Regulations, while laws made under this act were called as Acts.
- It ended the activities of the East India Company as a commercial body, which became a purely administrative body.
- It provided that the Company's territories in India were held by it 'in trust for His Majesty, His heirs and successors'.

**Source:** Laxmikanth Polity

**Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding Indian Councils Act of 1861:**

1. It made a beginning of the representative institutions by associating Indians with the law-making process.
2. It initiated the process of decentralization by restoring the legislative powers to the Bombay and Madras Presidencies.

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Indian Councils Act of 1861: After the great revolt of 1857, the British Government felt the necessity of seeking the cooperation of the Indians in the administration of their country.

- In pursuance of this policy of association, three acts were enacted by the British Parliament in 1861, 1892 and 1909.
- The Indian Councils Act of 1861 is an important landmark in the constitutional and political history of India.

The features of this Act were as follows:

- It made a beginning of the representative institutions by associating Indians with the law-making process.
- It, thus, provided that the Viceroy should nominate some Indians as non-official members of his expanded council.
- In 1862, Lord Canning, the then Viceroy, nominated three Indians to his legislative council—the Raja of Benaras, the Maharaja of Patiala and Sir Dinkar Rao.
- It initiated the process of decentralisation by restoring the legislative powers to the Bombay and Madras Presidencies.
- It, thus, reversed the centralising tendency that started from the Regulating Act of 1773 and reached its climax under the Charter Act of 1833.
- This policy of legislative devolution resulted in the grant of almost complete internal autonomy to the provinces in 1937.
- It also provided for the establishment of new legislative councils for Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Punjab, which were established in 1862, 1886 and 1897, respectively.

**Source:** Laxmikanth Polity

**Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding Indian Councils Act of 1909:**

1. Satyendra Prasad Sinha became the first Indian to join the Viceroy's executive council.
2. It introduced a system of communal representation for Muslims by accepting the concept of separate electorate.

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Indian Councils Act of 1909 is also known as Morley-Minto Reforms (Lord Morley was the then Secretary of State for India and Lord Minto was the then Viceroy of India).

The features of this Act were as follows:

## **PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER (FOURTH WEEK), 2022**

- It considerably increased the size of the legislative councils, both Central and provincial. The number of members in the Central legislative council was raised from 16 to 60. The number of members in the provincial legislative councils was not uniform.
- It retained official majority in the Central legislative council, but allowed the provincial legislative councils to have non official majority.
- It enlarged the deliberative functions of the legislative councils at both the levels. For example, members were allowed to ask supplementary questions, move resolutions on the budget and so on.
- It provided (for the first time) for the association of Indians with the executive councils of the Viceroy and Governors. Satyendra Prasad Sinha became the first Indian to join the Viceroy's executive council. He was appointed as the Law Member.
- It introduced a system of communal representation for Muslims by accepting the concept of 'separate electorate'. Under this, the Muslim members were to be elected only by Muslim voters. Thus, the Act 'legalised communalism' and Lord Minto came to be known as the Father of Communal Electorate.
- It also provided for the separate representation of presidency corporations, chambers of commerce, universities and zamindars.

**Source:** Laxmikanth Polity

**Q.9) Which of the following act introduced the “diarchy” system?**

- a) Government of India Act of 1919
- b) Indian Councils Act of 1909
- c) Government of India Act of 1935
- d) Indian Councils Act of 1892

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Government of India Act of 1919 divided the provincial subjects into two parts—transferred and reserved.

- The transferred subjects were to be administered by the Governor with the aid of Ministers responsible to the legislative council.
- The reserved subjects, on the other hand, were to be administered by the Governor and his executive council without being responsible to the legislative council.
- This dual scheme of governance was known as 'dyarchy'—a term derived from the Greek word diarche which means double rule. However, this experiment was largely unsuccessful.

**Source:** Laxmikanth Polity

**Q.10) Which of the following is/are members of Simon Commission?**

1. Clement Atlee
2. Harry Levy-Lawson
3. Donald Howard

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The seven members of Simon commission were Sir John Simon, Clement Atlee, Harry Levy-Lawson, Edward Cadogan, Vernon Hartshorn, George Lane-Fox, Donald Howard.

**Source:** FORUMIAS

## *Revision*

**Q.1) Which of the following is/are the feature/s of Government of India Act of 1935?**

1. It provided for the establishment of an All-India Federation consisting of provinces and princely states as units.
2. It abolished dyarchy in the provinces and introduced 'provincial autonomy' in its place.
3. It introduced bicameralism.

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The Act marked a second milestone towards a completely responsible government in India. It was a lengthy and detailed document having 321 Sections and 10 Schedules. The features of this Act were as follows:

- It provided for the establishment of an All-India Federation consisting of provinces and princely states as units. The Act divided the powers between the Centre and units in terms of three lists—Federal List (for Centre, with 59 items), Provincial List (for provinces, with 54 items) and the Concurrent List (for both, with 36 items). Residuary powers were given to the Viceroy. However, the federation never came into being as the princely states did not join it.
- It abolished dyarchy in the provinces and introduced 'provincial autonomy' in its place. The provinces were allowed to act as autonomous units of administration in their defined spheres.
- Moreover, the Act introduced responsible Governments in provinces, that is, the Governor was required to act with the advice of ministers responsible to the provincial legislature. This came into effect in 1937 and was discontinued in 1939.
- It provided for the adoption of dyarchy at the Centre. Consequently, the federal subjects were divided into reserved subjects and transferred subjects. However, this provision of the Act did not come into operation at all.
- It introduced bicameralism in six out of eleven provinces. Thus, the legislatures of Bengal, Bombay, Madras, Bihar, Assam and the United Provinces were made bicameral consisting of a legislative council (upper house) and a legislative assembly (lower house). However, many restrictions were placed on them.
- It further extended the principle of communal representation by providing separate electorates for depressed classes (Scheduled Castes), women and labour (workers).

**Source:** Laxmikanth Polity



**Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding Indian Independence Act of 1947:**

1. It ended the British rule in India and declared India as an independent and sovereign state.
2. It provided for the partition of India and creation of two independent dominions of India and Pakistan.

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** On February 20, 1947, the British Prime Minister Clement Atlee declared that the British rule in India would end by June 30, 1948; after which the power would be transferred to responsible Indian hands.

- This announcement was followed by the agitation by the Muslim League demanding partition of the country.
- Again on June 3, 1947, the British Government made it clear that any Constitution framed by the Constituent Assembly of India (formed in 1946) cannot apply to those parts of the country which were unwilling to accept it.
- On the same day (June 3, 1947), Lord Mountbatten, the Viceroy of India, put forth the partition plan, known as the Mountbatten Plan.
- The plan was accepted by the Congress and the Muslim League. Immediate effect was given to the plan by enacting the Indian Independence Act 1947.

The features of this Act were as follows:

- It ended the British rule in India and declared India as an independent and sovereign state from August 15, 1947.
- It provided for the partition of India and creation of two independent dominions of India and Pakistan with the right to secede from the British Commonwealth.
- It abolished the office of Viceroy and provided, for each dominion, a governor general, who was to be appointed by the British King on the advice of the dominion cabinet.
- His Majesty's Government in Britain was to have no responsibility with respect to the Government of India or Pakistan.
- It empowered the Constituent Assemblies of the two dominions to frame and adopt any constitution for their respective nations and to repeal any act of the British Parliament, including the Independence act itself.

**Source:** Laxmikanth Polity

**Q.3) Consider the following statements:**

1. The Constituent Assembly held its first meeting on December 9, 1946.
2. The Muslim League boycotted the meeting and insisted on a separate state of Pakistan.
3. Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha, was elected as the temporary President of the Assembly.

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The Constituent Assembly held its first meeting on December 9, 1946.

- The Muslim League boycotted the meeting and insisted on a separate state of Pakistan.
- The meeting was, thus, attended by only 211 members.
- Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha, the oldest member, was elected as the temporary President of the Assembly, following the French practice.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.4) The “Union Constitution Committee” of constituent assembly was headed by?**

- a) Jawaharlal Nehru
- b) Sardar Patel
- c) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar
- d) J.B. Kripalani

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Constituent Assembly appointed a number of committees to deal with different tasks of constitution-making. Out of these, eight were major committees and the others were minor committees.

The names of these committees and their Chairman are given below: Major Committees

- Union Powers Committee - Jawaharlal Nehru
- Union Constitution Committee -Jawaharlal Nehru
- Provincial Constitution Committee -Sardar Patel

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.5) Which of the following article/s of Indian Constitution came into force on 26<sup>th</sup> November, 1949?**

1. Article 5
2. Article 60
3. Article 324

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Some provisions of the Constitution pertaining to citizenship, elections, provisional parliament, temporary and transitional provisions, and short title contained in

**PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER (FOURTH WEEK), 2022**

Articles 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 60, 324, 366, 367, 379, 380, 388, 391, 392 and 393 came into force on November 26, 1949, itself.

- The remaining provisions (the major part) of the Constitution came into force on January 26, 1950.
- This day is referred to in the Constitution as the 'date of its commencement', and celebrated as the Republic Day.

**Source:** Laxmikanth Polity

**Q.6) Which of the following is adopted as the symbol (seal) of the Constituent Assembly?**

- Lion
- Tiger
- Elephant
- Horse

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Elephant was adopted as the symbol (seal) of the Constituent Assembly.

**Source:** Laxmikanth Polity

**Q.7) Which of the following is/are federal feature/s of Indian Constitution?**

- Written Constitution
- Flexibility of Constitution
- Integrated Judiciary

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

- 1 only
- 1 and 2 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Constitution of India establishes a federal system of Government. It contains all the usual features of a federation, viz., two Governments, division of powers, written Constitution, supremacy of Constitution, rigidity of Constitution, independent judiciary and bicameralism.

However, the Indian Constitution also contains a large number of unitary or non-federal features, viz., a strong Centre, single Constitution, single citizenship, flexibility of Constitution, integrated judiciary, appointment of state governor by the Centre, all-India services, and emergency provisions and so on.

**Source:** Laxmikanth Polity

**Q.8) Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary is often seen in news is located at?**

- Telangana
- Jharkhand
- Tamil Nadu
- Maharashtra

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Some of the other prominent wildlife sanctuaries in Telangana are Mrugavani National Park, KBR Park, Pranahita wildlife sanctuary, Shivaram wildlife Sanctuary, Nagarjuna

## **PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER (FOURTH WEEK), 2022**

Sagar-Srisailem Tiger Reserve, Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary, Shamirpet Deer Park, Nehru Zoological Park, Manjira Wildlife Sanctuary etc.

The Deccan plateau is a region of unique and great biodiversity, reflected in the various wildlife havens of the region. There are many facilities provided, for tourists to enjoy a glimpse of the wildlife habitat.

**Source:** <https://www.telanganatourism.gov.in/partials/destinations/wild-life.html>

**Q.9) “Ntangki National Park” is recently seen in news is located at?**

- a) Arunachal Pradesh
- b) Nagaland
- c) Tripura
- d) Meghalaya

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Located 40 km from the town of Peren and about 37 km from Dimapur is the Ntangki National Park also known as the Intanki by many.

- Spread over a distance of 200 sq km, this park was established by the British administrators in the year 1923.
- Considered one of the best National Parks in the North East, it has thick rain forests which creates natural habitat for many birds, reptiles and mammals.
- Mountains, cliffs and dense forests make it a great place for camping and other adventurous activities.
- Here in this National Park you can see wild buffaloes (mithun) and hoolok gibbon which is found only in Nagaland.
- Apart from this the park also boasts of tigers, sloth bear, wild dogs and flying squirrels, making it a must visit spot for any tourist coming to this district. The virgin nature of the park adds a lot to its beauty.

**Source:** <https://peren-district.nic.in/tourist-place/ntangki-national-park/>

**Q.10) “Simlipal Tiger Reserve” is often seen in news is located at?**

- a) Odisha
- b) Assam
- c) Uttarakhand
- d) Rajasthan

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Simlipal Tiger Reserves in Odisha underwent the massive fires recently. The wildfires broke in the biosphere reserve situated in the Mayurbhanj district of Odisha.

Similipal Tiger Reserve It is a tiger reserve situated in the Mayurbhanj district of Odisha in the northern part. The reserve derives its name from Simul tree (silk cotton tree).

**Source: FORUMIAS**