

ForumIAS

F

# Prelims Marathon

1<sup>st</sup> Week September 2024

---

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

---

FORUMIAS



## Prelims Marathon Compilation September [First Week] 2024

### INDEX

Revision .....	2
Environment & Ecology .....	5
Environment & Ecology - II.....	9
Protected areas including parks.....	13
Protected areas including Species .....	17
Biodiversity & Conservation .....	20
Environment Legislations .....	24

**Revision**

**Q.1) The “special and differential treatment” provisions are associated with which of the following?**

- a) IMF
- b) World Bank
- c) WTO
- d) WHO

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** WTO agreements contain special provisions through ‘special and differential treatment’ (S&DT) provisions, which give developing countries special rights and allow other members to treat them more favourably.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.2) Which of the following organization/group is known as “Atoms for Peace”?**

- a) Nuclear Suppliers Group
- b) International Atomic Energy Agency
- c) Wassenaar Arrangement
- d) Australia Group

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) seeks to promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy, and to inhibit its use for any military purpose, including nuclear weapons and materials by the early detection of the misuse.

- It was established in 1957 as an autonomous organization report to both the UNGA and Security Council.
- **It is widely known as the world’s “Atoms for Peace” organization.**

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding “International Organization for Migration (IOM)”:**

1. It is one of the specialized agencies of United Agencies.
2. It aims to provide humanitarian assistance to migrants in need, including refugees and internally displaced people.

**Which of the statements given above is/are not correct?**

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** International Organization for Migration (IOM) had been an observer to the UN since 1992 and joined the UN system in 2016.

- It aims to provide humanitarian assistance to migrants in need, including refugees and internally displaced people.
- It has 175 member states and 8 observer states.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation September [First Week] 2024

**Q.4) Which of the following organization publishes the “World Youth Report”?**

- UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)
- UN Human Rights Council (UN HRC)
- World Economic Forum
- Centre for Science & environment

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA) is an entity of the UN Secretariat responsible for economic, social and environmental issues.

It also publishes World’s Women Report once in 5 years, World Economic Situation & Prospects (along with UNCTAD), and World Youth Report etc.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding “UN Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL)”:**

- It adopted the UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration.
- India hasn’t adopted the UNCITRAL Model Law.

**Which of the statements given above is/are not correct?**

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) is the core legal body of the United Nations system in the field of international trade law, specializing in commercial law reform.

- Its business is the modernization and harmonization of rules on international business.
- It adopted the UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration in 1985 and the UNCITRAL Conciliation Rules in 1980.
- UNCITRAL Model Law - United Nations Commission on International Trade Law proposed the UNCITRAL Model Law on Cross Border Insolvency to deal with such issues.
- It also provides for recognition of orders and judgments passed by insolvency courts located in foreign jurisdictions. India has adopted model law.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.6) Which of the following organizations were established in 2005?**

- U.N. Central Emergency Response Fund
- United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC)
- Global Compact for Migration

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

- Only one
- Only two
- Only three
- None

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** U.N. Central Emergency Response Fund was established by the UNGA in 2005 as an emergency response fund. It mainly funds projects in countries at war or experiencing other crises like natural disasters.

## Prelims Marathon Compilation September [First Week] 2024

- The UNAOC was established in 2005 as a political initiative of Mr. Kofi Annan, former UN Secretary-General.
- Global Compact for Migration is the first inter-governmentally negotiated agreement, prepared under the auspices of UN to cover all dimensions of migration.
- The agreement was signed in the UNGA by adopting a political declaration “New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants” in 2016 and adopted in 2018.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.7) The famous “Paris Principles” were associated with which of the following?**

- a) Human Rights
- b) Climate change
- c) Sustainable agriculture
- d) Nuclear energy

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Paris Principles - Officially known as ‘Principles Relating to the Status of National Human Rights Institutions’.

- The Paris Principles set out the minimum standards that NHRIs must meet in order to be considered credible and to operate effectively.
- The key pillars of the Paris Principles are pluralism, independence and effectiveness.
- Paris Principles was adopted Paris in 1991, and adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1993.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding “UN Peacekeeping Mission”:**

1. It is a joint effort between the UN Department of Peace Operations and the Department of Operational Support.
2. The UN began its Peacekeeping efforts in 1948 when it deployed military observers to West Asia.

**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:** UN Peacekeeping Mission is a joint effort between the UN Department of Peace Operations and the Department of Operational Support.

- The UN began its Peacekeeping efforts in 1948 when it deployed military observers to West Asia.
- The UN Peacekeepers provide security as well as political and peacebuilding support to conflict-ridden countries.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation September [First Week] 2024

**Q.9) Which of the following is not a member of “New Development Bank”?**

- a) Egypt
- b) Uruguay
- c) Bangladesh
- d) Myanmar

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** New Development Bank is a multilateral development bank jointly founded by the BRICS countries.

- Founding Member Countries of NDB are - Brazil, Russia, India, China and South-Africa.
- The NDB admitted Bangladesh, United Arab Emirates (UAE), Uruguay (yet to deposit capital) and Egypt (2023) as other members.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.10) Which of the following country is the largest shareholder of “Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank”?**

- a) India
- b) China
- c) USA
- d) France

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank is a multilateral financial institution which brings countries together to address the daunting infrastructure needs across Asia.

- The membership is open to members of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development or the Asian Development Bank.
- China is the largest shareholder in AIIB followed by India and Russia.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

### Environment & Ecology

**Q.1) Which of the following is/are protected areas?**

1. National Parks
2. Community reserves
3. Conservation reserves

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

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Protected areas - Human occupation or at least the exploitation of resources is limited and it includes

1. National Parks
2. Wildlife Sanctuaries
3. Conservation Reserves

## Prelims Marathon Compilation September [First Week] 2024

4. Community Reserves
5. Marine Protected Areas

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.2) Which of the following state launched the “Punarjeevanam” scheme?**

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Punarjeevanam (revival or resurrection) scheme was launched in 2016 by Kerala Forest and Wildlife Department to revive farming of millets and endemic crops in the tribal settlements.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.3) Which of the following is/are within the “Shettihalli Wildlife Sanctuary”?**

1. Tunga Anicut Dam
2. Mandagadde Bird Sanctuary
3. Pennar river

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

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Shettihalli Wildlife sanctuary is divided into 3 zones, namely- core zone, buffer zone and tourism zone.

- The Tunga Anicut Dam is situated within the sanctuary and provides shelter for otters and water birds.
- The Mandagadde Bird Sanctuary is also a part of the Shettihalli Wildlife Sanctuary.
- The hilly area forms the catchment basin for Kumadwathi River.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding “Bandipur Tiger Reserve”:**

1. It holds the 2nd highest Tiger population in India.
2. It is part of the Agasthamalai Biosphere Reserve.

**Which of the statements given above is/are not correct?**

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The Bandipur Tiger Reserve holds the 2nd highest Tiger population in India.

It was established in the year 1974 as a forest tiger reserve under the Project Tiger.

It is part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.

**Source: FORUMIAS**



## Prelims Marathon Compilation September [First Week] 2024

**Q.5) Which of the following rivers are flows through “Bandipur Tiger Reserve”?**

1. Kabini River
2. Kaveri River
3. Krishna River

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

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** 3 rivers flow through the main area of the Bandipur Tiger Reserve - Nugu River, Moyar River and Kabini River.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “Nandankanan Zoological Park”:**

1. It is India's first zoo to join the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA).
2. It is the first zoo in the World to breed White tiger and Melanistic tiger.

**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:** Nandankanan Zoological Park is a zoo and botanical garden established in 1960 in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

- It is India's first zoo to join the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA) in 2009.
- Nandankanan is the first zoo in the World to breed White tiger and Melanistic tiger.
- It is the only conservation breeding centre of Indian Pangolins in the world.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.7) On which day the “World Biosphere Reserve Day is celebrated”?**

- a) June 5
- b) August 24
- c) October 2
- d) November 3

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** World Biosphere Reserve Day is celebrated on November 3 to raise awareness on the importance of biosphere reserves & to promote its conservation & sustainable use.

**Source: FORUMIAS**



## Prelims Marathon Compilation September [First Week] 2024

**Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding “UNESCO’s Man and the Biosphere Programme”:**

1. It is an intergovernmental scientific programme that was launched in 1971.
2. India is a not signatory to the landscape approach supported by UNESCO's MAB programme.

**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:** UNESCO’s Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB) is an intergovernmental scientific programme that was launched in 1971.

- It aims to establish a scientific basis for the improvement of relationships between people and their environments.
- It proposes interdisciplinary research, demonstration and training in natural resources management.
- MAB helps national governments with the planning and implementation of research and training programmes with technical assistance and scientific advice.
- India is a signatory to the landscape approach supported by UNESCO's MAB programme.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding “Ramsar convention on Wetlands”:**

1. It is the only global environmental treaty that deals with a particular ecosystem.
2. Ramsar Convention is affiliated with the United Nations system of Multilateral Environmental Agreements.

**Which of the statements given above is/are not correct?**

4. 1 only
5. 2 only
6. Both 1 and 2
7. Neither 1 nor 2

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Ramsar convention on Wetlands 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.

- Adopted in 1971 (Ramsar, Iran) and enforced in 1975. It is the only global environmental treaty that deals with a particular ecosystem.
- Ramsar Convention is not affiliated with the United Nations system of Multilateral Environmental Agreements.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation September [First Week] 2024

**Q.10) Which of the following sites is part of “Montreux Record”?**

1. Buxa national park
2. Kolleru lake
3. Panyam lake

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

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Montreux sites in India are:

- Keoladeo National Park, Rajasthan (1990)
- Loktak Lake, Manipur (1993)
- **Chilika Lake, Odisha was included in 1993 and was removed in 2002**

**Source: FORUMIAS**

### Environment & Ecology - II

**Q.1) The famous “ennore creek” is located at which of the following state?**

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Ennore Creek is a backwater located in Thiruvallur District, Tamil Nadu.

- As an arm of the Kosathalaiyar River, the Creek meets the Bay of Bengal at Mugathwara Kuppam, while the northern channel of the creek connects to the Pulicat Lake.
- This creek has been demarcated as Coastal Regulation Zone IV (Water Body) in the coastal zone management plan by the Tamil Nadu State Coastal Zone Management Authority.
- Undertaking any reclamation, bunding, construction or altering the water bodies is illegal under Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1974 & Environment Protection Act, 1986.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.2) Which of the following lake draws water from the confluence of the Gandak, the Bia and the Kareh river?**

- a) Keetham Lake
- b) Darwan Lake
- c) Kawar Lake
- d) Surajkund Lake

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Kawar Lake is Bihar’s only wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention lies neglected and is on the brink of drying up.

It draws water from the confluence of the Gandak, the Bia and the Kareh river.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation September [First Week] 2024

**Q.3) The famous kole wetland is recently seen in news located at?**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Kole wetlands of Kerala face threat of alien plants recently. It is an internationally important Ramsar site of high value biodiversity situated in Kerala.

- The wetland gets its name from its high productivity Kole literally translates to bumper crop in Malayalam.
- It is one of the largest brackish, humid tropical wetland ecosystems on the southwest coast of India.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.4) The “dhordo village” is made it to the UN World Tourism Organisation’s (UNWTOs) best villages list for its rich cultural heritage and natural beauty is related to?**

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Karnataka
- c) Gujarat
- d) Meghalaya

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Dhordo village in Gujarat made it to the UN World Tourism Organisation’s (UNWTOs) best villages list for its rich cultural heritage and natural beauty.

- Dhordo village is nestled in the Great Rann of Kutch in Gujarat which hosts the annual cultural festival Rann Utsav that showcases the region’s traditional art, music, and crafts.
- It also hosted the 1st Tourism Working Group Meeting of the G-20 held under India’s presidency in 2023.
- A global initiative to highlight those villages where tourism preserves cultures and traditions, celebrates diversity, provides opportunities and safeguards biodiversity.
- Best Tourism Village 2023 – It is the 3rd edition where 54 villages from all regions were selected.
- A further 20 villages have joined the Upgrade Programme. All 74 villages are part of the UNWTO Best Tourism Villages Network.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding “Environmental DNA (eDNA)”:**

1. It is the nuclear or mitochondrial DNA that is released from an organism into the environment through natural processes during their lifetime or after death.
2. Secreted feces, mucous, and gametes are sources of eDNA.

**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:** Recently, scientist estimated that the total taxonomic diversity of Chilika lagoon in Odisha is about 1,071 families across the tree of life using environmental DNA (eDNA) method.

## Prelims Marathon Compilation September [First Week] 2024

- eDNA – It is the nuclear or mitochondrial DNA that is released from an organism into the environment through natural processes during their lifetime or after death.
- Sources of eDNA- Secreted feces, mucous, and gametes; shed skin and hair; and carcasses.

Source: FORUMIAS

**Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “e-Soil”:**

1. It is a novel method of soilless gardening or hydroponics using an electrically conductive growing medium.
2. eSoil is being derived from cellulose and a conductive polymer called PEDOT.

**Which of the statements given above is/are not correct?**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Researchers have developed a new electronics soil that was found to increase the growth of barley seedlings by 50%.

- It is a novel method of soilless gardening or hydroponics using an electrically conductive growing medium.
- eSoil is being derived from cellulose and a conductive polymer called PEDOT.
- In hydroponic environments, eSoil is a low-power bioelectronics growth substrate that can electrically stimulate the root system and growth environment of plants.
- This novel substrate is not only environmentally friendly, but also offers a low energy, safe alternative to previous methods that required high voltage and non-biodegradable materials.

Source: FORUMIAS

**Q.7) Which of the following country developed the “Miyawaki Plantation Method”?**

- a) South Korea
- b) Bhutan
- c) Vietnam
- d) Japan

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Miyawaki Plantation Method is an initiative of creating mini forests in urban areas for the afforestation programme.

- Named after Japanese botanist Akira Miyawaki, this method involves planting 2 to 4 different types of indigenous trees within every square metre.
- In this method, the trees become self-sustaining don't require regular manuring and watering and they grow to their full length within 3 years.

Source: FORUMIAS

## Prelims Marathon Compilation September [First Week] 2024

**Q.8) The famous “Maui Island” is recently seen in news for?**

- a) Earthquake
- b) Tsunami
- c) Volcano
- d) Forest fire

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Recently there has been a deadly wildfire in Hawaii’s Maui Island due to strong winds from Hurricane Dora.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.9) Which of the following state declared Mahua as heritage liquor and organized National Mahua Conclave in 2023?**

- a) Telangana
- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) Goa
- d) Madhya Pradesh

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Madhya Pradesh declared Mahua as heritage liquor and organized National Mahua Conclave in 2023.

- Mahua flowers are one of the top 5 minor forest products (MFP) in terms of volume produced in the nation each year.
- Mahua liquor – It is traditional sweetened liquor with strong floral notes that has been made for ages by the tribal people of India.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.10) The “Petermann Glacier” is recently seen in news located at?**

- a) Alaska
- b) Antarctica
- c) Arctic
- d) Greenland

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Glaciologists have found the grounding line of Petermann Glacier in northwest Greenland to shift substantially during tidal cycles.

- Grounding line of a glacier is where the ice detaches from the land bed and begins floating in the ocean.
- The shifting of grounding line substantially during tidal cycles, allows warm seawater to intrude and melt ice at an accelerated rate.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Protected areas including parks**

**Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding “project cheetah”:**

1. Cheetah is the only large carnivore species that went extinct in Independent India.
2. Under the project, cheetahs were brought from West African regions.

**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 Cheetah is India’s cheetah relocation programme and the 1st intercontinental reintroduction of a wild, large carnivore species.

- The project is to bring in 5-10 animals every year, over the next decade, until a self-sustaining population of cheetahs is established.
- Asiatic Cheetahs were once abundant in India but the last cheetah in the country died in 1952.
- The animals brought from Namibia and South Africa is the Southeast African cheetahs.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.2) Arrange the following in chronological order of their establishments:**

1. Project elephant
2. Project tiger
3. National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)

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

- a) 1 – 2 – 3
- b) 1 – 3 – 2
- c) 2 – 1 – 3
- d) 2 – 3 – 1

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Project tiger was launched in 1973 by the central government.

- Project Elephant was launched in the year 1992 as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.
- NTCA, a statutory body under the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change was established in 2005.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding tiger population in India:**

1. India currently harbors almost 75% of the world’s wild tiger population.
2. The largest tiger population of 785 is in Karnataka followed by Madhya Pradesh.

**Which of the statements given above is/are not correct?**

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** In 1973, the Government of India launched Project Tiger, an ambitious, holistic conservation project, aimed at safeguarding the nation's tiger population and preserving biodiversity.



## Prelims Marathon Compilation September [First Week] 2024

- Over the past fifty years, Project Tiger has achieved commendable success, making significant strides in tiger conservation.
- Initially covering nine tiger reserves spanning 18,278 km<sup>2</sup>, the project has flourished into a remarkable accomplishment with 53 reserves spread across 75,796 km<sup>2</sup>, effectively covering 2.3% of India's total land area.
- India currently harbors almost 75% of the world's wild tiger population.
- The largest tiger population of 785 is in Madhya Pradesh, followed by Karnataka (563) & Uttarakhand (560), and Maharashtra (444).

Source: FORUMIAS

**Q.4) Which of the following tiger reserve holds highest number of tigers?**

- a) Sariska tiger reserve
- b) Bandipur tiger reserve
- c) Nagarhole tiger reserve
- d) Corbett tiger reserve

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The tiger abundance within the Tiger Reserve is highest in Corbett (260), followed by Bandipur (150), Nagarhole (141), Bandhavgarh (135), Dudhwa (135), Mudumalai(114), Kanha (105), Kaziranga (104), Sundarbans (100), Tadoba (97), Sathyamangalam (85), and Pench-MP (77).

Source: FORUMIAS

**Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding “Community Forest Resource Rights”:**

1. Forest Rights Act, 2006 provides for recognition of the right to protect, regenerate or conserve or manage the community forest resource.
2. These rights allow the community to formulate rules for forest use by itself and others and thereby discharge its responsibilities.

**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:** Forest Rights Act, 2006 provides for recognition of the right to “protect, regenerate or conserve or manage” the community forest resource.

- Section 5- These rights allow the community to formulate rules for forest use by itself and others and thereby discharge its responsibilities
- Community rights- It is provided under FRA which includes nistar rights and rights over non-timber forest products.

Source: FORUMIAS



## Prelims Marathon Compilation September [First Week] 2024

**Q.6) The “Jamuna Open Cast Project (OCP)” is recently seen in news associated with which of the following state?**

- a) Maharashtra
- b) West Bengal
- c) Assam
- d) Madhya Pradesh

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The Ministry of Coal has taken a pioneering step towards environmental stewardship with its sustained reclamation and afforestation initiative, aiming to minimize the ecological footprints of coal mining.

- This initiative exemplified by the success of the Jamuna Open Cast Project (OCP) at South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL), which commenced operations on 30th November 1973, in Anuppur District, Madhya Pradesh.
- The Jamuna OCP, having served its purpose, ceased mining activities in June 2014, due to resource depletion. Following this, a meticulously planned mine closure was initiated.
- According to recent satellite data, 88.07% of the quarry area has been successfully reclaimed, showcasing the Ministry's commitment to sustainable coal mining practices.
- A substantial portion of the reclaimed land, covering 672 hectares, has been dedicated to afforestation efforts.
- Notably, 131 hectares of this afforested land are strategically positioned to serve as a crucial groundwater recharge area, contributing to the broader goal of water conservation.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.7) Which of the following institution recently organized the “National Framework for Climate Services”?**

- a) NITI Aayog
- b) Indian Institute of Oceanography
- c) India Meteorological Department
- d) Indian National Center for Ocean Information Services

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Recently, a stakeholder consultation for establishing the National Framework for Climate Services in India (NFCS- India) was organized by the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

- NFCS – A mechanism for coordinating, facilitating and strengthening collaboration among national institutions
- Its aim is to bring a seamless working platform to integrate users of climate information and services and mitigate climate risks. It is based on Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS).

**Source: FORUMIAS**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation September [First Week] 2024

**Q.8) Which of the following is/are sources of “biogas”?**

1. Cattle dung
2. Sewage treatment plant waste
3. Agriculture residue

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

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Biogas is an energy-rich gas produced by anaerobic decomposition of biomass.

- Sources of biogas are agriculture residue, cattle dung, sugarcane press mud, municipal solid waste, sewage treatment plant waste.
- It can be burnt directly as a fuel, or purified and upgraded by removing carbon dioxide, hydrogen sulfide, and then compressed to make compressed Biogas (CBG).

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.9) The “article 262” of Indian constitution is recently seen in news related to?**

- a) Scheduled areas
- b) Particularly vulnerable tribal groups
- c) River water disputes
- d) Gram sabhas

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Article 262 of the Constitution of India allows Parliament to make laws to resolve disputes regarding the use, distribution, or control of water in inter-state rivers or river valleys.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.10) Which of the following mission was launched for developing and rejuvenating 75 water bodies in each district of the country?**

- a) National Mission for Clean Ganga
- b) National Water Mission
- c) Jal Jeevan Mission
- d) Amrit Sarovar Mission

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Amrit Sarovar Mission- It was launched in 2022 for developing and rejuvenating 75 water bodies in each district of the country.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Protected areas including Species**

**Q.1) The “Washington Convention” is often seen in news related to?**

- a) Mercury Pollution
- b) Ozone Depleting Substances
- c) Endangered Species
- d) Renewable Energy

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) also known as Washington Convention, is an international agreement between governments and is legally binding on the Parties.

- India is a Party to the CITES since 1976.
- Its aim is to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten the survival of the species.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.2) Which of the following organization has the vision of “Just world that values and conserves nature”?**

- a) UNEP
- b) IUCN
- c) CITES
- d) Global Environment Facility

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) was founded in October 1948 as the International Union for the Protection of Nature (IUPN) following an international conference in Fontainebleau, France.

- It was later known as the World Conservation Union. The organization changed its name to the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources in 1956.
- Vision of IUCN is “Just world that values and conserves nature”.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.3) Which of the following organization publishes the “Green Status of Species”?**

- a) World Wide Fund for Nature
- b) Conservation International
- c) International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
- d) Wildlife Conservation Society

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** IUCN Green Status of Species was introduced by the IUCN in the World Conservation Congress, 2012, held in Jeju, South Korea.

- It called for the development of ‘Green Lists’ of Species, Ecosystems and Protected Areas to measure conservation success in these three areas.
- The IUCN Red List assesses the risk of extinction of a species whereas the IUCN Green status tracks the recovery of species’ populations and measures its conservation success.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation September [First Week] 2024

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

1. Gharials are found in both freshwater and sea water areas.
2. National Chambal sanctuary hosts the largest population of gharials.

**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: B**

**Explanation:** Gharials are fish-eating fresh water crocodiles characterized by narrow and bulbous nasal snout.

- Gharials live in clear freshwater river systems and are a good indicator of clean river water.
- Gharials were historically found in the river system of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and southern part of Bhutan and Nepal.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding "Pygmy Hog":**

1. It is an herbivore species.
2. It is an indicator species.

**Which of the statements given above is/are not correct?**

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Pygmy hogs are smallest and rarest wild piggy. They are native to alluvial grasslands in the foothills of the Himalayas.

- Now their population is confined to Assam and southern Bhutan.
- They are omnivores and feed on roots, insects, rodents, and small reptiles.
- They are an indicator species. They live only in the wet high grasslands at the foothills of the Himalayas.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.6) Which of the following vulture species is not resident in India?**

- a) White – rumped vulture
- b) Indian Long billed vulture
- c) Egyptian vulture
- d) Cinereous vulture

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** A total of nine species of vultures are found in India. Out of these six species are resident (white–rumped vulture, Indian vulture, slender-billed vulture, red-headed vulture, bearded vulture and Egyptian vulture) and three species are migratory (cinereous vulture, griffon vulture and Himalayan vulture).

**Source:** <https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/mumbai/international-vulture-awareness-nine-species-india-maha-conservation-8130466/>

## Prelims Marathon Compilation September [First Week] 2024

**Q.7) Consider the following statements:**

1. Nilgiri tahr is the only mountain ungulate in southern India.
2. The Eravikulam National Park hosts the largest population of the Nilgiri tahr, with more than 700 individuals.

**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:** Nilgiri tahr is the only mountain ungulate (large mammals with hooves) in southern India amongst the 12 species present in India.

- It is endemic to Western Ghats but currently large populations are found only in Nilgiris and Anamalais.
- The Eravikulam National Park in Kerala is home to the largest population of the Nilgiri tahr, with more than 700 individuals.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.8) The “Sangai deer” is a unique and rare species found exclusively in?**

- a) Buxa National Park
- b) Namdapha National Park
- c) Keibul Lamjao National Park
- d) Manas National Park

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The recent proposal of hydro-electric modernisation plan in the Manipur’s famous Loktak Lake could be detrimental to the endangered species of Sangai deer.

Sangai Deer is also called as Manipur Brow-antlered deer and Dancing Deer. It is a unique and rare species found exclusively in Manipur’s Keibul Lamjao National Park (KLNP).

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.9) Which of the following state made “Gangetic Dolphin” as state’s aquatic animal?**

- a) Bihar
- b) Uttar Pradesh
- c) Uttarakhand
- d) West Bengal

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Uttar Pradesh has made the Gangetic Dolphin as the state’s aquatic animal recently.

- The dolphin has already recognized as the national aquatic animal.
- These dolphins are found in rivers like Ganga, Yamuna, Chambal, Ghaghra, Rapti, and Gerua.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation September [First Week] 2024

**Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding “black tigers”:**

1. It is a sub – species of Bengal tiger.
2. They are found in buxa national park.

**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:** Black tigers are a rare color variant of the Bengal tiger and not a separate species or subspecies of tiger.

- Their all-black color is due to pseudo-melanism, a condition that causes thick stripes that make the tawny background barely visible.
- Black tigers are only found in India's Similipal Tiger Reserve, Odisha, a part of the UNESCO world network of Biosphere Reserve.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

### Biodiversity & Conservation

**Q.1) Which of the following is the largest biosphere reserve in India?**

- a) Niligiri biosphere reserve
- b) Dibru- Saikhowa biosphere reserve
- c) Great Rann of Kutch
- d) Manas biosphere reserve

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Great Rann of Kutch, Gujarat is the largest biosphere reserve in India.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

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

1. Nairobi convention related to wetlands conservation.
2. Every year, 5<sup>th</sup> June was celebrated as World Wetlands Day.

**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:** Ramsar convention on Wetlands 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.

Every year, 2nd February was celebrated as World Wetlands Day.

**Source: FORUMIAS**



## Prelims Marathon Compilation September [First Week] 2024

**Q.3) The “Dhanauri Wetland” is recently seen in news located at?**

- a) Uttar Pradesh
- b) Bihar
- c) Jharkhand
- d) West Bengal

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Dhanauri Wetland (Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh) is to be notified as Balmiki Ramsar Wetland and Sarus Sanctuary/Conservation Reserve whose proposal is pending before the Uttar Pradesh Wetland authority.

It is home to over 217 species of birds and possibly the largest roosting site for Sarus cranes in north India.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.4) Recently which of the following state going to establish “First Public Sector Caravan Park”?**

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** First Public Sector Caravan Park in Kerala to come up at Bekal in Kasaragod.

- It is a place where people with recreational vehicles can stay overnight, or longer, in allotted spaces known as "sites" or "campsites".
- It will be developed under cinema tourism project that seeks to showcase prime locations to attract tourists.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.5) Which of the following state is going to set up “Miniature Eastern Ghats (MEG)”?**

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Odisha
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) West Bengal

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** A forest arena titled ‘Miniature Eastern Ghats’ (MEG) will come up in about 30 acres of reserve land in Visakhapatnam.

It is a one-stop place for the flora found in the Eastern Ghats which will be opened for public from November, 2023.

**Source: FORUMIAS**



## Prelims Marathon Compilation September [First Week] 2024

**Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “Myristica Swamps”:**

1. These are freshwater swamps.
2. These habitats occur in Western Ghats.

**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:** Climate change and human intervention threaten the Myristica swamps of Kerala.

- Myristica swamps are freshwater swamps. The evergreen trees have evolved to live in the waterlogged conditions of the swamps.
- They have two types of roots, knee roots (pneumatophores) and stilt root. They have evolved over millions of years and are comprised of old-growth trees.
- In India, these unique habitats occur in the Western Ghats and a smaller distribution exists in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.7) The “diel vertical migration” is recently seen in news related to?**

- a) The great Himalayas
- b) Oceans
- c) River drainage
- d) Block mountains

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Deep sea organisms play a crucial role in the earth’s carbon cycle through the process of diel vertical migration.

- It is a synchronized vertical movement of billions of animals, mostly zooplankton (e.g., smallish animals, including fish, various shrimp, and jellies) in the ocean.
- DVM is the largest migration on the planet by biomass which occurs daily in all oceans.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.8) The “Selfing syndrome” is recently seen in news related to?**

- a) Plants
- b) Tigers
- c) Cetaceans
- d) Butterflies

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Selfing syndrome refers to plants that are autogamous and display a complex of characteristics associated with self-pollination.

The flowers of self-fertilizing plants are typically smaller and have little distance between reproductive organs.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation September [First Week] 2024

**Q.9) Which of the following statements is/are correct about “Namdapha Flying Squirrel”?**

1. It is a diurnal species.
2. It is an omnivore species.
3. It is critically endangered species.

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

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Namdapha Flying Squirrel is a nocturnal species, meaning they are active at night. Flying squirrels are omnivores.

- The Namdapha flying squirrel was last described in 1981 based on a single individual found in the Namdapha Tiger Reserve in Arunachal Pradesh.
- IUCN status – Critically Endangered.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding “Vaquita porpoise”:**

1. It is the worlds rarest and the smallest marine mammal.
2. It is found only in the northern Gulf of California in Mexico.

**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:** Vaquita porpoise is the worlds rarest and the smallest marine mammal. It is also known as the panda of the sea for the distinctive black circles around its eyes.

- It is unique among the porpoises as it is the only species of that family found in warm waters, and the size of the dorsal fin is believed to be an adaptation to that, allowing for extra body heat to dissipate.
- Habitats – Found only in the northern Gulf of California (Sea of Cortez) in Mexico. Found most commonly seen in shallow waters up to 50 metres deep.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Environment Legislations**

**Q.1) Which of the following article of Indian Constitution is related to “it shall to be duty of every citizen of India to protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wild life and have compassion for living creatures”?**

- a) Article 51 (A)
- b) Article 51 (C)
- c) Article 51 (F)
- d) Article 51 (G)

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The forty second amendment Clause (g) to Article 51A of the Indian constitution made it a fundamental duty to protect and improve the natural environment.

“It shall to be duty of every citizen of India to protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wild life and have compassion for living creatures.”

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.2) Arrange the following in chronological order with respect to their establishment:**

- 1. The department of Environment
- 2. Ministry of Environment and Forests
- 3. Environment Protection Act

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

- a) 1 – 2 – 3
- b) 1 – 3 – 2
- c) 2 – 1 – 3
- d) 2 – 3 – 1

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The department of Environment was established in India in 1980 to ensure a healthy environment for the country.

- This later became the Ministry of Environment and Forests in 1985.
- This Ministry has overall responsibility for administering and enforcing environmental legislations and policies.
- The Environment Protection Act came into force in 1986.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.3) Which of the following is/are established under “Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act of 1974”?**

- 1. Central Pollution Control Board
- 2. State Pollution Control Board
- 3. Union Territories Control Board

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

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act of 1974 vests regulatory authority in State Pollution Control Boards and empowers these Boards to establish and enforce effluent standards for factories discharging pollutants into water bodies.

## Prelims Marathon Compilation September [First Week] 2024

A Central Pollution Control Board performs the same functions for Union Territories and formulates policies and coordinates activities of different State Boards.

Source: FORUMIAS

**Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding “Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act of 1977”:**

1. It was passed to generate financial resources to meet expenses for social forestry and afforestation.
2. It gives a polluter a 100 percent rebate of the applicable cess upon installing effluent treatment equipment.

**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 Water Cess Act was passed to generate financial resources to meet expenses of the Central and State Pollution Boards.

- The Act creates economic incentives for pollution control and requires local authorities and certain designated industries to pay a cess (tax) for water effluent discharge.
- These revenues are used to implement the Water Act. The Central Government, after deducting the expenses of collection, pays the central board and the states such sums, as it seems necessary.
- To encourage capital investment in pollution control, the Act gives a polluter a 70% rebate of the applicable cess upon installing effluent treatment equipment.

Source: FORUMIAS

**Q.5) Which of the following statements is/are correct about “Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act of 1981”?**

1. States not having water pollution boards were required to set up air pollution boards.
2. All industries operating within designated air pollution control areas must obtain consent from the State Boards.
3. States are not required prior permission from centre to prescribe emission standards for industry and automobiles.

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

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** To implement the decisions taken at the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment held at Stockholm in June 1972, Parliament enacted the nationwide Air Act.

The main objectives of Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act of 1981 are to improve the quality of air and to prevent, control and abate air pollution in the country.

Important provisions of this Act are given below:

- The Air Act’s framework is similar to that of the Water Act of 1974. To enable an integrated approach to environmental problems, the Air Act expanded the authority of the central and state boards established under the Water Act, to include air pollution control.

## Prelims Marathon Compilation September [First Week] 2024

- States not having water pollution boards were required to set up air pollution boards.
- Under the Air Act, all industries operating within designated air pollution control areas must obtain “consent” (permit) from the State Boards.
- The states are required to prescribe emission standards for industry and automobiles after consulting the central board and noting its ambient air quality standards.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “Environment (Protection) Act of 1986”:**

1. It came into force soon after the Bhopal Gas Tragedy.
2. Its purpose is to implement the decisions of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment.

**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 wake of the Bhopal tragedy, the government of India enacted the Environment (Protection) Act of 1986.

The purpose of the Act is to implement the decisions of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment of 1972, in so far as they relate to the protection and improvement of the human environment and the prevention of hazards to human beings, other living creatures, plants and property.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.7) Which of the following power/s is/are within the purview of centre with respect to Environment (Protection) Act of 1986?**

1. Setting up of quality of ambient standards
2. Setting up of standards for controlling emissions
3. Regulating industrial locations

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

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Section 3 (1) of the Environment (Protection) Act of 1986 empowers the centre to “take all such measures as it deems necessary or expedient for the purpose of protecting and improving the quality of the environment and preventing, controlling and abating environmental pollution”.

- Specifically, the Central Government is authorized to set new national standards for the quality of the environment (ambient standards) as well as standards for controlling emissions and effluent discharges;
- To regulate industrial locations, to prescribe procedures for managing hazardous substances;
- To establish safeguards preventing accidents, and to collect and dismantle information regarding environmental pollution.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation September [First Week] 2024

**Q.8) Arrange the following projects in chronological order:**

1. Project Tiger
2. Project Lion
3. Project Hangul

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

- a) 1 - 2 - 3
- b) 1 - 3 - 2
- c) 3 - 1 - 2
- d) 3 - 2 - 1

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Indian government has also started some conservation projects for individual endangered species like Hangul (1970), Lion (1972), Tiger (1973), Crocodiles (1974), Brown-antlered Deer (1981) and Elephant (1991-92).

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.9) Which of the following is/are comes under the “Wild Life (Protection) Act of 1972”?**

1. State wildlife advisory boards
2. Regulations for hunting only wild animals.
3. Establishment of sanctuaries.

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

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** In 1972, Parliament enacted the Wild Life Act (Protection) Act.

The Wild Life Act provides for state wildlife advisory boards, regulations for hunting wild animals and birds, establishment of sanctuaries and national parks, regulations for trade in wild animals, animal products and trophies, and judicially imposed penalties for violating the Act.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

**Q.10) Which of the following is not a category of forests under “forest act of 1927”?**

- a) Common property resources
- b) Village forests
- c) Private forests
- d) Reserved forests

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** First Forest Act was enacted in 1927. This is one of the many surviving colonial legislations.

- It was enacted to consolidate the law related to forest, the transit of forest produce and the duty livable on timber and other forest produce.
- The 1927 Act deals with the four categories of the forests, namely reserved forests, village forests, protected forests and private forests.

**Source: FORUMIAS**