

ForumIAS

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Prelims Marathon

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HISTORY
ECONOMICS
POLITY
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT

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Conservation Efforts made by Indian Government

Q.1) The “Baku Finance Goal” is recently seen in news related to which of the following?

- a) Climate finance
- b) Solar energy
- c) Sustainable development
- d) Conservation agriculture

ANS: A

Explanation: New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance (NCQG) or Baku Finance Goal:

- The NCQG is a goal to increase climate finance for developing countries to at least \$1.3 trillion per year by 2035.
- It's an extension of the previous goal of \$100 billion per year by 2020.
- The NCQG calls on all actors, including public and private sectors, to work together to scale up financing.
- Developed countries are expected to lead the way in mobilizing the funds.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) The “Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC)” is often seen in news related to which of the following?

- a) UNEP
- b) UNDP
- c) GEF
- d) IUCN

ANS: A

Explanation: The Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) is a voluntary partnership of over 160 governments, intergovernmental organizations, and non-governmental organizations founded in 2012, and convened within UNEP.

Collectively and individually, partners who join the Climate and Clean Air Coalition are working to reduce powerful but short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs) – methane, black carbon, hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), and tropospheric ozone – that drive both climate change and air pollution.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) The “Global Matchmaking” is often seen in news related to?

- a) Emission reduction
- b) Energy efficiency
- c) Clean energy fund
- d) Zero budget natural farming

ANS: A

Explanation: Global Matchmaking is a platform that connects countries with technical and financial assistance to reduce emissions.

It was launched in December 2023 at the 28th United Nations Climate Change conference (COP28).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) The “PACT Programme” is often seen in news associated with which of the following?

- a) Energy efficiency
- b) Village sustainability
- c) Climate transition
- d) Hybrid energy grid

ANS: C

Explanation: The "Partnership for Action on Climate Transition (PACT)" program is an initiative aimed at mobilizing financial institutions and fostering collaboration between the private sector and governments

to develop ambitious climate action plans, particularly aligned with the 1.5°C target of the Paris Agreement, by supporting the creation of robust transition plans that contribute to Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) - essentially countries' climate action pledges; often spearheaded by organizations like the UNDP's Financial Centres for Sustainability (FC4S) network.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) The famous “**Great Green Wall**” is often seen in news is funded by?

- a) World Economic Forum
- b) IMF
- c) GEF
- d) AIIB

ANS: C

Explanation: The Great Green Wall (GGW) initiative is funded by a few organizations, including:

- Green Climate Fund (GCF): The world's largest climate fund, which provides funding proposals, readiness grants, and partnerships with other organizations
- Global Environment Facility (GEF): Funds programs like the Transformation Approach to Large Scale Investment in Support of the Implementation of the Great Green Wall Initiative (TALSISI-GGWI)
- International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD): Funds programs like the Great Green Wall, Climate Change Adaptation Regional Support Project (GGW CCARSP)
- World Bank: Co-finances the project and partners with agencies on the ground
- European Commission: Funds the Growing the Great Green Wall program
- France: Pledged \$14.3 billion in new funding through the Great Green Wall Accelerator

The GGW initiative aims to restore degraded landscapes, combat desertification, and help people adapt to climate change.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) Which of the following technology/technologies is/are used at the stage of pre – combustion of thermal power plants?

- 1. Coal washing
- 2. Blending
- 3. Flue-gas desulfurization

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Environmental emission standards for controlling SO₂, NO_x & Mercury emissions from coal-based Thermal Power Plants (TPPs) first introduced in 2015 by MoEFCC.

Pollution Control Technologies (PCTs) at pre – combustion stage is coal washing and blending.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

1. Environmental emission standards for coal-based Thermal Power Plants (TPPs) were introduced in 2015 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
2. Coal beneficiation is a process through which combustion attribute of the coal is enhanced by separating the inorganic impurities from raw coal.

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: Environmental emission standards for controlling SO₂, NO_x & Mercury emissions from coal-based Thermal Power Plants (TPPs) first introduced in 2015 by MoEFCC, under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

Coal beneficiation: Process through which combustion attribute of the coal is enhanced by separating the inorganic impurities (volatile matter or ash) from raw coal.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding "Graded Response Action Plan":

1. It is an emergency response mechanism based on Delhi's Air Quality Index level.
2. It was prepared in pursuant to the Supreme Court's order of 2002 in the matter of M. C. Mehta vs Union of India.

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: Graded Response Action Plan is an emergency response mechanism based on Delhi's Air Quality Index level.

- Prepared in pursuant to the Supreme Court's order of 2016 in the matter of M. C. Mehta vs Union of India regarding air quality in the National Capital Region of Delhi.
- First notified under Environment (Protection) Act of 1986 in January 2017 by the MoEFCC.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) Which of the following pollutant/s is/are part of National Air Quality Index (NAQI)?

1. Carbon dioxide
2. Carbon monoxide
3. Methane

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

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

ANS: D

Explanation: National Air Quality Index (NAQI) is released by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). It Includes 8 pollutants-PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, NO₂, Ozone, SO₂, CO, NH₃ and lead (Pb).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding "Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)":

1. It was established in 1974.
 2. It is a statutory organization created under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.
- 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 Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is a statutory organization constituted under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.

Later, was entrusted with the powers and functions under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

Source: FORUMIAS

Revision

Q.1) The term 'Extended Producer Responsibility' is most often used in the context of?

- a) Intellectual Property Rights
- b) E – waste
- c) Minor forest produce
- d) Mining compensation

ANS: B

Explanation: 'Extended Producer Responsibility' is a concept under which producers will be responsible for collection and channelization of e-waste generated from the 'end of life' of their products to registered dismantler or recycler.

It is defined under e-waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2016 as notified by the Ministry of Environment & Forests.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Consider the following statements with respect to the Green Climate Fund (GCF):

1. The GCF is a fund within the framework of the UNFCCC
2. Its aim is to assist developing countries in adaptation and mitigation practices to counter climate change.
3. It is managed by RBI and EXIM in India.

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The GCF is a fund within the framework of the UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change) to assist developing countries in adaptation and mitigation practices to counter climate change.

- It was formally established by a UNFCCC decision in Durban, South Africa in December 2011.
- It was intended to be the centre piece of efforts to raise Climate Finance of \$100 billion a year by 2020.

- NABARD and SIDBI have been accredited by the GCF as direct access entities. NABARD is the first entity from India to be accredited as Direct Access Entity (DAE).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) Consider the following statements with respect to the Forest Conservation Act, 1980:

1. Its jurisdiction extends to scheduled areas only.
2. It provides for the conservation of forests.
3. It places restrictions on the power of the State Government concerning preservation of forests or use of forest land for non-forest purposes

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Forest Conservation Act was passed in 1980 to provide for the conservation of forests and for matters connected therewith.

- Act extends in whole of India except the State of Jammu & Kashmir.
- Salient Features of the Act
 - It was aimed with a view to check further deforestation, which ultimately results in ecological imbalances, accordingly the provisions made therewith must apply to all forest irrespective of the nature of ownership for classification thereof
 - The act places restrictions on the power of the State Government concerning preservation of forests or use of forest land for non-forest purposes.
 - The Act provides for the constitution of advisory committee to advise the Government with regard to the grant of approved by the Central Government or any other matter connected with conservation of forests which may be referred to it by the Central Government.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) Which of the following magazine is published by Birdlife International?

- a) World Bird Watch
- b) Conservation international
- c) Endemic species
- d) Keepers

ANS: A

Explanation: Birdlife International is a global partnership of conservation organizations that strives to conserve birds, their habitats and global biodiversity.

- It is the world's largest conservation partnership for conservation of birds and their habitats. It was earlier known as the International Committee for Bird Preservation.
- It publishes a quarterly magazine, World Birdwatch, which contains recent news and authoritative articles about birds, their habitats, and their conservation around the world.
- It is the official Red List authority for birds, for the International Union for Conservation of Nature.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Which of the following are solar radiation techniques to control warming on earth?

1. Placing Aluminum mirrors in space.
2. White painting roofs and roads.
3. Ocean fertilization

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Geo Engineering Technique: Theoretically, there are two major types of interventions - Carbon Sequestration and solar radiation management.

- Solar Radiation Management techniques include firing sulfur dioxide into the atmosphere, putting huge mirrors in space, creating pale colored rooftops and other structures which have high albedo.
- Ocean fertilization is adding iron or nitrogen to the ocean to promote carbon sequestration by phyto planktons.
- Geo engineering is a large-scale intervention in the Earth's climatic system with the aim of limiting climate change.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

1. The Montreal Protocol is an international environmental treaty to phase out the Ozone Depleting Substances.
2. The Kyoto protocol is an amendment to Montreal Protocol.
3. The Kigali Agreement upholds the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities.

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The Montreal Protocol is a most effective international environmental treaty to phase out the Ozone Depleting Substances (ODSs) from the atmosphere. It came into force in 1989. It has 197 member parties to the protocol and become a first international treaty with complete ratification.

- It has successfully curbed the 98% production of chlorofluorocarbons and other ODSs and significantly contributed to the repair of the ozone hole.
- Kigali Agreement: It has undergone several amendments and Kigali amendment is the eighth amendment to this protocol. In the 28th meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, negotiators from 197 nations have signed a historic agreement to amend the Montreal Protocol in Kigali, a capital city of a tiny African country, Rwanda on 15th October 2016.
- As per the agreement, these countries are expected to reduce the manufacture and use of Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) by roughly 80-85% from their respective baselines, till 2045.
- This phase down is expected to arrest the global average temperature rise up to 0.5 degree Celsius by 2100.
- India joins the nations of the world in lauding the Hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) Amendment to the Montreal Protocol, agreed to at the 28th Meeting of Parties at Kigali, Rwanda. The Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol is legally binding and will come into force from January 1, 2019.

- The Kigali Agreement upholds the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR & RC).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) The Johannesburg Declaration, 2002 was in reference to which of the following?

- a) Disaster management
- b) Climate change
- c) Sustainable development agenda
- d) Cooperation on energy efficiency

ANS: C

Explanation: The Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development was adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), referred to as Earth Summit 2002.

- In the summit the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development was also agreed.
- The Johannesburg Declaration builds on earlier declarations made at the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment at Stockholm in 1972, and the Earth Summit 1992 in Rio de Janeiro.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding “World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought”:

1. It is observed every year on 5th June.
2. Its aim is to promote public awareness of international efforts to combat desertification.
3. Agenda for Sustainable development Goal 15 emphasizes the need to halt and reverse land degradation.

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought Observed every year on 17 June.

- Its aim is to promote public awareness of international efforts to combat desertification.
- The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development especially the Goal 15 emphasizes the need to halt and reverse land degradation.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP):

1. It was founded because of the Stockholm conference in 1972.
2. It assists developed countries to reduce emissions.
3. It is headquartered at Geneva, Switzerland.

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is an agency of United Nations and coordinates its environmental activities by assisting developing countries in implementing environmentally sound policies and practices.

- It was founded as a result of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (Stockholm Conference) in June 1972.
- It's headquartered at Nairobi, Kenya.
- UNEP work encompasses.
 - Assessing global, regional and national environmental conditions and trend.
 - Developing international and national environmental instruments.
 - Strengthening institutions for the wise management of the environment.
 - Facilitating the transfer of knowledge and technology for sustainable development.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The "Brundtland Report" from the United Nations World Commission on Environment and Development refers to:

- a) Safeguards to reduce the movements of hazardous waste between nations.
- b) A comprehensive blueprint of action to be taken in every area in which humans affect the environment.
- c) Characterization of the concept of sustainable development and debates whether to prioritize development or the environment.
- d) Climate change policy that endorsed the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities.

ANS: C

Explanation: The concept of 'sustainable development' was crystallized in the 1987 report of the United Nations World Commission on Environment and Development called the Brundtland Commission.

- The Brundtland Commission's characterization of 'sustainable development' is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Source: FORUMIAS

Environmental Pollution

Q.1) Which of the following organization launched the "Air Quality Management Exchange Platform (AQMx)"?

- a) Centre for Science & Environment
- b) Climate and Clean Air Coalition
- c) Central pollution & control board
- d) Conservation international

ANS: B

Explanation: Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) launched an Air Quality Management Exchange Platform (AQMx) in the backdrop of International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies.

It is a one-stop-shop that provides the latest air quality management guidance and tools proposed to meet WHO Air Quality Guidelines interim targets.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Which of the following characteristics of "Nitrous Oxide"?

1. Colorless
2. Odorless
3. Flammable

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Nitrous oxide is a Odourless, colourless, non-flammable gas that supports combustion and occurs naturally in the environment.

It is used for anaesthesia and other therapeutic benefits.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding "Climate and Clean Air Coalition":

1. It was founded in 2012.
2. India is one of the founding members.

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: CCAC was founded in 2012, and convened within UNEP, CCAC is a voluntary partnership of more than 160 governments, intergovernmental organizations, and NGOs.

- India joined CCAC in 2019.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) Which of the following is/are short lived climate pollutants?

1. Methane
2. Black carbon
3. Tropospheric ozone

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The powerful but short-lived climate pollutants– methane, black carbon, hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), and tropospheric ozone – that drive both climate change and air pollution.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Which of the following is/are types of "Flue Gas Desulfurization (FGD)"?

1. Dry sorbent injection
2. Wet limestone based
3. Sea water based

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: FGD systems can remove over 90% of SO₂ from the flue gas emissions of coal-fired Thermal Power Plants (TPP).

Majorly, three types of FGD systems – Dry Sorbent (Limestone) Injection, Wet Limestone Based, and Sea Water Based – are adopted worldwide.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari initiative”:

1. It seeks to conserve water with a strong emphasis on community partnership and ownership.
2. It aims to construct around 24,800 rainwater harvesting structures through community participation, ensuring long-term water sustainability across state.

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: Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari initiative:

- This initiative seeks to conserve water with a strong emphasis on community partnership and ownership.
- It aims to construct around 24,800 rainwater harvesting structures through community participation, ensuring long-term water sustainability across state.
- It is based on the success of the Jal Sanchay initiative of Gujarat Government that dealt with the mobilization of citizens, local bodies, industries and other stakeholders.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding “GLOBAL FRAMEWORK ON CHEMICALS (GFC) FUND”:

1. It was setup in UNFCCC CoP’s first session.
2. It complements existing financial mechanisms, like Global Environment Facility etc. and funds that support biodiversity and climate action.

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: GFC Fund: Setup during fifth International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM5) in 2023 in Bonn, Germany.

It complements existing financial mechanisms, like Global Environment Facility etc. and funds that support biodiversity and climate action.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) Which of the following is/are cause/s of pollution in India?

1. Uncontrolled growth in human population
2. Rapid industrialization
3. Uncontrolled exploitation of nature

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Pollution is defined as ‘an addition or excessive addition of certain materials to the physical environment (water, air and land), making it less fit or unfit for life’.

Causes of pollution:

- Uncontrolled growth in human population
- Rapid industrialization
- Urbanization
- Uncontrolled exploitation of nature.
- Forest fires, radioactivity, volcanic eruptions, strong winds etc.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) Which of the following is/are characteristic/s of carbon monoxide?

1. Colorless gas
2. Foul-smelling gas
3. It can slow our reflexes and make us confused and sleepy.

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless gas that is produced by the incomplete burning of carbon-based fuels including petrol, diesel, and wood.

It lowers the amount of oxygen that enters our blood. It can slow our reflexes and make us confused and sleepy.

Source: Shankar IAS

Q.10) Ozone can be produced through burning which of the following?

1. Petrol
2. Diesel
3. Coal

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Ozone: It occurs naturally in the upper layers of the atmosphere.

- This important gas shields the earth from the harmful ultraviolet rays of the sun.
- It causes smog and acid rain. It is produced from burning fuels including petrol, diesel, and coal.

Source: FORUMIAS

Environmental Pollution – II

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding “United Nations Water Convention”:

1. It came into force in 1986.
2. India is a member party of the convention.

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: Ivory Coast joined the United Nations Water Convention (Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes).

- Genesis: Adopted in Helsinki (Finland) in 1992 and entered into force in 1996.
- Legally binding: Requires Parties to use transboundary waters reasonably and equitably and ensure their sustainable management.
- Members: India is not a party.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Which of the following initiatives are deals with the “sustainable management of chemical and wastes”?

1. Stockholm convention
2. Basel convention
3. Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Global Initiatives for sustainable management of chemical and waste:

- Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM): Global policy framework to minimize health and environmental impacts of chemicals throughout their lifecycle.
- Basel Convention: International treaty to regulate transboundary movement and disposal of hazardous wastes.
- Stockholm Convention: Global treaty dealing with the effects of persistent organic pollutants.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) Which of the following organization has no role in funding and preparing the “Global E-Waste Monitor Report – 2024”?

- a) UNEP
- b) United Nations Institute for Training and Research
- c) Sustainable Cycles Programme
- d) International Telecommunication Union

ANS: A

Explanation: The Global E-Waste Monitor Report – 2024 is funded, and prepared in partnership, by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Sustainable Cycles (SCYCLE) Programme, International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and Foundation Carmignac.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding “E – Waste”:

1. It includes electrical and electronic equipment, including solar photo-voltaic, discarded as waste without the intent of reuse, as well as rejects from manufacturing, refurbishment and repair processes.
2. India is the second largest e – waste generator after China.

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: E-waste: It includes electrical and electronic equipment, including solar photo-voltaic, discarded as waste without the intent of reuse, as well as rejects from manufacturing, refurbishment and repair processes.

Findings for India: Ranked 3rd largest e-waste generator (4,100 million kg generated), following only China and the USA.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Which of the following challenges is/are facing by India in managing E – Waste?

1. Dependence on unorganized sector
2. Adequate infrastructure
3. Huge imports

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Challenges associated with E-Waste in India: Informal recycling (around 85% managed by unorganised sector); Inadequate infrastructure; Huge imports (80% meant for recycling is sent to developing countries by the developed ones).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) Which of the following rules brought the “Extended Producer Responsibility”?

- a) Hazardous waste (Management and Handling) Amendment Rules, 2003
- b) E-waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011
- c) E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016
- d) E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022

ANS: B

Explanation: E-waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011: Introduced the concept of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) Which of the following areas/places natural mercury found?

1. Air
2. Water
3. Soil

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Mercury is a naturally occurring element found in air, water and soil.

- It is the only metal which is found in liquid state at room temperature.
- It is a persistent, bio-accumulative, toxic pollutant.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding “ground water scenario in India”:

1. India is world’s largest user of ground water.
2. Water levels in more than 60% of wells monitored by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) registered a declining trend in the last one decade.

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: GW scenario in India: World’s largest user of groundwater, exceeding the use of the United States and China combined.

The water level in more than 60% of wells monitored by CGWB registered a declining trend in the last one decade.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding “Central Water Commission (CWC)”:

1. It is a premier technical organization of India in the field of water resources.
2. It is functioning as an attached office of the Ministry of 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: A

Explanation: CWC: It is a premier Technical Organization of India in the field of Water Resources.

It is presently functioning as an attached office of the Ministry of Jal Shakti.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) Which of the following organization released the “2024 Plastic Overshoot Day Report”?

- a) Earth Action
- b) World Economic Forum
- c) Centre for Science and Environment
- d) UNEP

ANS: A

Explanation: The 2024 Plastic Overshoot Day Report was released by Swiss-based research consultancy Earth Action (EA).

Plastic Overshoot Day refers to the day when the amount of plastic waste surpasses the capability of waste management systems to effectively manage.

Source: FORUMIAS

International Environmental Conventions

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding “Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)”:

- 1. It is funded by member countries.
- 2. It publishes the State of the World's Forests report biannually.

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: FAO was established in 1945 with the objective of eliminating hunger and improving nutrition and standards of living by increasing agricultural productivity.

- FAO receives 100% of its funding from its member countries.
- State of the World's Forests report is published bi-annually and is widely regarded as one of the most important stocks takes on forest ecosystems.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding “International Maritime Organization (IMO)”:

- 1. It is the global standard-setting authority for the safety, security and environmental performance of international shipping.
- 2. It covers only operational oil pollution along with pollution by chemicals, sewage, garbage and air pollution.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: IMO: It is the first ever international organization devoted exclusively to maritime matters.

- It is the global standard-setting authority for the safety, security and environmental performance of international shipping.
- The objective of IMO is the improvement of Maritime safety and the prevention of marine pollution.
- It covers accidental and operational oil pollution along with pollution by chemicals, sewage, garbage and air pollution.

- IMO currently has 175 Member States and 3 Associate Members. Observer status is granted to qualified nongovernmental organisations.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) The famous “Ballast Water Management Convention” related to which of the following?

- a) UNEP
- b) IMO
- c) UNCLOS
- d) UNESCO

ANS: B

Explanation: Ballast water management convention was adopted in IMO in 2004 and came into force in 2017 to prevent the spread of harmful aquatic organisms from one region to another.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) Which of the following reports are published/released by “United Nations Environment Programme”?

- 1. Global Environment Outlook
- 2. Emissions Gap Report
- 3. The Energy Report

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: UNEP is the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda.

Reports - Global Environment Outlook, Emission Gap Report, Adaptation Gap Report, Actions on Air Quality & Rise of Environmental Crime Report (along with INTERPOL).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding “United Nations Environment Assembly”:

- 1. It is hosted by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) every three years.
- 2. It was created in 1972 as the governing body of the 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: D

Explanation: The UNEA is the world’s highest-level decision-making body on the environment which brings together representatives to address the world’s most pressing environmental challenges.

- UNEA is hosted by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) every two years.
- It was created in 2012 as the governing body of the UNEP.
- All the members of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) are members of the UNEA.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “Green Climate Fund”:

1. It was established under the Cancun Agreements in 2010 of UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
2. It serves as finance mechanism for UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement.

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: Green Climate Fund (GCF):

It was established under the Cancun Agreements in 2010 by 194 countries party to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

- It was established as a dedicated financing vehicle for developing countries within the global climate architecture, serving the Financial Mechanism of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement.
- The Fund pays particular attention to the needs of societies that are highly vulnerable to climate change, in particular Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and African States.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) Which of the following programmes/conventions are covered under financial mechanisms of “Global Environment facility”?

1. Minamata Convention on Mercury
2. United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity
3. United Nations Environment Programme

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Global Environment Facility is a financial mechanism for 5 major international environmental conventions:

1. Minamata Convention on Mercury
2. Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)
3. United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD)
4. United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and
5. United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding “UN – Habitat”:

1. Its headquarters is located at Vienna, Austria.
2. It reports to the United Nations General Assembly.

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: UN – Habitat is the United Nations agency for human settlements and sustainable urban development.

- Its headquarters - Nairobi, Kenya.
- It reports to the United Nations General Assembly.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) Which of the following element is controlled by Minamata Convention?

- Mercury
- Lead
- Cadmium
- Nitrate

ANS: A

Explanation: Minamata Convention on Mercury is adopted in 2013 at Geneva, came into force in 2017. It is the 1st global legally binding treaty to protect human health and environment from adverse effects of mercury.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) Which of the following is/are objective/s of “UN Global Framework on Chemicals”?

1. Prevention of illegal trade and trafficking of chemicals and waste.
2. Phase out highly hazardous pesticides in agriculture by 2045.
3. Setting up policies and regulations aimed at reducing chemical pollution by 2030 and promoting alternative.

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

- Only one
- Only two
- Only three
- None

ANS: B

Explanation: The objectives of Global Framework on Chemicals:

- Prevention of illegal trade and trafficking of chemicals and waste.
- Phase out highly hazardous pesticides in agriculture by 2025.
- Setting up policies and regulations aimed at reducing chemical pollution by 2030 and promoting alternative.

Source: FORUMIAS

International Environmental Conventions – II

Q.1) Which of the following areas of work is/are focused by “United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)”?

1. Development
2. Disaster risk reduction
3. Climate change

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

- Only one
- Only two
- Only three
- None

ANS: C

Explanation: UNDP was formed in 1965 to help countries eliminate poverty and achieve sustainable human development.

- UNDP is working to strengthen new frameworks for development, disaster risk reduction and climate change.
- It also encourages the protection of human rights and the empowerment of women in all of its programmes.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.2) Which of the following organization awards the “**Champions of the Earth award**”?

- a) UNDP
- b) UNEP
- c) UNSDG
- d) UNCTAD

ANS: B

Explanation: **Champions of the Earth award** - The annual Champions of the Earth award has been awarded to trailblazers at the forefront of efforts to protect our natural world.

It is the UN’s highest environmental honour launched by UNEP in 2005.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding “**United Nations Forum on Forests**”:

1. It is composed of all Member States of the United Nations and specialized agencies.
2. It meets twice a year.

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: UNFF - A subsidiary body established by the UN ECOSOC in 2000.

The Forum has universal membership and is composed of all Member States of the United Nations and specialized agencies. The UNFF meet happens annually.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) Which of the following is/are examples of “**Financial Intermediary Fund (FIF)**”?

1. Adaptation Fund
2. Global Environment Facility
3. Green Climate Fund

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: FIF provides independently governed multi-contributor collaboration platforms for the global community.

- It focuses on specific themes and each FIF is a type of trust fund for which the World Bank serves as trustee.
- Examples: Adaptation Fund, The Pandemic Fund, Global Environment Facility, Green Climate Fund, etc.,
- FIF Trusteeship does not involve overseeing or supervising the use of funds.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding “**World Food Programme**”:

1. It helps to promote environmental and economic stability and agricultural production.
2. It runs with support of donations from permanent security council members.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The WFP, the food-assistance branch of the UN, is the world’s largest humanitarian organisation committed towards its global goal of ending hunger by the year 2030.

- In India, WFP has moved from providing direct food aid to providing technical assistance and capacity building services to the Government, with Ministry of Agriculture being the nodal ministry.
- Food-for-work programmes help promote environmental and economic stability and agricultural production.
- WFP runs entirely on public donations and its donors include governments, corporations and individuals.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) Which of the following group/organization is known for “Atoms for Peace”?

- a) International Atomic Energy Agency
- b) Nuclear Suppliers Group
- c) Missile Technology Control Regime
- d) Australia group

ANS: A

Explanation: 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.7) Which of the following organizations can apply loan from “**U.N. Central Emergency Response Fund**”?

1. World Bank
2. International Monetary Fund
3. Global Environment Facility

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

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

ANS: D

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.

- It receives broad support from United Nations Member States, observers, regional governments and international organizations, the private sector and individuals.
- The UN specialized agencies, the International Organization for Migration and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs can apply for loans.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) Which of the following state has highest number of elephant corridors?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Elephant Corridors of India: West Bengal has the highest number of elephant corridors.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) The “Ludwigia peruviana” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Mangrove Species
- b) Invasive Weed
- c) Drought resistant plant
- d) Water plant

ANS: B

Explanation: Ludwigia peruviana is an invasive weed, threatening elephant habitats and foraging grounds in Tamil Nadu.

Infested most of the hill station’s swamps, locally known as vayals.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The Kamlang Tiger Reserve is often seen in news related to?

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

ANS: D

Explanation: Kamlang is in the southeastern part of Lohit District in Arunachal Pradesh near the border with Myanmar.

Source: FORUMIAS

National Institutions and Environmental organization and National Missions on Environment

Q.1) The “Global Forest Goals (GFGs)” report published by which of the following?

- a) United Nations Forum on Forests
- b) UNEP
- c) UNDP
- d) FAO

ANS: A

Explanation: On 20 January 2017, the Special Session of the **UN Forum on Forests** adopted the recommendations of the Working Group of the Forum, which featured the first ever UN Strategic Plan for Forests.

- The UN Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030 provides a global framework for actions at all levels to sustainably manage all types of forests and trees outside forests and halt deforestation and forest degradation.
- At the heart of the Strategic Plan are six Global Forest Goals and 26 associated targets to be achieved by 2030, which are voluntary and universal.
- They support the objectives of the International Arrangement on Forests and aim to contribute to progress on the Sustainable Development Goals, the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, the Paris Agreement adopted under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and other international forest-related instruments, processes, commitments and goals.

Source: <https://www.un.org/esa/forests/news/2017/01/six-global-forest-goals/index.html>

Q.2) The “Kunming – Montreal” framework is often seen in news related to?

- a) Climate change
- b) Ozone depleting substances
- c) Biodiversity
- d) Energy efficiency

ANS: C

Explanation: The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) is an international agreement to protect and restore biodiversity by 2030. It was adopted in December 2022 at the 15th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.3) Which of the following services is/are provided by “mangroves”?

- 1. Carbon sequestration
- 2. Biodiversity conservation
- 3. Disaster risk reduction

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Services provided by Mangroves: Carbon Sequestration (~11 billion tonnes, 3 times of amount stored in tropical forests of same size); Biodiversity Conservation, disaster risk reduction, etc.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.4) The “SAIME” initiative is often seen on news related to?

- a) Coral reefs
- b) Mangroves
- c) Sea grass
- d) Agriculture

ANS: B

Explanation: Sustainable Aquaculture In Mangrove Ecosystem (SAIME) initiative: Building aquaculture farms using IMA (integrated mangrove aquaculture) systems.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.5) The “**Forest Advisory Committee**” is a statutory body formed under which of the following?

- a) Wildlife conservation act
- b) Forest conservation act
- c) Biodiversity act
- d) Forest rights act

ANS: B

Explanation: Forest Advisory Committee (FAC): Statutory body under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 under MoEF&CC.

- Approves diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes.
- Assesses land request validity, evaluates impact minimization plans, and considers potential damage to local ecology and wildlife habitats.
- Role of FAC is recommendatory in nature so far as diversion of forest land for purpose of non-forestry use is concerned.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.6) The “Nature Restoration Plan (NRP)” is often seen in news related to?

- a) USA
- b) Russia
- c) China
- d) EU

ANS: D

Explanation: The European Union approves NRP, the first of its kind.

It is a continent-wide and comprehensive law that forms part of the EU's European Green Deal (aims for net zero emissions of greenhouse gases by 2050).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.7) In which of the following place/s is/are a coral reef found in India?

- 1. Gulf of Kutch
- 2. Lakshadweep
- 3. Gulf of Mannar

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Coral reefs are marine invertebrate animals with hard exoskeletons made of calcium carbonate.

- Made up of colonies of hundreds to thousands of tiny individual corals, called polyps. 45 countries have 75% of the world's coral reefs.
- Presence in India: Gulf of Kutch, Gulf of Mannar, Andaman & Nicobar, and Lakshadweep Islands.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.8) The “Bhoj Wetland” is often seen in news related to?

- a) Chhattisgarh
- b) Uttar Pradesh
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Madhya Pradesh

ANS: D

Explanation: Bhoj Wetland consists of two contiguous human-made reservoirs, the upper and lower lakes located in the city of Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

- The Upper Lake is called Bhojtal (Bada Talaab) and Lower Lake is known as Chhota Talaab. The lakes are very rich in biodiversity, particularly for macrophytes, phytoplankton and zooplankton.
- It has more than 15 kinds of fish and several vulnerable species including turtles, amphibians and aquatic invertebrates. It is designated as the Ramsar site in 2002.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.9) The “Deepor Beel” wetland is recently seen in news located at?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Assam government has expressed intent to allow water sports and tourism-related activities in Deepor Beel.

- It is a permanent freshwater lake and the largest Beel (lake) in Brahmaputra valley of Lower Assam.
- It is a wildlife sanctuary, Ramsar site and Important Bird Area site (declared by an NGO Birdlife International).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The famous “Dachigam National Park (DNP)” is recently seen in news located at?

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Dachigam National Park (DNP) is in Jammu and Kashmir (Zabarwan mountain ranges of the Himalayas).

- It occupies almost half of the catchment zone of Dal Lake.
- Dachigam nallah coming from Marshar Lake flows through it.

Source: FORUMIAS