

ForumIAS

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# Prelims Marathon

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HISTORY  
ECONOMICS  
POLITY  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT

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## Soils And Their Distribution in India

1. **Consider the following statements regarding Alluvial Soils in India:**

1. Alluvial soils are primarily found in the Indo-Gangetic Plains and are formed by the deposition of sediments by rivers.
2. Khadar soils, a type of alluvial soil, are older deposits and less fertile compared to Bangar soils.
3. Alluvial soils are rich in potash and phosphorus but deficient in nitrogen and organic matter.

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

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer:** B

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1: Correct.** Alluvial soils are deposited by rivers and are predominant in the Indo-Gangetic Plains, deltas, and coastal regions.

**Statement 2: Incorrect.** Khadar soils are newer, annually replenished alluvial deposits and are more fertile than the older Bangar soils.

**Statement 3: Correct.** Alluvial soils are typically rich in potash and phosphorus but lack nitrogen and organic matter.

2. **In the context of Black Soils in India, consider the following statements:**

1. Black soils, also known as regur soils, are formed from the weathering of basaltic lava of the Deccan Traps.
2. These soils are highly retentive of moisture due to their high clay content and are ideal for cotton cultivation.
3. Black soils are predominantly found in the Gangetic Plains and support rice as the primary crop.

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

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer:** A

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1: Correct.** Black soils are formed from the weathering of basaltic lava of the Deccan Traps, found in regions like Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh.

**Statement 2: Correct.** Due to high clay content, black soils retain moisture well, making them suitable for cotton cultivation.

**Statement 3: Incorrect.** Black soils are primarily found in the Deccan Plateau, not the Gangetic Plains, where alluvial soils support rice cultivation.

3. **With reference to Laterite Soils in India, consider the following statements:**

1. Laterite soils develop under high temperature and heavy rainfall conditions with intense leaching.
2. These soils are rich in iron and aluminium oxides but poor in nitrogen, phosphorus, and organic matter.
3. Laterite soils are extensively used for rice cultivation in the eastern coastal plains.

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

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer:** A

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1: Correct.** Laterite soils form in high-temperature, high-rainfall regions like the Western Ghats due to intense leaching.

**Statement 2: Correct.** Laterite soils are rich in iron and aluminium oxides but deficient in nitrogen, phosphorus, and organic matter.

**Statement 3: Incorrect.** Laterite soils are not suitable for rice; they are used for crops like cashew and tapioca or for brick-making due to their poor fertility.

4. **Consider the following statements about Red and Yellow Soils in India:**

1. Red and yellow soils develop on crystalline igneous rocks in areas of low rainfall, such as parts of the Deccan Plateau.
2. The red colour of these soils is due to the diffusion of iron oxides, while yellow colour appears under hydrated conditions.

**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

**Correct Answer:** C

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1: Correct.** Red and yellow soils form on crystalline igneous rocks in low-rainfall areas like parts of the Deccan Plateau and eastern India.

**Statement 2: Correct.** The red colour results from iron oxide diffusion, while the yellow hue appears when the iron is hydrated.

5. **Consider the following statements about Forest Soils in India:**

1. Forest soils are found in the Himalayan foothills and Western Ghats, with high organic matter content due to dense vegetation.
2. These soils are highly fertile and support intensive agriculture like rice and wheat cultivation.

**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

**Correct Answer:** A

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1: Correct.** Forest soils occur in areas like the Himalayan foothills and Western Ghats, rich in organic matter due to forest cover.

**Statement 2: Incorrect.** Forest soils vary in fertility and are not typically used for intensive agriculture like rice or wheat, which require alluvial soils.

6. **Consider the following statements about Arid Soils in India:**

1. Arid soils, found in the Thar Desert, have a sandy texture and are deficient in organic matter due to low vegetation.
2. These soils are highly fertile due to the accumulation of soluble salts in the topsoil.

**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

**Correct Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1: Correct.** Arid soils in the Thar Desert are sandy, with low organic matter due to sparse vegetation in arid conditions.

**Statement 2: Incorrect.** Arid soils are not highly fertile; their high salt content and low organic matter limit agricultural productivity.

7. **Which of the following factors influence the formation and distribution of soils in India?**

1. Parent rock material, such as basalt or granite, determines the mineral composition of soils.
  2. High rainfall and leaching lead to the formation of laterite soils in tropical regions.
  3. Cold desert conditions in Ladakh result in soils with high organic content.
  4. Riverine deposition contributes to the formation of alluvial soils in the Indo-Gangetic Plains.
  5. Topography influences soil thickness, with thinner soils on steep slopes and thicker soils in valleys.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1, 2, 4 and 5 only
- C. 3 and 4 only
- D. 1, 3 and 5 only

**Correct Answer: B**

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1: Correct.** Parent rock material, like basalt for black soils or granite for red soils, determines soil mineralogy.

**Statement 2: Correct.** High rainfall and leaching in tropical areas like the Western Ghats form laterite soils.

**Statement 3: Incorrect.** Cold desert soils in Ladakh have low organic content due to sparse vegetation.

**Statement 4: Correct.** Riverine deposition forms alluvial soils in the Indo-Gangetic Plains.

**Statement 5: Correct.** Topography affects soil thickness, with steeper slopes having thinner soils and valleys having thicker deposits.

8. **Which of the following statements describe the characteristics of Peaty and Marshy Soils in India?**

1. Peaty soils are found in high-rainfall areas like Kerala and the Sundarbans, with high organic matter content.
2. These soils are acidic due to the accumulation of partially decomposed organic matter.
3. Marshy soils are well-suited for intensive agriculture like wheat and sugarcane cultivation.
4. Peaty soils often develop under waterlogged conditions, leading to anaerobic decomposition.

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

- A. 1 and 3 only

- B. 1, 2 and 4 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 4 only

**Correct Answer:** B

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1: Correct.** Peaty soils occur in high-rainfall areas like Kerala and the Sundarbans, rich in organic matter.

**Statement 2: Correct.** These soils are acidic due to the slow decomposition of organic matter in waterlogged conditions.

**Statement 3: Incorrect.** Marshy soils are not suitable for intensive agriculture like wheat or sugarcane due to waterlogging and low fertility.

**Statement 4: Correct.** Peaty soils form under waterlogged, anaerobic conditions, leading to incomplete organic decomposition.

9. **Which of the following statements highlight the agricultural significance of soils in India?**

1. Alluvial soils in the Indo-Gangetic Plains support intensive agriculture due to their high fertility and water retention.
2. Black soils in the Deccan Plateau are ideal for cotton due to their moisture-retention capacity.
3. Laterite soils in the Western Ghats are extensively used for rice cultivation due to their high nutrient content.
4. Red soils in southern India support millets and groundnuts with proper irrigation and fertilization.

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

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1, 2 and 4 only
- C. 3 and 4 only
- D. 1, 3 and 4 only

**Correct Answer:** B

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1: Correct.** Alluvial soils in the Indo-Gangetic Plains are highly fertile, supporting crops like rice and wheat.

**Statement 2: Correct.** Black soils, with high clay content, are ideal for cotton due to their moisture retention.

**Statement 3: Incorrect.** Laterite soils are poor in nutrients and not suitable for rice; they support crops like cashew or tapioca.

**Statement 4: Correct.** Red soils, with proper irrigation and fertilization, support millets and groundnuts in southern India.

10. **Which of the following soils is most suitable for cotton cultivation in India due to its high moisture-retention capacity?**

- A. Alluvial Soil
- B. Black Soil
- C. Laterite Soil
- D. Red Soil

**Correct Answer:** B

**Explanation:**

Black soil, also known as regur soil, is ideal for cotton cultivation due to its high clay content and excellent moisture-retention capacity, found mainly in the Deccan Plateau.



## India Flora and Fauna

1. Consider the following statements regarding factors influencing India's natural vegetation:
  1. Relief features like altitude and slope significantly affect vegetation types, with montane forests at higher elevations.
  2. Photoperiod, or day length, plays a crucial role in the growth of tropical vegetation due to India's location near the equator.
  3. Soil type has minimal impact on vegetation distribution, as climate overrides edaphic factors in most regions.
  4. Precipitation patterns determine the transition from evergreen to deciduous forests in India.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
- B. 1, 2 and 4 only
- C. 1, 3 and 4 only
- D. 2, 3 and 4 only

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. Relief, including altitude, influences vegetation, with montane forests in the Himalayas.

Statement 2: Correct. Photoperiod affects plant growth, with longer days supporting diverse tropical vegetation in India.

Statement 3: Incorrect. Soil type significantly impacts vegetation, such as laterite soils supporting specific flora.

Statement 4: Correct. Precipitation levels determine evergreen (high rainfall) vs. deciduous (moderate rainfall) forests.

2. In the context of Tropical Evergreen Forests in India, consider the following statements:
  1. These forests are found in regions with annual rainfall exceeding 200 cm and short dry seasons, like the Western Ghats.
  2. Species like rosewood and ebony dominate, with multi-layered canopies restricting undergrowth due to dense shade.
  3. These forests exhibit seasonal shedding of leaves, adapting to monsoon variability.
  4. Commercial exploitation is limited due to the heterogeneous species composition and difficult terrain.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
- B. 1, 2 and 4 only
- C. 1, 3 and 4 only
- D. 2, 3 and 4 only

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. Tropical Evergreen Forests occur in high-rainfall areas (>200 cm) like the Western Ghats and Northeast India.

Statement 2: Correct. Species like rosewood and ebony form multi-layered structures, limiting undergrowth.

Statement 3: Incorrect. These forests do not shed leaves seasonally; they remain green year-round.

Statement 4: Correct. Heterogeneous species and accessibility issues limit commercial exploitation.

3. With reference to Tropical Deciduous Forests in India, consider the following statements:

1. These forests, also known as monsoon forests, shed leaves during the dry season to conserve water.
2. They are divided into moist and dry types, with teak dominant in moist deciduous forests.
3. Dry deciduous forests transition into thorn forests in regions with rainfall below 70 cm.
4. These forests are less economically valuable than evergreen forests due to lower timber quality.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
- B. 1, 2 and 4 only
- C. 1, 3 and 4 only
- D. 2, 3 and 4 only

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. Tropical Deciduous Forests shed leaves in the dry season for water conservation.

Statement 2: Correct. Divided into moist (teak dominant) and dry types based on rainfall.

Statement 3: Correct. Dry deciduous forests grade into thorn forests in low-rainfall areas (<70 cm).

Statement 4: Incorrect. These forests are economically valuable for timber like teak and sal.

4. Consider the following statements about Thorn Forests and Scrubs in India:

1. Thorn forests occur in semi-arid regions with rainfall less than 70 cm, like Rajasthan and Gujarat.
2. Species such as acacias, palms, and euphorbias dominate, with adaptations like succulent stems.
3. These forests provide fodder for livestock and fuelwood but have limited timber value.
4. Scrubs are degraded forms of thorn forests due to overgrazing and deforestation.
5. Thorn forests support diverse wildlife, including large herbivores like elephants.
6. Climate change may expand thorn forest areas by increasing aridity in marginal regions.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
- B. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 only
- C. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 only
- D. 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 only

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. Thorn forests are in semi-arid areas (<70 cm rainfall) like Rajasthan.

Statement 2: Correct. Species like acacias and euphorbias have adaptations for water conservation.

Statement 3: Correct. They provide fodder and fuelwood but little timber.

Statement 4: Correct. Scrubs result from degradation of thorn forests.

Statement 5: Incorrect. They support smaller wildlife like deer, not large herbivores like elephants.

Statement 6: Correct. Increasing aridity due to climate change may expand these areas.

5. In the context of Montane Forests in India, consider the following statements:

1. Montane forests show vertical zonation, with wet temperate types between 1,000–2,000 meters.
2. Conifers like pine and deodar dominate in the temperate zone above 1,500 meters.
3. Alpine vegetation above 3,600 meters consists of shrubs and grasses, transitioning to tundra.
4. Montane forests in the Himalayas are less diverse than those in the Western Ghats due to altitude.
5. Blue pine and spruce are common in the moist temperate forests.
6. These forests are crucial for watershed protection and biodiversity hotspots.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1, 2, 3 and 4 only



- B. 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 only
- C. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 only
- D. 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 only

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. Vertical zonation in montane forests, with wet temperate at 1,000–2,000 m.

Statement 2: Correct. Conifers like pine and deodar in temperate zones above 1,500 m.

Statement 3: Correct. Alpine zone above 3,600 m has shrubs and grasses, leading to tundra.

Statement 4: Incorrect. Himalayan montane forests are diverse; comparison with Western Ghats is not about less diversity due to altitude alone.

Statement 5: Correct. Blue pine and spruce in moist temperate forests.

Statement 6: Correct. They protect watersheds and are biodiversity hotspots.

6. With reference to Mangrove Forests in India, consider the following statements:

1. Mangroves are tidal forests found in coastal deltas like the Sundarbans, adapted to saline conditions.
2. Species like sundari and rhizophora have pneumatophores for breathing in anaerobic soils.
3. Mangroves act as natural barriers against cyclones and tsunamis, protecting coastlines.
4. The Ganga-Brahmaputra delta hosts the largest mangrove forest in the world.
5. Mangroves support limited biodiversity due to high salinity.
6. Climate change poses threats through sea-level rise and altered salinity.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
- B. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 only
- C. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 only
- D. 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 only

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. Mangroves in tidal coastal areas like Sundarbans, adapted to salinity.

Statement 2: Correct. Species like sundari have pneumatophores for aeration.

Statement 3: Correct. They buffer against cyclones and tsunamis.

Statement 4: Correct. Sundarbans is the world's largest mangrove forest.

Statement 5: Incorrect. Mangroves support rich biodiversity, including tigers and fish.

Statement 6: Correct. Sea-level rise and salinity changes threaten mangroves.

7. Consider the following statements about India's wildlife distribution:

1. India has about 8% of the world's biodiversity, with high endemism in the Western Ghats and Himalayas.
2. The Asiatic lion is endemic to Gir National Park in Gujarat.
3. The one-horned rhinoceros is primarily found in the Brahmaputra Valley.
4. Himalayan fauna includes species like the snow leopard and red panda.
5. Desert wildlife in India includes the Indian bustard and wild ass, adapted to arid conditions.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
- C. 2, 3 and 5 only
- D. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. India hosts 8% of global biodiversity with high endemism in hotspots like Western Ghats.

Statement 2: Correct. Asiatic lion is confined to Gir in Gujarat.

Statement 3: Correct. One-horned rhino in Kaziranga, Brahmaputra Valley.

Statement 4: Correct. Snow leopard and red panda in Himalayas.

Statement 5: Correct. Indian bustard and wild ass in Thar Desert.

8. In the context of endangered species and conservation in India, consider the following statements:
1. Project Tiger was launched in 1973 to conserve the Bengal tiger, leading to increased tiger reserves.
  2. The Indian elephant is protected under Project Elephant, focusing on migration corridors.
  3. Vultures in India have declined due to diclofenac use in livestock, affecting ecological balance.
  4. The Great Indian Bustard is critically endangered due to habitat loss from agriculture.
  5. Biosphere reserves like Nilgiri aim to conserve biodiversity while allowing sustainable human activity.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
- B. 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
- C. 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
- D. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. Project Tiger (1973) has established numerous tiger reserves.

Statement 2: Correct. Project Elephant protects elephants by securing corridors.

Statement 3: Correct. Diclofenac caused vulture decline, disrupting scavenging.

Statement 4: Correct. Great Indian Bustard endangered by habitat conversion.

Statement 5: Correct. Biosphere reserves like Nilgiri balance conservation and sustainability.

9. With reference to biodiversity hotspots and protected areas in India, consider the following statements:
1. The Western Ghats and Eastern Himalayas are recognized as global biodiversity hotspots.
  2. National parks like Kaziranga are strictly protected with no human activity allowed.
  3. Wildlife sanctuaries permit limited human activities like grazing, unlike national parks.
  4. Man and Biosphere Programme designates areas like Sunderbans for integrated conservation.
  5. Endemic species like the Nilgiri tahr are protected in specific reserves like Eravikulam.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
- B. 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
- C. 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
- D. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. Western Ghats and Eastern Himalayas are hotspots with high endemism.

Statement 2: Correct. National parks like Kaziranga prohibit human activities.

Statement 3: Correct. Sanctuaries allow limited activities like grazing.

Statement 4: Correct. MAB designates biosphere reserves like Sunderbans.

Statement 5: Correct. Nilgiri tahr protected in Eravikulam National Park.

10. Which of the following is the largest biosphere reserve in India, known for its mangrove forests and Royal Bengal tigers?
- A. Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve
  - B. Sunderbans Biosphere Reserve
  - C. Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve
  - D. Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

The Sunderbans Biosphere Reserve is the largest in India, famous for its extensive mangroves and as a habitat for the Royal Bengal tiger.

## Economic Geography of the world

1. **Consider the following statements regarding primary economic activities:**
- 1. Subsistence agriculture is characterized by low productivity and dependence on natural factors, prevalent in regions like Sub-Saharan Africa.
  - 2. Nomadic herding is adapted to arid and semi-arid climates, where mobility allows exploitation of sparse vegetation resources.
  - 3. Mining as a primary activity is location-specific due to the geological occurrence of minerals, often leading to boom-and-bust cycles in economies.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?**
- A. 1 and 2 only
  - B. 2 and 3 only
  - C. 1 and 3 only
  - D. 1, 2 and 3

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

**Statement 1: Correct.** Subsistence agriculture involves small plots, family labor, and low yields, common in developing regions like Sub-Saharan Africa.

**Statement 2: Correct.** Nomadic herding involves seasonal migration in arid areas to utilize sparse pastures, as seen in the Sahel or Mongolian steppes.

**Statement 3: Correct.** Mining is tied to mineral deposits, causing economic fluctuations in resource-dependent areas like parts of Australia or Zambia.

2. **In the context of secondary economic activities, consider the following statements:**
- 1. Manufacturing industries are classified based on inputs like agro-based or mineral-based, influencing their location near raw material sources.
  - 2. The footloose industries are less dependent on specific location factors due to their reliance on ubiquitous raw materials and skilled labor.
  - 3. Household industries, or cottage industries, are capital-intensive and typically located in urban centers for market access.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?**
- A. 1 and 2 only
  - B. 1 and 3 only

- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer:** A

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1: Correct.** Industries like textiles (agro-based) or steel (mineral-based) locate near raw materials to minimize transport costs.

**Statement 2: Correct.** Footloose industries, such as electronics, can locate flexibly due to light inputs and focus on labor or markets.

**Statement 3: Incorrect.** Household industries are labor-intensive, small-scale, and often rural, not capital-intensive or urban-focused.

3. **With reference to tertiary economic activities, consider the following statements:**

1. Tertiary activities involve services like retail and wholesale trade, which have grown due to urbanization and rising disposable incomes.
2. Transport services in tertiary sector are influenced by terrain and technology, with pipelines being efficient for liquids over long distances.
3. Tourism as a tertiary activity is resource-based and often leads to environmental degradation in fragile ecosystems.

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

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer:** D

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1: Correct.** Tertiary services like trade expand with urban growth and economic development, as seen in global cities.

**Statement 2: Correct.** Transport modes vary by factors; pipelines are cost-effective for oil/gas, minimizing losses over distances.

**Statement 3: Correct.** Tourism relies on natural/cultural attractions but can cause overuse, as in coastal or mountain areas.

4. **Consider the following statements about quaternary economic activities:**

1. Quaternary activities focus on knowledge-based services like research and development, prominent in developed economies.
2. Information technology hubs, such as Silicon Valley, exemplify quaternary activities due to agglomeration of skilled workforce.

**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

**Correct Answer:** C

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1: Correct.** Quaternary involves high-level decision-making and R&D, dominant in advanced

nations like the USA or Japan.

**Statement 2: Correct.** IT clusters like Silicon Valley benefit from knowledge spillovers and talent concentration in quaternary sectors.

5. **Consider the following statements about quinary economic activities:**

1. Quinary activities include top-level decision-making roles, such as government policies and corporate strategies.
2. These activities are concentrated in global financial centers like New York, influencing worldwide economic trends.

**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

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1: Correct.** Quinary encompasses highest decision-makers, e.g., CEOs or policymakers, shaping economic directions.

**Statement 2: Correct.** Centers like New York host quinary functions in finance and governance, impacting global markets.

6. **Consider the following statements about industrial location factors:**

1. Weber's theory emphasizes transport costs as a key factor in industrial location, aiming for least-cost points.
2. Market-oriented industries locate near consumers to reduce distribution costs for perishable goods.

**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

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1: Correct.** Alfred Weber's model focuses on minimizing transport costs for raw materials and products.

**Statement 2: Correct.** Industries like beverages or bakery locate near markets to avoid spoilage and high shipping costs.

7. **In the context of commercial agriculture, which of the following are characteristics distinguishing it from subsistence farming?**

1. Large farm sizes with mechanization to achieve economies of scale.
2. Focus on cash crops for market sale rather than family consumption.
3. Dependence on chemical inputs for higher yields in monoculture systems.
4. Vulnerability to global market fluctuations in prices and demand.
5. Minimal labor input due to advanced technology in developed regions.

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

- A. 1 and 2 only



- B. 3 and 4 only
- C. 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

**Correct Answer:** D

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1: Correct.** Commercial farms are large and mechanized, e.g., in the US prairies.

**Statement 2: Correct.** Oriented towards markets with crops like wheat or coffee.

**Statement 3: Correct.** Uses fertilizers and pesticides in single-crop systems.

**Statement 4: Correct.** Exposed to international price volatility.

**Statement 5: Correct.** High tech reduces labor needs in regions like Europe or North America.

**8. How do location factors influence the siting of heavy industries?**

1. Proximity to raw materials like coal and iron ore to minimize transport costs.
2. Availability of cheap power sources, such as hydroelectricity or thermal plants.
3. Access to large markets for bulky finished products to reduce distribution expenses.
4. Skilled labor pools in urban areas for complex manufacturing processes.

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

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1, 2 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

**Correct Answer:** D

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1: Correct.** Heavy industries like steel locate near resources, e.g., Pittsburgh.

**Statement 2: Correct.** Energy-intensive, so near power, e.g., aluminum near hydro sites.

**Statement 3: Correct.** Bulky goods favor market proximity, e.g., auto industries.

**Statement 4: Correct.** Require skilled workers, often in cities like Detroit or Ruhr.

**9. In what ways do quaternary and quinary activities differ from tertiary services?**

1. Quaternary involves information processing and R&D, unlike basic tertiary services.
2. Quinary focuses on high-level decisions, setting it apart from routine tertiary tasks.
3. Both quaternary and quinary require advanced education, contrasting with many tertiary jobs.
4. Growth in these activities is linked to knowledge economies in developed nations.

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

- A. 1 and 3 only
- B. 2 and 4 only
- C. 1, 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

**Correct Answer:** D

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1: Correct.** Quaternary: IT, research; tertiary: retail, transport.

**Statement 2: Correct.** Quinary: executives, policymakers; distinct from general services.

**Statement 3: Correct.** Need specialized skills vs. varied tertiary requirements.

**Statement 4: Correct.** Prominent in post-industrial economies like USA, Japan.



10. With reference to pastoral nomadism, which of the following regions is primarily associated with reindeer herding as a primary activity?

- A. Sahel Region of Africa
- B. Mongolian Steppes
- C. Tundra Regions of Siberia
- D. Australian Outback

**Correct Answer:** C

**Explanation:**

Reindeer herding is adapted to cold tundra climates in Siberia, where nomads like the Yakuts move seasonally for pastures, unlike cattle/sheep in other arid/semi-arid regions.

## Natural resources and mineral resources and distribution across the world and India

1. Consider the following statements regarding the classification and types of natural resources:

1. Natural resources are categorized as renewable and non-renewable, with minerals like coal and petroleum classified as non-renewable due to their finite nature and long formation periods.
2. Ubiquitous resources such as air and water are uniformly distributed globally, while localized resources like iron ore are confined to specific geological formations.
3. Human resources, though not natural, influence the utilization of natural resources through technology and economic development.

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

- A. 1 and 3 only
- B. 1, 2 and 3
- C. 1 and 2 only
- D. 2 and 3 only

**Correct Answer:** B

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1:** Correct. Classifications are resources as renewable (e.g., solar, wind) and non-renewable (e.g., coal, petroleum), noting their exhaustible nature due to long geological formation times.
  - **Statement 2:** Correct. Ubiquitous resources (air, water) available globally and localized resources (minerals like iron ore) tied to specific geological regions, such as mining areas.
  - **Statement 3:** Correct. Human skills and technology (e.g., in agriculture or mining) transform natural resources, integrating human factors in resource utilization.
2. In the context of mineral resources and their global distribution, consider the following statements:
1. Iron ore deposits are concentrated in the Mesabi Range in the USA and the Pilbara region in Australia, owing to ancient geological processes forming banded iron formations.
  2. Bauxite, the primary ore for aluminum, is predominantly found in tropical regions like Guinea and Australia due to intense weathering and leaching in high-rainfall areas.
  3. Copper mining is significant in the Andean region of South America, where porphyry deposits result from tectonic activity along plate boundaries.

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

- A. 2 and 3 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 1, 2 and 3
- D. 1 and 2 only

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1:** Correct. Major iron ore regions like Mesabi (USA) and Pilbara (Australia), linked to Precambrian banded iron formations.
- **Statement 2:** Correct. Bauxite forms in tropical climates with high rainfall, concentrating in Guinea and Australia due to weathering, as noted in mining discussions.
- **Statement 3:** Correct. Copper deposits in the Andes (e.g., Chile) are tied to subduction-related porphyry deposits.

**3. With reference to the distribution of key natural resources in India, consider the following statements:**

1. Coal reserves in India are primarily Gondwana type, concentrated in the Damodar Valley due to ancient riverine sedimentation.
2. Petroleum deposits in India are mostly found in the Assam-Arakan belt and the Mumbai High offshore, formed in tertiary sedimentary basins.
3. Manganese ore, essential for steel production, is abundantly available in Odisha and Karnataka, associated with Dharwar rock systems.

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

- A. 1, 2 and 3
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1 and 3 only

**Correct Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1:** Correct. India's Gondwana coal in the Damodar Valley (Jharkhand) formed by Carboniferous sedimentation processes.
- **Statement 2:** Correct. Petroleum in Assam-Arakan and Mumbai High is located in tertiary sedimentary basins.
- **Statement 3:** Correct. Manganese in Odisha and Karnataka is linked to ancient Dharwar formations, crucial for steel.

**4. Consider the following statements about forest resources and their distribution:**

5. Tropical rainforests, rich in biodiversity, are distributed in the Amazon Basin and Congo Basin, supported by an equatorial climate with high rainfall and temperature.
6. Taiga forests, dominated by conifers, are found in high-latitude regions like Siberia and Canada, adapted to long winters and short growing seasons.

**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

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1:** Correct. Tropical rainforests in the Amazon and Congo Basins, thriving in hot, wet equatorial conditions with high biodiversity.
- **Statement 2:** Correct. Taiga (boreal) forests in Siberia and Canada are coniferous, adapted to sub-arctic climates with long winters.
- 

5. **Consider the following statements regarding water resources distribution:**

1. Freshwater resources are unevenly distributed, with Brazil holding the largest share due to the Amazon River system.
2. Groundwater aquifers like the Ogallala in the USA are overexploited, leading to depletion in arid agricultural 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

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1:** Correct. Brazil's significant freshwater resources due to the Amazon River's vast discharge.
- **Statement 2:** Correct. Overexploitation of aquifers like Ogallala for irrigation in arid regions, causing depletion concerns.
- 

6. **Consider the following statements about soil as a natural resource:**

1. Alluvial soils, fertile due to river deposition, are widely distributed in the Indo-Gangetic Plain and Nile Delta.
2. Laterite soils, formed by leaching in tropical areas, are poor in nutrients but common in India's Deccan Plateau.

**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

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1:** Correct. Alluvial soils in river plains like Indo-Gangetic and Nile, supporting agriculture due to fertility.
- **Statement 2:** Correct. Laterite soils in tropical regions like the Deccan are nutrient-poor due to leaching.

7. **Consider the following statements concerning renewable energy resources:**

1. Solar energy potential is highest in desert regions like the Sahara and Thar due to high insolation and clear skies.
2. Wind energy distribution favors coastal and high-altitude areas, with leading producers like Denmark and Germany in Europe.

**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

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1:** Correct. High solar potential in deserts like Sahara and Thar due to intense sunlight and minimal cloud cover.
- **Statement 2:** Correct. Wind energy thrives in coastal/highland areas; Denmark and Germany are leaders.

**8. Which of the following countries is the largest producer of bauxite globally, attributed to its vast lateritic deposits formed under tropical weathering?**

- A. Brazil
- B. China
- C. Australia
- D. India

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

Australia is the largest bauxite producer due to extensive lateritic deposits in tropical/sub-tropical regions.

**9. Among the following, which region in India is known for the highest concentration of mica reserves, essential for electrical industries?**

- A. Jharkhand
- B. Rajasthan
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Odisha

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

Andhra Pradesh, particularly Nellore, holds major mica deposits linked to ancient rock systems, crucial for electrical industries.

**10. With reference to global petroleum distribution, which of the following basins is renowned for its supergiant oil fields formed in Mesozoic sedimentary rocks?**

- A. North Sea Basin
- B. Permian Basin
- C. Persian Gulf Basin
- D. Orinoco Basin

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

The Persian Gulf Basin, with fields like Ghawar, contains supergiant oil reserves in Mesozoic rocks due to tectonic traps

## Races & Tribes, Settlement & Migration in world and in India

1. **Consider the following statements regarding races and tribes in the world:**

1. The Mongoloid race is predominantly found in East Asia and the Arctic regions, characterized by epicanthic eye folds.
2. The San tribe of Southern Africa relies on hunting and gathering, maintaining a nomadic lifestyle in the Botswana Desert.
3. The Australoid race includes indigenous populations of Australia and parts of India, adapted to diverse climates over millennia.

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

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1:** Correct. Mongoloid features like epicanthic folds in East Asia and Arctic regions (e.g., Inuit).
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect. The San (Bushmen) are described as hunter-gatherers with a nomadic lifestyle in the Kalahari, per anthropological references.
- **Statement 3:** Correct. Australoids include Australian Aborigines and some Indian tribes (e.g., Andamanese), adapted to varied environments.

2. **Arrange the following countries in descending order with respect to population:**

1. Mexico
2. Nigeria
3. Brazil
4. USA

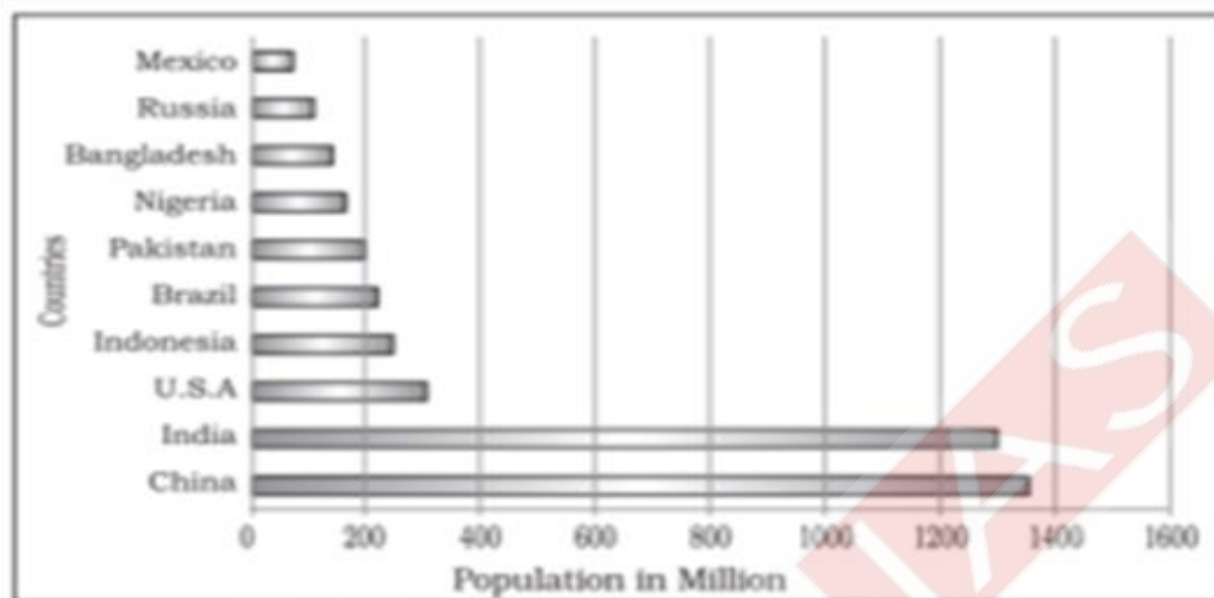
**Choose the correct answer from given codes:**

- A. 1, 2, 3, 4
- B. 4, 3, 2, 1
- C. 4, 3, 1, 2
- D. 1, 2, 4, 3

**Correct Answer: B**

**Explanation:** Patterns of population distribution and density help us to understand the demographic characteristics of any area.

- The term population distribution refers to the way people are spaced over the earth's surface.
- Broadly, 90 per cent of the world population lives in about 10 per cent of its land area.
- The 10 most populous countries of the world contribute about 60 per cent of the world's population.



**Fig. 2.1: Most Populous Countries**

3. **In the context of tribal populations in India, consider the following statements:**

1. The Gonds, a major tribal group, inhabit the central Indian states of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, practicing shifting cultivation.
2. The Bhils, known for their archery skills, are concentrated in Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh, with a semi-nomadic past.
3. The Toda tribe of the Nilgiri Hills follows a pastoral lifestyle, rearing buffaloes for dairy products.

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

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1:** Correct. Gonds in central India, practicing shifting cultivation (e.g., podu).
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect. Bhils in Rajasthan and Gujarat are known for archery and historical semi-nomadism, per tribal studies.
- **Statement 3:** Correct. The Todas in Nilgiri Hills are pastoral, focusing on buffalo rearing, as noted in Indian tribal contexts.

4. **With reference to migration patterns globally, consider the following statements:**

1. Availability of water
2. Urbanization
3. Social and political unrest

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

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only



- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer:** D

**Explanation:**

**Availability of water:** Water is the most important factor for life. So, people prefer to live in areas where fresh water is easily available.

- Water is used for drinking, bathing and cooking – and also for cattle, crops, industries and navigation.
- It is because of this that river valleys are among the most densely populated areas of the world.

**Urbanization:** Cities offer better employment opportunities, educational and medical facilities, better means of transport and communication.

- Good civic amenities and the attraction of city life draw people to the cities. It leads to rural to urban migration and cities grow in size.
- Mega cities of the world continue to attract large number of migrants every year.

Some places attract more people because they have religious or cultural significance. In the same way – people tend to move away from places where there is **social and political unrest**.

4. **Consider the following statements about settlements in the world:**

1. Clustered settlements are common in fertile river valleys, such as the Ganges Plain, due to agricultural suitability.
2. Dispersed settlements predominate in hilly regions like the Alps, where terrain limits dense habitation.

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

- A. 1 only
- B. Neither 1 nor 2
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. 2 only

**Correct Answer:** C

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1:** Correct. Clustered settlements in fertile areas like the Ganges Plain for farming.
- **Statement 2:** Correct. Dispersed settlements in hilly regions like the Alps are due to rugged terrain, per settlement patterns.

5. **Consider the following statements about migration in India:**

1. Seasonal migration occurs among agricultural laborers in states like Bihar, seeking work during off-seasons.
2. Urban-to-rural migration has increased due to reverse commuting trends in metropolitan areas.

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

- A. Neither 1 nor 2
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 only
- D. Both 1 and 2

**Correct Answer:** C

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1:** Correct. Seasonal migration of laborers from Bihar to other regions.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect. Urban-to-rural migration is not a significant trend; rural-to-urban dominates, per migration data.

6. With reference to the tribes of India, consider the following pairs:

List I (Tribe)	List II (Associated with)
1. Soliga Tribe	A. Ramar Koothu dance
2. Pardhi Tribe	B. Increasing tiger population
3. Irula Tribe	C. Nomadic community

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

**Correct Answer: D**

**Explanation:** The provided text contains the following information:

- **Soliga Tribe:** The Prime Minister praised this tribe for their role in increasing the tiger population in the BRT Tiger Reserve, Karnataka. This matches pair 1 with B.
- **Pardhi Tribe:** This is described as a nomadic community that faced an order for search and surveillance. This matches pair 2 with C.
- **Irula Tribe:** The text mentions a workshop to revive Ramar Koothu, a traditional dance-drama of this tribe.

7. Consider the following statements regarding mixed farming:

1. Mixed farms are moderate in size and usually the crops associated with it are wheat, barley, fodder and root crops.
2. Mixed farming is characterized by high capital expenditure on farm machinery and building, extensive use of chemical fertilizers.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

Mixed Farming is a form of agriculture is found in the highly developed parts of the world, e.g. North-western Europe, Eastern North America, parts of Eurasia and the temperate latitudes of Southern continents.

- Mixed farms are moderate in size and usually the crops associated with it are wheat, barley, oats, rye, maize, fodder and root crops. Fodder crops are an important component of mixed farming.
- Crop rotation and intercropping play an important role in maintaining soil fertility. Equal emphasis is laid on crop cultivation and animal husbandry.
- Animals like cattle, sheep, pigs and poultry provide the main income along with crops.
- Mixed farming is characterized by high capital expenditure on farm machinery and building, extensive use of chemical fertilizers and green manures and also by the skill and expertise of the farmers.

8. Consider the following pairs:

Tribe	Region
-------	--------

I. Naga	Northeast	India
II. Khasi	Central	India
III. Bodo	Western India	

In how many of the above rows is the given information correctly matched?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All the three
- (d) None

**Correct Answer:** (a)

**Explanation:**

- **Pair I:** Correct. Nagas inhabit Northeast India (e.g., Nagaland).
- **Pair II:** Incorrect. Khasis are in Northeast India (Meghalaya), not Central India.
- **Pair III:** Incorrect. Bodos are in Northeast India (Assam), not Western India.
- Only one pair is correct.

9. The term “Kolkhoz” is related to which of the following?

- A. Collective farming
- B. Cooperative farming
- C. Contract farming
- D. Credit farming

**Correct Answer:** A

**Explanation:**

Explanation: The basic principle behind collective farming based on social ownership of the means of production and collective labour. Collective farming or the model of Kolkhoz was introduced in erstwhile Soviet Union to improve upon the inefficiency of the previous methods of agriculture and to boost agricultural production for self-sufficiency.

10. Among the following, which region in the world is characterized by the highest concentration of Inuit settlements?

- A. Greenland
- B. Patagonia
- C. Siberia
- D. Sahara

**Correct Answer:** A

**Explanation:**

Greenland hosts the largest Inuit population, adapted to Arctic conditions, as noted in global tribal distributions.

## Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries and Aquaculture and Land Reforms and Land use pattern

1. With reference to agricultural reforms in India, consider the following statements:

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1. The Land Ceiling Act aimed to redistribute surplus land to landless farmers.
2. Tenancy reforms sought to provide security of tenure to tenant farmers.
3. The consolidation of holdings improved agricultural productivity by reducing fragmentation.

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

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1:** Correct. The Land Ceiling Act for redistributing surplus land. Set of laws enacted in India to set a maximum limit on agricultural and urban land ownership, with the core goal of redistributing surplus land to the landless and marginalized communities to curb land monopolization and reduce socio-economic inequality.
- **Statement 2:** Correct. Tenancy reforms provided tenure security, per land reform policies.
- **Statement 3:** Correct. Consolidation reduced fragmentation, boosting productivity.

**2. Regarding fisheries and aquaculture development, consider the following statements:**

1. Brackish water aquaculture is practiced in coastal areas like Andhra Pradesh.
2. Marine fisheries contribute the majority of India's fish production.
3. Freshwater aquaculture relies heavily on species like tilapia in northern India.

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

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1:** Correct. Brackish water aquaculture (e.g., shrimp) in Andhra Pradesh.
- **Statement 2:** Correct. Marine fisheries dominate India's fish production (Chapter 5).
- **Statement 3:** Incorrect. Tilapia is less common; carp (e.g., rohu) dominates freshwater aquaculture.

**3. Which of the following land use pattern shown increasing trend after 1950 – 51?**

1. Barren and uncultivable waste land
2. Culturable waste land
3. Fallow other than current fallow

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

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. Only three
- D. None

**Correct Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

Explanation: Four categories have undergone increases, while four have registered declines. Share of area

under forest, area under non-agricultural uses, current fallow lands and net area sown have shown an increase. The four categories that have registered a decline are barren and wasteland, culturable wasteland, area under pastures and tree crops and fallow lands

4. Consider the following statements about land use changes in India:

1. The area under non-agricultural use has increased due to urbanization.
2. The share of pasture land has declined due to conversion to cropland.

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

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

- o **Statement 1:** Correct. Increased non-agricultural use from urbanization.
- o **Statement 2:** Correct. Pasture land has decreased due to cropland expansion.

5. Consider the following statements:

**Statement I:** The adoption of organic farming in India has increased to address soil degradation.

**Statement II:** Government subsidies for chemical fertilizers discourage organic farming practices.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II explains Statement I
- (b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct but Statement II does not explain Statement I
- (c) Statement I is correct but Statement II is not correct
- (d) Statement I is not correct but Statement II is correct

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- o **Statement I:** Correct. Adoption of organic farming practices in India has increased as a response to severe soil degradation caused by the extensive use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides in conventional agriculture.
- o **Statement II:** Correct. Hinder the adoption of organic farming by making chemical inputs artificially cheap, reducing the incentive for farmers to switch to more costly organic alternatives, and contributing to soil degradation that makes organic transitions harder.

6. Consider the following pairs:

**Crop Primary Region**

- I. Tea Assam
- II. Coffee Tamil Nadu
- III. Rubber Kerala

In how many of the above rows is the given information correctly matched?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All the three
- (d) None

**Correct Answer:** (c)

**Explanation:**

- o **Pair I:** Correct. Assam is a primary tea-growing region. India is the world's second-largest tea producer, consuming most of its domestic production while also being a major exporter of renowned Assam and Darjeeling teas.
- o **Pair II:** Correct. Tamil Nadu leads in coffee production. India's coffee cultivation, which started with Baba Budan planting Mocha seeds in the 1600s, is now a global industry centered in the Western Ghats of Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu, with Arabica and Robusta as primary crops.
- o **Pair III:** Correct. Kerala is a major rubber producer. The Rubber Board, in partnership with the Central government and the Automotive Tyre Manufacturers' Association, is spearheading a project to increase the area dedicated to natural rubber in the Northeastern States, excluding Sikkim but including West Bengal.

7. **With reference to land reforms, which state in India was the first to implement the Land Ceiling Act?**

- A. Punjab
- B. West Bengal
- C. Kerala
- D. Jammu and Kashmir

**Correct Answer:** D

**Explanation:**

Jammu and Kashmir was the first Indian state to pass a Land Ceiling Act in the late 1950s or early 1960s. While other states implemented these laws around the same period, Kashmir's Act was the initial legislation setting a maximum limit on land holdings within the state. Kerala was a pioneer in implementing its own comprehensive Land Reforms Act in 1963 that established a ceiling area for land ownership and was significantly amended and enforced from 1970, which was a landmark event in land reform history.

8. **Among the following, which crop is primarily grown under the zaid season in India?**

- A. Wheat
- B. Watermelon
- C. Rice
- D. Mustard

**Correct Answer:** B

**Explanation:**

Zaid crops, also known as summer or gap-filler crops, are short-duration crops grown in India from March to June between the Rabi (winter) and Kharif (monsoon) seasons, requiring hot, dry conditions and irrigation. Common examples include watermelon, cucumber, muskmelon, bitter melon, fodder, pumpkin, and pulses like lentils, and also includes sugarcane and strawberries.

9. **Which of the following is the most significant inland fishery state in India?**

- A. Punjab
- B. Andhra Pradesh
- C. Gujarat
- D. Odisha

**Correct Answer:** B

**Explanation:**



Andhra Pradesh is consistently ranked as India's most significant inland fishery state, recognized for its substantial fish production and leadership in freshwater aquaculture. Following Andhra Pradesh, the next most significant states for inland fisheries are West Bengal, known for its rivers and ponds, and Gujarat, a major producer and exporter of fish.

10. Match the following land use categories with their salient features:

Land Use Category	Salient Feature
Net Sown Area	This area can be brought under cultivation with efforts but should be put under afforestation for long-term conservation.
Area Sown more than once	Rajasthan has the largest area under this category, while Punjab and Haryana have the highest proportion of it.
Cultivable Waste	This type of land use is significant as increasing it is the only way to increase agricultural production after all arable land has been brought under cultivation.
Fallow Lands	Andhra Pradesh has the largest area under 'current fallow' and Rajasthan has the largest area under 'fallow other than current fallow'.

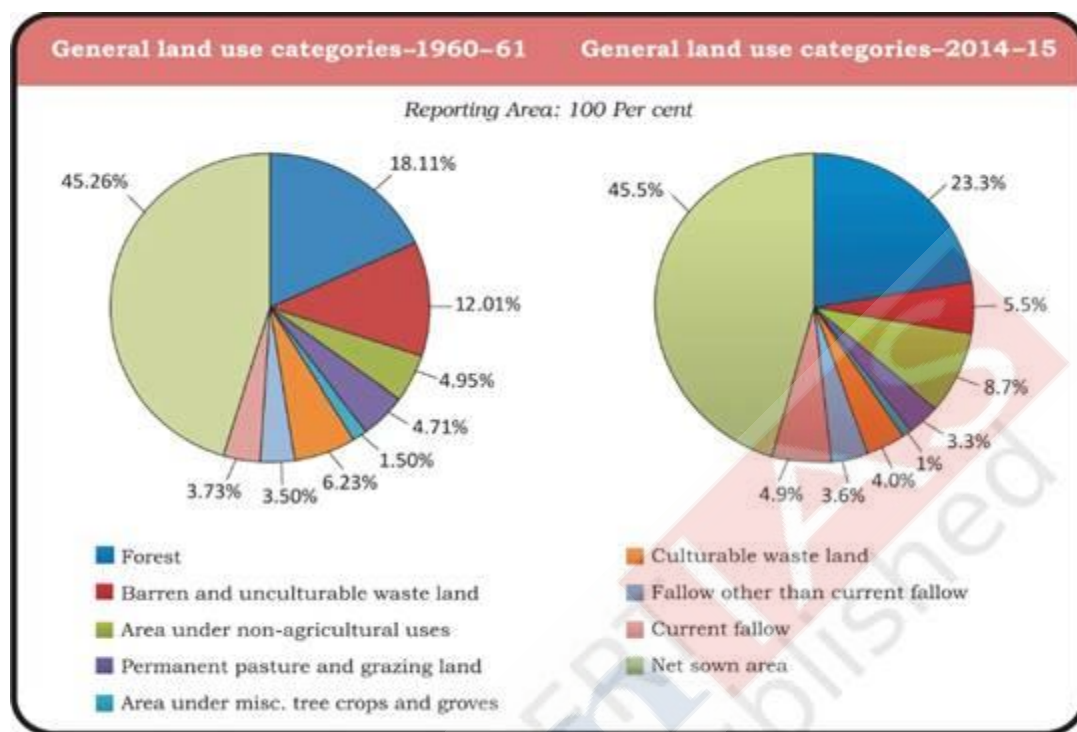
Which of the following is the correct match?

- A. A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4
- B. A-3, B-2, C-1, D-4
- C. A-2, B-4, C-1, D-3
- D. A-4, B-3, C-2, D-1

**Correct Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1:** Net Sown Area (NSA) refers to the total area of land cultivated with crops and orchards in a particular agricultural year, with any land sown more than once counted only once (e.g., Punjab). Rajasthan has the largest NSA of 18.35 million ha... In terms of proportions of NSA to total area, Punjab & Haryana have some of the highest proportions.
- **Statement 2: Area Sown more than once:** Since almost all the arable land had been brought under cultivation, the only way to increase agricultural production is to increase cropping intensity, which can be done by increasing the area sown more than once.
- **Statement 3: Cultivable Waste:** This area can be brought under cultivation with efforts but should be put under afforestation for long-term conservation.
- **Statement 4: Fallow Lands:** Under current fallow, Andhra Pradesh has the largest area" and "The largest area of 'fallow other than current fallow' is in Rajasthan.



Source : Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture, 2017