

## **Previous Year Questions (Environment)**

- Current Affairs
- History
- Geography
- Polity
- Economics
- Culture
- Environment
- Science and Technology

#### ENVIRONMENT

## 2011 UPSC Prelims Questions and Solutions

#### Biodiversity forms the basis for human existence in the following ways : (2011)

- 1. Soil formation
- 2. Prevention of soil erosion
- 3. Recycling of waste
- 4. Pollination of crops

#### Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

## Which one of the following is not a site for in-situ method of conservation of flora? (2011)

- (a.) Biosphere Reserve
- (b.) Botanical Garden
- (c.) National Park
- (d.) Wildlife Sanctuary

#### Solution (b)

#### Consider the following statements: (2011)

- 1. Biodiversity is normally greater in the lower latitudes as compared to the higher latitudes.
- 2. Along the mountain gradients, biodiversity is normally greater in the lower altitudes as compared to the higher altitudes.

## 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

Solution (c)

Three of the following criteria have contributed to the recognition of Western Ghats-Sri Lanka and Indo-Burma regions as hotspots of biodiversity: (2011)

- 1. Species richness
- 2. Vegetation density
- 3. Endemism
- 4. Ethno-botanical importance
- 5. Threat perception
- 6. Adaptation of flora and fauna to warm and humid conditions

#### Which three of the above are correct criteria in this context?

- (a.) 1, 2 and 6
- (b.) 2, 4 and 6
- (c.) 1, 3 and 5
- (d.) 3, 4 and 6

Two important rivers — one with its source in Jharkhand (and known by a different name in Odisha), and another, with its source in Odisha — merge at a place only a short distance from the coast of Bay of Bengal before flowing into the sea. This is an important site of wildlife and biodiversity and a protected area.

Which one of the following could be this?(2011)

- (a.) Bhitarkanika
- (b.) Chandipur-on-sea
- (c.) Gopalpur-on-sea
- (d.) Simlipal

Solution (a)

A sandy and saline area is the natural habitat of an Indian animal species. The animal has no predators in that area but its existence is threatened due to the destruction of its habitat. Which one of the following could be that animal? (2011)

- (a.) Indian wild buffalo
- (b.) Indian wild ass
- (c.) Indian wild boar
- (d.) Indian gazelle

#### Solution (b)

## The Himalayan Range is Very rich in species diversity. Which one among the following is the most appropriate reason for this phenomenon?(2011)

- (a.) It has a high rainfall that supports luxuriant vegetative growth
- (b.) It is a confluence of different bio-geographical zones
- (c.) Exotic and invasive species have not been introduced in this region
- (d.) It has less human interference

## Solution (b)

In the Union Budget 2011-12, a full exemption from the basic customs duty was extended to the bio-based asphalt (bioasphalt). What is the importance of this material? (2011)

- 1. Unlike traditional asphalt, bio-asphalt is not based on fossil fuels.
- 2. Bioasphalt can be made from non-renewable resources.
- 3. Bioasphalt can be made from organic waste materials.
- 4. It is eco-friendly to use bioasphalt for surfacing of the roads.

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

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

## Solution (b)

## Consider the following: (2011)

- 1. Carbon dioxide
- 2. Oxides of Nitrogen
- 3. Oxides of Sulphur

## Which of the above is/are the emission/ emissions from coal combustion at thermal power plants?

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

## Solution (d)

## The formation of ozone hole in the Antarctic region has been a cause of concern. What could be the reason for the formation of this hole? (2011)

- (a.) Presence of prominent tropo-spheric turbulence; and inflow of chlorofluorocarbons
- (b.) Presence of prominent polar front and stratospheric' clouds; and inflow of chlorofluorocarbons
- (c.) Absence of polar front and stratospheric clouds; and inflow of methane and chlorofluorocarbons
- (d.) Increased temperature at polar region due to global warming

## Regarding "carbon, credits", which one of the following statements is not correct? (2011)

(a.) The carbon credit system was ratified in conjunction with the Kyoto Protocol

(b.) Carbon credits are awarded to countries or groups that have reduced greenhouse gases below their emission quota

(c.) The goal of the carbon credit system is to limit the increase of carbon dioxide emission

(d.) Carbon credits are- traded at a price fixed from time to time by the United Nations Environment Programme

## Solution (b)

## There is a concern: over the increase in harmful algal blooms in the seawaters of India. What could be the causative factors for this phenomenon? (2011)

- 1. Discharge of nutrients from the estuaries.
- 2. Run-off from the land during the monsoon.
- 3. Upwelling in the seas.

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

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

Solution (d)

## The "Red Data Books" published by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) contain lists of: (2011)

- 1. Endemic plant and animal species present in the biodiversity hotspots,
- 2. Threatened plant and animal species.
- 3. Protected sites for conservation of nature and natural resources in various countries.

#### Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Human activities in the recent past have Caused the increased concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, but a lot of it does not remain in the lower atmosphere because of : (2011)

- 1. its escape into the outer stratosphere.
- 2. the photosynthesis by phyto-plankton in the oceans.
- 3. the trapping of air in the polar ice caps.

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

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

## In the context of ecosystem productivity, marine upwelling zones are important as they increase the marine productivity by bringing the: (2011)

- 1. decomposer microorganisms to the surface.
- 2. nutrients to the surface.
- 3. bottom-dwelling organisms to- the surface.

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

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

## Solution (b)

#### With reference to India, consider the following Central Acts: (2011)

- 1. Import and Export (Control) Act, 1947
- 2. Mining and Mineral Development (Regulation) Act, 1957
- 3. Customs Act, 1962
- 4. Indian Forest Act, 1927

#### Which of the above Acts have relevance to/bearing on the biodiversity conservation in the country?

(a.) 1 and 3 only

(b.) 2, 3 and 4 only

(c.) 1, 2, 3 and 4

(d.) None of the above Acts

## Solution (c)

## 2012 UPSC Prelims Questions and Solutions

## Consider the following kinds of organisms : (2012)

- 1. Bacteria
- 2. Fungi
- 3. Flowering plants

## Some species of which of the above kinds of organisms are employed as biopesticides?

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

#### Solution (d)

## Biomass gasification is considered to be one of the sustainable solutions to the power crisis in India. In this context, which of the following statements is/are correct? (2012)

- 1. Coconut shells, groundnut shells and rice husk can be used in biomass gasification.
- 2. The combustible gases generated from biomass gasification consist of hydrogen and carbon dioxide only.
- 3. The combustible gases generated from biomass gasification can be used for direct heat generation but not in internal combustion engines.

#### Select the correct answer using the codes given below :

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

## Consider the following areas:(2012)

- 1. Bandipur
- 2. Bhitarkanika
- 3. Manas
- 4. Sunderbans

## Which of the above are Tiger Reserves?

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

#### Solution (b)

## In which one among the following categories of protected areas in India are local people not allowed to collect and use the biomass?(2012)

- (a) Biosphere Reserves
- (b) National Parks
- (c) Wetlands declared under Ramsar Convention
- (d) Wildlife Sanctuaries
- Solution (b)

#### Consider the following kinds of organisms :(2012)

- 1. Bat
- 2. Bee
- 3. Bird

#### Which of the above is/are pollinating agent/agents?

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

#### Solution (d)

Which one of the following groups of animals belongs to the category of endangered species?(2012)

- (a) Great Indian Bustard, Musk Deer, Red Panda and Asiatic Wild Ass
- (b) Kashmir Stag, Cheetal, Blue Bull and Great Indian Bustard
- (c) Snow Leopard, Swamp Deer, Rhesus Monkey and Saras (Crane)
- (d) Lion-tailed Macaque, Blue Bull, Hanuman Langur and Cheetal

## Solution (a)

## Which of the following can be threats to the biodiversity of a geographical area?(2012)

- 1. Global warming
- 2. Fragmentation of habitat
- 3. Invasion of alien species
- 4. Promotion of vegetarianism

## Select the correct answer using the codes given below :

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

#### Consider the following : (2012)

- 1. Black-necked crane
- 2. Cheetah
- 3. Flying squirrel
- 4. Snow leopard

## Which of the above are naturally found in India?

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

#### Solution (b)

A particular State in India has the following characteristics :(2012)

- 1. It is located on the same latitude which passes through northern Rajasthan.
- 2. It has over 80% of its area under forest cover.
- 3. Over 12% of forest cover constitutes Protected Area Network in this State.

## Which one among the following States has all the above characteristics?

- (a) Arunachal Pradesh
- (b) Assam
- (c) Himachal Pradesh
- (d) Uttarakhand

## Solution (a)

## With reference to the wetlands of India, consider the following statements :(2012)

- 1. The country's total geographical area under the category of wetlands is recorded more in Gujarat as compared to other States.
- 2. In India, the total geographical area of coastal wetlands larger than that of wetlands.

## 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

#### Solution (a)

## The acidification of oceans is increasing. Why is this phenomenon a cause of concern? (2012)

- 1. The growth and survival of calcareous phytoplankton will be adversely affected.
- 2. The growth and survival of coral reefs will be adversely affected.
- 3. The survival of some animals that have phytoplanktonic larvae will be adversely affected.
- 4. The cloud seeding and formation of clouds will be adversely affected.

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

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

The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment describes the following major categories of ecosystem servicesprovisioning, supporting, regulating, preserving and cultural. Which one of the following is supporting service? (2012)

- (a) Production of food and water
- (b) Control of climate and disease
- (c) Nutrient cycling and crop pollination
- (d) Maintenance of diversity

#### Solution (d)

## What would happen if phytoplankton of an ocean is completely destroyed for some reason? (2012)

- 1. The ocean as a carbon sink would be adversely affected.
- 2. The food chains in the ocean would be adversely affected.
- 3. The density of ocean water would drastically decrease.

#### Select the correct answer using the codes given below :

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

## Solution (d)

## What is the role of ultraviolet (UV) radiation in the water purification systems? (2012)

- 1. It inactivates /kills the harmful microorganisms in water.
- 2. It removes all the undesirable odours from the water.
- 3. It quickens the sedimentation of solid particles, removes turbidity and improves the clarity of water.

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

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

## Consider the following statements : Chlorofluorocarbons, known as ozone-depleting substances, are used (2012)

- 1. in the production of plastic foams
- 2. in the production of tubeless tyres
- 3. in cleaning certain electronic components
- 4. as pressurizing agents in aerosol cans

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

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

## Solution (c)

## Government of India encourages the cultivation of 'sea buckthorn'. What is the importance of this plant? (2012)

- 1. It helps in controlling soil erosion and in preventing desertification.
- 2. It is a rich source of biodiesel.
- 3. It has nutritional value and is well-adapted to live in cold areas of high altitudes.
- 4. Its timber is of great commercial value.

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

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

## **2013 UPSC Prelims Questions and Solutions**

## Which of the following can be found as pollutants in the drinking water in some parts of India? (2013)

- 1. Arsenic
- 2. Sorbitol
- 3. Fluoride

- 4. Formaldehyde
- 5. Uranium

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- (a) 1 and 3 only
- (b) 2, 4 and 5 only
- (c) 1, 3 and 5 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

#### Solution (c)

In the grasslands, trees do not replace the grasses as a part of an ecological succession because of : (2013)

- (a) insects and fungi
- (b) limited sunlight and paucity of nutrients
- (c) water limits and fire
- (d) None of the above
- Solution (c)

## Which one of the following is the correct sequence of ecosystems in the order of decreasing productivity? (2013)

- (a) Oceans, lakes, grasslands, mangroves
- (b) Mangroves, oceans, grasslands, lakes
- (c) Mangroves, grasslands, lakes, oceans
- (d) Oceans, mangroves, lakes, grasslands

#### Solution

#### Acid rain is caused by the pollution of environment by (2013)

- (a) carbon dioxide and nitrogen
- (b) carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide
- (c) ozone and carbon dioxide
- (d) nitrous oxide and sulphur dioxide

## Solution (d)

#### With reference to food chains in ecosystems, consider the following statements : (2013)

- 1. A food chain illustrates the order in which a chain of organisms feed upon each other.
- 2. Food chains are found within the populations of a species.
- 3. A food chain illustrates the numbers of each organism which are eaten by others.

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

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 3
- (d) None

#### Solution (a)

#### Consider the following organisms: (2013)

- 1. Agaricus
- 2. Nostoc
- 3. Spirogyra

#### Which of the above is / are used as biofertilizer / biofertilizers

- (a) 1 and 2
- (b) 2 only
- (e) 2 and 3
- (d) 3 only
- Solution (b)

Which one of the following terms describes not only the physical space occupied by an organism, but also its functional role in the community of organisms? (2013)

- (a) Ecotone
- (b) Ecological niche
- (c) Habitat
- (d) Home range

## Photochemical smog is a resultant of the reaction among: (2013)

- (a) NO2, 03 and peroxyacetyl nitrate in the presence of sunlight
- (b) CO, 02 and peroxyacetyl nitrate in the presence of sunlight
- (c) CO, CO2 and N02 at low temperature
- (d) High concentration of N02, O3 and CO in the evening

#### Solution (a)

With reference to the food chains in ecosystems, which of the following kinds of organism is / are known as decomposer organism/organisms? (2013)

- 1. Virus
- 2. Fungi
- 3. Bacteria

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

## 2014 UPSC Prelims Questions and Solutions

#### Which one of the following is the process involved in photosynthesis?

- 1. Potential energy is released to form free energy
- 2. Free energy is converted into potential energy and stored
- 3. Food is oxidized to release carbon dioxide and water
- 4. Oxygen is taken, and carbon dioxide and water vapour are given out

#### Solution (b)

## Which of the following adds/add carbon dioxide to the carbon cycle on the planet Earth?

1. Volcanic action

- 2. Respiration
- 3. Photosynthesis
- 4. Decay of organic matter

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

- 1. 1 and 3 only
- 2. 2 only
- 3. 1, 2 and 4 only
- 4. 1, 2, 3 and 4

## Solution (c)

#### In India, the problem of soil erosion is associated with which of the following?

- 1. Terrace cultivation
- 2. Deforestation
- 3. Tropical climate

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

- 1. 1 and 2 only
- 2. 2 only
- 3. 1 and 3 only
- 4. 1, 2 and 3

#### Solution (b)

Lichens, which are capable of initiating ecological succession even on a bare rock, are actually a symbiotic association of

- 1. algae and bacteria
- 2. algae and fungi
- 3. bacteria and fungi
- 4. fungi and mosses

## Solution (b)

## The most important strategy for the conservation of biodiversity together with traditional human life is the establishment of

- 1. biosphere reserves
- 2. botanical gardens
- 3. national parks
- 4. wildlife sanctuaries

## Solution (a)

## With reference to 'Eco-Sensitive Zones', which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. Eco-Sensitive Zones are the areas that are declared under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- 2. The purpose of the declaration of Eco-Sensitive Zones is to prohibit all kinds of human activities, in those zones except agriculture.

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

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

## Solution (d)

#### Consider the following pairs

- 1. Dampa Tiger Reserve : Mizoram
- 2. Gumti Wildlife Sanctuary : Sikkim
- 3. Saramati Peak : Nagaland

#### Which of the above pairs is /are correctly matched?

- 1. 1 only
- 2. 2 and 3 only
- 3. 1 and 3 only
- 4. 1, 2 and 3
- Solution (c)

#### Wetland locations

#### Wetlands

## **Confluence of rivers**

1. Harike wetland

3. Kolleru Lake

2. Keolado Ganga National Park

Beas and Satluj Banas and Chambal Musi and Krishna

#### Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

- 1. 1 only
- 2. 2 and 3 only
- 3. 1 and 3 only

4. 1, 2 and 3

## Solution (a)

#### Which of the following have coral reefs?

- 1. Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- 2. Gulf of Kutch
- 3. Gulf of Mannar
- 4. Sunderbans

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

- 1. 1, 2 and 3 only
- 2. 2 and 4 only
- 3. 1 and 3 only
- 4. 1, 2, 3 and 4

#### Solution (a)

#### Consider the following:

- 1. Bats
- 2. Bears
- 3. Rodents

#### The phenomenon of hibernation can be observed in which of the above kinds of animals?

- 1. 1 and 2 only
- 2. 2 only
- 3. 1, 2 and 3
- 4. Hibernation cannot be observed in any of the above

#### Solution (c)

#### Among the following organisms, which one does not belong to the class of other three?

- 1. Crab
- 2. Mite
- 3. Scorpion
- 4. Spider

## Which one of the following is the correct sequence of a food chain?

- 1. Diatoms-Crustaceans-Herrings
- 2. Crustaceans-Diatoms-Herrings
- 3. Diatoms-Herrings-Crustaceans
- 4. Crustaceans-Herrings-Diatoms

#### Solution (a)

If you travel through the Himalayas, you are Likely to see which of the following plants naturally growing there?

- 1. Oak
- 2. Rhododendron
- 3. Sandalwood

Select the correct answer using the code given below

- 1. 1 and 2 only
- 2. 3 only
- 3. 1 and 3 only
- 4. 1, 2 and 3

#### Solution (a)

If you walk through countryside, you are likely to see some birds stalking alongside the cattle to seize the insects, disturbed by their movement through grasses, Which of the following is/are such bird/birds?

- 1. Painted Stork
- 2. Common Myna
- 3. Black-necked Crane

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- 1. 1 and 2
- 2. 2 only
- 3. 2 and 3
- 4. 3 only

#### **Dolphins?**

- 1. Construction of dams and barrages on rivers
- 2. Increase in the population of crocodiles in rivers
- 3. Getting trapped in fishing nets accidentally
- 4. Use of synthetic fertilizers and other agricultural chemicals in crop-fields in the vicinity of rivers

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

- 1. 1 and 2 only
- 2. 2 and 3 only
- 3. 1, 3 and 4 only
- 4. 1, 2, 3 and 4

#### Solution (c)

## With reference to two non-conventional energy sources called 'coal bed methane' and 'shale gas', consider the following 'statements:

- 1. Coal bed methane is the pure methane gas extracted from coal seams, while shale gas is a mixture of propane and butane only that can be extracted from fine-grained sedimentary rocks.
- 2. In India abundant coal bed methane sources exist, but so far no shale gas sources have been found.

#### 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

#### Solution (d)

## In India, cluster bean (Guar) is traditionally used as a vegetable or animal feed, but recently the cultivation of this has assumed significance. Which one of the following statements is correct in this context?

- 1. The oil extracted from seeds is used in the manufacture of biodegradable plastics
- 2. The gum made from its seeds is used in the extraction of shale gas
- 3. The leaf extract of this plant has the properties of anti-histamines
- 4. It is a source of high quality biodiesel

#### Solution (b)

With reference to technologies for solar power production, consider the following statements:

- 'Photovoltaics' is a technology that generates electricity by direct conversion of light into electricity, while 'Solar Thermal' is a technology that utilizes the Sun's rays to generate heat which is further used in electricity generation process.
- 2. Photovoltaics generates Alternating Current (AC), while Solar Thermal generates Direct Current (DC).
- 3. India has manufacturing base for Solar Thermal technology, but not for Photovoltaics.

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

- 1. 1 only
- 2. 2 and 3 only
- 3. 1, 2 and 3
- 4. None

## Solution (a)

## There is some concern regarding the nanoparticles of some chemical elements that are used by the industry in the manufacture of various products. Why?

- 1. They can accumulate in the environment, and contaminate water and soil.
- 2. They can enter the food chains.
- 3. They can trigger the production of free radicals.

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

- 1. 1 and 2 only
- 2. 3 only
- 3. 1 and 3 only
- 4. 1, 2 and 3

## Solution (d)

#### Which of the following are some important pollutants released by steel industry in India?

- 1. Oxides of sulphur
- 2. Oxides of nitrogen
- 3. Carbon monoxide
- 4. Carbon dioxide

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

- 1. 1, 3 and 4 only
- 2. 2 and 3 only
- 3. 1 and 4 only
- 4. 1,2, 3 and 4

## Brominated flame retardants are used in many household products like mattresses and upholstery. Why is there some concern about their use?

- 1. They are highly resistant to degradation in the environment.
- 2. They are able to accumulate in humans and animals.

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

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

#### Solution (c)

#### Consider the following countries:

- 1. Denmark
- 2. Japan
- 3. Russian Federation
- 4. United Kingdom
- 5. United States of America

#### Which of the above are the members of the 'Arctic Council '?

- 1. 1, 2 and 3
- 2. 2, 3 and 4
- 3. 1, 4 and 5
- 4. 1, 3 and 5

#### Solution (d)

#### With reference to 'Global Environment Facility', which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. It serves as financial mechanism for 'Convention on Biological Diversity' and 'United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change'.
- 2. It undertakes scientific research on environmental issues at global level
- 3. It is an agency under OECD to facilitate the transfer of technology and funds to underdeveloped countries with specific aim to protect their environment.
- 4. Both (a) and (b)

## Solution (a)

## If a wetland of international importance is brought under the 'Montreux Record', what does it imply?

- 1. Changes in ecological character have occurred, are occurring or are likely to occur in the wetland as a result of human interference.
- 2. The country in which the wetland is located should enact a law to prohibit any human activity within five kilo meters from the edge of the wetland
- 3. The survival of the wetland depends on the cultural practices and traditions of certain communities living in its vicinity and therefore the cultural diversity therein should not be destroyed
- 4. It is given the status of 'World Heritage Site'

## Solution (a)

# With reference to a conservation organization called Wetlands International', which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. It is an intergovernmental organization formed by the countries which are signatories to Ramsar Convention.
- 2. It works at the field level to develop and mobilize knowledge, and use the practical experience to advocate for better policies.

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

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

## Solution (b)

## Consider the following international agreements:

- 1. The International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
- 2. The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
- 3. The World Heritage Convention

#### Which of the above has / have a bearing on the biodiversity?

- 1. 1 and 2 only
- 2. 3 only,
- 3. 1 and 3 only
- 4. 1, 2. and 3

#### Solution (d)

The scientific view is that the increase in global temperature should not exceed 2 °C above pre-industrial

level. If the global temperature increases beyond 3°C above the pre-industrial level, what can be its possible impact/impacts on the world?

- 1. Terrestrial biosphere tends toward a net carbon source
- 2. Widespread coral mortality will occur.
- 3. All the global wetlands will permanently disappear.
- 4. Cultivation of cereals will not be possible anywhere in the world.

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

- 1. 1 only
- 2. 1 and 2 only
- 3. 2, 3 and 4 only
- 4. 1, 2, 3 and 4,

#### Solution (b)

#### Consider the following statements:

- 1. Animal Welfare Board of India is established under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- 2. National Tiger Conservation Authority is a statutory body.
- 3. National Ganga River Basin Authority is chaired by the Prime Minister.

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

- 1. 1 only
- 2. 2 and 3 only
- 3. 2 only
- 4. 1, 2 and 3

#### Solution (b)

#### With reference to Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS), consider the following statements

- 1. It is an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Environment and Forests.
- 2. It strives to conserve nature through action-based research, education and public awareness.
- 3. It organizes and conducts nature trails and camps for the general public.

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

- 1. 1 and 3 only
- 2. 2 only
- 3. 2 and 3 only
- 4. 1, 2 and 3

## Solution (c)

## Consider the following statements regarding 'Earth Hour'

- 1. It is an initiative of UNEP and UNESCO.
- 2. It is a movement in which the participants switch off the lights for one hour on a certain day every year.
- 3. It is a movement to raise the awareness about the climate change and the need to save the planet.

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

- 1. 1 and 3 only
- 2. 2 only
- 3. 2 and 3 only.
- 4. 1, 2 and 3

## Solution (c)

Every year, a month long ecologically important campaign/festival is held during which certain communities/ tribes plant saplings of fruit-bearing trees. Which of the following are such communities/tribes?

- 1. Bhutia and Lepcha
- 2. Gond and Korku
- 3. Irula and Toda
- 4. Sahariya and Agariya

- Current Affairs
- History
- Geography
- Polity
- Economics
- Culture
- Environment
- Science and Technology