

CURRENT  AFFAIRS

MCQ PRACTICE

 ENVIRONMENT & GEOGRAPHY

Week 96

QUESTION 1

With reference to World Wildlife Fund's (WWF) biennial living planet report 2024, consider the following statements:

1. Monitored global wildlife populations have declined by 73 per cent in the last 50 years, owing to habitat loss, degradation, impacts of climate change and invasive species.
2. The decline is in terms of the number of populations lost and among the different ecosystems, the freshwater populations saw the highest decline.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

QUESTION 2

What is the Government of India's Green Credit Program (GCP)?

- (a) It is a loyalty program for frequent travelers to eco tourism destinations.
- (b) It is a market-based mechanism designed to incentivize voluntary environmental actions.
- (c) It allows individuals to trade cryptocurrency for carbon credits.
- (d) It provides direct cash payments to anyone planting trees.

QUESTION 3

They belong to a South American group that switched from a hunter-gatherer lifestyle to subsistence farming of fungi that grew on decomposing, woody plant matter some 55 to 60 million years ago, shortly after the dinosaurs died out. Identify the subject.

- (a) Rodents
- (b) Woodpeckers
- (c) Honey bees
- (d) Ants

QUESTION 4

These are sunken steel frames connected to a low voltage current to help in the regrowth of broken fragments of live coral, which are manually attached by scuba divers on the frame. Thus the latest technique used for coral conservation is named after them which are also called mineral accretion technology.

What is referred to in the above extract?

- (a) Asbestos
- (b) Biorock
- (c) Louvered Screens
- (d) Electrostatic precipitators

QUESTION 5

The Miyawaki technique is primarily used in the field of:

- (a) Agriculture
- (b) Afforestation and urban forestry
- (c) Water conservation
- (d) Renewable energy



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Answers and Explanations

QUESTION 1

With reference to World Wildlife Fund's (WWF) biennial living planet report 2024, consider the following statements:

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Which of the following statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
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1.Explanation

- ✓ Monitored global wildlife populations have declined by 73 per cent in the last 50 years, owing to habitat loss, degradation, impacts of climate change and invasive species, the World Wildlife Fund's (WWF) biennial living planet report said. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- ✓ In India, the decline of three vulture species – white-rumped vulture, Indian vulture, and slender-billed vulture, has been alarming, WWF said.
- ✓ The report's conclusions were based on tracking 35,000 population trends and 5,495 species of amphibians, mammals, birds, fish and reptiles. To be sure, the decline is not in terms of the number of populations lost but the average changes in monitored animal populations around the world. Among the different ecosystems, the freshwater populations saw the highest decline with their populations falling by 85 per cent, followed by terrestrial populations, which saw a 69 per cent decline and a 56 per cent decline in marine populations, according to the report. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
- ✓ Therefore, option (a) is the correct answer.

QUESTION 2

What is the Government of India's Green Credit Program (GCP)?

- (a) It is a loyalty program for frequent travelers to eco tourism destinations.
- (b) It is a market-based mechanism designed to incentivize voluntary environmental actions.
- (c) It allows individuals to trade cryptocurrency for carbon credits.
- (d) It provides direct cash payments to anyone planting trees.

2.Explanation

- ✓ The Centre has approved many greening projects under the Green Credit Program (GCP), which was notified in 2023 as a market-based mechanism designed to incentivize voluntary environmental actions across diverse sectors.
- ✓ Therefore, option (b) is the correct answer.

QUESTION 3

They belong to a South American group that switched from a hunter-gatherer lifestyle to subsistence farming of fungi that grew on decomposing, woody plant matter some 55 to 60 million years ago, shortly after the dinosaurs died out. Identify the subject.

- (a) Rodents
- (b) Woodpeckers
- (c) Honey bees
- (d) Ants

3.Explanation

- ✓ Ants belonging to a South American group switched from a hunter-gatherer lifestyle to subsistence farming of fungi that grew on decomposing, woody plant matter some 55 to 60 million years ago, shortly after the dinosaurs died out, new research has found.
- ✓ By contrast, humans began subsistence farming around 10,000 years ago, progressing to industrialised agriculture only in the past century.
- ✓ The genes of the ant farmers and their fungal crops revealed a surprisingly ancient history of mutual adaptations, said the study published in the journal Nature Communications.
- ✓ This evolutionary give-and-take led to some species — the leafcutter ants, for example — developing industrial-scale farming that surpasses human agriculture in its efficiency, the researchers said.
- ✓ Therefore, option (d) is the correct answer.

QUESTION 4

These are sunken steel frames connected to a low voltage current to help in the regrowth of broken fragments of live coral, which are manually attached by scuba divers on the frame. Thus the latest technique used for coral conservation is named after them which are also called mineral accretion technology.

What is referred to in the above extract?

- (a) Asbestos
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- (c) Louvered Screens
- (d) Electrostatic precipitators

4.Explanation

- ✓ The latest technique used for coral conservation is called 'biorock' or mineral accretion technology. "Biorocks are sunken steel frames connected to a low voltage current to help in the regrowth of broken fragments of live coral, which are manually attached by divers on the frame," Harianawala, a PADI scuba instructor described, stressing that due to electric currents, coral reefs are able to grow faster than their actual growth.
- ✓ Therefore, option (b) is the correct answer.

QUESTION 5

The Miyawaki technique is primarily used in the field of:

- (a) Agriculture
- (b) Afforestation and urban forestry
- (c) Water conservation
- (d) Renewable energy



5.Explanation

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi during one of his 'Mann ki baat' episodes spoke about Miyawaki plantation, the Japanese method of creating dense urban forests in a small area. The PM also cited the example of a Kerala-based teacher, Raafi Ramnath, who used the Miyawaki technique to transform a barren land into a mini forest called Vidyavanam by planting 115 varieties of trees.
- ✓ Therefore, option (b) is the correct answer.