

CURRENT AFFAIRS



MCQ PRACTICE

ENVIRONMENT & GEOGRAPHY



# Week 109



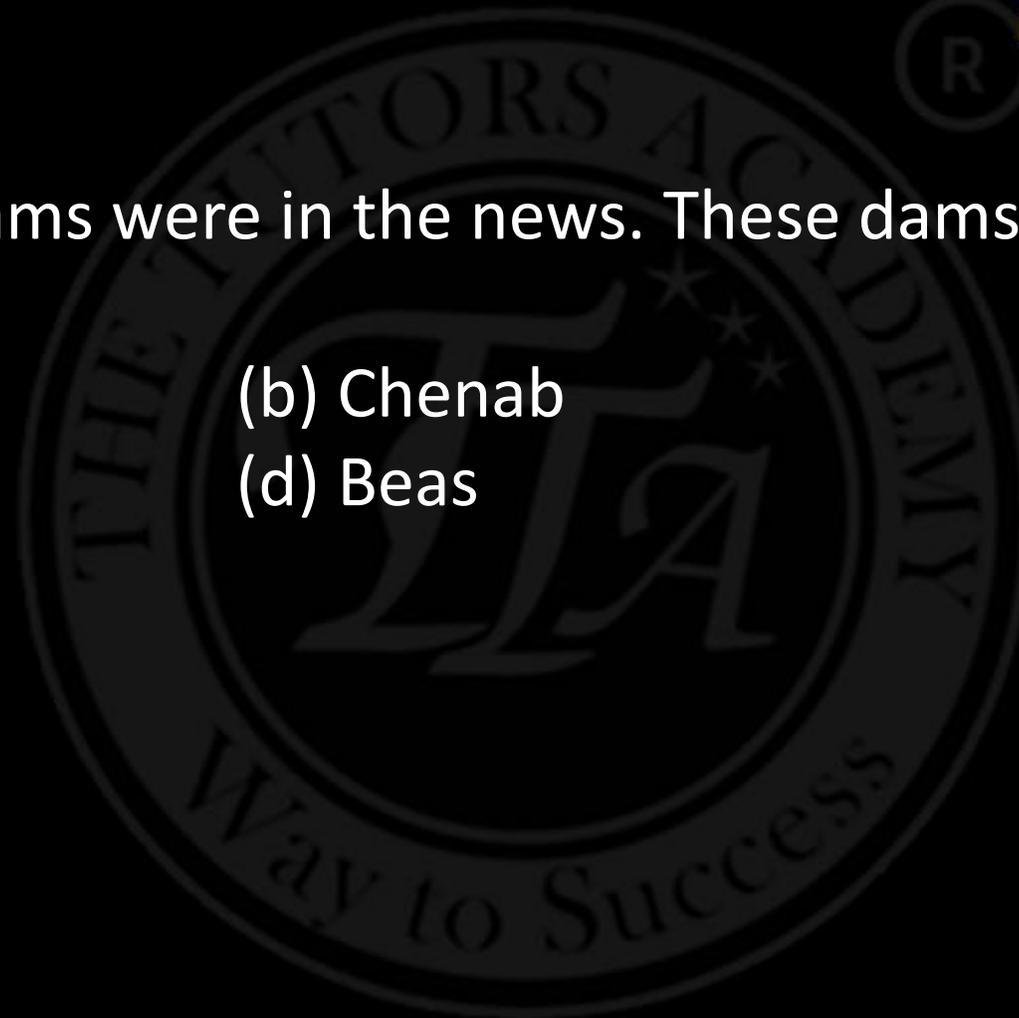




### QUESTION 3

Salal and Baglihar Dams were in the news. These dams are both constructed on:

- (a) Jhelum
- (b) Chenab
- (c) Sutlej
- (d) Beas





## QUESTION 5

Miombo woodland is a

1. Dryland forest ecosystem
2. It comprises tropical and subtropical grasslands, bushlands, and savannahs.
3. found in Northern Africa

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

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## Answers and Explanations



## 1. Explanation

- ✓ European Union countries gave final approval to a major and long-awaited plan to better protect nature in the 27-nation bloc. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- ✓ The Nature Restoration Plan, which aims to restore ecosystems, species, and habitats in the EU, was finally adopted at a meeting of environment ministers in Luxembourg after receiving support from a qualified majority of 15 of the 27 member states and 65% of the EU population.
- ✓ The Nature Restoration Law is the first law to apply to the entire continent. It is an important component of the EU Biodiversity Strategy, which establishes binding targets for restoring damaged ecosystems, particularly those with the greatest potential to collect and store carbon, as well as preventing and mitigating the effects of natural disasters. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
- ✓ The Nature Restoration Plan is part of the EU's European Green Deal, which aims to establish the world's most ambitious climate and biodiversity targets while also positioning the bloc as the global point of reference on all climate concerns. Hence, statement 3 is correct.
- ✓ The plan requires member states to reach restoration targets for various habitats and species, intending to cover at least 20 per cent of the region's land and sea regions by 2030.
- ✓ Therefore, option (c) is the correct answer.



## 2.Explanation

- ✓ A marine protected area (MPA) is essentially a zone in the ocean where human activities are more rigorously regulated than the surrounding waterways, akin to land-based parks.
- ✓ Local, state, territorial, native, regional, or national authorities have designated these areas as special protection zones for natural or historic marine resources.

Marine Protected Area	Region
Dugong Conservation Reserve	Tamil Nadu
Point Calimere Wildlife Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu
Gahirmatha	Odisha
Haliday Island	West Bengal

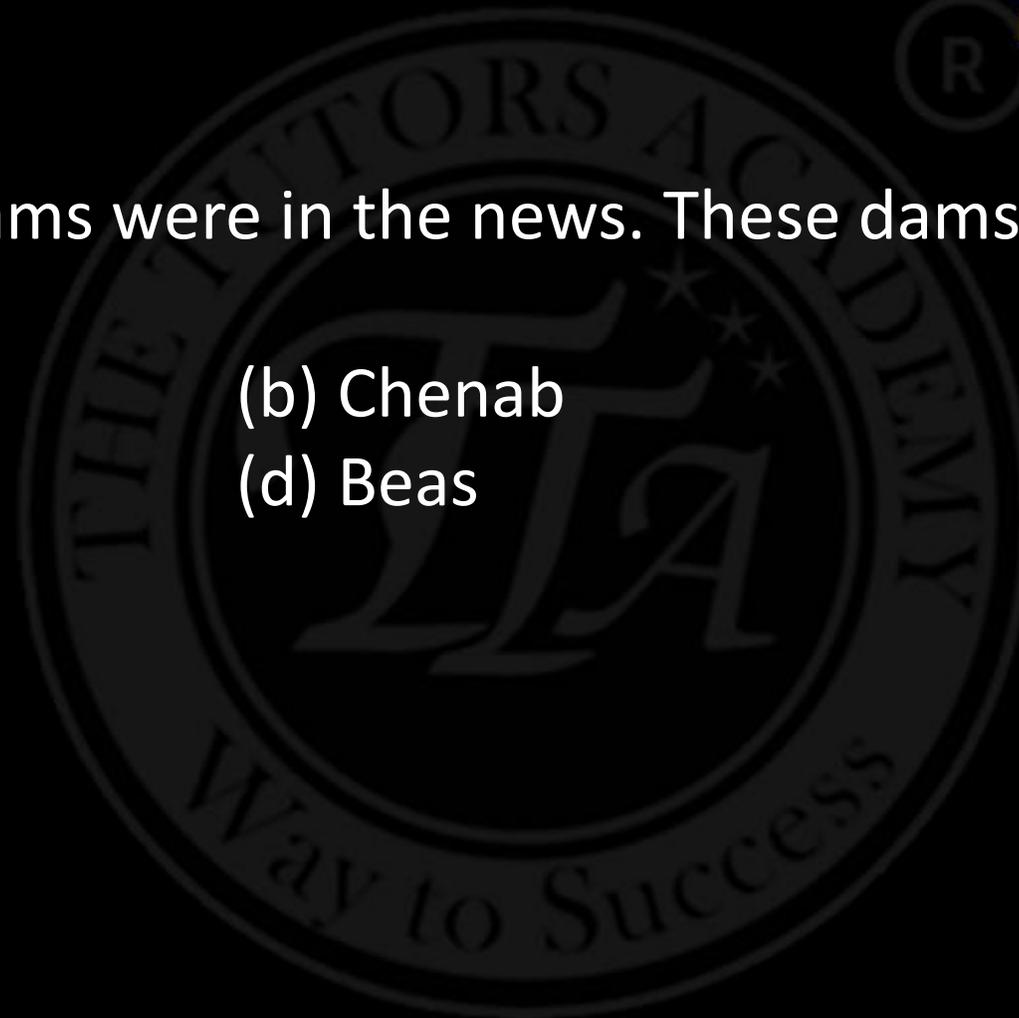
- ✓ Therefore, option (a) is the correct answer.



### QUESTION 3

Salal and Baglihar Dams were in the news. These dams are both constructed on:

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- (b) Chenab
- (c) Sutlej
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### 3.Explanation

- ✓ The Chenab River nearly dried up in Jammu and Kashmir's Akhnoor sector near the Line of Control when the sluice gates of two big dams, Salal and Baglihar, were closed.
- ✓ According to the IWT, the Chenab is one of three "Western Rivers" that Pakistan controls, along with the Indus and Jhelum.
- ✓ However, India has restricted access to the waters of the three Western Rivers for residential, non-consumptive, agricultural, and hydroelectric power generation purposes.
- ✓ India is permitted to construct run-of-river facilities on the three Western Rivers in order to create hydroelectric power. A run-of-the-river plant generates electricity from the natural flow of water. Salal and Baglihar on the Chenab are run-of-the-river projects.
- ✓ Therefore, option (b) is the correct answer.



## 4.Explanation

- ✓ Slender lorises are small nocturnal mammals and are arboreal in nature, as they spend most of their life on trees. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- ✓ They are commonly found in the tropical scrub and deciduous forests as well as the dense hedgerow plantations bordering farmlands of Southern India.
- ✓ These species are listed as endangered by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Hence, statement 3 is not correct.
- ✓ They act as a biological predator to pests of agricultural crops and benefit farmers. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- ✓ The sanctuary would play an important role in conservation of slender loris and yet another milestone in conservation efforts.
- ✓ Therefore, option (b) is the correct answer.



## 5.Explanation

- ✓ The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) have signed two agreements to conduct initiatives aimed at safeguarding the miombo forest and enabling trade along Mozambique's border with Zimbabwe.
- ✓ The Miombo biome comprises tropical and subtropical grasslands, bushlands, and savannahs.
- ✓ Miombo woodland is a huge African dryland forest ecosystem spanning almost 2.7 million square kilometres in southern Africa, encompassing Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.
- ✓ Therefore, option (d) is the correct answer.