

OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

Daily mcqs- December 30th

1. With reference to the Recognition of Forest Rights Act (2006), which of the following comes under the category of Minor Forest Produce (MFP)?

1. Canes
2. Timber
3. Cocoon
4. Bamboo

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

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

Ans: B

Explanation

- Minor Forest Produce (MFP) is a **subset of forest produce** and got a definition only in 2007 when the **Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006**, was enacted
- Section 2(i) of the said Act defines a Minor Forest Produce (MFP) as **all non-timber forest produce** of plant origin and includes **bamboo, brushwood, stumps, canes, Tusser, cocoon, honey, waxes**, Lac, tendu/kendu leaves, medicinal plants and herbs, roots, tuber and the like.
- Thus, the definition of “**minor forest produce**” includes **bamboo and cane**, thereby changing the categorization of bamboo and cane as “trees” under the Indian Forest Act 1927.
- The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, popularly known as the Forests Rights Act (FRA), was enacted in 2007. The Act recognizes and vests **individual forest-dwellers with forest rights to live in and cultivate forest land** that was occupied before 13 December 2005 and grants community

OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

forest rights to manage, protect and **regenerate the forest under section 3(1)(i)**, and to own and dispose minor forest products from forests where they had traditional access.

- Section 3(1)(c) of the Forest Rights Act 2006 defines forest rights as **inclusive of 'Right of ownership, access to collect, use and dispose of minor forest produce** which have traditionally been collected within or outside village boundaries'
- Individuals, communities and gram sabhas having rights under this particular section of the Act will not only have the rights to use but **also rights of ownership over MFPs**.
- This goes beyond the Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension To The Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (PESA Act) which had authorised states to entrust panchayats and gramasabhas as the owners of MFP

2. Which among the following statements is/are correct regarding biodegradable plastics?

- 1) Biodegradable plastics consume less energy during the manufacturing cycle.
- 2) Biodegradable plastics emit less carbon during manufacturing when compared to traditional plastics.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

- Biodegradable plastics or bioplastics are made from natural plant-based raw materials that enable the natural decomposition process.
- This is achieved when the bacteria and fungi present in the surrounding environment naturally metabolizes the plastics.
- They also help to further break down the structure of a biodegradable plastic.
- Created to address the plastic waste problem, these plastic types will turn to compost after a certain period of time.

IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

- Below are four reasons why biodegradable plastics benefit the environment and help save natural resources.

1) Saves Non-renewable Sources of Energy

Biodegradable plastics help conserve petroleum supplies. Traditional plastics come from heating and treating oil molecules until they turn into polymers. Bioplastics come from natural sources including crops like corn and switch grass. This makes them conserve non-renewable sources of energy such as petroleum.

2. Reduces carbon emission

One of the main advantages of using biodegradable plastic is a significant reduction in carbon emissions during the manufacturing process. Hence **statement 2 is correct**. Furthermore, since the materials used to create biodegradable plastics are plant-based, minimal carbon is emitted during the composting process.

3. Consumes Less Energy

The manufacturing process of biodegradable plastics requires fewer amounts of energy. Also, they do not need fossil fuels to be recycled. Since the energy requirement is less, the pollution and environmental impact are significantly reduced. Hence **statement 1 is correct**.

4. Provides an Eco-Friendly Solution

Biodegradable plastics require composting or recycling to ensure proper breakdown of the plastic pieces. The requirement to properly dispose of biodegradable plastic products automatically reduces the amount of waste. This waste would otherwise be sent to landfills in order to discard them. Moreover, the land areas can be used for agriculture, residence or industrial applications instead of converting them to landfills.

3. Consider the following statements:

1. UNEP is an intergovernmental Organization of the United Nations that works on environmental activities in developing countries.
2. It is the only UN programme headquartered in the developing world.

3.Global Environmental Outlook is published by UNEP.

Which of the following statements is /are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is the leading global environmental authority that **sets the global environmental agenda**, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment.
 - UNEP's global and cross-sectoral outlook is **reflected in its organizational structure**, its activities and its personnel. Being based in Africa gives UNEP a **clear advantage** in understanding the **environmental issues facing the world's developing countries**.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** UNEP's global base is in **Nairobi, Kenya**. It is **one of only two UN programmes headquartered in the developing world** (the other is UNEP's sister agency UN-HABITAT, which is also located in Nairobi). UNEP work encompasses
 - **Assessing global, regional and national** environmental conditions and trends
 - **Strengthening institutions** for the wise management of the environment
 - Facilitating the **transfer of knowledge** and technology for sustainable development
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The Global Environment Outlook (GEO) is often referred to as UN Environment's flagship environmental assessment. The **first publication was in 1997** and was originally requested by Member States.

OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

- The Global Environment Outlook (GEO) is a **consultative and participatory process** to prepare an independent assessment of the state of the environment, the **effectiveness of the policy response** to address these environmental challenges and the possible pathways to **achieve various internationally agreed environmental goals**.

4. Consider the following statements with respect to Electoral Bonds

1. Electoral bonds are interest-free bearer bonds that are used to donate money anonymously to political parties
2. It can be purchased by any citizen of India or a body incorporated in India.
3. Only political parties registered under Section 29A of the Representation of the Peoples Act, 1951 and have secured no less than one per cent votes in the last Lok Sabha or State elections are eligible to receive electoral bonds.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer : C

Explanation

Electoral Bond

- An electoral bond is designed to be a **bearer instrument** like a **Promissory Note** — in effect, it will be similar to a bank note that is payable to the bearer on demand and **free of interest**.

OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

- It can be purchased by **any citizen** of India or a **body incorporated in India**.
- The bonds will be issued in multiples of **₹1,000, ₹10,000, ₹1 lakh, ₹10 lakh and ₹1 crore** and will be available at specified branches of **State Bank of India**.
- **They can be bought by the donor with a KYC-compliant account.**
- Donors can donate the bonds to their party of choice which can then be **cash in via the party's verified account within 15 days.**
- The donor will remain **anonymous.**
- The electoral bonds will **not bear the name of the donor.**
- The **donor and the party details will be available with the bank**, but the **political party might not be aware** of who the donor is.
- **Political parties are allotted a verified account by the Election Commission and all the electoral bond transactions are done through this account only.**
- **Only political parties registered under Section 29A of the Representation of the Peoples Act, 1951 and has secured no less than one per cent votes in the last Lok Sabha or State elections are eligible to receive electoral bonds.**
- The bonds will be available for purchase for a period of **10 days** each in the beginning of **every quarter**, i.e. in January, April, July and October as specified by the Central Government.
- An additional period of **30 days** shall be **specified by the Central Government** in the year of **Lok Sabha elections.**
- **Before 2017, the electoral bonds scheme was for donation of over Rs 20,000.**
- **In 2017, the government capped the donation limit at Rs 2,000.**
- A donor will get **tax deduction** and the recipient, or the political party, will get tax exemption, provided returns are filed by the political party
- The **information** furnished by the buyer shall be treated **confidential by the authorised bank** and shall not be disclosed to any authority for any purposes, **except when demanded by a competent court or upon registration of criminal case by any law enforcement agency.**

5. Consider the following statements about Agenda 21

- 1) Agenda 21 aims for achieving Global Sustainable Development.
- 2) It is an outcome of Rio Earth Summit.
- 3) It is legally binding on all its parties.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 3 only

OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1,2 and 3

Answer: A

Explanation:

- Agenda 21 is a **comprehensive plan of action to be taken globally, nationally and locally by organizations of the United Nations System, Governments, and Major Groups in every area in which human impacts on the environment which aims to achieve Global Sustainable development. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- Agenda 21, the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, and the Statement of principles for the Sustainable Management of Forests **were adopted by more than 178 Governments at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 3 to 14 June 1992. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- **Agenda 21 is a non-binding action plan** of the United Nations with regard to sustainable development. **Hence statement 3 is Incorrect.**