

# OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

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Daily MCQs: 16-09-2023

**1. India enacted the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999 to comply with India's obligations under**

- A. General Agreement on Trade in Services
- B. Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights agreement
- C. WTO's Agreement on Agriculture
- D. Paris Climate Agreement

**2. Arrange the following islands in sequence from South to North.**

- 1. Maldives
- 2. Reunion
- 3. Seychelles
- 4. Mauritius

**Select the answer from the code given below**

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

**3. It is the largest country in the Middle East, and the second-largest country in the Arab world. It is the only country with a coastline along both the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf.**

**The above description refers to which of the following countries?**

- A. Saudi Arabia
- B. Yemen
- C. Iraq
- D. Egypt

**4. Which one of the following statements with regard to growth of coral reefs is incorrect?**

- A. Coral can grow abundantly in deep waters.
- B. They typically occur in tropical and subtropical regions.
- C. Bottom-trawling is one of the greatest threats to coral reefs.
- D. It requires plenty of sunlight to aid photosynthesis.

**5. Galathea National Park and Campbell Bay National Park are located in which of the following biosphere reserves?**

- A. Great Nicobar Biosphere reserve
- B. Pachmarhi Biosphere Reserve
- C. Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve
- D. Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve

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### Solutions:

1. Answer: **B**

### Explanation:

- A geographical indication (GI) is a sign used on products that have a **specific geographical origin** and possess qualities or a reputation that are due to that origin. In order to function as a GI, a sign must identify a product as originating in a given place.
- It is used for **agricultural, natural and manufactured goods**. **Darjeeling tea** became the first GI tagged product in India.
- The registration of GI is valid for **10 years** after which it needs to be renewed.
- It should be noted that registration of a product is **not compulsory**.
  - Registration affords better legal protection to facilitate an action for infringement
  - The registered proprietor and authorised users can initiate infringement actions
  - The authorised users can exercise the exclusive right to use the geographical indication.

### Legislations

- In India, GI is given under the **Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999**.
- The Act is administered by the **Controller General of Patents, Designs & TradeMarks, GI (CGPDTM-India)** under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- India enacted its GI legislation to comply with India's obligations under the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (**TRIPS**) **agreement**.
- GI registration gives to the registered proprietor and its authorized users, the legal right to the exclusive use of the GI and also the right to obtain relief in case of its infringement.
- GI is a **collective intellectual property right** and is thus owned by all the producers within the defined GI territory unlike intellectual properties like patent and trademark which are owned by an individual or a business entity.

### Benefits of registration of Geographical Indications

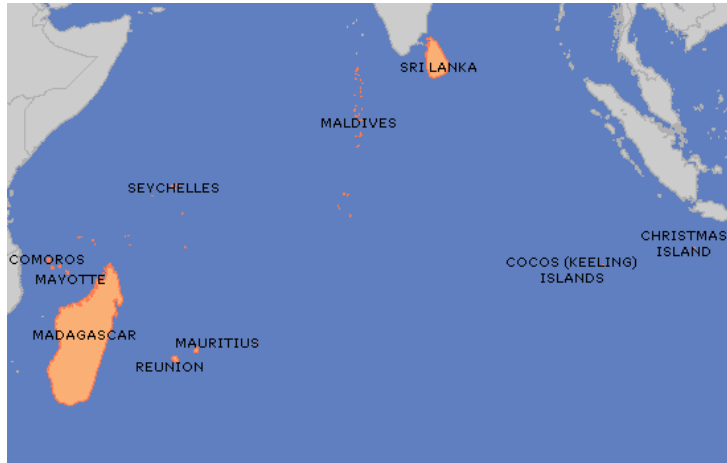
- It confers **legal protection** to Geographical Indications in India
- **Prevents unauthorised use** of a Registered Geographical Indication by others
- It provides legal protection to Indian Geographical Indications which in turn **boost exports**.
- It **promotes economic prosperity** of producers of goods produced in a geographical territory.

2. Answer: **A**

### Explanation:

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3. Answer: A

Explanation:



- Saudi Arabia is the **largest country in the Middle East**, and the second-largest country in the Arab world.
- It is bordered by Jordan, Iraq, and Kuwait to the north; by the Persian Gulf, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, and Oman to the east; by a portion of Oman to the southeast; by Yemen to the south and southwest; and by the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aqaba to the west.
- Saudi Arabia is the only country with a coastline along both the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf.

4. Answer: A

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### Explanation:

#### What are coral reefs?

- Coral reefs are large underwater structures composed of the skeletons of colonial **marine invertebrates called coral**.
- The coral species that build reefs are known as **hermatypic, or "hard," corals** because they extract **calcium carbonate (CaCO<sub>3</sub>)** from seawater to create a hard, durable exoskeleton that protects their soft, sac-like bodies.
- Other species of corals that are not involved in reef building are known as "soft" corals. These types of corals are flexible organisms often resembling plants and trees and include species such as sea fans and sea whips.

#### Symbiotic relationship

- Most reef-building corals contain photosynthetic algae, called **zooxanthellae**, that live in their tissues. The corals and algae have a **symbiotic relationship**.
- The coral provides the algae with a protected environment and compounds they need for photosynthesis. In return, the algae produce oxygen and help the coral to remove wastes. The presence of the zooxanthellae also provides colored pigments to help protect the coral's white skeleton from sunlight.

#### Significance of Coral reefs

- Coral reefs only occupy 0.1% of the area of the ocean but they support 25% of all marine species on the planet.
- Because of the diversity of life found in the habitats created by corals, reefs are often called the "**rainforests of the sea.**"

#### Geographical distribution

- The reef-building corals prefer to grow at
  - **Statement A is incorrect:** depths shallower than 30 m (100 ft), or
  - where the temperature range is between 16-32°C, and
  - **Statement D is correct:** light levels are high
- **Statement B is correct:** The majority of reef building corals are found within tropical and subtropical waters. These typically occur between **30°N and 30°S of the equator**.
- The largest of these coral reef systems, the **Great Barrier Reef** in Australia, is more than 1,500 miles long (2,400 kilometers).



#### Coral reefs in India

- Coral reefs are present in the areas of **Gulf of Kutch, Gulf of Mannar, Andaman & Nicobar, Lakshadweep Islands and Malvan coast of Maharashtra.**

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### Main threats to coral reefs

- **Climate change:** Warmer water temperatures can result in **coral bleaching**. When water is too warm, corals expel the algae (zooxanthellae) living in their tissues causing the coral to turn completely white. This is called **coral bleaching**. When a coral bleaches, it is not dead. Corals can survive a bleaching event, but they are under more stress and are subject to mortality.
- **Ocean acidification:** Ocean acidification is caused by rising levels of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere. Oceans absorb some of the CO<sub>2</sub>. As CO<sub>2</sub> enters the ocean, it reacts with water increasing hydrogen ion concentration (thus decreasing ocean pH) and decreasing the carbonate ion concentration. A reduction in carbonate ions affects the **Calcification process** of Corals.
- *Calcification is the process by which corals form their skeletons by combining calcium ions and carbonate ions to create calcium carbonate.*
- **Pollution:** Urban and industrial waste, plastics, sewage, agrochemicals, and oil pollution are poisoning reefs. Some pollutants, such as sewage and runoff from farming, increase the level of nitrogen in seawater, causing an overgrowth of algae.
- **Sedimentation:** Erosion caused by construction, mining, logging, and farming is leading to increased sediment in rivers. This ends up in the ocean, where it can smother corals by depriving them of the light needed to survive.
- **Destructive fishing practices:** These include cyanide fishing, blast or dynamite fishing, bottom trawling, and muro-ami (banging on the reef with sticks). **Bottom-trawling** is one of the greatest threats to cold-water coral reefs. **Hence, statement C is correct.**

5. Answer: A

### Explanation:

- Great Nicobar is the **southernmost island of the Nicobar Islands** Archipelago. The Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve harbours a wide spectrum of ecosystems comprising **tropical wet evergreen forests, mountain ranges** reaching a height of 642 m above sea level, and coastal plains.
- It incorporates two National parks of India, the larger **Campbell Bay National Park** on the northern part of the island, and **Galathea National Park** in the southern interior.
- The region is noted for its rich biodiversity. It houses 650 species of angiosperms, ferns, gymnosperms, bryophytes and lichens among others. The tract is **rich in plant diversity** and fosters a number of **rare and endemic species**.
- The region also harbours a large number of **endemic and endangered species** of fauna. Of these, the well-known **Crab-eating Macaque, Nicobar Tree Shrew, Dugong, Nicobar Megapode, Serpent Eagle, saltwater crocodile, marine turtles and Reticulated Python** are endemic and/or endangered.
- In year 2013 it was **included in the list of Man and Biosphere program of UNESCO** to promote sustainable development based on local community effort and sound science
- The **Mongoloid Shompen Tribe**, about 200 in number live in the forests of the biosphere reserve particularly along the rivers and streams. They are **hunters and food gatherers**, dependent on forest and marine resources for sustenance.
- Another Mongoloid Tribe, **Nicobarese** about 300 in number used to live in settlements along the west coast. After the tsunami in 2004, which devastated their settlement on the

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western coast, they were **relocated to Afra Bay in the North Coast** and Campbell Bay. They survive on fish caught from the sea.

