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*C – Chennai; B – Bengaluru; D – Delhi; T – Thiruvananthapuram
Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I—(200 marks)
- Current events of national and international importance.

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER-III

General Studies- II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.
- Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and or affecting India’s interest.

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Kartarpur located in Pakistan — River Ravi
- Gurdwara Darbar Sahib
- Guru Nanak assembled Sikh Community here
- Nov 2018 — India and Pakistan announced to build Kartarpur Corridor
  - to allow Sikh Pilgrims to visit the Gurdwara in Kartarpur
  - Indian Side: Dera Baba Nanak Town to International Border
  - Pakistan Side: Kartarpur Gurdwara to International Border
- 14 July 2019 — 2nd Round of talks between 2 countries
  - on modalities for operationalisation
  - fruitful discussion

Pak agreed for year-long visa-free access for Indian Pilgrims — Indian Passport holders and Overseas Citizen of India Card Holders
- Overseas Citizens of India
  - Persons of Indian Origin
  - not Indian Citizens/Nationals
  - can become Indian citizen as per Section 5(1)c of the Citizenship Act, 1955

India and Kartarpur Corridor
- 4-lane Highway — As on July 14, 2019 — 50% work completed — to be completed by the end of September, 2019
- Entire Infrastructure (including Passenger terminal, service road) — to be completed by 31st Oct 2018

Concerns expressed
1. Pakistan to prevent Khalistan Supporters from misusing this historic initiative
   - Separatist tendency
2. Earth-filled Embankment Road vs Bridge in Pakistan
   - to prevent flooding
   - to ensure smooth, hassle-free, all-weather pilgrimage
Q. The famous Kartarpur Corridor has its Indian side in which of the following states?

a) Jammu and Kashmir  
b) Gujarat  
c) Rajasthan  
d) Punjab

Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Consider the following statements.

1. The Kartarpur Corridor is a proposed corridor between India and Pakistan.
2. The pilgrims have to cross River Sutlej in order to reach the Kartarpur Darbar Sahib.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

a) 1 only  
b) 2 only  
c) Both 1 and 2  
d) Neither 1 nor 2
Ecological perils of discounting the future

Urbanisation

- Expansion of urban areas due to constant movement of population
- Unregulated urbanisation taking place
  - 2015 Chennai floods
    - Man-made disaster
    - Poor urban design - reason
    - Unplanned expansion
    - Encroachment of water bodies
    - Concretisation of ground surface
    - Poor recharge of underground water → water scarcity
      - Environmental Degradation
    - ‘Urbanisation without vision’ → taking place

Part B—Main Examination
PAPER-II
General Studies-I: Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society.
- Role of women and women’s organization, population and associated issues, poverty and developmental issues, urbanization, their problems and their remedies.

PAPER-IV
General Studies-III: Technology, Economic Development, Biodiversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management
- Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment.

1. Bengaluru
   * Encroachment of water bodies
2. Mexico City
   * Downtown – Sinking (Encroachment of lakes)
3. Telangana
   * Disappearance of byzantine network of tanks and lakes built by Kakatiya Dynasty
   - Dependent on tank based Irrigation
     - Rugged terrain
     - Moderate Rainfall

Best Practices
1. Telangana State → Mission Kakatiya
   - Launched in 2015
   - Example of Inter-generational justice
     - Aims to give the rightful share of water to the future generations
2. Hyderabad → Proposed sustainable hydraulic model
   - To integrate 6 water sources in Hyderabad
   - Equitable access to water resources
   - Less chances of water scarcity
3. Mexico City → Appointment of ‘Resilience Officer’
4. Bengaluru → Kundalahalli Lake
   * Landfill → reclaimed
   * Through Corporate Social Responsibility funds
     in Public Private Partnership Model
5. Telangana → Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme on River Godavari

+ Author
  * Combination of political will and well-designed policies to address environmental degradation
  * Chennai should adopt the best practices

+ Policy makers:
  * Short term approach  →  Long term approach
    (Present)  →  (Future)
  * By 2050, half of India will live in cities
  * Focus on implementing environmental friendly solutions

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Law Commission to be formed soon
Proposal to be placed before the Union Cabinet in the next few days

Law Commission
* Constituted by a government order, with the terms of service and terms of reference
* 1 law commission so far  →  3 year terms
* Functions:
  * Advice the government on complex legal issues
  * Submit reports and working papers on key issues as per the terms of reference
  * Undertake research in law/review existing laws in India
    → As referred by govt./ suo-moto

Law Commission

Part A—Preliminary Examination
Paper 1 - (200 marks)
* Current events of national and international importance.
* Indian Polity and Governance-Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues, etc.

Part B—Main Examination
PAPER-III
General Studies- II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.
* Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies.
Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Consider the following statements regarding ‘Law Commission’.

1. The Law Commission of India is a non-statutory body constituted by the Government of India.
2. It is a permanent body.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

a) 1 only  

b) 2 only  

c) Both 1 and 2  

d) Neither 1 nor 2
India is home to 1256 species of orchid, says first comprehensive survey.

**“Orchids of India: A pictorial guide”**

- Updated census of 1256 species under 155 genera of Indian Orchids
- "genera" - below "family" and above species in taxonomic ranking
  * group of species
  * closely related through common descent

**Orchids: Flowering plants of family Orchidaceae**

- Fused sexual organ - column
- Complex structure facilitates biotic cross-pollination
- Evolutionarily superior

### Part A - Preliminary Examination

**Paper I (200 marks)**
- Current events of national and international importance.
- General issues on Environmental ecology, Bio-diversity and Climate Change - that do not require subject specialization.
- General Science.

**Part B - Main Examination**

**PAPER-IV**

- Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment.

### Epiphytic Orchids
- Flowering plants growing on other plants
- Upto 1800m above sea level

### Terrestrial Orchids
- Orchids that grow on land
- Temperate & Alpine regions

### Myco-heterotrophic Orchids
- Plants deriving nutrients from mycorrhizal fungi in other plants
- Both temperate and tropical regions

### Myco-heterotrophic Orchids
- Orchid \( \Leftarrow \) Mycorrhizal \( \Leftarrow \) Roots of an autotrophic plant
- Fungi

**State-wise highest number of orchid species**

1. Arunachal Pradesh
2. Sikkim

**Zone/Region-wise Orchids species concentration topper**

- North Eastern Region

**Topper - based on high endemism**

- Western Ghats

**Richest Zone in terms of Orchid Species**

1. Himalayan Zone
2. North Eastern Zone
Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Consider the following statements.

1. The Botanical Survey of India is responsible for undertaking intensive floristic surveys and collecting accurate and detailed information on the occurrence, distribution, ecology and economic utility of flowering plants.

2. It comes under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Measures for Protection of Gangetic Dolphins

- Measures are suggested by Ministry of Shipping to protect dolphins in Vikramshila Gangetic Dolphin Sanctuary (VGDSS)
  - VGDSS is the only dolphin sanctuary in India – in Bihar, a part of NWI
  - NWI: from Prayagraj to Haldia on the Ganges-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system, longest waterway in India – 1620 km

Facts on Gangetic River Dolphin

- Blind dolphin species found in India, Nepal & Bangladesh
- Falls under Schedule I of WPA, 1972 → "Endangered" in IUCN Red List → Appendix I of CITES
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**Practice Question – Prelims**

Q. Consider the following statements with reference to Gangetic river dolphins.

1. Gangetic river dolphins are the national aquatic animal of India.
2. They are the only freshwater river dolphins found in the world.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

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Practice Question – Prelims

Q1. Consider the following statements.

1. The Kartarpur Corridor is a proposed corridor between India and Pakistan.

2. The pilgrims have to cross River Sutlej in order to reach the Kartarpur Darbar Sahib.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2
Practice Question – Prelims
Q2. Consider the following statements regarding 'Law Commission'.

1. The Law Commission of India is a non-statutory body constituted by the Government of India.
2. It is a permanent body.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Practice Question – Prelims
Q3. Consider the following statements.

1. The Botanical Survey of India is responsible for undertaking intensive floristic surveys and collecting accurate and detailed information on the occurrence, distribution, ecology and economic utility of flowering plants.
2. It comes under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 only  
(b) 2 only  
(c) Both 1 and 2  
(d) Neither 1 nor 2
Practice Question – Prelims
Q4. Consider the following statements with reference to Gangetic river dolphins.

1. Gangetic river dolphins are the national aquatic animal of India.
2. They are the only freshwater river dolphins found in the world.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Practice Question – Prelims
Q5. The famous Kartarpur Corridor has its Indian side in which of the following states?

a) Jammu and Kashmir
b) Gujarat
c) Rajasthan
d) Punjab
Practice Question – Prelims

Answers

Q1. Option ‘a’ – 1 only
Q2. Option ‘a’ – 1 only
Q3. Option ‘a’ – 1 only
Q4. Option ‘a’ – 1 only
Q5. Option ‘d’ – Punjab

LIKE, COMMENT & SHARE

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