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Most Probable Questions for IAS Prelims 2020 - Qns for 03-09-2019

1 message

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Preparing for UPSC 2020? Please find the most probable questions for IAS Exam 2020 (as part of ClearIAS Email Program). As many users requested questions to be provided in **PDF format too**, we have **attached** the question-PDF below. Let us know if you find this feature useful.

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Qn 1). With reference to the International Whaling Commission (IWC), consider the following statements

1. It is set up by UNCLOS.
2. In 1986, it adopted a moratorium on commercial whaling which still continues.

3. Only two whale sanctuaries have been designated by IWC till date.

Which among the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b) 2 and 3 only

Learning Zone: It is an international body set up under the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (ICRW).

Functions: ICRW governs the commercial, scientific, and aboriginal subsistence whaling practices of fifty-nine member nations.

In 1986, it adopted a moratorium on commercial whaling. This ban still continues.

Why this question is important? In 1994, it created the Southern Ocean Whale Sanctuary surrounding the continent of Antarctica. Here, the IWC has banned all types of commercial whaling.

Only two such sanctuaries have been designated by IWC till date. Another is Indian Ocean Whale Sanctuary by the tiny island nation of Seychelles.

Qn 2) Why there is a great concern about the 'Fly ash' that are released into the environment?

- (a) They are considered to cause skin cancer in children
- (b) They are a major source of PM 2.5, respirable pollution particles.
- (c) They are small enough to be absorbed by crop plants in irrigated fields.
- (d) They are often used to be found as a construction material.

Ans: (b) They are a major source of PM 2.5, respirable pollution particles.

Learning Zone: Fly ash is a major source of PM 2.5 (fine, respirable pollution particles) in summer. It becomes airborne and gets transported to a radius of 10 to 20 km.

It can settle on water and other surfaces.

Fly ash contains heavy metals from coal, a large amount of PM 2.5 and black carbon (BC).

Proper disposal of fly ash is still not happening in many places.

Why this question is important? The National Green Tribunal has sought a report from the authorities on the current status on disposal and management of fly ash. The report has been sought, following a plea alleging unscientific handling of fly ash generated by a unit of NTPC.

Qn 3) With reference to Tamil yeoman, recently seen in the news, consider the following statements

1. It is endemic to western ghats.
2. It is a mammal.

Which among the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a) 1 only

Learning Zone: Tamil yeoman (*Cirrochroa Thais*) butterfly species endemic to the Western Ghats has been declared the state butterfly of Tamil Nadu. It is an insect, not a mammal.

Uniformly orange in colour with a dark brown outer ring, Tamil Yeoman is among the 32 butterfly species found in the Western Ghats.

This butterfly species moves in groups in large numbers, but only in a few places. Also known as Tamil Maravan, which means warrior, these butterflies are found mainly in the hilly areas.

Why this question is important? For the first time, Tamil Nadu has declared its state butterfly and only fifth in the country to do so. Maharashtra was the first to declare Blue Mormon as its state butterfly, followed by Uttarakhand (Common peacock), Karnataka (Southern bird wings) and Kerala (Malabar banded peacock).

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