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Prelims PYQ, Mains model answers, and copy evaluation. Write to the desk for this paper, a doubt, or the AI waitlist.

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Q17

Define the concept of carrying capacity of an ecosystem as relevant to an environment. Explain how understanding this concept is vital while planning for sustainable development of a region.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2019 · GS III · 15 marks · Environment and Conservation

Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round. This sheet is for revision, not a substitute for the model answer.

<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/gs-3/2019/define-the-concept-of-carrying-capacity-of-an-ecosystem-as-relevant-to-an-environment-explain-how-understanding-this-concept-is-vital-while-planning-for-sustainable-development-of-a-region/>

Regenerative vs assimilative

Regenerative capacity is renewal of water and biomass; assimilative capacity is how much waste the system can absorb.

EIA

Environmental Impact Assessment: project clearance that should rest on regional capacity, not only a site report.

CRZ

Coastal Regulation Zone rules that try to keep construction inside the carrying capacity of the shore and mangrove.

Western Ghats

Biodiversity hotspot where expert panels argued for graded ecological sensitivity as a capacity map for development.

Punjab aquifer

Paddy-wheat irrigation has drawn groundwater faster than recharge - a textbook regional overshoot of carrying capacity.

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