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Q63

The Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee is constituted under the (a) Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 (b) Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999 (c) Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (d) Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 Official key: C.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2015 · General Studies · 2 marks · Environment and Ecology
Environment, ecology, climate, biodiversity - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation

(a)

The **Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006** creates FSSAI and food-safety authorities. It does not constitute the **Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee**. This option is not the key.

(b)

The **Geographical Indications of Goods Act, 1999** is an intellectual-property statute for GIs. GEAC is not constituted under it. This option is therefore wrong.

(c) Official key

The **Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee** is constituted under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, and the 1989 rules on hazardous microorganisms and genetically engineered organisms. This option is the official key.

(d)

The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 protects wild species and habitats. It is not the parent Act of GEAC. This option is not the key.

Summary

Official key is (c) Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. GEAC is the apex body for appraisal of activities involving genetically engineered organisms, notified under EPA rules. FSSAI's statute, the **GI Act and the Wildlife Act** have other objects. Do not confuse food-safety or wildlife clearance with GEAC. Only (c) is the parent law.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

GEAC location

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

Rules, 1989

Rules for Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Microorganisms/GE organisms

RCGM

Review Committee on Genetic Manipulation under the Department of Biotechnology

Bt crops

Commercial release historically required GEAC approval

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