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Q38

Which one of the following regions of India has a combination of mangrove forest, evergreen forest and deciduous forest? (a) North Coastal Andhra Pradesh (b) South-West Bengal (c) Southern Saurashtra (d) Andaman and Nicobar Islands Official key: D.

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

Explanation**(a)**

(a) North Coastal Andhra Pradesh. Mangroves occur in pockets, and dry deciduous forest inland, but a full mangrove-evergreen-deciduous combination is not the textbook signature of this stretch.

(b)

(b) South-West Bengal. **Sundarbans** mangroves dominate; evergreen and moist deciduous are not the trio that defines this option the way A&N does.

(c)

(c) Southern Saurashtra. Dry deciduous and scrub, with limited mangrove in the Gulf of Kachchh-not evergreen forest as a major type.

(d) Official key

(d) Andaman and Nicobar Islands. These islands carry mangrove belts, tropical evergreen (dipterocarp) forest and moist/dry deciduous patches together. That combination is the official key.

Summary

Official key is (d) Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The island group has mangroves on coasts, evergreen rainforest inland, and deciduous forest in places. North coastal Andhra, south-west Bengal and southern Saurashtra do not show that full trio as clearly. Only A&N matches the stem.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Andaman evergreen

Dipterocarp-dominated tropical rainforest

A&N mangroves

Rhizophora, Avicennia belts on creeks

Baratang / Interview Island

Mangrove and forest landscapes

Sundarbans

World's largest mangrove; West Bengal-Bangladesh

Saurashtra climate

Semi-arid; limited evergreen cover

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