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Q81

Consider the following statements: 1. The International Solar Alliance was launched at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in 2015. 2. The Alliance includes all the member countries of the United Nations. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2 Official key: A.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2016 · General Studies · 2 marks · Environment and Ecology
Environment, ecology, climate, biodiversity - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation**(a) Official key**

The International Solar Alliance was launched by India and France at the **UNFCCC COP-21** in Paris in 2015. Statement 1 is therefore correct. Statement 2 is not: membership was originally for countries lying fully or partly between the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, not every UN member. 1 only is the official key.

(b)

Statement 2 alone would treat ISA as a UN-universal body. That was not the founding rule. 2 only is wrong.

(c)

Both would require all UN members to be included. They were not, so both is not the key.

(d)

Neither would deny the Paris 2015 launch, which is correct. This option is therefore wrong.

Summary

Official key is (a) 1 only. ISA was unveiled at COP-21 as a coalition of sunshine countries to promote solar generation and lower technology costs. Headquarters is at Gurugram (National Institute of Solar Energy campus). It is a treaty-based international organisation, later opened more widely, but the 2016 exam statement that it includes all UN members is false. Only the launch statement stands.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Founding leaders

India and France at COP-21, Paris, 2015

HQ

Gurugram, Haryana

Framework agreement

Opened for signature in 2016; entered into force in 2017

Original eligibility

Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn belt

UNFCCC COP-21

Also adopted the Paris Agreement

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