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Q98

**Consider the following statements: 1. The Sustainable Development Goals were first proposed in 1972 by a global think tank called the 'Club of Rome'. 2. The Sustainable Development Goals have to be achieved by 2030. 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: B.**

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

**Explanation****(a)**

Statement 1 says the Sustainable Development Goals were first proposed in 1972 by the **Club of Rome**. The **Club of Rome**'s 1972 Limits to Growth was a resource-and-growth study, not the SDG agenda. SDGs were born from the **Rio+20** / UN process and adopted in 2015. 1 only is wrong.

**(b) Official key**

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals are to be achieved by 2030 (the 2030 Agenda). Statement 2 is correct and statement 1 is not, so 2 only is the official key.

**(c)**

Both would require the **Club of Rome** origin. That origin is false, so both is not the key.

**(d)**

Neither would deny the 2030 deadline, which is correct. This option is wrong.

**Summary**

• **Official key is (b) 2 only. Transforming our World:** the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted at the UN summit in September 2015, with **17 goals** and 169 targets for 2030. The **Club of Rome** (1968) and Limits to Growth (1972) are earlier environment-development literature, not the SDG text. **MDGs** (2000-2015) were the immediate predecessor. Statement 1 is a date-and-author trap.

**Related possible facts**

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

**UN summit, 2015**

Adopted the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs

**17 Goals**

From poverty and hunger through climate, peace and partnership

**MDGs**

Eight Millennium Development Goals, 2000-2015

**Rio+20**

2012 conference that mandated an SDG process

**Club of Rome**

Think tank; Limits to Growth, 1972

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