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Q74

In which of the following regions of India are shale gas resources found? 1. Cambay Basin 2. Cauvery Basin 3. Krishna-Godavari Basin Select the correct answer using the code given below (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3 Official key: D.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2016 · General Studies · 2 marks · Geography

Physical, Indian and world geography - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation**(a)**

Cambay (Khambhat) and Cauvery are both identified shale-gas basins in India, but Krishna-Godavari is also in the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons / MoPNG assessment. Stopping at 1 and 2 is incomplete.

(b)

Krishna-Godavari alone omits Cambay and Cauvery, which are likewise listed as shale-gas prospects. 3 only is not the key.

(c)

Cauvery and KG without Cambay would drop one of the principal western Indian shale basins. 2 and 3 only is therefore incomplete.

(d) Official key

Shale-gas resources in India have been assessed in several onland basins, including Cambay, Cauvery and Krishna-Godavari, besides others such as Damodar and Indo-Gangetic. All three named basins are therefore correct, so (d) is the official key.

Summary

Official key is (d) 1, 2 and 3. India's shale-gas exploration policy (2013) and DGH studies flag multiple Gondwana and Tertiary basins. Cambay in Gujarat, Cauvery in Tamil Nadu-Puducherry, and KG on the east coast are all on that list. The question does not ask which basin is commercial yet; it asks where resources are found. All three qualify.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Shale gas

Natural gas trapped in low-permeability shale; produced by hydraulic fracturing

MoPNG policy, 2013

Allowed shale-gas and oil exploration in onland nomination blocks

Other Indian basins

Damodar, Indo-Gangetic, Vindhyan among those assessed

USA shale boom

Reference case for unconventional; different geology and water regime

ONGC / OIL

National oil companies that held early shale assessment wells

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