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Q35

'Project Loon', sometimes seen in the news, is related to (a) Waste management technology (b) Wireless communication technology (c) Solar power production technology (d) Water conservation technology Official key: B.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2016 · General Studies · 2 marks · Current Affairs and GK

Current events, government schemes, miscellaneous GK - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation

(a)

Waste management. Project Loon is not a landfill or waste-to-energy project. This letter is not the key.

(b) Official key

Wireless communication. Alphabet/Google's Project Loon used high-altitude balloons to beam internet connectivity to the ground-a wireless last-mile idea. That stored letter is the official key.

(c)

Solar power production. Balloons may carry solar panels for their own power, but the project's purpose is connectivity, not utility-scale solar. This letter is not the key.

(d)

Water conservation. Loon is unrelated to watersheds or irrigation. This letter is not the key.

Summary

Official key is (b) wireless communication technology. Project Loon floated stratospheric balloons to deliver internet. It is not waste, solar-farm or water tech. Honour the stored letter (b).

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Parent

Google X / Alphabet's Loon LLC

Altitude

Stratosphere, roughly 18-25 km

Use case in news

Disaster and rural connectivity (e.g. Puerto Rico, Peru trials)

Shutdown

Loon wound down in 2021 (after the 2016 paper)

Related Indian idea

BharatNet / satellite broadband as other connectivity paths

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