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Q70

Which of the following is not a member of 'Gulf Cooperation Council'? (a) Iran (b) Saudi Arabia (c) Oman (d) Kuwait Official key: A.

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) Official key**

Iran is a Persian Gulf State but is not a member of the Gulf Cooperation Council. GCC membership is confined to six Arab monarchies. Iran is therefore the country that is not a member, which is the official key.

(b)

Saudi Arabia is a founding member of the GCC and hosts the **secretariat** in Riyadh. It is a member, so this option is not the answer to 'not a member'.

(c)

Oman is a founding GCC member. It is not the odd one out.

(d)

Kuwait is a founding GCC member. It is not the country outside the Council.

Summary

Official key is (a) Iran. The Gulf Cooperation Council, formed in 1981, comprises Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. Iran and **Iraq** are Gulf littoral States but are not GCC members. The question asks for the non-member among the four names. Saudi Arabia, Oman and Kuwait all sit inside the Council.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

GCC founded

1981, Abu Dhabi charter

Secretariat

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Six members

Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, UAE

Peninsula Shield

GCC joint military force

Iraq

Another non-member Gulf State, like Iran

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