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Q58

Consider the following statements: 1. In India, the Himalayas are spread over five states only. 2. Western Ghats are spread over five states only. 3. Pulicat Lake is spread over two States only. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1 and 3 only Official key: B.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2017 · General Studies · 2 marks · Geography

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

Explanation**(a)**

Option (a) is 1 and 2 only. The Himalaya run through more than five Indian states/UTs (Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, and hill tracts of West Bengal, Assam and others). The Western Ghats run through six states: Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Both 1 and 2 are false, so this option is not the key.

(b) Official key

Pulicat Lake lies on the Andhra Pradesh-Tamil Nadu border, so statement 3 is correct. Statements 1 and 2 under-count the Himalaya and the Western Ghats. Hence 3 only is the official key.

(c)

Option (c) is 2 and 3 only. Western Ghats are not confined to five states, so statement 2 fails even though Pulicat is bi-state. This option is not the key.

(d)

Option (d) is 1 and 3 only. The Himalaya claim is false. This option is therefore wrong.

Summary

Official key is (b) 3 only. The Himalaya and the Western Ghats each span more than five states. Pulicat is a lagoon shared by Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, so only statement 3 is right. Five-state shortcuts for those two ranges are a common trap. Only (b) isolates the true statement.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Western Ghats states

Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu

Pulicat Lake

Second-largest brackish lagoon in India; AP-Tamil Nadu

Himalayan states/UTs

Include J&K, Ladakh, HP, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, Arunachal plus others

Sriharikota

ISRO island on Pulicat Lake, Andhra Pradesh

Sahyadri

Another name for the Western Ghats in Maharashtra

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