

WRAP Exams · wrapexams.com

Prelims PYQ, Mains model answers, and copy evaluation. Write to the desk for this paper, a doubt, or the AI waitlist.

ask@wrapexams.com · +91 85951 84903 · wrapexams.com

Q73

Which one of the following foreign travellers elaborately discussed about diamonds and diamond mines of India? (a) Francois Bernier (b) Jean-Baptiste Tavernier (c) Jean de Thevenot (d) Abbe Barthelemy Carre Official key: B.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2018 · General Studies · 2 marks · History (Ancient, Medieval, Modern)

Ancient, medieval and modern Indian history - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation**(a)**

(a) Francois **Bernier**. **Bernier**, a physician at Aurangzeb's court, wrote on Mughal society, medicine and the economy; diamonds are not his distinctive subject. This option is not the key.

(b) Official key

(b) Jean-Baptiste Tavernier. The French jeweller-traveller visited **Golconda** and other Indian mines and devoted detailed chapters of his **Six Voyages** to diamonds, including the French Blue. That is the elaborate diamond account asked. This option is the official key.

(c)

(c) Jean de Thevenot. Thevenot travelled in India and described cities and customs, not a specialist treatise on Indian diamond mines. This option is not the key.

(d)

(d) Abbe Barthelemy Carre. Carré was a French abbé on diplomatic/commercial missions; he is not the diamond-mine authority in this list. This option is not the key.

Summary

Official key is (b) Jean-Baptiste Tavernier. Among the listed 17th-century French visitors, Tavernier is the jeweller who inspected **Golconda** stones and mines and wrote them up at length. **Bernier** is the court physician-essayist; Thevenot and Carré are other travellers with different emphases. The diamond monograph in this set is therefore Tavernier's. That is letter (b).

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Golconda

Historic diamond tract of the Deccan, including Kollur

Six Voyages

Tavernier's travel account (published 1676)

French Blue / Hope Diamond

Stone associated with Tavernier's trade

Bernier

Travels in the **Mughal Empire**; critique of jagirdari

Koh-i-Noor

Later famous Indian diamond; not Tavernier's French Blue

WRAP Exams · Write. Read. Analyse. Practice. · <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/prelims/gs/2018/which-one-of-the-following-foreign-travellers-elaborately-discussed-about-diamonds-and-diamond-mines-of-india/> · ask@wrapexams.com · wrapexams.com