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Q29

Consider the following pairs: Wildlife Naturally found in 1. Blue-finned Mahseer : Cauvery River 2. Irrawaddy Dolphin : Chambal River 3. Rusty-spotted Cat : Eastern Ghats Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched? (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3 Official key: C.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2019 · General Studies · 2 marks · Environment and Ecology
Environment, ecology, climate, biodiversity - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation**(a)**

(a) 1 and 2 only. Pair 1 is right - **blue-finned mahseer** is a Cauvery fish - but pair 2 is wrong: **Irrawaddy dolphin** is of Chilika, the Sundarbans-Myanmar-Mekong coasts, not the **Chambal**. **Chambal** is famous for the Ganges river dolphin and gharial. So 1-and-2 is not the key.

(b)

(b) 2 and 3 only. Pair 2 fails, so this code is not the key.

(c) Official key

(c) 1 and 3 only. **Blue-finned mahseer**-Cauvery matches. **Rusty-spotted cat** occurs in the Eastern Ghats (and other Indian forests). **Irrawaddy dolphin**-Chambal does not. That 1-and-3 code is the official key.

(d)

(d) 1, 2 and 3. All-three needs the false **Chambal**-Irrawaddy pair, so it is not the key.

Summary

Official key is (c) 1 and 3 only. Cauvery mahseer conservation is a live southern-rivers story. **Rusty-spotted cat** is among the world's smallest cats and is recorded from Eastern Ghats landscapes. **Irrawaddy dolphin** is not a **Chambal** animal. Honour the stored letter (c).

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Blue-finned mahseer

Tor / Neolissochilus group; Cauvery

Irrawaddy dolphin

Orcaella brevirostris; Chilika, Mekong, Ayeyarwady

Chambal

Gharial; Gangetic dolphin

Rusty-spotted cat

Prionailurus rubiginosus

Askable twin

Humpback mahseer of Cauvery

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