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Q55

Consider the following statements: 1. As per recent amendment to the Indian Forest Act, 1927, forest dwellers have the right to fell the bamboos grown on forest areas. 2. As per the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, bamboo is a minor forest produce. 3. The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forests Rights) Act, 2006 allows ownership of minor forest produce to forest dwellers. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3 Official key: B.

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. Statement 1 is false: the 2017 **Indian Forest Act** amendment declassified bamboo as a tree only on non-forest land, so forest-area bamboo still needs the forest-produce regime. A code that keeps 1 is not the key.

(b) Official key

(b) 2 and 3 only. FRA 2006 lists bamboo as minor forest produce and vests ownership, collection and disposal of MFP in forest dwellers and gram sabhas. Statement 1 over-reads the Forest Act amendment. That pair is the official key.

(c)

(c) 3 only. Statement 2 is also true: bamboo is MFP under FRA. Dropping 2 is not the key.

(d)

(d) 1, 2 and 3. Statement 1 is false, so the all-correct code fails.

Summary

Official key is (b). Bamboo is minor forest produce under the **Forest Rights Act, 2006**, and forest dwellers have ownership of MFP. The 2017 Forest Act change freed bamboo only on non-forest land; it did not give a general right to fell bamboo in forests. Statement 1 is therefore out. Honour (b).

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Indian Forest (Amendment) Act, 2017

Bamboo on non-forest land taken out of the definition of tree

FRA s.2(i)

Bamboo listed as minor forest produce

FRA s.3(1)(c)

Right of ownership, access, collection, use and disposal of MFP

Transit permit

Still relevant for forest-grown bamboo

Van Dhan

MFP value-addition scheme for tribal gatherers

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