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Q83

With reference to the cultivation of Kharif crops in which in the last five years consider the following statements: 1. Area under rice cultivation is the highest. 2. Area under the cultivation of jowar is more than that of oilseeds. 3. Area of cotton cultivation is more than that of sugarcane. 4. Area under sugarcane cultivation has steadily decreased. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 2, 3 and 4 only (c) 2 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4 Official key: A.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2019 · General Studies · 2 marks · Geography

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

Explanation**(a) Official key**

(a) 1 and 3 only. Among **kharif** crops, rice occupies the largest area. Cotton area exceeds **sugarcane** area. Jowar area is not larger than **oilseeds**, and **sugarcane** area did not show a steady five-year decline. That pair is the official key.

(b)

(b) 2, 3 and 4 only. Statements 2 and 4 are false. Not the key.

(c)

(c) 2 and 4 only. Both are false. Not the key.

(d)

(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4. Statements 2 and 4 fail, so this code is wrong.

Summary

Official key is (a). Rice is the largest **kharif** acreage. Cotton acreage is above **sugarcane**. **Oilseeds** outrank jowar, and **sugarcane** area did not fall steadily in the reference window. Honour (a).

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Kharif

Sown with the south-west monsoon; rice, cotton, jowar, pulses, oilseeds

Rice area

Largest cereal/kharif acreage in India

Oilseeds

Groundnut, soybean, etc.; larger area than jowar

Cotton vs cane

Cotton typically on more hectares than sugarcane

Sugarcane

Long-duration; area fluctuates with prices and FRP, not a steady fall

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