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Q19

What is blue carbon? (a) Carbon captured by oceans and coastal ecosystems (b) Carbon sequestered in forest biomass and agricultural soils (c) Carbon contained in petroleum and natural gas (d) Carbon present in atmosphere Official key: A.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2021 · General Studies · 2 marks · Current Affairs and GK

Current events, government schemes, miscellaneous GK - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation**(a) Official key**

Carbon stored by oceans and coastal ecosystems. Mangroves, seagrass, salt marsh - **blue carbon**.

(b)

Forests and soils. That is green / terrestrial carbon.

(c)

Petroleum and gas. Fossil carbon.

(d)

Atmospheric CO₂. The stock in air, not 'blue'.

Summary

Official key is (a). **Blue carbon** is carbon captured and stored in marine and coastal ecosystems - mangroves, tidal marshes, seagrass beds.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Blue carbon

Coastal vegetated sinks; high per-hectare stock.

NDC / mangrove

India's coastal sink in climate accounts.