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Q46

With reference to polyethylene terephthalate, the use of which is so widespread in our daily lives, consider the following statements: 1. Its fibres can be blended with wool and cotton fibres to reinforce their properties. 2. Containers made of it can be used to store any alcoholic beverage. 3. Bottle made of it can be recycled into other products. 4. Articles made of it can be easily disposed of by incineration without causing greenhouse gas emissions. Which of the statements given above are correct? (a) 1 and 3 (b) 2 and 4 (c) 1 and 4 (d) 2 and 3 Official key: A.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2022 · General Studies · 2 marks · Environment and Ecology

Environment, ecology, climate, biodiversity - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation**(a) Official key**

1 and 3. **PET** fibre blends with cotton/wool; bottles are widely recycled. Not for every alcoholic beverage; incineration still emits CO₂.

(b)

2 and 4. Both over-claim.

(c)

1 and 4. Incineration is not GHG-free.

(d)

2 and 3. Alcohol compatibility is not universal.

Summary

Official key is (a) 1 and 3. **PET** (polyethylene terephthalate) fibres are blended into fabrics; bottles are recycled into fibre and new packaging. It is not a blanket alcohol-storage plastic, and burning it produces greenhouse gases.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

PET

Code 1 plastic; bottles and polyester fibre.

rPET

Recycled PET - a circular-economy PYQ neighbour.

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