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Q76

Consider the following statements : Statement-I : According to the United Nation's 'World Water Development Report, 2022', India extracts more than a quarter of the world's groundwater withdrawal each year. Statement-II : India needs to extract more than a quarter of the world's groundwater each year to satisfy the drinking water and sanitation needs of almost 18% of world's population living in its territory. Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements? (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement- II is the correct explanation for Statement-I (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement- II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I (c) Statement-I is correct but Statement- II is incorrect (d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct Official key: C.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2023 · General Studies · 2 marks · Art and Culture

Indian art, architecture, culture - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation

(a)

Both correct and II explains I. Most Indian groundwater is for irrigation, not drinking and sanitation for 18% of the world.

(b)

Both correct but II does not explain I. II is false.

(c) Official key

I correct, II incorrect. India withdraws about a quarter of global groundwater; the reason is irrigation, not domestic use of 18% of humanity.

(d)

I incorrect, II correct. [UN WWDR](#) 2022-type figures support the withdrawal share.

Summary

Official key is (c). India is the world's largest groundwater user - on the order of a quarter of global withdrawal. That water is mostly for irrigation, not because drinking and sanitation for ~18% of the world's people require that share.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

UN WWDR

World Water Development Report; groundwater edition around 2022.

Irrigation share

The bulk of Indian groundwater draft is agricultural.

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