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Q5

Which one of the following is the best example of repeated falls in sea level, giving rise to present-day extensive marshland? (a) Bhitarkanika Mangroves (b) Marakkanam Salt Pans (c) Naupada Swamp (d) Rann of Kutch Official key: D.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2023 · General Studies · 2 marks · Geography

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

Explanation

(a)

Bhitarkanika. A mangrove delta on the Brahmani-Baitarani, not a classic emerged marsh from repeated sea-level fall.

(b)

Marakkanam salt pans. Coastal salt works in Tamil Nadu.

(c)

Naupada swamp. A coastal wetland in Andhra, not the textbook emerged Rann.

(d) Official key

Rann of Kutch. A vast seasonal salt marsh on a surface repeatedly exposed as sea level fell.

Summary

Official key is (d) Rann of Kutch. It is a residual of the Arabian Sea: repeated falls of sea level left an extensive saline marsh, flooded in the monsoon and a salt flat in the dry season. The other three are coastal wetlands or salt pans of a different origin.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Great Rann

Seasonal salt marsh in Gujarat; also a flamingo and Wild Ass landscape.

Bhitarkanika

Mangrove national park, Odisha; saltwater crocodile.