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Q20

Consider the following statements Statement-I: The Indian Flying Fox is placed under the "vermin" category in the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. Statement-II: The Indian Flying Fox feeds on the blood of other animals. 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 explains Statement-I (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain 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 2024 · General Studies · 2 marks · Environment and Ecology
Environment, ecology, climate, biodiversity - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation

(a)

Both correct and II explains I. Flying foxes are fruit bats, not blood-feeders.

(b)

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

(c) Official key

I correct, II incorrect. Pteropus was notified as **vermin** in some States; it does not feed on blood.

(d)

I incorrect, II correct. Statement-II describes vampire bats, not **Indian flying fox**.

Summary

The Commission later dropped this item, so there is no official key to mark. Still walk the options. The **Indian flying fox** (*Pteropus medius* / *giganteus*) is a fruit bat. It does not feed on blood - that is vampire bats of the Americas. It has been listed as **vermin** in some State notifications under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, which is why Statement-I is the coaching-true limb. WRAP does not stamp Official key on a withdrawn row.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Indian flying fox

Pteropus; largest Indian fruit bat; roosts in large trees.

Vermin (WLPA)

Schedule V historically; State notifications have listed some fruit bats - legally contested.

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