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Q19

Ashokan inscriptions suggest that the 'Pradeshika', 'Rajuka' and 'Yukta' were important officers at the: (a) village-level administration (b) district-level administration (c) provincial administration (d) level of the central administration Official key: B.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2025 · General Studies · 2 marks · History (Ancient, Medieval, Modern)
Ancient, medieval and modern Indian history - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation

(a)

Village-level. Too low for Pradeshika, Rajuka and Yukta as a set.

(b) Official key

District-level administration. Ashokan inscriptions place these officers at the district tier.

(c)

Provincial administration. The usual upgrade trap.

(d)

The centre. Too high.

Summary

Official Set A key is (b) district-level. Pradeshika, Rajuka and Yukta appear together in Ashokan administration as the district officers who toured, assessed and carried out royal orders. Village staff and the provincial governor are neighbouring rungs, not the official grouping here.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Rajuka

Ashokan officer; land assessment and later judicial work in many readings of the edicts.

Pradeshika

A territorial officer named in the edicts, grouped here with Rajuka and Yukta.

Yukta

A subordinate accountant-type officer in the Ashokan list.

Mahamatra

High officer; Dhamma-mahamatras are a separate edict theme.

Kautilya's gopa / sthanika

Mauryan village-district vocabulary from the Arthashastra - neighbour, not these three edict names.

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