



Consistency. Right Direction. Discipline.

ENVIRONMENT PYQ MAPPING

PRELIMS 2020-25



RAJINIKANTH RAMAREDDIPETA

AIR 587 – CSE 2023

UPSC Prelims 2025 – Environment

1. Rainforests vs oceans (oxygen production) → Global oxygen cycle
2. Activated carbon and adsorption → Pollution removal technique
3. COP-28 Climate & Health Declaration → Climate change–health linkage
4. Paris Agreement – Article 6 → Carbon markets & international cooperation
5. Direct Air Capture (DAC) → Technological CO₂ removal
6. Peacock (Gooty) tarantula → Endemic species distribution
7. India's per-capita CO₂ emissions → Emission comparison & climate responsibility
8. Cashew, Papaya, Red Sanders (origin) → Native vs introduced plant species
9. Parasitoids → Ecological interaction (parasite–host)
10. Carbon dioxide removal methods → Long-term CO₂ sequestration approaches
11. Cloud seeding (artificial rainfall) → Weather modification
12. Plastic content in daily-use items → Plastic pollution awareness
13. Circular economy and GHG reduction → Resource efficiency & emission reduction

UPSC Prelims 2024 – Environment

1. Sulphur dioxide emissions → Air pollution sources
2. GM food import & apples → GM food regulation
3. Chewing gum waste → Plastic pollution
4. Indri / Elk / Bonobo → Species–habitat distribution
5. Lion / Cheetah / Leopard traits → Animal behaviour
6. Distributed Energy Resources (DERs) → Decentralised renewable energy
7. Tree with unique insect pollinator → Pollination ecology
8. Poisonous butterflies / fish / frogs → Toxicity in fauna
9. PFAS chemicals → Persistent pollutants
10. Parasitoid organisms → Parasitoid ecological interaction
11. Indian Flying Fox → Wildlife legal status & diet
12. Biorock technology → Coral reef restoration
13. Environment (Protection) Act authority → Environmental institutions

14. Greenwashing → Corporate environmental ethics
15. Clouds & Earth's temperature → Cloud–climate interaction
16. Solar projects in Indian states → Renewable energy deployment
17. Wildlife protection outside PAs → Wildlife law coverage
18. Fungus-cultivating organisms → Mutualism
19. Nanoparticles → Nano-materials & environment
20. Acid rain causes → Atmospheric pollution chemistry

UPSC Prelims 2023 – Environment

1. Community Reserve provisions → Wildlife conservation law
2. Marsupials in India → Animal biogeography
3. Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) → International conservation institutions
4. Lion-tailed macaque / Malabar civet / Sambar deer activity → Animal behaviour (nocturnal/diurnal)
5. Waggle dance → Animal communication
6. Mushrooms with special properties → Fungal diversity
7. Indian squirrels (burrowing, food storage) → Small mammal ecology
8. Extremophile microorganisms → Microbial ecology
9. Tool use by animals (orangutan) → Animal intelligence
10. Marshlands formed due to sea-level change → Coastal ecosystem formation
11. Carbon markets → Climate mitigation instruments
12. Green hydrogen → Clean energy transition
13. Carbon capture and sequestration → Climate mitigation technology
14. Biofilters in aquaculture → Aquatic pollution control
15. Mercury pollution → Toxic metal pollution
16. Green hydrogen applications → Hydrogen energy use
17. Biodiversity Management Committees / Nagoya Protocol → Biodiversity governance

UPSC Prelims 2022 – Environment & Ecology

1. Methane and Nitrous Oxide emissions from agriculture → Agriculture-related greenhouse gases
2. Location of Ramsar / important wetlands (Hokera, Renuka, Rudrasagar, Sasthamkotta) → Wetland geography
3. Climate Action Tracker → Global climate assessment initiative
4. Climate Group / EP100 / Under2 Coalition → International climate partnerships
5. Wetlands described as 'kidneys of the Earth' → Ecosystem services of wetlands
6. WHO air-quality guidelines → Air pollution standards
7. 'Gucchi' mushroom → Fungal ecology & livelihood
8. Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET) → Plastic type & recyclability
9. Which of the following is NOT a bird (Mahseer, Nightjar, Spoonbill, White Ibis) → Faunal classification
10. Nitrogen-fixing plants → Plant-microbe symbiosis
11. Biorock technology → Coral reef restoration
12. Miyawaki method → Urban afforestation technique
13. India Sanitation Coalition / NIUA → Urban environmental institutions
14. Authority constituted under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 → Environmental governance
15. Polar Code → Marine environmental regulation
16. Greenwashing → Corporate environmental misrepresentation
17. Protection of wild animals under Wildlife Protection Act → Wildlife legal framework
18. Organisms that cultivate fungi → Ecological mutualism
19. Causes of acid rain → Atmospheric pollution chemistry

UPSC Prelims 2021 – Environment

1. Hyderabad as Tree City of the World → Urban forestry
2. Climate-Smart Agriculture / CGIAR / ICRISAT → Climate-resilient agriculture
3. Primary producers in oceans → Marine primary productivity
4. Animals rolling up to avoid predators (hedgehog, pangolin) → Defensive animal behaviour

5. New York Declaration on Forests → Global forest conservation
6. Magnetite particles as pollutants → Air pollution & health
7. Filter feeder organism → Feeding ecology
8. Biogeochemical cycle involving rock weathering → Phosphorus cycle
9. Detritivores (earthworm, woodlouse) → Decomposer ecology
10. Common Carbon Metric (UNEP) → Carbon accounting
11. Organisms forming symbiotic relationships → Ecological symbiosis
12. R2 Code of Practices → Sustainable recycling practices
13. Pollution from copper smelting plants → Industrial pollution
14. Furnace oil – source & emissions → Fossil fuel pollution
15. Blue carbon → Coastal carbon sequestration
16. Organisms surviving without soil (lichen) → Pioneer species
17. Gases causing acid rain → Atmospheric pollution chemistry

UPSC Prelims 2020 – Environment & Ecology

1. Reasons / factors for exposure to benzene pollution → Air pollution & human exposure to toxic pollutants
2. With reference to India's biodiversity, Ceylon frogmouth, Coppersmith barbet, Grey-chinned minivet and White-throated redstart are → Species identification / Indian avifauna
3. Steel slag can be the material for which of the following? → Use of industrial by-products (steel slag) in environment-friendly construction and soil amendment
4. In natural road construction, use of copper slag, cold mix, geotextiles etc. for sustainability → Green infrastructure materials / sustainable construction
5. What is the use of biochar in farming? → Biochar in soil health & carbon sequestration
6. If a plant species is placed under Schedule VI of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 — implication? → Environmental law — protection of plant species
7. Advantages of zero tillage in agriculture → Climate-smart agriculture / reduced residue burning & carbon sequestration
8. According to India's National Policy on Biofuels, which raw materials can be used for production of biofuels? → Biofuel feedstock & renewable energy policy

9. Which statement best describes the term Social Cost of Carbon? → Climate economics / cost of carbon emissions
10. Eco-friendly agriculture practices (crop diversification, legume intensification, tensiometer use, vertical farming) → Sustainable agriculture practices
11. Advantages of fertigation in agriculture → Precision nutrient application & efficiency
12. With reference to chemical fertilizers in India (price, ammonia, sulphur) → Fertilizer inputs & industrial production
13. Which of the following Protected Areas are located in the Cauvery basin? → Protected areas geography & biodiversity ecology
14. Which protected area is known for conservation of hard-ground Barasingha (Swamp deer)? → Species-specific conservation / protected area
15. Most likely places to find the musk deer in its natural habitat → Species distribution ecology (mammals)
16. With reference to India's Desert National Park — distribution, human habitation, Great Indian Bustard habitat → Habitat ecology / protected area characteristics
17. Organisms (e.g., fern, lichen, moss) most likely to be found surviving on surfaces without soil → Pioneer species & colonisation ecology