



---

# Pre-Mix

## Environment

(12<sup>th</sup> November 2021)

---

Visit our website [www.sleepyclasses.com](http://www.sleepyclasses.com) or

our [YouTube channel](#) for entire GS Course **FREE** of cost

Also Available: Prelims Crash Course || Prelims Test Series

Click [here](#) to watch the following the following Video on YouTube

### Indian Biodiversity

**Q 1. Which of the following countries are identified as Megadiverse Countries by the World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC) of the United Nations Environment Program?**

1. United States of America
2. Colombia
3. Venezuela
4. India
5. Chile

**Select the correct code.**

- A. 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
- B. 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
- C. 2, 3 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

**Answer: B**

### **Explanation**

- Megadiversity Countries is a term used to refer to the world's top biodiversity-rich countries.
- This country-focused method raises national awareness for biodiversity conservation in nations with high biological diversity, with many species unique to a specific country.
- 17 countries which have been identified by World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC) of the United Nations Environment Program as the most biodiversity-rich countries of the world, with a particular focus on endemic biodiversity:

- United States of America, Mexico, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela, Brazil, Democratic Republic of Congo, South Africa, Madagascar, India, Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Papua New Guinea, China, and Australia.

- India is one of the mega-diverse countries, rich in biodiversity and associated traditional knowledge.
- 24.56% of its geographical area of India is under forest and tree cover.
- With just 2.4% of the land area, India accounts for nearly 7-8% of the recorded species, even while supporting almost 18% of the human population.



**Q 2. Consider the following statements:**

1. There are 8 biogeographic zones that are distinguished clearly in India which are further divided into 25 biogeographic provinces.
2. Himalayan region of India is represented by Palearctic Realm.
3. There are eight terrestrial biogeographic realms typically recognized in the world.

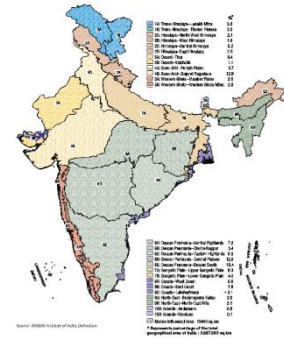
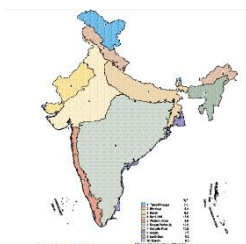
**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 3 only

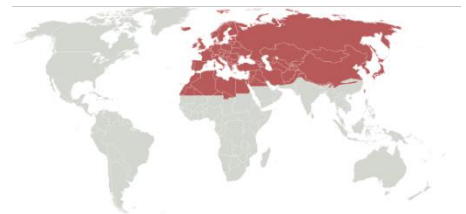
**Answer: C**

### Explanation

- Biogeographic classification of India is the division of India according to biogeographic characteristics.
- Biogeography is the study of the distribution of species (biology), organisms, and ecosystems in geographic space and through geological time.
- There are ten biogeographic zones in India.
- Trans-Himalayan zone.
- Himalayan zone
- Desert zone.
- Semiarid zone.
- Western ghat zone.
- Deccan plateau zone.
- Gangetic plain zone.
- North east zone.
- Coastal zone
- Islands



- The Palearctic or Palaearctic is the largest of the eight biogeographic realms of the Earth.
- It stretches across all of Eurasia north of the foothills of the Himalayas, and North Africa.



### Biogeographic realm

- A large spatial region, within which ecosystems share a broadly similar biota. Eight terrestrial biogeographic realms are typically recognized, corresponding roughly to continents (Australasian, Afrotropical, Nearctic, Oceanic, Antarctic, Indo-Malayan, Neotropical, Palearctic).



**Q 3. Consider the following statements with respect to Malabar Civet.**

1. It is found exclusively in the Eastern Ghats.
2. IUCN Red List Status of Malabar Civet is Critically Endangered

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. None of the above

**Answer: B**

**Explanation**

- Malabar Civet is a small, dog like carnivore has been pushed to the brink of extinction by hunting and habitat loss.
- Once widespread in the Western Ghats, the Malabar civet was declared possibly extinct in 1978.
- Although it was rediscovered nine years later, it has never been photographed and there has been no published proof of its continued survival for over a decade.
- Conservation Status:
  - IUCN Red List Status: Critically Endangered
  - WPA: Schedule I
  - CITES: Appendix III



**Q 4. Which of the following species are naturally found in India?**

1. Asiatic Lion
2. Lion-tailed Macaque
3. Sangai Deer
4. Gooty Tarantula

**Select the correct code.**

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
- B. 2, 3 and 4 only
- C. 1, 3 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

**Answer: D**

**Explanation**

- Common Name: Asiatic lion
  - Scientific Name: Panthera leo persica
  - Height: Approx 110cm
  - Its range is restricted to Gir National Park & the surrounding areas.
- Conservation Status:
  - IUCN Status: Endangered
  - WPA: Schedule I
  - CITES: Appendix I
- Lion-tailed Macaque
  - Scientific Name: Macaca silenus
  - It is a primate endemic to small and severely fragmented rainforests of the Western Ghats in Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

- Conservation Status:
  - IUCN Red List Status: Endangered
  - WPA: Schedule I
  - CITES: Appendix I



- Brow-antlered deer
  - Common Name: Sangai, Brow antlered deer, Dancing Deer
  - Scientific Name: Rucervus eldii
  - The brow-antlered deer is found in Keibul Lamjao National Park in Manipur.
  - Population: About 200

- Conservation Status:
  - IUCN Red List Status: Endangered
  - WPA: Schedule I
  - CITES: Appendix I



- Gooty Tarantula
  - Scientific Name: Poecilotheria metallica
  - They originate from India, found at Andhra Pradesh, reserve forest between Nandyal and Giddalur, and Sri Lanka.
  - It was originally discovered in central southern India, in the railway yard at town called Gooty. So was commonly called the Gooty Tarantula.

- Conservation Status:
  - IUCN Red List Status: Critically Endangered
  - CITES: Appendix II



**Q 5. Which one of the following statements is incorrect with respect to Red Panda?**

- A. It is the State animal of Assam.
- B. India has the 2nd largest population of Red Pandas.
- C. It is listed under Schedule I of Wildlife Protection Act of 1972.
- D. None of the above.

**Answer: A**

**Explanation**

- **SCIENTIFIC NAME:** Ailurus fulgens



- HABITATS: Temperate forests
  - The red panda is slightly larger than a domestic cat with a bear-like body and thick russet fur.
  - The belly and limbs are black, and there are white markings on the side of the head and above its small eyes.
  - Red pandas are very skillful and acrobatic animals that predominantly stay in trees.
  - Almost 50% of the red panda's habitat is in the Eastern Himalayas.
  - They use their long, bushy tails for balance and to cover themselves in winter, presumably for warmth.
  - India (5,000-6,000 red pandas) has the 2nd largest population after China (6,000-7,000).
- Conservation Status:
  - IUCN Red List Status: Endangered
  - WPA: Schedule I
  - CITES: Appendix I

