



## Mains Notes for IAS and PCS

### GS-3 Environment and Biodiversity

#### Last year Question papers

1. What is water – use efficiency? Describe the role of micro – irrigation in increasing the water – use efficiency. **(Civil Services Examination 2016)**
2. Give an account of the current status and the targets to be achieved pertaining to renewable energy sources in the country. Discuss in brief the importance of National Programme on Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs). **(Civil Services Examination 2016)**
3. Rehabilitation of human settlements is one of the important environmental impacts which always attract controversy while planning major projects. Discuss the measures suggested for mitigation of this impact while proposing major developmental projects. **(Civil Services Examination 2016)**
4. Discuss the Namami Gange and National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) programmes and causes of mixed results from the previous schemes. What quantum leaps can help preserve the river Ganga better than incremental inputs? **(Civil Services Examination 2015)**
5. Should the pursuit of carbon credits and clean development mechanisms set – up under UNFCCC be maintained even though there has been a massive slide in the value of carbon credit? Discuss with respect to India's energy needs for economic growth. **(Civil Services Examination 2014)**
6. Environmental impact assessment studies are increasingly undertaken before project is cleared by the government. Discuss the environmental impacts of coal – fired thermal plants located at Pitheads. **(Civil Services Examination 2014)**
7. What are the consequences of illegal mining? Discuss the Ministry of Environment and Forests' concept of GO AND NO GO zones for coal mining sector. **(Civil Services Examination 2013)**
8. Enumerate the National Water Policy of India. Taking river Ganga as an example, discuss the strategies which may be adopted for river water pollution control and management. What are the legal provision of management and handling of hazardous wastes in India? **(Civil Services Examination 2013)**
9. What is Permaculture? Give at least three common examples where permaculture concepts are being put to use. **(Civil Services Examination 2012)**
10. Explain the concepts of 'Environmental Sustainability' and 'Sustainable Development of People'. **(Civil Services Examination 2012)**
11. Examine the causes and the extent of 'desertification' in India and suggest remedial measures. **(Civil Services Examination 2012)**
12. The issue of tourism in core areas of tiger reserve forests in the country is a subject matter of debate. Critically examine various aspects of this issue, keeping in view relevant judicial pronouncements. **(Civil Services Examination 2012)**
13. In the context of the growing demands for the ban of Endosulfan in the country, critically examine the issues involved. What in your view, should be done in the matter? **(Civil Services Examination 2012)**
14. Analyse critically the interlinkages between the Convention on Biological Diversity and FAO Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. **(Civil Services Examination 2012)**
15. Comment in about 150 words on Evolution of 'Green Benches' in our higher judiciary. **(Civil Services Examination 2011)**



16. Examine the impact of climate change on water resources in India.  
(Civil Services Examination 2011)
17. Comment in not more than 50 words on Phase – IV of the tiger monitoring programme in India.  
(Civil Services Examination 2011)
18. “As regards the increasing rate of melting of Arctic sea ice, the interests of Arctic Council Nations may not coincide with those of wider world” Explain.  
(Civil Services Examination 2011)
19. Comment on the diminishing population of vultures.  
(Civil Services Examination 2011)
20. What is Billion Acts of Green and why it had been in the news recently?  
(Civil Services Examination 2011)
21. Comment on the scourge of e – waste.  
(Civil Services Examination 2011)
22. The Community – Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) approach to sanitation.  
(Civil Services Examination 2011)
23. What is ‘Deepwater Horizon’ incident and why it had been in the news recently?  
(Civil Services Examination 2010)
24. Bring out the applications of computer models in studying climate changes, with special reference to the Community Earth System Model (CESM).  
(Civil Services Examination 2010)
25. Comment on the recent HFC – 23 emissions controversy that includes in its ambit some Indian companies.  
(Civil Services Examination 2010)
26. List any eight ‘Ramsar’ wetland sites located in India. What is the ‘Montreux Record’ and what Indian sites are included in this Record?  
(Civil Services Examination 2010)
27. Bring out the salient features of the evolution and the current status of the ‘Bharat Stage’ vehicle emission norms in the country.  
(Civil Services Examination 2010)
28. What is Phytoremediation? Discuss its applications.  
(Civil Services Examination 2010)
29. Comment on the salient features of the Integrated Energy Policy recently approved by the government and its implications on the energy security needs of the country.  
(Civil Services Examination 2009)
30. What do you understand by the term biodiversity? Examine the causes and consequences of degeneration of biodiversity.  
(Civil Services Examination 2007)
31. Explain the phenomenon of ozone depletion, its causes and effects. What efforts are needed to reduce it?  
(Civil Services Examination 2007)
32. Write about ‘The UN Conference on Environment and Development (The Earth Summit)’.  
(Civil Services Examination 2007)
33. Justify with necessary logic “Biological clean – up methods can be cheaper than the conventional physical and chemical pollution treatments”.  
(Civil Services Examination 2006)
34. Write brief note on WMO.  
(Civil Services Examination 2006)
35. Write brief note on WHO.  
(Civil Services Examination 2006)
36. Blue Revolution has definite advantages in India but it is not free from environmental impacts. Discuss.  
(Civil Services Examination 2006)
37. Why do environmentalists regard asbestos and polythene as pollutants?  
(Civil Services Examination 2005)
38. Describe the sources of ionizing and non – ionizing radiations and their effects on the biotic components of the atmosphere.  
(Civil Services Examination 2005)
39. What is eco – tourism? How could it be promoted in India?  
(Civil Services Examination 2005)
40. Discuss ‘Global Warming’.  
(Civil Services Examination 2003)
41. What do you understand by depletion of ozone layer and why is it considered harmful? Name the ozone depleting substances and their processes. What international ramifications took place to protect the ozone layer and what was the target agreed upon?  
(Civil Services Examination 2003)

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42. Discuss about 'Environment', its components and its awareness. **(Civil Services Examination 2002)**
43. Plastic hazards – Discuss. **(Civil Services Examination 2002)**
44. What does the Montreal Protocol deal with? Discuss its role in protecting Earth's environment? **(Civil Services Examination 2001)**
45. What are greenhouse gases? What impact do they have on the Earth's climate and with what consequences? Elaborate. **(Civil Services Examination 2000)**
46. What is CNG? How can it reduce air pollution? **(Civil Services Examination 1999)**
47. What is 'Swatch of No Ground'? **(Civil Services Examination 1999)**
48. What is Ozone Hole? How is it caused and what are its implications for life on Earth? **(Civil Services Examination 1999)**
49. What is meant by Environmental Impact Assessment? **(Civil Services Examination 1998)**
50. Explain Greenpeace. **(Civil Services Examination 1998)**
51. What is the safe level of noise for the human ear? Give the noise level of electric bell. **(Civil Services Examination 1997)**