VAJIRAM & RAVI
Institute for IAS Examination

The Analyst

CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout

10th November 2026



The Analyst Handout

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India – Bangladesh Relations

CONTEXT: Sheikh Hasina seeks new passport but Acting Foreign Minister of Bangladesh calls Hasina a 'terrorist', says India should hand her over under the extradition treaty.

Significance of Bangladesh For India

- **Geo-strategic: India's Longest border** (4,096 km land border)
  - **Gateway to the North-East:** adjacent to the narrow Siliguri Corridor.
- **Economic:**
  - Bangladesh is ***India's biggest trade partner in South Asia.***
  - India is the **second biggest trade partner** of Bangladesh in Asia.
  - Bilateral trade stands at **USD 13 billion (2023-24)**.
  - **Cross-Border Energy Grid:** Trilateral power arrangements also enable Nepal to export hydropower to Bangladesh using Indian transmission lines.
- **Security and Border Management:**
  - Anti-India terror groups were dismantled under Sheikh Hasina **"Golden Chapter" (2009-2024).**
  - **BSF–Bangladesh Border Guard coordination** reduced cross-border crimes.
  - **Joint exercises**: Exercise Sampriti (Army) and Exercise Bongo Sagar (Navy).
  - **Land Boundary Agreement, 2015** settled enclave disputes.
- **Shared Natural Resources:**
  - 54 transboundary rivers & Sunderbans (*world's largest mangrove forest).*
- **International Cooperation:** *BIMSTEC, SAARC,* BBIN (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal), IORA (*Indian Ocean Rim Association)*.
- **Connectivity and Infrastructure:**
  - **Akhaura–Agartala rail link:** first train to run from the northeastern region to Bangladesh.
  - **Maitri Setu over the Feni River** (connecting Sabroom in India's Tripura state with Ramgarh in Bangladesh)
  - **Agreement for the usage of Chittagong and Mongla Ports** for Indian cargo.
    - Reduced pressure on Siliguri Corridor





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India – Bangladesh Relations

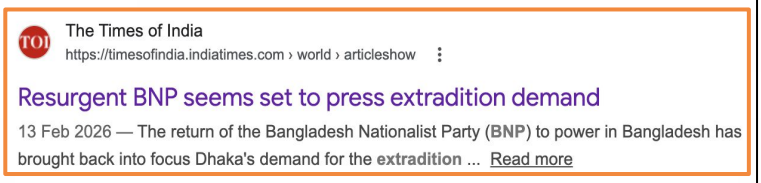
CONTEXT: Sheikh Hasina seeks new passport but Acting Foreign Minister of Bangladesh calls Hasina a 'terrorist', says India should hand her over under the extradition treaty.

- **Water and River Cooperation:**
  - **Ganga Water Treaty, 1996:** guides water-sharing at the Farakka Barrage.
  - **Joint Rivers Commission**:
    - Established in **1972 -** manages **54 transboundary rivers**
    - sharing hydrological data for flood forecasting during peak monsoon periods.
- **Medical Cooperation:** Bangladesh accounts for over ***35% of India's medical tourists,*** through medical visa facilitation, hospital collaboration, and telemedicine services.
- **Cultural and People-to-People Ties:**
  - **Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre and the Indian Cultural Centre in Dhaka -** *Promote Indian classical music, dance, yoga and art through performances and workshops.*
  - **India's soft power and cultural diplomacy**

Emerging Challenges

- **Political Transition:** Student-led protests in 2024 led to Sheikh Hasina's exit and the establishment of an ***interim government led by Muhammad Yunus.***
  - ***remarks – like describing Northeast India as "landlocked"***
  - greater Chinese trade ties with northeastern India, using Bangladesh ports
- **Extradition Tension:** The interim government has sought Hasina's extradition from India – causing diplomatic discomfort.

- **Geopolitical Balancing:**
  - **Bangladesh Nationalist Party** has historically advocated a ***policy of "Look East" (towards China)*** and ***closer ties with the Islamic world (including Pakistan)*** to balance India's influence.
- **Impact on connectivity projects:**
  - include the **Akhaura–Agartala** cross-border rail link, the **Khulna–Mongla** port line, and the **Dhaka–Tongi–Joydebpur** expansion.
  - Survey work on five other proposed links has also been paused.





- **The "India Out" Sentiment:** Anti-India rhetoric remains potent in university campuses and student movements.
- **Transshipment Facility Withdrawal:** India revoked Bangladesh's right to ship exports through Indian ports citing congestion; Dhaka saw it as damaging to trade competitiveness.
- **Resource Diplomacy:**
  - **1996 Ganges Water Treaty** - expire in December 2026.
  - **What does Bangladesh want?** Bangladesh is a lower-riparian country
    - **Guaranteed minimum share,** particularly during the dry seasons.



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        - **Climate-resilient provisions:** Water-sharing arrangements that *account for changing rainfall and river flows.*
        - **Monsoon flood management:** Provisions to address excessive flows that can cause flooding and agricultural losses.
    - **Teesta River dispute remains deadlocked:** Bangladesh seeking equitable distribution of its waters, which has not been agreed upon by India and the state of West Bengal.

India ends transshipment facility for Bangladesh exports, cites congestion

Facility withdrawn as logistical delays, higher costs were hindering Indian exports and creating backlogs, says MEA; move comes after Bangladesh outreach to China, comments on trade ties with northeast

Updated - April 09, 2025 10:32 pm IST - New Delhi

Way ahead

- **De-hyphenation from Awami League:** multi-partisan diplomacy
    - India should shift from *regime-to-regime deals to people-to-people connect*.
    - Easing visa regimes for medical tourism and education can act as a soft power bridge.
- **Pragmatic Engagement:** High-level visits (potentially by the PM) could be offered to confer international legitimacy to the new regime.
- **Economic Interdependence as a Stabilising Tool:**
    - **CEPA & LDC Graduation:** As *Bangladesh graduates from the* ***Least Developed Country status in 2026***, (become a Developing Country) it will lose duty-free access to Western markets.
    - India can fast-track the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement to offer duty-free access to the massive Indian market, acting as an ***economic cushion contingent on political stability.***
- **Timely Renewal of the Ganges Water Treaty:**
    - establishing a transparent, data-driven framework for dry-season water allocation.

- **Establish Clear "Red Lines":** communicate its non-negotiables to the new government:
    - **No Hostile Assets like Chinese developments at Mongla and Payra ports** must not evolve into ***dual-use facilities*** (e.g., submarine docking) that threaten the Eastern Naval Command.
        - A port with appropriate depth and infrastructure could potentially accommodate submarines.
- **Create "Sub-Regional Border Economic Zones":**
    - where small-scale industries from both countries can operate with shared utility and warehousing infrastructure.

Mains Practise Question

Q. Discuss the key areas of cooperation between India and Bangladesh. Also examine the recent challenges and suggest measures to strengthen bilateral ties."

(15 Marks, 250 words)



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Extra Judicial Killings: Violation of Rule of Law

CONTEXT: Rising instances of police encounters in Bengal.

Extra-Judicial Killings: Violation of Rule of Law

What is Extra Judicial Killing?

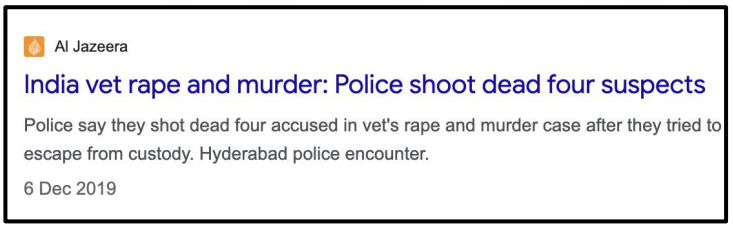
- killing of a person by the state or its agents, ***without a trial, due process, or any legal justification***.
- **Retributive in nature:** *principle of 'eye for an eye' justice*
- carried out in the ***name of maintaining law and order or Combating Terrorism.***
- **Article 21:** No person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law.


The Leaflet

SC gives Manipur HC three months to dispose of matter of 1,528 'fake' encounter killings

A Supreme Court division Bench led by Chief Justice of India Dr D.Y. Chandrachud has allowed the Manipur High Court three months to dispose...

17 May 2023


Al Jazeera

India vet rape and murder: Police shoot dead four suspects

Police say they shot dead four accused in vet's rape and murder case after they tried to escape from custody. Hyderabad police encounter.

6 Dec 2019

Recent incidents of extra judicial killings:

- **Encounter in Manipur (2022):** Manipur saw encounters involving security forces targeting suspected militants, raising allegations of extrajudicial killings and calling for impartial investigations.
- **Vikas Dubey Encounter (2020):** a wanted gangster -Uttar Pradesh police.
- **Hyderabad Rape and Murder Case (2019):** during a purported escape attempt during a crime scene reconstruction.
- **2023:** Gangster Atiq Ahmed son Asad shot dead in Jhansi encounter

Causes:

- **Public support:**
  - **Pendency of cases:**
    - **NJDG** - 53 million pending cases across all tiers.
    - **e.g. Nirbhaya case -** 7 years for final justice to be delivered.
  - Increasing clout of criminals with **money and political connections.**
- **Political Support:** serve as their achievement in maintaining law and order in the state.
- **'Doctrine of proportionality'** rightful punishment for misdeed by the accused.
- **Punitive Violence:** only way to control crime and create a sense of fear among potential criminals.
- **Issues with the Criminal Justice System:**
  - UN norm of 222 police personnel per lakh of population (India - 155 in 2024)
  - lack advanced forensic tools, specialized training

Issues:

- **Violation of human rights**: against the right to legal form of procedural justice, and equality before the law.
- **Virtue Ethics -** Justice, its cardinal virtue is compromised
  - suspect is denied the basic right to present against claims made.
- Against **professional ethics** of police.
- Against ***reformative principle*** which argues that every individual is subject to reform.
- **Deontology** which prescribes that *means must justify the end*.



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Extra Judicial Killings: Violation of Rule of Law

CONTEXT: Rising instances of police encounters in Bengal.

SC Rulings on extra judicial killings:

People's Union for Civil Liberties vs. the State of Maharashtra (2014): SC laid down standard procedure to be followed for independent investigation in cases of police encounters:

- Mandatory registration of FIR
- Provisions for magisterial inquiry
- Keeping written records of intelligence inputs.
- Investigation by independent agency like CID.
- Information about the incident must be sent to the NHRC or SHRC.

Way Forward

- **India should** take immediate measures to **ratify UN Convention against Torture.**
  - India signed the UNCAT on 14 October 1997, but has not ratified it as of November 2026.
- **Ensure the strict implementation** of Supreme Court guidelines on fake encounter deaths.
- **Overhauling the criminal justice system** to maintain credibility among the public.
- **Timely investigation** of encounter killings and **timely punishment** to act as deterrence in the future.
- **Establishment of 'fast track' courts** to ensure speedy justice

Mains Practise Question

"Extra-judicial killings strike at the heart of constitutional morality and the rule of law."

Critically examine the causes behind the recurrence of extra-judicial killings in India. Discuss their implications for fundamental rights and suggest measures to ensure accountability while maintaining effective law enforcement."

(15 Marks, 250 words)

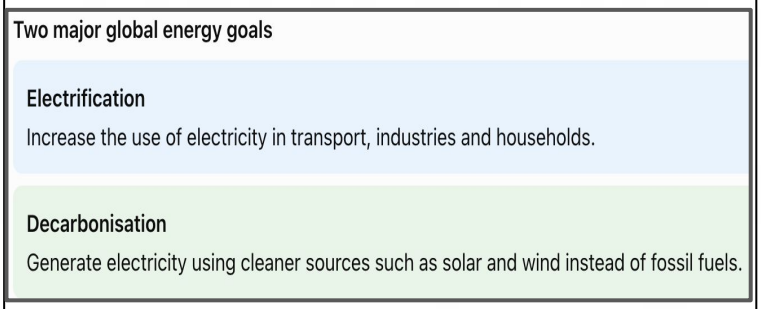


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Mains Value Addition

Newspaper: The Hindu **Page Number :** 07

Context: Last week, India hosted the ***Bharat Renewable Energy Summit, celebrating India's double transition*** - near-universal household access to electricity & building the world's third-largest renewable energy capacity.



<u>COP 31 (UNFCCC) and Climate Negotiations</u>:

- **Turkey is hosting COP 31** - venue, organises the event in **Antalya.**
- **Australia holds the presidency** of the climate negotiations - chairs the discussions and leads the negotiation process.
- **Global Electrification Target – 35 by 35:**
  - By 2035, electricity should account for ***35% of total final energy consumption*** globally. (Now - 24% in 2023)
  - increase the use of electricity in sectors such as transport, industries.

Issues in Global Energy Transition

Growth of renewable energy: reached 5,149 GW in 2025.

- ➔ **692 GW of additional capacity** was installed in **2025.**
- ➔ ***97% of new capacity additions*** came from solar and wind energy.
- ➔ **Goal of tripling renewable energy capacity-** by 2030 **COP28 (Dubai, 2023)** remains far out on the horizon.

Progress remains unequal:

- ➔ **China** - two-thirds of new renewable energy deployment.
- ➔ **Africa** accounted for only **1.6%.**
- ➔ **Issue:** installing renewable energy capacity ***does not automatically mean that electricity is available everywhere.***
  - ◆ Around ***560 million people in Sub-Saharan Africa*** still lack access to electricity.

Why is there a gap between ambition and reality?

- ➔ **Inadequate electricity grids and transmission infrastructure:**
  - ◆ ***Traditional electricity grids*** - coal-based power plants, which generate electricity at a relatively predictable rate.
  - ◆ cannot move cheap power to those who need it.
- ➔ **Concentration of clean technology and supply chains:**
  - ◆ China controls 75–95% of the global solar PV supply chain.
  - ◆ **India** - imports for nearly 80% of its solar equipment, with **China** supplying over 60% of these imports.



Mains Value Addition

Newspaper: The Hindu **Page Number :** 07

- **India's import dependency** on lithium, cobalt and nickel, and **China controlling over 90%** of international processing of rare-earth elements.

➔ **Surge in AI-driven power demand:**

- Colliding with limits on energy, water and climate.
  - **Continuous electricity** - about 1.5 to 3% of global demand.
  - **Water or other cooling systems** - annual water consumption could more than double.

Way Ahead

Global energy transition needs a new mantra: *make renewables reliable, secure and digital.*

Reliable - *International Renewable Energy Agency*

- **Global grid investment** must roughly double, from about $0.5 trillion a year to about $1 trillion.
- **Battery storage** - **India** 50 GWh of battery storage.

Secure - *transition that eases energy security concerns*

- **International Energy Agency -** cleantech manufacturing investment is dominated by China (70%).
- **India:** solar module manufacturing capacity, National Critical Minerals Mission and Green Hydrogen Mission.
- **Multilateral institutions -** menu of options, matched to each country's starting point to build local manufacturing.

Digital - *guiding the frontier rather than reacting to it.*

- **Smart meters** - India has already deployed about 54 million.
- **Software for optimising energy flow** - AI can forecast renewable output, optimise grids and unlock flexibility markets.
- **Forward-looking heat and water-stress data -** Data centres should disclose their power, water and carbon intensity.



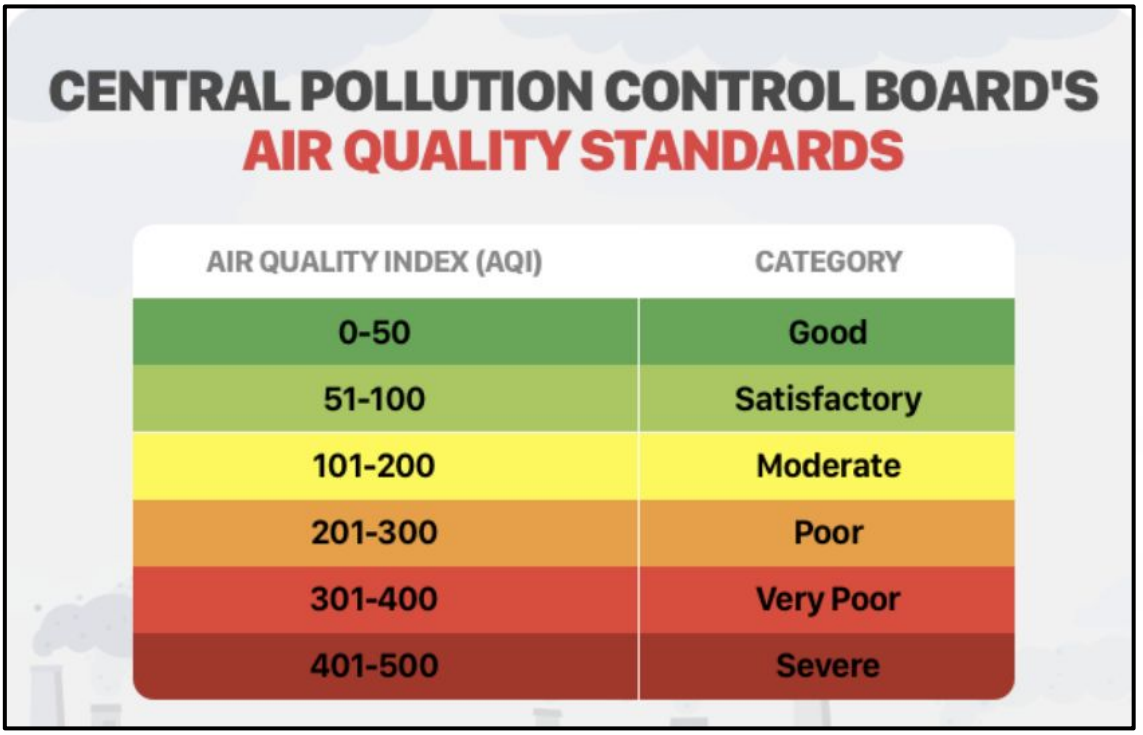
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Cracker Conundrum

SYLLABUS : Prelims: Environment
Newspaper: The Hindu **Page Number :** 06

About AQI

- **Who's given National Air Quality Index –** Launched by Central Pollution Control Board in 2014.
- **Aim:** outline ***'One Number – One Color – One Description'*** for the common man to judge the air quality within his vicinity.
- **Pollutants Covered:**
  - Particulate matter (PM2.5), Particulate matter 10 (PM10)
  - Ozone (O3), Carbon Monoxide (CO)
  - Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2), Sulphur Dioxide (SO2)
  - Lead (Pb) & Ammonia (NH3)
- **Measuring criteria –**
  - 24 hours average data. Its unit is ***micrograms per cubic meter***.
  - Each pollutants quantity in the air is adjusted to a common scale(say, 0 to 500) that works for all pollutants.
- **Number of categories**



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Commercial farming not protected by FRA:SC

SYLLABUS : Prelims: Polity
Newspaper: The Hindu **Page Number :** 10

About Forest Rights Act, 2006

- **Recognition of Rights:** Recognises and vests forest rights in Forest Dwelling Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers.
- **Eligibility Criteria:** OTFDs must have primarily reside in and depended on forests for livelihood ***for at least 75 years (three generations) before 13 December 2005.***
- **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Tribal Affairs
- **Conservation and Livelihood:** Balances forest conservation with livelihood and food security of forest-dwelling communities.
- **Role of Gram Sabha:** initiates the process of identifying and determining Individual Forest Rights and Community Forest Rights.
- **Community empowerment:** The law empowers forest dwellers to access, use, and manage forest resources and protects them from unlawful eviction.

- **Four Categories of Forest Rights**
  - **Title Rights:** Ownership of forest land actually occupied and cultivated, ***subject to a maximum of 4 hectares;*** no fresh land allotment.
  - **Use Rights:** Access to and collection of Minor Forest Produce (eg. fodder, fuel, bamboo), grazing areas and other customary forest resources.
  - **Relief and Development Rights:** Rights to rehabilitation against illegal eviction/displacement and access to basic development facilities.
  - **Forest Management Rights:** Right to protect, conserve, regenerate and sustainably manage Community Forest Resources.



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FPI v/s FDI

SYLLABUS : Prelims: Economy
Newspaper: The Hindu **Page Number :** 13

FDI v/s FPI

Basis	Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)	Foreign Portfolio Investment (FPI)
Definition	Investment in physical assets or businesses in another country.	Investment in financial assets like shares, bonds and securities of another country.
Investment Horizon	Generally **long-term.**	Generally **short-term** and relatively liquid.
Control	Provides significant ownership and management influence (usually 10% or more voting rights).	Does not provide significant management control.
Risk	Relatively stable; involves long-term business and operational risks.	More volatile; exposed to market fluctuations and capital outflows.
Impact on Host Economy	Promotes capital formation, employment, technology transfer and infrastructure development.	Improves market liquidity, capital availability and financial market depth.

UPSC Takeaway

- **FDI:** Long-term investment + Management influence.
- **FPI:** Financial investment + No management control.

PYQ - (2020)

Q. ***With reference to Foreign Direct Investment in India, which one of the following is considered its major characteristic?*** **(2020)**

(a) It is the investment through capital instruments essentially in a listed company.

(b) It is a largely non-debt creating capital flow.

(c) It is the investment which involves debt-servicing.

(d) It is the investment made by foreign institutional investors in the Government securities.



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Panna Tiger Reserve

SYLLABUS : Prelims: Environment
Newspaper: The Indian Express **Page Number :** 06

About Panna Tiger Reserve

- **Location –** Vindhyan Hills in northern **Madhya Pradesh.**
- **Characterised by Table Top topography -** The terrain here consists of extensive plateaus and gorges.
- **River –** Flowing from the ***south to the north*** through the reserve is the River **Ken** *(a tributary of Yamuna)***.**
- **Major Fauna:** Tiger, leopard, chital, chinkara, sambar.
- **Vegetation –** The dominating vegetation type is ***Miscellaneous Dry Deciduous forest*** interspersed with grassland areas.

About Ranipur Tiger Reserve

- **Location:** It is located in the Chitrakoot district of **Uttar Pradesh.**
- It is the **fourth tiger reserve of UP,** after Dudhwa, Pilibhit and Amangarh
- **Declared year:** a tiger reserve in 2022.
- **Betwa and Dhasan rivers** pass through the area.
- **Vegetation:** It has tropical dry deciduous forests.
  - includes Tendu, Mahua, Bamboo, Dhak, Gooseberry, Wood Apple, Sal etc.
- **Fauna:** tigers, leopards, sloth bears, spotted deer, sambhar, chinkara.



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Daily Quiz

Q1. How many of the following pollutants are covered under India's National Air Quality Index (NAQI)?

1. Ammonia
2. Lead
3. Benzene
4. Ozone
5. Nickel

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

a) Only two
b) Only three
c) Only four
d) All five

Answer: b

Q2. With reference to the Forest Rights Act, 2006, consider the following statements:

1. Title rights recognise existing occupation and cultivation of forest land, without permitting fresh allotment.
2. Other Traditional Forest Dwellers must establish at least three generations of residence in and livelihood dependence on forests.
3. The Gram Sabha initiates the determination of both individual and community forest rights.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

a) 1 and 2 only
b) 2 and 3 only
c) 1 and 3 only
d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: d

Q3. With reference to Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and Foreign Portfolio Investment (FPI), consider the following statements:

1. FDI generally involves long-term investment and significant management influence.
2. FPI improves financial market liquidity without providing significant management control.
3. FDI is more vulnerable to sudden capital outflows, while FPI is primarily exposed to operational risks.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

a) 1 and 2 only
b) 2 and 3 only
c) 1 and 3 only
d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: a

Q4. Consider the following statements:

1. The Betwa and Dhasan rivers flow through Panna Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh.
2. The Ken River passes through the Ranipur Tiger Reserve area in Uttar Pradesh.

Which of the statements given above is/are Not correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: c

Q5. Which one of the following best describes the '35 by 35' Target proposed under the UNFCCC COP 31 process?

a) Increasing the share of renewable energy in global electricity generation to 35% by 2035.
b) Reducing the share of fossil fuels in global final energy consumption by 35% by 2035.
c) Increasing electricity share in global final energy consumption to 35% by 2035.
d) Increasing global electricity generation capacity by 35% over existing levels by 2035.

Answer: c





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