Daily subject quiz – Environment (14-11-2026)

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Questions

1. The Kigali Amendment (2016) to the Montreal Protocol aims to phase down the production and use of

A. Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs)
B. Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)
C. Methane
D. Sulphur hexafluoride

2. Consider the following statements:
1. The flow of energy in an ecosystem is unidirectional.
2. According to Lindeman's ten per cent law, only about 10% of the energy at one trophic level is passed on to the next.
3. Decomposers such as bacteria and fungi are the primary producers of an ecosystem.
Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

3. Match the pollutants (List I) with their effects (List II):
(a) Carbon monoxide – 1. Minamata disease
(b) Chlorofluorocarbons – 2. Forms carboxyhaemoglobin in blood
(c) Mercury – 3. Greenhouse gas released from paddy fields and ruminants
(d) Methane – 4. Depletion of the stratospheric ozone layer
Codes: (a) (b) (c) (d)

A. 2 4 3 1
B. 4 2 1 3
C. 2 4 1 3
D. 1 3 2 4

4. Assertion (A): The concentration of DDT is much higher in fish-eating birds than in the water of the lake they feed from.
Reason (R): Pollutants such as DDT are persistent and fat-soluble, so they are not easily broken down or excreted and accumulate at each higher trophic level.

A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A
B. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A
C. A is true, but R is false
D. A is false, but R is true

5. The Appiko movement of 1983, inspired by Chipko, to protect forests in the Western Ghats, began in which State?

A. Keralam
B. Karnataka
C. Goa
D. Maharashtra

6. Consider the following statements on the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972:
1. The Act was enacted by Parliament in 1972.
2. The Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Act, 2022 reduced the number of Schedules from six to four.
3. The tiger is a Schedule I animal, which gets the highest level of protection.
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

7. Match the protected areas (List I) with the species they are best known for (List II):
(a) Kaziranga National Park – 1. Snow leopard
(b) Gir National Park – 2. Hangul (Kashmir stag)
(c) Hemis National Park – 3. One-horned rhinoceros
(d) Dachigam National Park – 4. Asiatic lion
Codes: (a) (b) (c) (d)

A. 3 4 1 2
B. 4 3 2 1
C. 3 4 2 1
D. 1 2 3 4

8. Assertion (A): A rise in the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere raises the Earth's average surface temperature.
Reason (R): Carbon dioxide lets most of the incoming short-wave solar radiation pass through but absorbs and re-emits the long-wave infrared radiation given out by the Earth.

A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A
B. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A
C. A is true, but R is false
D. A is false, but R is true

9. India's first Dugong Conservation Reserve, notified by the Tamil Nadu Government in 2022, lies in which water body?

A. Gulf of Mannar
B. Palk Bay
C. Pulicat Lake
D. Gulf of Kachchh

10. Consider the following statements:
1. The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was opened for signature at the Rio Earth Summit in 1992.
2. The Kyoto Protocol (1997) set binding emission-reduction targets for developed countries.
3. The Paris Agreement (2015) aims to hold the rise in global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit it to 1.5 °C.
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

Answers with explanations

1. **B) Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)** – HFCs, used in refrigeration and air-conditioning in place of ozone-depleting CFCs and HCFCs, do not harm the ozone layer but are powerful greenhouse gases. The Kigali Amendment (Rwanda, October 2016) sets a phase-down; India ratified it in 2021 and is in the group that freezes HFC use in 2028.

2. **B) 1 and 2 only** – Statement 3 is wrong: primary producers are green plants and other autotrophs that fix solar energy by photosynthesis; decomposers break down dead matter and return nutrients to the soil. Energy flows one way (sun → producers → consumers) and much is lost as heat at each level, which is why food chains are short.

3. **C) 2 4 1 3** – Carbon monoxide binds haemoglobin far more strongly than oxygen, forming carboxyhaemoglobin; CFCs release chlorine that destroys stratospheric ozone; mercury

(methylmercury in fish) caused Minamata disease in Japan in the 1950s; methane comes from flooded paddy fields, livestock digestion and landfills.

4. **A) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A** – Both are true and R explains A. This is biomagnification: a persistent, fat-soluble chemical builds up along the food chain (water → plankton → small fish → large fish → birds). High DDT levels in birds thin their eggshells and reduce breeding.

5. **B) Karnataka** – The Appiko Chaluvali ('appiko' means 'to hug' in Kannada) began in September 1983 in Uttara Kannada district of Karnataka, where villagers hugged trees to stop felling; Panduranga Hegde was a leading figure. The Chipko movement began in 1973 in the Chamoli region of present-day Uttarakhand.

6. **D) 1, 2 and 3** – All three are correct. After the 2022 amendment, Schedule I lists animals with the highest protection, Schedule II animals with lesser protection, Schedule III protected plants and Schedule IV specimens listed in the CITES Appendices; the separate schedule for 'vermin' was removed. Project Tiger began in 1973, a year after the Act.

7. **A) 3 4 1 2** – Kaziranga (Assam) – Indian one-horned rhinoceros (a UNESCO World Heritage Site); Gir (Gujarat) – the only wild home of the Asiatic lion; Hemis (Ladakh) – snow leopard; Dachigam (Jammu and Kashmir, near Srinagar) – hangul, the Kashmir red deer.

8. **A) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A** – Both are true and R explains A. Greenhouse gases (water vapour, CO_2, methane, nitrous oxide, ozone) trap outgoing infrared radiation; without the natural greenhouse effect the Earth's average temperature would be about –18 °C instead of about 15 °C. Extra CO_2 from burning fossil fuels strengthens the effect and causes global warming.

9. **B) Palk Bay** – The Dugong Conservation Reserve covers about 448 sq km of Palk Bay along the coasts of Thanjavur and Pudukkottai districts, which have rich seagrass meadows – the dugong's only food. The dugong (sea cow) is a Schedule I animal under the Wild Life (Protection) Act and is listed as Vulnerable by the IUCN.

10. **D) 1, 2 and 3** – All three are correct. The Conference of the Parties (COP) is the supreme body of the UNFCCC; COP31 is being held at Antalya, Türkiye, from 9 to 20 November 2026. Under the Paris Agreement every country submits Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), and Article 9.1 requires developed countries to provide financial resources to developing countries.

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