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<td>Jaipur makes it to UNESCO World Heritage Site list</td>
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<td>Stranded sea cow named ‘Jamil’</td>
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*C – Chennai ; D – Delhi; B – Bengaluru; T – Thiruvananthapuram

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**SC pulls up Kerala for denying relief to endosulfan victims**

Page 8 - C; D

Page 1, 6 - T

**Endosulfan** - pesticide - Kasaragod district in Kerala

- an insecticide and acaricide
- acaricide - killing ticks and mites - acari subclass of Arachnids
- Used since late 1970s - by aerial spraying over cashew plantations
- toxic to human beings and environmental ecology
- mass deaths of bees, fishes, frogs, birds, foxes, congenital deformities in cows
- congenital deformities in human beings also
- Neurobehavioural disorders - cognitive disorders - Hydrocephalus - mental retardation - abnormalities in male reproductive system - Cancer

**Part A—Preliminary Examination**

**Paper I** (200 marks)
- Current events of national and international importance.
- General issues on Environmental ecology, Bio-diversity and Climate Change - that do not require subject specialization.
- General Science.

**Part B—Main Examination**

**General Studies-III; Technology, Economic Development, Bio-diversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management**
- Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment.
Cultural Heritage

Expression of the ways of living developed by a community and passed on from generation to generation

- Includes monuments, customs & practices, places, artistic expressions, values

UNESCO’s Classification

* Tangible cultural Heritage & Intangible cultural Heritage
  * Tangible Cultural Heritage
    * Movable Cultural Heritage
      - Paintings, Sculptures, coins and manuscripts
    * Immovable Cultural Heritage
      - Monuments, archaeological sites, cities
  * Underwater Cultural Heritage
    - Shipwrecks, underwater ruins & cities

* Intangible Cultural Heritage
  * Oral traditions, performing arts, rituals

Cultural Heritage

* Cultural Heritage
  * Natural Heritage with cultural aspects
    * Cultural aspects
      - Cultural landscapes, physical, biological or geological formations
  * Heritage in the event of armed conflict

Mixed Heritage (sites)
  * Cultural & Natural value (sites)

Convention Concerning the Protection of the world Cultural and Natural Heritage

* Adopted by UNESCO in 1972
* Identification, protection and preservation of the cultural and natural heritage around the world, of ‘outstanding universal values’
* ‘World Heritage Sites’ listed under this convention
* India - ratified in 1977 - State party
  * Protect the heritage values of ‘World Heritage sites’
  * Reporting to UNESCO on periodic basis about their condition
* 38 sites in India
Jaipur city
- Cultural Heritage site - Latest addition
- Walled city
- Founded in 1727 by Kachwaha Rajput ruler of Amber, Sawai Jai Singh II
- Grid plan-based Architecture (Vedic)

- Architecture - mix of ancient Hindu, modern Mughal and Western cultural
- Pink facades throughout the city
- Chaupars of Jaipur

World Heritage Sites in India
- 38 sites
  - Cultural - 30
  - Natural - 7
  - Mixed - 1 (Khangchendzonga National Park, Sikkim)
- 2018 - Victorian Gothic & Art Deco ensembles of Mumbai

Stranded sea cow named ‘Jamil’
Second one to wash ashore in a month

- Dugong - mammal
  - Mariam, Jamil
- Yawil Language
  - dialect of Malay language
  - Spoken in Southernmost provinces of Thailand - along the border with Malaysia
- Malay ethnic group - dominant in these provinces
Dugong → **Vulnerable (IUCN Red List)**
- Also called as Sea Cow

Dugong

- Herbivorous marine animal - feeds on seagrass
- Schedule I - WPA 1972
- Appendix I - CITES
- India ratified CITES in 1976

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One porcupine burrow houses 22 different animals

- Indian crested porcupine shares its burrow with 22 different species, including birds and reptiles
- Burrows - underground holes dug by animals to live
- Porcupines - can dig burrows up to 13 metres in length; with side chambers of varying depths
- Coexistence - sharing of burrows with other species for living
- Researchers - Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History, Coimbatore, T.N.

- Study - At Keoladeo National Park, Bharatpur, Rajasthan
  (World Heritage Site - Natural)
- Cameras setup to study the burrows
  - Four major occupants - Porcupines, Jackals, Rock pythons and bats
Practice Question – Prelims

Q1. The term ‘Endosulfan’ sometime seen in the news, refers to

a) A vaccine in testing stage to cure Ebola
b) An endothermic chemical reaction
c) A toxic pesticide
d) A new gas detected outside solar system

Answers

1. Option – c
2. Option – b
3. Option – d
**Practice Question – Prelims**

Q2. Consider the following pairs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNESCO’s World Heritage Site</th>
<th>Category</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Khangchendzonga National Park</td>
<td>Natural</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Sunderbans National Park</td>
<td>Mixed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Jaipur City, Rajasthan</td>
<td>Cultural</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Choose the correct pair/pairs from the options given below.

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

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**Practice Question – Prelims**

Q3. Which of the following provides protection to various animals under its schedules, except in certain circumstances?

- a) Biological Diversity Act, 2002
- b) Environmental Protection Act, 1986
- c) The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980
- d) Wildlife Protection Act, 1972