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Topic Wise Content



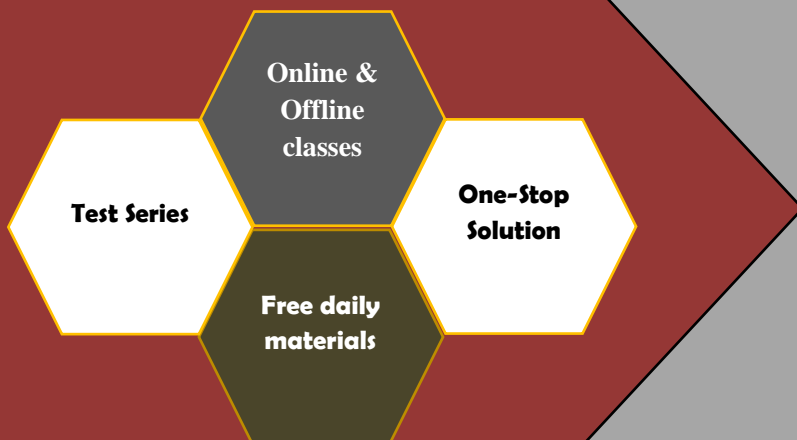
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Mammoth Cave: US

Notes for civil services preparation



UPSC

General Studies

Mammoth Cave: US

Why in News

Recently, the **official length of Mammoth Cave has been extended to 420 miles. Key**

Points

- The **additional mileage (8 miles)** was mapped and **documented by the Cave Research Foundation.**

Mammoth Cave National Park, located in the state of **Kentucky (US)**, has the **world's largest network of natural caves and underground passageways**, which are characteristic **examples of limestone formations (karst topography).**

- It is a **World Heritage Site** (designated in 1981).
- It became an **International Biosphere Reserve in 1990.**

Karst Topography

- It is a **type of landscape where the dissolving of the bedrock has created sinkholes, sinking streams, caves, springs**, and other characteristic features.
- Karst is **associated with soluble rock types** such as limestone, marble, and gypsum.
- In general, a typical karst landscape **forms** when much of the water falling on the surface interacts with and enters the subsurface through cracks, fractures, and holes that have been dissolved into the bedrock.
 - After traveling underground, sometimes for long distances, this water is then discharged from springs, many of which are cave entrances.