

Test Series Question Paper-16-03-2024

Q 1. Consider the following determinants:

1. Cost of Production
2. Demand and Supply
3. International Price situation
4. Changes in input prices

How many of the above are determinants of Minimum Support Price?

- (a) Only two
- (b) Only three
- (c) All four
- (d) None

Ans: (c)

Minimum Support Price (MSP) is announced by the Government of India at the beginning of the sowing season for certain crops based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). The minimum Support Price is a price fixed by the Government of India to protect the producer farmers against excessive fall in price during bumper production years.

The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) takes into account, apart from a comprehensive view of the entire structure of the economy of a particular commodity or group of commodities, the following factors:

- Cost of production
- Changes in input prices
- Input-output price parity
- Trends in market prices
- Demand and supply
- Inter-crop price parity
- Effect on industrial cost structure
- Effect on cost of living
- Effect on general price level
- International price situation
- Parity between prices paid and prices received by the farmers.
- Effect on issue prices and implications for subsidy

So, option (c) is correct.

Q 2. With reference to the Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana, consider the following statements:

1. It is a small deposit scheme by the Ministry of Finance.
2. The scheme is meant to meet the education and marriage expenses of a girl child.

3. It is operated through three Private Sector Banks viz. HDFC Bank, Axis Bank and ICICI Bank.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (c)

Statement 1 is correct: Sukanya Samridhi Yojana is a small deposit scheme by the Ministry of Finance meant exclusively for a girl child. Finance Ministry recently increased the interest rate for the Sukanya Samridhi Account Scheme from 8% to 8.2% for January-March (2024) quarter.

Statement 2 is correct: The scheme is meant to meet the education and marriage expenses of a girl child. The total amount deposited in an account shall not exceed Rs 1,50,000 in a financial year. Once the girl child is 18 years old, she can make an early withdrawal of up to 50% of the balance for higher education. Account can be opened in the name of a girl child till she attains the age of 10 years.

Statement 3 is correct: The scheme is operated through the all-Post Offices, branches of Public Sector Banks and three Private Sector Banks viz. HDFC Bank, Axis Bank and ICICI Bank.

Q 3. Consider the following statements regarding the Nutrient Based Subsidy Policy:

- 1. It aims to provide a subsidy on fertilizers per kilogram of nutrients.
- 2. It is issued under the Essential Commodities Act, of 1955.
- 3. It covers only Nitrogen, Phosphate, and Potash.

How many of the above given statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (b)

Statement 1 is correct: Nutrient Based Subsidy Policy aims to provide subsidies on fertilizers per kilogram of nutrients.

Statement 2 is correct: Nutrient Based Subsidy Policy is framed under the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985 issued under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Primary nutrients eligible under the nutrient based subsidy policy are Nitrogen (N), Phosphate (P), Potash (K), and Sulphur (S).

Q 4. Consider the following statements about PM-KUSUM Scheme:

- 1. This scheme has been started by the Ministry of Power.

2. It aims to replace the conventional bulbs and tube lights with LED bulbs and LED Tube lights at domestic household levels

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (d)

Statement 1 is incorrect: PM-KUSUM (Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan) is an initiative under the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE).

Statement 2 is incorrect: The PM KUSUM Scheme has the following components:

Component-A: Setting up of 10,000 MW of Decentralized Ground/ Stilt Mounted Grid Connected Solar or other Renewable Energy based Power Plants by the farmers on their land.

Component-B: Installation of 14 Lakh Stand-alone Solar Agriculture Pumps.

Component-C: Solarisation of 35 Lakh Grid Connected Agriculture Pumps including Feeder Level Solarisation.

Q 5. Consider the following statements regarding Global Risk Report 2024:

1. It is released by the United Nations Economic Programme.
2. Cost-of-living crisis and Inflation are significant concerns for low- and middle-income countries.

Which of the above-given statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (b)

- The Global Risks Report explores some of the most severe risks we may face over the next decade, against a backdrop of rapid technological change, economic uncertainty, a warming planet, and conflict.
- Global Risk Report 2024 is released by the World Economic Forum.
- It highlights the cost-of-living crisis and Inflation are significant concerns for low- and middle-income countries.

So, option (b) is correct.

Q 6. With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Vishwakarma Scheme, consider the following statements:

1. It is a Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS).
2. It is being implemented by the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

3. MUDRA and SVANidhi scheme beneficiaries who have not fully repaid their loans are not eligible under PM Vishwakarma.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans (a)

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** It is a central sector scheme.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** It is an initiative under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Beneficiaries of PM Vishwakarma should not have availed loans under similar credit schemes from the Central or any state government for self-employment or business purposes within the last five years. However, MUDRA and SVANidhi beneficiaries who have fully repaid their loans are eligible under PM Vishwakarma.

Q 7 Consider the following statements regarding European Free Trade Association (EFTA):

- 1. It is an intergovernmental organization for the promotion of free trade.
- 2. All the countries of the European union is member of EFTA.
- 3. It is founded by Stockholm Convention in 1960.

How many of the above given statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (b)

The European Free Trade Association (EFTA) is the intergovernmental organisation of Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, and Switzerland. It was set up in 1960 by its then seven Member States for the promotion of free trade and economic integration between its members.

So, option (b) is correct.

Q 8. Which one of the following is the main objective of the PM Kisan Maan Dhan Yojana?

- (a) To provide income support through the direct benefit transfer (DBT) of Rs.6000 per annum to all small and marginal landholding farmer families.
- (b) To create agricultural infrastructures like primary processing units, warehouses, cold storage, etc. at Gram Panchayat levels.
- (c) To help farmers receive fair prices for their agricultural produce so that they continue investing in agriculture.
- (d) To provide pension for old age protection and social security of Small and Marginal Farmers (SMF).

Ans (d)

Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maandhan Yojana is a government scheme meant for old age protection and social security of Small and Marginal Farmers (SMF).

All Small and Marginal Farmers having cultivable landholdings of up to 2 hectares falling in the age group of 18 to 40 years, whose names appear in the land records of states and UTs are eligible to get benefits under the Scheme.

Under this scheme, the farmers would receive a minimum assured pension of ₹ 3000/- per month after attaining the age of 60 years and if the farmer dies, the spouse of the farmer shall be entitled to receive 50% of the pension as a family pension. Family pension applies only to spouses.

So, option (d) is correct.

Q 9. Consider the following statements regarding “Urea Gold”.

1. It is a sulphur coated Urea.
2. It is a non-organic slow-release fertilizer.
3. The use of urea gold approved by Cabinet Committee of Economic Affairs (CCEA).

How many of the above given statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (c)

Statement 1 and 2 are correct: Urea Gold is a new variety of Urea that is coated with Sulphur. It is expected to address sulphur deficiencies in the soil. It is a non-organic slow-release fertilizer

Statement 3 is correct: The Cabinet Committee of Economic Affairs (CCEA) has given the green light to the introduction of Sulphur Coated Urea, aptly named Urea Gold, showcasing the government of India's commitment to addressing sulphur deficiency in the country's agricultural landscape.

Q 10. With reference to the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS), consider the following statements:

1. It is being implemented by the Ministry of Finance.
2. It involves the change in quantity of money in circulation in an economy through the open market operations (OMO).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (d)

Statement 1 is incorrect: Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) is being implemented by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) is a price support mechanism implemented for procurement of perishable agricultural and horticultural commodities that are not covered under the Price Support Scheme (PSS).

Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) is implemented on the request of State Governments which is ready to bear 50 percent of the loss (25 percent in case of North-Eastern States).

Under the scheme, in accordance with MIS guidelines, a pre-determined quantity at the fixed Market Intervention Price (MIP) is procured by the agencies designated by the State Government for a fixed period or till the prices are stabilized above the MIP whichever is earlier.

Q 11. Consider the following statements with reference to Asian development bank (ADB):

1. Only Asian countries can be the member of the bank
2. India is the second largest shareholder of the bank after China.
3. India is one of the founding members of ADB.

How many of the above given statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (a)

Statement 1 is incorrect: ADB is committed to achieving a prosperous, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable Asia and the Pacific, while sustaining its efforts to eradicate extreme poverty. It has 68 members—of which 49 are from Asia and the Pacific and 19 outside. ADB headquarters is in Manila, Philippines and has 43 offices around the world.

Statement 2 is incorrect: India is the bank's fourth largest shareholder after Japan, USA and China.

Statement 3 is correct: India became a member of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) as a founding member in 1966.

Q 12. With reference to the Stand-Up India Scheme, consider the following statements:

1. It facilitates bank loans between 10 lakh and 1 Crore for setting up a greenfield enterprise.
2. It mainly aims to promote self-employment and entrepreneurship among the college and university students.
3. This scheme is being implemented by the Ministry of Finance.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only 1 and 3
- (b) Only 2 and 3
- (c) Only 1 and 2
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans (a)

Statement 1 is correct: Stand-Up India Scheme Facilitates bank loans between 10 lakh and 1 Crore for setting up of Green Field Enterprises.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Stand-Up India Scheme is an important milestone in promoting entrepreneurship among SC, ST and women. Under this scheme, loans are provided to at least one Scheduled Caste (SC) or Scheduled Tribe (ST) borrower and at least one-woman borrower per bank branch.

Statement 3 is correct: Stand-Up India scheme is being implemented by the Ministry of Finance.

Q 13. Consider the following statements regarding world trade organisation ministerial conference:

1. This conference held biannually.
2. It can take decisions on all matters under any of the multilateral trade agreements.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (c)

The topmost decision-making body of the WTO is the Ministerial Conference, which usually meets every two years. It brings together all members of the WTO, all of which are countries or customs unions. The Ministerial Conference can take decisions on all matters under any of the multilateral trade agreements.

So, option (c) is correct.

Q 14. Consider the following:

1. Price trends in the market
2. Income gap
3. Climate change
4. Crop cycle

How many of the factors listed above are used by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices to determine MSP?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Ans (d)

Under the Minimum Support Price (MSP), the government-set minimum price for certain agricultural products, at which the products would be sold directly from farmers if open market prices were lower than the cost incurred.

The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) determines the minimum support price based on the following factors.

Price trends in the market, both domestic and international markets

Inter-crop price parity

Crop cycle.

Terms of trade between agriculture and non-agriculture.

Minimum of 50% as the margin over the cost of production

Likely implications of MSP on consumers of that product

Climatic changes.

Geographical position and status of rainfall

Income gap

Demand and supply

Cost of production.

Q 15. Consider the following factors:

1. Increase in Variety Replacement Ratio (VRR).
2. Investment in subsidies for micro-irrigation.
3. Uniform national procedure for seed licensing.

How many of the above factor(s) can help to double the income of farmers?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (c)

Some of the factor that helps to double the farmers income:

Increase Variety Replacement Ratio (VRR): Phase out old varieties of seeds and replace them with hybrid and improved seeds to enhance productivity. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) along with State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) should develop climate resilient varieties of crops suitable for the 128 agro-climatic zones of the country, through farmer participatory plant breeding and adopting farm varietal trials from the third year of the development of the seed.

Investment subsidies for micro-irrigation: Rather than power and water subsidies, investment subsidies for micro-irrigation can be provided through the DBT mode.

Uniform national procedure for seed licensing: To tackle the problem of heterogeneity in seed licensing procedures across states, the central government should develop model guidelines for seed licensing and support states in implementing these.

So, option (c) is correct.

Q 16. With respect to the National Agriculture Market, consider the following statements:

1. It is a trading platform for agricultural commodities.
2. Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium is its leading agency.

3. Its motive is to promote uniformity in agricultural market.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans (c)

Statement 1 is incorrect: National Agriculture Market, or eNAM, is an online trading network for agricultural goods in India. Farmers, traders, and buyers can trade commodities online.

Statement 2 is correct: The Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC) is the principal agency implementing eNAM under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of India.

Statement 3 is correct: It intends to increase uniformity in agriculture marketing by streamlining operations across integrated marketplaces, minimizing disparities in information between buyers and sellers, and promoting real-time price discovery based on actual demand and supply.

Q 17. Consider the following statements:

1. Insurance density is defined as the ratio of premium underwritten in a given year to the total population.
2. Insurance penetration is defined as the ratio of premium underwritten in a given year to the GDP.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1 ★
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (c)

Statement 1 is correct: Insurance density is defined as the ratio of the premium underwritten in a given year to the total population. It gives a sense of the amount of insurance purchased per person.

Statement 2 is correct: Insurance penetration is defined as the ratio of premiums underwritten in a given year to the GDP. It gives a sense of the extent of economy that is insured.

Q 18. With reference to the insurance sector in India, consider the following statements:

1. It is included in the Union list of the Constitution.
2. It encompasses to the public sector only.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (a)

Statement 1 is correct: Insurance sector in India has legal standing under the Indian Constitution as a Union List subject in the Seventh Schedule. This designation indicates that the Central Government alone has the authority to legislate on insurance issues.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Indian Insurance Sector includes both public and private sector companies.

Q 19. Consider the following statements regarding the Agriculture Infrastructure fund (AIF) :

1. It is a central sector scheme.
2. It shall provide a short-term debt financing facility for investment in viable projects for post-harvest management.
3. Only Scheduled commercial banks can provide the financing facility for the fund.

How many of the above given statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (a)

Statement 1 is correct: The Union Cabinet in July 2020 has approved a new pan India Central Sector Scheme called Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (National Agriculture Infra Financing Facility).

Statement 2 is incorrect: The scheme shall provide a medium - long term debt financing facility for investment in viable projects for post-harvest management Infrastructure and community farming assets through interest subvention and financial support.

Statement 3 is incorrect: All scheduled commercial banks, scheduled cooperative banks, Regional Rural Banks (RRBs), Small Finance Banks, Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) may participate to provide this financing facility, after signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD).

Q 20. The term “bull and bear market” is related with:

- (a) Share market
- (b) Money market
- (c) Commodity market
- (d) All of the above

Ans (a)

The concept of the “bull and bear market” is related with share market.

A bull market is a period of time in financial markets during which the price of an asset or security rises steadily. A bull market is typically defined as a 20% increase in stock prices. Traders use a variety of techniques to profit during bull markets, including enhanced buy and hold and retracement.

The opposite is a bear, who sells commodities or securities expecting a decrease in price.

A bear market is defined by a long-term downturn in investment values; typically, a bear market occurs when a broad market index falls by 20% or more from its most recent high. A bull market is the opposite of a bear market, with gains of 20% or more.

Q 21. Consider the following pairs:

LIST I

1. Agmark
2. ISI mark
3. FPO mark

LIST II

- for all agricultural products
- for industrial product
- for all processed food product

How many of the above given pairs is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans (C)

Pair 1 is correct: AGMARK is a certification mark for agricultural produce, assuring that they conform to a grade standard notified by Directorate of Marketing & Inspection (DMI), Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare under Agricultural Produce (Grading Marking) Act, 1937.

Pair 2 is correct: The Indian Standards Institute ISI certificate allows you to use the standards mark ISI Mark. Since 1955, the ISI mark is the standard compliance mark for industrial goods.

Pair 3 is incorrect: The FPO mark is a certification mark mandatory on all processed fruit products sold in India.

Q 22. With reference to the steel sector in India, consider the following statement:

1. The steel sector in India has grown significantly over the last decade
2. India is the largest producer of steel globally

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (a)

Statement 1 is correct: India's steel industry has expanded dramatically in the past ten years, with production rising by 75% since 2008.

In FY23, India's per capita steel consumption was 86.7 kg.

Statement 2 is incorrect: India is the world's second largest producer of steel.

In FY23, India produced 125.32 million tonnes of crude steel and 121.29 million tonnes of completed steel, ranking as the world's second-largest producer.

India is the world's largest producer of sponge iron and the third-largest consumer of finished steel, behind China and the US.

Q 23. Consider the following statements regarding the Credit Information Companies (CICs):

1. These are licensed by the Reserve bank of India.
2. These companies maintain and analyses the business credit information.
3. These companies generate credit scores.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (c)

Credit Information Company (CIC) or Credit Bureau is an RBI-licensed and authorized organization that collects, maintains and analyses the consumer and business credit information of individuals and companies across the nation, as provided by the financial institutions.

In India, there are four prominent Credit Information Companies that generate credit scores for individuals and credit ranks for companies or businesses. These four credit bureaus are TransUnion CIBIL, Experian, Equifax and CRIF High Mark.

So, option (c) is correct.

Q 24. Match the following:

Industry (Hub) ★

- A. Woolen textile
- B. Glass industry
- C. Hand-knotted carpet
- D. Pharmaceutical

Location

1. Rajasthan
2. Firozabad
3. Bhadohi
4. Hyderabad

Code:

- (a) A-1, B-4, C-2, D-3
- (b) A-2, B-4, C-3, D-1
- (c) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
- (d) A-4, B-3, C-1, D-2

Ans (c)

Bikaner in Rajasthan, is known as "Wool City." It has a long history of wool trading and is a center for wool processing and weaving. Pashmina shawls, woollen carpets, and elaborate woollen clothing are some of the most popular woollen materials manufactured in Rajasthan.

Firozabad is a city near Agra in the Firozabad district of Uttar Pradesh, India. It is the center of India's glassmaking industry and is well-known for the high quality of its bangles and glassware.

Bhadohi Uttar Pradesh, is South Asia's largest hand-knotted carpet weaving hub.

Hyderabad, India's pharmaceutical hub. It is known as India's 'Bulk Drug Capital', accounting for 40% of overall bulk drug output and 50% of bulk drug exports. In terms of value, the industry is valued \$1.6 billion, with exports totalling more than \$500 million.

Q 25. Consider the following statements regarding international fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD):

1. India is one of the founding members of IFAD.
2. It publishes the Rural Development Report.
3. It is the only specialized global development organisation exclusively dedicated to transforming agriculture, rural economies and food systems.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (c)

Statement 1 is correct: International fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) is an international financial institution and specialized United Nations agency based in Rome, the UN's food and agriculture hub. India is a founder member and a key contributor to IFAD.

Statement 2 is correct: International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) invest in rural people, empowering them to increase their food security, improve the nutrition of their families and increase their incomes. It also publishes the Rural Development Report.

Statement 3 is correct: IFAD is the only specialized global development organisation exclusively focused on and dedicated to transforming agriculture, rural economies and food systems.

Q 26. Consider the following statements with respect to e-AMRIT:

1. It serves as a one-stop- site to provide information related to electric vehicle adoption
2. It is a joint initiative of NITI Aayog and United State of America
3. It is also accessible through mobile phones

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans (b)

Statement 1 is correct: e-AMRIT portal serves as a 'one-stop site' to provide all the information related to the adoption of electric vehicles in India.

Statement 2 is incorrect: e-AMRIT is the result of a joint initiative between NITI Aayog and the UK Government.

Statement 3 is correct: The e-AMRIT portal is accessible through different devices such as PCs, mobile phones, and tablets and includes support for assistive technologies such as screen readers.

The e-AMRIT portal caters to the needs and priorities of a diverse set of stakeholders, including but not limited to future electric vehicle users, early electric vehicle adopters, government, academia, the research community, industry, businesses house, and consultants.

Q 27. Consider the following statements regarding the Agriculture Income Tax:

1. It is levied throughout the country in India.
2. It is levied and collected by the Union Government.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans:(d)

Agricultural income tax is levied on the income from Agriculture. At present agriculture is subjected to – two direct taxes and they are Agricultural Income Tax and Land Tax. They are levied by the state governments. Not all states levy agricultural income tax.

So, option (d) is correct.

Q 28. Consider the following statement with respect to the NITI Aayog:

1. It is the apex public policy think tank
2. It encourages the cooperative federalism
3. President of India is its ex – officio chairman

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans (b)

Statement 1 is correct: The NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog is the Government of India's highest-level public policy think tank.

It is the nodal organization entrusted with catalyzing economic development, and transitioning away from bargaining federalism by involving Indian state governments in the economic policy-making process via bottom-up approach.

Statement 2 is correct: To promote cooperative federalism on a constant basis through organized support initiatives and processes with the states, acknowledging that strong states build strong nations.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Indian Prime Minister is the ex-officio chairman. A Governing Council made up of lieutenant governors of Union Territories (except from Delhi and Puducherry) and chief ministers of all States and Union territories with legislatures.

Q 29. Which of the following is the best description of the Philips curve?

- (a) It states that inflation and unemployment have a stable and inverse relationship.
- (b) It states that financing government spending out of current taxes will have equivalent effects on the overall economy.
- (c) It shows the relationship between tax rates and the amount of tax revenue collected by governments.
- (d) It measures the inequality among the values of a frequency distribution, such as levels of income.

Ans: (a)

The Phillips curve is an economic theory that inflation and unemployment have a stable and inverse relationship.

It was developed by William Phillips, it claims that with economic growth comes inflation, which in turn should lead to more jobs and less unemployment.

So, option (a) is correct.

Q 30. Consider the following:

1. World Economic Outlook Report
2. World development report
3. Fiscal Monitor Report
4. External Sector Report

How many of the above report are published by the International Monetary fund?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Ans (c)

IMF is a United Nations financial agency and an international financial institution funded by 190 member countries. It was founded in 27 December 1945.

Its main objective is to Promote international monetary co-operation, expedite international trade, foster sustainable economic growth, make resources accessible to members experiencing balance of payments (bop) difficulties, avert and assist with recovery from international financial crises.

There are various reports published by International Monetary Fund

World Economic Outlook Report

Fiscal Monitor Report

External Sector Report

World development report is published by world bank.

Q 31. Consider the following:

1. Buy the government securities from the banks
2. Raise cash Reserve Ratio
3. Reduce Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR)

How many of the above factors is/are adopted by RBI to inject liquidity into economy?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans:(b)

By buying the government securities from the banks and reducing SLR may inject money into the system. However, raising cash Reserve Ratio may take away liquidity from the market as the banks will have to deposit more money with the RBI and similarly entering the reverse repo operations may also take away liquidity from the market.

So, option (b) is correct.

Q 32. "Global Economic Prospects report" is published by:

- (a) International monetary fund
- (b) World Bank
- (c) Asian development bank
- (d) International labour organization

Ans (b)

The global economic prospects report is released by world bank.

The World Bank (WB) has released its Global Economic Prospects Report, which predicts that the global economy would perform poorly by the end of 2024, marking the worst half-decade of GDP (Gross Domestic Product) growth in 30 years.

In 2024, the global economy is expected to develop at a 2.4% rate, the weakest in three decades.

The US economy's Adaptability has reduced the chance of a worldwide recession, leading to a stronger global economy than the previous year.

However, rising geopolitical tensions could pose new risks to the global economy.

Q 33. With reference to National Multidimensional Poverty Index (NMPI), Consider the following statements:

1. India retains the 10 original indicators of the global MPI model and has added two indicators.
2. NITI Aayog uses National Family Health Survey (NFHS) to measure the NMPI.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans:(c)

Statement 1 is correct: India retains the 10 original indicators of the global MPI model and has added two indicators, viz., Maternal Health and Bank Account, in line with India's national priorities.

Statement 2 is correct: NITI Aayog uses National Family Health Survey (NFHS) to measure the NMPI. The latest NMPI, 'National Multidimensional poverty: A Progress Review -2023' is based on the data of NFHS 4 and 5.

Q 34. Consider the following with respect to the Global Hunger Index:

1. It is released by the Worldwide and Welthungerhilfe
2. India ranked 110th out of 125 countries in 2023.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (a)

Statement 1 is correct: The index is jointly released by Concern Worldwide and Welthungerhilfe

Statement 2 is incorrect: India ranks 111 out of a total of 125 countries in the Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2023, with its progress against hunger nearly halted since 2015, reflecting a global trend.

Q 35. The 'Currency Chests' are store-houses where bank notes and rupee coins are clocked on behalf of which of the following?

- (a) Reserve Bank of India
- (b) Commercial Banks
- (c) Public Sector Banks
- (d) State Bank of India

Ans:(a)

Currency chests are usually located at authorized select branches of scheduled banks. These currency chests are store houses of bank notes and rupee coins and are usually established with important branches of Scheduled Commercial Banks. They do their function on behalf of the Reserve Bank.

So, option (a) is correct.

Q 36. With reference to the "World Employment and Social Outlook" report, consider the following statements:

1. It is published by the International Labour Organization (ILO).
2. In 2024, Worldwide unemployment rate is expected to increase to 5.2 percent.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (c)

Statement 1 is correct: The International Labour Organization (ILO) has released a new annual report on the global labour market, employment patterns, and developing labour market concerns.

Statement 2 is correct: In spite of inconsistent recovery from the pandemic and worsening economic conditions due to inflation, labor markets have demonstrated extraordinary resilience.

In 2023, labor markets shown exceptional adaptability.

However, by 2024, the worldwide unemployment rate is expected to increase again, returning to roughly 5.2 percent.

Q 37. Consider the following:

1. Low-risk investments
2. Stable source of income
3. Gilt edged securities

How many of the above is/are feature of G-Securities?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans:(c)

A Government Security (G-Sec) is a tradeable instrument issued by the Central Government or the State Governments. Such securities are short term (usually called treasury bills, with original maturities of less than one year) or long term (usually called Government bonds or dated securities with original maturity of one year or more). In India, the Central Government issues both, treasury bills and bonds or dated securities while the State Governments issue only bonds or dated securities, which are called the State Development Loans (SDLs).

Statement 1 is correct: Low-risk investments since they are backed by government hence, are called risk-free gilt-edged instruments.

Statement 2 is correct: Stable source of income as they offer fixed interest rates.

Statement 3 is correct: The G-secs are also referred to as "gilt-edged securities." The term gilt-edged securities originate from one of the earliest securities issued by the British government, printed on paper with gilded edges. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issues G-secs on behalf of the government.

Q 38 Consider the following statements regarding the informal sector:

1. The Indian economy comprises mostly unregistered and small-scale enterprises.
2. Workers in this sector generally have access to social security benefits provided by the government.
3. This sector plays a significant role in India's overall economic output.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans (a)

Statement 1 is correct: The informal sector in India largely consists of unregistered and small-scale enterprises, including street vendors, small traders, and household industries.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Workers in the informal sector often lack access to formal social security benefits, such as pensions and healthcare, provided by the government.

Statement 3 is correct: The informal sector plays a significant role in India's economy, contributing substantially to employment and economic activity, particularly in urban areas.

Q 39. With reference to Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy (HELP), consider the following statements:

1. HELP is based on the Production Sharing Contract.
2. HELP provides for a uniform licensing system that will cover all hydrocarbons such as oil, gas, and coal bed methane.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (b)

Statement 1 is incorrect: HELP is based on the new model of Revenue Sharing Contract(RSC) which has replaced the earlier model of Production Sharing Contract(PSC).

Statement 2 is correct: HELP provides for a uniform licensing system that will cover all hydrocarbons such as oil, gas, and coal bed methane.

Q 40. Consider the following statements regarding National Income:

1. It can be defined as the total monetary value of all goods and services produced within a country's borders in a specific period.
2. It includes income earned by citizens and corporations of a country, irrespective of their location.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (c)

Statement 1 is correct: National Income represents the total value of all goods and services produced within a country's borders over a given period, usually a year.

Statement 2 is correct: National Income includes income generated by both residents and businesses of a country, regardless of whether the production occurs domestically or abroad.

Q 41. With reference to Parvatmala Pariyojana, consider the following statements:

1. In this ecologically sustainable alternative are adopted in place of conventional roads in difficult hilly areas.
2. It covers congested urban areas, where conventional mass transit system is not feasible.
3. It will strengthen the border villages which is necessary for the security of the country.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans:(c)

The 'Parvatmala scheme' is being started for areas such as Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jammu-Kashmir and the North-East.

Statement 1 is correct: Parvatmala Pariyojana, is the national ropeways development programme. In this ecologically sustainable alternative are adopted in place of conventional roads in difficult hilly areas.

Statement 2 is correct: Apart from facilitating tourism in the hilly areas, the ropeway offers huge potential for urban public transport as well. This scheme will create a modern system of transportation and connectivity on the mountains.

Statement 3 is correct: It will also strengthen the border villages of our country, which need to be vibrant, and which is also necessary for the security of the country.

Q 42. Consider the following:

1. Real GDP decreases
2. Nominal GDP decreases
3. The rate of growth of GDP decrease

Which of the above likely occurs during a period of recession?

- (a) Only 1 and 2
- (b) Only 2 and 3
- (c) Only 1 and 3
- (d) 1, 2, and 3

Ans (d)

Real GDP decreases: In a recession, there is a decline in economic activity, leading to reduced production and consumption of goods and services, resulting in a decrease in real GDP.

Nominal GDP decreases: Since real GDP decreases and nominal GDP does not adjust for inflation, nominal GDP also decreases during a recession.

Rate of growth of GDP decreases: The rate of growth of GDP becomes negative during a recession, indicating a contraction in the economy.

So, option (d) is correct.

Q 43. Consider the following:

1. Retirement age
2. Social customs
3. Popularity of higher education
4. School leaving age

Activity rate of an economy depends on how many of the above factors?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Ans (d)

The labour force of an economy is known as the activity rate (also called participation rate). It is shown in per cent and always as a proportion of an economy. The concept of the 'demographic dividend' is related to this rate.

It depends on various factors like retirement age, social customs, popularity of higher education, school leaving age.

So, option (d) is correct.

Q 44. Consider the following statements:

1. Net Factor Income from Abroad corresponds to the net value of exports and imports.
2. Product taxes and production taxes are both considered in GDP calculation.

Select the correct answer using the given code:

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (b)

Net Factor Income from Abroad (NFIA) represents the difference between the income earned by residents from abroad and the income earned by foreigners from domestic sources.

Product taxes (such as sales tax) and production taxes (such as excise duty) are included in GDP calculation as they represent part of the value of goods and services produced within a country.

So, option (b) is correct.

Q 45. With reference to PM SVANidhi Scheme, consider the following statements:

1. It is Central sector scheme.
2. This scheme was launched by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
3. Beneficiaries from Meghalaya, which has its own State Street Vendors Act, can participate in this scheme.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 2
- (b) Only 3
- (c) Both 1 and 3
- (d) 1,2 and 3

Ans (b)

Statement 1 is correct: PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) is a Central Sector. The major aim of this scheme was to provide affordable loans to street vendors.

Statement 2 is incorrect: PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) is a Special Micro-Credit Facility launched by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

Statement 3 is correct: Beneficiaries from Meghalaya, which has its own State Street Vendors Act may, however, participate. The scheme is available for beneficiaries belonging to only those States/UTs which have notified Rules and Scheme under Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014.

Q 46. With reference to the Gross National Income, Consider the following statements:

- (a) It represents the income earned by a country's residents.
- (b) It encompasses the income earned by a country's residents and non-residents.
- (c) It is calculated at market price by NSO.
- (d) It equals GDP plus exports minus imports.

Ans (a)

Gross National Income (GNI) represents the total income earned by residents of a country, including both domestic and foreign sources.

GNI is calculated at market prices, which includes taxes and subsidies.

The statement about GNI equaling GDP plus exports minus imports is incorrect. This relationship applies to Gross National Product (GNP), not Gross National Income.

So, option (a) is correct.

Q 47. Consider the following pairs:

GI Tag Items	State
1. Gamocha	Telangana
2. Tandur red Gram	Assam
3. Alibag White Onion	Maharashtra

How many of the above pairs is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans (a)

S.no.	GI Tag Items	State	Detail
1.	Gamocha	Assam	Gamocha literally means a towel. It is a handwoven rectangular cotton piece of cloth known for its distinctive red border and floral motifs.
2.	Tandur red gram	Telangana	It is a local variety of pigeon pea which is mainly grown in the rainfed areas of the Tandur and nearby places in the state.
3.	Alibag white onion	Maharashtra	It is known for its unique sweet taste, no-tear factor, and medicinal properties.

Q 48. Consider the following statements regarding the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA):

1. It guarantees 150 days of wage employment in a financial year to every household.
2. It is implemented across all the states and union territories of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (a)

Statement 1 is incorrect: MGNREGA guarantees 100 days of wage employment, not 150 days. MGNREGA is one of the largest work guarantee programs in the world launched in 2005 by the Ministry of Rural Development.

The primary objective of the scheme is to guarantee 100 days of employment in every financial year to adult members of any rural household willing to do public work-related unskilled manual work. As of 2022-23, there are 15.4 crore active workers under the MGNREGA.

Statement 2 is correct: MGNREGA is implemented across all states and union territories of India.

Q 49. With reference to the Ways and Means advances (WMA), consider the following statements:

1. The Banking Regulation Act of 1949 authorizes RBI to lend to central and state governments.
2. The interest rate on WMA is equivalent to the repo rate of RBI.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (b)

Statement 1 is incorrect: Section 17(5) of the RBI Act, 1934 authorizes the central bank to lend to the Centre and state governments subject to their being repayable “not later than three months from the date of the making of the advance”.

Statement 2 is correct: The interest rate on WMA is the RBI’s repo rate, which is the rate at which it lends short-term money to banks.

Q 50 Consider the following statements regarding the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY):

1. It aims to provide access to financial services such as banking and savings accounts to all households in India.
2. PMJDY accounts come with an overdraft facility of up to Rs 1 lakh.
3. The scheme is available to the rural areas only.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans (a)

Statement 1 is correct: Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana is a National Mission on Financial Inclusion which has an integrated approach to bring about comprehensive financial inclusion and provide banking services to all households in the country.

Statement 2 is incorrect: PMJDY accounts come with an overdraft facility of up to Rs. 10,000 after satisfactory operation of the account for six months.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The scheme primarily targets rural areas and includes both urban and rural populations in its ambit.

Q 51. Consider the following statements regarding the types of unemployment:

Types of Unemployment

Definition

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| 1. Structural unemployment | It occurs due to a mismatch between the skills possessed by workers and the requirements of available jobs. |
| 2. Frictional unemployment | This results from temporary transitions between jobs or individuals entering the workforce for the first time. |
| 3. Cyclical unemployment | It arises due to fluctuations in demand for labor during certain times of the year. |
| 4. Seasonal unemployment | It occurs due to fluctuations in aggregate demand, leading to insufficient demand for labor. |

How many of the statements given above are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Ans (b)

Statement 1 is correct: Structural unemployment occurs due to a mismatch between the skills possessed by workers and the requirements of available jobs. This means that even though there are jobs available, the skills possessed by the unemployed individuals do not align with the skills needed for those jobs. This mismatch can be due to technological changes, shifts in industries, or changes in consumer preferences.

Statement 2 is correct: Frictional unemployment results from temporary transitions between jobs or individuals entering the workforce for the first time. It occurs when individuals are temporarily between jobs or are seeking employment for the first time. This type of unemployment is considered to be a natural part of the labor market as people search for better job opportunities or transition into different careers.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Cyclical unemployment arises due to fluctuations in aggregate demand, leading to insufficient demand for labor. During economic downturns or recessions, businesses may reduce production and cut back on hiring, leading to layoffs and unemployment. This type of unemployment is directly related to the business cycle and tends to increase during periods of economic contraction.

Statement 4 is incorrect: Seasonal unemployment occurs due to fluctuations in demand for labor during certain times of the year. Industries such as agriculture, tourism, and retail experience seasonal variations in demand for labor based on factors like weather, holidays, or tourism seasons. Workers in these industries may experience unemployment during off-peak seasons when demand for their services decreases.

Q 52. Which of the following correctly explains the term “Gross National Income”?

- (a) It can be defined as gross domestic product, minus net receipts from abroad of compensation of employees, property income and net taxes less subsidies on production.
- (b) It can be defined as gross domestic product, plus net receipts from abroad of compensation of employees, property income and net taxes less subsidies on production.
- (c) It can be defined as gross domestic product, minus net receipts from abroad, plus property income and net taxes less subsidies on production.
- (d) It can be defined as gross domestic product, plus net receipts from abroad of compensation of employees, property income and minus net tax less subsidies on production.

Ans (b)

Gross National Income (GNI) is the total amount of money earned by a nation's people and businesses. It is used to measure and track a nation's wealth from year to year.

The number includes the nation's gross domestic product (GDP) plus the income it receives from overseas sources.

So, option (b) is correct.

Q 53. Which of the following statements will be true if the inflation in the economy is increasing?

- 1. The bond yield will increase
- 2. Bond price will decrease
- 3. Bondholders may lose

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) Only 1
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) Only 3
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans (d)

Statement 1 is correct: If inflation in the economy is increasing, the yield on bonds tends to increase as investors demand higher returns to compensate for the erosion of purchasing power caused by inflation.

Statement 2 is correct: Bond prices move inversely to interest rates, so if inflation increases, bond prices will decrease.

Statement 3 is correct: While bondholders may see a decrease in the value of their bond holdings due to falling bond prices, they do not necessarily “lose” unless they sell their bonds at a loss. Bondholders who hold their bonds until maturity will still receive the full principal amount unless the issuer defaults.

Q 54. 'Demographic Dividend' is calculated in terms of which of the following:

- (a) Population
- (b) Additional per capita income growth
- (c) Working Age to Non-Working Age population ratio
- (d) Total Fertility Rate (TFR)

Ans (b)

'Demographic Dividend' refers to the economic benefit that can arise when a country's working-age population is larger than the dependent population (children and elderly).

It is estimated/calculated in terms of additional per capita income growth, as a larger working-age population can potentially contribute to higher economic output and income growth.

So, option (b) is correct.

Q 55. The term 'ASEEM' is related to which of the following?

- (a) Government services are provided online
- (b) An internet-based platform for MSMEs to purchase goods
- (c) An online marketplace for buying defense supplies
- (d) A digital portal to map the skills of workers with jobs

Ans (d)

The term 'ASEEM' is related to a digital portal aimed at mapping the skills of workers with available job opportunities. This online platform helps match skilled workers with suitable jobs, facilitating employment opportunities and skill utilization.

Q 56. The Atmanirbhar Clean Plant Program launched in the Union Budget 2023-24, aims to:

- (a) enhance the productivity of extra-long staple cotton
- (b) encourage the agro-startups in rural areas
- (c) boost production of high value horticultural crops
- (d) promote robust millets ecosystem in the food culture

Ans (c)

The Atmanirbhar Clean Plant Program has been launched in the Budget 2023-24. As per the program, in the next 7 years, i.e. till 2030, the government aims to boost availability of disease-free, quality planting material for high value horticultural crops to farmers. So, option (c) is correct.

Q 57. Which one of the following is the main objective of the Agriculture Accelerator Fund announced in the Union Budget 2023-24?

- (a) To boost the growth of food processing sector through small and micro industries
- (b) To foster Green Revolution 2.0 with strong emphasis on sustainable farming practices.
- (c) To boost farm mechanization in the country.
- (d) To promote agro-startups by young entrepreneurs in rural areas.

Ans: (d)

The finance minister in the Budget 2023-24 announced the setting up of an Agriculture Accelerator Fund for promoting agro-startups by young entrepreneurs in rural areas.

The fund is targeted at bringing innovative and affordable solutions for challenges faced by farmers.

So, option (d) is correct.

Q 58. Which of the following is the correct descending order of the state-wise production of millets (Shree Anna) during 2022-23?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh-Karnataka-Maharashtra-Gujarat
- (b) Gujarat-Karnataka-Uttar Pradesh-Maharashtra
- (c) Uttar Pradesh- Gujarat-Karnataka-Maharashtra
- (d) Gujarat -Maharashtra- Karnataka -Uttar Pradesh

Ans (a)

The major millet crops procured by the Government are jowar, bajra, and ragi. The state-wise production of millets (Shree Anna) during 2022-23 is as under:

Uttar Pradesh- 2249.66 thousand tonnes

Maharashtra- 2076.35 thousand tonnes

Karnataka - 2115.88 thousand tonnes

Gujarat- 1221.87 thousand tonnes

So, option (a) is correct

Q 59. The term Open Acreage Licensing Programme (OALP), sometimes seen in news, is related to:

- (a) internet and communication services
- (b) exploration of oil and gas
- (c) payment bank license
- (d) efficient online trading of agriculture and horticulture commodities

Ans (b)

Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP) gives an option to a company to select the oil and gas exploration blocks on its own, without waiting for the formal bid round from the Government.

Under OALP, a bidder intending to explore hydrocarbons may apply to the Government seeking exploration of any new block which was not already covered by exploration.

The Government will examine the interest and if it is suitable for award, then the government will call for competitive bids after obtaining necessary environmental and other clearances.

So, option (b) is correct.

Q 60. With reference to the States' Startup Ranking 2022, consider the following statements:

1. It is released by the NITI Aayog.
2. Himachal Pradesh is the only state from Category B states to be included in the 'Best Performer' category.
3. Five states in total from category A and category B are included in the 'Top Performer' category.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans (a)

Statement 1 is incorrect: The States' Startup Ranking 2022 has been released by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry of India.

Statement 2 is correct: A total of five states in total from category A and category B are included in the 'Best Performer' category. Out of five states only Himachal Pradesh from category B states is included in the 'Best Performer' category.

Statement 3 is incorrect: As per the ranking 2022, seven states in total from category A and category B are included in the 'Top Performer' category.

Q 61. With reference to Green Steel, consider the following statements:

1. This steel is produced through processes that do not emit carbon dioxide.
2. Much of Indian iron ore being of high grade is suitable for making green steel using blast furnaces.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (a)

Statement 1 is correct: 'Green steel', is the steel produced through processes that do not emit carbon dioxide, essentially means using hydrogen as the 'reducing agent' (remover of oxygen) in steel production. In other words, iron ore is basically iron oxide and hydrogen is used to pull oxygen away from iron oxide, leaving pure iron behind—to which a little carbon is added to make steel.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Much of the Indian iron ore is of low-grade and low-grade iron ore can only be made into steel in blast furnaces. Green steel making requires the 'electric arc furnace' (EAF) route. EAF need high-grade ores, in which iron content is over 60 per cent.

Q 62. Which of the following organisations publishes "Global Gender Gap Index"?

- (a) United Nations Development Programme
- (b) World Economic Forum
- (c) World Health Organization
- (d) International Labour Organization

Ans (b)

The 'Gender Gap Index' is published by the World Economic Forum. This index measures gender disparities in various aspects such as economic participation and opportunity, educational attainment, health and survival, and political empowerment.

So, option (b) is correct.

Q 63. Recently, a Green Propulsion System has been developed in India under the Technology Development Fund (TDF). In this context, consider the following statements:

1. The Technology Development Fund (TDF) is an important Grant-in-Aid Scheme of DRDO.
2. This propulsion system so developed is ideal for low orbit and space mission with high thrust requirements.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (c)

Statement 1 is correct: The Technology Development Fund (TDF) is an important Grant-in-Aid Scheme of DRDO under Technology Management Cluster, for funding innovation in Defence and aerospace, especially to start-ups and MSMEs.

Statement 2 is correct: The Green Propulsion System is an innovative technology and has resulted in non-toxic and environment-friendly propulsion system. It is best suited for low orbit space and for space mission with high thrust requirements.

Q 64. Consider the following statements with reference to "Cryptocurrency":

1. It can promote financial inclusion.
2. They are considered completely hack-proof.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (a)

A cryptocurrency is a digital or virtual currency secured by cryptography, which makes it nearly impossible to counterfeit or double-spend. Most cryptocurrencies exist on decentralized networks using blockchain technology—a distributed ledger enforced by a disparate network of computers.

Statement 1 is correct: As, Cryptocurrencies can promote financial inclusion through low entry barriers, a decentralized nature, cross-border transactions, access to credit, empowering the unbanked, and as a store of value.

Statement 2 is incorrect: As, Cryptocurrencies are not hack proof. To illustrate let, An attacker—or group of attackers—could take over a blockchain by controlling a majority of the blockchain's computational power, called its hashrate. If they own more than 50% of the hashrate, they can introduce an altered blockchain in what is called a 51% attack. This allows them to make changes to transactions that were not confirmed by the blockchain before they took over. Transactions are considered to be successful when six confirmations have been completed.

Q 65. According to the Interim Budget 2024-25, which one of the following subsidies is pegged highest for the financial year 2024-25?

- (a) Food subsidy
- (b) Fertilizer subsidy
- (c) Petroleum products subsidy
- (d) Education subsidy

Ans (a)

The subsidy for petroleum has been pegged at Rs 11,925 crore for the fiscal year 2024-25.

The allocation for fertilizer subsidy is at Rs 1.64 lakh crore for 2024-25.

An amount of Rs 2,05,250 crore has been earmarked for food subsidy in the 2024-25. Also, this food subsidy is the highest subsidy pegged by the government.

So, option (a) is correct.

Q 66. Consider the following:

1. Net factor income from abroad
2. Income through illegal channels.
3. Rent gained by Indians from building rented to a foreign embassy

Which of the following is a part of Gross National income?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans (b)

Gross National Income (GNI):

National income is broadly defined as the aggregate monetary value of all the final goods and services produced in a country during a year.

GNI is an alternative to gross domestic product (GDP) as a measure of wealth. It calculates income instead of output.

GNI can be calculated by adding income from foreign sources to the country's gross domestic product.

Following things will be counted under GNI:

Net factor income from abroad.

Income earned by normal residents.

Rent gained by Indian from building rented to foreign embassy.

Income earned through illegal channels will not be counted under GNI.

Q 67. With reference to the RAMP scheme, consider the following statements:

1. It is a World Bank assisted Central Sector Scheme.
2. The scheme aims to promote the renewable energy technologies.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (a)

Statement 1 is correct: RAMP stands for "Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance". It is a World Bank assisted Central Sector Scheme.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The RAMP scheme intends to complement the Atma Nirbhar Bharat mission by encouraging MSMEs to innovate and ideate and incubate new businesses as well through quality standards along with enhancing their market access, competitiveness and self-reliance.

Q 68. Consider the following statements:

1. NPCI is an umbrella organization for all retail payment in India.
2. NPCI is an initiative of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Indian Banks' Association (IBA) under the provisions of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (c)

Statement 1 is correct: National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) is an umbrella organization for operating retail payments and settlement systems in India.

Statement 2 is correct: It is an initiative of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Indian Banks' Association (IBA) under the provisions of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007, for creating a robust Payment & Settlement Infrastructure in India.

Q 69. Recent SBI Research for Assessment Year 2022-23 shows a decline in Gini Coefficient of India. The Gini Coefficient is derived from which of the following curves?

- (a) Laffer Curve
- (b) Phillips Curve

- (c) Lorenz Curve
- (d) Kuznets curve

Ans (c)

The Gini coefficient captures how far the Lorenz curve falls from the 'line of equality'.

The recent report of Economic Research Department of SBI shows that income inequality captured through the Gini coefficient of taxable income has declined significantly from 0.472 to 0.402 during financial years 2013-2014 and 2021-2022.

So, option (c) is correct.

Q 70. Consider the following statements:

1. Tax Inspectors Without Borders (TIWB) is a joint initiative of the Organisation for Economic cooperation and Development (OECD) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
2. The global goal of TIWB programmes is to encourage uniformity in tax administration worldwide.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (a)

Statement 1 is correct: As, Tax Inspectors Without Borders (TIWB) is a joint initiative of the Organisation for Economic cooperation and Development (OECD) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), supporting countries in building tax audit capacity.

Statement 2 is incorrect: As, TIWB programmes are flexible and tailored to a country's specific needs. They can include pre-audit risk assessment and case selection, investigatory techniques, audit cases involving transfer pricing issues, anti-avoidance rules, or sector-specific issues (e.g. natural resources, e-commerce, financial services or telecommunications). TIWB is about sharing expertise by working side-by-side, building skills through practical, hands-on assistance.

Q 71. Which one of the following best describes the term "crowding out effect"?

- (a) Government's attempt to raise interest rates to attract foreign investment.
- (b) Internal borrowing preferred over external borrowing
- (c) Rising public sector spending drives down or even eliminates private sector spending.
- (d) Taxes imposed on imported goods in order to compensate for the difference between their export price and their normal value.

Ans (c)

Sometimes Indian government pushes to raise funds from external markets in external currencies. By doing so, the government tries to alleviate the "crowding out effect" in the economy.

Crowding out effect causes a reduction in private investment; it also leads to a reduction in economic growth over the long term.

When the government increases its spending, it will increase the demand for goods and services, which can lead to higher interest rates and inflation. This, in turn, can make borrowing more expensive for private sector. So, option (c) is correct.

Q 72. “Jaipur call for action” related to which of the following?

- (a) To promote industry, MSMEs, and global trade.
- (b) To promote Global Digital Health.
- (c) To promote pro-planet behavioural changes.
- (d) To triple renewable energy capacity by 2030.

Ans (a)

Jaipur call for action aims to promote the integration of MSMEs into international trade. In this regard G20 members recognized the importance of taking necessary steps towards increasing the availability of trade and market-related information to them in an accessible manner.

Q 73. Which of the following best describes the term “Namo Bharat” that was in news recently?

- (a) A cleanliness drive aligned with the Centre’s Swachhta Hi Seva Abhiyan.
- (b) India’s first military grade spy satellite.
- (c) India’s first ChatGPT-powered AI chatbot.
- (d) An Indian Electric multiple unit train built for RapidX.

Ans (d)

The Namo Bharat is an Indian Electric multiple unit train built for RapidX. The train was designed by the French rolling stock manufacturer Alstom at its engineering center in Hyderabad, Telangana, and was manufactured in Savli, Gujarat. So, option (d) is correct.

Q 74. Consider the following statements regarding the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO):

1. India is one of its founding member countries.
2. It releases the Global Innovation Index.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (b)

Statement 1 is incorrect: World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) was created in 1967 “to encourage creative activity, to promote the protection of intellectual property throughout the world”. India joined WIPO in 1975, So, India is not a founding member of the World Intellectual Property Organization

Statement 2 is correct: The Global Innovation Index (GII) is an annual index released by the World Intellectual Property Organization

Q 75. As per The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) 2023 Report, which one of the following is the correct decreasing order of Foreign direct investment inflows in countries?

- (a) USA> China> Singapore> Brazil
- (b) China> USA> India> Brazil
- (c) India> China> USA> Singapore
- (d) USA> India>China>Singapore

Ans (a)

Explanation:

As per The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) 2023 Report, in 2022, the United States of America remained the largest host economy for FDI. It was followed by China, Singapore, Hong Kong (China), and Brazil. Nine of the top 20 host economies were developing economies. So, option (a) is correct.

Q 76. Consider the following statements regarding the Vishwakarma scheme:

- 1. It is a central sector scheme.
- 2. It provides Basic and Advanced Training for skill upgradation.
- 3. Marketing support will be provided to the artisans and craftspeople on e-commerce platforms

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans (c)

Statement 1 is correct: PM Vishwakarma, a Central Sector Scheme, was launched by the Prime Minister to provide end-to-end support to artisans and craftspeople who work with their hands and tools.

Statement 2 is correct: Skill Upgradation Basic Training of 5-7 days and Advanced Training of 15 days or more, with a stipend of Rs. 500 per day.

Statement 3 is correct: Marketing support will be provided to the artisans and craftspeople in the form of quality certification, branding, onboarding on e-commerce platforms such as GeM, advertising, publicity and other marketing activities to improve linkage to value chain.

Q 77. Consider the following factors:

- 1. Decrease in direct taxes
- 2. Demonetisation of currency
- 3. Increase in Cash reserve ratio

Which of the above factors will help to control the inflation?

- (a) Only 1 and 2
- (b) Only 2 and 3
- (c) Only 1 and 3

(d) 1, 2, and 3

Ans (b)

Measures to control inflation:

An increase in direct taxes like income tax reduces the disposable income available to people. Less demand leads to lower prices.

Demonetisation of currency means declaring that hereafter currencies of particular denominations are invalid. It reduces the money to the extent of money kept in those particular denominations.

RBI can raise CRR to curb inflation, thus reducing the lending capacity of a bank. With fewer loans, there is less money flowing through the economy and hence a decrease in inflation.

So, option (b) is correct.

Q 78. Consider the following statements:

1. Import of services.
2. Devaluation of the domestic currency.
3. Reduction in import subsidy.

How many of the above can reduce the current account deficit?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans (b)

Statement 1 is incorrect: A trade deficit means that the country is importing more goods and services than it is exporting; a trade surplus means the opposite.

Statement 2 is correct: By devaluing its currency, a country makes its money cheaper and boosts exports, rendering them more competitive in the global market. Conversely, foreign products become more expensive, so the demand for imports falls, thus helps in reducing current account deficit.

Statement 3 is correct: Reduction in import subsidy, makes import expensive which helps in reducing import thus helps in reducing current account deficit.

Q 79. Consider the following pairs:

LIST I

1. Disinflation remains stable
2. Reflation
3. Skewflation or contraction.

LIST II

- Prices of a single commodity rise while the overall price level
- General decline in prices for goods and services
- Policy that is enacted after a period of economic slowdown

How many of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans (d)

Pair 1 is incorrect: Disinflation is a decrease in the rate of inflation, a slowdown in the rate of increase of the general price level of goods and services in a nation's gross domestic product over time.

Pair 2 is incorrect: Reflation is a policy that is enacted after a period of economic slowdown or contraction. The goal is to expand output, stimulate spending, and curb the effects of deflation.

Pair 3 is incorrect: Skewflation means the skewness of inflation among different sectors of the economy. Some sectors are facing huge inflation, some none, and some deflation.

Q 80. Consider the following statements:

1. During high inflation RBI follows dear money policy to reduce inflation.
2. Borrowers benefit from unanticipated inflation.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (c)

Statement 1 is correct: Dear money refers to money that is hard to obtain (e.g. by borrowing) because of abnormally high-interest rates. It leads to restricted money supply, bringing down inflation.

Statement 2 is correct: Borrowers benefit from unanticipated inflation because the money they pay back is worth less than the money they borrowed while Lenders are hurt by unanticipated inflation because the money, they get paid back has less purchasing power than the money they loaned out.

Q 81. With reference to the Balance of Payment (BoP), Consider the following statements:

1. It summarises the economic transactions of Indian residents with the rest of the world.
2. The responsibility of maintaining the BOP lies with the Reserve Bank of India.
3. Exports of services are part of the balance on invisibles.

How many of the statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans (c)

Statement 1 is correct: The balance of payments is a statement of all transactions made between entities in one country and the rest of the world over a defined period.

Statement 2 is correct: In India, the responsibility of maintaining the BOP lies with the Reserve Bank of India. It is not only the apex monetary authority, and controller of liquidity but also has a larger role to play in open economies of maintaining the BOP.

Statement 3 is correct: The second kind of account is the balance on invisibles (BOI). Just as there are imports and exports of goods, there are also imports and exports of services such as banking, shipping, insurance, software, consultancy, etc. This account maintains records of transactions in foreign currencies resulting from the export and import of services.

Q 82. Consider the following statement:

1. Disinflation is a decrease in general price levels of goods and services throughout the economy.
2. Deflation is a change in the rate of inflation over time.
3. Stagflation emerges when both stagnation and inflation occur simultaneously.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans (a)

Statement 1 is incorrect: Deflation is a decrease in general price levels of goods and services throughout the economy.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Disinflation is a change in the rate of inflation over time. It can be defined as a slowdown in the rate of increase of the general price level of goods and services in a nation's gross domestic product over time.

Statement 3 is correct: Stagflation is the simultaneous appearance in an economy of slow growth, high unemployment, and rising prices. Once thought by economists to be impossible, stagflation has occurred repeatedly in the developed world since the 1970s.

Q 83. Consider the following statements:

1. The Purchasing Power theory is used to make long-run predictions about exchange rates in a flexible exchange rate system.
2. The currencies of the two countries are at purchasing power parity when the Real Exchange Rate becomes equal to the PPP exchange rate.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (a)

As per the International Monetary Fund (IMF) The purchasing power parity between two countries is the rate at which the currency of one country needs to be converted into that of a second country to ensure that a given amount of the first country's currency will purchase the same volume of goods and services in the second country as it does in the first."

Statement 1 is correct: The purchasing Power (PPP) theory is used to make long-run predictions about exchange rates in a flexible exchange rate system.

According to the theory, as long as there are no barriers to trade like tariffs (taxes on trade) and quotas (quantitative limits on imports), exchange rates should eventually adjust so that the same product costs the same whether measured in rupees in India or dollars in the US, yen in Japan and so on, except for differences in transportation.

Statement 2 incorrect: When the Nominal Exchange Rate becomes equal to the PPP exchange rate, the currencies of the two countries are at purchasing power parity.

Q 84. With reference to taxation system in India consider the following pairs:

LIST I

1. 1. Equalization Levy
2. 2. Minimum Alternate Tax
3. 3. Commodities Transaction Tax
4. 4. Tobin Tax

LIST II

- limits tax exemptions availed by companies.
- Direct tax levied on online transactions/payments made to non-residents for providing specified Services to a resident in India.
- Levied on agricultural commodities traded at Commodities-Exchange.
- Duty proposed on spot currency trades to penalize short-term currency trading.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Ans (a)

Equalization Levy is a direct tax levied on online transactions/payments made to non-residents for providing specified Services to a resident in India.

Minimum Alternate Tax is a provision in Direct tax laws to limit tax exemptions availed by companies so that they pay at least a minimum amount of corporate tax to the government.

Commodities Transaction Tax Levied on non- agricultural commodities traded at Commodities-Exchanges.

Tobin Tax is a duty proposed on spot currency trades to penalize short-term currency trading.

So, option (a) is correct.

Q 85. Which of the following acts mandate the government to present a “Macro-economic Framework Statement”?

- (a) Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act (FRBM) 2003
- (b) The Bilateral Netting of Qualified Financial Contracts Act, 2020
- (c) The Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA) 1973
- (d) The Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018

Ans (a)

Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act (FRBM) 2003 was enacted to provide for the responsibility of the Central Government to ensure intergenerational equity in fiscal management and long-term macro-economic stability by removing fiscal impediments in the effective conduct of monetary policy.

The central government shall lay in each financial year before both Houses of Parliament the following statements of fiscal policy along with the annual financial statement:

The Medium-term Fiscal Policy Statement

The Fiscal Policy Strategy Statement

The Macro-economic Framework Statement

The Medium-term Expenditure Framework Statement

So, option (a) is correct.

Q 86. With reference to the GST council, consider the following statements:

1. The chairman of the GST council is the union finance minister.
2. GST council recommendations are not binding on the Union and states.
3. Every decision requires a two-thirds majority of members present and voting.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans (b)

Statement 1 is correct: GST is governed by a GST Council whose chairman is the Finance Minister of India. The GST Council is a joint forum of the Center and the States, established by the President by Article 279A (1).

Statement 2 is correct: The Supreme Court of India ruled in a landmark case that the recommendations of the Goods & Services Tax (GST) Council are not mandatorily binding on either the Union or state governments.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The GST Council takes decisions through a consensus-based approach every decision of the GST Council shall be taken by a majority of not less than three-fourths of the weighted votes of the members present and voting with a weightage of one-third of the total votes

cast to the Centre and a weightage of two-thirds of the total votes cast to the States, promoting the spirit of the co-operative federalism.

Q 87. Consider the following statements regarding Regional Rural Banks (RRBs):

1. Regional Rural Banks (RRB) are government owned Indian Scheduled Commercial Banks.
2. The State government has the highest share of ownership in the RRBs.
3. RRBs are mandated to provide more than 90% of the lending to the priority sector.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans (a)

Statement 1 is correct: Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) are Indian Scheduled Commercial Banks (Government Banks) operating at regional level in different states of India.

Statement 2 is incorrect: RRBs are owned by the Central government, concerned State government and the sponsor bank in proportion of 50:15:35, each RRB is sponsored by a particular bank.

Statement 3 is incorrect: RRBs need to provide 75% of the lending to priority sectors. RRBs are under the supervision of NABARD.

Q 88. In the context of economic recession, consider the following actions of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI):

1. Lowering interest rates and Borrowing costs.
2. Selling government securities.
3. Reducing Statutory Liquidity Ratios requirement.

Which of the above actions can be considered as part of "Stimulating Expansionary Monetary Policies"?

- (a) Only 1 and 2
- (b) Only 2 and 3
- (c) Only 1 and 3
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans (c)

Statement 1 is correct: Lower interest rates increase business investment by making it cheaper and easier for businesses to borrow money to finance new projects, thus helping in the expansion of the economy.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Purchasing government securities by RBI is part of Stimulating Expansionary Monetary Policies.

Statement 3 is correct: Reducing SLR leaves more liquidity with banks, which in turn can fuel growth and demand in the economy.

Q 89. Consider the following statements regarding the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD):

1. It provides funding and support for rural startups.
2. It supervises commercial banks in rural areas.
3. It runs a uniform inspection to ensure the welfare of rural areas and farmers.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans (b)

National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is India's apex development bank, established in 1982 under an Act of Parliament to promote sustainable and equitable agriculture and rural development.

Statement 1 is correct: NABARD provides monetary support to rural small-scale agriculture & allied activities. It provides funding and support for rural startups. It is also called a refinancing organisation that promotes those projects which generate employment and skill development programs in the rural sector and connects these projects to self-help groups.

Statement 2 is incorrect: NABARD does not supervise commercial banks in rural areas though it supervises regional rural banks, and Co-operative banks.

Statement 3 is correct: NABARD runs a uniform inspection to ensure the welfare of rural areas and farmers. NABARD connects to RBI and government authorities to fulfil the target allotted according to the specific period and benefit the rural public equally.

Q 90. Consider the following statements regarding Payment Banks:

1. These cannot issue credit cards but issue debit cards.
2. These have Priority sector lending (PSL) criteria for disbursing loans.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (a)

Statement 1 is correct: Payment banks receive a 'differentiated' bank license from the RBI and hence cannot lend. Payment banks cannot issue credit cards. It cannot accept time deposits or NRI deposits. But these banks can issue a debit card.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Priority Sectors Lending is the role exercised by the RBI to banks, imploring them to dedicate funds for specific sectors of the economy like agriculture and allied activities,

education and housing, and food for the poorer population Payment banks cannot issue loans. Hence, they are not obliged to meet Priority sector lending.

Q 91. Consider the following components:

1. Treasury bills
2. Debentures
3. Initial public offering
4. Certificates of deposit

Which of the above is/are components of the money market?

- (a) Only 1 and 2
- (b) Only 2 and 3
- (c) Only 3 and 4
- (d) Only 1 and 4

Ans (d)

The money market is defined as dealing in debt of less than one year. It is primarily used by governments and corporations to keep their cash flow steady, and for investors to make a modest profit.

The money market is composed of several types of securities including short-term Treasuries (e.g. T-bills), certificates of deposit (CDs), commercial paper, repurchase agreements (repos), and money market mutual funds that invest in these instruments.

The Capital market serves medium and long-term funds for the business. It includes Shares, Debentures, Bonds, Mutual Funds, etc.

So, option (d) is correct.

Q 92. With reference to the Treasury Bill (T-Bills), consider the following statements:

1. These bills are issued by central government and state governments and are sold by RBI on behalf of them.
2. Banks can keep T-Bills as a part of SLR requirements.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (b)

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Treasury Bill is a money market instrument issued by the Government of India. The bill is issued as a promissory note of repayment in the future. The purpose of a treasury note is to secure funds to meet the short-term fund requirements of the government. It is done to minimize the fiscal deficit of the country. The state government doesn't issue T-Bills.

Statement 2 is correct: Banks can keep T-BILLS as a part of SLR requirements and they also give T-BILLS to RBI to receive loans under Repo.

Q 93. Consider the following statements:

1. Call Money is a long-term borrowing.
2. Treasury bill meets the short-term fund requirements of the government.
3. The maturity period of commercial paper is more than 1 year.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

- (a) Only 1 and 2
- (b) Only 2 and 3
- (c) Only 1 and 3
- (d) 1, 2, and 3

Ans (c)

Statement 1 is incorrect: 'Call Money' is the borrowing or lending of funds for 1 day. Where money is borrowed or lend for period between 2 days and 14 days it is known as 'Notice Money' And 'Term Money' refers to borrowing/lending of funds for period exceeding 14 days.

Statement 2 is correct: Treasury Bill is a money market instrument is issued by the Government of India. The bill is issued as a promissory note of repayment in the future. The purpose of a treasury note is to secure funds to meet the short-term fund requirements of the government. It is done to minimize the fiscal deficit of the country.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Commercial papers can be issued for maturities between a minimum of 15 days and a maximum up to one year from the date of issue.

Q 94. Consider the following statements:

1. Credit Rating Agencies in India are regulated by the Reserve Bank of India.
2. The Indian Energy Exchange is regulated by the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (b)

Statement 1 is incorrect: Credit ratings provide retail and institutional investors with information that determines whether issuers of bonds, debt instruments, and fixed-income securities will meet their obligations. The credit rating agency is regulated by SEBI.

Statement 2 is correct: Indian Energy Exchange is India's premier energy marketplace, providing a nationwide automated trading platform for the physical delivery of electricity, renewables, and certificates. The Indian Energy Exchange is regulated by the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission.

Q 95. Recently, “Logistics Ease Across Different State (LEADS) 2023” report was in news, which of the following organisation/body publishes the report?

- (a) NITI Aayog
- (b) Ministry of finance
- (c) Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
- (d) Ministry of Commerce & Industry

Ans (d)

Recently, the Ministry of Commerce & Industry has released the 5th edition of “Logistics Ease Across Different State (LEADS) 2023” report, which serves as a guide for stakeholders in the Logistics Sector by providing strategic insights.

LEADS was conceived on the lines of Logistics Performance Index of World Bank in 2018 and has evolved over time.

While the LPI relies entirely on perception-based surveys, LEADS incorporates both perception as well as objectivity thereby enhancing the robustness and comprehensiveness of this exercise.

So, option (d) is correct.

Q 96. Consider the following statements with reference to the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) for eight core industry:

1. The National Statistics Office (NSO) publishes the IIP every year.
2. The electricity sector carries the highest weight in IIP.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (d)

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Central Statistical Organization (CSO) is responsible for the compilation and publication of the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) since 1950.

Statement 2 is incorrect: These comprise 40.27% of the weight of items included in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP). The eight core sector industries in decreasing order of their weightage: Refinery Products> Electricity> Steel> Coal> Crude Oil> Natural Gas> Cement> Fertilizers.

Q97. Consider the following statements regarding National startup advisory council:

1. The council was constituted by Ministry of Finance.
2. The term of the non-official members of the council is one year.
3. The council meets on a regular basis to foster a culture of innovation among citizens and students.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two

- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans (a)

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) had constituted the council in January 2020 to advise the government on measures needed to build a strong ecosystem for nurturing innovation and start-ups in the country.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The term of non-official members of the council was for two years. The central government nominated the non-official members on the council representing various stakeholders such as founders of successful startups, veterans who have grown and scaled companies in India.

Statement 3 is correct: The council meets on a regular basis to suggest measures such as fostering a culture of innovation among citizens and students in particular; and promote innovation in all sectors of the economy across the country.

Q 98. Consider the following statements:

1. The Production Linked Incentive Scheme for the Food Processing Industry is a centrally sponsored scheme.
2. One District One Product (ODOP) is a component of “Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY)” that aims to create specific product clusters.
3. Krishi Udan and Krishi Rail schemes have been launched to ease out freight rates enabling smooth movement of perishables.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans (a)

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Production Linked Incentive Scheme for the Food Processing Industry is a central sector Scheme to support the creation of global food manufacturing champions and support Indian brands in the international markets.

Statement 2 is incorrect: One District One Product (ODOP) is a component of Pradhan Mantri Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises Scheme (PMFME Scheme).

Statement 3 is correct: Krishi Udan and Krishi Rail schemes have been launched to ease out freight rates enabling smooth movement of perishables.

Q 99. Consider the following statements regarding Indian Depository Receipts (IDR):

1. It is an instrument denominated in Indian Rupees.
2. It enables foreign companies to raise funds from the Indian securities markets.
3. Like equity share, they also provide ownership in the company.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans (c)

Statement 1 is correct: An IDR is an instrument denominated in Indian Rupees in the form of a depository receipt created by a Domestic Depository, custodian of securities registered with the Securities and Exchange Board of India, against the underlying equity of the issuing company.

Statement 2 is correct: A foreign company can access Indian securities market for raising funds through issue of Indian Depository Receipts (IDRs).

Statement 3 is correct: Just like equity share, they provide ownership in the company. The foreign company IDRs will deposit shares to an Indian depository. The depository would issue receipts to Indian investors against these shares.

Q 100. Consider the following statements:

1. India is the largest recipient of remittance in the world in the year 2023, followed by China.
2. For India largest source of remittance is the USA followed by the UAE.
3. Remittances can help achieve Sustainable Development Goal 8 which is Decent Work and Economic Growth.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans (b)

Statement 1 is incorrect: India (\$125 billion) is the largest recipient of remittance in the world in the year 2023, followed by Mexico (\$67 billion).

Statement 2 is correct: For India largest source of remittance is the USA followed by the UAE.

Statement 3 is correct: Remittances can help achieve at least seven of the 17 SDGs. When migrants send money back home, they contribute to several of the goals set in the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. In particular Clean Water and Sanitation (SDG 8)