



Drishiti IAS Presents...

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GOVT. POLICIES & INITIATIVES
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? Detailed Explanation

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1. Ans: B**Expl:****AMRUT Mission (Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation)**

- It was launched in June 2015
- It comes under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. **Hence, statement 1 is NOT correct.**
- **Components:**
 - ◆ Capacity building, reform implementation, water supply, sewerage and septage management, storm water drainage, urban transport and development of green spaces and parks.
 - ◆ The reforms aim at improving delivery of citizen services, bringing down the cost of delivery, improving financial health, augmenting resources and enhancing transparency. It also includes the replacement of street lights with LED lights.
- **Purpose:**
 - ◆ To ensure that every household has access to a tap with the assured supply of water and a sewerage connection. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ The Priority zone of the Mission is water supply followed by sewerage.
 - ◆ To increase the amenity value of cities by developing greenery and well-maintained open spaces (e.g. parks).
 - ◆ To reduce pollution by switching to public transport or constructing facilities for non-motorized transport (e.g. walking and cycling).

2. Ans: B**Exp:**

- The Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) was launched in 2019, it envisages **supply of 55 litres of water per person per day to every rural household through Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTC) by 2024. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - ◆ JJM looks to create a jan andolan for water, thereby making it everyone's priority.
 - ◆ It comes under Jal Shakti Ministry.
- The mission ensures **functionality of existing water supply systems and water connections**; water quality monitoring and testing as well as sustainable agriculture.
 - ◆ It also ensures conjunctive use of conserved water; drinking water source augmentation, drinking water supply system, **grey water treatment and its reuse.**

● Features:

- ◆ JJM focuses on **integrated demand and supply-side management** of water at the local level.
- ◆ Creation of **local infrastructure for source sustainability measures** as mandatory elements, like rainwater harvesting, groundwater recharge and management of household wastewater for reuse, is undertaken in convergence with other government programmes/schemes.
- ◆ The Mission is **based on a community approach** to water and includes extensive Information, Education and Communication as a key component of the mission.

● Funding Pattern:

- ◆ The fund sharing pattern between the **Centre and states is 90:10 for Himalayan and North-Eastern States**, 50:50 for other states, and 100% for Union Territories. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

3. Ans: C**Exp:**

- The **Ministry of Civil Aviation** has released a **draft National Air Sports Policy (NASP)** that will require entities providing these services and their equipment to be registered, as well as be liable for penalties.
- The policy proposes a **two-tier governance structure for air sports in the country**, which will include an apex governing body called the **Air Sports Federation of India (ASFI)** and associations for each air sport. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ The ASFI will be an **autonomous body under the Ministry of Civil Aviation** and will represent India at the **Lausanne (Switzerland)-headquartered Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI)** and other global platforms related to air sports. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - It will provide governance over various aspects of air sports, including regulation, certification, competitions, awards and penalties, etc.
 - ◆ Each air sports association **will lay down its safety standards** for equipment, infrastructure, personnel and training, and specify the disciplinary actions to be taken in case of non-compliance. Inability to do so **may lead to penal action by the ASFI.**

- ◆ It is proposed that **popular air sports attractions** in the country such as Bir Billing in Himachal Pradesh, Gangtok in Sikkim, Hadapsar in Maharashtra and Vagamon in Kerala **can be declared as a “control zone” for air sports** in order to ensure the safety of other manned aircraft.

4. Ans: C

Exp:

- Recently, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries and **NAFED (National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited)** launched six, **One District One Product (ODOP) brands** under the **Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
 - ◆ The Ministry has signed an agreement with NAFED for developing **10 brands of selected ODOPs under the branding and marketing component of the PMFME scheme**. Out of these, six brands are Amriti Phal, Cori Gold, Kashmiri Mantra, Madhu Mantra, Somdana, and Whole Wheat Cookies of Dilli Bakes.
- It is a **centrally sponsored scheme** with an outlay of Rs. 10,000 crore.
 - ◆ The expenditure under the scheme would be shared in **60:40 ratio between Central and State Governments**, in 90:10 ratio with North Eastern and Himalayan States, 60:40 ratio with UTs with legislature and 100% by Centre for other UTs. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.

5. Ans: A

Exp:

- Recently, the Ministry of Power has successfully completed seven years of distributing and selling LED lights under its flagship UJALA (Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All) programme.
- The initiative evolved into the **world’s largest zero subsidy domestic lighting programme** with more than 36.78 crore LEDs distributed across the country. Hence **statement 1 is correct**.
- Launched in 2015 and initially labelled as the LED-based Domestic Efficient Lighting Programme (DELP), it aims to promote the efficient usage of energy for all i.e., its consumption, savings and lighting.
- Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), a government company under the administrative control of the Ministry of Power, has been designated as the implementing agency for this programme. Hence **statement 2 is not correct**.

- Every domestic household having a metered connection from their respective Electricity Distribution Company is eligible to get the LED bulbs under the Scheme.

6. Ans: B

Exp:

- ‘National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)’ was launched by the **Ministry of Tourism** with the objective of holistic development of identified pilgrimage destinations. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- **Objectives of the PRASHAD scheme are as follows:**
 - ◆ Harness pilgrimage tourism for its multiplier and direct effect on employment generation and economic development.
 - ◆ Follow pro-poor tourism concept and community-based development in the development of the pilgrimage destinations.
 - ◆ Leveraging public expertise and capital.
 - ◆ Enhance tourist attractiveness sustainably by developing world-class infrastructure in religious destinations.
 - ◆ Create awareness amongst the local communities about the importance of tourism for them in terms of improved living standards, increase in sources of income and overall development of the area.
 - ◆ **Promote local culture, arts, cuisine, handicrafts, etc., to generate livelihood** in the identified places. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

7. Ans: B

Exp:

- **National Beekeeping & Honey Mission (NBHM)** aims for the overall promotion & development of scientific **beekeeping in the country** to achieve the goal of ‘Sweet Revolution’ which is being implemented through National Bee Board (NBB). Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
 - ◆ The **National Bee Board** under the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare (**Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare**), will be a National Level Nodal Agency for overall holistic development and promotion of the beekeeping sector at National level under NBHM for implementation of activities. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- Recently, the **Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)** has launched the country’s **first Mobile Honey Processing Van** at Village in Uttar Pradesh.

- ◆ Mobile Honey Processing Van that will **process beekeepers' honey at their doorsteps** and thus save them the hassle and the cost of taking the honey to processing plants in far off cities for processing.

8. Ans: C

Exp:

- Government Initiative related to Overseas Indians
 - ◆ **Pravasi Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PKVY):** To institutionalise the process of skill development of emigrant Indian workers.
 - ◆ **Scholarship Programme for Diaspora Children (SPDC):** 100 scholarships per annum are granted to **Persons of Indian Origin (PIO)** and Non Resident Indians (NRI) students for **undergraduate courses**.
 - ◆ **Know India Program' (KIP):** It familiarises **Indian-origin youth (18-30 years) with their Indian roots** and contemporary India.
 - ◆ **E-migrate system:** It is a foreign employers database. It ensures the welfare and check on exploitation met to **emigrants**.
 - ◆ **VAJRA (Visiting Advanced Joint Research Faculty) scheme:** It formalises a rotation program wherein top **NRI scientists, engineers, doctors, managers and professionals serve Indian public sector organisations** for a brief period, lending their expertise.
- **Skills Strengthening for Industrial Value Enhancement (STRIVE):** project is a World Bank assisted-Government of India project with the **objective of improving the relevance and efficiency of skills training provided through Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and apprenticeships. Hence option C is correct.**

9. Ans: B

Exp:

- **The Agreement on Agriculture** is aimed to **remove trade barriers and to promote transparent market access and integration of global markets. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **Three pillars of Agreement on Agriculture:**
 - ◆ **Domestic Support:** It calls for **reduction in domestic subsidies** that distorts free trade and fair price.
 - Under this provision, the **Aggregate Measurement of Support (AMS) is to be reduced by 20%** over a period of 6 years by developed countries and 13% over a period of 10 years by developing countries.

- ◆ Under this, Subsidies are categorized into:

- ◆ **Green Box:**

- Subsidies that **do not distort trade**, or at most cause minimal distortion.
- They are **government-funded** and must not involve price support.
- They also include **environmental protection and regional development programmes. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- "Green box" subsidies are therefore **allowed without limits**, provided they comply with the policy-specific criteria.

- ◆ **Amber Box:**

- All domestic support measures considered to **distort production and trade (with some exceptions) fall into the amber box** as all domestic supports except those in the blue and green boxes.
- These include **measures to support prices, or subsidies directly related to production quantities. Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

- ◆ **Blue Box:**

- This is the **"amber box with conditions"**. Such conditions are designed to reduce distortion.
- Any support that would normally be in the amber box is placed in the blue box if the support also requires farmers to limit production.
- At present, **there are no limits on spending on blue box subsidies.**

- ◆ **Market Access:** Market access for goods in the WTO means the **conditions, tariff and non-tariff measures, agreed by members** for the entry of specific goods into their markets.

- Market access requires that **tariffs fixed (like custom duties) by individual countries be cut progressively** to allow free trade. It also required countries to remove non-tariff barriers and convert them to Tariff duties.

- ◆ **Export Subsidy:** Subsidy **on inputs of agriculture**, making export cheaper or other incentives for exports such as import duty remission etc are included under export subsidies.

- These can **result in dumping of highly subsidized** (and cheap) products in other countries and damage the domestic agriculture sector of other countries.

10. Ans: C**Exp:**

- Recently, the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) has announced a new National Educational Alliance for Technology (NEAT 3.0) to use technology for better learning outcomes in Higher Education.
- **Model of NEAT Scheme:** It is based on a **Public-Private Partnership** model between the **Government and the Education Technology (Ed-Tech) companies** of India. **Hence Statement 1 is correct.**
- **Objective:** The objectives of NEAT are to bring the best technological solutions in education pedagogy on a single platform for the convenience of Economically and Socially weaker sections of society.
- **Target Areas:** Technology solutions using Artificial Intelligence for customised learning or e-content in niche areas having highly employable skills are being identified for showcasing on the portal.
- **Modus Operandi:** Under this, the **government plans to distribute free coupons** for an array of courses offered by ed-tech companies. **Hence Statement 2 is correct.**
- **Implementing Agency:** All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE).

11. Ans: A**Exp:**

- **Nari Shakti Award**, initiated in the year 1999, it is the **highest Civilian Honour for Women in India. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ The **President of India** confers the Nari Shakti Puraskar on the **International Women's Day (8th March)**, annually.
- The Nari Shakti Puraskar carries a **cash award of Rs.2 Lakh** and a certificate for individuals and institutions.
- The Ministry of Women and Child Development announces these national level awards for individuals/ groups/ Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs)/ institutions etc. The awards are given:
 - ◆ For encouraging women to participate in decision making roles.
 - ◆ Women's skill development in traditional and non-traditional sectors.
 - ◆ Facilitating basic amenities for rural women.
 - ◆ Promoting women in non-traditional sectors like science and technology, sports, art, culture concretely.
 - ◆ For the significant work towards safety and security, health and wellness, education, life skills, respect and dignity of women etc.

- **Eligibility:** As per the Guidelines, **any individual of at least 25 years of age** and institutions having worked in the **relevant field for at least 5 years** are eligible to apply. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**

12. Ans: C**Exp:**

- The 24th conference on e-governance was held with collaboration of the union government's Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) and the Telangana state government.
 - ◆ At the conference, the **'Hyderabad Declaration on e-Governance** was adopted. **Hence, option C is correct.**
 - ◆ The declaration aims to bring citizens and governments closer through digital platforms and transform citizen services through the use of technology.
- The Conference resolved that Government of India and State Governments shall collaborate to:
 - ◆ Transform citizen services through use of technology by leveraging the artifacts of India Stack that include **Aadhaar, UPI, DigiLocker, UMANG, e Sign** and consent framework.
 - ◆ **Fast track the implementation** of the national level public digital platforms in key social sectors viz. Health, Education, Agriculture, etc by adopting open interoperable architecture for joined up connected services.
 - ◆ **Operationalize the data governance framework** to facilitate data sharing within Government entities as also make available all data on data.gov.in except for a negative list.

13. Ans: B**Exp:****Prarambh Summit:**

- Prarambh was a name given to the **Startup India International Summit** which aims to provide a **platform to the startups and young minds from around the world** to come up with new ideas, innovation and invention.
 - ◆ The summit saw participation from 56 countries of the global startup ecosystem.
- The Summit is **organised by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal trade (DPIIT)** under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- **Other Related Initiatives for Startups:**
 - ◆ **Ranking of States on Support to Startup Ecosystems:** It is an evolved evaluation tool aimed to strengthen the support of States and UTs to holistically build their startup ecosystems.

- ◆ **SCO Startup Forum:** The first-ever Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Startup Forum was launched in October 2020 to develop and improve startup ecosystems collectively.
- ◆ **Startup India Seed Fund Scheme:** It aims to provide financial assistance to startups for proof of concept, prototype development, product trials, market entry, and commercialization.
- ◆ **Startup India Initiative:** It envisages building a robust Startup ecosystem in the country for nurturing innovation and providing opportunities to budding entrepreneurs. It was launched in 2016.

● Hence, option B is correct.

14. Ans: A

Exp:

- Technical textiles are **functional fabrics** that have applications across various industries including automobiles, civil engineering and construction, agriculture, healthcare, industrial safety, personal protection etc.
 - ◆ Technical Textile products derive their demand from development and industrialization in a country.
- **Scenario of Technical Textile:**
 - ◆ The growth of technical textiles in India has **gained momentum in the past five years**, currently growing at an **8% per annum rate**.
 - It is aimed to **hasten this growth to 15-20% range** during the next five years.
 - ◆ The current world market is USD 250 billion and **India's share in it is USD 19 billion**.
 - ◆ India is an aspiring player **with USD 40 billion in this market (8% Share)**.
 - The **biggest players are the USA**, western Europe, China and Japan (20-40% share). **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
- **Initiatives Related to Technical Textile:**
 - ◆ **Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Textiles Sector:** It aims to promote the production of high value Man-Made Fiber (MMF) fabrics, garments and technical textiles.
 - ◆ **Harmonized System of Nomenclature (HSN) Codes for Technical Textile:** In 2019, **100% FDI under Automatic Route:** The Government of India allows 100% **Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)** under automatic route. International technical textile manufacturers such as Ahlstrom, Johnson & Johnson etc have already initiated operations in India. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- ◆ **Technotex India:** It is a flagship event organized by the Ministry of Textiles, in collaboration with the **Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI)** and comprises exhibitions, conferences and seminars with participation of stakeholders from across the global technical textile value chain. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- ◆ **Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme:** To improve exports and indirectly promote investments in textile machinery.

15. Ans: C

Exp:

Saarthi:

- Recently, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has launched Saaṛthi – a mobile app on investor education.
 - ◆ 'R' represents '₹'.
- It **aims to create awareness among investors about the basic concepts of the securities market**.
- The app will also explain about KYC process, trading and settlement, Mutual Funds (MF), recent market developments, investor grievances redressal mechanism, etc.

Securities Market:

- Securities are financial instruments issued to raise funds.
- The primary function of the securities markets is to enable the flow of capital from those that have it to those that need it.
- Securities markets provide channels for allocation of savings to investments and thereby decouple these two activities.
- **Hence option C is correct**

16. Ans: A

Exp:

- Recently, the **Ministry of Panchayati Raj has prepared Rural Area Development Plan Formulation and Implementation (RADPFI) guidelines, 2021** in a view to transforming rural India and ensuring rural prosperity. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- RADPFI 2021 guidelines is a **continuation to the Ministry's efforts towards promotion of Spatial rural planning** and would create pathways for rural transformation by developing a perspective for long term planning in villages. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The Ministry of Panchayati Raj has **revised Rural Area Development Plan Formulation and Implementation (RADPFI) guidelines, 2017**. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

17. Ans: C

Exp:

- The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) was established by the Government of India under the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Act, 1985. **It functions under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.**
 - ◆ The Authority has its **headquarters in New Delhi.**
- APEDA is mandated with the responsibility of export promotion and development of the scheduled products.
- APEDA has been entrusted with the responsibility to monitor import of sugar.
- It looks after the development of industries relating to the scheduled products for export by way of providing financial assistance or otherwise for undertaking surveys and feasibility studies, participating through subsidy schemes.
- Registration of persons as exporters of the scheduled products and fixing of standards and specifications for the scheduled products for the purpose of exports.
- Carrying out inspection of meat and meat products in slaughterhouses, processing plants, storage premises and improving packaging of the scheduled products.
- **Hence option C is correct.**

18. Ans: D

Exp:

Scheme on Enhancement of Competitiveness in the Indian Capital Goods Sector Phase-II:

- **About:**
 - ◆ The **Ministry of Heavy Industries (MHI)** has notified the **Scheme on Enhancement of Competitiveness in the Indian Capital Goods Sector- Phase-II** for providing assistance to Common Technology Development and Services Infrastructure.
 - ◆ The objective of Phase II of the Scheme is to **expand and enlarge the impact created by the Phase I pilot scheme**, thereby providing greater impetus through creation of a strong and globally competitive capital goods sector that contributes at least 25% to the manufacturing sector.
 - The scheme on 'Enhancement of competitiveness in the Indian Capital Goods Sector' was notified in November, 2014 to **encourage technology development and infrastructure creation.**

● **Financial Outlay:**

- ◆ The scheme has a financial outlay of Rs. 1207 crores with Budgetary support of Rs.975 crore and Industry Contribution of Rs. 232 crore .

● **Components:**

- ◆ Identification of Technologies through **Technology Innovation Portals.**
- ◆ Setting up of four **New Advanced Centers of Excellence** and augmentation of Existing Centers of Excellence.
- ◆ **Promotion of skilling in the Capital Goods Sector**—creation of Qualification packages for skill levels 6 and above.
- ◆ Setting up of four **Common Engineering Facility Centers (CEFCs)** and augmentation of existing CEFCs.
- ◆ Augmentation of Existing **Testing and Certification Centers.**
- ◆ Setting up of ten **Industry Accelerators for Technology Development.**

● **Hence option D is correct.**

19. Ans: C

Exp:

- The **National Startup Awards** is designed by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), **Ministry of Commerce & Industry.**
- It aims to **recognize and reward outstanding Startups and ecosystem enablers** that are building innovative products or solutions and scalable enterprises, with high potential of employment generation or wealth creation, demonstrating measurable social impact.
- Recently, the Union Minister of Commerce & Industry presented the second edition of **National Startup Awards 2021.**
 - ◆ It was also announced that **16th January** (Startup India Initiative was launched on this day in 2016) will be celebrated as **National Start-up Day**, to take the Startup culture to the far flung areas of the country.
 - ◆ The winning startup founders will get a cash prize of Rs. 5 lakh and an opportunity to present their solutions to relevant public authorities and corporations. Incubators and accelerators will get Rs. 15 lakh as the winning amount.
 - 46 startups along with 1 incubator and 1 accelerator were honoured with the award.
- **Hence, option C is correct.**

20. Ans: B

Exp:

- Recently, the **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)** has announced the initiation of the Open Data Week to **encourage the adoption of open data and promote innovation across India's urban ecosystem. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - ◆ It is being conducted during the third week of January, i.e., from 17th January 2022 to 21st January 2022.
- The idea is to provide a platform that offers ample opportunities on how to continue creating and promoting the use of data that addresses complex urban issues, such as the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.
- **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

21. Ans: B

Exp:

- Recently, the Prime Minister addressed the **World Economic Forum's (WEF) Davos Dialogue** via video conferencing.
 - ◆ The WEF annual meeting in Davos (Switzerland) **engages the world's top leaders to shape global, regional and industry agendas.**
 - ◆ The Davos Dialogues agenda marks the launch of the WEF's Great Reset Initiative in the post Covid world.
- **Pro-Planet People (P3) Approach:**
 - ◆ The PM proposed the idea of the "P3 (Pro-Planet-People) movement" that underscores India's commitments to climate change at the global forum (UNFCCC COP 26).
 - Reiterated India's "clean, green, sustainable, and reliable" energy goals which dwell on achieving a net-zero carbon emission target by 2070.
 - ◆ Making LIFE (Lifestyle for Environment - given by the Indian PM at UNFCCC COP 26 Conference) into a mass movement can be a strong foundation for P3.
 - LIFE is a vision of a resilient and sustainable lifestyle that will come handy in dealing with the climate crisis and other unpredictable challenges of the future.
 - Throwaway culture and consumerism has enhanced the climate challenge.
- **Hence, option B is correct.**

22. Ans: A

Exp:

- **The India Skills 2021 Nationals, the country's biggest skill competition, concluded recently.**

- ◆ It is designed to **demonstrate the highest standards of skilling** and offers a platform to young people to showcase their talent at national and international levels.
- ◆ IndiaSkills Competition is **held every two years** with the support of state governments and industry.
- ◆ 30 states and Union Territories (UTs) participated in the competition and showcased their skills in 54 skills, including seven new-age ones, in 2021.
 - **Skill areas include beauty therapy, cyber security, floristry, robot system integration, cloud computing, water technology, painting and decorating, health and social care, among others. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- **Nodal Agency:** The **National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)** under the guidance of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has been leading India's participation at the **WorldSkills International competitions** since 2011.

- **Performance of the States: Odisha topped the chart** followed by **Maharashtra and Kerala. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

- ◆ The winners of IndiaSkills 2021 Nationals will get a chance to represent the country at WorldSkills International Competition to be held in Shanghai, China in October 2022.

23. Ans: C

Exp:

- **The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) traces its origins to the 1944 Bretton Woods Conference, which laid the foundations for the post-World War II financial system and established two key institutions, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- GATT signed by 23 countries in Geneva in 1947 came into force on Jan 1, 1948 with the following purposes:
 - ◆ to phase out the use of import quotas
 - ◆ to reduce tariffs on merchandise trade,
- GATT became the only multilateral instrument governing international trade from 1948 until the WTO was established in 1995.
 - ◆ The provisions of GATT 1947 were incorporated into the GATT of 1994. The GATT 1994 is itself part of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) formation agreement.
- **The Uruguay Round of GATT, conducted from 1987 to 1994 culminated in the Marrakesh agreement, which established the WTO. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

24. Ans: A

Exp:

- Compensatory afforestation means that every time forest land is diverted for non-forest purposes such as mining or industry, the user agency pays for planting forests over an equal area of non-forest land, or when such land is not available, twice the area of degraded forest land.
- The Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF) Act was passed by the centre in 2016 and the related rules were notified in 2018.
 - ◆ The CAF Act was enacted to manage the **funds collected for compensatory afforestation** which till then was managed by ad hoc Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA).
- As per the rules, **90% of the CAF money is to be given to the states while 10% is to be retained by the Centre. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ The funds can be used for treatment of catchment areas, assisted natural generation, forest management, wildlife protection and management, relocation of villages from protected areas, managing human-wildlife conflicts, training and awareness generation, supply of wood saving devices and allied activities. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

25. Ans: C

Exp:

Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY):

- It offers a **sum insured of Rs.5 lakh per family for secondary care** (which doesn't involve a super specialist) **as well as tertiary care** (which involves a super specialist). **Hence, statement 1 is correct but statement 2 is not correct.**
- Under PMJAY, cashless and paperless access to services are provided to the beneficiaries at the point of service.
 - ◆ Health Benefit Packages covers surgery, medical and day care treatments, cost of medicines and diagnostics.
 - ◆ Packaged rates (Rates that include everything so that each product or service is not charged for separately).
- **Beneficiaries:** It is an entitlement-based scheme that targets the beneficiaries as **identified by latest Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC) data. Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

- ◆ Once identified by the database, the beneficiary is considered insured and can walk into any empanelled hospital.

26. Ans: A

Exp:

- The **Ministry of Defence (MoD) has launched services for home delivery of medicines for veterans and serving military personnel services under an online medical consultation platform named Services e-Health Assistance and Teleconsultation (SeHAT).**
- It is the **tri-services teleconsultation service of the MoD** designed for all entitled personnel and their families.
- As part of the Government's commitment to **Digital India** and e-Governance, the **Defence Minister launched SeHAT in May 2021.**
- It **aims to** provide healthcare services to patients in their homes.
- **SeHAT Stay Home OPD is based on the lines of e-Sanjeevani** a similar free OPD service run by the MoHFW (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare) for all citizens.
- **SeHATOPD is a patient to doctor system** where the patient can consult a doctor remotely through the internet.
- **Hence, option A is correct.**

27. Ans: B

Exp:

National Pension System

- The Central Government has introduced the **National Pension System (NPS)** with effect from January 2004 **(except for armed forces). Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
 - ◆ In 2018 to streamline the NPS and make it more attractive, the Union Cabinet approved changes in the scheme to benefit central government employees covered under NPS.
- NPS is being implemented and regulated by the **Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)** in the country. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- National Pension System Trust (NPST) established by PFRDA is the registered owner of all assets under NPS.

28. Ans: A

Exp:

- **Nai Roshni-a Leadership Development Programme for Minority Women** is a **Central Sector Scheme** for women belonging to minority communities in the **age group of 18 to 65 years.** It was started in **2012-13.**



- ◆ The **objective of the scheme** is to empower and instill confidence among minority women, including their neighbours from other communities living in the same village/locality, by providing knowledge, tools and techniques for interacting with Government systems, banks and other institutions at all levels. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- ◆ It is **run with the help of** NGOs, Civil societies and Government Institutions all over the country.
- The **‘Nai Manzil’ scheme** aims to **benefit the youth (both men & women) belonging to six notified minority communities** of 17-35 years of age, who do not have formal school leaving certificate, i.e., those in the category of school –dropouts or educated in community education institutions like Madrasas. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- **Ustad** (Upgrading the Skills and Training in Traditional Arts/Crafts for Development): The scheme **aims to preserve the rich heritage of traditional arts/crafts of minorities.** **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

29. Ans: C

Exp:

- Recently, the **Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB)**, has invited applications under ‘ABHYAAS’, a program of ‘Accelerate Vigyan’ scheme, for summer season.
 - ◆ SERB is an autonomous body of the Department of Science & Technology (DST), Union Ministry of Science & Technology. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ ABHYAAS is a program of AV scheme, is an attempt to boost research and development in the country by enabling and grooming potential postgraduate / PhD students by developing dedicated research skills in selected areas / disciplines / fields through its two components — high-end workshops (“KAARYASHALA”) and Training and Skill Internship (“VRITIKA”).
- “Accelerate Vigyan” (AV) strives to **provide a big push to high-end scientific research and prepare a scientific workforce**, which can venture into research careers and a knowledge-based economy.
 - ◆ AV aims to **expand the research base in the country**, with three broad goals — consolidation / aggregation of all scientific training programs, initiating high-end orientation workshops and creating opportunities for training and skill internships.
 - ◆ **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

30. Ans: A

Exp:

- The Indian Railways, which transported over 23 million passengers each day (pre-pandemic), is the largest, fastest and most reliable carrier for suspects who trafficked scores of women and children.
- Under **Operation AAHT**, the infrastructure and intelligence network of the force could be utilized to **collect, collate and analyse clues on victims, source, route, destination, popular trains used by suspects, the identity of carriers/agents, kingpins** etc and shared with other law-enforcing agencies.
- Under this, the RPF could act as a **bridge cutting across States** to assist the local police in the mission to curb the menace of Human Trafficking.
- **Hence, option A is correct.**

31. Ans: C

Exp:

Vigyan Jyoti Programme:

- It aims to address the underrepresentation of women in different fields of **Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)** in the country. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- As a first step, the “Vigyan Jyoti” **has been introduced in the year 2019-20 at the school level** wherein meritorious girl students of Class 9-12 are being encouraged to pursue higher education and career in STEM field.
- The Vigyan Jyoti envisaged hand-holding and interventions right from the school level i.e., Class IX and which will continue till the PhD level to encourage girls to pursue a career in underrepresented areas of STEM. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- The Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS), an autonomous organisation of the Ministry of Education, is the implementation partner of Vigyan Jyoti. NVS has a network of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs) in more than 600 districts of India.

32. Ans: C

Exp:

Mission Indradhanush:

- It was launched to **fully immunize more than 89 lakh children who are either unvaccinated or partially vaccinated under UIP.**
- It provides **vaccination against 12 Vaccine-Preventable Diseases (VPD)** i.e. diphtheria, Whooping cough, tetanus, polio, tuberculosis, hepatitis B, meningitis and pneumonia, Haemophilus influenzae type B infections, Japanese encephalitis (JE), rotavirus vaccine,

pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV) and measles-rubella (MR). **Hence statement 1 is correct.**

- ◆ However, vaccination against Japanese Encephalitis and Haemophilus influenzae type B is being provided in selected districts of the country.
- Mission Indradhansuh was also identified as **one of the flagship schemes under Gram Swaraj Abhiyan and Extended Gram Swaraj Abhiyan. Hence statement 2 is correct.**

33. Ans: C

Exp:

Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana:

- Launched in 2016 and is being administered by the **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.**
 - ◆ It replaced the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) and Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS).
- **Aim:** To provide a comprehensive insurance cover against the failure of the crop thus helping in stabilising the income of the farmers.
- **Scope:** All food & oilseed crops and annual commercial/horticultural crops for which past yield data is available. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- **Premium:** The prescribed premium is 2% to be paid by farmers for all Kharif crops and 1.5% for all rabi crops. In the case of annual commercial and horticultural crops, the premium is 5%. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ Premium cost over and above the farmer share was equally subsidised by States and GoI.
 - ◆ However, GoI shared 90% of the premium subsidy for North Eastern States to promote the uptake in the region.
- **Implementation:** By empanelled general insurance companies. The selection of the Implementing Agency (IA) is done by the concerned State Government through bidding.
- **Revamped PMFBY:** The revamped PMFBY is often called **PMFBY 2.0**, it has the following features:
 - ◆ **Completely Voluntary:** Enrolment 100% voluntary for all farmers from 2020 Kharif.
 - Earlier, it was compulsory for loanee farmers availing Crop Loan/Kisan Credit Card (KCC) account for notified crops.
 - ◆ **Limit to Central Subsidy:** The Centre has decided to limit the PMFBY premium rates - against which it would bear 50% of the subsidy - to a maximum of 30% in un-irrigated and 25% in irrigated areas.

- ◆ **More Flexibility to States:** The government has given the flexibility to states/UTs to implement PMFBY and given them the option to select any number of additional risk covers/features.
- ◆ **Investing in ICE Activities:** Insurance companies have to now spend 0.5% of the total premium collected on Information, Education And Communication (IEC) activities.

34. Ans: A

Exp:

- According to the Ministry of Labour & Employment, nearly 46 lakh Unorganised Workers (UW) have been registered under the **Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan (PM-SYM) pension scheme.**
- PM-SYM is a **Central Sector Scheme** administered by the **Ministry of Labour and Employment** and implemented through Life Insurance Corporation of India and Community Service Centers (CSCs). **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ **LIC (Life Insurance Corporation)** is the Pension Fund Manager and responsible for Pension pay out.
- Eligibility:
 - ◆ Should be an Unorganised Worker (UW).
 - ◆ Monthly Income Rs 15000 or below.
 - ◆ **Entry age between 18 and 40 years. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
 - ◆ Should possess a mobile phone, savings bank account and Aadhaar number.
 - ◆ Should not be covered under **New Pension Scheme (NPS), Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) scheme or Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO).**
 - ◆ Should not be an income tax payer.

35. Ans: C

Exp:

- **SAMPANN (System for Accounting and Management of Pension)** project was launched in 2018. It is a seamless **online pension processing and payment system** for Department of Telecommunications pensioners.
 - ◆ It **provides direct credit of pension** into the bank accounts of pensioners.
 - ◆ It is an ambitious project being **implemented by the Ministry of Communications.**
 - ◆ It has helped the Department in **faster settlement of pension cases, improved reconciliation/auditing and ease of accounting.**



- ◆ It has also been instrumental in settling close to 76000 BSNL Voluntary Retirement Scheme 2019 cases in a short span of 6 months.
- ◆ It is a system with a flexible design which enables it to accommodate ever expanding requirements.
- ◆ Hence, option C is correct.

36. Ans: B

Exp:

- Schemes Related to Minorities
 - ◆ **Hunar Haats:** First launched in 2016, it is an exhibition of handicrafts and traditional products made by artisans from the minority communities.
 - It aims to **provide market exposure and employment opportunities to artisans, craftsmen** and traditional culinary experts. Hence, Pair 3 is correctly matched.
 - ◆ **Begum Hazrat Mahal Girls Scholarships:** It provides scholarships for economically backward girls belonging to the six notified Minority communities.
 - ◆ **Gharib Nawaz Employment Scheme:** Was launched so that **short term job oriented skill development courses** may be provided to minorities' youth in order to enable them for skill based employment.
 - ◆ **Nai Manzil:** It is a scheme for **formal school education & skilling of school dropouts** launched in 2015. Hence, Pair 1 is correctly matched.
 - ◆ **Ustad (Upgrading the Skills and Training in Traditional Arts/Crafts for Development):** The scheme **aims to preserve the rich heritage of traditional arts/crafts of minorities.** Hence, Pair 2 is not correctly matched.
 - ◆ **Nai Roshni:** Launched for leadership development of women belonging to minority communities.
- Hence, opinion B is correct.

37. Ans: D

Exp:

- The **Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) and the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)** have together taken a number of initiatives to ensure the growth of this sector in an energy-efficient and environmentally-friendly way.
 - ◆ To ensure synergy among various players in the MSME sector, BEE and the Ministry of MSME have also promoted a collaborative platform-- "**SAMEEEKSHA**" (Small and Medium Enterprises Energy Efficiency Knowledge Sharing).

- The platform **aims to pool the knowledge and synergise the efforts of various organisations** for the promotion and adoption of clean, energy technologies and practices.

◆ Hence, option D is correct.

38. Ans: D

Exp:

- Recently, an internet-based platform called '**VIHANGAM**' integrated with a Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) at Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) was inaugurated.
- The system consists of a Ground Control Station (GCS), an RPAS, internet lease line of 40 Mbps and VIHANGAM portal.
 - ◆ The system **enables real-time transmission of aerial video of mining activities** from mines to internet platforms which can be accessed through VIHANGAM portal by authorized personnel only having ID and password.
- ◆ Hence, option D is correct.

39. Ans: B

Exp:

- Dumping is said to occur when the goods are exported by a country to another country at a price lower than the price it normally charges in its own home market.
 - ◆ This is an unfair trade practice which can have a distortive effect on international trade.
- Imposition of **Anti-dumping duty** is a measure to **rectify the situation arising out of the dumping** of goods and its trade distortive effect. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- **Different from Countervailing Duties:**
 - ◆ ADD is a customs duty on imports providing a protection against the dumping of goods at prices substantially lower than the normal value whereas **Countervailing duty** is a customs duty on goods that have received government subsidies in the originating or exporting country.
- In the long-term, anti-dumping duties **can reduce the international competition of domestic companies** producing similar goods.
 - ◆ It is a **protectionist tariff that a domestic government imposes** on foreign imports that it believes are priced below fair market value.
 - ◆ The use of anti-dumping measures as an instrument of fair competition is **permitted by the World Trade Organisation.** Hence, statement 2 is correct.

40. Ans: D

Exp:

- The **Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY)** is a 100% **centrally sponsored scheme** which is being implemented with the objective of reducing maternal and infant mortality by promoting institutional delivery among pregnant women. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan (PMSMA) has been launched to focus on conducting special AnteNatal Check-ups (ANC) checkup on 9th of every month with the help of Medical officers to detect and treat cases of anaemia.
- Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) is a maternity benefit programme being implemented in all districts of the country with effect from 1st January, 2017.
- **LaQshya (Labor room Quality Improvement Initiative)** intended to improve the quality of care in the labor room and maternity operation theatres in public health facilities. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The goal of **Poshan Abhiyaan** is to **achieve improvement in the nutritional status** of Children (0-6 years) and **Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers** in a time-bound manner. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

41. Ans: B

Exp:

- Recently, the Ministry of Education's innovation cell released the **Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIIA) 2021.**
- The very first edition of ARIIA started in 2019.
- It is a joint **initiative of the Ministry of Education and All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE)** to systematically rank all the major higher educational institutions and universities in India on indicators related to **"Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development"** amongst students and faculties. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ More than quantity, **ARIIA focuses on quality of innovations** and tries to measure the real impact created by these innovations nationally and internationally.
- The rankings were made under two categories: **Technical and Non-Technical.** **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - ◆ The technical category included 5 sub-categories-
 - Central Funded Technical Institutes (CFTIs), Central University, & Institute of National Importance

- State University & Deemed University (Govt. & Govt. Aided)
- Govt. College/Institution (Govt. & Govt. Aided)
- University & Deemed University (Self-Finance/Private)
- Private College/Institute (Self-Finance/Private)
- ◆ The non technical category included two sub-categories-
 - Central Funded Institutes (CFIs)/Central University/Institute of National Importance (Non-Technical)
 - General (Non-Technical).

42. Ans: D

Exp:

- **Small Farmers' Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC)** was established in 1994 **under Societies Registration Act, 1860 as an autonomous body** promoted by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ It aims to promote agribusiness by encouraging institutional and private sector investments and linkages to ensure the empowerment of all farmers in the country.
- **Few Important Schemes Implemented by SFAC** include Equity Grant & Credit Guarantee Fund (EGCGF) Scheme, Venture Capital Assistance (VCA) Scheme, **Farmer Producer Organization (FPO) Scheme**, National Agriculture Market (NAM) Scheme, etc. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- SFAC also launched the Kisan Rath app with the help of officials of the Ministry of Agriculture to reduce the problem of transport of farm produce during lockdown.

43. Ans: B

Exp:

- **Atmanirbhar Bharat Rojgar Yojana (ABRY)** was launched in November 2020 to **boost employment in the formal sector** and incentivize creation of new employment opportunities during the Covid-19 recovery phase under Atmanirbhar Bharat Package 3.0. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- It provides **subsidy for provident fund contribution** for adding new employees to establishments registered with the Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO). **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**



44. Ans: B

Exp:

- **Project Sunrise** launched by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in 2016, to **tackle the rising HIV prevalence** in north-eastern states in India, especially among people injecting drugs.
- It will be implemented in the North East in addition to the existing projects of the National AIDS Control Organization (NACO).
- **Hence, option B is correct.**

45. Ans: B

Exp:

- The Phase I of **Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY-I)** was launched in May 2016 to **provide LPG (liquefied petroleum gas) connections to poor households.**
 - ◆ **PMUY-II** was launched in August 2021 and is aimed to **provide maximum benefit to the migrants** who live in other states and find it difficult to submit address proof.
 - Now they will only have to give “Self Declaration” to avail the benefit.
- The scheme provides a financial support of Rs 1600 for each LPG connection to the BPL households.
 - ◆ Along with a deposit-free LPG connection, Ujjwala 2.0 will provide the first refill and a hotplate free of cost to the beneficiaries.
- The Nodal Ministry for the Ujjwala scheme is the **Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG).**
- **Hence, option B is correct.**

46. Ans: C

Exp:

- Recently, the **Ministry of Education** launched various initiatives under **Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat (EBSB)** to commemorate **Rashtriya Ekta Diwas.**
- **Bhasha Sangam** is an initiative of the **Ministry of Education** under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat, to **teach basic sentences of everyday usage in 22 Indian languages (Eight Schedule languages).** Hence, **statement 1 is not correct but statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ It is **developed by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT).** Hence, **statement 3 is correct.**
 - ◆ The idea is that people should **acquire basic conversational skills in an Indian language other than their mother tongue.**
 - It is available on **DIKSHA, ePathshala** and through 22 booklets.

- ◆ Other initiatives launched include **Bhasha Sangam Mobile App** and the **Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat (EBSB) Quiz App.**

47. Ans: C

Exp:

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) gave its approval for continuation of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana-I and II (PMGSY-I and II) upto September, 2022 for completion of balance road and bridge works.
- It is a **Centrally Sponsored Scheme**, launched in the year 2000 to provide connectivity to eligible unconnected habitations of 500+ in plain areas and 250+ in North-East and Himalayan states as per census 2001. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- The Scheme also **included a component of upgradation** of existing rural roads for those districts where all the eligible habitations had been saturated. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

48. Ans: A

Exp:

About Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana (Gramin):

- To achieve the objective of **“Housing for All” by 2022**, the erstwhile rural housing scheme Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) was restructured to PMAY-G w.e.f 1st April 2016. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- **Implementing Ministry:** Ministry of Rural Development. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- **Aim:** To **provide a pucca house with basic amenities to all rural families**, who are homeless or living in kutcha or dilapidated houses **by the end of March 2022.**
 - ◆ To **help rural people Below the Poverty Line (BPL) in construction of dwelling units** and upgradation of existing unserviceable kutcha houses by providing assistance in the form of a full grant.
- **Beneficiaries:** People belonging to SCs/STs, freed bonded labourers and non-SC/ST categories, widows or next-of-kin of defence personnel killed in action, ex servicemen and retired members of the paramilitary forces, disabled persons and minorities. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

49. Ans: A

Exp:

- Recently, the Indian Railways has announced the new scheme ‘Bharat Gaurav’ to tap the huge potential of tourism. **Hence, option A is correct.**
- Under the scheme, now trains have a third segment for tourism. Till now, the Railways had passenger segments and goods segments.

- These trains are not regular trains that will run as per a timetable but will be more on the lines of the Ramayana Express being run by the IRCTC.

50. Ans: C

Exp:

- It pertains to the atmospheric science programs of the **Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES)** and addresses different aspects of weather and climate services. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The scheme will provide **improved weather, climate and ocean forecast and services. This would include warnings for cyclones, storm surges, heat waves and thunderstorms. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The whole process from generation of forecast to its delivery requires considerable manpower at every stage, thereby generating employment opportunities for many people.

51 .Ans: A

Exp:

- Recently, the **Department of Biotechnology (DBT)-National Brain Research Centre (DBT-NBRC) has developed Project SWADESH, for managing Neurological disorders.**
 - ◆ It is the **first large-scale multimodal neuroimaging database** designed specifically for the Indian population with big-data architecture and analytics for various disease categories under one platform.
 - ◆ It proposes a big-data architecture that manages and analyzes six modules, namely **neurodegenerative** [AD, Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI), and **Parkinson's disease (PD)**], **neuropsychiatric** (schizophrenia and bipolar disorder), **neurodevelopmental** (autism and epilepsy), **Covid-19-related disorders, other disorders, and healthy subjects.**
- **Hence, option A is correct.**

52. Ans: B

Exp:

- The **Ministry of Jal Shakti along with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** has launched the River Cities Alliance (RCA). **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- It is a dedicated platform for river cities in India to ideate, discuss and exchange information for sustainable management of urban rivers. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

53. Ans: A

Exp:

- Recently, the **West Bengal government launched the 'Duare Ration' (ration at doorstep) scheme** for

providing food grains under the Public Distribution System (PDS) at the doorstep for the entire population of the State.

- **Hence, option A is correct.**

54. Ans: B

Exp:

- The **Digital India Land Records Modernisation Programme (DILRMP)** is a **Central Sector scheme** that has been extended up to 2020-21 at a total cost of Rs. 950 crores. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- It is being implemented by the **Department of Land Resources (Ministry of Rural Development)**. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- It attempts to build upon the commonalities that exist in the arena of land records in various States to develop an appropriate Integrated Land Information Management System (ILIMS) across the country, on which different States can also add State-specific needs as they may deem relevant and appropriate.
- New initiatives have been taken under the program like the National Generic Document Registration System (NGDRS), ULPIN, linking of revenue courts to land records, integration of consent based Aadhar numbers with land records etc.

55. Ans: D

Exp:

- It is a nationwide survey of rural education and learning outcomes in terms of reading and arithmetic skills that has been **conducted by the NGO Pratham** for the last 15 years. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- It is well regarded for the range of insights it provides on levels of **foundational learning at the elementary level. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

56. Ans: D

Exp:

- The **Swarna Jayanti Fellowships scheme** was instituted by the Government of India **to commemorate India's fiftieth year of Independence (1997).**
- It provides **special assistance and support to a selected number of young scientists** with a proven track record to enable them to pursue basic research in frontier areas of science and technology. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The award consists of a **Fellowship of Rs. 25000 per month** in addition to the salary drawn from the parent Institute along with a Research Grant of **Rs. 5 lakh per annum by Department of Science and Technology (DST)** for a period of 5 years.



- Scientists selected for the award are allowed to pursue unfettered research with freedom and flexibility in terms of expenditure as approved in the research plan.
 - ◆ The **project should contain innovative research ideas and it should have a potential of making an impact on R&D** in the discipline.
- The projects submitted by the selected Fellows are considered for funding by the **Science & Engineering Research Board (SERB)** as per SERB norms. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ **SERB is a statutory body** under the Department of Science and Technology, established by an Act of the Parliament of India in 2009. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

57. Ans: D

Exp:

- Recently, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has developed the Senior Able Citizens for Re-Employment in Dignity (**SACRED**) Portal.
 - ◆ Citizens above 60 years of age can register on the portal and find jobs and work opportunities.
 - ◆ The Employment Portal will serve not only the senior citizens seeking employment, but also the employers, the Self Help Groups (SHGs), the senior citizens gaining skills, and other agencies or individuals.
- **Other Recent Initiatives:**
 - ◆ **Elder Line:** The first Pan-India toll-free helpline number (14567) for Senior Citizens.
 - ◆ **SAGE (Seniorcare Aging Growth Engine) Portal:** It will be a “one-stop access” of elderly care products and services by credible start-ups.
- **Hence, option D is correct.**

58. Ans: C

Exp:

- The Palk Bay scheme, also called “The Diversification Of Trawl Fishing Boats From Palk Straits Into Deep Sea Fishing Boats”, was **launched in 2017** as a **Centrally Sponsored Scheme**.
- It is a **Tamil Nadu-specific scheme** aimed at providing 2,000 vessels in three years to fishermen of the State and motivating them to abandon bottom trawling. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- It was launched as **part of the umbrella Blue Revolution Scheme**. The Blue Revolution is part of the Government’s efforts to promote fishing as an allied activity for farmers in order to double their incomes. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

- Another **objective of the scheme is to “reduce fishing pressure”** around the proximity of the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) so that Tamil Nadu fishermen do not cross the IMBL and fish in Sri Lankan waters.

59. Ans: B

Exp:

- Recently, the government has launched the phase-II of **Mahatma Gandhi National Fellowship under SANKALP** (Skill Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood Promotion) programme. **Hence Statement 1 is correct.**
- It is a **two-year long fellowship** programme conceived to **create opportunities for young, dynamic individuals to contribute to enhancing skill development** at the grassroots. **Hence Statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ It seeks to combine classroom sessions by academic partner IIMs with an intensive field immersion at the district level to create credible plans and identify barriers in raising employment, economic output, and promote livelihoods in rural areas.
 - ◆ The sharp focus on developing skills for local needs gives impetus to the “vocal for local”, and also building an industry-relevant skill base will help the cause of “Atmanirbhar Bharat”.
- Fellows have to be in the 21-30 years age-group, **have a graduation degree from a recognized university** and be citizens of India. **Hence Statement 3 is not correct.**
 - ◆ Proficiency in official language of the state of fieldwork will be mandatory.

60. Ans: A

Exp:

- **Mental Healthcare Act, 2017:** It aims to provide mental healthcare services for persons with mental illness.
- **KIRAN:** The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has launched a **24/7 toll-free helpline to provide support to people facing anxiety, stress, depression, suicidal thoughts and other mental health concerns.**
- **Manodarpan Initiative:** It is an initiative of the Ministry of Education under Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan. It is **aimed to provide psychosocial support to students, family members and teachers for their mental health and well-being during the times of Covid-19.**
- **Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan** is a scheme which aims to **make India a friendlier country for differently-abled persons**. Under this scheme the government takes necessary actions to make all the public places accessible for physically-challenged individuals.
- **Hence, option A is correct.**

61. Ans: A

Exp:

- Recently, the **Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME)** has launched an **e-National Level Awareness Programme SAMBHAV**.
- It is a mass outreach programme under the Ministry of MSME in which students from different colleges/ITIs from all parts of the country will be encouraged by 130 field offices of the Ministry to take up entrepreneurship.
 - ◆ During the campaign the college students will be made aware of the various schemes being implemented by the Ministry of MSME through Audio/Video film presentations.
- Objective is to promote **engagement of the youth in promoting entrepreneurship**, boost domestic manufacturing with a view to push economic growth. **Hence, option A is correct.**

62. Ans: D

Exp:

- **Swadesh Darshan**, a Central Sector Scheme, was launched in 2014 -15 for integrated development of theme based tourist circuits in the country.
 - ◆ This scheme is envisioned to synergise with other schemes like Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Skill India, Make in India etc.
- Under the scheme, the Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance (CFA) to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for infrastructure development of circuits.
- **Tourism Circuits:** Under the scheme, **fifteen thematic circuits have been identified for promotion-**

◆ Buddhist Circuit	◆ Ramayana Circuit
◆ Coastal Circuit	◆ Rural Circuit
◆ Desert Circuit	◆ Spiritual Circuit
◆ Eco Circuit	◆ Sufi Circuit
◆ Heritage Circuit	◆ Tirthankar Circuit
◆ Himalayan Circuit	◆ Tribal Circuit
◆ Krishna Circuit	◆ Wildlife Circuit.
◆ North East Circuit	
- **Hence, option D is correct.**

63. Ans: D

Exp:

- The Prime Minister on Shikshak Parv, 2021, launched multiple key initiatives in the education sector. The initiatives include:
 - ◆ NISHTHA Teachers' Training programme for NIPUN Bharat:

- NISHTHA is a capacity building programme for improving the quality of school education through integrated teacher training.
- NIPUN (National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy) Bharat Scheme was launched to **create an enabling environment to ensure universal acquisition of foundational literacy and numeracy**, so that every child achieves the desired learning competencies in reading, writing and numeracy by the end of Grade 3, by 2026-27. **Hence, Pair 1 is not correctly matched.**
- ◆ Vidyanjali 2.0 Portal: For facilitating education volunteers, donors and CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) contributors for school development.
 - **Vidyanjali Scheme** is one of the innovative schemes that focus towards the **improvement of literacy by offering volunteer teachers in government schools**. It was launched in 2017. **Hence, Pair 2 is not correctly matched.**

- To mark the first anniversary of NEP 2020, the Prime Minister launched:
 - ◆ Vidya Pravesh, a three month play based school preparation module for Grade 1 students
 - ◆ Indian Sign Language as a Subject at secondary level
 - ◆ NISHTHA 2.0, an integrated programme of teacher training designed by NCERT
 - ◆ **SAFAL** (Structured Assessment For Analyzing Learning Levels), a **competency based assessment framework** for Grades 3, 5 and 8 in CBSE schools. **Hence, Pair 3 is not correctly matched.**

64. Ans: A

Exp:

- **'Connect Karo 2021'** - Towards Equitable, Sustainable Indian Cities' Event is part of a global series of events that World Resources Institute (WRI) India organizes and hosts, to bring together Indian and global leaders, and other stakeholders **committed towards designing inclusive, sustainable and climate forward Indian cities**.
 - ◆ WRI India is an independent charity, legally registered as the India Resources Trust.
- Connect Karo sees presenters from various fields — air pollution, electric mobility, urban planning, urban water resilience, climate mitigation, and public transit among others — sharing their insights and research findings.
- **Hence, option A is correct.**



65. Ans: A

Exp:

- Recently, NITI Aayog and Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) and RMI India's have launched the **Shoonya Campaign**. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.
- The campaign aims to **accelerate adoption of Electric Vehicles (EVs) in the urban deliveries segment** and create **consumer awareness** about the benefits of zero-pollution delivery. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- A **corporate branding and certification programme** is being launched to recognise and promote industry's efforts towards transitioning to EVs for final-mile deliveries.
 - ◆ It will help e-commerce companies to distinguish their offerings from those of their competitors.
- An online tracking platform will share the campaign's impact through data such as vehicle kilometers electrified, carbon savings, criteria pollutant savings and other benefits from clean delivery vehicles.

66. Ans: A

Exp:

- Recently, the **Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) launched the SPIN** (Strengthening the Potential of India) scheme to make potters self-sustainable.
 - ◆ Under SPIN, KVIC will **facilitate potters to get easy loans from banks** that will help the potters to diversify their activities and enhance their income. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- SPIN is aimed at sustainable development by creating local self-employment which is aligned with the Prime Minister's commitment of "Job to Every Hand" (Har Hath Me Kaam).
 - ◆ It is a no-subsidy program.
- KVIC facilitates potters to get bank loans under **Pradhan Mantri Shishu Mudra Yojana**. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.

67. Ans: B

Exp:

Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission:

- It aims to **provide digital health IDs for all Indian citizens** to help hospitals, insurance firms, and citizens access health records electronically when required. Hence **statement 1 is not correct**.
- The pilot project of the Mission had been announced by the Prime Minister from the ramparts of the Red Fort on 15th August 2020.
- The project is being implemented in the pilot phase in six States & Union Territories.

- The health IDs will be issued for every citizen that will also work as their health account. This health account will contain **details of every test, every disease, the doctors visited, the medicines taken** and the diagnosis. Hence **statement 2 is correct**.
- Health ID is free of cost, voluntary. It will help in doing analysis of health data and lead to better planning, budgeting and implementation for health programs.

68. Ans: D

Exp:

- The **Prime Minister POSHAN scheme or PM-POSHAN**, is the Government of India's flagship programme to improve nutritional outcomes for children, pregnant women and lactating mothers.
 - ◆ The scheme will replace the existing national programme for mid-day meal in schools or Mid-day Meal Scheme.
- Under this scheme, the government has launched various initiatives to tackle malnutrition. For example:
 - ◆ **Nutritional Gardens:**
 - The government will **promote nutritional gardens** in schools. The gardens are being provided **to offer additional micro-nutrients to students**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
 - ◆ **Supplementary Nutrition:**
 - The new scheme has a provision for **supplementary nutrition for children in aspirational districts** and those with a high prevalence of **anaemia**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
 - ◆ **Tithi Bhojan Concept:**
 - The concept of **TithiBhojan** will be encouraged extensively.
 - TithiBhojan is a **community participation programme** in which people provide special food to children on special occasions/festivals.
 - Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.

69. Ans: C

Exp:

- MPLAD is a **Central Sector Scheme** that was announced in **December 1993**.
 - ◆ The objective of the scheme is to enable the Members of Parliament (MP) to suggest and **execute developmental works of capital nature based on locally felt needs** with an emphasis on the creation of durable assets. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.

- Initially, it came under the control of the **Ministry of Rural Development**. Later, in October 1994, it was transferred to the **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- Under MPLADs, funds released to district authorities are **not lapsable**, while funds not released by the government in a particular year are carried forward. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.

70. Ans: C

Exp:

- Under the scheme, the Centre transfers an amount of Rs 6,000 per year, in three equal instalments, directly into the bank accounts of **all landholding farmers irrespective of the size of their landholdings**. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
 - ◆ It was launched in February 2019.
- It is a **Central Sector Scheme with 100% funding** from the Government of India. However, The entire responsibility of identification of beneficiary farmer families rests with the State/UT Governments. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- It is being implemented by the **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare**. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.

71. Ans: C

Exp:

- Recently, the **Ministry for Social Justice and Empowerment** has launched an **online portal TAPAS (Training for Augmenting Productivity and Services)**.
 - ◆ It **offers various courses in the field of social defence for the capacity building of stakeholders**. It is an initiative of National Institute of Social Defense (NISD).
 - ◆ It is a standard **MOOC (Massive Open Online Course)** platform with course material such as filmed lectures and e-study material.
- The platform has been made with a quadrant approach of Video, Text, Self Assessment and Discussions.
 - ◆ The five basic courses are on **Drug (Substance) Abuse Prevention, Geriatric/Elderly Care, Care and Management of Dementia, Transgender Issues** and on **comprehensive course on Social Defence Issues**.
- **Other Digital Learning initiatives:**
 - ◆ **SWAYAM:** Study Webs of Active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds (SWAYAM), was launched by the Ministry of Education to provide one integrated platform and portal for online courses.
 - ◆ **SWAYAM Prabha:** It is an initiative of the Ministry of Education to provide 32 High Quality

Educational Channels through DTH across the length and breadth of the country on a 24X7 basis.

- ◆ **NEAT:** It aims to use Artificial Intelligence to make learning more personalized and customized as per the requirements of the learner.

- Hence, **option C is correct**.

72. Ans: B

Expl:

- The Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM) has **provision for the decentralised renewable energy plants, Solar agriculture water pumps and solarisation of existing Grid connected Agriculture pumps**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- As **farmers will be less dependent on subsidized electricity**, the PM KUSUM scheme will support the financial health of electricity distribution companies (DISCOMs) by reducing the burden of subsidy to the agriculture sector. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- The scheme was **launched by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) in 2019**. Hence, **statement 3 is not correct**.

73. Ans: C

Exp:

- The Scheme of Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS) formerly known as Shramik Vidyapeeth was a unique creation of the Government of India and has been implemented through Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) in the country since 1967.
 - ◆ The scheme was renamed as JSS in 2000.
- It was transferred from the Ministry of Education (erstwhile Ministry of Human Resource Development) to the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship in July, 2018.
- The JSSs are imparting vocational skill training programmes at the door step of the beneficiaries with a minimum cost and infrastructure. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- JSSs are unique in the sense that they do not provide only vocational skills but also include an element of life skills which can help the beneficiary in day to day life.
- The priority groups are women, Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, minorities and other backward sections of the society.
- It is implemented through NGOs with 100% grants from the Government of India. JSSs are registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

- The affairs of Jan Shikshan Sansthan are managed by the respective Board of Management approved by the Government of India.
- Scope of Work of JSS: Develop/Source appropriate curriculum and training modules covering vocational elements, general awareness and life enrichment components.

74. Ans: A

Exp:

- Recently, the **Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY)** has launched the 'Start-up Accelerators of MeitY for pProduct Innovation, Development and growth (SAMRIDH)' programme. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The programme aims to create a conducive platform to **Indian Software Product start-ups** to enhance their products and secure investments for scaling their business. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- Being implemented by **MeitY Start-up Hub (MSH)**.
 - ◆ MSH acts as a national coordination, facilitation and monitoring centre that will integrate all the incubation centres, start-ups and innovation related activities of MeitY.
- Also, aims to further the Indian start-up growth which has seen the emergence of 63 unicorns and is now the third largest unicorn hub globally with a total valuation of USD 168 billion.

75. Ans: B

Exp:

- Under the **PM Kisan Scheme**, the Centre transfers an amount of Rs 6,000 per year, in three equal instalments, directly into the bank accounts of all landholding farmers irrespective of the size of their land holdings.
 - ◆ It was launched in February 2019.
- It is a **Central Sector Scheme** with 100% funding from the Government of India. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **Objectives:**
 - ◆ To supplement the **financial needs of the Small and Marginal Farmers** in procuring various inputs to ensure proper crop health and appropriate yields, commensurate with the anticipated farm income at the end of each crop cycle. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ To protect them from falling in the clutches of moneylenders for meeting such expenses and ensure their continuance in the farming activities.
- The **entire responsibility of identification** of beneficiary farmer families rests with the **State/UT Governments**. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

76. Ans.: D

Exp.:

- The Umbrella Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) is a **centrally sponsored scheme (not central sector)** implemented by the Ministry of Women and Child Development. It was launched in 1975. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- **Objectives of ICDS:**
 - ◆ To improve the **nutritional and health status of children in the age-group 0-6 years.**
 - ◆ To lay the foundation for proper psychological, physical and social development of the child.
 - ◆ To reduce the incidence of mortality, morbidity, malnutrition and school dropout.
 - ◆ To achieve effective coordination of policy and implementation amongst the various departments to promote child development.
 - ◆ To enhance the capability of the mother to look after the normal health and nutritional needs of the child.
 - ◆ To facilitate, educate and empower Adolescent Girls (AGs) so as to enable them to become self-reliant and aware citizens.
- It is clear that the objective of the scheme is not only to improve the nutritional and health status of children in the age-group 0-6 years, **but also other aspects related to child and maternal health**. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**

77. Ans.: B

Exp.:

- Recently, the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying has launched the **Online Course Mobile App "Matsya Setu"** for fish farmers. It aims to disseminate the latest freshwater aquaculture technologies to the aqua farmers of the country, thus increasing productivity and income.
 - ◆ **Shaphari is a certification scheme for aquaculture products** developed by the Marine Products Exports Development Authority (MPEDA) based on the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization's technical guidelines on aquaculture certification. Shaphari is a Sanskrit word that means superior quality of fishery products suitable for human consumption. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- Aquaculture is breeding, raising, and harvesting fish, shellfish, and aquatic plants. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

78. Ans: C

Exp:

- The 'Sankalp Se Siddhi' initiative, also known as 'Mission Van Dhan', was introduced by the central government in 2021, in line with the Prime Minister's aim to establish a sustainable livelihood for India's tribal population. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Through this mission, **TRIFED aims to expand its operation through convergence of various schemes of different ministries and departments** and launch various tribal development programmes in mission mode.
- Through this mission, establishment of several Van Dhan Vikas Kendras (VDVKs), haat bazaars, mini TRIFOOD units, common facility centres, TRIFOOD parks, SFRUTI (Scheme of Fund for regeneration of traditional industries) clusters, tribes india retail store, e-commerce platform for trifoood and tribes, India brands are being targeted.
- The **Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED)** has been implementing several noteworthy programmes for the empowerment of the tribals. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ The Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED) came into existence in 1987.
 - ◆ It is a national-level apex organization functioning under the administrative control of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
 - ◆ The ultimate objective of TRIFED is socio-economic development of tribal people in the country by way of marketing development of the tribal products such as metal craft, tribal textiles, pottery, tribal paintings and pottery on which the tribals depend heavily for a major portion of their income.

79. Ans: B

Exp:

- Recently, the **Union Ministry of Education** and the **Ministry of Tribal Affairs** have jointly launched the **School Innovation Ambassador Training Program (SIATP)**. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - ◆ The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has launched an Adi-Prashikshan portal which is also a repository of training inputs.
- The innovative and one-of-its-kind training **program for school teachers aims at training 50,000 school teachers** in innovation, entrepreneurship, **Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)**, design thinking, **product**

development, idea generation, among others. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

- ◆ It will make Indian teachers, change-agents and ambassadors of innovation to make our students future-ready.
- It has been designed by the Innovation Cell of the Ministry of Education and the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) for school teachers based on its Innovation Ambassador Training Program for Higher Educational Institution's faculty members.
 - ◆ The training will be **delivered in online mode only**. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

80 Ans: C

Exp:

- **Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK)** is an agricultural extension center in India. Usually associated with a local agricultural university, these centers serve as the ultimate link between the ICAR and farmers, and aim to apply agricultural research in a practical, localized setting.
 - ◆ It is an integral part of the **National Agricultural Research System (NARS)**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ The first KVK was established in 1974 at Puducherry.
- The mandate of KVK is technology assessment and demonstration for its application and capacity development.
 - ◆ KVKs also produce quality technological products (seed, planting material, bio-agents, livestock) and make it available to farmers.
- The **KVK scheme is 100% financed by the Government of India** and the KVKs are sanctioned to Agricultural Universities, ICAR institutes, related Government Departments and Non Government Organizations (NGOs) working in Agriculture. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

81. Ans: C

Exp:

- The **Midday meal scheme** (under the Ministry of Education) is a **Centrally Sponsored Scheme** which was launched in 1995. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - ◆ It is the world's largest school meal programme aimed to attain the goal of universalization of primary education.
- The scheme provides cooked meals to every child within the age group of six to fourteen years studying in classes I to VIII who enrolls and attends the school.



- ◆ AGMARK quality items are procured, tasting of meals by two or three adult members of the school management committee.
- If the Mid-Day Meal is not provided in school on any school day due to non-availability of food grains or any other reason, the **State Government shall pay food security allowance** by 15th of the succeeding month. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
 - ◆ Cooked meal having nutritional standards of 450 calories and 12 gm of protein for primary (I-V class) and 700 calories and 20 gm protein for upper primary (VI-VIII class)
- **All government and government aided schools, Madarsa and Maqtabs supported under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)** are covered under the Midday Meal Scheme. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

82. Ans: D

Exp:

- Sedition law was **originally drafted in 1837 by Thomas Macaulay**, the British historian-politician, but was inexplicably omitted when the Indian Penal Code (IPC) was enacted in 1860. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Sedition is a **non-bailable offence**. Punishment under the **Section 124A** ranges from imprisonment up to three years to a life term, to which fine may be added. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The Supreme Court in **KedarNath case** said “a statute criminalising expression based on unconstitutionally vague definitions of ‘disaffection towards Government’ etc. is an unreasonable restriction on the fundamental right to free expression guaranteed under Article 19 (1) (a) and **causes constitutionally impermissible ‘Chilling Effect’ on speech**”. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

83. Ans: C

Exp:

Provisions of Indian Constitution related to Cooperatives:

- The **Constitution (97th Amendment) Act, 2011** added a new **Part IXB** right after Part IXA (Municipals) regarding the cooperatives working in India.
- The word “cooperatives” was added after **“unions and associations”** in **Art. 19(1)(c) under Part III of the Constitution**. This enables all the citizens to form cooperatives by giving it the status of fundamental right of citizens. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **Article 43B** was added in the Directive Principles of State Policy (Part IV) regarding the “promotion of cooperative societies”. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **Entry 32 of the State List: Incorporation, regulation and winding up of corporations**, other than those

specified in List I, and universities; unincorporated trading, literary, scientific, religious and other societies and associations; co-operative societies.

84. Ans: D

Exp:

- Recently, “Aiming for Sustainable Habitat: New Initiatives in Building Energy Efficiency 2021” was launched by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE).
 - ◆ These initiatives seek to enhance energy efficiency in the building sector and were **launched as part of ‘Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav’**. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- **Initiatives Launched:**
- **Eco Niwas Samhita 2021:** It is an **Energy Conservation Building Code for Residential Buildings (ECBC-R)** to give a further fillip to India’s energy conservation efforts. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ It specifies code compliance approaches and minimum energy performance requirements for building services, and verification framework with Eco Niwas Samhita 2021.
- **Hand Book for Learning:** The web-based platform ‘The Handbook of Replicable Designs for Energy Efficient Residential Buildings’ as a learning tool, which can be used to create a pool of ready-to-use resources of replicable designs to construct energy-efficient homes in India.
- **Online Directory of Building Materials:** Creating an Online Directory of Building Materials that would envisage the process of establishing standards for energy efficient building materials.
- **NEERMAN Awards:** NEERMAN Awards, (National Energy Efficiency Roadmap for Movement towards Affordable & Natural Habitat) were announced, with the goal of **encouraging exceptionally efficient building designs complying with BEE’s Energy Conservation Building Codes**. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

85. Ans: A

Exp:

- **Mission Purvodaya** was launched in 2020 for the accelerated development of eastern India through the **establishment of an integrated steel hub in Kolkata, West Bengal**.
 - ◆ The focus will be on eastern states of India (Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal) and northern part of Andhra Pradesh which collectively hold ~80% of the country’s iron ore, ~100% of coking coal and significant portion of chromite, bauxite and dolomite reserves.



- The Integrated Steel Hub would focus on 3 key elements:
 - ◆ Capacity addition through easing the setup of Greenfield steel plants.
 - ◆ Development of steel clusters near integrated steel plants as well as demand centres.
 - ◆ Transformation of logistics and utilities infrastructure which would change the socio-economic landscape in the East.
- The objective of this hub would be to enable swift capacity addition and improve overall competitiveness of steel producers both in terms of cost and quality.
- Hence, option A is correct.

86. Ans: C

Exp:

- Recently, a new capacity building initiative on 'Making water sensitive cities in Ganga basin' was launched by the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) in association with Centre for Science and Environment (CSE). Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- The aim of the program is capacity building and action research for promoting sustainable urban water management for improved river health in Ganga basin cities.
- Key Focus Areas:
 - ◆ Water Sensitive Urban Design and Planning.
 - ◆ Urban Water Efficiency and Conservation.
 - ◆ Decentralized Wastewater Treatment and Local Reuse.
 - ◆ Urban Groundwater Management.
 - ◆ Urban Water Bodies/Lake Management.
- Convergence Efforts: This initiative is aimed to ensure convergence of the Namami Gange Mission with national flagship urban missions. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
 - ◆ AMRUT, Smart Cities, Swachh Bharat Mission, HRIDAY, NULM.
 - ◆ Atal Bhujal Yojana, Jal Jeevan Mission, Jal Shakti Abhiyan at state/city level across Ganga basin states.

87. Ans: A

Exp:

- Recently, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has formulated a scheme "SMILE - Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise".
- It is a new Scheme after the merger of existing Schemes for Beggars and Transgenders.

- The scheme provides for the use of the existing shelter homes available with the State/UT Governments and Urban local bodies for rehabilitation of the persons engaged in the act of Begging.
 - ◆ In case of non-availability of existing shelter homes, new dedicated shelter homes are to be set up by the implementing agencies.
- The focus of the scheme is extensively on rehabilitation, provision of medical facilities, counselling, basic documentation, education, skill development, economic linkages and so on.
 - ◆ It is estimated that an approximate 60,000 poorest persons would be benefited under this scheme for leading a life of dignity.
- SMILE will be implemented with the support of State/UT Governments/Local Urban Bodies, Voluntary Organizations, Community Based Organizations (CBOs), institutions and others.
- Hence, option A is correct.

88. Ans: B

Exp:

- Horticulture Cluster Development Programme (HCDP) is a central sector programme aimed at growing and developing identified horticulture clusters to make them globally competitive. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
 - ◆ Horticulture cluster is a regional/geographical concentration of targeted horticulture crops.
- The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has launched the Horticulture Cluster Development Programme (CDP) in order to promote the export of horticultural produce. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- India is the second-largest producer of horticulture crops globally, accounting for approximately 12% of the world's production of fruits and vegetables. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.
 - ◆ India is a leader in producing fruits like Mango, Banana, Pomegranate, Sapota, Acid Lime and Aonla.

89. Ans: C

Exp:

- Employees' Provident Funds (EPF) Scheme is the main scheme under the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Act, 1952. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
 - ◆ It offers the institution of provident funds for factory employees and other establishments.
- The employee and employer each contribute 12% of the employee's basic salary and dearness allowance towards EPF. Hence, statement 2 is correct.



- ◆ The Economic Survey 2016-17 had suggested that employees be allowed to choose whether or not to save 12% of their salary into EPF or keep it as take home pay.

- As per current laws, a person mandatorily becomes a member of EPF if his monthly salary does not exceed Rs. 15,000. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

90. Ans: A

Exp:

- The idea of **One Nation One Standard Mission** was first conceived in 2019, it was envisioned on the line of one nation, one ration card scheme in **order to ensure quality products in the country. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Recently, the Research Design & Standards Organization (RDSO) of Indian Railways has become the first Institution to be declared a Standard Developing Organization (SDO) under One Nation One Standard mission of **Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)**
 - ◆ To attain the One Nation One Standard vision of the Government of India, **Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)** launched a scheme which provides for Recognition of SDO.
 - ◆ The recognition is valid for 3 years and will require renewal after completion of the validity period.
 - ◆ **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

91. Ans: C

Expl:

- **Mega Food Park Scheme** was launched in 2008-09 to give a major boost to the food processing sector by adding value and reducing food wastage at each stage of the supply chain with a particular focus on perishables.
 - ◆ The **Ministry of Food Processing Industries** is implementing the Mega Food Park Scheme in the country. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The Scheme is based on the “**Cluster**” approach and envisages creation of state of art support infrastructure in a well-defined agri/horticultural zone for setting up of modern food processing units in the industrial plots provided in the park with a well-established supply chain. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The scheme envisages to provide a mechanism to link agricultural production to the market by bringing together farmers, processors and retailers so as to ensure maximizing value addition, minimizing wastage, increasing farmers income and creating employment opportunities particularly in the rural sector. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

92. Ans: C

Exp:

- Recently, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment virtually launched the **SAGE (Seniorcare Aging Growth Engine) initiative** and SAGE portal for elderly persons. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ An amount of Rs. 100 crore has been assigned for the promotion of the silver economy.
 - ◆ The SAGE portal will be a “one-stop access” of elderly care products and services by credible start-ups.
 - ◆ It has been launched with a view to help such persons who are interested in entrepreneurship in the field of providing services for elderly care.
- **Silver economy** is the system of production, distribution and consumption of goods and services aimed at using the purchasing potential of **older and ageing people and satisfying their consumption**, living and health needs. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ The silver economy is analyzed in the field of social gerontology (study of aging) not as an existing economic system but as an instrument of ageing policy and the political idea of forming a potential, needs-oriented economic system for an aging population.

93. Ans: A

Exp:

- Recently, **NITI Aayog and Piramal Foundation** launched ‘**Surakshit Hum Surakshit Tum Abhiyan**’ in **112 aspirational districts.**
 - ◆ This drive was launched to **assist the administration in providing home care support to Covid-19 patients, who are either asymptomatic or have mild symptoms. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ Most of these districts are in Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Maharashtra.
- The campaign is under a special initiative – Aspirational Districts Collaborative – in which local leaders, civil societies and volunteers will work with the district administrations to address emerging issues across key focus areas of the Aspirational Districts Programme.
- The Aspirational Districts Programme was launched in January 2018, the ‘Transformation of Aspirational Districts’ Programme (TADP).
 - ◆ Aspirational Districts are those districts in India that are affected by poor socio-economic indicators.

- ◆ These are aspirational in the context, that improvement in these districts can lead to the overall improvement in human development in India.
- At the Government of India level, the programme is anchored by NITI Aayog. In addition, individual Ministries have assumed responsibility to drive the progress of districts. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

94. Ans: C

Exp:

- Recently, the Prime Minister of India has announced the 'Young, Upcoming and Versatile Authors' (YUVA) scheme - a mentorship programme to train young authors.
 - ◆ The scheme is aimed at training 75 aspiring writers below 30 years, who are ready to express project India and its culture and literature globally. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
 - ◆ A consolidated scholarship of Rs. 50,000 per month for a period of six months per author will be paid under the mentorship scheme.
- The National Book Trust (under the Ministry of Education) will ensure phase-wise execution of the Scheme. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

95. Ans: B

Exp:

- In the Budget 2021-22, Jal Jeevan Mission (Urban) was announced under the Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- It aims to provide universal coverage of water supply to all households through functional taps in all statutory towns in accordance with Sustainable Development Goal- 6 (clean water and sanitation). Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- Jal Jeevan Mission:
 - ◆ It is an initiative under the Ministry of Jal Shakti, aims to ensure access to piped water for every household in rural India.

96. Ans: C

Exp:

- The Government of India has recently approved the 'National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building – Mission Karmayogi' to effect a transformational shift from rule based training to role-based capacity development of all civil services in the country. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
 - ◆ The Programme also aims to enhance citizen experience for government services and improve availability of competent workforce.

- To effectively roll out this competency driven mission, a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), namely 'Karmayogi Bharat', would be set up as a not-for-profit company. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

- ◆ It will be set up under section 8 of Companies Act, 2013 as a 100% government-owned entity.

- The capacity building will be delivered through iGOT Karmayogi digital platform, with content drawn from global best practices.
- The scheme will cover 46 lakh central government employees, at all levels, and involve an outlay of Rs. 510 crores over a five-year period. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

97. Ans: C

Exp:

- The Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises (PMFME) is a centrally sponsored scheme with an outlay of Rs. 10,000 crore.
 - ◆ The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) is the nodal ministry for the implementation of the scheme. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
 - ◆ The expenditure under the scheme would be shared in 60:40 ratio between Central and State Governments, in 90:10 ratio with North Eastern and Himalayan States, 60:40 ratio with UTs with legislature and 100% by Centre for other UTs
- Financial Assistance Provided by the Scheme:
 - ◆ Upgradation of Individual Micro Food Processing Units: Existing individual micro food processing units desirous of upgrading their units can avail credit-linked capital subsidy at 35% of the eligible project cost with a maximum ceiling of Rs.10 lakh per unit. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
 - ◆ Seed Capital to SHG: Initial funding of Rs. 40,000-per Self Help Group (SHG) member would be provided for working capital and purchase of small tools.

98. Ans: D

Exp:

- The System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting And Research (SAFAR) is a national initiative introduced by the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) to measure the air quality of a metropolitan city, by measuring the overall pollution level and the location-specific air quality of the city. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- The system is indigenously developed by the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune and is operationalized by the India Meteorological Department (IMD). Hence, statement 2 is not correct.



- The ultimate objective of the project is to increase awareness among the general public regarding the air quality in their city so that appropriate mitigation measures and systematic action can be taken up.
 - ◆ SAFAR is an integral part of India's first Air Quality Early Warning System operational in Delhi.
- It monitors all weather parameters like temperature, rainfall, humidity, wind speed, and wind direction, UV radiation, and solar radiation.
- **Pollutants Monitored:** PM2.5, PM10, **Ozone**, Carbon Monoxide (CO), Nitrogen Oxides (NOx), Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂), Benzene, Toluene, Xylene, and **Mercury**. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

99. Ans: A

Exp:

- **Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY)** was launched by the government in 2015 for providing loans up to Rs. 10 lakh to the non-corporate, non-farm small/micro-enterprises. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ MUDRA, stands for **Micro Units Development & Refinance Agency Ltd.**, is a **financial institution set up by the Government**. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- MUDRA provides funding to the non-corporate small business sector through various last-mile financial institutions like Banks, Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) and Micro Finance Institutions (MFIs).
 - ◆ It does **not lend directly** to micro-entrepreneurs/individuals. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
- MUDRA has created three products i.e. 'Shishu', 'Kishore' and 'Tarun' as per the stage of growth and funding needs of the beneficiary micro unit.
 - ◆ Shishu: Covering loans up to Rs. 50,000.
 - ◆ Kishore: Covering loans above Rs. 50,000 and up to Rs. 5 lakh.
 - ◆ Tarun: Covering loans above Rs. 5 lakh and up to Rs. 10 lakh.
 - ◆ Loans under this scheme are collateral-free loans.

100. Ans: B

Exp:

- SVAMITVA stands for Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improved Technology in Village.
- Recently, the **Ministry of Panchayati Raj** has released the new framework for implementation of the SVAMITVA Scheme.
 - ◆ It is a **Central Sector scheme** which was launched nationally on the occasion of National Panchayati Raj Day on 24th April 2021. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- ◆ **Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR)** is a nodal ministry for this scheme. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
- ◆ Survey of India is a Technology Implementation Agency.
- It aims to **provide an integrated property validation solution** for rural India.
- The **demarcation of rural inhabited areas** would be done using Drone survey and CORS (Continuously Operating Reference Stations) Networks which provides mapping accuracy of 5 cms. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- This would provide the 'record of rights' to village household owners possessing houses in inhabited rural areas in villages.
- It will cover around 6.62 Lakh villages of the entire country during 2021-2025.

101. Ans: D

Expl:

- Recently, thirteen states have started distributing foodgrains under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana (PMGKAY).
- **PMGKAY** is a part of Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package (PMGKP) to help the poor fight the battle against Covid-19.
 - ◆ Its nodal Ministry is the **Ministry of Finance**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Initially, the scheme was announced for a three month period (April, May and June 2020), covering 80 crore ration cardholders. Later it was extended till November 2020.
 - ◆ However in April 2021, the government had announced its decision to restart the PMGKAY.
- The scheme is aimed at providing **each person who is covered under the National Food Security Act 2013 with an additional 5 kg grains** (wheat or rice) for free, in addition to the 5 kg of subsidised foodgrain already provided through the Public Distribution System (PDS). **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

102. Ans:A

Exp:

- **Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLAD)** is a Central Sector Scheme. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ It was announced in December 1993 and initially came under the control of the Ministry of Rural Development. Later, in October 1994, it was **transferred to the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation**. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**



- ◆ Each year, MPs receive Rs. 5 crore in two instalments of Rs. 2.5 crore each. Funds under MPLAD Scheme are non-lapsable.

- **Objective:**

- ◆ To enable MPs to recommend works of developmental nature with emphasis on the creation of durable community assets based on the locally felt needs to be taken up in their Constituencies.

- Lok Sabha Members can recommend works within their constituencies and elected Members of Rajya Sabha can recommend works within the State they are elected from.

- **Nominated Members of both the Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha can recommend works anywhere in the country. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

- To create durable assets of national priorities viz. drinking water, primary education, public health, sanitation and roads, etc.
- Since June 2016, the MPLAD funds can also be used for implementation of the schemes such as Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Accessible India Campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan), conservation of water through rain water harvesting and Sansad Aadarsh Gram Yojana, etc.
- The Union Cabinet has given its nod to the temporary suspension of MPLAD Funds during 2020-21 and 2021-22 in view of the adverse impact of the outbreak of Covid-19 in India.

103. Ans: B

Exp:

- The **Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)** is a **Centrally Sponsored Scheme** for the holistic growth of the horticulture sector covering fruits, vegetables, root & tuber crops, mushrooms, spices, flowers, aromatic plants, coconut, cashew, cocoa and bamboo.
 - ◆ The **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** has provided an enhanced allocation of Rs. 2250 Crore for the year 2021-22 for 'Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture' (MIDH).
- The **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** is **implementing MIDH** with effect from 2014-15. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Under MIDH, Government of India (GoI) **contributes 60%** of total outlay for developmental programmes in **all the states except states in North East and Himalayas**, 40% share is contributed by State Governments.

- ◆ In the case of **North Eastern States and Himalayan States**, **GoI contributes 90%. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

- MIDH is implemented under **Green Revolution - Krishonnati Yojana (and not National Horticulture Mission)**. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

- ◆ National Horticulture Mission (NHM) is a sub-scheme under MIDH and is being implemented by State Horticulture Missions (SHM) in selected districts of 18 States and 6 Union Territories.

104. Ans: A

Exp:

- Recently, the Prime Minister released the 8th instalment of financial benefit under **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN)**.

- Under the scheme, the Centre transfers an amount of Rs 6,000 per year, in three equal instalments, directly into the bank accounts of **all landholding farmers irrespective** of the size of their land holdings. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**

- ◆ It was launched in February 2019.

- It is a **Central Sector Scheme with 100% funding from the Government of India**. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

- ◆ It is being implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

- The **entire responsibility of identification of beneficiary farmer families rests** with the State / UT Governments **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

105. Ans: C

Exp:

- The **International Council of Museums (ICOM)** is a membership association and a non-governmental organisation which **establishes professional and ethical standards for museum activities (and not UNESCO)**. It is the only global organisation in the museum field. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**

- ◆ It was created in 1946 and is headquartered in Paris, France.

- ◆ It serves as a network of museum professionals (more than 40,000 members in over 138 countries).

- ◆ The ICOM Red Lists of Cultural Objects at Risk are practical tools to curb the illegal traffic of cultural objects.

- Red Lists present the categories of cultural objects that can be subjected to theft and traffic.

- In India, multiple ministries hold charges of various Museums.
 - ◆ Not all Museums are administered by the Ministry of Culture.
 - ◆ Some are run without government support by a handful of people under a Board of Trustees.
 - ◆ **Article 49 of the DPSP** of Indian Constitution directs the State to protect monuments, places and objects of artistic or historic interest which are declared to be of national importance. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The Ministry of Culture provides financial assistance under the Museum Grant Scheme to the State Governments and Societies, Autonomous bodies, Local Bodies and Trusts registered under the Societies Act, for setting up new Museums.
 - ◆ The **National Portal and Digital Repository for Indian Museums** (under the **Ministry of Culture**) have been launched for **digitisation of the collections of the Museums**. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

106. Ans: B

Exp:

- Recently, the **Ministry of Power** has decided to set up a National Mission on use of Biomass in coal based thermal power plants. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The proposed National Mission on biomass will also contribute to the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP).
- It would further support the energy transition in the country and our targets to move towards cleaner energy sources.
- It will **address the issue of air pollution due to farm stubble burning**. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- It will help **reduce carbon footprints** of thermal power generation. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

107. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Mid-Day-Meal Scheme** is a centrally sponsored scheme which was launched in 1995. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- It is considered as the world's largest school feeding programme aimed to attain the goal of universalization of primary education. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Nodal Ministry for the implementation of the scheme is the **Ministry of Education**. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

108. Ans: A

Exp:

- The Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) provides fully guaranteed and collateral free additional credit to MSMEs, business enterprises, **MUDRA borrowers** and individual loans for business purposes. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- **National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company (NCGTC)** is the guarantee provider under the ECLGS scheme. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
 - ◆ NCGTC is a private limited company incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 in 2014, established by the Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance, as a wholly owned company of the Government of India, to act as a common trustee company for multiple credit guarantee funds.
- Recently, the government has extended the ECLGS until 30th June 2021, and also widened its scope to new sectors; covers business enterprises in **Hospitality, Travel & Tourism**, Leisure & Sporting sectors:
 - ◆ Which had, as on 29th february 2020,
 - ◆ Whose total credit outstanding is not exceeding Rs. 500 crore and overdues, if any, were for 60 days or less. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

109. Ans: D

Exp:

- The **PM-KUSUM** scheme was launched by the **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)** to support installation of off-grid solar pumps in rural areas and reduce dependence on grid, in grid-connected areas. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- The **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA)** had in **February 2019 approved the launch** of the scheme with the objective of providing financial and water security.
- This will enable farmers to set up solar power generation capacity on their barren lands and to sell it to the grid.
- **Components of the PM-KUSUM:**
 - ◆ PM-KUSUM consists of **three components** and aims to add a solar capacity of **30.8 GW by 2022**.
 - ◆ The three components are:
 - **Component-A:** 10,000 MW of decentralised ground-mounted grid-connected renewable power plants.
 - **Component-B:** Installation of two million standalone solar-powered agriculture pumps. It is only one component.

- **Component-C:** Solarisation of 1.5 million grid-connected solar-powered agriculture pumps.

● Hence statement 2 is not correct.

110. Ans: B

Exp:

- Startup India Seed Fund Scheme aims to provide financial assistance to startups for proof of concept, prototype development, product trials, market entry, and commercialization.
- It was launched by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) with an outlay of Rs. 945 Crore. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- **Some Eligibility Conditions:**
 - ◆ startup, recognized by DPIIT, incorporated not more than 2 years ago at the time of application.
- should not have received more than Rs. 10 lakh of monetary support under any other Central or State Government scheme. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- It will support an estimated 3,600 entrepreneurs through 300 incubators in the next 4 years.
- An Experts Advisory Committee (EAC), constituted by DPIIT, will be responsible for the overall execution and monitoring of the Scheme.

111. Ans: C

Exp:

- **National Beekeeping & Honey Mission (NBHM)** was announced as part of the AtmaNirbhar Bharat scheme. It is a **central sector scheme**. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- NBHM aims for the overall promotion & development of scientific beekeeping in the country to achieve the goal of 'Sweet Revolution' which is **being implemented through the National Bee Board (NBB)**. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- The Small Farmers' Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC) registered the NBB as a society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 in 2000 and it was reconstituted (with the secretary as chairman) in June 2006.

112. Ans: B

Exp:

- Recently, India has been ranked 49th in the Chandler Good Government Index (CGGI).
 - ◆ Finland has topped the list. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

- The **CGGI is released by the Chandler Institute of Governance** which is a private nonprofit organization headquartered in **Singapore**. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

- ◆ The Index classifies 104 countries in terms of government capabilities and outcomes.

- **India's Good Governance Index** is launched by the **Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions** to determine the status of governance in the country. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.

- ◆ It assesses the impact of various interventions taken up by the State Government and UTs.

113. Ans: D

Exp:

- **SWAMITVA** is a **Central Sector Scheme** aimed at "providing 'record of rights' to village household owners possessing houses in inhabited rural areas in villages and issuance of property cards to the property owners." Hence, statement 1 is not correct.

- ◆ The pilot phase of the Scheme was implemented during 2020–2021 in the States of Maharashtra, Karnataka, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh and select villages of Punjab and Rajasthan.

- Property Cards distributed under the scheme are known as '**Title deed**' in Haryana, '**Rural Property Ownership Records (RPOR)**' in Karnataka, 'Adhikar Abhilekh' in Madhya Pradesh, 'Sannad' in Maharashtra, 'Svमित्वा Abhilekh' in Uttarakhand, '**Gharauni**' in **Uttar Pradesh**. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

114. Ans: A

Exp:

- To achieve the objective of "**Housing for All**" by 2022, the erstwhile rural housing scheme **Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY)** was restructured to **Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G)** w.e.f 1st April, 2016. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

- Ministry Involved: Ministry of Rural development.
- To provide a pucca house with basic amenities to all rural families, who are homeless or living in kutcha or dilapidated houses by the end of March 2022.
- To help rural people Below the Poverty Line (BPL) in construction of dwelling units and upgradation of existing unserviceable kutcha houses by providing assistance in the form of a full grant.

- ◆ People belonging to SCs/STs, freed bonded labourers and non-SC/ST categories, widows or next-of-kin of defence personnel killed in action, ex servicemen and retired members of the

paramilitary forces, disabled persons and minorities. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

- **Selection of Beneficiaries** through a three stage validation - **Socio Economic Caste Census 2011**, Gram Sabha, and geo-tagging. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The cost of unit assistance is shared between Central and State Governments in the ratio 60:40 in plain areas and 90:10 for North Eastern and hilly states.

115. Ans: C

Exp:

- The **National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)** is a welfare programme being administered by the **Ministry of Rural Development**. This programme is being implemented in **rural as well as urban areas**. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The programme was first **launched on 15th August 1995** as a **Centrally Sponsored Scheme**. It was brought within the umbrella of '**Core of Core**' schemes of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) in 2016. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- Currently, it has **five components** namely:
 - ◆ **Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS)** - since inception of NSAP in 1995.
 - ◆ **National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS)** - 1995.
 - ◆ **Annapurna Scheme** - launched in 2000.
 - ◆ **Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS)** - launched in 2009.
 - ◆ **Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme** - launched in 2009.
- The **National Maternity Benefit Scheme (NMBS)** was part of NSAP and was subsequently transferred from the Ministry of Rural development to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

116. Ans: B

Exp:

- The Midday meal scheme is **under the Ministry of Education (earlier Ministry of Human Resource Development)** is a centrally sponsored scheme which was launched in 1995. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- It is the world's largest school meal programme aimed to attain the goal of universalization of primary education.
- It provides cooked meals to every child within the age group of **six years to fourteen years** studying in classes I to VIII who enrolls and attends the school. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

117. Ans: D

Exp:

- Swadesh Darshan, a **Central Sector Scheme**, was launched in 2014-15 for integrated **development of theme based tourist circuits** in the country. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- Currently, there are **15 theme based circuits** - Buddhist, Coastal, Desert, Eco, Heritage, Himalayan, Krishna, North-east, Ramayana, Rural, Spiritual, Sufi, Tirthankara, Tribal and Wildlife.
- **Theme-based tourist circuits** are developed on the principles of high tourist value, competitiveness and sustainability in an integrated manner to enrich tourist experience and enhance employment opportunities.
- Under the scheme, the **Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance (CFA)** to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for infrastructure development of circuits. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

118. Ans: A

Exp:

- The Centre has proposed a Scheme of **Mega Investment Textiles Parks (MITRA)** to enable the textile industry to become globally competitive, attract large investments, boost employment generation and exports. This will create world-class infrastructure with plug-and-play facilities to create global promoters in exports.
- Along with the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme, MITRA will lead to increased investments and enhanced employment opportunities. **Hence, option A is correct.**

119. Ans: B

Exp:

- In the Budget 2021-22, **Jal Jeevan Mission (Urban)** has been announced under the **Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry** to provide **universal coverage of water supply** to all households through functional taps in all statutory towns in accordance with **Sustainable Development Goal- 6 which ensures access to water and sanitation for all**. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- It aims to **promote circular economy of water** through development of the city water balance plan for each city focusing on recycle/reuse of treated sewage, rejuvenation of water bodies and water conservation. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Funding from the Government for projects under this mission will be in three tranches of **20:40:40**. Third

instalment onwards will be **released based on outcomes achieved** and credible exclusion will be exercised while funding.

120. Ans: D

Exp:

GOBAR-DHAN Scheme

- The **ministry of Jal Shakti** has launched the **GOBAR** (Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources) - **DHAN** scheme. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The scheme is being implemented as part of the **Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin)**. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
 - ◆ The Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) comprises two main components for creating clean villages – creating open defecation free (ODF) villages and managing solid and liquid waste in villages.
- Aim of the scheme is keeping villages clean, increasing the income of rural households, and generation of energy from cattle waste.
 - ◆ The scheme also aims at creating new rural livelihood opportunities and enhancing income for farmers and other rural people.

121. Ans: A

Exp:

- The **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment** has launched a 24/7 toll-free helpline '**Kiran**' to provide support to people facing **anxiety, stress, depression, suicidal thoughts and other mental health concerns**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ As per the data of the Ministry, 70% of callers to the 'Kiran Helpline' were men, most being young adults.
 - ◆ The **Ministry of Education** had launched the '**Manodarpan**' initiative to provide psycho-social support and counselling to **students** for their mental health and well-being. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

122. Ans: B

Exp:

- **Mission Indradhanush** aims to fully immunize more than 89 lakh children who are either unvaccinated or partially vaccinated under Universal Immunisation Programme. It targets children under 2 years of age and pregnant women for immunization. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- It provides **vaccination against 12 Vaccine-Preventable Diseases (VPD)** i.e. diphtheria, Whooping cough, tetanus, polio, tuberculosis, hepatitis B, meningitis and

pneumonia, Haemophilus influenzae type B infections, Japanese encephalitis (JE), rotavirus vaccine, pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV) and measles-rubella (MR). **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

- However, Vaccination against Japanese Encephalitis and Haemophilus influenzae type B is being provided in selected districts of the country. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

123. Ans: A

Exp

- Recently, the Prime Minister talked about the need to address health issues in a holistic manner and to adopt a four-pronged strategy for a healthy India that includes implementing the **PM Atmanirbhar Swasth Bharat scheme**.
- This scheme was announced in the **Union Budget 2021-22**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- It aims to **develop capacities of primary, secondary as well as tertiary care health systems** throughout the country. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

124. Ans: B

Exp:

- **SAATHI** (Sustainable and Accelerated Adoption of Efficient Textile Technologies to Help Small Industries) is an initiative of the **Ministry of Textiles**. **Hence, pair 1 is not correctly matched.**
 - ◆ Its objective is to sustain and accelerate the adoption of energy efficient textile technologies in the powerloom sector and cost savings due to use of such technology.
- **SATH** (Sustainable Action for Transforming Human capital) is a program of **NITI Aayog**.
 - ◆ It aims to initiate transformation in the education and health sectors and build 3 future 'role model' states. **Hence, pair 2 is correctly matched.**
- **SATHEE Portal**: The Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) has developed a Management Information System (MIS) portal namely State-wise Actions on Annual Targets and Headways on Energy Efficiency (SAATHEE). **Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched.**

125. Ans: D

Exp:

- **SVAMITVA** (Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improved Technology in Village Areas) scheme is a collaborative effort of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, State Panchayati Raj Departments, State Revenue Departments and Survey of India.
- Aim: To provide an integrated property validation solution for rural India.

- ◆ It is a scheme for **mapping the land parcels in rural inhabited areas using drone technology** and Continuously Operating Reference Station (CORS). **Hence, option D is correct.**
- ◆ The mapping will be done across the country in a phase-wise manner over a period of four years - from 2020 to 2024.

126. Ans: B

Exp:

Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan:

- The Government has approved the scheme of **Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA)** for continuation till 31st March, 2026 or till further review, whichever is earlier.
- It is the **centrally sponsored scheme launched in October 2013** that aims at providing **strategic funding to higher education institutions** throughout the country. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- The **central funding** (in the ratio of 60:40 for general category States, 90:10 for special category states and 100% for union territories) is norm based and outcome dependent.
- The **funding flows from the Ministry of Education** through the state governments/union territories to the **State Higher Education Councils** before reaching the identified institutions.
 - ◆ The funding to states **would be made on the basis of critical appraisal of State Higher Education Plans**, which would describe each state's strategy to address issues of equity, access and excellence in higher education.

New Phase of RUSA:

- New phase of RUSA targets to reach out the unserved, underserved areas; remote/ rural areas; difficult geographies; **LWE (Left-Wing Extremism)** areas; **NER (North Eastern Region)**; **Aspirational Districts**, tier-2 cities, areas with low **GER (Gross enrolment ratio)** etc., and to benefit the most disadvantaged areas and **SEDGs (Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Groups)**.

- The new phase of the scheme has been designed to **implement some of the recommendations and aims of the New Education Policy**, which suggests some key changes to the current higher education system to revamp and re-energize it and thereby deliver quality higher education, with equity and inclusion.
- State Governments will be supported for **Gender inclusion, Equity Initiatives, ICT, Enhancing employability through vocationalisation & skill upgradation.**
- States will also be supported for creation of **new Model Degree Colleges.**
- State Universities will be supported for **Multi-Disciplinary Education and Research.**
- Grants will be provided for strengthening both accredited and non-accredited Universities and Colleges for undertaking various activities including teaching-learning in Indian languages. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

127. Ans: A

Exp:

Rashtriya Vayoshree Yojana:

- It was launched in 2017 by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- It is a **central sector scheme** funded from the **Senior Citizens' Welfare Fund**. The fund was notified in the year 2016. **Hence, statement 1 is correct but statement 2 is not correct.**
- All unclaimed amounts from small savings accounts, PPF and EPF are transferred to this fund.
- It aims to **provide aids and assistive living devices to senior citizens belonging to Below Poverty Line (BPL) category** who suffer from age-related disabilities such as low vision, hearing impairment, loss of teeth and locomotor disabilities. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- The Scheme is being implemented by the Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation (ALIMCO), a PSU (Public Sector Undertaking) under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.