



Drishiti IAS Presents...



PT

SPRINT 2023

GOVERNMENT POLICIES INITIATIVES

(March 2022 – March 2023)

Answers

Answers

Answers

Answers

Answers

Explanation

Explanation

Answers

Answers

Explanation

Explanation

?

Detailed
Explanation

Answers

Answers

Explanation

Answers

Answers

Answers

Answers

Explanation

Answers

Explanation

Answers

Explanation

Answers

Answers

Explanation

Answers

Answers

Drishiti IAS, 641, Mukherjee Nagar,
Opp. Signature View Apartment,
New Delhi

Drishiti IAS, 21
Pusa Road, Karol Bagh
New Delhi - 05

Drishiti IAS, Tashkent Marg,
Civil Lines, Prayagraj,
Uttar Pradesh

Drishiti IAS, Tonk Road,
Vasundhara Colony,
Jaipur, Rajasthan

e-mail: englishsupport@groupdrishiti.com, Website: www.drishitias.com

Contact: Inquiry (English): 8010440440, Inquiry (Hindi): 8750187501

1. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS)** was rolled out in 2020 as part of the **Centre's Aatmanirbhar package in response to the Covid-19 crisis. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The objective was to support small businesses struggling to meet their operational liabilities due to the imposition of a nationwide lockdown.
- A **100% guarantee is provided by the National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company (NCGTC) to Member Lending Institutions (MLIs)** - banks, financial institutions and Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs). **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The credit product for which guarantee would be provided under the Scheme shall be named as 'Guaranteed Emergency Credit Line (GECL)'.

2. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Tejas** is an indigenously developed **Fighter Jet by India** and is **not a stealth fighter yet. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- It's Designed by Aeronautical Development Agency under the Department of Defence Research and Development and **Manufactured by State-owned Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).** Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**
- Designed to carry a range of **air-to air, air-to-surface, precision-guided, weapons.** Hence, **statement 3 is not correct.**

3. Ans: D

Exp:

- **Jal Jeevan Mission** is a central government initiative under the **Ministry of Jal Shakti, aims to ensure access of piped water for every household in India.** Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**
- The programme will also implement source sustainability measures as mandatory elements, such as **recharge and reuse through grey water management, water conservation, rain water harvesting.** Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**
- **The Har Ghar Nal Se Jal programme** was announced by Finance Minister in Budget 2019-20. It forms a **crucial part of the Jal Jeevan Mission.** Hence, **statement 3 is correct.**
- Its mission is to assist, empower and facilitate Gram Panchayats (GPs)/ rural communities to plan,

implement, manage, own, operate, and maintain their own in-village water supply systems. **Hence, statement 4 is correct.**

4. Ans: A

Exp:

- **National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)** in partnership with **Seva Bharti and Yuva Vikas Society,** launched the second phase of the **Grameen Udyami Project.** Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**
- This initiative's goal is to **multiskill India's youth** and teach them **useful skills** that will enable them for livelihoods.
- **NSDC** under the aegis of the **Ministry of Skill Development and Enterprises (MSDE)** has supported setting up of labs and classrooms through **Sector Skill Councils (SSCs)** in **Seva Bharti Kendra Skill Development Center.**
- This effort will bring economic empowerment to the **tribal population.** Hence, **statement 2 is not correct.**

5. Ans: D

Exp:

- The **Vigyan Jyoti Program** addresses **women's underrepresentation** in several sectors of **Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM).** Hence, **statement 1 is not correct.**
- 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 Program** was launched by the **Department of Science & Technology (DST), Ministry of Science and Technology.** Hence, **statement 2 is not correct.**
- **DST** is working proactively to bring **gender parity to Science & Technology (S&T)** domain through various **women-centric program.**

6. Ans: D

Exp:

Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen (SBM-G):

- It was launched in 2014 by the **Ministry of Jal Shakti** to accelerate the efforts to achieve universal sanitation coverage and to put focus on sanitation.
 - ◆ The aim is to achieve a clean and open defecation free (ODF) India. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- The mission was implemented as a nation-wide **campaign/Janandolan which aimed at eliminating open defecation in rural areas.**

- **Swachh Bharat Mission (G) Phase-I:**

- The rural sanitation coverage in the country at the time of launch of **SBM (G) on 2nd October, 2014** was reported as 38.7%.
- More than 10 crore individual toilets **have been constructed since the launch of the mission**; as a result, rural areas in all the States have declared themselves ODF as on 2nd October, 2019.

Types of Open Defecation Free (ODF) Status:

- **ODF:** An area can be notified or declared as ODF if at any point of the day, not even a single person is found defecating in the open.
- **ODF+:** This status is given if at any point of the day, not a single person is found defecating and/or urinating in the open, and all community and public toilets are functional and well maintained. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- **ODF++:** This status is given if the area is already ODF+ and the faecal sludge/septage and sewage are safely managed and treated, with no discharging or dumping of untreated faecal sludge and sewage into the open drains, water bodies or areas.

7. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Total fertility rate (TFR)** in simple terms refers to the total number of children born or likely to be born to a woman in her lifetime if she were subject to the prevailing rate of age-specific fertility in the population. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **TFR** of about **2.1 children per woman** is called **Replacement Level Fertility**. TFR lower than 2.1 children per woman indicates that a generation is not producing enough children to replace itself, eventually leading to an outright reduction in population.
- Overall fertility in the **NFHS 5** survey decreased from **2.2** in the previous survey to below the **replacement threshold of 2.1 kids per woman**. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

8. Ans: D

Exp:

- **Smart India Hackathon (SIH)** was started in the year **2017**.
- **Smart India Hackathon (SIH)** is a nationwide initiative to provide students with a platform to solve some of the pressing problems we face in our daily lives, and thus inculcate a culture of product innovation and a mindset of problem-solving. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**

- **Smart India Hackathon** is an initiative by the **Ministry of Education, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), Persistent Systems and Inter Institutional Inclusive Innovation Center (i4C)**. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct.**

9. Ans: A

Exp:

- **Pen Plus Strategy** is a regional strategy to **address severe Non-Communicable Diseases at First-Level Referral Health Facilities**. Hence, **option A is correct.**
- The strategy is aimed at bridging the access gap in treatment and care of patients with chronic and severe NCDs.
- It urges countries to put in place standardised programmes to tackle chronic and serious non-communicable diseases by ensuring that essential medicines, technologies and diagnostics are available and accessible in district hospitals

10. Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR) was launched in 2015. It is India's strategic vision for the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).
- Through SAGAR, India seeks to deepen economic and security cooperation with its maritime neighbours and assist in building their maritime security capabilities. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Further, India seeks to safeguard its national interests and ensure the Indian Ocean region to become inclusive, collaborative and respect international law. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The key relevance of SAGAR emerges when seen in conjunction with India's other policies impacting the maritime domain like **Act East Policy, Project Sagarmala, Project Mausam**, India as 'net security provider', focus on **Blue Economy** etc.

11. Ans: A

Exp:

- The **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment** has developed a programme named **"Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise (SMILE)."** Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**
- It will be implemented with the support of State/UT Governments/Local Urban Bodies, Voluntary Organizations, Community Based Organizations (CBOs), institutions and others.



- **75 Municipal Corporations** will conduct comprehensive rehabilitation of **beggars** under the “**SMILE-75**” Initiative. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct.**
- It is a new Scheme after the merger of existing Schemes for Beggars and Transgenders.

12. Ans: C

Exp:

- National Intellectual Property Awareness Mission (NIPAM) is a pan-India mission aims to provide awareness on intellectual property and its rights to 1 million students.
 - ◆ It aims to **inculcate the spirit of creativity and innovation** to students of higher education (classes 8 to 12) and ignite and inspire the students of college/Universities to innovate and protect their creations. Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**
- **Implementing Agency:**
 - ◆ The program is being implemented by the Intellectual Property Office, the Office of Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks (CGPDTM), **Ministry of Commerce and Industry.** Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**
- **Target Achieved:**
 - ◆ During the period 08 December 2021 to 31st July 2022, the following milestones were achieved:
 - No. of participants (students/faculty) trained on IP: 10,05,272
 - Educational institutes covered: 3,662
 - Geographical coverage: 28 states and 7 Union Territories

13. Ans: A

Exp:

National Action Plan for Mechanised Sanitation Ecosystem (NAMASTE) Scheme:

- The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJ&E) is preparing to undertake a nationwide survey to enumerate all Sanitation workers engaged in cleaning of sewers and septic tanks. Hence **statement 1 is correct.**
- The enumeration exercise is part of the **National Action Plan for Mechanised Sanitation Ecosystem (NAMASTE) Scheme** and will be conducted across **500 AMRUT (Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation) cities.**
- It will merge with and replace the **Self-Employment Scheme for the Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers**

(SRMS), which was started in 2007. Hence **statement 2 is correct.**

NAMASTE Scheme:

- It was launched in **July 2022.**
- The **NAMASTE scheme** is being undertaken **jointly** by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) and the MoSJ&E and **aims to eradicate unsafe sewer and septic tank cleaning practices.**
- Zero fatalities in sanitation work in India.
- All sanitation work is **performed by skilled workers.**
- No sanitation workers come in direct contact with human faecal matter.
- Increased awareness among sanitation services seekers (individuals and institutions) to seek services from registered and skilled sanitation workers.

NAMASTE Portal:

- **NAMASTE Portal developed by the Ministry of AYUSH,** in Oct. 2017, provides information about standardised terminologies & morbidity codes along with a dedicated data entry module for updating morbidity statistics in considerate form as well as on a real time basis. Hence **statement 3 is not correct.**
- The launch of this portal is a landmark event in the history of AYUSH with a promise to bring in equity with the mainstream health care system.

14. Ans: B

Exp:

- **Under the Reserve Bank of India, Act,1934 (RBI Act,1934)** (as amended in 2016), **RBI is entrusted with the responsibility of conducting monetary policy** in India with the primary objective of maintaining price stability while keeping in mind the objective of growth.
- **RBI Act, 1934** empowers the Central Government to constitute a **six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC).** Hence, **statement 1 is not correct and statement 2 is correct.**
- **RBI Governor** acts as its **ex officio chairperson.** Hence, **statement 3 is not correct.**

15. Ans: C

Exp:

- In accordance with **the guidelines of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act,1940,** Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani Drugs Technical Advisory Board (**ASUDTAB**) is a **statutory body.** Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**
- **ASLT** is an indirect method of measuring and estimating the stability of a product by storing the product under



controlled conditions that increase the rate of degradation occurring in the product under normal storage conditions.

- It provides regulatory **advice on Accelerated Shelf-Life Testing (ASLT) drugs to the central and state governments. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

16. Ans: A

Exp:

- The Central Vigilance Commission was set up by the Government in 1964 on the recommendations of the Committee on Prevention of Corruption, headed by Shri K. Santhanam, to advise and guide Central Government agencies in the field of vigilance.
- CVC are conceived to be the **apex vigilance institution**, free of control from any executive authority, monitoring all vigilance activity under the Central Government and advising various authorities in Central Government organizations in planning, executing, reviewing and reforming their vigilant work.
- The Parliament **enacted Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003 (CVC Act) conferring statutory status on the CVC. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- It is an independent body which is only **responsible to Parliament. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- It **submits its report to the President of India. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

17. Ans: C

Exp:

- In Financial Year (FY) 2021-22, the Government of India (GoI) restructured the **Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) and POSHAN Abhiyaan into Saksham Anganwadi and POSHAN 2.0.**
- **The restructured scheme consists of the following sub-schemes:**
 - ◆ ICDS
 - ◆ POSHAN Abhiyaan
 - ◆ Scheme for Adolescent Girls (SAG)
 - ◆ National Creche Scheme
- **The Ministry of Women and Child Development** has issued Operational Guidelines regarding implementation of **Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0.**

- ◆ The **Ministry of AYUSH** shall extend technical support for scheme implementation as per new guidelines.

- **Mission Indradhanush** was launched by the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** to fully immunize the 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).

- ◆ However, vaccination against **Japanese Encephalitis** and **Haemophilus influenzae type B** is being provided in selected districts of the country.

- Hence, Option C is correct.

18. Ans: D

Exp:

- Atal Incubation Centre (AIC) is **an initiative of the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog** to foster innovation and entrepreneurial spirit while creating a **supportive ecosystem for start-ups and entrepreneurs in India. Hence, statement 1 and statement 2 are correct.**

- ◆ Each AIC is supported with a grant of up to INR 10 crores over a period of 5 years.

- Since 2016, AIM has established 68 Atal Incubation Centres across 18 states and 3 UTs which have supported more than 2700 startups.

19. Ans: D

Exp:

- New Zealand's Bill on Tobacco Endgame:

- ◆ **Tobacco Endgame** refers to a policy approach that focuses on ending the **Tobacco Epidemic**, aiming at **'tobacco-free future'**.

- ◆ **The Bill seeks three Strategies to reduce Smoking significantly or ending it.**

- ◆ If implemented, it will be the world-first legislation that will stop the next generation from ever being able to legally buy cigarettes.

- Status of Tobacco Use in India:

- ◆ According to the **National Family Health Survey**, tobacco usage is greater among men and women



in rural areas than in urban areas. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.

- ◆ According to the **National Family Health Survey 5 (2019-21)**, **38% of males and 9% of females** over 15 use tobacco products.
- ◆ **Tobacco endgames** are basically intended to drastically reduce **nicotine content** in tobacco so it can no longer be addictive (**known as “denicotinisation” or “very low nicotine cigarettes” (VLNC)**).
- ◆ **India is the second largest consumer and producer of tobacco.** Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

20. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Key features of the higher education learning plan as per National Education Policy, 2020:**
 - ◆ Holistic Undergraduate education with a flexible curriculum can be 3 or 4 years with multiple exit options and appropriate certification within this period.
 - ◆ **M.Phil courses will be discontinued** and all the courses at undergraduate, postgraduate and PhD level will now be interdisciplinary. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ Academic Bank of Credits to be established to facilitate Transfer of Credits.
 - ◆ Multidisciplinary Education and Research Universities (MERUs), at par with IITs, IIMs, to be set up as models of best multidisciplinary education of global standards in the country.
 - ◆ The **National Research Foundation will be created as an apex body for fostering a strong research culture** and building research capacity across higher education. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ Higher Education Commission of India (HECI) will be set up as a **single umbrella body for the entire higher education, excluding medical and legal education.** Hence, statement 3 is not correct.
 - Public and private higher education institutions will be governed by the same set of norms for regulation, accreditation and academic standards. Also, HECI will be having four independent verticals namely,
- National Higher Education Regulatory Council (NHERC) for regulation,

- General Education Council (GEC) for standard setting,
- Higher Education Grants Council (HEGC) for funding,
- National Accreditation Council (NAC) for accreditation.
 - ◆ Affiliation of colleges is to be phased out in 15 years and a stage-wise mechanism to be established for granting graded autonomy to colleges.
 - ◆ Over a period of time, every college is expected to develop into either an autonomous degree-granting College, or a constituent college of a university.

21. Ans: D

Exp:

- **Ministry of Women and Child Development** have extended the **Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) Scheme** to all Districts of the nation.
- The ministry has now targeted improvement in the **Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB) by 2 points** every year, improvement in the percentage of institutional deliveries at **95% or above.** Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- In **2021** parliamentary committee on empowerment of women in its report stated that nearly **80% funds** for the **BBBP scheme** have been used for advertising, and not on sectoral interventions such as women's health and education.
 - ◆ The recent guidelines issued by the **Ministry of Women and Child Development for the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) Scheme** is promoting **Zero-budget advertising** and encouraging greater spend on activities that have on-ground impact. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme'** is a joint initiative of the **Ministry of Women and Child Development, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of Education.** Hence, statement 3 is correct.

22. Ans: D

Exp:

- **India ranked third in the number of unicorn startups,** only after USA and China, **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **Startups** incorporated on or after 1st April 2016 Ministerial Board Certificate are exempted from income tax for a **period of 3 consecutive years out of 10 years since incorporation.** Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- Under the Atal Innovation Mission, the **Government has set up Atal Incubation Centres (AIC) to incubate startups in various sectors.**

- ◆ It has also launched **Atal New India Challenge (ANIC) program** to directly aid startups with technology-based innovations that solve sectoral challenges of national importance and societal relevance. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

23. Ans: D

Exp:

- The **Body Mass Index** is calculated by dividing the weight in **kilograms** by the **square of the height in meters**. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- **Targets released to Curb Malnutrition:**
 - ◆ Aims at reducing **stunting** and **under-nutrition (underweight prevalence)** among children below **6 years by 2% each year.**
 - ◆ Aims to Reduce, **low birth weight by 2% per annum**, **Anemia** among children between **6 and 59 months**, as well as **women and adolescent girls (15 to 49 years)**, by **3% per annum.**
- World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines define a normal BMI range as 18.5 to 24.9, overweight as 25 or higher, and obesity as 30 or higher.
- **The Ministry of Women and Child Development** has released targets to **Curb Malnutrition** in India. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

24. Ans: C

Exp:

- The **National Family Health Survey** is a **large-scale, multi-round survey** conducted in a representative sample of households throughout India.
- Between **NFHS 4 (2015–16)** and **NFHS 5 (2019–20)**, the **Total Fertility Rate (TFR)** at the national level decreased from **2.2 to 2.0**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The basic purpose of **NFHS** is to provide essential data on **health and family welfare** needed by the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** and other agencies for policy and programme purposes.
- The **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW)** has designated the **International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS)**, as the nodal agency for providing coordination and technical guidance for the survey. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

25. Ans: D

Explanation:

- **Blue Economy** refers to the sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods and jobs, and ocean ecosystem health.

- ◆ It advocates the greening of ocean development strategies for higher productivity and conservation of ocean's health.

- **Initiatives related to Blue Economy:**

- ◆ The **Sagarmala Programme** was approved by the Union Cabinet in 2015 which aims at holistic port infrastructure development along the 7,516-km long coastline through modernisation, mechanisation and computerisation.
 - Under this port-led development framework, the government hopes to increase its cargo traffic three-fold.
- ◆ **Ocean Services, Technology, Observations, Resources Modelling and Science (O-SMART)** encompasses a total of 16 sub-projects addressing ocean development activities such as Services, Technology, Resources, Observations and Science.
- ◆ **National Fisheries Policy** integrates the National Policy on Marine Fisheries, 2017 (NPMF), the Draft National Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy (NIFAP) and the Draft National Mariculture Policy (NMP) along with the elements of post-Harvest.

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

26. Ans: D

Exp:

- **Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar** is the **first-of-its-kind and longest running coastal cleanup campaign in the world** with the highest number of people participating in it. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The Campaign will culminate on **"International Coastal Clean-up Day"** (17th September 2022). **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ Globally, "International Coastal Clean Up Day" is celebrated **on the third Saturday of September, every year.**
- The day aims to increase public awareness about the accumulation and negative impacts of litter in oceans, on coastlines and on beaches.
- Through this campaign, a mass behavioural change among the masses is intended by raising awareness about how plastic usage is destroying marine life.
- A mobile app **"Eco Mitram"** has been launched to **spread awareness about the campaign and also for the common people for voluntary registration** for the beach cleaning activity. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**



27. Ans: B

Exp:

- In 2017, the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry** launched the **Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES)**. Hence **statement 1 is not correct**.
- Its objective is to assist Central and State Government agencies in the creation of appropriate infrastructure for the growth of exports.
- The Central Government assistance for infrastructure creation will be in the form of **grant-in-aid**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- **Grants-in-aid** are payments in the nature of assistance, donations or contributions made by one government to another government, body, institution or individual. Grants-in-aid are given by the Union Government to State Governments and/or Panchayati Raj Institutions.

28. Ans: B

Exp:

- It is **100% centrally funded** and efforts are made to achieve convergence with other schemes of Central and State Governments and also to **leverage the voluntary funding available for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)**, Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- It aims to create awareness among the local communities about the importance of tourism for them in terms of increased sources of income, improved living standards, and overall development of the area. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- It was launched in 2014-15 for the integrated development of theme-based tourist circuits — Buddhist Circuit, Coastal Circuit, Desert Circuit, Eco Circuit, Heritage Circuit, Northeast Circuit, Himalayan Circuit, Sufi Circuit, Krishna Circuit, Ramayana Circuit, Rural Circuit, Spiritual Circuit, Tirthankar Circuit, Wildlife Circuit, and Tribal Circuit. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.

29. Ans- D

Exp:

- **Blue Dot Initiative** is a multi-stakeholder initiative **led by the US along with Japan and Australia** to bring together governments, the private sector and civil society to promote high-quality, trusted standards for global infrastructure development.
 - ◆ It is expected to serve as a globally recognized evaluation and certification system for roads, ports and bridges with **a focus on the Indo-Pacific region**. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.

- It seems to be planned as a direct **counter to China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)**. However, unlike the BRI, the **BDN would not offer public funds or loans for the project**.

- ◆ BDN will serve as a globally recognized seal of approval for major infrastructure projects. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.

30. Ans: D

Explanation:

- SVANidhi Scheme was launched to benefit over 50 lakh street vendors who had been vending in urban areas including those from surrounding peri-urban/rural areas.

- ◆ The scheme would benefit vendors, hawkers, thelewale and people involved in goods and services related to textiles, apparel, artisan products, barbers shops, laundry services etc. in different areas.

- ◆ Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.

- The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) launched the scheme.

- ◆ Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

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

31. Ans: D

Explanation:

- National Mission on Himalayan Studies (NMHS) is a **Central Sector Grant-in-aid Scheme**, therefore, targets to provide much-needed focus, through a holistic understanding of the system's components and their linkages, in addressing the key issues relating to **conservation and sustainable management of natural resources in India Himalayan Region (IHR)**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.

- The ultimate goal is to improve the quality of life and maintain ecosystem health of the region to ensure long-term ecological security to the country.

- As the **mission specifically targets the IHR, the jurisdiction of NMHS includes 10 Himalayan states fully** (i.e., Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura and Uttarakhand) and two states partially (i.e., hill districts of Assam and West Bengal). Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

- **Goals include:**

- ◆ Foster conservation and sustainable management of natural resources;

- ◆ Enhance supplementary and/or alternative livelihoods and overall economic well-being of the region;
- ◆ Control and prevent pollution in the region;
- ◆ Foster increased/augmented human and institutional capacities and the knowledge and policy environment in the region; and
- ◆ Strengthen, greening, and fostering development of climate-resilient core infrastructure and basic services assets.

32. Ans: C

Exp:

- **GOAL (Going Online as Leaders)** was launched as a pilot project in May 2020 and it was completed by December 2021. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- It aims at **digital empowerment of tribal youth and women** through the concept of **mentor and mentee**. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The programme is **fully funded by Meta (Facebook India)**. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
- Goal 2.0 programme has been launched by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Meta (formerly Facebook).
 - ◆ **Goal 2 program will be open to all people from tribal communities. Hence, statement 4 is correct.**

33. Ans: D

Exp:

- It would be portrayed as a customer who is aware of their rights as consumers and seeking answers to the issues they are having. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- It would help to generate consumer awareness about the various government initiatives like:
 - ◆ Provisions of Consumer Protection Act 2019
 - ◆ Hallmarking
 - ◆ National Consumer Helpline toll free number 1915
 - ◆ Provisions of weights & measures Act
 - ◆ Decisions of the Central Consumer Protection Authority
 - ◆ Testimonials by consumers on grievance redressal
- The **Department of Consumer Affairs Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution** has introduced **Jagriti Mascot**. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- In numerous media campaigns, it would be displayed with the slogan **"Jago Grahak Jago."**

34. Ans: D

Exp:

DIGI YATRA:

- The 'Digi Yatra' is an initiative coordinated by the **Ministry of Civil Aviation**. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- **Digi Yatra - Digital processing of passengers at the airports**. Passengers will be automatically **processed based on facial recognition system at check points** like; Entry point check, Entry in to Security Check, Aircraft Boarding, additionally this will also facilitate self-Bag Drop and Check-in, using facial recognition to identify pax and data recall. Digi Yatra will facilitate paperless travel and avoid identity checks at multiple points.
 - ◆ **Digi Yatra platform will be built on 4 key pillars, like Connected Passengers, Connected Airports, Connected Flying and Connected Systems** which can make it possible over a period of time for passengers to:
 - ◆ Plan their trips efficiently by identifying price trends and estimate future airfares at the time of ticket booking,
 - ◆ **Optionally link their Aadhaar to airlines and other ecosystem players** at the time of booking for faster airport entry and automated check-ins without requiring any paper-based interventions,
 - ◆ **Walk-through security scanners swiftly** owing to advanced biometric security solutions. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- It provides a **decentralised mobile wallet-based identity management platform** which is cost effective and addresses **privacy/data protection** issues in implementation of Digi Yatra.
- **Digi Yatra Foundation:**
 - ◆ It has been set up as a **joint venture (JV)** company in 2019 under Section 8 of the **Companies Act, 2013**.
 - ◆ The Foundation was formed, with the objective of **creating the Digi Yatra Central Ecosystem (DYCE)**.
 - ◆ Digi Yatra Foundation will be a **pan-India entity and the custodian** of the Passenger ID validation process.
 - ◆ **Airports Authority of India (AAI)** will identify their airports where Digi Yatra would be implemented in a phased manner.

35. Ans: A

Exp:

- The creation of the **Skill Council for Green Jobs (SCGJ)** was approved in the 10th meeting of the National Skill Qualifications Committee held in 2015.
- **Skill Council for Green Jobs** is one of the most recently launched initiatives of the Government of India aligned to the **National Skill Development Mission**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- The SCGJ was established as a not-for-profit, independent, industry-led organization under the Societies Registration Act XXI, 1860.
- It is promoted by the **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)**. Hence, **Statement 2 is not correct**.

36. Ans: B

Exp:

- Recently, the central government issued guidelines to states about the Mission Vatsalya child protection scheme.
- According to the guidelines, **states cannot change the original name of the scheme in order to gain access to funding granted by the central government**. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- It will be implemented as a **Centrally Sponsored Scheme in partnership with state governments and UT administrations**, with a fund-sharing pattern in a 60:40 ratio. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
 - ◆ However, for the eight states in the Northeast — as well as Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and the UT of Jammu and Kashmir — the Centre and state/UT's share will be 90:10
- MVS, in partnership with states and districts, will execute a 24×7 helpline service for children, as defined under Juvenile Justice Act, 2015.
- It will support **State Adoption Resource Agencies (SARA)**, which will further support the **Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA)** in promoting in-country adoption and regulating inter-country adoption. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.
- The Mission plans to establish cradle baby reception centers in at least one specialized adoption agency in each area for receiving abandoned and trafficked children.
- Children in need of care, as well as special needs children, will be placed in distinct homes based on

gender (including separate homes for transgender children) and age.

37. Ans: C

Exp:

- Stand Up India Scheme was **launched in April 2016** to promote **entrepreneurship at the grass-root level** focusing on economic empowerment and job creation. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- It aims to **leverage the institutional credit structure** to reach out to the underserved sector of people such as SCs, STs, and Women Entrepreneurs.
- The **SC/ST and/or women entrepreneurs; above 18 years of age are eligible** under the scheme. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- Loans under the scheme are available for **only Greenfield projects**. Hence, **statement 3 is not correct**.

38. Ans: A

Expl:

- **USTTAD (Upgrading the Skills and Training in Traditional Arts/Crafts for Development)**: Launched in May 2015 aims to preserve the **rich heritage of traditional skills of indigenous artisans/craftsmen**.
 - ◆ Under this scheme **HunnarHaats** are also held all over the country to provide a **nation-wide marketing platform to Minority artisans & entrepreneurs** and to create employment opportunities.
- Hence, **option A is correct**.

39. Ans: D

Exp:

- **About Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojna**:
 - ◆ The Government of India launched PMMY in 2015.
 - ◆ The **PMMY provides collateral-free institutional loans up to Rs. 10 lakhs for small business enterprises**. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- **Funding Provision**:
 - ◆ It is provided by **Member Lending Institutions (MLIs)** i.e. **Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs), Regional Rural Banks (RRBs), Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) and Micro-Finance Institutions (MFIs)**.
- **Types**:
 - ◆ The loan can be used for income-generating manufacturing, trading, services, and agriculture activities. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.

- There are three loan products under PMMY:

- ◆ Shishu (loans up to Rs. 50,000)
- ◆ Kishore (loans between Rs. 50,000 and Rs. 5 lakh)
- ◆ Tarun (loans between Rs. 5 lakh and Rs. 10 lakh).

40. Ans: B

Expl:

- The 'Digital Payments Utsav' is a comprehensive campaign promoting digital payments across India along with the launch of several significant initiatives. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- It was launched by the Ministry for Electronics & Information Technology. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The campaign will showcase India's journey of digital transformation, with a series of events and initiatives to be held from 9th February to 9th October 2023.
- The comprehensive campaign is expected to bring together various stakeholders, including the government, industry, and citizens, to drive the growth of the digital economy and promote financial inclusion.

41. Ans: B

Exp:

Bharat Parv:

- The Ministry of Tourism has been designated as the nodal ministry for the event.
 - ◆ The event includes a food festival, a handicraft mela, folk and tribal dance performances, cultural troupe performances, a display of Republic Day tableaux, and the illumination of the Red Fort, among other things. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- Objectives:
 - ◆ Branding and promotion of Dekho Apna Desh, Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat, G20 and Mission LIFE would be undertaken during the event.
 - ◆ The program is a way to celebrate India's unity in diversity and to make India a hub of civilization, culture, spirituality and inheritance in the next 25 years of Amrit Kaal. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - The event is also promoting the Vocal for Local motto as many artisans across the country are also taking part in this.

42. Ans: A

Exp:

- About linking Aadhar with Voter ID:
 - ◆ The linkage of Voter ID with Aadhaar is a process to verify and authenticate the identity of voters

during elections. The main objective is to ensure that there is no duplication of voters and to maintain an accurate and updated record of the voter base.

- ◆ The linkage of Voter ID with Aadhaar helps in maintaining an accurate and updated record of the voter base. This can help in conducting regular exercises to identify ineligible or duplicate voters and remove their names from the voter list. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- ◆ The linkage of Voter ID with Aadhaar helps in removing duplication of voters, which is a major issue in the Indian electoral system. This can help in ensuring that each voter has only one vote, and in preventing voter fraud. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - The linkage of Voter ID with Aadhaar does not enable migrant workers to vote in different constituencies. The electoral system in India is constituency-based, which means that voters can only vote in the constituency where they are registered as voters. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
 - The linkage of Voter ID with Aadhaar does not ensure that only one Voter ID is issued per citizen of India. There have been cases where individuals have been issued multiple Voter IDs, even after the linkage of Voter ID with Aadhaar. **Hence, statement 4 is not correct.**

43. Ans: B

Exp:

Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC):

- It is an open e-commerce protocol set up by the Ministry of Commerce's Department of Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) aimed at creating a unified digital ecosystem for the e-commerce industry in India.
- Under ONDC, it is envisaged that a buyer registered on one participating e-commerce site may purchase goods from a seller on another participating e-commerce site (for example, Flipkart).
- The goal is to provide a common platform that enables seamless flow of information between buyers, sellers, logistics providers, and other stakeholders in the e-commerce value chain.
- Hence, option B is correct.



44. Ans: C

Exp:

- **About:**
 - ◆ Digital India BHASHINI is India's Artificial Intelligence (AI) led language translation platform.
 - ◆ A Bhashini Platform will make Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Natural Language Processing (NLP) resources available to MSMEs (Medium, Small and Micro Enterprises), Startups and Individual Innovators in the public domain. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
 - ◆ Bhashini Platform is a part of the National Language Translation Mission.
 - The mission aims to ensure that as more Indians connect to the internet, they are able to access global content in their own languages. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- **Significance:**
 - ◆ **Digital Inclusion:**
 - ◆ It will empower Indian citizens by connecting them to the Digital Initiatives of the country in their own language thereby leading to digital inclusion.
 - ◆ It will also encourage participation of startups.
- **Digital Government:**
 - ◆ Mission will create and nurture an ecosystem involving Central/State government agencies and start-ups, working together to develop and deploy innovative products and services in Indian languages. Hence, statement 3 is correct.
 - ◆ It is a giant step to realize the goal of Digital Government.
- **Increase the Content in Indian Languages:**
 - ◆ It also aims to increase the content in Indian languages on the Internet substantially in the domains of public interest, particularly, governance-and-policy, science & technology, etc., thus will encourage citizens to use the Internet in their own language.

45. Ans: C

Exp:

- SVAMITVA stands for Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improved Technology in Village Areas.
- It is a center sector scheme which was launched nationally on the occasion of National Panchayati Raj Day on 24th April 2021.

- The Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) is the nodal ministry for its implementation. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- It aims to provide an integrated property validation solution for rural India. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
- The SVAMITA scheme would provide the 'record of rights' to village household owners in rural areas and issue Property Cards. Hence, statement 3 is correct.
- The demarcation of rural areas would be done using Drone Surveying Technology, Hence, statement 4 is correct.

46. Ans: C

Exp:

- NCERT has notified India's first national assessment regulator, PARAKH, which aims to set up assessment guidelines for all educational boards in the country. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- It will act as a constituent unit of the NCERT.
- PARAKH has been launched as part of the implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP)-2020 that envisaged a standard-setting body to advise school boards regarding new assessment patterns and latest research, and promote collaborations between them. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- It will also be tasked with holding periodic learning outcome tests like the National Achievement Survey (NAS) and State Achievement Surveys.

47. Ans: C

Exp:

- Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat program aims to enhance interaction & promote mutual understanding between people of different states/UTs through the concept of state/UT pairing.
- Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' was launched, on the occasion of the 140th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- The states carry out activities to promote a sustained and structured cultural connection in the areas of language learning, culture, traditions & music, tourism & cuisine, sports and sharing of best practices, etc.
- States and UTs have entered into a wide range of mutual engagements to foster the spirit of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat'. Hence, statement 2 is correct.



48. Ans: C

Exp:

- The **KUSUM scheme** would provide additional income to farmers, by giving them the option to sell additional power to the grid, through solar power projects set up on their barren lands. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- The scheme will promote **decentralized solar power production**, and reduce transmission losses.
- For state governments, this is a potential way to reduce their subsidy outlay towards irrigation.
- The scheme will help States meet the RPOs (**renewable purchase obligation**) targets. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

49. Ans: C

Exp:

- The Central Government introduced the NPS with effect from January 2004 (except for armed forces).
- 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.
- The National Pension System (NPS) was made available to all Citizens of India from May 2009.
- Any **individual citizen of India (both resident and Non-resident)** in the age group of 18-65 years can join NPS. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- However, OCI (Overseas Citizens of India) and PIO (Person of Indian Origin) card holders and Hindu Undivided Family (HUFs) are not eligible for opening of NPS accounts.
- NPS is **implemented and regulated by PFRDA** (Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority). Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- National Pension System Trust (NPST) established by PFRDA is the registered owner of all assets under NPS.

50. Ans: C

Exp:

- In 2019, the **Army changed its rules allowing Short Service Commission (SSC) officers women officers to opt for permanent commission** who would have otherwise retired after 14 years of service.
 - ◆ However, this was not retrospective, and applied only to the batches of women officers starting their career in the Army in 2020.
 - ◆ With the landmark **Supreme Court judgment of 2020, permanent commission was granted to**

women officers with retrospective effect. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

- Women officers who were inducted into the Army were inducted as SSC officers in 1992 and in the years after did not have the choice to opt for permanent commission.
 - ◆ JAG and Army Education Corps were exceptions, where a permanent commission was opened for them in 2008.
 - For other arms and services, women could not become permanent cadres, and had to retire much before they completed the service period that is mandatory to become a Colonel.
 - ◆ Women are **still not eligible in core combat arms such as Infantry, Mechanized Infantry and Armored Corps** as Army is not open to women fighting wars at the borders as foot soldiers. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
 - Much of this resistance stems from past instances of male soldiers being taken as prisoners of war and tortured by the enemy.
 - However, the Army has recently decided to open the Corps of Artillery, a combat support arm, to women.

51. Ans: D

Exp:

Sagar Parikrama:

- It is a navigation journey to be **conducted in all coastal states/Union Territories through a pre-decided sea route** to demonstrate solidarity with all fisherfolk, fish farmers and concerned stakeholders. Hence **statement 1 is correct**.
- It is envisioned as a part of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsava' **saluting our great freedom fighters, sailors and fishers. Hence statement 2 is correct**.
- The Parikrama will start from Mandvi, Gujarat in 1st phase and will be organised in other districts of Gujarat and other State/UTs in subsequent phases.
 - ◆ The **first leg of 'Sagar Parikrama'** shall start on 5th March 2022 from **Mandvi and end at Porbandar** on 6th March 2022.
 - ◆ The entire distance will be covered **from the coastline of Mandvi** on the coast of the **Arabian Sea** in the Kutch district of Gujarat, situated at the estuary where the **river Rukmavati meets the Gulf of Kutch**.



- ◆ The **Rukmavati River** is a south flowing river originating in the central Kutch District and empties into the Arabian Sea
- It will also conduct **interaction programmes with fishermen, fisher communities and stakeholders in these locations** and districts in order to know the problems of Coastal Fisher folk. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**
- It is envisaged in the sea across the coastal belt demonstrating solidarity with all fisher folk, fish farmers and concerned stakeholders as a spirit of **Atma Nirbhar Bharat**.

52. Ans: D

Exp:

- **About National Data and Analytics Platform:**
 - ◆ In May 2022, the **NITI Aayog**, in collaboration with ministries and state governments launched a transformational open data platform called the **NDAP**. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - ◆ It serves **foundational datasets from central and state government entities** in machine-readable formats, with user-friendly interface and powerful analytics.
 - ◆ The platform uses **cutting-edge methods to link diverse datasets from across the government and enables** the use of several types of data at once.
 - ◆ NDAP's target users include policymakers, civil servants, university students and researchers, journalists, innovators, and civil society groups. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
 - ◆ As of Feb 2023, **NDAP hosts 885 datasets from across 15 sectors and 46 Ministries.**
- **Objective:**
 - ◆ It is designed to **solve the issues that limit the use of government data today**, the design process of NDAP was preceded by extensive research with diverse data users to learn about their demand for government data, skills to use it effectively and challenges faced in doing so.

53. Ans: C

Exp:

- It will build upon the progress of **AMRUT** to address **water needs, rejuvenate water bodies, better manage aquifers, reuse treated wastewater**, thereby promoting a circular economy of water. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- It will provide 100% coverage of sewerage and septage in 500 AMRUT cities.
- **Pey Jal Survekshan** will be conducted in cities to ascertain equitable distribution of **water, reuse of wastewater and mapping of water bodies**. **Hence, statement 2 is correct. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

54. Ans: C

Exp:

- **SUPACE (Supreme Court Portal for Assistance in Court Efficiency):** It was recently launched by the Supreme Court of India.
- It is designed to first understand judicial processes that require automation, it then assists the Court in **improving efficiency and reducing pendency** by encapsulating judicial processes that have the capability of being automated through Artificial Intelligence.
- **Hence, option C is correct.**

55. Ans: B

Exp:

SAMARTH Initiative:

- Recently, on the occasion of **International Women's Day 2022**, the Union Minister for **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)**, launched a Special Entrepreneurship Promotion Drive for Women - "**SAMARTH**". **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- Under the Samarth initiative of the Ministry, following benefits will be available to aspiring and existing women entrepreneurs: **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ **20% Seats in free Skill Development Programs** organised under skill development schemes of the Ministry will be allocated for Women.
 - ◆ **20% of MSME Business Delegations** sent to domestic & international exhibitions under the schemes for Marketing Assistance implemented by the Ministry **will be dedicated to women owned MSMEs.**
 - ◆ **20% Discount on annual processing fee on National Small Industries Corporation's (NSIC) Commercial Schemes.**
 - ◆ **NSIC** is a Government of India Enterprise under the Ministry of MSME.
 - ◆ **Special Drive for registration** of women-owned MSMEs under Udyam Registration.
- Through this initiative, the Ministry of MSME is **focusing on providing Skill Development and Market Development Assistance to women.**

- ◆ More than 7500 women candidates from rural and sub-urban areas will be trained in the FY 2022-23.
- ◆ Besides, thousands of women will be getting marketing opportunities to showcase their products in domestic and international exhibitions.
- Also, to enhance the participation of women entrepreneurs in **Public Procurement**, a **special discount of 20% shall also be offered** on annual processing fee on NSIC's following commercial schemes during the year 2022-23:
 - ◆ Single Point Registration Scheme
 - ◆ Raw Material Assistance and Bill Discounting
 - ◆ Tender Marketing
 - ◆ B2B Portal msmemart.com

56. Ans- A

Exp:

- SPIN is India's first dedicated platform for innovation, curation, and venture development for the burgeoning space entrepreneurial ecosystem.
- The SPIN platform would create a level playing field for various stakeholders to collaborate and contribute to the space ecosystem in the country.
- SPIN will primarily focus on facilitating space tech entrepreneurs in three distinct innovation categories:
 - ◆ Geospatial Technologies and Downstream Applications
 - ◆ Enabling Technologies for Space & Mobility
 - ◆ Aerospace Materials, Sensors, and Avionics.
- Therefore, option A is correct.

57. Ans: C

Exp:

PM SVANidhi Scheme Extended:

The Prime Minister Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) Scheme has been extended beyond March, 2022.

The provisions for the Extended Scheme are:

- Extension of lending period till December 2024.
- Introduction of 3rd loan of up to ₹50,000 in addition to 1st & 2nd loans of ₹10,000 and ₹20,000 respectively. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- Extension of 'SVANidhi Se Samridhhi' component for all beneficiaries of PM SVANidhi scheme across the country.
 - ◆ 'SVANidhi Se Samridhhi' was launched in January 2021 to map the socio-economic profile of the

PM SVANidhi beneficiaries and their families. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

PM SVANidhi Scheme:

The scheme was announced as a part of the Economic Stimulus-II under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.

It has been implemented since 1st June 2020, for providing affordable working capital loans to street vendors to resume their livelihoods that have been adversely affected due to Covid-19 lockdowns.

It is a Central Sector Scheme i.e., fully funded by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.

58. Ans: C

Exp:

- The 74th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 established nagar panchayats, municipal councils and municipal corporations in small, big and very big urban areas respectively, Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- The State Finance Commission has been constituted under 74th Constitutional Amendment, to deal with financial affairs of the Panchayati raj bodies and also looks into the financial affairs of the local urban self-governing bodies, Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- Reservation of seats for women up to one-third seats, Hence, statement 3 is not correct.
- Reservation of seats in urban local bodies for Scheduled Castes / Scheduled Tribes roughly in proportion to their population, Hence, statement 4 is correct.

59. Ans: B

Exp:

- It functions under the aegis of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare.
- The National Agricultural Market (e-NAM) is a pan-India electronic trading portal.
- It was launched in April 2016 with the objective of integrating the existing Mandis to "One Nation One Market" for agricultural commodities in India. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- It networks the existing APMC mandis to create a unified national market for agricultural commodities and has a vision:
 - ◆ To promote uniformity in agriculture marketing by streamlining procedures across the integrated markets.
 - ◆ Removing information asymmetry between buyers and sellers and promoting real time price discovery based on actual demand and supply.



- Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- It provides for contactless remote bidding and mobile-based anytime payment for which traders do not need to either visit mandis or banks for the same.
- **Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC)** is the lead agency for implementing e-NAM. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

60. Ans: C

Exp:

- It was initiated in memory of the former President of India, Dr APJ Abdul Kalam.
- **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** provides a unique opportunity for start-ups and innovators to solve some key challenges in emerging technologies that can help boost India's defence & aerospace capabilities.
- DRDO has been launching this Contest every year since 2019 to bring together innovators, entrepreneurs, individuals above 18 years and start-ups.
- **Dare to Dream 2.0** and **Dare to Dream 3.0** were launched in 2020 and 2021, respectively.
- The selection criteria for evaluation of the entries are completeness of proposal, scientific soundness, design completeness, merit, technological readiness level achieved and innovation. Hence, option C is correct.

61. Ans: C

Exp:

NSDC was set up to narrow the gap between the demand and supply of skills. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

- **NSDC** was set up as part of a national skill development mission.
- The **NSDC** facilitates the development of ultra-low-cost, high-quality, innovative business models and attracts significant private investment. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

62. Ans: D

Exp:

- The Public distribution system (PDS) is an Indian food Security System established under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food, and Public Distribution.
- PDS evolved as a system of management of scarcity through distribution of food grains at affordable prices.
 - ◆ PDS is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State Governments. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.

- ◆ The Central and State Governments share responsibilities in order to provide food grains to the identified beneficiaries.
- ◆ The centre procures food grains from farmers at a minimum support price (MSP) and sells it to states at central issue prices. It is responsible for transporting the grains to godowns in each state.
- ◆ States bear the responsibility of transporting food grains from these godowns to each fair price shop (ration shop), where the beneficiary buys the food grains at the lower central issue price. Many states further subsidise the price of food grains before selling it to beneficiaries.

● **Importance of PDS system:**

- It helps in ensuring Food and Nutritional Security of the nation.
- It has helped in stabilising food prices and making food available to the poor at affordable prices. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
- It maintains the buffer stock of food grains in the warehouse so that the flow of food remain active even during period of less agricultural food production.
- It has helped in redistribution of grains by supplying food from surplus regions of the country to deficient regions.
- The system of minimum support price and procurement has contributed to the increase in food grain production.

63. Ans: C

Exp:

- **National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)** headquartered in New Delhi, was set-up in 1986 under the Ministry of Home Affairs to function as a repository of information on crime and criminals so as to assist the investigators in linking crime to the perpetrators. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- It was set up based on the recommendations of the **National Police Commission (1977-1981)** and the **MHA's Task Force (1985)**. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
- **Functions:**
 - ◆ The Bureau has been entrusted to maintain **National Database of Sexual Offenders (NDSO)** and share it with the States/UTs on regular basis.
 - ◆ NCRB has also been designated as the **Central Nodal Agency** to manage technical and operational functions of the 'Online Cyber-Crime

Reporting Portal' through which any citizen can lodge a complaint or upload a video clip as an evidence of crime related to child pornography, rape/gang rape.

- ◆ The responsibility of implementation of the **Inter-operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS)** has also been given to the NCRB. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- ◆ ICJS is a **national platform for enabling** integration of the main IT system used for delivery of Criminal Justice in the country.

64. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Swachhta Udyami Yojana** extends financial assistance for **Construction, Operation and Maintenance of Pay and Use Community Toilets in Public Private Partnership (PPP) Mode and Procurement and Operation of Sanitation related Vehicles.** **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment** launched the **Swachhta Udyami Yojana (SUJ).**
- **Procurement & Operation of Sanitation related Vehicles**
 - ◆ To create **appropriate infrastructure** for tapping the underutilized potential.
 - ◆ To create facilities for **collection of garbage** from the source.
 - ◆ To create employment opportunities for the target group of **safai karamcharis /manual scavengers.**
- Maximum subsidy of **Rs.3.25 lacs** is payable under the **Self Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers (SRMS)** when the unit is set up by the Scavengers identified in accordance with the **"Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013.** **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

65. Ans: B

Exp:

- The Sikkim government is **set to announce a scheme (Bahini) to install vending machines to provide free sanitary pads.**
- This is the **first time that a state government** has taken a decision to cover all girls studying in Classes 9-12.
- Purpose:
 - ◆ It aims at providing **"100% access to free and safe sanitary pads to secondary and senior secondary school going girls".**

- ◆ It is also aimed to **curb dropout of girls from schools** and raise awareness about menstrual hygiene.
- ◆ The scheme is based on an **experiment the state government initiated in 2018,** in collaboration with **Sulabh International,** where vending machines were installed in some schools.

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

66. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Crime and Criminal Tracking Network & Systems (CCTNS)** is a plan scheme conceived in the light of experience of a non-plan scheme namely **Common Integrated Police Application (CIPA).**
- **CCTNS** is a Mission Mode Project under the **National e-Governance Plan (NeGP)** of Govt. of India. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **CCTNS** aims at creating a **comprehensive and integrated system** for enhancing the **efficiency and effectiveness of policing** through adopting the principle of **e-Governance.**
- It is promoting nationwide **networking infrastructure** for the evolution of **IT-enabled-state-of-the-art tracking systems** around **'Investigation of crime and detection of criminals'.** **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

67. Ans: A

Exp:

- Recently, the **Minister of Law and Justice** has informed Lok Sabha that **"Designing Innovative Solutions for Holistic Access to Justice" (DISHA) Scheme** was launched for a period of **five years 2021-2026.**
 - ◆ It was launched in order to provide a comprehensive, holistic, integrated and systemic solution on access to justice at pan India level.
 - ◆ It aims to secure "Justice" to the people of India as enunciated in the Preamble and under Articles 39A, 14 and 21 of the Constitution of India.
- **Hence, option A is correct.**

68. Ans: C

Exp:

- This policy is based on the new model of Revenue Sharing Contract (RSC) which has replaced the earlier model of **Production Sharing Contract (PSC).** **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy (HELP)** was launched with the objective of boosting the production of **oil & gas** in the **Indian sedimentary basin.**



- **Open Acreage Licensing (OAL) mechanism** has been launched under the HELP policy. Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**

69. Ans: C

Explanation:

- In 2021 the government launched the ambitious **PM Gati Shakti scheme** or **National Master Plan for multi-modal connectivity plan**, with the aim of coordinated planning and execution of infrastructure projects to bring down logistics costs.
- Aim: To ensure integrated planning and implementation of infrastructure projects in the next four years, with **focus on expediting works on the ground, saving costs and creating jobs.**
- The Gati Shakti scheme will subsume the **Rs 110 lakh crore National Infrastructure Pipeline that was launched in 2019.**
- Besides cutting logistics costs, the scheme is also aimed at increasing cargo handling capacity and reducing the turnaround time at ports to boost trade.
- It also aims to have **11 industrial corridors and two new defence corridors** - one in Tamil Nadu and the other in Uttar Pradesh.
- Hence, **option C is correct.**

70. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Samarth (Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector)** is a flagship skill development scheme approved in continuation to the **Integrated Skill Development Scheme in textile Sector.** Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**
- **Management Information System (MIS)** shall act as an **integrated platform for registration and empanelment of Implementing Agencies.**
- A centralized web-based **Management Information System (MIS)** has been put in place for **monitoring and implementation** of the scheme. Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**

71. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Innovation and Agri-entrepreneurship Development program** has been launched under **Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana** in order to promote **innovation and Agri-entrepreneurship** by providing **financial support** and nurturing the incubation ecosystem. Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**
- **Kyari Innovations** is working on **mitigating human wildlife conflict** pan India and internationally. Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**

- ◆ They have created an innovative product called **ANIDERS- Animal Intrusion Detection and Repellent System.**

72. Ans: C

Exp:

- **SVAMITVA** is a **Central Sector Scheme** of the **Ministry of Panchayati Raj.**
- Scheme is a **reformative step** towards **establishment of clear ownership of property in rural** inhabited (Abadi) areas. Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**
- This scheme is intended to support the preparation of a better-quality **Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP)** by making use of **GIS maps.** Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**
- This scheme is intended to achieve **Gram Swaraj** in true sense and make rural India **Atmanirbhar.**

73 Ans: A

Exp:

- The Kisan credit cards (KCC) scheme was introduced in 1998 for **providing adequate and timely credit support from the banking system**, under a single window with flexible and simplified procedure to the farmers for their cultivation and other needs like purchase of agriculture inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, pesticides etc. and draw cash for their production needs. Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**
- In the Budget-2018-19, government announced the extension of the facility of Kisan Credit Card (KCC) to fisheries and animal husbandry farmers to help them to meet their working capital needs.
- **Implementing Agencies:**
 - ◆ Commercial Banks
 - ◆ Regional Rural Banks (RRBs)
 - ◆ Small Finance Banks
 - ◆ Cooperatives
 - ◆ Hence, **statement 2 is not correct.**

74 Ans: C

Exp:

- In order to promote **e-Governance** in a holistic manner, various policy initiatives and projects have been undertaken to develop core and support infrastructure.
- The major core infrastructure components are **State Data Centres (SDCs), State Wide Area Networks (S.W.A.N), Common Services Centres (CSCs).** Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**
- **Unified Farmer Service Platform (UFSP):**

- ◆ This is a platform which helps in seamless interoperability of various public and private IT systems in the agriculture domain. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- ◆ It acts as a **central agency** in the **agri ecosystem**.
- ◆ It also enables the **Registration of Service Providers**.

75. Ans: C

Exp:

- Government has been promoting **organic farming** under the dedicated scheme of **Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)** which encourages all kinds of **chemical-free farming systems** including **Zero Budget Natural Farming**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **National Sample Survey Office (NSSO)** data indicates more than **50 per cent** of all farmers are in debt due to increased cost of farm inputs like fertilizers and chemical pesticides.
- **Jiwamrita** is prepared using **cow dung** and **cow urine**. It is used as an input for the plants. It is a **fermented microbial culture** obtained from **cow dung, urine, jaggery, pulse flour and uncontaminated soil**. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

76. Ans: C

Exp:

- The **Atal Innovation Mission** has established Atal Tinkering Laboratories (ATLs) in schools across India. The objective of this scheme is to foster curiosity, creativity and imagination in young minds; and inculcate skills such as design mindset, computational thinking, adaptive learning, physical computing etc.
 - ◆ Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) is **Government of India's flagship initiative** to promote a **culture of innovation and entrepreneurship in the country**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Atal Innovation Mission is a work space where young minds can give shape to their ideas through hands on do-it-yourself mode; and learn innovation skills. Young children get a chance to work with tools and equipment to understand the concepts of **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math)**. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

77. Ans: C

Exp:

- The government of India accords priority to **Japanese Encephalitis (JE)-Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES)** affected Districts to ensure potable tap water supply in

all the households under **Jal Jeevan Mission**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- Once a village is declared as "**Har Ghar Jal**", the Gram Panchayat of that village conducts a special Gram Sabha and passes a resolution with the concurrence of all the village members that all the **households, schools, Anganwadi, and public institutions** in their village have functional tap connection and thus declare themselves as "**Har Ghar Jal Certified**".
- **National Centre for Drinking Water, Sanitation, and Quality** has been entrusted with the task of empanelment and deployment of **National WASH Experts** for ground truthing and technical assistance to States in the implementation of the **Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)**. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

78. Ans: B

Exp:

- Under **Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana (PMGKAY)**, **5 kg of food grain per person per month** is provided free of cost for all the beneficiaries covered under the **National Food Security Act (NFSA)** including those covered under **Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)**. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- Its **nodal Ministry** is the **Ministry of Finance**.
- The benefit of the free ration can be availed through portability by any migrant labor or beneficiary under the **One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC)** plan. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

79. Ans: A

Exp:

- OBCs are a group of socially and educationally disadvantaged communities identified by the Indian government for affirmative action in education and employment. **Hence, option A is correct.**
- **Evolution of OBC category:**
 - ◆ The **Kalelkar Commission, set up in 1953**, was the **first to identify backward classes other than the Scheduled Castes (SCs)** and Scheduled Tribes (STs) at the national level.
 - ◆ The **Mandal Commission Report, 1980** estimated the **OBC population at 52%** and classified **1,257 communities** as backward.
 - It recommended increasing the existing quotas, which were only for SC/ST, from 22.5% to 49.5% to include the OBCs.
 - ◆ **The central government reserved 27%** of seats in union civil posts and services for OBCs [Article



16(4)]. The quotas were subsequently enforced in central government educational institutions [Article 15 (4)].

- In 2008, the **Supreme Court** directed the central government to **exclude the creamy layer (advanced sections) among the OBCs**.
- ◆ The **102nd Constitution Amendment Act, 2018** provided constitutional status to the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC), which was previously a statutory body under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

80. Ans: A

Expl:

- Under PM-KISAN, an amount of Rs. 6000 is annually transferred to each farmer's direct benefit transfer (DBT)-linked bank account in three equal instalments, irrespective of their land holdings. The number of beneficiaries has crossed 110 million from 31 million at the beginning of the scheme (in 2019).
- PM-KISAN is a Central Sector (CS) Scheme; however, the entire responsibility of identification of beneficiary farmer families rests with the State / UT Govts.
- Small and marginal farmers, All landholding are eligible under the scheme but institutional landholders such as Trusts, Co-operative Societies, and Institutional farmers are not eligible for the scheme.
- **Hence, option (a) is correct.**

81. Ans: B

Expl:

- Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana is a **pension scheme for senior citizens aged 60 years and above**.
- Available till March 31, 2023, the scheme offers interest rate of 7.4%. In the present scenario no other scheme or instrument holds out such a high rate for a tenure of 10 years.
- The scheme is administered by the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) and is available for purchase from designated branches of LIC.
- **Hence, option B is correct.**

82. Ans: A

Exp:

Recently, the Union Cabinet has approved the creation of the **Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization**

Centre (IN-SPACe) to provide a level playing field for private companies to use Indian space infrastructure. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- This is part of reforms aimed at giving a **boost to private sector participation** in the entire range of space activities.
- **Objectives:**
 - ◆ **Research and Development Activities:** These reforms will allow ISRO to focus more on new technologies, exploration missions and **human spaceflight programme**.
 - Some of the planetary exploration missions will also be opened up to the private sector through an **'announcement of opportunity'** mechanism.
 - ◆ **Fruitful Dissemination of Space Technologies:** Allowing industries and others like students, researchers or academic bodies greater access to space assets would lead to a much better utilisation of India space resources. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
 - **Socio-economic use of Space Assets:** The proposed body would attempt to enhance the activities, including access to space assets data and activities
 - **Global Technology Powerhouse:** It will enable Indian Industry to be an important player in the global space economy. With this, there is an opportunity for **large-scale employment in the technology sector** and India becoming a Global technology powerhouse.

83. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Bulk Drug Parks** are being promoted through the **production-linked incentive (PLI) schemes**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The government plans to implement a PLI system with **10-20% output incentives** for the **agrochemical sector** to create an **end-to-end manufacturing ecosystem** through the growth of clusters.
- **The PLI scheme** was conceived to scale up **domestic manufacturing capability**, accompanied by **higher import substitution and employment generation**. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

84. Ans; C

Exp;

- A **seed fund** is an **investment fund** that provides **financial support to startups**, usually in the form of **seed capital**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- **Seed capital** is the earliest **stage of investment in a startup**, typically used to finance the company's **initial operations, product development, and market research**.
- The **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)** has established the **Experts Advisory Committee (EAC)** to oversee and monitor the implementation of the **Startup India Seed Fund Scheme**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

85. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Union Budget 2023-2024** has allocated nearly Rs 100 crore for the National Action for Mechanized Sanitation Ecosystem (NAMASTE) and the government is looking to enable 100% mechanical desludging of septic tanks and sewers in all cities and towns. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- It was launched in 2022 as a **Central Sector Scheme**. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.
- The scheme is being undertaken **jointly by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs and the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (MoSJE)** and aims to eradicate unsafe sewer and septic tank cleaning practices.
- **Livelihood Assistance under scheme**: The Action Plan will promote mechanization and enterprise development by providing funding support and subsidy (capital + interest) to the sanitation workers, to procure sanitation related equipments. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.

86. Ans: B

Exp:

- The **Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM)** is one of the largest pan-India health schemes for strengthening healthcare infrastructure.
- PM-ABHIM aims to fill the critical gaps in public health infrastructure, especially in critical care facilities and primary care in urban and rural areas. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- The **Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM)** is a **Centrally sponsored Scheme**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

87. Ans: C

Exp:

Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999:

- The legal framework for the **administration of foreign exchange transactions** in India is provided by the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999.
- Under the FEMA, which came into force with effect from 1st June 2000, **all transactions involving foreign exchange have been classified either as capital or current account transactions**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- **Resident Indians:**
 - ◆ A '**person resident in India**' is defined in **Section 2(v) of FEMA, 1999** as:
 - ◆ Barring few exceptions, a person **residing in India for more than 182 days** during the course of the preceding financial year. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
 - ◆ Any person or body corporate **registered or incorporated in India**.
 - ◆ An office, branch or agency in India **owned or controlled by a person resident outside India**.
 - ◆ An office, branch or agency outside India **owned or controlled by a person resident in India**.

88. Ans: C

Exp:

- Under the **Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)**, fishermen are eligible for various benefits such as **insurance coverage, financial assistance and access to the Kisan Credit Card facility**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- It is implemented as an **umbrella scheme** with two separate components namely:
 - ◆ **Central Sector Scheme**: The project cost will be borne by the Central government.
 - ◆ **Centrally Sponsored Scheme**: All the sub-components/activities will be implemented by the States/UTs and the cost will be shared between the Centre and State.
- The motto of the **Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)** is to "**Reform, Perform, and Transform**" the fisheries sector. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

89. Ans: C

Exp:

- **About Jadui Pitara:**
 - ◆ Jadui Pitara is a **play-based learning-teaching material** tailored for children between the age group of 3-8 years. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.



- ◆ It comprises playbooks, toys, puzzles, posters, flash cards, story books, worksheets as well as reflecting the local culture, social context and languages is designed to pique curiosity and accommodate the diverse needs of learners in the foundational stage. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- ◆ Jadui Pitara has been developed under the **National Curriculum Framework (NCF)** and is available in 13 Indian languages. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
 - It aims at enriching the **learning-teaching environment and making it more child-centric**, lively and joyful for the Amrit Generation as envisioned in the NEP 2020.

90. Ans: B

Exp:

- **About Sagar Prakrma:**
 - ◆ It is a navigation journey to be conducted in all coastal states/UTs through a pre-decided sea route to demonstrate solidarity with all fisherfolk, fish farmers and concerned stakeholders. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- **Significance:**
 - ◆ It will focus on **sustainable balance between the utilisation of marine fisheries resources for food security** of the nation and livelihoods of coastal fisher communities and protection of marine ecosystems. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

91. Ans: D

Exp:

- **UDISE Plus Report** is a comprehensive study that provides information on enrollment and **dropout rates of school students, number of teachers in schools, and information on other infrastructural facilities like toilets, buildings and electricity.** **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- It was launched in **2018-2019** to speed up data entry, reduce errors, improve data quality and ease its verification.
- The **Ministry of Education** has released this report, as well as the **Performance Grading Index (PGI) for 2020-21.** **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

92. Ans: C

Exp:

- **UNICEF** is basically intended to establish **children's rights** as enduring **ethical principles** and **international standards of behavior** towards children.

- It is guided by the **Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989.** **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- It eventually expanded its scope to the **struggle of women, especially mothers**, in the developing world. For example, it launched its '**Women in Development Programme**' in **1980.** **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **The work of UNICEF includes:**
 - ◆ Child Development and Nutrition,
 - ◆ Child Protection,
 - ◆ Education,
 - ◆ Child Environment,
 - ◆ Polio Eradication,
 - ◆ Reproductive and Child Health,
 - ◆ Children and AIDS,
 - ◆ Social Policy, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation,
 - ◆ Advocacy and Partnership,
 - ◆ Behavior Change Communication,
 - ◆ Emergency Preparedness and Response.

93. Ans: (c)

Exp:

Pradhan Mantri Schools for Rising India (PM-SHRI) scheme:

- It is a **Centrally Sponsored scheme** for upgradation and development of more than 14500 Schools across the country. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- It aims at strengthening the selected existing schools from amongst schools managed by Central Government/ State/ UT Government/ local bodies. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- It will **showcase all components of the National Education Policy 2020** and act as exemplar schools and also offer mentorship to other schools in their vicinity.
- The aim of these schools will not only be qualitative teaching, learning and cognitive development, but also creating holistic and well-rounded individuals equipped with key 21st century skills.

94. Ans: D

Exp:

- **Article 343(1)** of the Indian Constitution states that the **official language of the Union** shall be **Hindi in Devanagari Script.** **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The **Devanagari script** is used for over 120 languages and dialects, including **Hindi, Marathi, Nepali, Pali, Konkani, Bodo, Sindhi, and Maithili**, making it one of the most widely used and adopted writing systems in the world. **Classical Sanskrit texts** are also written in **Devanagari.**

- **Devanagari Script** traces its origin from the **Brahmi script**. It has a Brahmi system of phonetics. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

95. Ans: C

Exp:

- Preventive detention is when a person is held in police custody only on the basis of a suspicion that they would conduct a criminal act or cause harm to society.
 - ◆ The police have the authority to hold anyone they suspect of committing a criminal offence and also to make arrests without a warrant or a magistrate's authorization in certain cases.
- According to the latest crime statistics released by the **National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)**, there is a rise in Preventive detentions in 2021 of about 23% compared to 2020, with over 1.1 lakh people being placed under preventive detention **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The period of detention under preventive detention is up to two years. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

96. Ans: B

Exp:

- The National Center for disease Control was established to function as a national center of excellence for control of communicable diseases. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The function of the institute also included various areas of training and research using a multidisciplinary integrated approach.
- The NCDC investigates and recommends control measures for the outbreaks of various communicable diseases to the States/UTs all over the country as well as to some neighboring countries. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The institute was, in addition, expected to provide expertise to the States and Union Territories (UTs) on rapid health assessment and laboratory based diagnostic services.

97. Ans: B

Exp:

- **Foundational Learning Survey (FLS)** aims to set-up benchmarks for reading with comprehension in 22 Indian languages.
 - ◆ **Background:** FLS was undertaken in 2022 as a crucial step towards strengthening efforts for Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) under the **NIPUN Bharat Mission**.

- ◆ **Samples Size:** FLS was carried out among **86,000 class III children in 10,000 schools** in the country.

- **Categorization:**

- ◆ **Based on children's performances, they were placed in four categories:**

- Those who lacked the **most basic knowledge and skills**
- Those who have **limited knowledge and skills**
- Those who have **developed sufficient knowledge and skill**
- Those who have **developed superior knowledge,**
- It was carried out **jointly by the Union Ministry of Education and the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)**. Therefore, option B is correct.

98. Ans: B

Exp:

- The **Bihar Rural Livelihoods Promotion Society (BRLPS)** is an **autonomous body** under the **Department of Rural Development, GOB**.
- **The Bihar Rural Livelihoods Project (BRLP)**, locally referred to as **JEEViKA** and funded by the **World Bank**. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- It was launched by the **Bihar Rural Livelihoods Promotion Society (BRLPS)** with the goal of empowering the rural poor on both a social and economic level.
- The **Livelihoods Restoration and Enhancement component** of **Bihar Kosi Flood Recovery Project (BKFRP)** was also taken into the fold of **JEEVIKA**. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

99. Ans: B

Exp:

- **Section 69 (A) of the Information Technology Act** confers on the **Central and State** governments the power to issue directions **"to intercept, monitor or decrypt any information generated, transmitted, received or stored in any computer resource"**. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- **Section 69A** enables the Center to ask any agency of the government, or any intermediary, to block access to the public of any information generated, transmitted, received or stored or hosted on any computer resource.
- The term **'intermediaries'** includes providers of **telecom service, network service, Internet service**



and web hosting, besides search engines, online payment and auction sites, online marketplaces and cyber cafes. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

100. Ans: A

Exp:

- The Ni-kshay Mitra Initiative is a part of the Pradhan Mantri TB Mukh Bharat Abhiyan. It is to ensure additional diagnostic, nutritional, and vocational support to those on TB treatment. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- Ni-kshay Mitra (Donor) for this program include cooperative societies, corporates, elected representatives, individuals, institutions, non-governmental organizations, political parties and partners who can support by adopting health facilities (for individual donor), blocks/urban wards/districts/states for accelerating response against TB to complement government efforts, as per the district-specific requirements in coordination with the district administration.
- The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) is implementing an ambitious National Strategic Plan with the goal to achieve SDG End TB targets by 2025. Hence statement 2 is not correct.

101. Ans: B

Expl:

- MGNREGA is one of the largest work guarantee programmes in the world.
- The primary objective of the scheme is to guarantee 100 days of employment in every financial year to adult members of any rural household willing to do public work-related unskilled manual work. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- Unlike earlier employment guarantee schemes, the act aims at addressing the causes of chronic poverty through a rights-based framework.
- At least one-third of beneficiaries have to be women.
- Wages must be paid according to the statutory minimum wages specified for agricultural labourers in the state under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948.
- People in the 18 to 60 age group are eligible for the scheme. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.

102. Ans: C

Expl:

- Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) was introduced by the Government of India, as part of the 'Atma Nirbhar Bharat' package with the investment of

Rs. 20,050 crores, the highest ever investment in the Fishery sector.

- Fishermen are provided with insurance cover, financial assistance and a facility of Kisan Credit Card as well. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- PMMSY aims towards the purpose of rural development by utilizing rural resources and boosting rural economy in a rapid way. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- The main motto of PMMSY is 'Reform, Perform and Transform' in the fisheries sector.
- The reforms and initiatives in PMMSY scheme have been inculcated in:
 - ◆ Core & trunk infrastructure development
 - ◆ Modernization of Indian fisheries by undertaking the efforts such as:
 - ◆ Push for new fishing harbours/landing centres
 - ◆ Modernisation and mechanization of traditional fishermen crafts-trawlers-deep sea going vessels
 - ◆ Provision of post-harvest facilities to reduce post-harvest loss
 - ◆ Cold chains facilities
 - ◆ Clean and hygienic fish markets
 - ◆ Two wheelers with ice boxes

103. Ans: D

Exp:

Deemed University:

- Deemed University is a type of higher education institute, it has been recognized by the status of "deemed to be university" under Section 3 of the University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956. Hence statement 1 is correct.
- In broad terms, it means that the institution has been granted permission to offer its own degree programs, which are equivalent to those provided by regular universities. Hence statement 2 is correct.
 - ◆ There are many benefits of being a Deemed University, such as increased funding opportunities and attracting better faculty. Additionally, these institutions often have more flexible admissions policies.
 - The authority to revise the curriculum.
 - The right to conduct examinations and evaluations.

104. Ans: C

Exp:

- A party is recognised as a national party if any of the following conditions are fulfilled:

- If it secures **6% of valid votes polled in any four or more states** at a general election to the Lok Sabha or to the legislative assembly and in addition, it **wins four seats** in the Lok Sabha from any state or states. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct.**

◆ If it wins **2% of seats in the Lok Sabha** at a general election and these candidates are **elected from three states**, Hence, **statement 2 is not correct.**

◆ If it is **recognised as a state party in four states**. Hence, **statement 3 is correct.**

105. Ans: D

Expl:

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Gramin):

- **Ministry Involved:** Ministry of Rural development.
- **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, **option (d) is correct.**
- **Selection of Beneficiaries:** Through a three-stage validation - **Socio-Economic Caste Census 2011, Gram Sabha**, and **geo-tagging.**
- **Cost Sharing:** The cost of unit assistance is shared between Central and State Governments in the ratio of **60:40 in plain areas and 90:10 for North Eastern and hilly states.**

106. Ans: D

Exp:

- **Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India signed a USD 96.3-million loan agreement** to provide safe drinking water and improve water supply and sanitation services in the state of **Himachal Pradesh.** Hence, **statement 1 is not correct.**
- The objective of the **Government of India's Jal Jeevan Mission** is to provide **pipied water** to all rural households by **2024.** Hence, **statement 2 is not correct.**
- It will upgrade water supply infrastructure and strengthen institutional capacity to ensure safe,

sustainable, and inclusive rural water supply and sanitation services.

- The project will strengthen the capacity of the **Jal Shakti Vibhag** of the Government of **Himachal Pradesh** and **gram panchayat (local government)** village water and sanitation committees.

107. Ans: B

Exp:

- **Coal, lignite, natural gas, oil, hydro and nuclear power** are all conventional **sources of energy.**
- Wind, solar, agricultural and **domestic waste** are the **non-conventional sources of energy.** Hence, **statement 1 is not correct.**
- India was ranked **fourth in wind power, fifth in solar power and fourth in renewable power** installed capacity, as of **2020.** Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**
- India is the world's **fifth largest ethanol producer after the US, Brazil, EU and China.**
- **Self-reliance through green energy initiatives** is the foundation of a **green and sustainable economy.**

108. Ans: B

Explanation:

- CERC is a **regulator of the power sector in India.**
- It intends to promote competition, efficiency and economy in bulk power markets, improve the quality of supply, promote investments and advise the government on the removal of institutional barriers to bridge the demand supply gap.
- It is a **statutory body functioning with quasi-judicial status** under the Electricity Act 2003.
 - ◆ Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- CERC was initially constituted under the **Electricity Regulatory Commissions Act, 1998** on 24th July, 1998.
 - ◆ Hence, statement 2 is correct.

109. Ans: D

Explanation:

- **The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India** was established on 1st October, 2016 under the **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (Code).**
- It has **regulatory oversight** over the **Insolvency Professionals, Insolvency Professional Agencies, Insolvency Professional Entities and Information Utilities.**
 - ◆ Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- It writes and enforces rules for processes, namely, corporate insolvency resolution, corporate liquidation,



individual insolvency resolution and individual bankruptcy under the Code.

- The Board has the **same powers as are vested in a civil court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908**, while trying a suit, in respect of the following matters, namely:—

- ◆ The discovery and production of books of account and other documents, at such place and such time as may be specified by the Board.
- ◆ Summoning and enforcing the attendance of persons and examining them on oath.
- ◆ Inspection of any books, registers and other documents of any person at any place.
- ◆ Issuing of commissions for the examination of witnesses or documents.
- ◆ **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

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

110. Ans: B

Expl:

MGNREGA Scheme

- MGNREGA is one of the largest work guarantee programmes in the world.
- The primary objective of the scheme is to guarantee 100 days of employment in every financial year to adult members of any rural household willing to do public work-related unskilled manual work.
 - ◆ All adult members (18 years and above) of any family residing in Rural India and willing to do manual unskilled work. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- Under Section 17 of the MGNREGA, all works executed under the program must undergo a social audit. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Every Social Audit Unit is entitled to funds equivalent to 0.5% of the MNREGA expenditure incurred by the State in the previous year.
 - ◆ The audit involves quality checks of infrastructure created under the MNREGA, financial misappropriation in wages, and checking for any procedural deviations.

111. Ans: B

Exp:

- **National Ayush Mission (NAM)** is a centrally sponsored scheme implemented by the Ministry of Ayush. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The scheme involves expansion of the **AYUSH sector** to promote holistic health of Indians.

- **Central sector schemes** are 100% funded by the **Central government**. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **Centrally sponsored schemes** are those run by the centre in which the central government and the states government both contribute financially.

112. Ans: C

Exp:

- The Chairperson and other members of **TRAI** shall hold their office for a term of **three years** or till the age of **65 years**, whichever is earlier. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The decisions in the meetings are taken by the **majority vote of the members present.**
- In the event of an **equality of votes**, the **Chairperson** (or the member presiding over the meeting) gives a **second or casting vote**. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- In the absence of the **chairperson**, the **vice-chairperson** presides over the meetings.

113. Ans: A

Exp:

- **The Community Forest Resource rights** under Section 3(1)(i) of the **Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (Commonly referred to as the Forest Rights Act)** provides for recognition of the right to **“protect, regenerate or conserve or manage”** the community forest resource.
- These rights **allow the community to formulate rules for forest use by itself and others** and thereby discharge its responsibilities under Section 5 of the Forest Rights Act.
- **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Once CFRR is recognised by a community, **the ownership of the forest passes into the hands of the Gram Sabha instead of the forest department.**
 - ◆ Effectively, the **Gram Sabha has become the nodal body for management of the forests.**
- **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Chhattisgarh is **only the second state** to have recognised CFR rights inside a national park i.e., Kanger Ghati National Park.
 - ◆ In 2016, the **Odisha government was the first to recognise Community Forest Resources (CFRs)** inside the Simlipal National Park.
- **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**



114. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Gati Shakti** is a digital platform that will bring 16 ministries including railways and roadways together for integrated planning and coordinated implementation of infrastructure connectivity projects. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- Besides **cutting logistics costs**, the scheme is also aimed at **increasing cargo handling capacity and reducing the** turnaround time at ports to boost trade.
- **The Gati Shakti scheme** subsumed the **National Infrastructure Pipeline project** that was launched in 2019. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- It also aims to have 11 industrial corridors and two new defence corridors - one in **Tamil Nadu** and other in **Uttar Pradesh**

115. Ans: B

Exp:

- The **“JALDOOT App,”** created by the **Ministry of Rural Development**, will be used all throughout the nation to record the water level in particular village wells. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- **Gram Rojgar Sahayak (GRS)** can use the Jaldoot app to measure the water level in a selected well twice a year (pre-monsoon and post-monsoon).
- The **Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP)** and **Mahatma Gandhi NREGA** planning exercises might both make use of the ground water data. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Additionally, the data may be utilized for a variety of research projects and other things.

116. Ans: C

Exp:

About Deep Ocean Mission:

- Recently, the **Ministry of Earth Sciences** has launched the Deep Ocean Mission (DOM).
- DOM is a mission mode project to support the Blue Economy Initiatives of the Government of India.
- Earlier, the Ministry of Earth Sciences had also rolled out the draft Blue Economy Policy.
- **Hence, option C is correct.**

117. Ans: B

Exp:

- The **Ministry of Home Affairs** has the authority to declare any organization/association unlawful under the **Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act of 1967.** **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**

- The **Government of India** has banned the **Popular Front of India** and its affiliates for **five years** under the **Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act 1967** for having terror links.
- According to the **UAPA**, the government has the authority to **“prohibit use of funds”** also by an **“unlawful association.”** **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- In order to deal with terrorism crimes, it **deviates from ordinary legal procedures** and creates an **exceptional regime** where constitutional safeguards of the accused are curtailed.

118. Ans: D

Exp:

Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PM-GKAY) is a part of the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package (PMGKP) to help the poor fight the battle against Covid-19.

- The scheme **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 1 is correct.**
- It was initially announced for a three-month period (April, May and June 2020), covering 80 crore ration cardholders. Later it was extended till September 2022.
- Its nodal Ministry is the Ministry of Finance.
- The **benefit of the free ration can be availed** through portability by any migrant labour or beneficiary **under the One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) plan** from nearly 5 lakh ration shops across the country. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

119. Ans: B

Exp:

- The platform was **soft launched in September 2021** by the Ministry of Commerce and Industries. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- It is a **one-stop digital platform that aims at allowing investors to apply for various pre-operations approvals** required for commencing a business in the country.
 - ◆ Further, It makes the **business registration process easier**, allowing the beneficiary to get significant approvals online, without having to run to the government offices for approvals and can avail themselves of services with just a click. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**



- It will also offer a **Know Your Approvals service to inform businesses of the details of all the approvals** they need to obtain as well as a common registration form, document repository and e-communication module. **Hence, statement 3 is correct**

120. Ans: C

Exp:

- Recently, the **Fourth Round (January-March, 2022)** of the **Quarterly Employment Survey (QES)**, part of the **All-India Quarterly Establishment-based Employment Survey (AQEES)**, was released by the **Labour Bureau**, Ministry of Labour and Employment.
- The AQEES has been taken up by the **Labour Bureau** to provide **frequent (quarterly) updates about the employment and related variables** of establishments, in both **organised and unorganised segments** of nine selected sectors.
- **Hence, option C is correct.**

121. Ans: D

Exp:

The PLI scheme was conceived to **scale up domestic manufacturing capability**, accompanied by higher import substitution and employment generation.

- The government has set **aside Rs 1.97 lakh crore under the PLI schemes for various sectors** and an additional allocation of Rs 19,500 crore was made towards PLI for solar PV modules in **Budget 2022-23**.
- Launched in March 2020, the scheme initially **targeted three industries**:
 - Mobile and allied Component Manufacturing
 - Electrical Component Manufacturing and
 - Medical Devices, **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ The Government introduced this scheme to **reduce India's dependence on China and other foreign countries.**
 - ◆ It supports the labor-intensive sectors and aims to increase the employment ratio in India.
 - ◆ This scheme works to reduce the import bills and **boost domestic production.**
 - ◆ However, PLI Yojana invites foreign companies to set up their units in India and encourages domestic enterprises to expand their production units. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ The incentives, calculated on the **basis of incremental sales, range from as low as 1% for the electronics and technology products to as high as 20% for the manufacturing of critical key**

starting drugs and certain drug intermediaries.

Hence, statement 3 is correct.

122. Ans: B

Explanation:

Recently, the Serious Frauds Investigation Office (SFIO) has arrested the alleged mastermind of a widespread racket involving the setting up of shell companies with Chinese links and supply of dummy directors.

- SFIO is a **multi-disciplinary organization under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs**, consisting of experts in the field of **accountancy, forensic auditing, law, information technology, investigation, company law, capital market and taxation for detecting and prosecuting or recommending for prosecution white-collar crimes/frauds.**
- **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - ◆ It has its head office in New Delhi.
- **Section 211 of the Companies Act, 2013**, has accorded **statutory status** to the Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO).
- SFIO also has powers to arrest people for the violation of the Company law.
- **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

123. Ans: C

Exp:

Recently, the **Ministry of Education** has released the **"mandate document"** for a **National Curriculum Framework under the new National Education Policy (NEP), 2020. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- Central to the implementation of the transformative National Education Policy 2020 is the new National Curriculum Framework (NCF) which will empower and enable outstanding teaching and learning in the country, by converting the vision of the NEP 2020 into reality in our schools and classrooms.
- The development of the NCF is being guided by the National Steering Committee (NSC), **chaired by Dr K Kasturirangan**, supported by the Mandate Group, along with the National Council for Education Research and Training (NCERT). **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- The NCF will include:
 - The National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCFSE),
 - ◆ The National Curriculum Framework for Early Childhood Care & Education (NCFECE),
 - ◆ The National Curriculum Framework for Teacher Education (NCFTE),



- ◆ The National Curriculum Framework for Adult Education (NCFAE). Hence, statement 3 is correct.

124. Ans: C

Exp:

- A unicorn is **any privately owned firm with a market capitalization of more than USD 1 billion**.
 - ◆ It denotes **new entities** dedicated to offering creative solutions and new business models, among other things. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- India has become the **3rd largest start-up ecosystem** in the world after the US and China.
- India is home to as many as **75,000 Startups**.
 - ◆ 49% of start-ups are from **tier-2 and tier-3 cities**.
 - ◆ There are currently **105 unicorns**, out of which 44 were born in 2021 and 19 in 2022. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- The 'Prarambh' Summit aims to provide a platform to startups and young minds from around the world to come up with new ideas, innovations and inventions. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

125. Ans: A

Exp:

- The **National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)** is the **apex statutory body for disaster management** in India. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- The NDMA was formally constituted on 27th September 2006, in **accordance with the Disaster Management Act, 2005** with the **Prime Minister as its Chairperson** and nine other members, and one such member to be designated as Vice-Chairperson. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
- Its primary purpose is to coordinate response to natural or man-made disasters and for capacity-building in disaster resiliency and crisis response. It is also the apex body to lay down policies, plans and guidelines for Disaster Management to ensure timely and effective response to disasters.

126. Ans: B

Exp:

Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana:

- 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 not correct.

- It was initially announced for a **three-month period (April, May and June 2020)**, covering 80 crore ration cardholders. Later it was extended till November 2020.

- The scheme is aimed at providing each **person who is covered under the NFSA (National Food Security Act 2013)** with an additional 5 kg grains (wheat or rice) for free, in addition to the 5 kg of subsidized food grain already provided through the **Public Distribution System (PDS)**. Hence statement 2 is correct.

- The new version of the PMGKAY lacks one of its important components which was there in 2020 PMGKAY i.e free-of-cost 1 kg pulses per month to each household covered under the NFSA.

127. Ans: B

Exp:

- **Swadesh Darshan Scheme:** Under it, the Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance (CFA) to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for **infrastructure development of 13 identified theme based circuits**. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

- The '**National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive (PRASAD)**' was launched by the Ministry of Tourism in the year 2014-15 with the objective of holistic **development of identified pilgrimage destinations**.

- ◆ The name of the scheme was changed from PRASAD to "National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)" in October 2017. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

- The **Ministry of Tourism**, Government of India, has been organizing the International **Buddhist Conclave biennially since 2004**.

- ◆ The earlier International Buddhist Conclaves were organized in New Delhi and Bodhgaya (February 2004), Nalanda and Bodhgaya (February 2010), Varanasi and Bodhgaya (2012 and 2014) and in Sarnath/Varanasi and Bodhgaya (October 2016), New Delhi (2018). Hence, statement 3 is not correct.

128. Ans: D

Exp:

Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna (PMFBY):

- It is a **central-state scheme**, introduced in the 2016-17 kharif season. It aims to cushion farmers against crop loss.



◆ The central and state governments pay more than 95% of the premium amount while the farmer bears 1.5-5% of the premium. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.

● As extensive usage of technology is used to settle the claims of farmers within a stipulated time period, farmers are required to fill loss reports online which are validated by insurance companies before the compensation amount is paid directly in their accounts.

◆ Prior to 2020, the scheme was mandatory for farmers who availed institutional finance, but that was changed and made voluntary for all farmers. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

129. Ans: B

Exp:

PM Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel (PM MITRA) Parks Scheme:

● About:

◆ A park will be developed by a **Special Purpose Vehicle** which will be **owned by the Central and State Governments** and in a **Public Private Partnership (PPP) Mode**. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.

◆ Each Park will have an incubation centre, common processing house and a common effluent treatment plant and other textile-related facilities such as design centres and testing centres.

● Funding:

◆ The centre will provide **development capital support** for the development of common infrastructure of **Rs 500 crore for each greenfield MITRA park** and up to **Rs 200 crore for each brownfield park**. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

○ Greenfield describes a completely new project that must be executed from scratch, while a brownfield project is one that has been worked on by others.

● Eligibility for Incentives:

◆ An additional **Rs 300 crore will be provided as Competitiveness Incentive Support** for the early establishment of textile manufacturing units in each of these parks.

◆ Investors who set up **“anchor plants” that employ at least 100 people** will be eligible for incentives of up to **Rs 10 crore every year** for up to three years.

130. Ans: C

Exp:

● The **Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)** is expected to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for the people in India.

● **Eat Right India** is aligned to the **National Health Policy 2017**. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

● **‘Eat Right India’**, is built on three broad pillars of **‘Eat Healthy’**, **‘Eat Safe’** and **‘Eat Sustainably’**. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

131. Ans: B

Exp:

● National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) may allow a price hike of over 10% in the drugs and devices listed under the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM).

● **National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA)** was constituted by the Government of India in 1997 as an attached office of the Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP), **Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers** as an independent Regulator for pricing of drugs and to ensure availability and accessibility of medicines at affordable prices. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.

● It was made to fix/revise prices of controlled bulk drugs and formulations and to enforce price and availability of the medicines in the country, **under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995-2013 (DPCO)**. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

◆ A bulk drug — also called Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient (API) — is the chemical molecule in a medicine that lends the product the claimed therapeutic effect.

132. Ans: B

Exp:

H2Ooooh! – Waterwise program for the Children of India:

● It was **launched by UNESCO in July 2021**, jointly with the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) and others.

● H2Ooooh! is a unique program crafted for **Indian school students from Standard 1-8**.

● It aims to **increase awareness about the limited availability of water, its sustainable use, its conservation, its exploitation** and much more.

● It seeks to **enable the students to share their own experiences** and proposals for the protection of the environment.



- Divided in **three phases**, the project aims to spur creativity and raise awareness on water conservation and its sustainable use for **students between the age of 6-14 years**, by providing training and encouraging them to submit paintings and story ideas for the animated short films.

- ◆ Since its launch, nearly 31000 students from 53 schools in 18 Indian states have been engaged actively, with the support from over 400 teachers.

- Hence option B is correct.

133. Ans: B

Exp:

- Aapada Mitra is a **Central Sector Scheme** that was started in May 2016. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct.**
- The **National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)** is the implementing agency.
- It is a programme to identify suitable individuals in disaster-prone regions who can be trained to be first responders in times of disasters. Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**
- The **National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)** approves the National Disaster Plan.

134. Ans: C

Exp:

Surajkund International Mela:

- The Mela is **organised by the Surajkund Mela Authority & Haryana Tourism** in collaboration with Union Ministries of Tourism, Textiles, Culture and External Affairs. Hence **statement 1 is correct.**
- The Mela was **initiated in 1987** to promote the pool of skilled artisans, who used indigenous technology, but were suffering due to the cheaper machine-made imitations.
 - ◆ The fair was **upgraded to an international level in 2013.**
- The Surajkund Mela showcases the richness and diversity of the handicrafts, handlooms and cultural fabric of India, & is the **largest crafts fair in the world.**
- **Jammu & Kashmir** is the 'Theme State' and **Uzbekistan** is the "Partner Nation" for the year 2022. Hence **statement 2 is correct.**

135. Ans: A

Exp:

- Recently, **TEJAS (Training for Emirates Jobs And Skills)**, a Skill India International Project to train overseas Indians was launched at the Dubai Expo, 2020.

- **Aim of the Project -**

- ◆ Skilling, certification and overseas employment of Indians.
- ◆ Creating pathways to enable the Indian workforce to get equipped for skill and market requirements in the UAE.
- ◆ Creating a 10,000 strong Indian workforce in UAE during the initial phase.

- Hence, option A is correct.

136. Ans: B

Exp:

Atal Pension Yojana (APY):

- The Atal Pension Yojana (APY) was launched to **create a universal social security system for all Indians**, especially the poor, the under-privileged and the workers in the unorganised sector.
 - ◆ It is an initiative of the Government to provide financial security and cover future exigencies for the people in the unorganized sector. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct.**
- It is administered by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) through the National Pension System (NPS). Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**
- This scheme is open to all bank account holders in the age group of 18 to 40 years and the contributions differ, based on the pension amount chosen. Hence, **statement 3 is not correct.**
- Subscribers would receive the **guaranteed minimum monthly pension** of Rs. 1000 or Rs. 2000 or Rs. 3000 or Rs. 4000 or Rs. 5000 at the age of 60 years, based on the contributions made by the subscriber after joining the scheme.
- The minimum pension would be guaranteed by the Government, i.e., if the accumulated corpus based on contributions earns a lower than estimated return on investment and is inadequate to provide the minimum guaranteed pension, the **Central Government would fund such inadequacy.**
 - ◆ Alternatively, if the returns on investment are higher, the subscribers would get enhanced pensionary benefits.
- Subscribers can make contributions to APY on a monthly/ quarterly / half-yearly basis.

137. Ans: C

Exp:

- I-STEM is a **National Web portal** for sharing R&D (Research and Development) facilities.



◆ The portal facilitates **researchers to access slots for the use of equipment, as well as to share the details of the outcomes, such as, patents, publications and technologies. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

◆ In July, 2021, I-STEM project was accorded an extension for five years, until 2026 and entered its second phase with added features.

- Launched in January 2020, it is an initiative of **Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India under the aegis of Prime Minister Science, Technology and Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC) mission. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

138. Ans: C

Exp:

- Recently, the **Chief Justice of India (CJI)** launched the digital platform **FASTER (Fast and Secured Transmission of Electronic Records)**.
 - ◆ It is a **digital platform to communicate interim orders, stay orders, bail orders etc.,** of the **Supreme Court** to authorities concerned through a secured electronic communication channel.
- The Supreme Court has also launched other programmes **involving technology** like **Artificial Intelligence (AI) based portal 'SUPACE'** in the judicial system aimed at assisting judges with legal research.
- **Hence, option C is correct.**

139. Ans: C

Exp:

- **'Reasonable accommodation'** is a principle that promotes equality, enables the grant of **positive rights** and prevents discrimination based on **disability, health condition or personal belief**.
 - ◆ Its use is primarily in the **disability rights sector**.
- It **captures the positive obligation** of the State and private parties to **provide additional support to persons with disabilities** to facilitate their full and effective participation in society.
- For a person with a disability, the constitutionally guaranteed **fundamental rights to equality (Article 14), the six freedoms (Article 19) and the right to life (Article 21)** will ring hollow if they are not given this additional support that helps make these rights real and meaningful for them.
- **Hence, option C is correct.**

140. Ans: C

Exp:

- The **Union Labour Ministry and Microsoft India** have jointly launched a digital skilled platform — **DigiSaksham** — to enhance youth employability. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ This joint initiative is an extension of the ongoing programs to support the youth from rural and semi-urban areas.
- Under this initiative, **Free of cost training in digital skills** including **basic skills as well as advanced computing** will be provided to more than 3 lakh youths **in the first year. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ Priority will be given to the job-seekers of semi urban areas belonging to disadvantaged communities, including those who have lost their jobs due to Covid-19 pandemic.
- It is implemented by Aga Khan Rural Support Programme India (AKRSP-I), a non-denominational, non-government development organization that works as a catalyst for the betterment of rural communities by providing direct support to local communities.
- The Job Seekers can access the training through **National Career Service (NCS) Portal**.
 - ◆ NCS Portal is a one-stop solution that provides a wide array of employment and career related services to the citizens of India. It is implemented by the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

141. Ans: C

Exp:

- In June 2021, the Quality Council of India (QCI) and the Association of Indian Manufacturers of Medical Devices (AiMeD) launched the **Indian Certification of Medical Devices (ICMED) 13485 Plus** scheme to undertake **verification of the quality, safety and efficacy of medical devices**.
- This will also help in eliminating the circulation and use of sub-standard medical products or devices of doubtful origin that could prove to be serious health hazards.
- **Hence, option C is correct.**

142. Ans: A

Exp:

- **"Ocean Services, Technology, Observations, Resources Modeling and Science (O-SMART)"** is an umbrella scheme. It encompasses a total of 16 sub-projects addressing ocean development activities



such as Services, Technology, Resources, Observations and Science.

- The services rendered under the O-SMART will provide economic benefits to a number of user communities in the coastal and ocean sectors, namely, fisheries, offshore industry, coastal states, defense, shipping, ports etc.
- The State of Art Early Warning Systems established under the **O-SMART Scheme** will help in **effectively dealing with ocean disasters like Tsunami, storm surges. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The project will be implemented by the **Ministry of Earth Sciences. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

143. Ans: B

Exp:

- The Kaladan **Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project** was jointly identified by India and Myanmar to create a multi-modal mode of transport for shipment of cargo from the eastern seaport of India to Myanmar and to the **North-Eastern part of India through Myanmar. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- This project **connects Sittwe Port in Myanmar to the India-Myanmar border**, and is expected to contribute to the economic development of the North-Eastern States of India. It is also an alternate route to India's North-East bypassing the Siliguri Corridor. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

144. Ans: B

Exp:

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has launched new UPI services for feature phones called UPI123Pay for non internet users to make digital payments. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- '**Digisaathi**' has also been set up by the **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** to provide users with automated responses on information related to digital payment products and services. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ Presently it is available in English and Hindi language.

145. Ans: D

Exp:

- Geo-heritage Sites refers to the geological features which are **inherently or culturally significant offering insight to earth's evolution** or history to earth science or that can be utilized for education. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- **Geological Survey of India (GSI) is the parent body** which is making efforts towards identification and protection of geo-heritage sites/national geological monuments in the country. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

- **Siwalik Fossil Park, Himachal Pradesh** and Stromatolite bearing Dolomite / Limestone of Buxa Formation of Buxa Formation, Sikkim have been accorded Geo-heritage sites tag. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

146. Ans: A

Exp:

- The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) was set up in **1963 by a resolution of the Ministry of Home Affairs.**
 - ◆ Now, the CBI comes under the administrative control of the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances, and Pensions. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct**
- CBI derives power to investigate from the **Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946.**
- The establishment of the CBI was recommended by the **Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption (1962–1964).** **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The CBI is the main investigating agency of the Central Government.
 - ◆ It also provides assistance to the **Central Vigilance Commission and Lokpal.**
 - ◆ It is also the nodal police agency in India that coordinates investigations on behalf of Interpol Member countries.

147. Ans: D

Exp:

- The Central Government introduced the National Pension System (NPS) with effect from January 2004 (except for armed forces). It was launched as a way for the government to get rid of pension liabilities.
- NPS is being implemented and regulated by PFRDA (Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority) in the country.
- The **All Citizens Model of the NPS** allows **all citizens of India (including NRIs)** aged between **18 - 70 years to join NPS. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ Even **private individuals can opt** for the scheme. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- It is a participatory scheme, where employees contribute to their pension corpus from their salaries,



with matching contributions from the government. The funds are then invested in earmarked investment schemes through Pension Fund Managers.

- At retirement, they can **withdraw 60% of the corpus**, which is **tax-free** and the remaining **40% is invested in annuities, which is taxed. Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

148. Ans: A

Exp:

- The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is the international body for assessing the **science related to climate change. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- It was set up in 1988 by the **World Meteorological Organisation (WMO)** and United Nations Environment Programme (**UNEP**) to provide policymakers with regular assessments of the scientific basis of climate change, its impacts and future risks, and options for adaptation and mitigation. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
- IPCC assessments provide a scientific basis for governments at all levels to develop climate related policies, and they underlie negotiations at the UN Climate Conference – the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

149. Ans: B

Exp:

Broadcast Seva Portal:

- It is a **360 degree digital solution that will** facilitate stakeholders in seeking permissions, applying for registration, tracking applications, calculating fees and executing payments.
- This **portal will provide its services under the wider umbrella efforts of Digital India to all stakeholders** to private satellite TV channels, teleport operators, Multi-Service Operators (MSOs), community and private radio channels, etc. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- The portal is likely to help 900 satellite TV channels, 70 teleport operators, 1,700 MSOs, 350 Community Radio Stations (CRS) and 380 private FM channels, among others.
- To provide a single point facility to the stakeholders and applicants to apply for various registrations, permissions and licences issued by I&B Ministry for broadcast related activities.
- It will **reduce the turnaround time of applications** and, at the same time, will help applicants track the progress. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

150. Ans: C

Exp:

- District Ganga Committees were constituted in the districts on the Ganga River basin for putting in place a mechanism at the district level to ensure people's participation in management and pollution abatement in river Ganga and its tributaries. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The DGCs are mandated to ensure proper utilisation of assets created under Namami Gange, monitor drains/ sewage falling in River Ganga and its tributaries, and create a strong connect of people with Ganga rejuvenation. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

151. Ans: D

Exp:

Unique Identification Authority of India

- **Statutory Authority:** The UIDAI is a **statutory authority established on 12th July 2016** by the Government of India under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, following the provisions of the **Aadhaar Act 2016. Hence, the statement 1 is not correct**
 - ◆ The UIDAI was initially set up by the Government of India in January 2009, as an attached office under the aegis of the **Planning Commission.**
- **Mandate:** The UIDAI is **mandated to assign a 12-digit unique identification (UID) number (Aadhaar)** to all the residents of India. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

152. Ans: B

Exp:

The Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation (Amendment) Bill, 2020:

- It **proposes to completely mechanise sewer cleaning**, introduce ways for 'on-site' protection and provide compensation to manual scavengers in case of sewer deaths. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- The Bill proposes to make the law banning manual scavenging more stringent by increasing the imprisonment term and the fine amount.
- It will be an amendment to **The Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013. Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- It is still awaiting cabinet approval.

153. Ans: C

Exp:

- The scheme assures **life-long income, post-retirement**.
 - ◆ Under the old scheme, **employees get a pension under a pre-determined formula which is equivalent to 50%** of the last drawn salary. They also get the benefit of the revision of Dearness Relief (DR), twice a year. The payout is fixed and there was no deduction from the salary. Moreover, under the OPS, **there was the provision of the General Provident Fund (GPF)**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- The All-Citizens Model of the New Pension Scheme (NPS) allows all citizens of India (including NRIs) **aged between 18 - 70 years** to join NPS.
 - ◆ It is a participatory scheme, where employees contribute to their pension corpus from their salaries, with matching contributions from the government. The funds are then invested in earmarked **investment schemes through Pension Fund Managers**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

154. Ans: D

Exp:

Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI):

- The UIDAI is a statutory authority established on 12th July 2016 by the Government of India under the jurisdiction of the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology**, following the provisions of the Aadhaar Act 2016. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.
 - ◆ The **UIDAI was initially set up by the Government of India in January 2009**, as an attached office under the aegis of the **Planning Commission**. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- The UIDAI is mandated to assign a 12-digit unique identification (UID) number (Aadhaar) to all the residents of India.
 - ◆ The overall Aadhaar saturation level in the country has crossed 93%, and in the case of the adult population it is nearly 100%

155. Ans: B

Exp:

- Under Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA), 2010, foreign funding of persons in India is regulated under FCRA act and is implemented by the **Ministry of Home Affairs**. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- Individuals are permitted to accept foreign contributions without permission of MHA.

- However, the monetary limit for acceptance of such foreign contributions shall be less than Rs. 25,000.
- The Act ensures that the recipients of foreign contributions adhere to the stated purpose for which such contribution has been obtained.
- Under the Act, **organisations are required to register themselves every five years**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

156. Ans: C

Exp:

Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme:

- **About:**
 - ◆ The PLI scheme was **conceived to scale up domestic manufacturing capability**, accompanied by **higher import substitution and employment generation**.
 - ◆ The government has set aside Rs 1.97 lakh crore under the PLI schemes for various sectors and an additional allocation of Rs 19,500 crore was made towards PLI for solar PV modules in Budget 2022-23.
 - ◆ Launched in March 2020, the scheme initially targeted three industries:
 - Mobile and allied Component Manufacturing
 - Electrical Component Manufacturing and
 - Medical Devices
- **Objectives:**
 - ◆ The Government introduced this scheme to **reduce India's dependence on China** and other foreign countries. Hence **statement 2 is correct**.
 - ◆ It supports the **labour-intensive sectors** and aims to increase the employment ratio in India. Hence **statement 1 is correct**.
 - ◆ This scheme works to reduce down the import bills and boost up domestic production.
 - However, PLI Yojana invites foreign companies to set up their units in India and encourages domestic enterprises to expand their production units.

157. Ans: B

Exp:

- INCOIS is an **autonomous organisation** under the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES). Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- It is **located in Hyderabad** & was established in 1999. It is a unit of the Earth System Science Organization (ESSO), New Delhi. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.



- ◆ The ESSO operates as an **executive arm** of the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) for its policies and programmes.

It is **mandated to provide the best possible ocean information** and advisory services to society, industry, government agencies, and the scientific community through sustained ocean observations and **constant improvement** through systematic and focused research.

158. Ans: D

Exp:

Telecom Technology Development Fund (TTDF) Scheme:

- The Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) launched the Telecom Technology Development Fund (TTDF) Scheme. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) is a body under the **Department of Telecommunications (DoT)** to fund rural and remote digital connectivity.
- The Centre in the **draft telecom bill, 2022** has said that the USOF, created under the **Indian Telegraph Act of 1885**, shall be referred to as the **“Telecommunication Development Fund”**.

TTDF:

- TTDF **aims to fund R&D in rural-specific communication technology applications** and form synergies among academia, start-ups, research institutes, and the industry to build and develop the telecom ecosystem. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- The scheme aims to promote technology ownership and indigenous manufacturing, create a culture of technology co-innovation, reduce imports, boost export opportunities and creation of Intellectual Property.
- Under the scheme, USOF is also targeting to develop standards to meet countrywide requirements and create the ecosystem for research, design, prototyping, use cases, pilots, and proof of concept testing, among others.

159. Ans: C

Exp:

- InTranSE stands for **Intelligent Transportation System Endeavor**.
- The intelligent Transportation System (ITS) is a revolutionary **state-of-the-art technology**.
- It will **achieve traffic efficiency** by prompting efficient infrastructure usage, minimising traffic problems, enriching users with prior information on traffic, reducing travel time and enhancing the safety & comfort of commuters.

- This system **can detect any accident and receive alerts** for ensuring that an ambulance reaches the accident spot within 10-15 minutes.

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

160. Ans: D

Exp:

- **Prime Minister Street Vendors AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi)** was announced as a part of the Economic Stimulus-II under the Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.

- ◆ It has been implemented since 1st June 2020, for providing affordable working capital loans to street vendors to resume their livelihoods that have been adversely affected due to Covid-19 lockdowns, with a sanctioned budget of Rs. 700 crore.

- Under this scheme, the vendors can **avail a working capital loan of up to Rs. 10,000**, which is repayable in monthly instalments in the tenure of one year. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**

- On timely/early repayment of the loan, an **interest subsidy of 7% per annum** will be credited to the bank accounts of beneficiaries through Direct Benefit Transfer on a quarterly basis. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

- ◆ There will be **no penalty on early repayment of the loan**. The vendors can avail the facility of the enhanced credit limit on timely/early repayment of the loan.

161. Ans: A

Exp:

Mid Day Meal scheme:

- **About:** It is the **largest school feeding programme** of its kind in the world, covering students enrolled in government schools from **Classes 1 to 8**. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**

- ◆ The basic objective of this **scheme is to enhance enrolment in schools**.

- **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Education. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**

- **Background:** The programme was **first introduced in 1925 for disadvantaged children in Madras Municipal Corporation**.

- ◆ The union government launched as a **centrally sponsored scheme** on a pilot basis in 1995 for children in Classes 1 to 5.

- ◆ By October 2007, **MDMS had been scaled up to Class 8**.



162. Ans: C

Expl:

- Anganwadi Services (Umbrella Integrated Child Development Services Scheme) is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme implemented by States/UTs with the following objectives:-
 - ◆ To improve the nutritional and health status of **children in the age-group of 0-6 years. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - ◆ To **lay the foundation for proper psychological, physical and social development** of the child. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ To **reduce the incidence of mortality, morbidity, malnutrition** and school dropouts. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
 - ◆ 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 through proper nutrition and health education.
- Under Anganwadi Services, a package of six services, namely, (i) Supplementary Nutrition; (ii) Pre-school Non-formal Education; (iii) Nutrition & Health Education; (iv) Immunization; (v) Health Check-up; and (vi) Referral Services has been provided to all eligible beneficiaries, namely, children in the age group of 0-6 years, pregnant women and lactating mothers through the platform of Anganwadi Centres across the country.
- Three of the services viz. Immunization, Health Check-up and Referral Services are related to health and are provided through NRHM & Public Health Infrastructure.

163. Ans: C

Explanation:

- Recently, the **Ministry of Roads, Transport and Highways (MoRTH)** developed the portal named '**e-DAR**' (**e-Detailed Accident Report**).
- The portal provides **instant information on road accidents** and **helps accelerate accident compensation claims**, bringing relief to victims' families.
- The portal would be linked to other government portals like **Vaahan** or and would get access to information on driving licence details and registration of vehicles.
- Hotspots for accidents would also be identified so as to obtain solutions to avoid accidents at these hotspots.
- **Hence, option C is correct.**

164. Ans: A

Exp:

Hunar Haat:

- **About:**
 - ◆ Hunar Haat has been conceptualised **to protect and promote the country's ancestral legacy of arts and crafts** in the current global competition and to support the traditional artisans and craftsmen. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ The artisans selected in the Hunar Haat exhibition are those whose **forefathers were involved in such traditional handmade work** and are still continuing the profession.
- **Theme:**
 - ◆ **Vocal for Local** and **Best from Waste. Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- **Aim:**
 - ◆ To provide market **exposure and employment opportunities** to artisans, craftsmen and traditional culinary experts.
 - ◆ **Boosting the skills** of craftsmen, weavers and artisans who are already engaged in the traditional ancestral work.

165. Ans: B

Exp:

UDAN Scheme:

- It was launched as a RCS under the Ministry of Civil Aviation in **2016**.
- Its objectives are:
 - ◆ To develop the **regional aviation market. Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
 - ◆ To provide affordable, economically viable and profitable air travel on regional routes to the common man even in small towns.
- The scheme **envisages providing connectivity to unserved and underserved airports of the country** through the revival of existing air-strips and airports. The scheme is operational for a **period of 10 years**.
- Under-served airports are those which do not have more than one flight a day, while unserved airports are those where there are no operations.
- **Financial incentives from the Centre, state governments and airport operators are extended to selected airlines** to encourage operations from unserved and under-served airports, and keep airfares affordable. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**



166. Ans: B

Expl:

- EPCG Scheme was launched in the 1990s to **facilitate import of capital goods** with the aim to enhance the production quality of goods and services, thereby, increasing India's international manufacturing competitiveness. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- Under the scheme, manufacturers can **import capital goods for pre-production, production and post-production goods** without attracting any customs duty on them. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ Second-hand capital goods may also be imported without any restriction on age under the EPCG Scheme.
- The exemption from paying the obligation of customs duty on the import of capital goods is subject to fulfilment of an export value equivalent to 6 times of duty saved on the importation of such capital goods within 6 years from the date of issuance of the authorization.

167. Ans: C

Exp:

NCX India:

- Recently, the **National Security Council Secretariat** organised the **National Cyber Security Incident Response Exercise (NCX India)**.
- NCX India will be conducted as a **hybrid exercise** over a period of ten days from 18th to 29th April 2022.
- It is launched with the aim to **train senior management and technical personnel of Government/Critical Sector organisations** and agencies on contemporary cyber threats and handling cyber incidents and response.
- **Hence, option C is correct.**

168. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Food Corporation of India (FCI)** is a **Public Sector Undertaking**, under the **Department of Food & Public Distribution**, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ FCI is a statutory body set up in 1965 under the Food Corporations Act 1964. It was established against the backdrop of a major shortage of grains, especially wheat.

- ◆ It has the primary duty to undertake purchase, store, move/transport, distribute and sell food grains and other foodstuffs.

● **Major Procurement Activities Undertaken by FCI:**

- ◆ The **Central Government extends price support for procurement** of wheat, paddy and coarse grains **through the FCI** and State Agencies.
 - Procurement is undertaken both in direct and in-direct mode.
- ◆ The Quality Control Division of FCI ensures procurement of food grains from procurement centres strictly in accordance with Govt. of India's uniform quality specifications.
- ◆ FCI has also been nominated as an **additional nodal Agency for procurement of Pulses and Oilseeds**. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

169. Ans: A

Exp:

Sangeet Natak Akademi:

- The Sangeet Natak Akademi is India's national academy for music, dance and drama.
- It is an **Autonomous Body of the Ministry of Culture**, Government of India and is fully funded by the Government for implementation of its schemes and programmes. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- It was **created by a resolution of the (then) Ministry of Education**, Government of India, in 1952 with Dr P.V. Rajamannar as its first Chairman. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- The Akademi establishes and looks after institutions and projects of national importance in the field of the performing arts. Few important ones are:
 - ◆ National School of Drama, New Delhi was set up in 1959,
 - ◆ Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy in Imphal- 1954,
 - ◆ Kathak Kendra (National Institute of Kathak Dance) in New Delhi- 1964.
 - ◆ National Projects of Support to Kutiyattam (Sanskrit theatre of Kerala), Chhau dances of eastern India, Sattriya traditions of Assam, etc.

170. Ans: C

Exp:

The **National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)** is a welfare programme being administered by the **Ministry of Rural Development**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**



This programme is being implemented in **rural areas** as well as **urban areas**.

NSAP represents a significant step towards the fulfillment of the **Directive Principles of State Policy** enshrined in the **Constitution of India**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

These are intended to secure for the citizens adequate means of livelihood, raise the standard of living, improve public health, provide free and compulsory education for children etc.

171. Ans: C

Exp:

- **MGNREGA** is one of the largest work guarantee programmes in the world.
 - ◆ The primary objective of the scheme is to guarantee 100 days of employment in every financial year to adult members of any rural household willing to do public work-related unskilled manual work.
- Unlike earlier employment guarantee schemes, the act aims at addressing the causes of chronic poverty through a rights-based framework.
 - ◆ **At least one-third** of beneficiaries have to be **women**. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
 - ◆ Wages must be paid according to the statutory minimum wages specified for agricultural labourers in the state under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948.
- The most important part of MGNREGA's design is its **legally-backed guarantee for any rural adult** to get work **within 15 days of demanding it**, failing which an 'unemployment allowance' must be given. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
 - ◆ This demand-driven scheme enables the self-selection of workers.
- There is an emphasis on strengthening the process of decentralisation by giving a significant role to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in **planning and implementing these works**.

The act **mandates Gram sabhas to recommend** the works that are to be undertaken and **at least 50% of the works must be executed by them**. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.

172. Ans: A

Exp:

- The **Department of Military Affairs** is moving towards finalising the "**Tour of Duty (ToD)**" scheme. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.

- Under this scheme, youngsters will be recruited as soldiers **only for three years**. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.

- This is being done in the backdrop of the urgent need to curb the ballooning salary and pension bills that are adversely impacting military modernization.

173. Ans: C

Exp:

About Central Administrative Tribunal:

- It had been established under **Article 323 - A of the Constitution**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- It **provides for adjudication of disputes and complaints with respect to recruitment and conditions of service** of persons appointed to public services and posts in connection with the affairs of the Union or other authorities under the control of the Government.
- The CAT is a **specialist body consisting of Administrative Members and Judicial Members** who by virtue of their specialized knowledge are better equipped to dispense speedy and effective justice. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

174. Ans: D

Exp:

- The **Ministry of Power** has announced a Scheme for Procurement of Aggregate Power of **4500 MW** on competitive basis for **five years** on **Finance, Own and Operate (FOO) basis** under **SHAKTI Policy**. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- The aim of the **Shakti scheme** is to ensure the availability of coal to all the **Thermal Power Plants** in India, in a way that is transparent and objective.
- The scheme also aims to reduce the dependence on **imported coal and promote domestic industries**. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.

175. Ans: C

Exp:

- Ayushman Bharat offers a sum insured of 5 lakh per family for secondary care (which doesn't involve a super-specialist) as well as tertiary care (which does). For the beneficiaries, this is a free scheme. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- It is an entitlement-based scheme that targets the beneficiaries as identified by the latest Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC) data. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- Individuals can walk into any empanelled hospital that can process cashless payments. Hence, **statement 3 is not correct**.



176. Ans: C

Exp:

Smart Cities Mission:

- It is a **Centrally Sponsored Scheme, launched in June 2015 to transform 100 cities** to provide the necessary core infrastructure and clean and sustainable environment to enable a decent quality of life to their citizens through the application of **“Smart Solutions”**.
- The mission aims to meet the aspirations of India’s population living in cities through various urban development projects.
- Among its strategic components is ‘area-based development’, which includes city improvement (retrofitting), city renewal (redevelopment) and city extension (greenfield development), plus a pan-city initiative in which ‘smart solutions’ are applied covering larger parts of the city.
- Key focus areas of the scheme include **construction of walkways, pedestrian crossings**, cycling tracks, efficient waste-management systems, integrated traffic management and assessment. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- The scheme also assesses various indices to track urban development such as the **Ease of Living Index, Municipal Performance Index**, City GDP framework, Climate Smart Cities assessment framework, etc. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

177. Ans: B

Exp:

Wildlife (Protection) Act (WPA), 1972:

- It prohibits the hunting of any wild **animal specified in Schedules I, II, III and IV** of the Act. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
 - ◆ Exception: A wild animal listed under these schedules can be hunted/ killed only after getting permission from the Chief Wildlife Warden (CWLW) of the state if:
 - It becomes dangerous to human life or to property (including standing crops on any land).
 - It is disabled or suffering from a disease that is beyond recovery.
- It **prohibits the uprooting, damage, collection, possession or selling of any specified plant** from any forest land or any protected area. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ Exception: The CWLW, however, may grant permission for uprooting or collecting a specific

plant for the purpose of education, scientific research, preservation in an herbarium or if a person/institution is approved to do so by the central government.

178. Ans: B

Exp:

Anganwadi Scheme:

- Anganwadi is a **centrally sponsored scheme** implemented by the States / UTs which serves as a rural child and maternal care centre in India.
- It was **started by the Government of India in 1975** as part of the **ICDS** program to combat child hunger and malnutrition. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- Anganwadi centres provide a package of six services: supplementary nutrition, pre-school non-formal education, immunisation, health check-up, nutrition and health education, and referral services.
- The beneficiaries under the Anganwadi Services Scheme are identified based on Aadhaar. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

179. Ans: B

Exp:

E-2025 Initiative:

- In 2017, WHO launched the E-2020 initiative to support a group of countries to achieve zero indigenous cases of malaria by 2020.
- Some 21 countries across five regions were identified as having the potential to reach the milestone of eliminating malaria.
- The report ‘Zeroing in on **malaria elimination**’ brings out the progress made through the E-2020 initiative of WHO.
- Building on the successes of the E-2020, WHO has identified a new group of 25 countries that have the potential to stamp out malaria within a 5-year timeline.
- The **E-2025 countries will receive technical and on-the-ground support by WHO and its partners**. In return, they are expected to audit their elimination programmes annually, participate in elimination forums, conduct surveillance assessments, and share malaria case data periodically.
- **Hence, option B is correct.**

180. Ans: C

Exp:

- Recently, **World Immunization Week 2022** was celebrated from **24th to 30th April 2022**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**



- World Immunization Week is a health campaign coordinated by the **World Health Organization (WHO)** and celebrated in the last week of April, every year.
- The theme of this year is **Long Life for All**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- It aims to unify people around the idea that **vaccines make it possible for us to follow our dreams, protect our loved ones and live a long, healthy life**.

181. Ans: B

Exp:

- Pradhan Matri Fasal Bima Yojna was 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). Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- **Aim:**
 - ◆ To provide comprehensive insurance cover against the failure of the crop thus helping in stabilizing the income of the farmers. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- **Scope:**
 - ◆ All food & oilseed crops and annual commercial/horticultural crops for which past yield data is available.
- **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%.
 - ◆ Premium cost over and above the farmer share was equally subsidized by States and GoI.
 - ◆ However, GoI shared 90% of the premium subsidy for Northeastern States to promote the uptake in the region.

182. Ans: D

Exp:

Museums Grant Scheme:

- The Ministry of Culture provides **financial assistance under the Scheme** to the State Governments and Societies, **Autonomous bodies**, Local Bodies and **Trusts registered under the Societies Act 1860, for setting up new Museums**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
 - ◆ It aims to strengthen and modernize the existing museums at the Regional, State and District level.

- ◆ The scheme also aims to develop at **least 1 Central / State Government Museum located in the State Capital each year**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

● **Components:**

◆ **Establishment and Development of District and Regional Museums:**

- Under this component museums have been classified into two categories:

◆ **Category-I:** Government-owned State level Museums and renowned Museums with exquisite collection.

◆ **Category-II:** all other Museums.

- The maximum amount of financial assistance provided under this Component is **limited to Rs.10 crore**. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.

● **Development of Museums in State Capitals:**

◆ Financial assistance under this component is provided to existing renowned museums of the Central or State Government located in the Capital cities.

◆ The maximum financial assistance under this component is limited to Rs. 15 Crore per museum.

● **Establishment and Development of Large-Scale Museums in Public Private Partnership Mode:**

◆ Under this component, it is proposed to establish large scale museums as joint ventures with State Governments and the civil society in Public Private Partnership Mode.

◆ The maximum financial assistance provided under this component is 40% of the project cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 20 Crore per museum.

● Hence, **option D is the correct answer**.

183. Ans: A

Exp:

- Recently, the **European Parliament and European Union (EU)** Member States announced that they had **reached a political agreement on the Digital Services Act (DSA), 2022**.
- It is a landmark legislation to force big Internet companies to act against disinformation and illegal and harmful content, and to “provide better protection for Internet users and their fundamental rights”.
- The proposed Act seeks to end the era of self-regulation by tech companies and give ‘practical effect to the principle that what is illegal offline, should be illegal online’.



- In India, a bill (Data Protection Bill 2019) on similar issue is pending in Parliament.
- Hence, option A is correct.

184. Ans: B

Exp:

- Computer Emergency Response Team - India is an organization of the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology** with the objective of securing Indian cyberspace. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- It is the nodal agency which deals with cybersecurity threats like hacking and phishing.
- CERT-In is empowered under Section 70B of the Information Technology Act to **collect, analyze and disseminate information on cyber security incidents**. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- CERT-IN provides Incident Prevention and Response Services as well as Security Quality Management Services.

185. Ans: A

Exp:

- Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North East Region (PM-DevINE) Scheme:
 - ◆ It is a **Central Sector Scheme with 100% Central funding**. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
 - ◆ The new scheme, to be implemented during the remaining four years of the 15th Finance Commission from 2022-23 to 2025-26 has an outlay of Rs.6,600 crore.
 - ◆ The PM-DevINE is in addition to the quantum of resources available for the development of the NE region. It will not be a substitute for existing central and state schemes.
 - ◆ The scheme will be **implemented by the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region** through North Eastern Council or Central Ministries/agencies.
- Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

186. Ans: C

Exp:

- The **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** also known as the Global Goals, were **adopted by the United Nations in 2015** as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity.
 - ◆ The 17 SDGs are integrated—they recognize that action in one area will affect outcomes in others, and that development must balance social,

economic and environmental sustainability.

Hence, statement 1 is correct.

- They are meant to be achieved by 2030. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
- They are built upon the **success of the Millennium Development Goals**, including new areas such as climate change, economic inequality, innovation, sustainable consumption, peace and justice, among other priorities.
 - ◆ The goals are interconnected – often the key to success on one will involve tackling issues more commonly associated with another. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

187. Ans- D

Exp:

- **PM-KISAN** was launched on 1 Nov 2018 to **supplement financial needs of land holding farmers**.
 - ◆ Financial benefit of **Rs 6000/- per year in three equal instalments**, every four months is transferred into the bank accounts of farmers' families across the country through **Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode**.
- It is a **Central Sector Scheme with 100% funding** from the Government of India. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- The scheme was **initially meant for Small and Marginal Farmers (SMFs)** having landholding up to **2 hectares** but **scope of the scheme was extended to cover all landholding farmers**. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

188. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Lothal** is one of the southernmost sites of the **Indus Valley civilization (IVC)**, located in the state of Gujarat.
- The **NMHC** is being developed with the aim of **displaying India's diverse maritime heritage and also help Lothal to emerge as a world-class international tourist destination**. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- **Lothal** was a thriving trade center in ancient times, with its trade of **beads, gems and ornaments** reaching **West Asia and Africa**.
- It has four theme parks: **Memorial theme park, Maritime and Navy theme park, Climate theme park, and Adventure and Amusement theme park**. Hence, statement 2 is correct.



189. Ans: A

Exp:

Ek Bharat Shreshta Bharat

- **Launched:** It was launched in **2015** to **promote engagement** amongst the people of different States/UTs so as to enhance mutual understanding and bonding between people of diverse cultures, thereby securing stronger unity and integrity of India.
- It is an initiative of the **Ministry of Education**. Hence **option A is correct**.
- **Activities Under the Scheme:** Every State and UT in the country would be paired with another State/UT for a time period, during which they would carry out a structured engagement with one another in the spheres of language, literature, cuisine, festivals, cultural events, tourism etc.
- **Objectives:**
 - ◆ **Create the Unity in Diversity of our Nation** and to maintain and strengthen the fabric of traditionally existing emotional bonds between the people of our Country.
 - ◆ **Promote the Spirit of National Integration** through a deep and structured engagement between all Indian States and Union Territories through a year-long planned engagement between States.
 - ◆ **Showcase the rich Heritage and Culture, Customs and Traditions** of either State for enabling people to understand and appreciate the diversity that is India, thus fostering a sense of common identity.
 - ◆ **Establish long-term Engagements.**
 - ◆ Create an environment which **promotes learning between States** by sharing best practices and experiences.

190. Ans: B

Exp:

- **Information Technology Rules 2021** are aimed at making **the internet-open, safe & trusted and accountable**, for the digital nagrik of the country.
- Currently, intermediaries are **only required to inform** users about not uploading certain categories of harmful/unlawful content. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- Within **24 hours** after receiving complaints, intermediaries are required to **remove or disable access** to any content that exposes people's private areas, depicts them in full or partial nudity, performing

sexual acts, or is otherwise impersonate, including through the use of morphing photos, etc. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

191. Ans: C

Exp:

- Prime Minister also launched the **'Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Urvarak Pariyojana'** – One Nation, One Fertilizer.
- **Under this scheme, 'Bharat Urea Bags' have been launched.** These will help companies market fertilizers under the single brand name "Bharat". Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- **An e-magazine on fertilizer, 'Indian Edge' also launched by the PM.** It will provide **information on domestic and international fertilizer scenarios**, including recent developments, price trends analysis, availability and consumption, success stories of farmers, among others. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

192. Ans: C

Exp:

- The **'One District, One Product' (ODOP)** was launched by the **Ministry of Food Processing Industries**, to help districts reach their full potential, foster economic and socio-cultural growth. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- This initiative is carried out with the **'Districts as Exports Hub'** initiative by the **Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT)**, Department of Commerce to provide financial and technical assistance to the district-level industries. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.
- The **States would identify food products for districts** keeping in view the existing clusters and availability of raw material. ODOP could be a perishable produce-based or cereal-based or a food item widely produced in an area. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.
- **One District One Product provides financial and technical assistance to the district-level industries** so that small-scale industries can be helped and they can provide employment opportunities to the local people. Hence, **statement 4 is correct**.

193. Ans: D

Exp:

- The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) is the **apex statutory body for disaster management in India**.
 - ◆ The NDMA was formally **constituted on 27th September 2006, in accordance with the Disaster**



Management Act, 2005 with the Prime Minister as its Chairperson and nine other members, and one such member to be designated as Vice-Chairperson. Hence, statement 1 and statement 2 are not correct.

- Its primary purpose is to **coordinate response to natural or man-made disasters and for capacity-building in disaster resiliency and crisis response.** It is also the apex body to lay down policies, plans and guidelines for Disaster Management to ensure timely and effective response to disasters.

194. Ans: C

Exp:

- The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) was set up in **2007 under the Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005.** Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**
- The Commission's Mandate is to ensure that all Laws, Policies, Programmes, and Administrative Mechanisms are **in consonance with the Child Rights perspective as enshrined in the Constitution of India** and also the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

195. Ans: C

Exp:

- The **Aspirational Districts Programme** was launched in **2018 by Niti Aayog** which aims to **transform districts that have shown relatively lesser progress in key social areas.**
 - ◆ Aspirational Districts are those districts in India that are affected by poor socio-economic indicators. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- **Broad Contours of the Programme:**
- **Convergence** (of Central & State Schemes)
- **Collaboration** (of Central, State level 'Prabhari' Officers & District Collectors),
- **Competition** among districts through monthly delta ranking.
- **Objectives of ADP:**
 - ◆ It focuses on the strength of each district, identifying low-hanging fruits for immediate improvement and measuring progress by ranking districts on a monthly basis.
 - ◆ The Government is committed to raising the living standards of its citizens and ensuring inclusive growth for all – "Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas aur Sabka Vishwas".

- ◆ The ADP is **essentially aimed at localizing Sustainable Development Goals**, leading to the progress of the nation. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

196. Ans: C

Exp:

- The **Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions released National e-Governance Service Delivery Assessment 2021** to boost the e-government endeavors at all levels of governance and also to embark on the journey for Digital Government excellence.
- The framework covers services under G2B (Government to Businesses) and G2C (Government to Citizens) segments under six sectors viz. Finance, Labour & Employment, Education, Local Government & Utilities, Social Welfare (including Agriculture & Health) and Environment (including Fire) sectors.
- **Therefore, option C is correct.**

197. Ans: A

Exp:

- **The Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission** was launched in September 2021 by the Prime Minister through a video conference.
- 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 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 **National Health Authority (NHA) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** will be the implementing Agency. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

198. Ans: C

Exp:

About Deep Ocean Mission:

Recently, the **Ministry of Earth Sciences** has launched the Deep Ocean Mission (DOM).

- DOM is a mission mode project to support the Blue Economy Initiatives of the Government of India.
- Earlier, the Ministry of Earth Sciences had also rolled out the draft Blue Economy Policy.
- **Hence, option C is correct.**

