

Civils Prelims 2022 (Scheduled on 5.6.2022)
Model Questions (for GS Paper)
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For Study purpose

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1)Consider the following about the stages of a cyclonic storm prediction:

The Director General, India Meteorological Department, briefed the Committee about the current status of a low pressure area in the Bay of Bengal, which is likely to intensify into a cyclonic storm by 3rdDecember.

1)It is expected to cross the coasts of Andhra Pradesh and Odisha by the morning of 4thDecember,with wind speeds ranging from 90 kmph to 100 kmph, accompanied by heavy rainfall and tidal waves in the coastal districts of these states.

2)The cyclonic storm is likely to affect the districts of Srikakulam, Vishakhapatnam and Vijayanagaram in Andhra Pradesh and coastal districts of Odisha.

3)It is also likely to bring heavy to very heavy rainfall in the coastal areas and Gangetic parts of West Bengal

4)Prime Minister directed officials to take every possible measure to ensure that people are safely evacuated and to ensure maintenance of all essential services such as Power, Telecommunications, health, drinking water etc. and that they are restored immediately in the event of any disruption. 5)He further directed them to ensure adequate storage of essential medicines & supplies and to plan for unhindered movement. He also directed for 24*7 functioning of control rooms.

6)India Meteorological Department (IMD) informed that low pressure region in the Bay of Bengal is expected to intensify into Cyclone Jawad and is expected to reach coast of North Andhra Pradesh – Odisha around morning of Saturday 4th December 2021, with the wind speed ranging upto 100 kmph.

7)It is likely to cause heavy rainfall in the coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh, Odisha & W.Bengal. IMD has been issuing regular bulletins with the latest forecast to all the concerned States.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1, 2, ,3
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

2) Consider the following :

Conducting elections in India is a mammoth task with over 937 million registered electors in the country by now.

1)ECI sets up polling booths within walking distance of every village, hamlet and habitation with the aim of 'No Voter to be Left Behind'.

2)While sharing the experience of conducting elections in six states amidst the COVID pandemic, it is that mentioned several initiatives adapted to ensure smooth conduct of elections despite challenges posed.

3)It is highlighted steps like curtailing the maximum number of voters at a polling station from 1500 to 1000 and extending polling hours by an hour in order to decongest polling spaces; postal ballot facility for 80+ senior citizens, PwDs and COVID affected individuals where ECI literally brought the polling station to their doorstep.

4) The speaker of the talk also gave an insight into the participation of women in Indian elections, which has seen remarkable increase over the years.

5)It is pointed out ECI's efforts at digitization & use of technology, citing example of Electronic Voting Machines, VVPATs and mobile apps like c-vIGIL app for citizens to report violation of Model Code of Conduct; the Electronically Transmitted Postal Ballot System facility for service voters and those posted at our missions abroad

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

3) Consider the following about agroforestry scheme:

1)Sub-Mission on Agroforestry Scheme is being implemented by this Department since 2016-17 to encourage tree plantation on farm land in a complementary and integrated manner with crops and livestock, to help the farmers to get additional income and make their farming systems more climate resilient and adaptive.

2)The Agro-forestry scheme envisages a lot of quantifiable benefits like additional income, protection from crop damage, higher carbon sequestration along with climate change adaptation and mitigation

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only

- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

4) Consider the following :

1) The Government of India plans to migrate towards technology based yield estimation from the conventional Crop Cutting Experiment (CCE) based yield estimation approach.

2) Towards this, few pilot studies have been initiated by taking various Government and Private Agencies On-board. During Kharif 2019, pilot studies were conducted through 12 agencies in 64 districts of 15 States for 9 crops envisaging innovative technologies such as High Resolution Satellite data (Optical and microwave), Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV), Advanced multi-parameter crop models, Mobile Applications for Field Data Collection, Artificial intelligence/ Machine learning approach, Sensor Networks, Internet of Things, Field based digital photographs, Hand held instruments and Scientifically designed Sampling Plans.

3) These approaches were validated in Rabi 2019-20 in 15 blocks of 6 States.

4) The pilot studies were scaled up to 100 districts with the help of 07 agencies for Paddy crop in Kharif - 2020, and for Paddy and Wheat in Rabi season of 2020-21 in 100 districts of 13 states.

5) The agencies have submitted the technical reports to Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre (MNCFC)

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

5) Consider the following :

1) As per Provisional Estimates of Annual National Income, released by National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) on 31st, May 2021, the share of Agriculture and Allied Sectors in total Gross Value Added (GVA) of the country has increased from 18.4% in 2019-20 to 20.2% in 2020-21 at current prices.

2) The Gross Value Added of Agriculture and Allied Sectors at current price has increased from 33.94 lakh crore in 2019-20 to 36.16 lakh crore in 2020-21.

3) In order to facilitate the marketing of agricultural produce of the farmers during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government had issued advisory to States/Union Territories (UTs) to facilitate

Direct Marketing, enabling direct purchase from the farmers/ Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)/ Cooperatives etc. by liberalizing regulations under respective State Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) Acts.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1, 2, ,3
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

6) Consider the following :

Government undertakes periodical review of performance of various schemes. Due to Government's interventions from time to time, the following achievements were recorded and new schemes were initiated for the benefit of farmers:-

- (1) Food grain production has increased from 265.05 million tonnes in 2013-14 to record 305.43 million tonnes in 2020-21 (Third advance estimate) which is the highest ever food grain production.
- (2) Government has increased the MSP for all mandated Kharif, Rabi and other commercial crops with a return of at least 50 per cent over all India weighted average cost of production from 2018-19.
- (3) Launch of PM-KISAN in 2019 -an income support scheme to farmers providing Rs. 6000 per year in 3 equal installments.
- (4) PMFBY was launched in 2016 addressing problems of high premium rates for farmers and reduction in sum insured due to capping. In past 5 Years of implementation 29.22 crore farmer applicants enrolled and over 8.83 crore (Provisional) farmer applicants have received claims of over Rs. 101875 crore.
- (5) Institutional credit increased from Rs.7.3 lakh crore in 2013-14 to Rs. 16.5 lakh crore in 2021-22.
- (6) Soil Health Cards have been issued free of cost to nearly 11 crore farmers under a nationwide program.
- (7) Paramparagat Krishi VikasYojana (PKVY) was initiated in 2015-16 to promote organic farming in the country. Two-year achievement under PKVY scheme-19043 clusters have been formed and an area of 3.81 lakh ha has been covered benefitting 9.52 lakh farmers.
- (8) Neem Coated Urea has been introduced since 2015-16 to ensure long availability of nutrients in the soil by slow release of nitrogen. It has also helped in curtailing diversion of urea for non-agricultural activities.

(9) Within a year of the launch of AIF, the scheme mobilized Rs.7700 Crore agriculture infrastructure in the country for more than 7300 projects.

10) Scheme for Formation and Promotion of 10,000 FPOs launched with a total budgetary provision of Rs. 6865 Crore in February 2020.

(11) A National Bee and Honey Mission (NBHM) has been launched in 2020 as part of the AtmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyan. Rs.500 crore for the period 2020-2021 to 2022-2023 has been allocated for the sector.

(12) Per Drop More Crop component of Pradhanmantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY_PDMC) aims to increase water use efficiency at the farm level through Micro Irrigation technologies, i.e., drip and sprinkler irrigation systems.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) 1, 2, 3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12

(d) None of these

Ans: c

7) Consider the following :

1) The guidelines of the various beneficiary oriented schemes of Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare provide that States and other implementing agencies should incur at least 30% expenditure on women farmers.

2) These schemes include Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms, National Food Security Mission, National Mission on Oilseed & Oil Palm, National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture, Sub-Mission for Seed and Planting Material, Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization and Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) None of these

Ans: c

8) Consider the following for coal supply :

1) There is no shortage of coal in the country.

2) Due to increased demand of power, less power generation by imported coal based power plants and some interruption in supply of coal due to heavy rains, the coal stock at the power plants depleted to 7.2 MT (sufficient for 4 days) as on 8th October, 2021.

3) Subsequently with increased coal supplies, the coal stock has started increasing and has now reached 16.74 MT (sufficient for 9 days) as on 25.11.2021. Coal India Limited (CIL) has dispatched around 54 Million Tonnes (MT) more coal during April - October'21 in comparison to the same period of last year. 4) CIL has dispatched 291.72 MT coal during this period, against 237.75 MT during the same period of last fiscal.

5) The coal stock at CIL pithead was 40.23 MT as on 08.10.2021 and 32.30 MT as on 24.11.2021.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

(d) None of these

Ans: c

9) Consider the following in connection with Scientific Expedition to Antarctica :

1) First batch of 23 scientists and support staff reached the Maitri station on November 10, 2021 under the 41st Indian Scientific Expedition to Antarctica (ISEA) launched recently.

2) The 41st expedition has two major objectives. The first encompasses geological exploration of the Amery ice shelf at Bharati station to understanding the geological link between India and Antarctica in the past. The second goal involves ice core drilling work near the Maitri station, focusing primarily towards improving the understanding of Antarctic climate, westerly winds, sea ice and greenhouse gases.

3) Apart from these, other long-term observations in the field of geology, glaciology, ocean observations, and upper atmospheric sciences are continuing.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) 1, 2, 3

(d) None of these

Ans: c

10) Consider the following about Population Census 2021 :

1) The intent of the Government for conducting Census 2021 was notified in Gazette of India on 28th March, 2019.

2) Due to outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic, the Census 2021 and related field activities have been postponed.

3)The forthcoming Census is to be the first digital Census. Mobile App for collection of data and a Census Portal for management and monitoring of various Census related activities have been developed.

4)In Census, the castes and tribes which are specifically notified as Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as per the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order 1950 and the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950, as amended from time to time, are enumerated.

5)The State Governments of Bihar, Maharashtra and Odisha have requested to collect caste details in the forthcoming Census.

6)The Government of India has not enumerated caste wise population other than SCs and STs in Census since independence.

7)The names of the mother tongue and two other languages known in order of proficiency are to be recorded by the enumerator in the forthcoming Census as responded by each person.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

(a)1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) 1, 2, 3,4,5,6,7

(d) None of these

Ans: c

11) Consider the following about gold :

1)As per National Mineral Inventory, the total resources of primary gold ore in the country as on 1.4.2015 are estimated at 501.83 million tonnes with 654.74 tonnes of gold metal and out of this, Bihar is endowed with 222.885 million tonnes (44%) of ore containing 37.6 tonnes of metal.

2)These resources of gold in Bihar are categorized under United Nations Framework Classification[UNFC] code-333 (128.885 million tonnes containing 21.6 tonnes metal) and UNFC code-334 (94 million tonnes containing 16 tonnes metal).

3)The entire resource of gold ore in Bihar is located in Sono area of Jamui district.

4)During the last five years, Geological Survey of India [GSI], an attached office of Ministry of Mines, has carried G4 stage 'reconnaissance survey' for gold in parts of West Champaran district and G3 stage 'preliminary exploration' in Gaya district of Bihar following the guidelines of UNFC.

5)In West Champaran district, G4 stage exploration was carried out for placer gold in foothills of Siwalik Himalayas, but the average concentration of placer gold in this area is low (0.0061ppm to 1.96 ppm) and no resource has been estimated.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1, 2, 3,4,5
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

12) Consider the following about women reservation :

1)Article 243D of the Constitution of India provides for not less than one-third reservation for women out of total number of seats to be filled by direct election and number of offices of chairpersons of Panchayats.

2)However, as per the information available with the Ministry, 21 States namely, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Tripura, Uttarakhand and West Bengal, have made provision of 50% reservation for women in Panchayati Raj Institutions in their respective State Panchayati Raj Acts.

3)In respect of remaining States, Constitutional provision as prescribed in Article 243D applies.

4)'Panchayat', being 'Local Government', is a State subject and part of Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.

5)Accordingly, all Panchayat related matters, including representation of women in Panchayat systems, are governed by the respective State Panchayati Raj Acts and rules, subject to the provisions of the Constitution. However, Government has been encouraging increased involvement of women in the functioning of Panchayats through active participation in the Gram Sabha meetings for preparation of Gram Panchayat Development Plans and various schemes being implemented by the Panchayats. The Ministry has also issued advisories to the States to facilitate holding of separate Ward Sabha and MahilaSabha meetings prior to Gram Sabha meetings, enhancing the presence and participation of women in Gram Sabha and Panchayat meetings, allocation of Panchayat funds for women centric activities, combating the evil of women trafficking, female foeticide, child marriage etc.

6)Article 280 (3) (bb) of the Constitution of India provides for the Finance Commission to make recommendations regarding the measures needed to augment the Consolidated Fund of a State to supplement the resources of the Panchayats in the State on the basis of the recommendations made by the Finance Commission of the State. Accordingly, to improve the functioning of Panchayati Raj Institutions, including women related activities; funds have been recommended by Central Finance Commissions successively.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

13) Consider the following about Vehicle Scapping Policy :

- 1) The Vehicle Scapping Policy includes a system of incentives/dis-incentives for creation of an ecosystem to phase out older, unfit polluting vehicles.
- 2) The policy is based on the criterion of fitness of the vehicle.
- 3) In order to enforce provisions of the policy, rules have been issued/amended under the framework of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and Central Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1, 2, 3
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

14) Consider the following about ISRO and IN-SPACe :

- 1) As part of the space sector reforms, the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe) is created to ensure greater participation of private sector in space activities.
- 2) While ISRO will largely focus on developing newer technologies, undertaking technology demonstrator missions, first-of-its kind satellites, space science missions, human space flights while ensuring continuity of missions to cater to national imperatives, New Space India Limited (NSIL) is entrusted with the realization operational satellites, launch vehicles and services.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

15) Consider the following about Greenfield airports :

- 1) During the last 3 years, six **Greenfield airports** have become operational:

2)These are Kannur Airport in Kerala (2018), Pakyong Airport in Sikkim (2018), Kalaburagi Airport in Karnataka (2019), Kurnool Airport in Andhra Pradesh (2021), Sindhudurg Airport in Maharashtra (2021) and Kushinagar Airport in Uttar Pradesh (2021).

3)In addition, during the last 3 years, construction of Greenfield airports at Navi Mumbai in Maharashtra, Mopa in Goa, Hirasar in Rajkot, Jewar(Noida) in Uttar Pradesh and Hollongi in Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh are being undertaken.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1, 2, ,3
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

16) Consider the following about Flood Management :

1)Erosion, movement and deposition of sediment in a river are natural regulating functions of a river.

2)Rivers tend to maintain a balance between the silt load carried & silt load deposited, maintaining a river regime.

3)Soil erosion caused by heavy floods is a matter of concern as it leads to several associated problems like changes in river course, causing loss of land, damages to the embankments, etc.

4)Flood management including erosion control falls within the purview of the States. Flood management and anti-erosion schemes are formulated and implemented by concerned State Governments as per their priority. The Union Government supplements the efforts of the States by providing technical guidance and also promotional financial assistance for management of floods in critical areas.

5)The Government of India has been making continuous efforts to assist the State Governments in effective flood management and erosion control. Morphological Studies by various IIT and NIIT have been carried out for major rivers like Ganga, Sharda, Rapti, Kosi, Bagmati, Subansari, Krishna, Mahanadi Mahanada, etc.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1, 2, 3,4,5
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

17) Consider the following about ground water pollution :

1) Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) generates ground water quality data of the country on a regional scale as part of its ground water quality monitoring program and various scientific studies.

2) These studies indicate the occurrence of contaminants such as Fluoride, Arsenic, Nitrate, Iron and Heavy Metals beyond permissible limits in various States / UTs.

3) The ground water contamination is mostly geogenic in nature and does not show significant change over the years.

4) However, nitrate contamination is mostly anthropogenic and its spread has been noticed in some areas, particularly areas adjoining habitations.

5) Further, nitrate contamination can also be caused by excessive use of fertilizers.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) 1, 2, 3,4,5

(d) None of these

Ans: c

18) Government has taken various initiatives for promotion of electric vehicles in the country.

Consider the following :

(1) GST on electric vehicles has been reduced from 12% to 5%; GST on chargers/ charging stations for electric vehicles has been reduced from 18% to 5%.

(2) Ministry of Power released a notification on charging infrastructure standards permitting private charging at residences and offices.

(3) Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH) announced that battery-operated vehicles will be given green license plates and be exempted from permit requirements.

(4) MoRTH issued a notification advising states to waive road tax on EVs, which in turn will help reduce the initial cost of EVs.

(5) Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) amended the Model Building Byelaws 2016 to establish charging stations and infrastructure in private and commercial buildings.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) 1, 2, 3,4,5

(d) None of these

Ans: c

19) Consider the following about Global Hunger Index 2021 report :

1) As per Global Hunger Index 2021 report prepared by 'Welthungerhilfe' and 'Concern Worldwide', India's score is 27.5 and it has ranked 101 among 116 countries.

2) Global Hunger Index is based on four indicators - Undernourishment, Child Stunting, Child Wasting and Child Mortality.

3) Global Hunger Index (GHI) does not reflect India's true picture as it is a flawed measure of 'Hunger'. It should not be taken at face value as it is neither appropriate nor representative of hunger prevalent in a country. Out of its four indicators, only one indicator, i.e., undernourishment, is directly related to hunger. The two indicators, namely, Stunting and Wasting are outcomes of complex interactions of various other factors like sanitation, genetics, environment and utilisation of food intake apart from hunger which is taken as the causative/outcome factor for stunting and wasting in the GHI.

4) Also, there is hardly any evidence that the fourth indicator, namely, child mortality is an outcome of hunger

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) 1, 2, 3, 4

(d) None of these

Ans: c

20) Consider the following elephants and bees RE-HAB :

1) Buoyed by the success of its innovative Project RE-HAB (Reducing Elephant-Human Attacks using Bees) in Karnataka, Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has now replicated the project in Assam.

2) Chairman KVIC, launched Project RE-HAB at Village Mornoi in Goalpara district of Assam which severely grapples with elephant-human conflicts. The project has been implemented in Assam with the support of the local forest department.

3) Surrounded by dense forests, a large part of Assam is infested by elephants with 332 human deaths reported between 2014 and 2019 due to elephant attacks.

4) Under Project RE-HAB, "Bee-fences" are created by setting up bee boxes in the passage ways of elephants to block their entrance to human territories. The boxes are connected with a string so that when elephants attempt to pass through, a tug or pull causes the bees to swarm the elephant herds and dissuade them from progressing further. It is a cost-effective way of reducing human-wild conflicts without causing any harm to the animals. It is scientifically recorded that

elephants are annoyed by the honey bees. Elephants also fear that the bee swarms can bite their sensitive inner side of the trunk and eyes. The collective buzz of the bees is annoying to elephants that force them to return.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1, 2,3,4
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

21) Consider the following about PM GatiShakti National Master Plan :

1)The PM GatiShakti National Master Plan (NMP) is an integrated plan depicting all the existing and proposed development initiatives of various Ministries/Departments for better synergy.

2)The NMP will help in achieving the objective of an 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' by providing visibility to various stakeholders involved in development of infrastructure. It will incorporate the infrastructure schemes of various Ministries and State Governments. Economic Zones like textile clusters, pharmaceutical clusters, defense corridors, electronic parks, industrial corridors, fishing clusters, agri zones etc. will also be covered under the master plan.

3)This will boost economic growth, attract investments and enhance the country's global competitiveness.

4)During a presentation made by Special Secretary, Logistics Division, DPIIT, the ministry wise progress on the targets set under the PM GatiShakti were discussed. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has completed 1,41,190 Kms of National Highways as on 31st March 2022 out of the set target of 2,00,000 kms for 2024-25.

5)Similarly, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has completed laying of gas pipeline of 20,000 kms out of 34,500 for the same time period. The Ministry of Power has already surpassed its target for laying of the transmission network of 4,54,200 kms till the end of March 2022.

6)The Department of Telecommunication has created the OFC network of 33,00,997 kms as on 31st March 2022 against the set target of 50,00,000 kms for 2024-25.

7)The benefits and on-ground impact of the PM GatiShakti National Master Plan portal were also illustrated. Various ministries/departments and state governments have started using this portal for integration and synchronization of implementation efforts, optimization of cost and time at the stage of planning of infrastructure projects.

To achieve its objective to provide 50 Mbps of bandwidth to the citizens under the National Broadband Mission, planning for connecting all the non-fiberized towers through the OFC is being done through the PM GatiShakti NMP. All the non-fiberized towers and existing OFC Network is mapped on the Department of Telecommunication GatiShakti Portal.

8)Based on the data and Planning criteria, the tool is being developed to get the length of required OFC and cost of OFC Laying.

9)The portal has also been used by the Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited (DFCCIL), Ministry of Railways for firming the alignment for the East-West, East-Coast and North-South Dedicated Freight Corridors (DFCs) to minimize disruption, cost and time overruns in project implementation.

10)To meet the rising demand for air connectivity, the Ministry of Civil Aviation AAI (MoCA) has used this portal to identify the land acquisition requirements, land use analysis and road connectivity for expansion of the Jolly Grant Airport, Dehradun, Uttarakhand. AAI benefitted in terms of timely planning, and cost saving as use of this portal replaced the need for physical survey.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) 1, 2, 3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10

(d) None of these

Ans: c

22) Consider the following :

1)National Health Authority (NHA), the implementing agency for Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) has extended an open invitation to all interested parties for sharing their Expression of Interest (EoI) for developing innovative solutions that shall help build a national digital health ecosystem for India. This collaborative approach will not just help speed up the development but also will help in making digital public goods available to public and/or private entities.

2)Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) aims to create a seamless online platform that will enable interoperability within the digital healthcare ecosystem. The mission has been conceptualized as a set of 'digital building blocks'. Each building block is seen as a 'digital public good' that can be used by any entity in the digital health ecosystem and provides key capabilities that enable the ABDM vision.

3) “The ABDM endeavours to give impetus to open and interoperable standards in the digital health ecosystem. Such an undertaking will not only expedite Universal Health Coverage goals in India, but also have ripple effects on the global health ecosystem. However, such an ambition requires all hands-on-deck. In this regard, the National Health Authority is giving an open call inviting all interested parties to contribute to the Unified Health Interface (UHI), Health Claims Protocol (HCP), and various other open-source digital public goods being created to expand the digital health ecosystem.”

4)ABDM has developed building blocks and interoperable APIs to offer a seamless digital healthcare experience for all stakeholders – health facilities, patients and healthcare professionals. The key building blocks of ABDM are - ABHA, Healthcare Professionals Registry (HPR), Health Facility Registry (HFR) and Health Information Exchange & Consent Manager (HIE-CM).

5)These building blocks are designed to enable identification of participating entities (health care providers, patients and health professionals) and enable exchange of interoperable health data with patient consent. The digital ecosystem developed is now accessible to health facilities and health tech players for integration.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) 1, 2, 3,4,5

(d) None of these

Ans: c

23) Consider the following :

1)The approved scheme of RGSA will help more than 2.78 lakh Rural Local Bodies including Traditional Bodies across the country to develop governance capabilities to deliver on SDGs through inclusive local governance with focus on optimum utilisation of available resources. The key principles of SDGs, i.e. leaving no one behind, reaching the farthest first and universal coverage, along with gender equality will be embedded in the design of all capacity building interventions including trainings, training modules and materials.

2)Priority will be given to subjects of national importance principally under themes, namely: (i) Poverty free and enhanced livelihood in villages, (ii) Healthy Village, (iii) Child Friendly Village, (iv) Water Sufficient Village, (v) Clean and Green Village, (vi) Self-Sufficient Infrastructure in Village, (vii) Socially Secured Village, (viii) Village with Good Governance, and (ix) Engendered Development in Village.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2,
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

24) The Central Government released the Tenth and Eleventh Edition of the Status Paper on the Government Debt, which provides a detailed analysis of the overall debt position of the Government of India. The Central Government has been bringing-out an Annual Status Paper on Government Debt since 2010-11.

Consider the following :

1) This paper enhances transparency by providing a detailed account of debt operations during the year 2019-20 and 2020-21 and an assessment of the health of the public debt portfolio based on internationally accepted debt performance indicators.

2) The Government's debt portfolio is characterised by prudent risk profile.

3) Conventional indicators of debt sustainability, i.e., Debt/ GDP ratio, interest payment to revenue receipts, shares of short-term debt/ External debt/ FRBs in total debt indicate that the debt profile of the Government is comfortably placed in terms of debt sustainability parameters.

4) The Paper also includes a chapter on Medium Term Debt Management Strategy of the Central Government

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1, 2, 3,4
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

25) Consider the following about Quantum Computers :

Quantum mechanics like any physical theory is based on experiments. This means that experiments are used to justify some axioms from which the full theory can be logically deduced. While a large section of the scientific community is invested in building devices towards quantum computing applications, a separate community is invested in precision tests of fundamental aspects of quantum theory itself.

A group of scientists from the Raman Research Institute (RRI), an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology in a collaborative research have used quantum computers to perform some precision tests of the fundamental aspects of the quantum theory called Sorkin and Peres tests. The first is a test of the probabilistic aspect of quantum mechanics which helps calculate the chances of events happening while the second is a test of an aspect of the superposition principle, which expresses the fact that quantum objects may behave as waves -- throwing two stones in a pond gives a wave pattern which is the sum of two waves.

Consider the following :

1)The use of a quantum computer to perform tests of crucial quantum principles in the research published as rapid communication letter in the journal *Physical Review Research* has led to the natural emergence of an entirely new research direction for the physics community that brings together diverse research disciplines under one unifying umbrella.

2)As quantum computers are scalable quantum systems, this could provide a universal programmable setup for quantum experiments. A quantum circuit, which is like a low-level program for quantum computers, could be a Rosetta stone that allows translation of experiments from one physical system to another.

3)As a corollary, the scientists have also shown that quantum mechanics is true and the tests can be used as a benchmark to evaluate how well a quantum computer performs. "Our method provides a nice way to create well defined benchmarks for quantum computers so that we know exactly how error prone they are, by using the very foundations of quantum theory as the benchmarking tool," s

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1, 2, 3
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

26) Consider the following about White Spot Syndrome Virus :

Scientists have developed a handy diagnostic tool that detects an aquaculture pathogen known as the White Spot Syndrome Virus (WSSV). The peptide-based diagnostic tool by scientists of Agharkar Research Institute (ARI), an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology (DST) has been granted patent on 31 March 2022 as an alternative biorecognition element.

Consider the following :

1)Infection caused by the WSSV to the shrimp *Penaeus vannamei* results in huge loss of crop.

2) This high value super-food is susceptible to a wide range of viral and bacterial pathogens and the probability of occurrence of infections is rather high.

3) Improved nutrition, probiotics, disease resistance, quality control of water, seed and feed, immuno-stimulants and affordable vaccines play an important role in enhancing the production.

4) Technologies for early and rapid detection of pathogens on the field will help fish and shell-fish farming which provides significant export revenue to the country which is a leading supplier of shrimp to the USA.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) 1, 2, 3, 4

(d) None of these

Ans: c

27) Consider the following :

The State Energy & Climate Index (SECI) Round I ranks the states' performance on 6 parameters

(1) DISCOM's Performance

(2) Access, Affordability and Reliability of Energy

(3) Clean Energy Initiatives

(4) Energy Efficiency

(5) Environmental Sustainability; and

(6) New Initiatives.

7) The parameters are further divided into 27 indicators. Based on the composite SECI Round I score, the states and UTs are categorized into three groups: Front Runners, Achievers, and Aspirants.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

(d) None of these

Ans: c

28) Consider the following :

Outlining the water scenario in India and key government schemes in water and wastewater sector, the audience was appraised with the success of 'Catch the Rain: Where it Falls, When it Falls' campaign under the Jal Shakti Abhiyan.

Consider the following :

1) Namami Gange Programme and shed light on some of the positive outcomes and impact of the project was outlined. Discussions were there about Arth Ganga and informed the audience about its six verticals – Zero Budget Natural Farming, Livelihood Generation Opportunities, Cultural Heritage & Tourism, Monetisation and Reuse of Sludge & Wastewater, Public Participation and Institutional Building.

2) Focus of the Phase-II of Namami Gange Programme will be on sewerage infrastructure creation in the tributaries of Ganga such as Yamuna and scaling up of PPP development efforts. It is reiterated the commitment of NMCG to develop a circular economy model focused on reclaim, reuse and recycling. One of the key areas of work in the future, he added, will be faecal sludge and septage management in urban local bodies and rural areas.

3) Responding to a question on sludge management, it is said: "Tonnes of sludge is generated every day and we aim to develop a circular economy based on sludge management," adding, "Under Arth Ganga, which aims at connecting people with the river, we are trying to give some economic benefit to the stakeholders/people so that they have some interest in ensuring the river is clean."

4) It is added that as per the directions of the NGT, a campaign is being run to keep the river stretches across India clean and drive the States to assess the total generated sewerage and the existing capacity and use the various schemes of the government to reduce the gap ensuring not a single drop of wastewater goes into the river.

5) "This will generate a lot of sludge – one of the verticals of Arth Ganga is 'Zero Budget Natural Farming' which aims at facilitating the natural farming process by providing natural manure/soil conditioner made out of sludge and reduce the use of chemicals and fertilizers by the farmers thereby developing a circular economy model in sludge management with economic benefits to the stakeholders (farmers in this case)."

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1, 2, 3,4,5
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

29) Consider the following :

1) Two famous world-renowned tourist attractions - Somnath Temple and Gir National Park are located near Keshod. Keshod Airport is owned by Airports Authority of India (AAI).

2) Initially, the airport was refurbished and revived in late 1980s to facilitate scheduled operations. Since last 21 years, commercial aircraft has not landed at this airport.

3)AAI has invested an amount of Rs. 25 crores to upgrade Keshod airport for resurfacing of Runway, procurement of Aircraft Crash Fire Tender (ACFT), new Civil Enclave including Terminal Building, Apron for two ATR-72 types of aircraft and Link Taxiway, etc

4)The new UDAN flight route will bring Keshod on the national air map and add convenience & comfort to travelers of this region as Keshod is a tourist destination in Junagarh district of Gujarat and it is surrounded by Arabian Sea and beautiful forests.

5)Somnath Temple and Gir National Park are located near Keshod. It is pertinent to mention that at present, it takes about 16 Hours to travel by road from Keshod to Mumbai which will be reduced to just 1 hour 25 minutes with commencement of new flight

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a)1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1, 2, 3,4,5
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

30)Consider the following :

- 1)Brass from Jamnagar,
- 2)engineering from Rajkot and
- 3)clock industry of Morbi,
- 4)it gives a feeling of 'mini Japan

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a)1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1, 2, ,3,4
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

31)Consider the following :

Ministry of Panchayati Raj organized the National Level Conference on Localization of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs), focusing on

- 1)Theme 5: Clean & Green Village and
- 2)Theme 4: Water Sufficient Village, aligned with broader Sustainable Development Goals.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

32) Consider the following about Sugar Production In India :

India's Sugar Exports witnessed an astounding growth of 291% from USD 1,177 million in FY 2013-14 to USD 4600 million in FY 2021-22. As per DGCI&S data, India exported sugar to 121 countries across the globe.

- 1) Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Karnataka account for nearly 80 percent of the total sugar production in the country.
- 2) The other major sugarcane-producing states are Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Haryana, and Punjab.
- 3) Notably, India is the world's second-largest sugar producer after Brazil.
- 4) Since 2010-11, India has consistently produced surplus sugar, comfortably exceeding the domestic requirements.
- 5) The record exports would enable the sugar producers to reduce their stocks and would also benefit the sugarcane farmers, as the increased demand for Indian sugar is likely to improve their realizations.
- 6) The significant rise in agri-exports is also seen as a testimony of the government's commitment to increase farmers' income by boosting exports of agricultural and processed food products of the country.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1,2,3,4,5,6
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

33) Consider the following :

- 1) The annual rate of inflation is 14.55% (Provisional) for the month of March, 2022 (over March, 2021) as compared to 7.89% in March, 2021.
- 2) The high rate of inflation in March, 2022 is primarily due to rise in prices of crude petroleum and natural gas, mineral oils, basic metals, etc owing to disruption in global supply chain caused by Russia-Ukraine conflict.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

34) In line with the vision of the Prime Minister for promoting drone technology and its use in India and to facilitate the use of Kisan drones, as announced in budget document 2022-23; the Department in consultation with all the stakeholders of this sector, has brought out Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for use of drones in pesticide and nutrient application that provide precise instructions for effective and safe operations of drones.

Consider the following:

- 1) As part of continuing efforts to make drone technologies to reach all farmers, the Ministry has issued orders granting an interim approval for spray of nearly all the registered pesticides formulations using drones.
- 2) These pesticide formulations are those whose safety and efficacy has already been evaluated on different crops and are already being used in the country using other methods.
- 3) The application of pesticides using drones will not only make it easier for farmers to efficiently protect plants from pests, but will also eventually help in increasing their incomes through reduced input costs.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1,2,3
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

35) Consider the following :

1) Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (DAFW), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, through the Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine & Storage (DPPQS), Faridabad has been catering to Indian exporters and importers of agriculture commodities and Indian Pesticide Industry, through its two portals namely, Computerized Registration of pesticide (CROP) and Plant Quarantine Information System (PQIS).

2) Realising the need for quicker disposal of applications related to **export/import of agricultural commodities and pesticides registration, a more coordinated** integration with external systems and stakeholders, and to bring in greater transparency in the existing online system, DAFW launched two redeveloped online portals.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only

- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

36) Consider the following:

1) Wheat procurement has recently commenced in Rabi Marketing Season 2022-23 in states of MP, Haryana, Punjab, UP, Uttarakhand, Chandigarh, HP, Gujarat and Rajasthan. A quantity of 69.24 LMT of wheat has been procured upto 17.4.2022 benefitting 5.86 Lakh farmers with MSP value of Rs. 13951.41 Crores

2) The paddy procurement is progressing smoothly in Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2021-22 at MSP from farmers.

3) A quantity of 754.08 LMT of Paddy (includes Kharif Crop 750.95 LMT and Rabi Crop 3.14 LMT) has been procured in KMS 2021-22 upto 17.04.2022 in procuring States/UTs.

4) Till now about 108.90 Lac farmers have been benefitted with MSP value of Rs. 1,47,800.28 crore.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1,2,3,4
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

37) Consider the following :

1) Extreme and early heat in March forced authorities in Pali to release water from the Jawai dam built on the Jawai river, a tributary of the Luni which flows through Pali (District), Rajasthan

2) The crocodiles found in Jawai are muggers or marsh crocodiles (*Crocodylus palustris*) which are freshwater specialists. They found all over south Asia — India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bangladesh — as well as south-eastern Iran.

3) The mugger is found in 15 Indian states, with the largest populations in the middle Ganges (Bihar-Jharkhand) and Chambal (Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Rajasthan) basins.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1,2,3
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

38) Consider the following :

1) Unlike other air pollutants – ozone is good and bad for us.

2) First, the news about good ozone: the hole in the ozone layer is finally starting to heal, UNEP/WMO reported. This layer is about 20-30 km up in the air, protects life from sun's harmful ultraviolet light by absorbing the radiation which otherwise would potentially damage exposed life forms near the surface.

3) Now, the news about the bad ozone—this time it comes from India. According a new study published in Geophysical Research Letters, the ground level ozone pollution damaged 6 million tonnes of crops in India. This ground-level ozone is formed in the air by nitrogen oxides and hydrocarbon emitted from vehicles and other sources like cook stoves reacting in the presence of sunlight.

This ozone is close to ground, so as a strong oxidant it is notorious for damaging lungs and vegetation. This ground-level ozone is the main component of smog. Even at relatively low levels, ozone can cause health effects. People with lung disease, children, older adults, and people who are active outdoors may be particularly sensitive to ozone.

4) "India could feed 94 million people with the lost wheat and rice crops, about a third of the country's poor," said , an atmospheric scientist at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) in Pune, India, and lead author of the new study. There are about 270 million Indians who live in poverty, according to the study.

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Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) 1,2,3,4

(d) None of these

Ans: c

39) Consider the following with reference to Crops and Ozone Pollution :

1) Wheat – one of the country's major food sources – saw the largest loss (by weight) of the four crops studied in the paper, with ozone pollution damaging 3.5 million tonnes (3.8 million US tonnes) of the crop in 2005. The losses in case of another major food source, rice, was 2.1 million tonnes (2.3 million U S tonnes), according to the study.

2) Cotton – one of India's major commercial crops — lost more than 5 per cent of its 3.3 million

tonnes (3.6 million U.S. tons) annual output in 2005, costing the country \$70 million, according to the research

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

40) Consider the following about Degrai Oran and GIB in Rajasthan :

1)GIB is a large bird, about 1 m in height with a wing-span of 2 m, and an adult weighs up to 18 kg. As per the last count in 2018, there were only 150 GIBs in the country and 122 of them were in Jaisalmer.

2)The remaining 28 were sighted in Gujarat, Maharashtra and Karnataka. "Since then, the population has declined further, and now less than 100 GIBS remain in the wild,"

3)In June 2019, the forest department in Rajasthan, along with the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, started a GIB breeding centre in the Desert National Park situated north of the oran, where they collect eggs from the wild and hatch them in captivity. The initiative has started to restore the population.

4)"We have hatched 16 GIBs in captivity from eggs collected from the wild," said scientist at the Wildlife Institute of India.

5)"GIBs are slow breeders and lay only one egg every year, that too in the wild. The eggs are sometimes destroyed by cattle, or eaten by larger animals. Radheshyam Bishnoi of Godawan Community Conservation Project, is a community-driven initiative in the region.

6)Degrai Oran is in the middle of a 13,000 square kilometre wide biodiversity-rich land that is among the last natural habitats of the Great Indian Bustard (GIB). But what towers over everything else in the landscape of this *oran* — sacred groves — are windmills

7)The open stretch of land, which receives long hours of sunlight and speedy wind, has become a hub of green energy with windmills and solar photovoltaic dotting it. More solar power plants and transmission towers are under construction.

8)“This is the largest and one of the last orans in the area,” said, a camel handler from Sanwata village, adjoining the oran near Jaisalmer. For centuries, the trees in the oran, spread over 60,000 bighas (approximately 100 sq km), have remained untouched by the people in the villages.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8

(d) None of these

Ans: c

41) Consider the following :

1)Without nitrogen, an essential nutrient, plants grow slowly and produce smaller flowers and fruits. Their leaves turn yellowish and are less nutritious to insects, birds and animals. The issue of declining nitrogen availability is not new. “It has been on the scientific radar for a long time,”

2)Tropical and boreal forests may be particularly vulnerable.

3)Plants grow quickly when exposed to high carbon dioxide (CO₂) concentrations. Thus, their demand for nitrogen also goes up, the experts wrote in the review.

4)High CO₂ levels dilute plant nitrogen, triggering a cascade of effects that lower the availability of nitrogen. Other factors contributing to nitrogen decline include warming and disturbances, including wildfire.

5)Declining nitrogen availability can be linked to insect apocalypse. Plants with low nitrogen levels can encourage swarming in some species of locusts.

6)Further, low nitrogen availability could limit plants’ ability to capture CO₂ from the atmosphere, the review warned.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1,2,3,4,5,6
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

42) Consider the following South West Monsoon :

- 1)The southwest monsoon contributes 74.9 per cent to the annual rainfall in India and irrigates over half of India's agricultural land. The quantity of rainfall or its failure directly impacts India's agriculture, especially the kharif crop season which is heavily dependent on the monsoon.
- 2)Moreover, the new all India annual rainfall has also decreased by 16.18 mm for the country to 1,160.1 mm, from the earlier normal of 1,176.9 mm.
- 3)The IMD termed this decrease as a part of a natural "multi-decadal epochal variability" of dry and wet epochs of all India rainfall. It noted that currently, the southwest monsoon is passing through a 'dry epoch' which started in the decade of 1971-80.
- 4)La Nina means the large-scale cooling of ocean surface temperatures in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean, together with changes in the tropical atmospheric circulation, namely winds, pressure and rainfall.
- 5)"As sea surface temperature conditions over the Pacific and the Indian Oceans are known to have strong influence on the Indian monsoon, IMD is carefully monitoring the evolution of sea surface conditions over these ocean basins"

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1,2,3,4,5
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

43) Consider the following:

- 1)Celebrating World Heritage Day on 19th April 2022, National Monuments Authority organized a unique Heritage Walk early this morning around the historical Anang Tal, Mehrauli, an 11th Century mini lake built by the founder King of Delhi Anang Pal Tomar in 1052 AD.
- 2)The Hindu dynasty of Tomars ruled Delhi and the name itself has come from the Dhillikapuri of which several stone inscriptions were found by General Cunningham during British ASI period.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

44) Consider the following Green Hydrogen :

1)The plant at Jorhat, Assam, produces Green Hydrogen from the electricity generated by the existing 500kW Solar plant using a 100 kW Anion Exchange Membrane (AEM) Electrolyser array. The use of AEM technology is being used for the first time in India.

2)This plant is expected to increase its production of green hydrogen from 10 kg per day to 30 kg per day in future. The company has initiated a detailed study in collaboration with IIT Guwahati on blending of Green Hydrogen with Natural Gas and its effect on the existing infrastructure of OIL

3)Oil India Limited (OIL) has taken the first significant step towards Green Hydrogen Economy in India with the commissioning of India's First 99.999% pure Green Hydrogen pilot plant, with an installed capacity of 10 kg per day at its Jorhat Pump Station in Assam. The plant was commissioned in a record time of 3 months.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1,2,3
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

45) Consider the following :

1)Notably, India is the world's second-largest rice producer after China. The record exports would enable the rice producers to reduce their stocks and would also benefit the farmers as the increased demand for Indian Rice is likely to improve their realizations. The significant rise in agri-exports is also seen as a testimony of the government's commitment to increase farmers' income by boosting exports of agricultural and processed food products of the country.

2)The major rice producing states are West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Assam, and Haryana.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

46) Consider the following :

1) India's non-basmati rice exports witnessed an astounding growth of 109 % from USD 2925 million in FY 2013-14 to USD 6115 million in FY 2021-22.

2) As per DGCIS data, India exported rice to over 150 countries across the globe in 2021-22. India exported more than USD one million to 76 countries out of the 150 countries reported in 2021-22, 3) It indicates the diversification of India's rice export over the years.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) 1,2,3

(d) None of these

Ans: c

47)

Special focus is given on oilseeds, pulses and nutria-cereals.

Post monsoon, rainfall has been in excess over normal and about 55.76 lakh hectares was under cultivation during summer. Following government policy, there has been reduction in area under rice with corresponding increase in pulses and oilseeds cultivation. Government has worked out requirement of seed and fertilizers and will ensure their timely supply.

Consider the following :

1) The priority of government is agro-ecological based crop planning for diversion of land from excess commodities like rice and wheat. to deficit commodities like oilseeds and pulses and high value export earning crops.

2) Government is giving high priority to Crop Diversification with focus on Self Sufficiency in Oilseeds&Pulses and Promotion of Oil Palm.

3) Consultations with all stake holders like major states, researchers, industries and policy makers have been held to finalize a National Policy Frame Work for Crop Diversification Programme in the country. All states should work towards crop diversification for making agriculture sustainable, profitable and self sufficient in deficit commodities.

4) The Minister stated that the centre and states would work together to ensure pesticides and seeds availability to reduce input costs for farmers. He urged that there should be a strategy to replace Urea with Nano-urea. He declared that the government would continue to lay emphasis on natural and organic farming.

5) On exports the Minister said that while agriculture exports have increased, attention should be paid on quality products so that they can compete in International Markets. Exporters and farmers both should benefit.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) 1,2,3,4,5

(d) None of these

Ans: c

48) Consider the following regarding worst weather storms in **Province of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa** :

- 1) The Climate Justice Charter Movement (CJCM) wants the government to be found guilty of “culpable homicide” for its acts of omission to “prevent further emissions and to protect the vulnerable from increased inequality and poverty”. The organisation has filed documents in this regard with the South African Police Services.
- 2) The Climate Justice Charter emerged out of six years of campaigning, during the worst drought in South Africa’s history by the South African Food Sovereignty Campaign and the Cooperative and Policy Alternative Centre.
- 3) Since April 11, 2022, the **Province of KwaZulu-Natal experienced what is one of the worst weather storms in the history of our country**. The heavy rainfall that has descended on our land over the past few days has wreaked untold havoc and unleashed massive damage to the lives and infrastructure.
- 4) The South African National Defence Force (SANDF) said April 18, 2022 that it had been instructed to activate 10,000 troops for flood-related tasks, including mop-up work and transporting aid.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1,2,3,4
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

49) Consider the following :

- 1) The fishing community in Odisha demanded an increase in livelihood support from the Centre during the annual 61-day fishing ban across the East Coast that commenced April 15, 2022, according to an official of the state fisheries department.
- 2) The ban was imposed to facilitate fish breeding in the sea and prohibits fishing through mechanised boats, big vessels and trawlers.
- 3) Each family gets a compensation of Rs 4,500 under the central government’s saving-cum-relief scheme during the period to make up for their losses.
- 4) They want this amount to be increased to Rs 15,000.
- 5) The ban extends to the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) beyond territorial waters on the East Coast (including Andaman & Nicobar Islands) and the West Coast (including Lakshadweep Islands).
- 6) It will come into effect in the West Coast from June 1, 2022, said the department official
- 7) During the ban period, all kinds of trawlers and mechanised boats longer than 8.5 metres are prohibited from entering the sea for fishing activities, said , deputy director of fisheries (marine), Odisha government.
- 8) The traditional non-motorised fishing boats, less than 8.5m in length, however, will be exempted from this uniform ban imposed in the Indian EEZ beyond territorial waters
- 9) The union also urged the government to include women under the scheme, as several of them are involved in different fishing activities like transporting and selling. Their earnings have also taken a hit because of the ban

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

50) Consider the following :

- 1) Indian agriculture is dominated by small and marginal farmers with average land holdings size of less than 1.1 ha.
- 2) These small and marginal farmers constituting more than 86 % of the total land holdings are facing tremendous challenges both in production and post-production scenarios like access to production technology, quality inputs at reasonable prices, seed production, custom hiring, value addition, processing, credit, investments and most importantly markets.
- 3) Hence, collectivization of such producers through formation of FPOs is very important to address such challenges and enhance their incomes.
- 4) Realizing the need to form and promote FPOs across the country, Government formulated a dedicated Central Sector Scheme "Formation & Promotion of 10,000 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) and the same was launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister on 29.02.2020 at Chitrakoot (UP) for implementation.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1,2,3,4
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

51) The Formation & Promotion of 10,000 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) scheme is based on produce cluster approach to enhance production, productivity, market access, promote diversification, value addition, processing and export and also to create agri based employment opportunities with the aim to economically empower farmers.

Consider the following :

- 1) The FPOs to be eligible under the scheme for financial benefit and technical handholding are required to be registered either under Companies Act, 2013 or States' Co-operative Societies Act with minimum number of 300 farmers in plain areas and 100 farmers in hilly and NER.
- 2) Under the scheme, there is provision for financial support of maximum Rs.18.00 lakh per FPO for 3 years as management cost to make them sustainable and economically viable .
- 3) To strengthen the financial base of FPOs and entail them to avail collateral free loan, there is also provision for matching equity grant of maximum Rs. 2000/- per member with ceiling of Rs,

15 lakh /FPO and Credit Guarantee facility upto bankable project loan of Rs. 2.00 crore respectively.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1,2,3
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

52) Under the scheme CBBOs have been provisioned as the professional agency with a critical role to play as they are to engage themselves all along the value chain starting right from mobilization of farmers, baseline survey, identification of produce clusters, formation of groups, registration and capacity building to preparation of business plan, execution thereof with assurance to provide the market to the FPOs. They are also to establish cardinal link with Implementing Agencies and FPOs.

Consider the following:

- 1) The role of Cluster Based Business Organisations (CBBOs) should be to strengthen Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) so that farmers seek them out. FPO is not merely a company, it is a collective for the benefit of farmers.
- 2) Emphasising this in the key note address at the inaugural session of the National Conference of Cluster Based Business Organisations (CBBOs) Union Agriculture Minister said that more and more farmers should be part of FPOs.
- 3) It is said that earlier around 7,000 FPOs were made but they could not last and a new scheme of FPOs was launched by the Prime Minister with an outlay of Rs. 6865 crore. At a time when the country is observing Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav the government is making every effort for the prosperity of farmers.
- 4) Union Minister of State for Agriculture also said that farmers should be enthusiastic about joining FPOs. At the conference Union Agriculture Minister also launched the logo for 10,000 FPOs Scheme.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1,2,3,4
- (d) None of these

Ans: c

53) Consider the following :

Major Groups of WPI are

- (1) Primary Articles (Weight 22.62%)**
- (2) Fuel & Power (Weight 13.15%)**
- (3) Manufactured Products (Weight 64.23%)**

Which of the statements given above is / are correct ?

- (a) 1 only

- (b) 2 only
 - (c) 1,2,3
 - (d) None of these
- Ans: c