

**Model questions (ECONOMY - URBAN DEVELOPMENT) based on
TELANGANA SOCIO-ECONOMIC OUTLOOK 2022
STUDY MATERIAL FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICES /
TSPSC GROUP I & Group 4 ;
TSLPRB SUB-INSPECTOR /CONSTABLE
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For Study purpose

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URBAN DEVELOPMENT

1)As of 2022, the estimated share of Telangana's population living in urban areas is_____.
Telangana is more urbanised than India as a whole, where only 34.7% of the total population lives in urban areas.

Ans: 46.8%.

2)Based on the population projections published by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Telangana is also urbanising faster than the rest of India combined, and the share of urban residents in the state's population is expected to reach _____ by 2036.

Ans: 57.3%

3)Telangana's urban areas had a Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) and Worker Population Ratio (WPR) of 57.2% and 51.0% in 2019-20 respectively, higher than the national level LFPR and WPR of 53.5% and 49.6% respectively.

Question: Which of the following is correct in the context of Telangana's urban areas ?

a)LPFR: 57.2%

b)WPR: 51.0%

c)Both (a) & (b)

d) None of these

Ans : c

4)A majority of urban workers in Telangana (_____) have a regular or salaried job.

Ans: 55.1%

5)In November 2021, Telangana became the first state in the country to achieve its target of distributing loans to _____ street vendors under the PM SVANidhi Scheme.

Ans: 3.4 Lakh

6)Hyderabad was honoured with the title, 'Tree City of the World', by the Food and Agriculture Organization in 2020.

Question: Who gave the title 'Tree City of the World to Hyderabad' in 2020 ?

Ans : Food and Agriculture Organisatoin

7) In order to deal with global warming and climate change, the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) of Telangana have kept aside 10% of their expenditure for a 'Green Budget'.

Question: How much expenditure is kept aside for a 'Green Budget' by Urban Local Bodies of Telangana in order to deal with global warming and climate change ?

Ans : 10%

8) In order to reduce the harms from heavy rainfall in Hyderabad, the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) has initiated a Strategic Nala Development Programme (SNDP), at a cost of _____ sanctioned for phase-I of the programme.

Ans : Rs.858 Crores

9) Telangana's ULBs were recognized and felicitated during the Swachh Survekshan 2021 conducted by MoHUA-Gol under different categories.

Question: In total, Telangana ULBs received 9 awards including awards which awards?

a) 'Best Self Sustaining City',

b) the 'Cleanest City' the 'Best City in Innovation & Best Practices', the 'Fastest Mover City',

c) the 'Self- Sustaining Cantonment'.

d) All the above

Ans : d

10) In order to ease administrative burdens, the Government introduced the Telangana State Building Permission and Self-Certification System (TS-bPASS) for approving the layouts of buildings—the first in the country to provide fully online services in this regard with no touchpoint.

Question: Telangana Government introduced the TS-bPASS for which purpose ?

Ans : Telangana State Building Permission and Self-Certification System (TS-bPASS) is for approving the layouts of buildings

11) The Government of Telangana has commissioned South India's largest Waste-to-Energy (WtE) plant in Jawaharnagar in 2021 to generate 63 MW of electricity from municipal solid waste in Hyderabad.

Question: Waste-to-Energy plant in Jawaharnagar, near Hyderabad is generating how much electricity from municipal solid waste in Hyderabad?

Ans : 63MW

12) As of 2020-21, _____ of Telangana's urban wards have door-to-door waste collection facilities.

Ans : 100%

13) To support women-led enterprises during COVID-19, the Government provided credit support of Rs. 36.83 crore to 6,603 urban SHGs during the pandemic.

Expand : SHGs: Self Help Groups

14) Question : Telangana Government provided credit support of how much to 6,603 urban SHGs during the pandemic To support women-led enterprises during COVID-19?

Ans : Rs.36.83 Crores

The Urban Landscape

For centuries, urban areas have served as the epicentre of political and economic power, fostering economic growth and innovation. As they attract people and skills from all around, urban areas benefit from a robust spatial concentration of talent, knowledge, and wealth. While urban areas gain from such agglomeration of human and financial capital, high density often comes with associated costs. Traffic congestion, pollution, domestic and industrial waste production, concerns around affordable housing, and crime are a few examples of such costs. Urban policies strive to minimise these costs while maximising the benefits of the urban landscape, and ensuring that the gains accrue equitably across genders and social groups.

Question: While urban areas gain from such agglomeration of human and financial capital, high density often comes with associated costs. What are they ?

- a)Traffic congestion, pollution,
- b)domestic and industrial waste production,
- c)concerns around affordable housing, and crime
- d)All the above

Ans : d

Since its formation in 2014, Telangana has strived to create a sustainable and equitable urban biosphere within the state. As per population projections released by the National Commission on Population (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India), 46.84% of the state's population (1.79 crore) is expected to reside in urban areas in the year 2022. This is projected to further increase to 57.32% (2.2 crore) by 2036 —an increase of 10.5 percentage points between the two years. In the same period, at the national level, the percentage of urban residents is expected to increase from 34.75% in 2022 to 39.06% by 2036. This reflects a 4.31 percentage point rise in the share of urban population in the country as a whole.

Question: How many people are expected to reside in urban areas in the year 2022 ?

Ans: 46.84% of the Telangana population (1.79 crores)

Question: How many people are projected to further increase to how much by 2036 in Telangana ?

Ans : 57.32% of Telangana population (2.2 crore) by 2036

This implies that in the year 2022, the urban population of Telangana is projected to be 12.1 percentage points higher than that of the country, and this gap is expected to increase to 18.3 percentage points by 2036. Thus, not only is Telangana more urbanised than India, but also, it is urbanising at a faster pace than the country as a whole.

Data shows the district-wise share of the urban population in Telangana as per Census 2011. 29 out of the 33 districts in the state have fewer than 50% of their populations residing in urban areas.

Question: More people live in urban areas than in the rural areas in 4 districts in the Telangana state. What are they ?

- a)Hyderabad, Medchal-Malkajgiri,
- b)Warangal-Urban
- c)Rangareddy.
- d)All the above

Ans : d

The largest urban area in the state is Hyderabad, which occupies only 0.6% of Telangana's total land area, but houses over 20% of the total population of the state. In spite of its high population density, Hyderabad has strived to maintain its green cover.

Question: Which is the largest urban area in Telangana ?

Ans : Hyderabad

Question: Hyderabad occupies how much of Telangana's total land area ?

Ans : 0.6%

Question: 20% of total population of Telangana State is living in which urban area ?

Ans : Hyderabad

Question: In the year 2020 who gave title of the 'Tree City of the World ' title to Hyderabad ?

Ans : Food and Agriculture Organization

The development of more prosperous urban areas is a primary policy goal of the Government of Telangana, and the goal is being achieved through the 142 Urban Local Bodies present across the state.

Question: How many Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) are there in Telangana at present ?

Ans : 142

Urban Infrastructure

Investments in infrastructure are an essential component of urban development. These investments increase the productivity of urban economic activities, thereby paying for themselves several times over. The Government has undertaken significant investments to build and maintain the infrastructure in the urban areas.

Pattana Pragathi

Pattana Pragathi was launched by the Government in February 2020 to provide a strong foundation for better standards of living for the urban population, to make urban areas clean and green, and to provide better services to the urban public at large.

Pattana Pragathi was executed in three phases— the first of which focussed on developing urban utility infrastructure, the second on sanitation, and the third on both urban utility infrastructure as well as sanitation. Phases I and II of Pattana Pragathi were implemented in 2020-21, while the third phase was completed in 2021-22.

Question: When Pattana Pragathi was launched by Government of Telangana ?

Ans: February, 2020

Question: What is the aim of Pattana Pragathi scheme ?

- a)to provide a strong foundation for better standards of living for the urban population,
- b)to make urban areas clean and green, and
- c)to provide better services to the urban public at large.
- d)All the above

Ans : d

Question: Pattana Pragathi was executed in three phases. What are they?

- a)the first of which focussed on developing urban utility infrastructure,
- b)the second on sanitation, and
- c)the third on both urban utility infrastructure as well as sanitation.
- d)All the above

Ans : d

Question: Phases I and II of Pattana Pragathi were implemented in 2020-21, while the third phase was completed in _____.

Ans : 2021-22.

Under Pattana Pragathi, during 2020-21, the Government released Rs. 148 crore each month, of which Rs. 78 crore were allocated to GHMC, while the rest was shared among the 141 remaining ULBs. In 2021-22, the Government has been releasing Rs. 59 crore to GHMC and Rs. 53 crore to other municipalities in the state each month.

These funds have been used to address infrastructural gaps to meet the goals of citizen-centric service delivery by the ULBs. Prominent projects address the felt needs in the areas of sanitation and waste management, provision of public toilets, designing public spaces like gardens, markets, graveyards and animal shelters, and making concerted efforts towards greenifying the urban areas.

Question: These Pattana Prathi funds have been used to address infrastructural gaps to meet the goals of citizen-centric service delivery by the ULBs. Prominent projects address the felt needs in the areas of what ?

- a) sanitation and waste management, provision of public toilets,
- b) designing public spaces like gardens, markets,
- c) graveyards and animal shelters, and making concerted efforts towards greenifying the urban areas.
- d) All the above

Ans : d

To improve the sanitation facilities, the ULBs purchased over 2,214 new sanitation vehicles, adding to the existing stock of 2,628 garbage-lifting vehicles in the state. Taken together, the fleet can collect 100% of the urban garbage produced by these ULBs on any given day. In the same vein, over 37.19 lakh bins were also purchased from these funds.

Question : ULBs purchased over 2,214 new sanitation vehicles, adding to the existing stock of ____ garbage-lifting vehicles in the Telangana state.

Ans : 2,628

While garbage collection is essential, the funds were also devoted towards processing of this garbage. In 29 ULBs, the money was used to create new dumpyards. Additionally, 224 new compost sheds and 206 new Dry Resource Collection Centres (DRCC) have been constructed. Over Rs. 250 crore were utilised for the construction of Faecal Sludge Treatment Plants (FSTPs) in 71 ULBs. The FSTPs have generated capacity to process 1,565 kilo litres of sludge each day.

Question: In 29 ULBs, the Pattana Pragathi money was used to create new dump yards. Which of the following is correct ?

- a) Additionally, 224 new compost sheds and 206 new Dry Resource Collection Centres (DRCC) have been constructed.
- b) Over Rs. 250 crore were utilised for the construction of Faecal Sludge Treatment Plants (FSTPs) in 71 ULBs.
- c) The FSTPs have generated capacity to process 1,565 kilo litres of sludge each day
- d) All the above

Ans : d

In addition to the garbage collection infrastructure, the Pattana Pragathi funds were also used to build public toilets. The Government accomplished the aim of constructing one public toilet per thousand people in urban areas by building _____ new toilets using funds from this scheme.

Ans : 4,071

The ULBs also utilised these funds to meet the targets for Telaganaku Haritha Haram (TKHH)—a government policy to improve urban forestry and increase forest land cover in Telangana from _____ to 33%.

Ans: 24%

Under this scheme, the ULBs established 1,053 nurseries, including 51 Central Nurseries, and added an additional 34.69 lakh tall plants in 2021-22. They also developed 2,265 Pattana Prakruthi Vanalu (Tree Parks) with 64.27 lakh plants.

Question: How many Pattana Prakruthi Vanalu (Tree Parks) were developed ?

Ans : 2,265

Additionally, funds were also used to make the Multi Layer Avenue Plantation along _____ kilometres of road. The new plants added under TKHH are regularly watered, weeded, and maintained to ensure a target survival rate of 90%.

Ans : 723.76 Kilometers

Finally, the funds were used to develop utility infrastructure. This includes the construction of 369 open gyms, 1,037 sheds in street vending zones, animal care shelters in 16 districts, 265 Vaikuntha Dhamams, and integrated veg and non-veg markets (IVNMCs)

The efforts under this scheme have borne fruit, as Telangana ranked second among all states in the Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge conducted by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs , Government of India (MoHUA-Gol).

Question: Karimnagar Municipal Corporation received the second prize in _____ challenge among all cities in India with less than 3 lakh citizens.

Ans : Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge

Telangana's ULBs were also recognised and felicitated during the Swachh Survekshan 2021 conducted by MoHUA-Gol.

Telangana State Building Permission and Self-Certification System (TS-bPASS)

The Government's commitment to easing administrative burdens extends to the development of new buildings as well. In 2020, the Government introduced the TS-bPASS for approving the layouts of buildings. The process is the first in the country to provide fully online services with no touchpoint. It is a single-window system that expedites approval of building designs, depending on their classification into broad categories. The TS-bPASS was brought in to replace the Development Permission Management System (DPMS). The new rules have eliminated the need to obtain building permission for ground floor and ground plus one floor residential buildings. It provides tentative layout approval through online application. It also provides for the processing of land use certificates and land conversion certificates.

Question: The TS-bPASS was brought into replace the Development Permission Management System (DPMS). In this connection which of the following is correct ?

- a)The new rules have eliminated the need to obtain building permission for ground floor and ground plus one floor residential buildings.
- b)It provides tentative layout approval through online application.
- c)It also provides for the processing of land use certificates and land conversion certificates.
- d)All the above

Ans : d

Property Tax Waiver

Recognising the financial costs of COVID-19, the Government provided relaxation on property tax during 2020-21 to reduce the burden on people in major urban centres. Under various relaxations, over _____ received waivers to the tune of Rs 671.58 crore.

Ans: 58.6 lakh families

Vaikunthadhamams

265 graveyards (Vaikunthadhamams) have been developed by providing infrastructure facilities like parking, toilets, rainwater harvesting structures, lighting, greenery and CCTV cameras. The government has made a provision for _____ crore for this scheme during 2021-22.
Rs.200 Crores

Innovative Waste Management Practices

A 2018 study by the National Environment Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) found that Hyderabad has the highest per-capita urban waste generation in the country, producing roughly 0.57 kilograms of urban waste per person per day. In order to reduce the burden of waste on urban landfills and the ecosystem, the Government has adopted innovative measures to address the problem.

Expand NEERI : National Environment Engineering Research Institute (NEERI). It has headquarters in Nagpur, Maharashtra

Question: Hyderabad has the highest per-capita urban waste generation in the country. It is producing roughly how many kilograms of urban waste per person per day?

Ans : 0.57

The Government of Telangana has commissioned South India's largest Waste-to-Energy (WtE) plant in Jawaharnagar in 2021. The target is to generate 63 MW of electricity from municipal solid waste in Hyderabad. In Phase I, a 19.8 MW plant has been made operational. It is expected to consume 1,200 tonnes of waste each day. Another 15 MW wasteto-energy plant is being planned in Dundigal. The WtE plant has the potential to reduce pressure on the landfill, lower the foul odour in the area, and prevent ground, soil and water pollution.

Question: In 2021 where the Government of Telangana has commissioned South India's largest Waste-to-Energy (WtE) plant ?

Ans : in Jawaharnagar

In another instance, GHMC partnered with Ramky Enviro to set up facilities that recycle waste generated by construction and demolition (C&D) in urban areas. 2 plants have been set up in the GHMC area in Public Private Partnership mode so far—at Jeedimetla and Fathullaguda, Hayathnagar—and 2 more are in the pipeline. The plant at Fathullaguda is among the largest C&D recycling facilities in South India. Both plants have the capacity to handle over 500 tonnes of waste per day, and can recycle and recover 90% of the material from construction waste. This is a huge achievement for the state, as the national estimates by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) suggest that currently, only 1% of the construction waste across India is recycled.

Since April, 2018, 15.26 lakh MT of C&D waste has been collected in these plants, with 7.97 lakh MT collected at the Jeedimetla facility, and 5.38 lakh MT collected at the Fathullaguda facility. C&D waste from these facilities is being utilised for various nonstructural purposes such as to create footpaths, road sub-bases, etc.

Question: Where Construction and Demolition (C&D) waste recycle plants are set up ?

Ans : Jeedimetla and Fathullaguda, Hayathnagar

Question : C&D waste recycled is being utilised for various nonstructural purposes such as what ?

Ans : to create footpaths, road sub-bases, etc.

A third innovation in this sector comes from Telangana State Agricultural Industries Development Corporation Limited (TS AGROS). Recognising that urban Telangana produces over 7,000 MT of waste on a daily basis, TS AGROS has entered into an MoU with M/s Bhavani Bio organics Pvt. Ltd. & HiMSW Ltd. for the supply of city compost to be used as fertilizer to improve the fertility of Telangana's soils. The Government has instructed all fertiliser companies to supply city compost through TS AGROS alone. The state's efforts in improving garbage collection have borne fruit, as of 2020-21, data from MoHUA suggests that 100% of Telangana's urban wards have door-to-door waste collection facilities.

Question: As Urban Telangana produces over 7,000 MT of waste on a daily basis, TS AGROS has entered into an MoU with M/s Bhavani Bio organics Pvt. Ltd. & HiMSW Ltd. for the supply of city compost to be used as _____ to improve the fertility of Telangana's soils.

Ans : fertilizer

Integrated Markets

In order to address the infrastructural deficiencies in the ULBs, the Government has earmarked Rs.500 crore to construct Integrated Veg and Non-veg Markets in all 142 ULBs. Under this allocation, ULBs with population less than 25,000 would receive one integrated market spread over 1 acre, whereas larger ULBs would receive integrated markets spread over upto 2 acres. 5 ULBs (Gajwel, Siddipet, Siricilla, Khammam and Ieeja) have already constructed these markets, whereas the work is underway in 6 more ULBs. Sites for the construction have been identified in the remaining ULBs.

Question: In order to address the infrastructural deficiencies in the ULBs, the Government has earmarked _____ to construct Integrated Veg and Non-veg Markets in all 142 ULBs

Ans: Rs.500 Crores

Question: Under this allocation of Rs.500 Crores, (i.e., to construct Integrated Veg and Non-veg Markets), ULBs with population less than _____ would receive one integrated market spread over 1 acre, whereas larger ULBs would receive integrated markets spread over upto 2 acres.

Ans : 25,000

Urban Areas and Jobs

As more and more people migrate to urban areas, there is an increasing demand for goods and services in urban areas, which necessitates the development of new enterprises, thus creating a virtuous cycle of more jobs and prosperity. While this virtuous cycle is created by individual demands, it can only be realised and expedited through supportive government policies that ease the process of establishing and running new businesses.

Employment in Urban Telangana

According to the World Bank, 80% of the global GDP is generated in the cities. They are hubs for businesses, services, and firms that generate new employment in the economy. The two key indicators that capture the status of employment in urban areas are - Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) and Worker Population Ratio (WPR). According to Periodic Labour Force Surveys (PLFS), 2018-19 & 2019-20, the LFPR of the working age population in urban Telangana increased from 53.2% in 2018-19 to 57.2% in 2019-20—an increase of 4 percentage points. Additionally, the urban LFPR in the state was higher than the national urban LFPR in 2018-19 (51.6%) as well as 2019-20 (53.5%). Telangana had the second highest urban LFPR among the five southern states in the year 2019-20.

Question: According to the World Bank, _____ of the global GDP is generated in the cities.

Ans : 80%

Question: Which are hubs for businesses, services, and firms that generate new employment in the economy?

Ans : Cities

Question: Which are two key indicators that capture the status of employment in urban areas?

a) Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)

b) Worker Population Ratio (WPR)

c) Both (a) & (b)

d) None of these

Ans : c

Question: According to Periodic Labour Force Surveys (PLFS), 2018-19 & 2019-20, the LFPR of the working age population in urban Telangana increased from 53.2% in 2018-19 to _____ in 2019-20—an increase of 4 percentage points.

Ans : 57.2%

Urban Telangana witnessed an increase in WPR from 47.1% in 2018-19 to 51% in 2019-20. This accounts for a 3.9 percentage point rise in WPR.

Telangana's urban WPR is also higher than the national urban WPR in 2019-20 (49.6%).

Question: What is LFPR ? Give details ?

- a) LFPR (Labour Force Participation Rate) is defined as the percentage of population in the labour force.
- b) Labour force comprises persons who are either working (employed) or actively seeking work (i.e, unemployed).
- c) Both (a) & (b)
- d) None of these

Ans : c

Question: What WPR ?

Ans : WPR (Worker Population Ratio) is defined as the percentage of employed persons in the total population.

Status of Employment in Urban Telangana

A comparison of the overall employment status in rural versus the urban areas reflects the stark difference in the employment statuses across the two areas in the state . Data from PLFS 2019-20 suggests that in Telangana, urban workers across genders are more likely to have regular salaried jobs, whereas rural workers across genders are more likely to be self-employed or working as casual labourers. Among the urban working males in Telangana, 55.2% have a regular salaried job, compared to only 11.9% in rural areas. On similar lines, while 54.9% of urban working women are likely to have salaried jobs, only 8.4% of their rural counterparts are likely to be employed with salaried work.

Question: As per Data from PLFS 2019-20 suggestion, in Telangana which of the following is correct ?

- a) urban workers across genders are more likely to have regular salaried jobs,
- b) rural workers across genders are more likely to be self-employed or working as casual labourers
- c) Among the urban working males in Telangana, 55.2% have a regular salaried job, compared to only 11.9% in rural areas.
- d) All the above

Ans : d

PLFS classifies industries of work based on the following NIC-2008 classification:

Section A: Agriculture, forestry and fishing,

Section B: Mining and quarrying,

Section C: Manufacturing,

Section D: Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply,

Section E: Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities,

Section F: Construction,

Section G: Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles,

Section H: Transportation and storage,

Section I: Accommodation and Food service activities,

Section J: Information and communication,

Section K: Financial and insurance activities,

Section L: Real estate activities,

Section M: Professional, scientific and technical activities,

Section N: Administrative and support service activities,

Section O: Public administration and defence; compulsory social security,

Section P: Education,

Section Q: Human health and social work activities,

Section R: Arts, entertainment and recreation,

Section S: Other service activities .

Section T: Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods and services producing activities of households for own use,

Section U: Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies.

For the purpose of this chapter, in the case of urban areas, Trade and automobile repair includes Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles, Administration includes Public administration and defence; compulsory social security, Health & social work includes Human health and social work activities, Professional, scientific and technical activities includes Professional, scientific and technical activities, and all other sectors are as per NIC classification. All NIC sectors other than those with slices on the graph are included within 'Other Services'

For the purpose of this chapter, in the case of rural areas, Trade and automobile repair includes Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles, and all other sectors are as per NIC classification. All NIC sectors other than those with slices on the graph are included within 'Other Services'

Sectoral Distribution of Employment in Urban Telangana

Data shows the industry-wise employment status of urban workers in Telangana according to PLFS 2019-20. 'Trade and automobile repair' is the largest employment generating sector, employing over 25% of all working adults in urban Telangana.

The next highest employment is generated by the manufacturing sector (16.13%), followed by the construction sector (9.06%), and transportation & storage (8.45%).

Around 66% of all urban jobs in Telangana come from the services sector. In contrast, 70.76% of working adults in rural Telangana are employed in agriculture, forestry and fishing.

Question: Which of the following is correct in respect of industry-wise employment status of urban workers in Telangana according to PLFS 2019-20 ?

- a) 'Trade and automobile repair' is the largest employment generating sector, employing over 25% of all working adults in urban Telangana.
- b) The next highest employment is generated by the manufacturing sector (16.13%),
- c) followed by the construction sector (9.06%), and transportation & storage (8.45%).
- d) All the above . Around 66% of all urban jobs in Telangana come from the services sector.

Ans : d

Question: In contrast, _____ of working adults in rural Telangana are employed in agriculture, forestry and fishing.

Ans: 70.76%

Earnings and Wages in Urban vs. Rural Telangana

As per data compared the average reported monthly earnings among the salaried population in rural and urban Telangana. Salaried workers make up the largest worker category in urban areas, at 55.1%, and account for 10.4% of rural workers in the state. Data from PLFS 2019-20 suggests that the average salaried person earns 58.3% more in urban areas than in rural areas, with women in urban areas earning more than double their rural counterparts in a month.

Similarly, the average earnings of self-employed persons in urban Telangana (who comprise 32.8% of all urban workers) were 33% higher than that of self-employed persons in rural areas of the state (where self-employed persons are the largest worker category, at 54.7% of all workers) . Urban self-employed women were, on average, earning more than double the amount earned by rural women in this category.

Casual workers comprise 34.9% of the workforce in rural areas, and 12.0% in the urban areas.

During July-September 2019, the daily earnings of casual workers in Telangana were estimated to be Rs.281.5/day in rural areas, compared to Rs.446.4/ day in urban areas, mirroring the urban earnings premium observed among the self-employed and salaried workers .

Question: Which of the following is correct in Telangana State ?

- a) Salaried workers make up the largest worker category in urban areas, i.e., at 55.1%,
- b) Salaried workers account for 10.4% of rural workers in the state.
- c) Data from PLFS 2019-20 suggests that the average salaried person earns 58.3% more in urban areas than in rural areas, with women in urban areas earning more than double their rural counterparts in a month
- d) All the above

Ans : d

Government Initiatives

The Government is committed to pursuing policies that create new jobs and upskill people to match the needs of new jobs required particularly in the urban areas. In this regard, the Government has undertaken several initiatives that impart skills and provide employment opportunities to the people, such as the employment through Employment through Skills Training & Placement (EST&P) program. The skills provided under this program help the urban poor gain salaried employment in the private sector. Of the 37,422 candidates trained under this program till December 2021, 17,233 have been provided employment.

Expand : EST&P: Employment through Skills Training & Placement

Question: Of the 37,422 candidates trained under this program till December 2021, _____ have been provided employment

Ans : 17,233

Urban Areas and Climate Change

In 2020, the Government of India published its first assessment of Climate Change and its possible consequences for India. It states that between 1901 and 2018, India's average temperature has risen by around 0.7 degrees celsius. Further, it projects that, under different assumptions, the surface temperature would increase by 2 to 3 degrees celsius between 2040 and 2070. Hence, by the end of the 21st century, the projected rise in temperature over India is roughly 4.4 degrees celsius. At the same time, the report projects lower rainfalls, more droughts, and rising sea levels.

While climate change is a global challenge, urban areas worldwide have a significant role to play in combating climate change. It is estimated that over 75% of global carbon dioxide emissions arise in the cities. Thus, creating and maintaining sustainable cities is the key to reducing future carbon emissions and limiting earth's warming.

Question: In 2020, the Government of India published its first assessment of Climate Change and its possible consequences for India. In this context which of the following is correct ?

- a) It states that between 1901 and 2018, India's average temperature has risen by around 0.7 degrees celsius.
- b) Further, it projects that, under different assumptions, the surface temperature would increase by 2 to 3 degrees celsius between 2040 and 2070.
- c) Hence, by the end of the 21st century, the projected rise in temperature over India is roughly 4.4 degrees celsius.
- d) All the above . At the same time, the report projects lower rainfalls, more droughts, and rising sea levels.

Ans : d

Question: While climate change is a global challenge, urban areas worldwide have a significant role to play in combating climate change. Which of the following is correct ?

- a) It is estimated that over 75% of global carbon dioxide emissions arise in the cities.
- b) Thus, creating and maintaining sustainable cities is the key to reducing future carbon emissions and limiting earth's warming
- c) Both (a) & (b)
- d) None of these

Ans : c

Transitioning to the Mainstream

Street vendors play a vital role in the urban areas, providing affordable goods and services to the urban residents. Recent surveys conducted by Telangana State Mission For Elimination of Poverty in Municipal Areas (TSMEPMA) in 2020 and 2021 suggest that the state has over 6.04 lakh street vendors across 33 districts. Out of the 85,289 vendors for which details were available, Hyderabad had the highest number of street vendors (25,855), followed by Khammam (4,428) and Nizamabad (4,351). These 3 districts together account for over 41% of all street vendors in the state.

Question: How many street vendors across 33 districts in Telangana are there as the per survey conducted by TSMEPMA (Telangana State Mission For Elimination of Poverty in Municipal Areas) in 2020 and 2021 ?

Ans : 6.04 Lakh

Question: Out of the 85,289 vendors for which details were available, which of the following is correct in Telangana ?

- a) Hyderabad had the highest number of street vendors (25,855),
- b) followed by Khammam (4,428) and Nizamabad (4,351).
- c) These 3 districts together account for over 41% of all street vendors in the state.
- d) All the above

Ans : d

According to the details available on the street vendors in the state till 2020, 56.2% of vendors are males, 43.8% are females, and 100% of vendors have an Aadhar card. Most vendors sell fruits and vegetables (over 33%), followed by tailoring (4.6%), and fastfood (4%). 50% of the street vendors in the state have a bank account. In Rajanna Sircilla, Warangal Rural, Suryapet, Narayanpet, and Jayashankar Bhupalpally districts, over 85% of vendors have a bank account.

Question: Which of the following is correct in the context of street vendors ?

- a) 56.2% of vendors are males, 43.8% are females, and 100% of vendors have an Aadhar card.
- b) Most vendors sell fruits and vegetables (over 33%), followed by tailoring (4.6%), and fastfood (4%).
- c) 50% of the street vendors in the state have a bank account.
- d) All the above

Ans : d

Question: In which districts , over 85% of the street vendors have a bank account in Telangana ?

- a) Rajanna Sircilla, Warangal Rural,
- b) Suryapet, Narayanpet, and
- c) Jayashankar Bhupalpally districts,
- d) All the above

Ans : d

Female street vendors are more likely to have a bank account, with 54.2% reporting an account. 3% of the street vendors in the state are members of some Self-Help Group (SHG), with Bhadradi Kothagudem having the maximum number of vendors associated with an SHG (23%). Hawkers and street vendors often find it tough to access formal loans as they are working in the informal economy.

The data collection on street vendors was undertaken by the Government to bring them within the ambit of formal credit under the PM Street Vendor's Atma Nirbhar Nidhi (PMSVANidhi)—a special micro credit facility for street vendors. Since credit constraints might bind street vendors' ability to expand and improve incomes, the program aimed to help provide funding to the street vendors to upgrade their equipment, transition into new careers, and diversify their products, etc.

Question: Which district is having maximum number of street vendors associated with an SHG (SHG)?

Ans : Bhadradi Kothagudem (23%)

Question: Formal credit is given under the PM Street Vendor's Atma Nirbhar Nidhi (PMSVANidhi)—a special micro credit facility for street vendors.

Question: Since credit constraints might bind street vendors' ability to expand and improve incomes, PM Street Vendor's Atma Nirbhar Nidhi (PMSVANidhi) the program aimed to help what ?

Ans : Provide funding to the street vendors to upgrade their equipment, transition into new careers, and diversify their products, etc.

Recognizing the criticality of financial inclusion as a crucial mechanism to help formalise the large informal economy of the state, the Government of Telangana is pursuing policies that can help expand the reach and benefits of the financial system to the informal sector and associated establishments in the state.

In June 2020, Telangana set a target of distributing loans to 3.4 lakh street vendors. In November 2021, Telangana was the first state in the country to reach (and exceed) the said target. GHMC attained the first position among all megacities, whereas GWMC held the first position in the 'major cities' category for loan disbursements to street vendors.

Question: In June 2020, Telangana set a target of distributing loans to _____ street vendors.

In November 2021

Ans: 3.4 lakh

Question: _____ attained the first position among all megacities, whereas GWMC held the first position in the 'major cities' category for loan disbursements to street vendors.

Ans : GHMC

Government Initiatives

Strategic Nala Development Programme

On 8 October 2021, Hyderabad and surrounding districts witnessed over 100 mm of rainfall within a couple of hours. The October 2021 rainfall was not an isolated event—two major high rainfall events were observed in Hyderabad in 2020 as well. In fact, according to a 2021 report by Telangana State Development Planning Society (TSDPS) and the Directorate of Economics and Statistics (DES), four out of five highest 24-hour rainfall days for Hyderabad from the last century were witnessed in the previous two decades.

In order to reduce the possibility of flooding in the future, it is essential that the drainage infrastructure across urban areas in the state is expanded and improved upon. The stormwater drainage systems should be designed to accommodate the expected changes in precipitation in the future. Hence, the Government has taken up the Strategic Nala Development Programme (SNDP) in Hyderabad and 26 other Municipalities/Municipal Corporations to supplement the existing 1,296 kilometres of stormwater drains of the city.

The goal is to improve the city drainage systems so that unusual volumes of rainfall in the future do not lead to flooding. The Government has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 858 crore for the development of 'Nala Network' across identified high-priority areas in phase-I of the programme. 55 projects under this scheme.

Question: When Hyderabad and surrounding districts witnessed over 100 mm of rainfall within a couple of hours. The October 2021 rainfall was not an isolated event—two major high rainfall events were observed in Hyderabad in 2020 as well.

Ans: On 8 October 2021

Question: In fact, according to a 2021 report by Telangana State Development Planning Society (TSDPS) and the Directorate of Economics and Statistics (DES), four out of five _____ for Hyderabad from the last century were witnessed in the previous two decades.

Ans: highest 24-hour rainfall days

Question: In order to reduce the possibility of flooding in the future, what is essential that the across urban areas in the state is expanded and improved upon?

Ans: drainage infrastructure

Question: The _____ drainage systems should be designed to accommodate the expected changes in precipitation in the future

Ans: storm water

Question: Who has taken up the Strategic Nala Development Programme (SNDP) in Hyderabad?

Ans: Telangana Government has taken up the Strategic Nala Development Programme (SNDP) in Hyderabad and 26 other Municipalities/Municipal Corporations to supplement the existing 1,296 kilometres of stormwater drains of the city

Question: What is the goal of Strategic Nala Development Programme (SNDP) ? Give details?

Ans: The goal is to improve the city drainage systems so that unusual volumes of rainfall in the future do not lead to flooding. The Telangana Government has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 858 crore for the development of 'Nala Network' across identified high-priority areas in phase-I of the programme. 55 projects under this scheme.

Green Budget

In addition to mitigation strategies, the Government has also taken up proactive measures. Since 2020, all ULBs in the state have earmarked 10% of their budget as 'Green Budget'. The goal of 'Green Budget' is to address urban forestry and development of green cover in urban areas on a priority basis. This is done by establishing nurseries and plantations, and carrying out awareness programmes in the urban areas. Taken together, all 142 ULBs in Telangana have set aside Rs. 590.39 crores for the Green Budget in 2021-22. GHMC allocated Rs. 306.67 crore towards the Green Budget in 2021-22. The proposed expenditure for GHMC under broad heads is earmarked. A large share of the Green Budget (47%) is devoted to developing colony parks, followed by upkeep and maintenance of city parks (44%). Development and maintenance of public parks serves many purposes. It provides recreational spaces for the residents, especially the children, and increases the green cover of the city.

Question: Since 2020, all ULBs in the Telangana state have earmarked _____ of their budget as 'Green Budget'.

Ans: 10%

Question: What is the goal of 'Green Budget' ?

Ans: The goal of 'Green Budget' is to address urban forestry and development of green cover in urban areas on a priority basis

Question: How to address urban forestry and development of green cover in urban areas?

Ans: It is done by establishing nurseries and plantations, and carrying out awareness programmes in the urban areas.

Question: Which of the following is correct in the context of Green Budget ?

- a) A large share of the Green Budget (47%) is devoted to developing colony parks,
- b) It is followed by upkeep and maintenance of city parks (44%).
- c) Development and maintenance of public parks serves many purposes. It provides recreational spaces for the residents, especially the children, and increases the green cover of the city.
- d) All the above

Ans : d

Telangana State Heatwave Action Plan

Heat waves act like a "silent disaster" that adversely affects the health of the people and animals of the state. According to a recent report by the Revenue (Disaster Management) Department (Government of Telangana), 568 out of 589 mandals of Telangana are susceptible to heatwaves. Hence, Telangana maintains the State Heatwave Action Plan to guide the line departments on how to alter their roles and functioning in the event of a heatwave in the state. The plan recognises that the burden of heatwaves is borne disproportionately by construction workers, and the marginalised, and suggests measures to minimise the impact of heatwaves on all citizens in general, and on these vulnerable groups in particular. It suggests altering the working hours in major cities to avoid peak hours, distributing information on how to deal with heatwaves, ensuring shelter facilities for livestock, deploying health teams at major bus stops, and rescheduling load shedding to avoid peak hours.

Question: Which acts like a "silent disaster" that adversely affects the health of the people and animals of the State?

Ans: Heat waves act like a "silent disaster" that adversely affects the health of the people and animals of the state

Question: According to a recent report by the Revenue (Disaster Management) Department (Government of Telangana), _____ out of 589 mandals of Telangana are susceptible to heatwaves

Ans: 568

Question: Which of the following is correct about State Heatwave Action Plan ?

- a) Telangana maintains the State Heatwave Action Plan to guide the line departments on how to alter their roles and functioning in the event of a heatwave in the state.
- b) The plan recognises that the burden of heatwaves is borne disproportionately by construction workers, and the marginalised, and suggests measures to minimise the impact of heatwaves on all citizens in general, and on these vulnerable groups in particular

c)It suggests altering the working hours in major cities to avoid peak hours, distributing information on how to deal with heatwaves, ensuring shelter facilities for livestock, deploying health teams at major bus stops, and rescheduling load shedding to avoid peak hours.

d)All the above

Ans : d

Early Warning System for Flood Prediction

Information from national monitoring networks is often insufficient for local authorities to evaluate flood risk at the local scale, particularly in urban areas. Often, the network density is insufficient and national network stations are situated according to hydrological and meteorological needs.

At the time of state formation, the area under the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation had 33 Automatic Weather Stations (AWS), with a resolution of 10x10 km. In order to improve the accuracy and efficiency of the early warning system for flood prediction in Hyderabad, the Department of Planning, Government of Telangana, as per recommendations made by Dr. Kapil Gupta from Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) - Bombay, installed _____ new Automatic Weather Stations (AWS) in the GHMC area, taking the total count of AWS to 132.

Ans: 99

Question: Information from national monitoring networks is often insufficient for local authorities to evaluate flood risk at the local scale, particularly in urban areas. Often, what is insufficient and national network stations are situated according to hydrological and meteorological needs ?

Ans: network density

The resolution of AWS in Telangana has now improved to 2x2 km, and they provide hourly data on rainfall (mm), temperature (degree Celsius), humidity (%), wind direction, and speed of wind. The data from these stations is transmitted to the main server located at the Telangana State Development Planning Society (TSDPS), Hyderabad through GSM technology. After quality control, the real-time data and products are disseminated to various users, who use this data to make timely decisions for disaster management

Question: The resolution of Automatic Weather Stations (AWS) in Telangana has now improved to 2x2 km, and they provide hourly data on which of the following ?

a)rainfall (mm), temperature (degree Celsius),

b) humidity (%),

c)wind direction, and speed of wind

d)All the above

Ans : d

Question: The data from these AWS stations is transmitted to the main server located at the Telangana State Development Planning Society (TSDPS), _____ through GSM technology

Ans: Hyderabad

Urban Areas and Gender

It is well established that across the country, there exists a disparity between the social and economic outcomes of men and women. Even though the increased mobility and access to greater and better quality employment opportunities in urban areas should lead to greater engagement of women in the economy, the actual status is the contrary. While employed women in urban areas earn better than their rural counterparts, and are also employed to a greater degree in regular, salaried positions, access to employment itself is more restricted for women in urban areas, than in rural areas.

Government has taken multiple initiatives to make outcomes in the state more equitable.

Gender dynamics in urban areas manifest in different ways. A 'Time Use in India Survey' conducted by NSO in 2019 shows that while fewer women engage in employment in both urban as well as rural areas, the employment gap between men and women in urban areas (44.9 % points) is drastically higher than that in rural areas (24.8 % points) . A similar, but even more aggravated trend is observed in the case of India. Furthermore, urban women spend on average

25% less time than men on employment activities, while the time-gap in rural areas is only 18%.

Government Initiatives

In view of the fact that increased urbanisation may lead to increasingly skewed economic outcomes for women, the Government has launched programs and initiatives that enhance women's participation in urbanisation and the economic growth of Telangana.

Question: Government has launched programs and initiatives that enhance women's participation in urbanisation and the economic growth of Telangana. Which of the key initiatives are correct?

- a) The Government provided credit support of Rs.36.83 crore to 6,603 urban SHGs during the pandemic.
- b) Recognising that households are less willing to spend resources on the health and nutrition of the female members, the Government, under National Urban Health Mission, has set up 7,531 Mahila Arogya Samitis (MAS) in the Slum Level Federations of 42 Municipal bodies.
- c) Roughly, Rs.1.4 crore were released for 2,929 MAS in 2020-21.
- d) All the above

Ans : d

Question: The Telangana Police has taken several initiatives to ensure greater safety of women in public spaces. Which of the following is correct ?

- a) For example, 331 SHE (Safety, Health and Environment) Teams in the state's police departments monitor women safety in the 'hotspot' public areas.
- b) The police has also taken a counselling approach towards those who harass women in public, and had offered counselling services to 27,396 culprits till December 2021.
- c) Bharosa Support Centres have been established in most districts of the state to assist women who have faced violence within or outside their homes.
- d) All the above

Ans : d

In July 2021, the Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TSRTC) introduced a system of request stops for women and children. This facilitates the women travelling in buses after 7:30 pm to stop the bus at any point in the journey, instead of only at the bus stops designated for boarding and alighting from the bus. The system has been launched on a pilot basis on GHMC routes.

Developing Hyderabad

Hyderabad is the largest city in Telangana and the fourth most populous city in the country. The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) performs the primary task of delivering urban services. Several other agencies, such as the Hyderabad Metro Rail Limited (HMRL), the Hyderabad Metro Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB), the Hyderabad Integrated Municipal Solid Waste Limited (HiMSW), and the Hyderabad Metro Development Authority (HMDA) also provide vital services that keep the city running.

Question: Hyderabad is the largest city in Telangana and the _____ most populous city in the country.

Ans : fourth

Question: The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) performs the primary task of delivering urban services. Several other agencies, such as which of the following are there ?

- a) Hyderabad Metro Rail Limited (HMRL),
- b) Hyderabad Metro Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB), the Hyderabad Integrated Municipal Solid Waste Limited (HiMSW),
- c) Hyderabad Metro Development Authority (HMDA) also provide vital services that keep the city running.
- d) All the above

Ans : d

Permanent and Temporary Housing

The high population density in urban areas puts considerable pressure on land and housing resources. Hence, the provision of safe and affordable housing is a key goal of urban policy. Recognising this, the Two Bedroom (2BHK) Housing programme, a unique 'Dignity Housing Programme' has been initiated by the Government of Telangana. Under this programme, 2 BHK houses are constructed and given away free of cost to the shelter-less poor people living below the Poverty Line (BPL). Since the launch of the scheme in 2015, GHMC has been given a target of constructing 1 lakh houses under this scheme at a financial outlay of Rs.8,598.58 crore. Out of the total target, construction of 64,628 2BHK houses has been completed, and the remaining 35,372 houses will be completed by March 2022.

Recently, the Government completed a mega 2 BHK project in Kollur, Sangareddy. It was built at a cost of Rs. 1,422.15 crore, and has 15,660 units in a single place. The project won the Housing and Urban Development Corporation Limited (HUDCO) award for best practices 2019-20 under the Housing, Urban Poverty and Infrastructure theme. The housing has Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs), power backup for lifts, playgrounds and gyms, rainwater harvesting pits, electrical appliances, commercial complexes, parking space, external electrification with underground cabling, water supply through potable pipes and underground drainage system, making it at par with private housing societies. It is expected to house 80,000 people in the near future. In addition to funding permanent housing programs, GHMC has also made arrangements for the temporary housing of the people who visit the city to benefit from its medical and economic prowess. The GHMC constructs and maintains night shelters for the economically backward patients and their attendants coming to the hospitals in the city. As of 2021-22, the construction of night shelters has been completed at seven hospitals, with a total capacity of 862 persons.

Question: The high population density in urban areas puts considerable pressure on land and housing resources. What is a key goal of urban policy ?

Ans: The provision of safe and affordable housing is a key goal of urban policy

Question: Which of the following is correct about Two (2BHK) Housing programme is correct ?

- a) Two Bedroom (2BHK) Housing programme, a unique 'Dignity Housing Programme' has been initiated by the Government of Telangana.
- b) Under this programme, 2 BHK houses are constructed and given away free of cost to the shelter-less poor people living below the Poverty Line (BPL). Since the launch of the scheme in 2015, GHMC has been given a target of constructing 1 lakh houses under this scheme at a financial outlay of Rs.8,598.58 crore.
- c) Out of the total target, construction of 64,628 2BHK houses has been completed, and the remaining 35,372 houses will be completed by March 2022.
- d) All the above

Ans : d

Sewerage and Drainage Facilities

Urban areas generate a large amount of sewage and waste. According to the 2020 figures from International Institute of Health and Hygiene (Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India), urban Telangana alone generates 2,660 Million Litres of sewage per day. Hence, the handling of sewage is a major urban policy concern.

The HMWSSB provides water and sewerage services covering an area of 1,492 sq. kms. within the outer ring road area of Hyderabad city. The HMWSSB also formulated the Sewerage Master Plan, covering 62 Sewerage Treatment Plants (STPs) covering the core city, the peripheral villages and the Outer Ring Road (ORR). During 2021- 22, the Government sanctioned the construction of 8 STPs to the north of Musi river at the cost of Rs.1,230.21 crore. Another 6 STPs have been sanctioned for construction to the south of Musi river at Rs. 1,355.13 crore. HMWSSB also took up the construction of three Fecal Sludge Treatment Plants in the villages near the ORR.

The efforts of HMWSSB ensured that GHMC was the first ULB in Telangana to receive the 'Water Plus' city tag from the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (Government of India) in August 2021. The city also retained its Open Defecation Free (ODF)++ tag, which it had received the previous year. This tag recognised that no unsafe or untreated water is discharged into the water bodies of the city, alongside the possession of adequate capacity of desludging vehicles and jetting machines to clean septic tanks.

In addition, the GHMC maintains over 1,300 kilometres of stormwater drains. During 2021-22, the corporation sanctioned over 803 construction or remodelling projects, of which over 247 projects have been completed. GHMC also carries out the de-silting of these drains.

Question: Urban Telangana alone generates how many Million Litres of sewage per day?

Ans: 2,660 Million Litres of sewage per day

Question: Which of the following is correct about HMWSSB?

- a) The HMWSSB provides water and sewerage services covering an area of 1,492 sq. kms. within the outer ring road area of Hyderabad city.
- b) The HMWSSB also formulated the Sewerage Master Plan, covering 62 Sewerage Treatment Plants (STPs) covering the core city, the peripheral villages and the Outer Ring Road (ORR).
- c) During 2021-22, the Government sanctioned the construction of 8 STPs to the north of Musi river at the cost of Rs.1,230.21 crore. Another 6 STPs have been sanctioned for construction to the south of Musi river at Rs. 1,355.13 crore. HMWSSB also took up the construction of three Fecal Sludge Treatment Plants in the villages near the ORR.
- d) All the above

Ans : d

Question: The efforts of HMWSSB ensured that GHMC was the first ULB in Telangana to receive the 'Water Plus' city tag from whom ?

Ans : Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (Government of India) in August 2021

Question: The Hyderabad city also retained its Open Defecation Free (ODF)++ tag, which it had received the previous year. This tag recognized what ?

Ans : This tag recognised that no unsafe or untreated water is discharged into the water bodies of the city, alongside the possession of adequate capacity of desludging vehicles and jetting machines to clean septic tanks.

Question: GHMC maintains over _____ kilometres of stormwater drains

Ans: 1,300

Urban Mobility

Urban areas, including Hyderabad, are often pressed to accommodate varied mobility concerns. Broadly, these concerns might be addressed under two categories—improving roads to facilitate smoother private transport experience, and expanding public transport networks for everyone.

Roads, Bridges and Flyovers

The Strategic Road Development Programme (SRDP) was formulated and implemented by GHMC as a high priority project with the goal of designing road networks that would reduce traffic fatalities and vehicular pollution across the major traffic corridors and activity centers in Hyderabad. The Plan includes the construction of flyovers, underpasses, and bridges. So far, 22 works have been completed, and another 25 works under the plan are in progress.

Expand SRDP : Strategic Road Development Programme

Question: Which of the following is correct about SRDP ?

- a) The Strategic Road Development Programme (SRDP) was formulated and implemented by GHMC as a high priority project with the goal of designing road networks that would reduce traffic fatalities and vehicular pollution across the major traffic corridors and activity centers in Hyderabad.
- b) The Plan includes the construction of flyovers, underpasses, and bridges.
- c) So far, 22 works have been completed, and another 25 works under the plan are in progress
- d) All the above

Ans : d

In addition, the Government has also sanctioned Rs.1,839 crore under the Comprehensive Road Maintenance Programme (CRMP) for maintenance of main roads (roads with more than 3 lanes). The funds under the scheme would be released in instalments over a period of 5 years. The programme covers 401 stretches and 7 packages. Till December, 2021, GHMC has spent Rs. 594.1 crore out of the total funds allocated to this scheme to recarpet a total length of 496.8 km, and to maintain footpaths, kerbs, central median, lane markings, sweeping (by m/c) and greenery maintenance along these roads. GHMC also conducts repair and maintenance work on roads other than main roads. GHMC maintains over 9,013 kilometres of roads. During 2020-21, the GHMC filled over 13000 potholes, with another 15,230 potholes filled in 2021-22. In addition, roughly 4,560 additional roadworks were sanctioned, at a total outlay of Rs. 1,123.8 crore.

Question: What is CRMP ?

- a) In addition, the Telangana Government has also sanctioned Rs.1,839 crore under the Comprehensive Road Maintenance Programme (CRMP) for maintenance of main roads (roads with more than 3 lanes).
- b) The funds under the scheme would be released in instalments over a period of 5 years.
- c) The programme covers 401 stretches and 7 packages
- d) All the above

Ans: d

Question: GHMC maintains over _____ kilometres of roads.

Ans: 9,013

In addition to the GHMC, the Hyderabad Road Development Corporation Limited (HRDCL) also manages the building and maintenance of roads. During 2021-22, the corporation worked on the Missing Link Roads Project for Hyderabad city. The project has a financial outlay of Rs.2,984 crore across three phases, and aims to identify and construct roads that serve as missing connections in the distribution of traffic over Hyderabad's roads.

These road links will act as shortest alternative routes that would improve mobility, shorten travel times, facilitate quick movement of essential services like ambulances and fire forces, improve road safety, reduce vehicular exhaust pollution, and connect the abandoned areas of the city, thereby controlling anti-social activities.

Question: During 2021-22, the Hyderabad Road Development Corporation Limited (HRDCL) worked on the Missing Link Roads Project for Hyderabad city. Which of the following is correct ?

- a) The project has a financial outlay of Rs.2,984 crore across three phases, and aims to identify and construct roads that serve as missing connections in the distribution of traffic over Hyderabad's roads.
- b) These road links will act as shortest alternative routes that would improve mobility, shorten travel times, facilitate quick movement of essential services like ambulances and fire forces, improve road safety, reduce vehicular exhaust pollution, and connect the abandoned areas of the city, thereby controlling anti-social activities.
- c) Both (a) & (b)
- d) None of these

Ans : c

Finally, the HGCL is responsible for the construction and maintenance of the Outer Ring Road (ORR) to Hyderabad city. The entire corridor of 158 kilometres has been completed at a total cost of Rs. 8,828 crore. Since January 2021, HGCL has also taken up the management of the toll plazas on the ORR, and is also responsible for operating the Highway Traffic Management System on the road. In addition, HGCL has taken up the beautification of junctions and the LED lighting along the ORR.

Question: Which of the following is correct about HGCL ?

- a) HGCL is responsible for the construction and maintenance of the Outer Ring Road (ORR) to Hyderabad city.

- b)The entire corridor of 158 kilometres has been completed at a total cost of Rs. 8,828 crore. Since January 2021, HGCL has also taken up the management of the toll plazas on the ORR, and is also responsible for operating the Highway Traffic Management System on the road.
- c)In addition, HGCL has taken up the beautification of junctions and the LED lighting along the ORR
- d)All the above

Ans : d

Metro Rail

The HMRL runs and maintains the Hyderabad Metro, providing a convenient, comfortable and state-of-the-art transport system covering 69 kms. The metro system is being developed under PPP mode at a cost of Rs. 22,000 crore. In order to improve the urban milieu, the HMRL has taken up urban rejuvenation works along the 57 metro stations, which includes the construction of sidewalks, adding greenery and public-utility furniture near the metro stations, and developing service lanes.

The new Multi-Level Parking at Nampally taken up by HMRL is expected to be completed by March 2022. In addition, plans are on for the construction of 31 km. long 'Airport Express Metro Rail' from Raidurg Terminal Station to Shamshabad International Airport at an estimated cost of Rs. 5,100 crore, and a cost effective elevated Bus Rapid Transit System (BRTS)/Metro Neo from KPHB Metro Station to Financial District.

Question: The HMRL runs and maintains the Hyderabad Metro, providing a convenient, comfortable and state-of-the-art transport system covering _____ .

Ans: 69 KMs

Question: The metro system is being developed under PPP mode at a cost of _____ .

Ans: Rs. 22,000 crore.

Question: Which of the following is correct about HMRL ?

- a) The new Multi-Level Parking at Nampally taken up by HMRL is expected to be completed by March 2022
- b)There are plans for the construction of 31 km. long 'Airport Express Metro Rail' from Raidurg Terminal Station to Shamshabad International Airport at an estimated cost of Rs. 5,100 crore, and
- c)A cost effective elevated Bus Rapid Transit System (BRTS)/Metro Neo from KPHB Metro Station to Financial District
- d)All the above

Ans : d

Health and Nutrition

A key goal of urban policy is to improve the health and nutritional status of the urban residents, so that they can serve as productive members of the society. In Telangana, urban initiatives like Annapurna Meals and Basti Dawakhana have been designed to supplement the health infrastructure in the city.

Basti Dawakhana

The GHMC constructed over 256 Basti Dawakhana to provide health care services including diagnostic tests and medicines free of cost to the urban poor. Each dawakhana has a doctor, a staff nurse, supporting staff, and a separate pathology lab.

They provide services such as out patient, antenatal care, COVID-19 vaccination, child immunisation, tests for non-communicable diseases like diabetes and blood pressure, liver function test, renal function test, blood test, lipid profile, thyroid, complete blood picture, etc.

Question: The GHMC constructed over _____ Basti Dawakhana to provide health care services including diagnostic tests and medicines free of cost to the urban poor.

Ans: 256

Question: Each Basti Dawakhana has

- a)a doctor,
- b)a staff nurse,supporting staff,
- c)a separate pathology lab
- d)All the above

Ans: d

Question: Basti Dawakhans provide services such as what ?

- a)out patient, antenatal care,
- b)COVID-19 vaccination, child immunisation,
- c)tests for non-communicable diseases like diabetes and blood pressure, liver function test, renal function test, blood test, lipid profile, thyroid, complete blood picture, etc.
- d)All the above

Ans: d

Annapurna Meals

Since 2014, GHMC has been providing nutritious and affordable Annapurna meals at Rs. 5 per meal to people across the city, serving over 45,000 lunches each day.

During the first lockdown, Annapurna Meals were supplied totally free of cost. At present, Annapurna meals are being provided through 373 centres,including mobile Annapurna centers during lunch, and through 259 centres during dinner time. Since the launch of the scheme, 7,36,69,487 meals have been served, out of which 2,29,46,080 meals were served during 2020-21. GHMC has also identified 32 locations to establish “Seating Annapurna Canteens” for public convenience.

Question: Since 2014, GHMC has been providing nutritious and affordable Annapurna meals at ____ per meal to people across the city, serving over 45,000 lunches each day.

Ans: Rs.5

Waste Management

According to the Telangana State Pollution Control Board (TSPCB), Telangana generated 9,965 tonnes of solid waste per day during 2020-21. 100% of this waste was collected, while over 75.6% of this waste was treated. The GHMC and HiMSW together handle the city’s municipal solid waste under a Public-Private Partnership (PPP). In November 2020, the Government introduced 55 advanced compactors for waste collection in Hyderabad and also launched new transfer stations for handling the garbage. These stations were designed as closed sheds to reduce the hassle caused by the stink of the garbage. This was combined with a new fleet of garbage collection vehicles that call centres could track remotely. These upgrades will also help improve the city’s performance on the Swachh Survekshan rankings, which currently ranks Hyderabad at the 13th place among the 48 cities with a population above 10 lakh.

Question: According to the Telangana State Pollution Control Board (TSPCB), Telangana generated _____tonnes of solid waste per day during 2020-21.

Ans: 9,965

Question: 100% of this waste was collected, while over 75.6% of this waste was treated. The GHMC and HiMSW together handle the city’s municipal solid waste under a _____

Ans: Public-Private Partnership (PPP).

Question: In November 2020, the Government introduced 55 advanced compactors for waste collection in Hyderabad and also launched new transfer stations for handling the garbage.

Which of the following is correct ?

- a)These stations were designed as closed sheds to reduce the hassle caused by the stink of the garbage.
- b)This was combined with a new fleet of garbage collection vehicles that call centres could track remotely.
- c)These upgrades will also help improve the city’s performance on the Swachh Survekshan rankings, which currently ranks Hyderabad at the 13th place among the 48 cities with a population above 10 lakh.
- d)All the above

Ans : d

Greenery and Biodiversity

The GHMC and the Urban Forestry arm of the HMDA are responsible for implementing the Telanganaku Haritha Haram (TKHH). The aim of TKHH is to enhance the state's forest cover from 24% to 33% by planting over 230 crore plants. The HMDA planted over 132.24 lakh seedlings and distributed another 113.96 lakh seedlings among the people.

Under TKHH, the HMDA has also developed Green Corridors along the Outer Ring Road (ORR), projected and developed "Urban Lungs Spaces" in 16 forest blocks, maintained over 39 urban parks (including NTR Garden, Sanjeevaiah Park, and greenery along the Necklace Road in Hyderabad) and developed 41 nurseries.

Question: What are called as Urban Lungs Spaces?

Ans: forest blocks, urban parks, etc., which produce more oxygen and absorb carbon dioxide

What is the aim of Telanganaku Haritha Haram (TKHH) ?

Ans : The aim of TKHH is to enhance the state's forest cover from 24% to 33% by planting over 230 crore plants

Question: The efforts of the Telangana Government have led to the recognition of Hyderabad as "Tree City of the

World" by the _____ in 2020

Ans : FAO .

Question: Which has also received an award in the 2021 International Exhibition and 6th Smart Cities India Expo under the Green and Clean City category?

Ans: Begumpet Rain Garden

Urban Planning

The Government has laid considerable focus on ensuring that the development of urban areas occurs in a planned manner. This is done to ensure that urban growth keeps pace with the growth in the size and the needs of the population. HMDA is the urban planning agency of Hyderabad. It is responsible for planning, coordinating, supervising, and securing the planned development of the Hyderabad Metropolitan Region. During 2021-22, it undertook several projects, including the layout development for Kokapet, construction of Osman Sagar's Landscape Park, constructing skywalks at Mehdiapatnam and Uppal, construction of a Logistics Park at Mangalpally and Batasingaram, development, operation and maintenance of Lake Front Night Bazar between Sanjeevaiah Park & Buddha Bhavan, development of Rock Garden at Jalpally Lake, beautification of 20 lakes, and restoration and maintenance of heritage sights, etc.

Question: HMDA is the urban planning agency of _____.
Hyderabad.

Question: _____ responsible for planning, coordinating, supervising, and securing the planned development of the Hyderabad Metropolitan Region

Ans: HMDA

Question: Which of the following is correct about the several projects undertaken by HMDA during 2020-21 ?

- a) layout development for Kokapet, construction of Osman Sagar's Landscape Park, constructing skywalks at Mehdiapatnam and Uppal, construction of a Logistics Park at Mangalpally and Batasingaram,
- b) development, operation and maintenance of Lake Front Night Bazar between Sanjeevaiah Park & Buddha Bhavan,
- c) development of Rock Garden at Jalpally Lake, beautification of 20 lakes, and restoration and maintenance of heritage sights, etc.
- d) All the above

Ans : d

Leisure and Recreation

Hyderabad combines its strengths as an IT Hub with stellar recreational facilities. These facilities are necessary to develop Hyderabad as a 'consumer city', on the lines of other metropolitan cities in the developed countries. The Government has developed gardens and urban public spaces to meet the leisure needs of the residents. The Buddha Purnima Project, launched in 2000, was a concerted effort to develop the areas around the Hussain Sagar Lake as public recreational spots. The aim of the project was to help the growth of the lake, upgrade the surrounding environment, promote tourism, and encourage eco-tourism in the area.

Under this project, the Government developed the Lumbini Park, NTR Gardens, Necklace Road, People's Plaza, Sanjeevaiah Park, Hussain Sagar Lake, and Lake View Park. These areas provide ideal destinations for the citizens to relax, while also serving as a source of livelihood for small businesses and revenue for the government.

Question: Hyderabad combines its strengths as an IT Hub with stellar recreational facilities. These facilities are necessary to develop Hyderabad as a '_____ ', on the lines of other metropolitan cities in the developed countries.

Ans: consumer city

Question: Which of the following is correct about Buddha Purnima Project?

- a) The Buddha Purnima Project, launched in 2000, was a concerted effort to develop the areas around the Hussain Sagar Lake as public recreational spots.
- b) The aim of the project was to help the growth of the lake, upgrade the surrounding environment, promote tourism, and encourage eco-tourism in the area.
- c) Both (a) & (b)
- d) None of these

Ans : c

Question: Under Buddha Purnima project, the Government developed which of the following ?

- a) the Lumbini Park, NTR Gardens, Necklace Road,
- b) People's Plaza, Sanjeevaiah Park, Hussain Sagar Lake, and Lake View Park.
- c) These areas provide ideal destinations for the citizens to relax, while also serving as a source of livelihood for small businesses and revenue for the government
- d) All the above

Ans: d

In 2021, the GHMC started organizing 'Sunday- Funday' events at Tank Bund in Hyderabad, which combines market areas with fun activities, bands and orchestras, fireworks, folk performances, and eating joints. This was done after the lakeside stretch in the area was developed and renovated for public use. The event has garnered considerable appeal among the families in Hyderabad, while providing small businesses and vendors a chance to boost their earnings by catering to the crowds that flock to Tank Bund for the night events.

Question: In 2021, the GHMC started organizing _____ events at Tank Bund in Hyderabad, which combines market areas with fun activities, bands and orchestras, fireworks, folk performances, and eating joints

Ans: 'Sunday- Funday'

Urban Governance

The 74th Amendment Act 1992 stipulated that the responsibilities of providing citizen services in the urban areas and performing administrative tasks like urban planning and land use regulation, should fall under the purview of Urban Local Bodies. The Amendment left it to the respective states to enact laws that govern the structure and status of ULBs in their territory.

Accordingly, the Government enacted the Telangana Municipalities Act 2019 to guide the administration of ULBs other than GHMC. The Act pushes the ULBs to be more transparent, accountable, and efficient.

In tune with the act, some of the identified focus areas are:

Promoting Greenery in the urban areas, by demarcating funds towards the 'Green Budget'.

| Encouraging citizen-centric governance by establishing Citizen Service Centres in the Municipalities.

| Saving water, improving sanitation and upgrading the sewerage systems to ensure that water resources are well-utilised.

| Introduction of a single-window online system, called Telangana State Building Permission and Self Certification System (TS-bPASS) to process building certifications in a timely and hasslefree manner.

Question: When the The 74th Amendment Act was passed ?

Ans: 1992

Question: Which of the following is correct about 74th Amendment Act ?

a) This Act stipulated that the responsibilities of providing citizen services in the urban areas and performing administrative tasks like urban planning and land use regulation, should fall under the purview of Urban Local Bodies.

b) The Amendment left it to the respective states to enact laws that govern the structure and status of ULBs in their territory

c) Both (a) & (b)

d) None of these

Ans: c

Question: When the Telangana Government enacted the Telangana Municipalities Act to guide the administration of ULBs other than GHMC.

Ans: 2019

Question : Telangana Municipalities Act pushes the ULBs to be more transparent, accountable, and efficient.

In tune with the act, some of the identified focus areas are:

a) Promoting Greenery in the urban areas, by demarcating funds towards the 'Green Budget'.

b) Encouraging citizen-centric governance by establishing Citizen Service Centres in the Municipalities.

c) Saving water, improving sanitation and upgrading the sewerage systems to ensure that water resources are well-utilised; Introduction of a single-window online system, called Telangana State Building Permission and Self Certification System (TS-bPASS) to process building certifications in a timely and hasslefree manner.

d) All the above

Ans : d

There are 142 ULBs in Telangana, spread across the districts of the state.

In addition to the ULBs, the Government notifies the creation of Urban Development Authorities (UDAs) from time to time. The objective of UDAs is to ensure that the process of urbanisation does not occur in an unplanned manner, and to therefore provide adequate planning support during the urbanisation process. This involves the creation of master plans and layouts for land-use, water-use and sanitation facilities, and road networks in newly urbanizing areas. Before 2014-15, the only UDAs in Telangana were Hyderabad's HMDA and Warangal's Kakatiya Urban Development Authority (KUDA).

Question: How many ULBs are in Telangana ?

Ans: There are 142 ULBs in Telangana, spread across the districts of the state

Question: In addition to the ULBs, the Government notifies the creation of Urban Development Authorities (UDAs) from time to time. The objective of UDAs is what ? Give details.

a) to ensure that the process of urbanisation does not occur in an unplanned manner, and to therefore provide adequate planning support during the urbanization process.

b) This involves the creation of master plans and layouts for land-use, water-use and sanitation facilities, and road networks in newly urbanizing areas

c) Both (a) & (b)

d) None of these

Ans : c

Question: Before 2014-15, the only UDAs in Telangana were _____.

Ans: Hyderabad's HMDA and Warangal's Kakatiya Urban Development Authority (KUDA).

Question: The following 8 UDAs were created in the state between 2014-15 and February, 2022, taking the total number of UDAs in the state to 10: Give details:

- a)Yadadrigutta Temple Development Authority in Yadadri Bhuvanagiri,
- b) Vemulawada Temple Development Authority in Rajanna Sircilla,
- c)Satavahana Urban Development Authority in Karimnagar,
- d)Nizamabad Urban Development Authority in Nizamabad,
- e)Stambhadri Urban Development Authority in Khammam,
- f) Siddipet Urban Development Authority in Siddipet,
- g)Mahabubnagar Urban Development Authority in Mahabubnagar,
- h)Neelgiri Urban Development Authority in Nalgonda

Ans: All the above

Financing Urban Development

Urban development requires considerable upfront public investment. While development of infrastructure such as flyovers and metro services provides a considerable boost to the productivity of the local economy, financing their construction remains a key concern globally. Telangana's Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) benefit from a significant tax base that helps finance the development of its cities. In January 2021, Telangana joined five other states (Rajasthan, Goa, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, and Madhya Pradesh) in completing Urban Local Body (ULB) reforms stipulated by the Department of Expenditure (Ministry of Finance, Government of India). This entailed changing the floor rates of property tax rates to reflect the prevailing circle rates in the nearby areas, and update the user charges as well. This allowed the ULBs to raise resources that could help improve the health and sanitation in the areas that they cover. In addition, the Government would also introduce a mechanism to increase these rates periodically.

Question: In January 2021, Telangana joined which five other states in completing Urban Local Body (ULB) reforms stipulated by the Department of Expenditure (Ministry of Finance, Government of India)

Ans: Rajasthan, Goa, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, and Madhya Pradesh

Question: In January 2021, Telangana joined five other states (Rajasthan, Goa, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, and Madhya Pradesh) in completing Urban Local Body (ULB) reforms stipulated by the Department of Expenditure (Ministry of Finance, Government of India). This entailed which of the following?

- a)changing the floor rates of property tax rates to reflect the prevailing circle rates in the nearby areas, and update the user charges as well.
- b)This allowed the ULBs to raise resources that could help improve the health and sanitation in the areas that they cover.
- c)In addition, the Government would also introduce a mechanism to increase these rates periodically.
- d)All the above

Ans : d

Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation

GHMC is the largest Municipal corporation in the state, covering a population of 79 lakh. In 2021-22, the GHMC proposed a budget of Rs. 5,600 crore.

GHMC gets its funds from 3 sources—tax revenues, non-tax revenues and capital grants.

Tax revenue comprises all the taxes collected by the GHMC, contributing 37% to the total revenues

. Over 90% of this collection comes from the property tax levied by the corporation. Till

December 2021, GHMC had collected Rs.1,047.45 crore in property taxes in 2021-22.

Non-tax revenue primarily comprises Trade Licence Fees and Advertising Fees levied by the

GHMC within its boundaries. Taken together, the non-tax revenues comprise 15.8% of the GHMC

budget. In 2021-22, GHMC expects 12.59 crore in advertisement fees and 70 crore in licence fees.

Finally, GHMC also receives money from the capital grants provided by the state and central

governments. These constitute over 11.4% of its budget. During 2021-22, GHMC would receive over

Rs. 2,012 crore in capital grants. A large share of this money is earmarked for specific schemes or

projects. For example, in 2021-22, roughly 62% of the grant was earmarked for the 2-BHK Housing

Project.

Question: GHMC is the largest Municipal corporation in the state, covering a population of _____.

Ans: 79 lakh

Question: In 2021-22, the GHMC proposed a budget of Rs. 5,600 crore. GHMC gets its funds from 3 sources. What are they ?

a)tax revenues, (Tax revenue comprises all the taxes collected by the GHMC, contributing **37%** to the total revenues) (Over 90% of this collection comes from the property tax levied by the corporation)

b)non-tax revenues (Non-tax revenue primarily comprises Trade Licence Fees and Advertising Fees levied by the GHMC within its boundaries. Taken together, the non-tax revenues comprise **15.8%** of the GHMC budget.) (In 2021-22, GHMC expects 12.59 crore in advertisement fees and 70 crore in licence fees)

c)capital grants. (GHMC also receives money from the capital grants provided by the state and central governments. These constitute over **11.4%** of its budget)

d)All the above

Ans: d

Question: During 2021-22, GHMC would receive over Rs. 2,012 crore in capital grants. A large share of this money is earmarked for specific schemes or projects. For example, in 2021-22, roughly _____of the grant was earmarked for the 2-BHK Housing Project.

Ans: 62%

Other Municipal Corporations

There are 12 other Municipal Corporations in the Telangana state. The Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation (GWMC) is the second largest Municipal Corporation, with a population of 8.19 lakh. In 2021-22, the GWMC proposed a budget of Rs. 559.8 crore. The primary sources of revenues for GWMC were tax revenues (14.3%), non-tax revenues (18.4%) and capital grants (67%).

This is followed by Nizamabad Municipal Corporation, with a population of 3.1 lakh. During 2020-21, the corporation proposed a budget of Rs. 341.79 crore. The budget was primarily financed through four sources—tax revenues (15.5%), nontax revenues (11.6%), capital grants (61.5%), and deposits and loans (11.4%).

Karimnagar Municipal Corporation has a population of 2.61 lakh. For 2020-21, the Karimnagar Municipal corporation proposed a budget of Rs. 220.1 crore. They had three primary sources of revenue—tax receipts (18.8%), non-tax receipts (19.66%), and capital grants (57.9%).

Question: Which of the following is correct ?

a)The Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation (GWMC) is the **second largest** Municipal Corporation, with a population of 8.19 lakh

b) Nizamabad Municipal Corporation, with a population of 3.1 lakh

c) Karimnagar Municipal Corporation has a population of 2.61 lakh

d)All the above

Ans : d

Way Forward

As of 2022, over 47% of Telangana's population is expected to be living in urban areas. By 2027, more residents of Telangana would be living in its urban areas than in rural areas.

The future of urban development in Telangana is full of opportunities, with a perfect ecosystem in place for experimenting with new technologies and policy proposals. For example, several economists have recently endorsed the idea of creating an urban employment guarantee programme, and using the person days generated under the scheme to rejuvenate the urban public spaces.

On the technological front, the experience of municipalities like Raipur and larger municipal corporations like Bengaluru show the immense potential of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in improving property tax collections. Similarly, the use of smart traffic management systems to reduce road congestion, and on-demand services to improve urban mobility are areas with ample potential for exploration. Telangana's IT-hubs and technologists are well-suited to act as pioneers in deploying meaningful technologies to improve the urban experience. The citizen-centric focus of urban

development in Telangana is poised for a future of greater and more inclusive urbanisation.

Question: Bengaluru show the immense potential of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in improving _____.

Ans: property tax collections

Drones for Development

A drone is a small-sized Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) which can fly at low heights and capture its surroundings through the sensors attached to it. Drones have huge potential to alter the urban space. Recognising the potential of drones, the Government released the Telangana State Drone Policy in 2019. The stated goal of the policy was to strike a balance between regulation and growth-enhancing potential of drones for Telangana. One area where these drones can provide significant advantage is cadastral activities. Specifically, drones can improve the property tax collection in urban areas, circumventing commonly-faced issues in the domain. While property taxes are a promising source of revenue for local governments (for example, GHMC collects 90% of all tax revenues through property taxes), they are associated with large administrative burdens. Collecting property taxes entails maintaining and updating spatially complete databases of property records. Failure to deal with these challenges reduces the potential revenue from property taxes.

Drones can significantly reduce the hurdles to maintaining and updating the maps in urban areas. They provide a low-cost solution to surveying techniques, and can supplement data on land use with detailed information on the size, capacity, and use cases of different buildings in the city. Consequently, local governments can leverage this data to improve their property tax collections considerably. Pilots to assess the costs and benefits of using drones in property tax collection have been launched in Bangalore and Hyderabad.

Chhattisgarh's Raipur Municipal Corporation (RMC) has used this technology, alongside other GIS tools, to enhance its revenue base. In this process, the RMC combined their door-to-door surveys to assess property ownership with digital maps and aerial shots taken by drones from across the city. They also partnered with a bank to provide them with mobile apps that can digitise the process of property tax collection. Their efforts yielded positive results—the number of assessed properties increased 1.5 times and the total property tax demand jumped from Rs. 83 crore to Rs.139 crore.

Question: What is Drone ?

Ans: A drone is a small-sized Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) which can fly at low heights and capture its surroundings through the sensors attached to it

Question: Recognising the potential of drones, the Government released the Telangana State Drone Policy in _____.

Ans: 2019

Question: The stated goal of the Telangana State Drone Policy 2019 was to strike a balance between regulation and growth-enhancing potential of drones for Telangana. Which of the following is correct ?

- a) One area where these drones can provide significant advantage is cadastral activities.
- b) Specifically, drones can improve the property tax collection in urban areas, circumventing commonly-faced issues in the domain
- c) Drones can significantly reduce the hurdles to maintaining and updating the maps in urban areas. They provide a low-cost solution to surveying techniques, and can supplement data on land use with detailed information on the size, capacity, and use cases of different buildings in the city
- d) All the above

Ans : d

Question: Which Municipal Corporation used Drones ?

- a) Chhattisgarh's Raipur Municipal Corporation (RMC) has used this technology, alongside other GIS tools, to enhance its revenue base.
- b) In this process, the RMC combined their door-to-door surveys to assess property ownership with digital maps and aerial shots taken by drones from across the
- c) Both (a) & (b)
- d) None of these

Ans : c