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ARD & ESI

SOLVED

PAPER

25 QUESTIONS EACH

WITH DETAILED

SOLUTIONS

FOR NABARD

GRADE A & B EXAMS

Question 1:

If you are not able to pay your premium for the insurance policy, your policy gets terminated. This is known as-

1. Lapse
2. Liquidity
3. Liquidity Trap
4. Nullification
5. Void

Solution:

If somebody stops paying the premium for his or her insurance policy, the policy gets terminated. A lapse notice is sent in writing to the policy holder when the policy is lapsed. However, when the policy holder pays the premium, the policy is brought back in force

Question 2:

Which of the following Five Year Plans aimed at reducing the annual birth rate to 32 by the end of its duration?

1. Third Five Year Plan
2. Fourth Five Year Plan
3. Fifth Five Year Plan
4. Second Five Year Plan
5. None of the above

Solution:

Population Policy is at the forefront of most of the political parties in India since independence though much has never been done in order to implement an effective population policy in the country. In 1952, the Family Planning Programme was launched, in the Fourth Five Year Plan (1969-1974) a target was set to reduce the birth rate to 32 by 1974 and Family Planning was given high priority. The Medical

Termination of Pregnancy Act (MTP) was passed in 1971 and in the Fifth Five Year Plan (1974-79), the family planning programme was integrated with maternal and child health programs.

Question 3:

When economic planning of a country is defined by the pressure of national economic development, it is known as-

1. Spatial Planning
2. Sectoral Planning
3. Normative Planning
4. Approach Planning
5. None of the above

Solution:

Economic Planning may be divided into two types-Sectoral and Spatial. In Sectoral Planning, the planners emphasize on specific sectors of the economy such as agriculture, industry or services. In Spatial planning, development is seen in the spatial framework. The spatial dimensions of development might be defined by the pressure and requirements of national economic development

Question 4:

The first blueprint of Indian planning was developed by-

1. The Congress Plan
2. FICCI Proposal
3. M Visvesvaraya
4. The Bombay Plan
5. First Five Year Plan

Solution:

The first blueprint of Indian Planning was proposed by the popular civil engineer and the ex-Dewan of Mysore state, M Visvesvaraya- in his book The Planned Economy of India published in 1934. His ideas of state planning were an exercise in democratic capitalism with emphasis on industrialization- a shift of labour from the agrarian sector to the industrial sector targeting to double the national income in one decade

Question 5:

Which of the following articles of Indian constitution is not related to cooperative federalism in India?

1. Article 249
2. Article 252
3. Article 258
4. Article 312
5. Article 280

Solution:

The Constitution of India includes provisions for promoting cooperation on a voluntary basis between the Union and the states and among states and groups of states in investigation of matters of common interest, in legislative procedures and in administration, thus avoiding the rigidities inherent in federal constitutions (Articles 249, 252, 257, 258, 258-A and 312). In other words, the objective is cooperative federalism and on the basis of that only, economic planning takes place in India

Question 6:

Planning Commission has been replaced by NITI Ayog. Which among the following was true regarding the Planning Commission?

1. Planning Commission was a non-statutory body
2. Planning Commission was an advisory body to the government of India

3. Planning Commission was chaired by the Deputy Chairman of the Commission appointed by the Government of India

4. Both 1 and 2

5. All the above

Solution:

The Planning Commission was established in the year 1950 with a view to develop national planning for India. Important details about the now-defunct organization are as under:

- It was an extra-constitutional and non-statutory body
- It was an advisory body to the Government of India on issues pertaining to national development
- It had the PM as the ex-officio chairman and a Deputy Chairman appointed by the Government. The main function of the Deputy Chairman was to coordinate the work of the commission
- It had an open provision for the total number of members other than six cabinet ministers and a Member Secretary. Minister of Planning was already an ex-officio member of the Commission
- It was an autonomous body entitled to form its own views on important issues and place them before the governments
- It was a technical body with experts and professionals coming from an array of specific areas as per the need of the planning of the concerned period
- The Commission had executive powers

Question 7:

National Development Council was established in the year-

1. 1950
2. 1951
3. 1952

4. 1953

5. 1969

Solution:

The National Development Council was established on August 6, 1952 by a resolution of the Union Cabinet. The sole objective of the council was to create a platform where the centre and the states can come together and discuss their issues regarding implementation of planning programmes. It is there to consider the proposals formulated for plans at all important stages and accept them, review the working of the plans from time to time and to consider important questions of social and economic policy affecting national development.

Question 8:

The Ninth Plan emphasized on Base Minimum Services with additional central assistance allotted to them. Which of the following is not one of the BMS areas for development according to this plan?

1. Safe Drinking Water
2. Nutritional Support to children
3. Establishing world class higher education infrastructure
4. Public housing assistance to the shelter-less poor class families
5. Both 1 and 3

Solution:

The Ninth Plan (1997-2002) was launched when there was all around slowdown in the world economy with the Asian Financial Crisis grew from bad to worse. There was an emphasis on seven identified basic minimum services with additional central assistance for these services with a view to obtaining complete coverage of the population in a time-bound manner. The BMS included:

- Safe drinking water
- Primary health services
- Universalization of primary health care services

- Public Housing assistance to the shelter-less poor families
 - Nutritional support to children
 - Connectivity of all villages and habitations
 - Streamlining of public distribution system
-

Question 9:

The phenomenon of an increase in economic integration among nations is known as-

1. Privatization
2. Globalization
3. Professionalization
4. Liberalization
5. None of the above

Solution:

Globalization has always been there in the economic sense of the term though it always had its political dimensions. It is defined as an increase in economic integration among nations. Even before the nation-states were born, the countries around the world had gone for globalization i.e. a closer integration among economies. It lasted from 1800 to 1930. The concept was popularized again in the mid-1980s

Question 10:

The precursor of World Trade Organization was known as-

1. International Trade Association
2. General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs
3. Global Trade Association
4. International Business Summit

5. None of the above

Solution:

WTO replaced the GATT or General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs as the cry for globalization in world economy grew louder day by day. The replacement was pushed by developed countries of the world, better known as the starting round of the Uruguay Round of GATT deliberations which ended in Marrakesh in 1994 with the birth of WTO. India became one of the founding members of the organization

Question 11:

A general increase in the prices of goods and services in an economy is known as-

1. Deflation
2. Inflation
3. Disinflation
4. Hyperinflation
5. None of the above

Solution:

Inflation is defined as the rise in the general level of prices of goods and services in an economy. If the price of one goods has gone up, it is not termed as inflation but for it, to be counted as inflation, the prices of most of the goods should go up. On the other hand, when the general level of prices is falling, it is known as deflation

Question 12:

Which of the following articles of Indian constitution is related to Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act 2009?

1. Article 25
2. Article 21A
3. Article 52

4. Article 30
5. None of the above

Solution:

Article 21A of Indian Constitution and the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act 2009 became operational in India on April 1, 2010. This development implies that every child has a right to elementary education of satisfactory and equitable quality in a formal school which satisfies certain essential norms and standards

Question 13:

Who among the following holds the majority share in NABARD?

1. Reserve Bank of India
2. Government of India
3. Life Insurance Corporation of India
4. Government of Maharashtra
5. None of the above

Solution:

NABARD is the apex financial institution for rural and agricultural credit in India. It was established in 1982 after RBI felt the need for a specialized institution in the arena. Later, RBI transferred its shares to the Government of India and at present, Government of India holds the majority shares in the organization with 99.60% and RBI holds the rest

Question 14:

RIDF has been started by NABARD recently. Expand the term RIDF.

1. Rural Investment and Development Fund
2. Rural Infrastructure Development Fund
3. Rural Innovation Development Fund

4. Rural Industrial Development Fund

5. None of the above

Solution:

Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) is a noted scheme of NABARD and it is used by the bank to finance projects related to irrigation, rural roads and bridges, soil conservation, water treatment, health and education etc. Financial assistance is extended to individuals, self-help groups, Panchayati raj institutions etc under this scheme

Question 15:

The concept of MSP is very prevalent in the agricultural sector of the economy. The full form of MSP is-

1. Minimum Support Price
2. Maximum Stability Price
3. Minimum Static Price
4. Minimum Stability Price
5. None of the above

Solution:

Minimum Support Price is defined as the minimum rate at which government buys the crops grown by farmers in a season. It is the minimum price that a farmer is supposed to get for his production. It was announced for the first time in the year 1966-67 for wheat and since then, MSP has been extended to 25 crops and the prices are announced for these crops at the beginning of the season

Question 16:

Paramargat Krishi Vikas Yojana has been announced in order to promote which among the following?

1. Use of technology in agriculture

2. Organic Farming
3. Sustainable irrigation practices
4. Sustainable agricultural practice
5. None of the above

Solution:

Parampargat Krishi Vikas Yojana has been launched by the Union Government in order to promote organic farming in the country in cluster based model. Under this scheme, a group of farmers will form a cluster having 50 acres of land to take up organic farming under the scheme. In this way, during three years (2015-16 to 2017-18) 10000 clusters will be formed covering 5 lakh acre area under organic farming. Every farmer will be provided Rs 20000 per acre over three years to meet end to end expenditure

Question 17:

According to the Soil Health Card Scheme launched by the Union Government, Soil Health Cards will be distributed to all the farmers in the country at an interval of years to enable them to apply appropriate dosages of nutrients for the soil

1. 3 years
2. 5 years
3. 7 years
4. 10 years
5. There is no such stipulation decided as yet

Solution:

The Union Government has recently launched the Soil Health Card Scheme during the 12th Plan with an outlay of 568.54 crore. Under this scheme, soil health cards will be provided to all the farmers across the country at an interval of 3 years in order to enable them to apply appropriate dosages of nutrients for crop production and improving soil health and its fertility. A total fund outlay of 96.46 crore has been made in the Financial Year 2015-16 for this scheme

Question 18:

The first channel completely dedicated to farmers in India was launched in May 2015. The name of the channel is-

1. DD Bharat
2. DD Krishi
3. DD Kisan
4. DD Uttaran
5. DD Khet

Solution:

DD Kisan is the first ever channel launched by the Union Government to dedicate to the cause of the farmers. This 24*7 channel telecasts updated information on agriculture and related subjects for the benefit of its target audience including cattle rearers, bee keepers, poultry owners, mechanics and craftsmen. This includes information broadcast on changing weather condition well in advance, and the low cost measures to protect crops or to enhance produce during such conditions

Question 19:

National Statistical Commission was established in the year 2006 on the recommendations of the commission headed by -

1. Raghuram Rajan
2. YV Reddy
3. C Ventak Reddy
4. C Rangrajan
5. Bimal Jalan

Solution:

National Statistical Commission was established in the year 2006 on the recommendations of the Rangrajan Commission that reviewed the Indian statistical system in 2001. It was set up to act as a nodal body for all core statistical activities

of the country, to evolve, monitor and enforce statistical priorities and standards to ensure statistical coordination. The NSC has one part time chairperson and four part-time members each having specialized knowledge and experience in the field of statistics

Question 20:

'Project Tiger' was launched in the year-

1. 1978
2. 1977
3. 1973
4. 1976
5. None of the above

Solution:

The centrally sponsored "Project Tiger" was launched in the year 1973 with the objective to ensure maintenance of viable population of tigers in India for scientific, economic, aesthetic, cultural and ecological values, and to preserve for all times, areas of biological importance as a national heritage for the benefit, education and enjoyment of people

Question 21:

Which among the following is the regulator of the capital market in India?

1. Reserve Bank of India
2. NABARD
3. SEBI
4. SIDBI
5. IRDA

Solution:

Securities and Exchange Board of India is the regulator of the capital market in India. It was created by an act of Parliament in 1992. It oversees the commodities market as well after the Forward Markets Commission was merged with it last year. The head quarter of the organization is in Mumbai and the present chairman is UK Sinha

Question 22:

Which among the following is also known as the private arm of World Bank?

1. International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
2. International Finance Corporation
3. International Development Agency
4. International Monetary Fund
5. None of the above

Solution:

International Finance Corporation is also known as the private arm of the World Bank as it lends money to the private sector companies of its member nations. The interest rate charged is commercial but still very low. It was established in 1956 and it provides advice for public private partnerships and projects as well

Question 23:

The famous Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme was launched in January 2015 in which among the following states in India?

1. West Bengal
2. Punjab
3. Haryana
4. Tamil Nadu
5. None of the above

Solution:

The Union Government has launched the famous Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme in January 2015 amid fanfare in Haryana (Panipat), a state that is noted for one of the lowest sex ratios in the country according to the latest census by the union government in 2011. It aims to address declining child sex ratio through a mass campaign targeted at changing the social mindset and creating awareness about the criticality of the issue

Question 24:

The Tendulkar committee report is associated with which among the following?

1. Measurement of poverty in India
2. Measurement of illiteracy in India
3. Reform of judicial sector in India
4. Reform of Panchayati Raj institutions in India
5. Reform of vigilance mechanism in the government departments in India

Solution:

The poverty estimates in India are done on the basis of household per capita expenditure on a monthly basis. It is done based on the recommendations of a committee headed by Prof Suresh D Tendulkar who suggested the method in his report in 2009. After that, the National Sample Survey Office used this only to carry out the estimates of poverty in the country since 2011-12

Question 25:

Integrated Child Development Scheme is meant for children of which among the following age groups?

1. 0-3 years
2. 5-8 years
3. 7-14 years
4. 10-15 years

5. 0-6 years

Solution:

Integrated Child Development Scheme represents one of the largest and most unique programmes in the world regarding early childhood (below 6 years) development. It aims to reduce the incidents of mortality, morbidity, malnutrition and school dropout, to enhance the capability of the mother to look after the health and nutritional needs of the child through proper nutrition and health education

Question 26:

Which of the following are the mandates of Krishi Vigyan Kendras?

(I) Conducting on-farm testing to identify the location specificity of agricultural technologies under various farming systems.

(II) Organizing frontline demonstrations to establish production potential of various crops and enterprises on the farmers' fields.

(III) Creating awareness about improved agricultural technologies among various clienteles through an appropriate extension programmes

(IV) Construction of back end infrastructure and food processing zones in all districts

1. I, II and III only

2. II, III and IV only

3. I, III and IV only

4. I, II and IV only

5. I and III only

Solution:

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi has started the Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in all the districts of the country with the following Mandates:

Conducting on-farm testing to identify the location specificity of agricultural technologies under various farming systems.

Organizing frontline demonstrations to establish production potential of various crops and enterprises on the farmers' fields.

Organizing need based training for farmers to update their knowledge and skills in modern agricultural technologies related to technology assessment, refinement and demonstration, and training of extension personnel to orient them in the frontier areas of technology development

Creating awareness about improved agricultural technologies among various clienteles through an appropriate extension programmes

Production of quality seeds, planting materials, livestock breeds, animal products, bio-products etc., as per the demand and supply the same to different clienteles

Work as resource and knowledge centre of Agricultural Technology to support the initiatives of public, private and voluntary sectors for improving the agricultural economy of the district

Question 27:

Which of the following are possible causes for methane emissions that amount to global warming?

(I) Extensive rice agriculture

(II) Raising of livestock

(III) Wetlands

1. I only

2. I and II only

3. II and III only

4. I and III only

5. All I, II and III

Solution:

Methane is emitted by natural sources such as **wetlands, as well as human activities such as leakage from natural gas systems, raising of livestock and**

extensive rice agriculture. Natural processes in soil and chemical reactions in the atmosphere help remove CH₄ from the atmosphere.

Question 28:

Which of the following is not a mission under India's National Action Plan on Climate Change?

1. National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency
2. National Mission on Sustainable Habitats
3. National Mission on Tidal Energy
4. National Mission for a Green India
5. National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture

Solution:

National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) is a comprehensive action plan which outlines measures on climate change related adaptation and mitigation while simultaneously advancing development. The 8 Missions form the core of the Plan, representing multi-pronged, long termed and integrated strategies for achieving goals in the context of climate change. The Eight Missions are: National Solar Mission, **National Mission on Enhanced Energy Efficiency**, **National Mission on Sustainable Habitat**, National Water Mission, National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Eco-system, **National Mission for a Green India**, **National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture** and National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change.

Question 29:

Which of the following represents the forest cover of the country as a percentage of geographical area in 2015?

1. 21.22%
2. 21.34%
3. 22.46%

4. 20.98%

5. 21.56%

Solution:

According to Indian State of Forests Report, the current forest cover of the country stands at **21.34%** of the total geographical area of the country. It covers an area of 701,673 sq. Km according to this assessment.

Question 30:

Which of the following units according to the Forest Rights Act, 2006 plays pivotal role in ensuring the rights of the forest dwellers, decision making, planning and management for Joint Forest Management?

1. Gram Sabha
2. Block Division
3. District Headquarters
4. Individual Household
5. State Capital

Solution:

Forest Rights Act 2006

In 1990, a Joint Forest Management Circular was released by the Government of India, which recommended the involvement of village communities, voluntary agencies in the regeneration of the degraded forest lands. However this circular had no force of law behind it. However, the Forest Act 2006 marked a real water shade in the history of the forest communities in India. For the first time, the Government of India via the Scheduled Tribes and the Other Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006, admitted that 'forest rights on the ancestral lands and their habitat were not adequately recognized in the consolidation of state forests during the colonial periods as well as in Independent India resulting in Historical injustice with the scheduled tribes and other traditional forest dwellers, who are integral to the very survival of the forest ecosystem".

This Forest Rights Act 2006 provides the following:

Tenurial Security and access rights to forest dwellers

Right to hold and live in forest land under individual or common occupation for habitation or for the self-cultivation for livelihood.

Right of ownership access to collect, use and dispose of minor forest produce that has been traditionally collected within or outside the village boundaries.

Other community rights such as on fish and water bodies.

Rights of settlement and conversion of forest villages into revenue villages.

As per this act, **Gram Sabha** plays pivotal role in ensuring the rights of the forest dwellers, decision making, planning and management for Joint Forest Management.

Question 31:

When was the term social forestry first used in India?

1. 1978
2. 1976
3. 1980
4. 1973
5. 1975

Solution:

Social forestry means the management and protection of forests and afforestation on barren lands with the purpose of helping in the environmental, social and rural development. **The term, social forestry, was first used in India in 1976 by The National Commission on Agriculture, Government of India.**

Question 32:

Which of the following methods of post-harvest technology is not used for suppressing bacterial growth on fish?

1. Salting

2. Smoking
3. Fermentation
4. Canning
5. None of the above

Solution:

Different methods exist to suppress bacterial growth:

Salting:

- This is an inexpensive method when salt is cheap, as no electricity is necessary and storage can be at room temperature.
- Fish quality and nutritional value are reasonable after salting.
- Storage life is long.

Drying:

- Inexpensive method as no electricity is required and little equipment is needed.
- Dry and / or airtight storage is required.
- Quality and nutritional value are reasonable if storage is good.

Smoking:

- Inexpensive, little equipment and energy needed, but fuel must be available.
- Quality and nutritional value are reasonable.

Fermentation:

- This method is often inexpensive, but the fish taste and odour are radically changed.
- Storage life varies depending on the product.
- Nutritional value is often high.

Canning:

- This is a fairly expensive method. Because, it is labour intensive and requires plenty of energy, water and equipment, such as tins or jars with lids, sterilisers and canning machines.
- Packaging is expensive. Storage is easy and possible for long periods (below 25 °C / 77 °F).
- Quality and nutritional value are good.

Cooling and Freezing:

- This is a very expensive method. Because, it involves high use of energy and large investments in equipment.
 - Quality and nutritional value of the product are good and storage life is long.
-

Question 33:

The Indian Institute of Forest Management is located in which of the following places?

1. Deheradun
2. Mussorie
3. Bhopal
4. Tawang
5. Dispur

Solution:

The Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM) (founded 1982) is an autonomous institution at **Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh**, India, established by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India with financial assistance from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) and course assistance from the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad. The institute's objective is to fulfill the growing need for managerial human resource in forest and allied sectors. IIFM has developed as an educational, research, training and consultancy organization. As a campus it is also famous for its rich flora and fauna with sightings of various wild mammals and birds within campus.

Question 34:

Mixed farming incorporates a mixture or combination of which of the following?

1. Crops and Forest Trees
2. Different varieties of crops
3. Crops and Horticulture plants
4. Crops and livestock
5. None of the above

Solution:

Mixed farming is an agrarian system that mixes **arable farming with the raising of livestock** at the same time. When on a farm along-with crop production, some other agriculture based practice like poultry, dairy farming or bee keeping etc. is adopted, then this system of farming is known as mixed farming. It is the dominant system in Europe and now in parts of India, where most farms have a mixture of fields and pastures. It was first mainly used for self-consumption, but now in Advanced countries like USA, Japan, etc., this is done for a commercial purpose.

Question 35:

Which of the following is not a sub-mission under National Livestock Mission?

1. Sub-Mission on Fodder and Feed Development
2. Sub-Mission on Poultry Development
3. Sub-Mission on Livestock Development
4. Sub-Mission on Pig Development in North-Eastern Region
5. Sub-Mission on Skill Development, Technology Transfer and Extension

Solution:

The National Livestock Mission (NLM) has commenced from 2014-15. The Mission is designed to cover all the activities required to ensure quantitative and

qualitative improvement in livestock production systems and capacity building of all stakeholders. The Mission will cover everything germane to improvement of livestock productivity and support projects and initiatives required for that purpose subject. This Mission is formulated with the objective of sustainable development of livestock sector, focusing on improving availability of quality feed and fodder. NLM is implemented in all States including Sikkim.

NLM has 4 submissions as follows:

The Sub-Mission on Fodder and Feed Development will address the problems of scarcity of animal feed resources, in order to give a push to the livestock sector making it a competitive enterprise for India, and also to harness its export potential. The major objective is to reduce the deficit to nil.

Under Sub-Mission on Livestock Development, there are provisions for productivity enhancement, entrepreneurship development and employment generation (bankable projects), strengthening of infrastructure of state farms with respect to modernization, automation and biosecurity, conservation of threatened breeds, minor livestock development, rural slaughter houses, fallen animals and livestock insurance.

Sub-Mission on Pig Development in North-Eastern Region: There has been persistent demand from the North Eastern States seeking support for all round development of piggery in the region. For the first time, under NLM a Sub-Mission on Pig Development in North-Eastern Region is provided wherein Government of India would support the State Piggery Farms, and importation of germplasm so that eventually the masses get the benefit as it is linked to livelihood and contributes in providing protein-rich food in 8 States of the NER.

Sub-Mission on Skill Development, Technology Transfer and Extension: The extension machinery at field level for livestock activities is very weak. As a result, farmers are not able to adopt the technologies developed by research institutions. The emergence of new technologies and practices require linkages between stakeholders and this sub-mission will enable a wider outreach to the farmers. All the States, including NER States may avail the benefits of the multiple components and the flexibility of choosing them under NLM for a sustainable livestock development.

Question 36:

The 'Perspective Plan' is an attempt to help which of the following sectors reach its full potential?

1. Pig livestock sector
2. Poultry Sector
3. Dairy Sector
4. Honey sector
5. Silk Sector

Solution:

OPERATION FLOOD (1970-1996) created a strong foundation to transform India's dairy sector into a vibrant business activity. It paved the way to take up new initiatives and create new conditions to firm up India's world leadership in milk production. The new challenge for the Dairy Industry was to explore ways to emerge stronger using the network created under OF. **The response Perspective Plan, a plan that attempts to take the dairy cooperative movement to its highest potential.**

Perspective Plan focused on four key areas. These include Strengthening Cooperative Business, Production Enhancement, Assuring Quality and creating a National Information Network. The State Milk Marketing Federations and the Milk Producers' Cooperative Unions, the architects and key beneficiaries have identified the thrust areas. The plan was designed keeping at helm the benefit to farmers at large. NDDDB facilitated the planning process and provided technical support and need-based finance for implementing the Perspective Plan.

Question 37:

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has recently initiated a programme to start the artificial breeding of which of the following species?

1. The Nilgiri Tahr
2. The Indian Pheasant
3. Lion Tailed Macaque
4. The Great Indian Bustard
5. None of the above

Solution:

Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) along with the 3 state governments will soon start an artificial breeding programme of **Great Indian Bustard (GIB)**. Under this integrated collaborative effort, 3 states viz. Rajasthan, Gujarat and Maharashtra will take part to boost the population of GIB, one of the critically endangered flying bird species in the world. The artificially breeding operations of GIBs will begin in 2016 across these 3 states and they will be later released from captivity to semi-captivity after some time of initial operations.

Question 38:

Which of the following committees has been constituted to prepare a blueprint for doubling the farmers income by 2022?

1. Mihir Shah Committee
2. Ashok Dalwai Committee
3. Ashok Gulati Committee
4. Sarada Kumari Committee
5. Priyanka Singh Committee

Solution:

The Union Government has recently constituted 8-member inter-ministerial committee to prepare a blueprint for doubling farmers' income by 2022. **The committee will be headed by Ashok Dalwai, Additional secretary at the Union Agriculture Ministry and is expected to submit the report in two months.** Its members will include officials from Agriculture and Food Ministries, experts from the Delhi-based National Council of Applied Economic Research and National Institute of Agricultural Economics and Policy Research.

Question 39:

What is the name of the national agriculture market portal launched by the Prime Minister to connect e-mandis in several States?

1. e-Nam
2. e-Agro

3. e-Market
4. e-Farm
5. None of the above

Solution:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched **National Agriculture Market portal eNAM** to connect e-mandis in several States. eNAM is an online inter-connectivity of e-mandis, aimed at ushering in much needed agriculture marketing reforms to enable farmers to get better price of their produce.

Question 40:

Which of the following is the term for a whole farm management system which aims to deliver more sustainable agriculture?

1. Community Farming
2. Social Farming
3. Complete Farming
4. Holistic Farming
5. Integrated Farming

Solution:

Integrated Farming (IF) is a whole farm management system which aims to deliver more sustainable agriculture. It is a dynamic approach which can be applied to any farming system around the world.

Question 41:

Which of the following programs was launched by the Prime Minister to strengthen Panchayati Raj in villages and ensure social harmony in villages?

1. Gram Uday se Bharat Uday Abhiyan
2. Gram Ujjwal to Bharat Ujjwal

3. Gram ka Vikas, Bharat ka Vikas
4. Gram Pragati se Bharat Pragati
5. None of the above

Solution:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched '**Gram Uday Se Bharat Uday Abhiyan**' (Village Self Governance Campaign) to strengthen Panchayati Raj in villages and ensure social harmony in villages. It was launched on the occasion of 125th birth anniversary of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar at his birthplace at Mhow, Madhya Pradesh.

Question 42:

Which of the following is not true with respect to Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin?

1. The beneficiaries will be identified using Socio Economic and Caste Census (SECC)-2011 data ensuring total transparency and objectivity.
2. The cost of houses would be shared between Centre and States Governments in the ratio 75:25 in plain areas and 80:20 for North Eastern and hilly states.
3. The beneficiary is entitled to 90 days of unskilled labour from MGNREGA. This will be ensured through a server linkage between PMAY and MGNREGA.
4. The additional requirement of building materials, bricks using cement stabilised earth or fly ash will be taken up under MGNREGA.
5. The expenditure involved in implementing the project is Rs.81975 crore in a span of 3 years from 2016-17 to 2018-19.

Solution:

The Union Cabinet has given its approval for the implementation of the rural housing scheme of Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana- Gramin. Under the scheme, financial assistance will be provided for construction of pucca houses to all houseless and households living in dilapidated houses.

Key facts

The expenditure involved in implementing the project is Rs.81975 crore in a span of 3 years from 2016-17 to 2018-19.

Under the scheme, it is proposed to provide assistance to one crore households for construction of pucca house.

It will be implemented in rural areas throughout the country except in Delhi and Chandigarh.

The beneficiaries will be identified using Socio Economic and Caste Census (SECC)-2011 data ensuring total transparency and objectivity.

The cost of houses would be shared between Centre and States Governments in the ratio 60:40 in plain areas and 90:10 for North Eastern and hilly states.

Under this scheme, annual list of beneficiaries will be identified from the total list through participatory process by the Gram Sabha.

Funds will be transferred electronically directly to the account of the beneficiary. He will be able to track the progress of his payments through the app.

Inspection will be done through a mobile app. Locally appropriate house designs, will be mainly practised to address the natural calamities.

The beneficiary is entitled to 90 days of unskilled labour from MGNREGA. This will be ensured through a server linkage between PMAY and MGNREGA.

The additional requirement of building materials, bricks using cement stabilised earth or fly ash will be taken up under MGNREGA.

National Technical Support Agency will be established to provide technical support to the Centre and States to ensure their quality of construction of the houses.

Question 43:

Which of the following are some of the challenges found in the implementation of the MGNREGA scheme?

- (I) Fabrication of job cards
- (II) Delay in payment of wages

(III) Non payment of unemployment allowances

1. I and III only
2. II only
3. I and II only
4. II and III only
5. All I, II and III

Solution:

Some of the challenges found in the implementation of the MGNREGA scheme are

Fabrication of job cards: While as many as 12.5 crore households have been issued job cards out of an estimated 13.8 crore rural households (as per the 2001 census), there are several issues related to existence of fake job cards, inclusion of fictitious names, missing entries and delays in making entries in job cards.

Delay in payment of wages: Most states have failed to disburse wages within 15 days as mandated by MGNREGA. In addition, workers are not compensated for a delay in payment of wages.

Non payment of unemployment allowances: Most states do not pay an unemployment allowance when work is not given on demand. The non-issuance of dated receipts of demanded work prevents workers from claiming an unemployment allowance.

Large number of incomplete works: There has been a delay in the completion of works under MGNREGA and inspection of projects has been irregular. Implementing agencies were able to complete only 98 lakh works out of 296 lakh works.

Question 44:

Which of the following is not a component of Digital India Land Record Modernization Programme?

1. Computerization of land record
2. Re allotment of land

3. Survey/re-survey
4. Computerization of Registration
5. None of the above

Solution:

The Land Reforms (LR) Division was implementing two Centrally Sponsored Schemes viz.: Computerisation of Land Records (CLR) & Strengthening of Revenue Administration and Updating of Land Records (SRA&ULR). Later on 21.8.2008, the Cabinet approved merger of these schemes into a modified Scheme named Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP). The main aims of DILRMP are to usher in a system of updated land records , automated and automatic mutation , integration between textual and spatial records , inter-connectivity between revenue and registration, to replace the present deeds registration and presumptive title system with that of conclusive titling with title guarantee.

The DILRMP has 3 major components - (a) Computerization of land record (b) Survey/re-survey (c) Computerization of Registration. The District has been taken as the unit of implementation, where all programme activities are to converge. It is hoped that all districts in the country would be covered by the end of the 12th Plan period except where cadastral surveys are being done for the first time.

Question 45:

Which of the following departments of India is associated with the National Mission on Bio-Diesel

1. Department of New and Renewable Energy
2. Department of Rural Development
3. Department of Land Resources
4. Department of Energy
5. None of the above

Solution:

Department of Land Resources under the Ministry of Rural Development is the implementing agency of the National Mission on Bio-Diesel. The objectives of the programmes is to bring unutilized wasteland in to productive use by promotion of Jatropha and Pongamia Plantation for 20% blending with HSD and also generating a renewable source of Bio-fuel, thereby reduce country's dependence on imported petroleum diesel. Now the Department is contemplating a study to assess the Plantation work already carried out in the country so that the Department can go back to the Cabinet with clear findings about taking up demonstration phase of the programme.

Question 46:

Which of the following three are the major items of expenditure under MGNREGA scheme?

- (I) Wages
- (II) Material
- (III) Safety Deposit
- (IV) Administrative Costs

1. I, II and III only
2. I, II and IV only
3. II, III and IV only
4. I, III and IV only
5. None of the above

Solution:

Key features of MGNREGA

Legal right to work: Unlike earlier employment guarantee schemes, the Act provides a legal right to employment for adult members of rural households. At least one third beneficiaries have to be women. Wages must be paid according to the wages specified for agricultural labourers in the state under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, unless the central government notifies a wage rate (this should not be less than Rs 60 per day). At present, wage rates are determined by the

central government but vary across states, ranging from Rs 135 per day to Rs 214 per day.

Time bound guarantee of work and unemployment allowance: Employment must be provided within 15 days of being demanded failing which an 'unemployment allowance' must be given.

Decentralised planning: Gram sabhas must recommend the works that are to be undertaken and at least 50% of the works must be executed by them. PRIs are primarily responsible for planning, implementation and monitoring of the works that are undertaken.

Work site facilities: All work sites should have facilities such as crèches, drinking water and first aid.

Transparency and accountability: There are provisions for proactive disclosure through wall writings, citizen information boards, Management Information Systems and social audits. Social audits are conducted by gram sabhas to enable the community to monitor the implementation of the scheme.

Funding: **Funding is shared between the centre and the states. There are three major items of expenditure - wages (for unskilled, semi-skilled and skilled labour), material and administrative costs. The central government bears 100% of the cost of unskilled labour, 75% of the cost of semi-skilled and skilled labour, 75% of the cost of materials and 6% of the administrative costs.**

Question 47:

The Vanabandhu Kalyan Yojana has been launched by the government for the holistic development of which of the following sections of people?

1. Minorities
2. Scheduled Castes
3. Scheduled Tribes
4. Poor people
5. None of the above

Solution:

Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana has been launched by Central Government of India for holistic development and welfare of **tribal population of India**. The scheme as outlined by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs is launched on a pilot basis and will be implemented in only 1 block in each of the 10 states being selected for the scheme. The states which have been picked are Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Telangana, Orissa, Jharkhand, Chattisgarh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Gujarat. The areas in the states have been selected based on recommendations of the respective state governments.

Question 48:

In which state are the Nyishi tribe found in India?

1. Manipur
2. Tripura
3. Mizoram
4. Arunachal Pradesh
5. Sikkim

Solution:

The **Nyishi tribe is one of the principal inhabitants of Arunachal Pradesh in north-eastern India**. Nyi refers to "a man" and the word shi denotes "a being", which collectively means a civilized human being. They are spread across six districts of Arunachal Pradesh viz., Papum Pare, part of Lower Subansiri, Kurung Kumey, East Kameng, parts of Upper Subansiri, the recently created district Kra Dadi and are also found in the Sonitpur and North Lakhimpur districts of the neighbouring state of Assam.

Question 49:

Which of the following is are/related to Jhum cultivation in India?

- (I) Initial clearing of forest cover by burning
- (II) Mainly practised in North-Western regions of India
- (III) After harvest, land is left fallow to recover and recuperate

1. I and II only
2. II only
3. I and III only
4. II and III only
5. All I, II and III

Solution:

Jhum (Shifting) cultivation is a primitive practice of cultivation in **States of North Eastern Hill Region of India** and people involved in such cultivation are called Jhumia. **The practice involves clearing vegetative/forest cover on land/slopes of hills, drying and burning it before onset of monsoon and cropping on it thereafter. After harvest, this land is left fallow and vegetative regeneration is allowed on it till the plot becomes reusable for same purpose in a cycle.** Meanwhile, the process is repeated in a new plot designated for Jhum cultivation during next year. Initially, when Jhum cycle was long and ranged from 20 to 30 years, the process worked well. However, with increase in human population and increasing pressure on land, Jhum cycle reduced progressively (5-6 years) causing problem of land degradation and threat to ecology of the region at large.

Question 50:

What is the minimum age of eligibility for entry into the skill program of Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grammen Kaushalya Yojana?

1. 18 years
2. 12 years
3. 15 years
4. 14 years
5. 20 years

Solution:

Union government on 25 September 2014 launched Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana. The Yojana was launched by Nitin Gadkari, Union

Minister for Rural Development during the National Convention on Skills for Rural and Urban Poor held in New Delhi.

The Yojana was launched during the 98th birth anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay. Earlier the Yojana was known as Aajeevika Skills Development Programme (ASDP).

Main Highlights of the Yojana

The Yojana aims at training 10 lakh (1 million) rural youths for jobs in three years, that is, by 2017.

The minimum age for entry under the Yojana is 15 years compared to 18 years under the Aajeevika Skills Programme.

Skill development training centres to be launched so as to address the unemployment problem in the rural area.

The skills imparted under the Yojana will now be benchmarked against international standards and will complement the Prime Minister's Make In India campaign.

Answer key

1-1	2-2	3-1	4-3	5-5	6-4	7-3	8-3	9-2	10-2
11-2	12-2	13-2	14-2	15-1	16-2	17-1	18-3	19-4	20-3
21-3	22-2	23-3	24-1	25-5	26-1	27-5	28-3	29-2	30-1
31-2	32-5	33-3	34-4	35-2	36-3	37-4	38-2	39-1	40-5
41-1	42-2	43-5	44-2	45-3	46-2	47-3	48-4	49-3	50-3

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