

RBI Grade B 2019

PHASE 2 PAPER

Solution & Analysis

Economic and Social Issues





RESULTS



No.1 Results in India

NABARD Grade A 2020

65 Selections out of 69 Vacancies



Mr. Gourav Kumar



Mr. Sayed Saif



Mr. Vinay Jadhav



Mr. Ratan Singh



Mr. Vishal Singh



Mr. Amandeep



Mr. Soham



Miss. Neha



Miss. Karishma Pal



Mr. Yogesh Kumar



Mr. Sumit



Mr. Mohan Das

RBI Grade B 2019

107 Selections out of 156 Vacancies



Mr. Diptesh Saha



Mr. Avirup Saha



Mr. Rohit Kr Gupta



Mr. Akshay Wakhu



Mr. Pawan Meena



Mrs. Veena



Mrs. Samanwita Kar



Mr. Abhiram K



Mr. Anshul Sharma



Ms. Sukanya Hazarika



Mr. Preetham Varada



Mr. Harinath K

SEBI Grade A 2018

41 Selections out of 84 Vacancies



Mr. Rajendern S



Mr. Vishal Gawande



Mr. Gaurav



Mr. Nitin Kakerwal



Mr. Md Afzal Shareef



Mr. Arun Bhandari

OBJECTIVE TYPE QUESTIONS

Q.1) Who among the following coined the term 'Animal Spirits'?

Static or Current – **STATIC**

1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **EASY**

Topic – **GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT - MEASUREMENT OF GROWTH:
NATIONAL INCOME AND PER CAPITA INCOME**

Options:

- (a) David Ricardo
- (b) John Maynard Keynes
- (c) Thomas Malthus
- (d) John Stuart Mill
- (e) Adam Smith

Answer: B

Explanation:

- Animal spirits come from the Latin spiritus animalis: "the breath that awakens the human mind." It was coined by British economist, John Maynard Keynes in 1936.
- Animal spirits refer to the ways that human emotion can drive financial decision making in uncertain environments and volatile times.
- We may observe the concept of animal spirits in action during financial crises, including the Great Recession of 2007–2009.

Q.2) The term National Income represents:

Static or Current – **STATIC**

1 marker or 2 marker – **ONE MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **EASY**

Topic – **GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT - MEASUREMENT OF GROWTH:
NATIONAL INCOME AND PER CAPITA INCOME**

Options:

- (a) gross national product at market prices minus depreciation
- (b) gross national product at market prices minus depreciation plus net factor income from abroad

- (c) gross national product at market prices minus depreciation and indirect taxes plus subsidies
- (d) gross national product at market prices minus net factor income from abroad
- (e) None of the above

Answer: C

To reach National Income (that is, NNP at FC)

- Add Net Factor Income from Abroad: $GNP \text{ at MP} = GDP \text{ at MP} + NFIA$
- Subtract Depreciation: $NNP \text{ at MP} = GNP \text{ at MP} - Dep$
- Subtract Net Indirect Taxes: $NNP \text{ at FC} = NNP \text{ at MP} - NIT$

Q.3) Which of the following term denotes the average income earned by a person in India?

Static or Current – **STATIC**

1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **EASY**

Topic – **GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT - MEASUREMENT OF GROWTH:
NATIONAL INCOME AND PER CAPITA INCOME**

Options:

- (a) GDP per capita
- (b) Per capita income
- (c) Personal income
- (d) Personal Disposable Income
- (e) None of the above

Answer: B

Explanation:

Per capita income (PCI) or average income measures the average income earned per person in a given area (city, region, country, etc.) in a specified year. It is calculated by dividing the area's total income by its total population. Per capita income is national income divided by population size.

Q.4) Which among the following defines Marginal Standing Facility Rate?

Static or Current – **STATIC**

1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**

Topic – **MONETARY POLICY**

Options:

- (a) The rate at which banks place their surplus funds with the RBI
- (b) The rate at which banks can borrow against their excess SLR securities to meet additional liquidity requirements
- (c) The rate at which the Reserve Bank is prepared to buy or re-discount bills of exchange or other commercial paper eligible for purchase
- (d) The rate at which banks borrow funds from the Reserve Bank against eligible collaterals
- (e) None of the above

Answer: B

Explanation:

Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) is a new scheme announced by the RBI in its Monetary Policy (2011-12) and refers to the penal rate at which banks can borrow money from the central bank over and above what is available to them through the LAF window.

It is a facility under which scheduled commercial banks can borrow additional amount of overnight money from the Reserve Bank by pledging their Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) portfolio up to a limit at a penal rate of interest.

Q.5) Excess of total expenditure over total receipts less borrowings and interest payment is

Static or Current – **STATIC**

1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **EASY**

Topic – **FISCAL POLICY**

Options:

- (a) Fiscal Deficit
- (b) Budget Deficit
- (c) Revenue Deficit
- (d) Primary Deficit
- (e) None of the above

Answer: D

We must note that the borrowing requirement of the government includes interest obligations on accumulated debt.

The goal of measuring gross primary deficit is to focus on present fiscal imbalances.

To obtain an estimate of borrowing on account of current expenditures exceeding revenues, we need to calculate what has been called the primary deficit. **It is simply the fiscal deficit minus the interest payments.**

The formula for Gross primary deficit is:

Gross primary deficit = Gross fiscal deficit – Net interest liabilities

Net interest liabilities consist of interest payments minus interest receipts by the government on net domestic lending.

Q.6) Which of the following is not accounted for in the capital account under Balance of Payment?

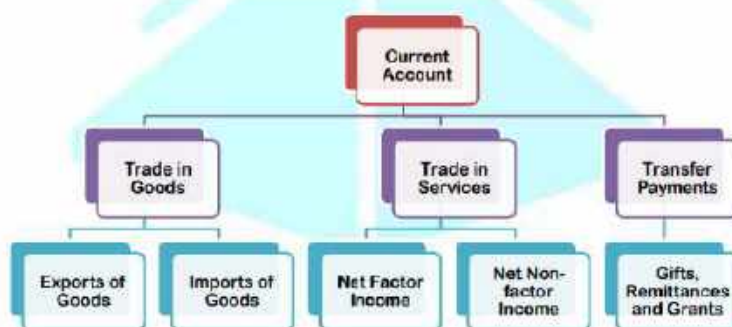
Static or Current – **STATIC**
1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**
Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**
Difficulty Level – **TOUGH**
Topic – **BALANCE OF PAYMENTS**

Options:

- (a) Direct Investment
- (b) External Commercial Borrowing
- (c) Remittances and Grants
- (d) Portfolio Investment
- (e) All of the above are accounted for in the capital account under Balance of Payment

Answer: C

Explanation:





Q.7) 'World Economic Outlook' report is published by

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **EASY**

Topic – **INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC INSTITUTIONS**

Options:

- (a) World Economic Forum
- (b) World Bank
- (c) Asian Development Bank
- (d) United Nations Development Programme
- (e) International Monetary Fund

Answer: E

Explanation:

As part of its World Economic and Financial Surveys, the IMF publishes flagship reports on multilateral surveillance twice a year:

- World Economic Outlook (WEO)
- Global Financial Stability Report (GFSR)
- Fiscal Monitor (FM).

The WEO provides detailed analysis of the state of the world economy, addressing issues of pressing interest such as the protracted global financial turmoil and ongoing economic recovery from the global financial crisis.

The GFSR provides an up-to-date assessment of global financial markets and prospects and highlights imbalances and vulnerabilities that could pose risks to financial market stability.

The FM updates medium-term fiscal projections and assesses developments in public finances. The IMF also publishes Regional Economic Outlook (REO) reports as part of its World Economic and Financial Surveys.

Q.8) Article 1(a) of the Constitution of India refers to India as

Static or Current – **STATIC**

1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **SOCIAL ISSUES**

Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**

Topic – **INDIAN POLITICAL SYSTEM**

Options:

- (a) Hindustan
- (b) Bharat
- (c) Bharatiya Ganrajya
- (d) Hind
- (e) None of the above

Answer: B

Explanation:

ARTICLE 1 OF CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

1. Name and territory of the Union.—

- (1) India, that is Bharat, shall be a Union of States.
- (2) The States and the territories thereof shall be as specified in the First Schedule.
- (3) The territory of India shall comprise—
 - (a) the territories of the States;
 - (b) the Union territories specified in the First Schedule; and
 - (c) such other territories as may be acquired.

Q.9) The imposition of President's Rule in a state would be improper under which of the following situations?

Static or Current – **STATIC**

1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**

Options:

- (a) Where after general elections to the assembly, no party secures a majority.
- (b) Where a constitutional direction of the Central government is disregarded by the state government.
- (c) Internal subversion of the Constitution of India.
- (d) Stringent financial exigencies of the state.
- (e) None of the above

Answer: D

Article 356 of the Constitution of India gives the President of India the power to suspend state government and impose President's rule on any state in the country "if he is satisfied that a situation has arisen in which the government of the state cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution". It is also known as 'State Emergency' or 'Constitutional Emergency'.

Conditions for Prez Rule

- Where after general elections to the assembly, no party secures a majority, that is, Hung Assembly.
- Where the party having a majority in the assembly declines to form a ministry and the governor cannot find a coalition ministry commanding a majority in the assembly.
- Where a ministry resigns after its defeat in the assembly and no other party is willing or able to form a ministry commanding a majority in the assembly.
- Where a constitutional direction of the Central government is disregarded by the state government.
- Internal subversion where, for example, a government is deliberately acting against the Constitution and the law or is fomenting a violent revolt.
- Physical breakdown where the government willfully refuses to discharge its constitutional obligations endangering the security of the state.

Fouling factors

The imposition of President's Rule in a state would be improper under the following situations:

- Where a ministry resigns or is dismissed on losing majority support in the assembly and the governor recommends imposition of President's Rule without probing the possibility of forming an alternative ministry.
- Where the governor recommends imposition of President's Rule without allowing the ministry to prove its majority on the floor of the Assembly.
- Maladministration in the state or allegations of corruption against the ministry or stringent financial exigencies of the state.
- Where the state government is not given prior warning to rectify itself except in case of extreme urgency leading to disastrous consequences.
- Where the power is used to sort out intra-party problems of the ruling party.

Q.10) According to the 'CS Gender 3000 in 2019: the changing face of companies report', what is the percentage increase in India's female representation on boards over the past 5 years in the year 2019?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**
 1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**
 Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**
 Difficulty Level – **TOUGH**
 Topic – **GENDER ISSUES**

Options:

- (a) 15.6%
- (b) 15.2%
- (c) 14.8%
- (d) 14.4%
- (e) 13.9%

Answer: B

Explanation:

- India is near the bottom of the rankings for female representation at senior management levels, only marginally better than Japan and South Korea, according to a new study by the Credit Suisse Research Institute (CSRI).
- CSRI released its third CS Gender 3000 report, which is titled "The CS Gender 3000 in 2019: The changing face of companies."
- Ranked 23 globally, India's female representation on boards has increased by 4.3 percentage points over the past five years to 15.2% in 2019. This is significantly below the global average of 20.6%.

Q.11) How much amount would be injected by the Union Government in the Alternate Investment Fund (AIF) which has a total corpus of Rs.25000 crore?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**
1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**
Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**
Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**
Topic – **FISCAL POLICY**

Options:

- (a) Rs 12,000 crore
- (b) Rs 15,000 crore
- (c) Rs 10,000 crore
- (d) Rs 5,000 crore
- (e) Rs 7,500 crore

Answer: C

Explanation:

- The government approved a plan to set up a ₹25,000 crore alternative investment fund (AIF) to revive stalled housing projects, as it seeks to provide relief to distressed homebuyers and rekindle animal spirits in the ailing realty sector.
- While the government will invest ₹10,000 crore in the fund, the remaining ₹15,000 crore will come in from State Bank of India, Life Insurance Corporation of India and other such institutions.

Q.12) The RBI has permitted ARCs to purchase financial assets from peers provided the transaction is on a _____.

Static or Current – **CURRENT**
1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**
Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**
Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**
Topic – **MONETARY POLICY**

Options:

- (a) Cheque Basis
- (b) Advance Basis
- (c) Credit Basis
- (d) Cash Basis
- (e) Escrow Basis

Answer: D

Explanation:

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has allowed asset reconstruction companies (ARCs) to buy financial assets from other such entities. However, all such transactions have to be settled in cash.

Q.13) The Union Government has imposed 2% TDS on cash withdrawal exceeding which of the following amounts?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**
1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**
Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**
Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**
Topic – **MONETARY POLICY**

Options:

- (a) Rs 1 crore
- (b) Rs 1.5 crore
- (c) Rs 2 crore
- (d) Rs 1.25 crore
- (e) Rs 0.50 crore

Answer: A

Explanation:

- The revenue department on Friday said the 2 per cent tax deduction at source (TDS) on cash withdrawals of over Rs 1 crore will come into effect from September 1
- The government had made the provision of levying 2 per cent TDS on cash withdrawals exceeding Rs 1 crore in the Union Budget with an aim to discourage cash transactions and move towards less cash economy.

Q.14) Which of the following organization has submitted a master plan of \$300m for logistics infrastructure development in Kolkata?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**
1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**
Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**
Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**
Topic – **INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC INSTITUTIONS**

Options:

- (a) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank

- (b) Asian Development Bank
- (c) World Bank
- (d) New Development Bank
- (e) None of the above

Answer: C

Explanation:

- According to West Bengal Finance Minister Amit Mitra the World Bank has submitted a conceptual master plan for development of logistics infrastructure within the city metropolitan area.
- The proposed project will entail a cost of around \$300 million, likely to be funded by the World Bank.
- The focus will be on multimodal logistics development, including rail and road. The World Bank is also believed to have expressed interest in a review of industrial parks, logistics hubs and SEZs in West Bengal with the aim of improving logistics competitiveness, employment generation and ease of doing business.

Q.15) What is India's Life Expectancy according to the National Health Profile 2019?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **SOCIAL ISSUES**

Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**

Topic – **SOCIAL SECTORS IN INDIA, HEALTH AND EDUCATION**

Options:

- (a) 68.2 years
- (b) 68.7 years
- (c) 68.3 years
- (d) 68.5 years
- (e) 68.9 years

Answer: B

Explanation:

- Life expectancy in India has increased from 49.7 years in 1970-75 to 68.7 years in 2012-16, as per the National Health Profile 2019.
- For the same period, the life expectancy for females is 70.2 years and 67.4 years for males.

Q.16) As per the UN's Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index report, India has lifted how many people out of poverty between 2005/6 and 2015/16?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**

Topic – **POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND EMPLOYMENT GENERATION IN INDIA**

Options:

- (a) 285 Million People
- (b) 271 Million People
- (c) 260 Million People
- (d) 270 Million People
- (e) 265 Million People

Answer: B

Explanation:

As per 2019 global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) from the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI), India lifted 271 million people out of poverty between 2006 and 2016, recording the fastest reductions in the multidimensional poverty index values during the period with strong improvements in areas such as “assets, cooking fuel, sanitation and nutrition.”

Q.17) 'Global Green New Deal' Report has been published by which of the following organizations?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**

Topic – **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

Options:

- (a) International Union for Conservation of Nature
- (b) Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
- (c) World Economic Forum
- (d) United Nations Development Program
- (e) United Nations Environment Program

Answer: E

Explanation:

Global Green New Deal report was commissioned by UNEP in response to the multiple global crises of 2008 – fuel, food and financial. The report proposes a mix of policy actions that would stimulate economic recovery and at the same time improve the sustainability of the world economy.

Q.18) The Steering Committee on Fintech related issues constituted by the Ministry of Finance is headed by?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**
1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**
Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**
Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**
Topic – **MONETARY POLICY**

Options:

- (a) Secretary, Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance
- (b) Vice Chairperson, NITI Aayog
- (c) Governor, Reserve Bank of India
- (d) Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance
- (e) Union Finance Minister

Answer: D**Explanation:**

- The Steering Committee on Fintech related issues was constituted by the Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs.
- It is headed by Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs. The other members of the committee are Secretary (MeitY); Secretary (DFS); Secretary (MSME); Chairperson (CBIC); CEO (UIDAI); Deputy Governor (RBI); Executive Director (SEBI); CEO, Invest India with Additional Secretary (Investment), DEA as the convener of the panel.

Q.19) School Education Quality Index (SEQI) was developed by which of the following organization?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**
1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**
Economics or Social Issues – **SOCIAL ISSUES**
Difficulty Level – **EASY**
Topic – **SOCIAL SECTORS IN INDIA, HEALTH AND EDUCATION**

Options:

- (a) NITI Aayog
- (b) UNESCO
- (c) UNICEF
- (d) World Bank
- (e) All India Council for Technical Education

Answer: A

Explanation:

School Education Quality Index (SEQI) was developed by NITI Aayog to evaluate the performance of States and Union Territories (UTs) in the school education sector. The index aims to bring an 'outcomes' focus to education policy by providing States and UTs with a platform to identify their strengths and weaknesses and undertake requisite course corrections or policy interventions.

Q.20) The Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent Base Erosion & Profit Shifting (BEPS) will be effective from which of the following financial year?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**
1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**
Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**
Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**
Topic – **INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC INSTITUTIONS**

Options:

- (a) 2022-23
- (b) 2021-22
- (c) 2019-20
- (d) 2020-21
- (e) None of the above

Answer: D

Explanation:

India has ratified the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (MLI), which was signed by the Hon'ble Finance Minister at Paris on 7th June, 2017 on behalf of India, along with representatives of more than 65 countries. On 25th June, 2019, India has deposited the Instrument of Ratification to OECD, Paris along with its Final Position in terms of Covered Tax Agreements (CTAs), Reservations, Options and Notifications under the MLI, as a result of which MLI will enter

into force for India on 01st October, 2019 and its provisions will have effect on India's DTAA's from FY 2020-21 onwards.

Q.21) Share of exports of products related to India's MSME during the year 2018-19 stood at?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**
1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**
Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**
Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**
Topic – **EXPORT-IMPORT POLICY**

Options:

- (a) 49.60 per cent
- (b) 48.50 per cent
- (c) 48.10 per cent
- (d) 47.40 per cent
- (e) 47.90 per cent

Answer: C

Explanation:

The Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Sector contributes significantly to the Indian Economy in terms of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Exports and Employment generation.

As per the information received from the Central Statistics Office (CSO), Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MOSPI), the Share of MSME Gross Value Added (GVA) in total GVA during 2016-17 was 31.8%.

As per the information received from Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCIIS) the Share of MSME related Products in total Export from India during 2018-19 is 48.10%.

Q.22) According to the Financial Benchmark Administrator (FBA) guidelines by the RBI, no FBA shall administer a significant benchmark without obtaining authorization of?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**
1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**
Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**
Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**
Topic – **MONETARY POLICY**

Options:

- (a) Bureau of Indian Standards
- (b) Financial Stability and Development Council
- (c) Ministry of Finance
- (d) Securities and Exchange Board of India
- (e) Reserve Bank of India

Answer: E

Explanation:

No FBA shall administer a significant benchmark without obtaining prior authorisation of the Reserve Bank under Financial Benchmark Administrators (Reserve Bank) Directions, 2019.

Q.23) According to Socio Economic and Caste Census 2011, about how much percentage of rural households are landless and derive a major part of their income from manual casual labour?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **SOCIAL ISSUES**

Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**

Topic – **POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND EMPLOYMENT GENERATION IN INDIA**

Options:

- (a) 27%
- (b) 30%
- (c) 35%
- (d) 32%
- (e) 29%

Answer: B

Explanation:

Socio Economic and Caste Census 2011 (SECC): Among the crucial findings of the exercise, conducted by the Ministry of Rural Development, was that about 30 per cent of rural households are landless and derive a major part of their income from manual, casual labour. The second most common form of deprivation was literacy with close to a quarter – 23.5 per cent – of rural households having no literate adults above the age of 25.

Q.24) The Annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum marking its 50th anniversary will be held in which of the following places?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **EASY**

Topic – **INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC INSTITUTIONS**

Options:

- (a) Davos, Switzerland
- (b) Paris, France
- (c) London, Uniter Kingdom
- (d) New York, The United States of America
- (e) Berlin, Germany

Answer: A

Explanation:

The World Economic Forum (WEF) hosts an annual meeting at the end of January in Davos, a mountain resort in Graubünden, in the eastern Alps region of Switzerland.

Q.25) The contribution of agriculture to the GVA has decreased from 15% in 2015-16 to _____ in 2018-19?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**

Topic – **GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT - MEASUREMENT OF GROWTH: NATIONAL INCOME AND PER CAPITA INCOME**

Options:

- (a) 14.6%
- (b) 14.2%
- (c) 14.4%
- (d) 13.5%
- (e) 14.1%

Answer: C

Explanation:

The contribution of agriculture to the GVA has decreased from 15% in 2015-16 to 14.4% in 2018-19. The decline was mainly due to decrease in share of GVA of crops from 9.2% in

2015-16 to 8.7% in 2017-18. Water resources: Almost 89% of groundwater is extracted for irrigation.

Q.26) As per the Revised Economic Capital Framework for RBI, RBI is to maintain the Contingency Risk Buffer (CRB) within what range of the RBI's balance sheet?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**
1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**
Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**
Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**
Topic – **MONETARY POLICY**

Options:

- (a) 4.0% to 5.0%
- (b) 5.0% to 6.0%
- (c) 4.5% to 5.5%
- (d) 5.5% to 6.5%
- (e) 6.0% to 7.0%

Answer: D

Explanation:

'Expert Committee to Review the Extant Economic Capital Framework of the Reserve Bank of India' (Chairman — Bimal Jalan).

RBI should maintain CRB within the range of 6.5-5.5 per cent of the RBI's balance sheet comprising 5.5-4.5 per cent for monetary and financial stability risks, and 1 per cent for credit and operational risks.

Q.27) In the Eastern Economic Forum, India has pledged how much amount as the Line of Credit for the development of Russia's Far East?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**
1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**
Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**
Difficulty Level – **EASY**
Topic – **REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION**

Options:

- (a) \$750 million
- (b) \$1 billion
- (c) \$1.5 billion
- (d) \$500 million
- (e) \$1.25 billion

Answer: B

Explanation:

India will walk shoulder-to-shoulder with Russia in its development of the Far East region and announced a \$1 billion line of credit for the development of the resource-rich region.

Q.28) SEIS is one of the two schemes introduced under the Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20. What is the full form of SEIS?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**
1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**
Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**
Difficulty Level – **EASY**
Topic – **EXPORT-IMPORT POLICY**

Options:

- (a) Software Exports from India Scheme
- (b) Services Exports Incentive Scheme
- (c) Software Exports Incentive Scheme
- (d) Services Exports Initiative from India
- (e) Services Exports from India Scheme

Answer: E

Explanation:

Service Exports from India Scheme (SEIS) aims to promote export of services from India by providing duty scrip credit for eligible exports. Under the scheme, service providers, located in India, would be rewarded under the SEIS scheme, for all eligible export of services from India.

Q.29) As per the NITI Aayog Health Index, which of the following state has performed the worst?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**
1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**
Economics or Social Issues – **SOCIAL ISSUES**
Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**
Topic – **SOCIAL SECTORS IN INDIA, HEALTH AND EDUCATION**

Options:

- (a) Jharkhand

- (b) Bihar
- (c) Assam
- (d) Manipur
- (e) Uttar Pradesh

Answer: E

Explanation:

Kerala has occupied the top slot in terms of health performance among large states followed by Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra, whereas Uttar Pradesh and Bihar remained at the bottom, according to the NITI Aayog's second round of Health Index. The ranking was done under three categories -- larger states, smaller states and Union territories (UTs) -- to ensure comparison among similar entities.

Q.30) Green Bonds have been released by which of the following organization?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**

Topic – **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

Options:

- (a) Bank for International Settlements
- (b) International Monetary Fund
- (c) World Bank
- (d) European Central Bank
- (e) Asian Development Bank

Answer: A

Explanation:

The Bank for International Settlements (BIS) has launched a euro-denominated, open-ended fund for green bond investments by central banks and official institutions. The launch follows the successful introduction of a first BIS green bond fund denominated in US dollars in September 2019. Together, the two BIS green bond funds will manage some \$2 billion in green bonds for central banks with the expectation that the funds will continue to grow considerably.

Q.31) As per the report prepared by the Labour Bureau under the Ministry of Labour & Employment, the number of employees in the establishments that availed loans under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Scheme increased to how many millions from 39.3 million before the loans?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**

Topic – **POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND EMPLOYMENT GENERATION IN INDIA**

Options:

- (a) 51.3 million
- (b) 50.2 million
- (c) 50.4 million
- (d) 48.7 million
- (e) 45.6 million

Answer: C

Explanation:

Loans availed through the PMMY has led to a 28 per cent rise in jobs that were created by establishments that availed the loans, as mentioned in an official survey by the government. The report prepared by the Labour Bureau under the Ministry of Labour and Employment revealed that the number of employees in such establishments increased to 50.4 million from 39.3 million before the loans.

Q.32) As part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, what is the total number of targets that are to be achieved under the 17 SDGs?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **EASY**

Topic – **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

Options:

- (a) 189
- (b) 180
- (c) 179
- (d) 169
- (e) 164

Answer: D

Explanation:

SDGs are officially known as Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as a set of 17 "Global Goals" with 169 targets between them. The Sustainable Development Goals are a UN Initiative.

PARAGRAPH ON SDG INDIA INDEX

Q.33) The SDG India Index tracks progress of all States and UTs on some Priority Indicators selected by NITI Aayog. Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct regarding the same?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **TOUGH**

Topic – **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

Statements:

1. There are 62 Priority Indicators selected by NITI Aayog.
2. These Priority Indicators are guided by MoSPI's National Indicator Framework comprising 306 indicators.
3. Priority Indicators were selected keeping in mind their relevance to the UN SDG targets.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

Options:

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 2 only
- (e) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: E**Explanation:**

The SDG India Index is a product of a chain of three stages.

Each of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals are mapped with a set of 169 targets to be achieved by 2030. These were used as the foundation for building the SDG India Index.

The next stage was to identify the national level Priority Indicators and map them to the 169 targets of the SDGs for 2030.

NITI Aayog selected a list of 62 Priority Indicators that was guided by the MoSPI's National Indicator Framework.

MoSPI was entrusted with the responsibility of identifying the nationally available datasets that align with the 17 SDGs and their 169 targets. MoSPI thus developed the draft National Indicator Framework for measuring India's progress against SDGs and associated targets.

The National Indicator Framework is the largest monitoring framework in the country, comprising of 306 indicators. It consists of nationally defined indicators corresponding to national priorities and needs. Guided by the MoSPI's National Indicator Framework, NITI Aayog constructed a draft list of 62 Priority Indicators. These Priority Indicators were selected by following a set of criteria.

Criteria Adopted in selecting National Indicators

1. Relevance to the UN SDG targets
2. Drawn from National Indicator Framework
3. Availability of data at national level for States and UTs from official statistical systems
4. Consent from respective Ministries
5. Ownership of data by the data source Ministries
6. Sufficient data coverage, such that data for at least 50 percent of the States/UTs is available

SDG India Index score was computed for India and each of its States and UTs based on the 62 Priority Indicators. The Index measures India's progress towards the 13 of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, leaving out SDG 12, 13, 14 and 17 from the purview of this Index. Progress on SDG 12, 13 and 14 could not be measured because relevant state level data could not be consolidated or found. SDG 17 was left out because the Goal is focussed on international partnerships, being less relevant for domestic level policy actions.

Q.34) Which of the following organization along with the UN has partnered with NITI Aayog in releasing the SDG India Index?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**

Topic – **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

Options:

- (a) Global Green Growth Institute
- (b) Global Commission on the Economy and Climate
- (c) Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
- (d) Green Climate Fund
- (e) United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Answer: A

Explanation:

NITI Aayog recently released the second edition of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) India Index, which comprehensively documents the progress made by India's States and Union Territories towards achieving the 2030 SDG targets.

The SDG India Index—which has been developed in collaboration with the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), United Nations in India, and Global Green Growth Institute—was launched by NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman Dr. Rajiv Kumar.

Q.35) Which of the following states in India is not among the FRONTRUNNERS as per the SDG India Index?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**

Topic – **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

Options:

- (a) Himachal Pradesh
- (b) Andhra Pradesh
- (c) Kerala
- (d) Tamil Nadu
- (e) Chandigarh

Answer: B

Explanation:

Front Runners as per the SDG India Index were: Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Chandigarh and Puducherry.

Q.36) The SDG India Index aligns the SDGs with the Prime Minister's clarion call of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, which embodies the five Ps of the global SDG movement. Which of the following is not one among the 5 Ps?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**

Topic – **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

Options:

- (a) People
- (b) Planet
- (c) Perspective
- (d) Prosperity
- (e) Partnerships

Answer: C

Explanation:

“5 Ps” that shape the SDGs: People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace, and Partnerships. The 5 Ps highlight how the SDGs are an intertwined framework instead of a group of siloed goals. Progress on one P must balance and support progress on another.

PASSAGE ON NIRMAYA SCHEME

Q.37) Which of the following is an insurance scheme for Persons with Disabilities in India?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **SOCIAL ISSUES**

Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**

Topic – **SOCIAL JUSTICE: POSITIVE DISCRIMINATION IN FAVOR OF THE UNDER PRIVILEGED**

Options:

- (a) DISHA
- (b) VIKAAS
- (c) SAMARTH
- (d) SAHYOGU
- (e) NIRMAYA

Answer: E

Explanation:

This scheme is to provide affordable Health Insurance to persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities.

Q.38) Which of the following is true about the scheme?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **SOCIAL ISSUES**

Difficulty Level – **TOUGH**

Topic – **SOCIAL JUSTICE: POSITIVE DISCRIMINATION IN FAVOR OF THE UNDER PRIVILEGED**

Options:

- (a) It provides a Health insurance cover of up to Rs. 10 lakh.
- (b) It has a differential premium across age band.
- (c) Pre-insurance medical tests are required.
- (d) All persons with disabilities under the National Trust Act with valid disability certificate will be eligible and included.
- (e) Treatment can be taken only from any hospital.

Answer: D

Explanation:

Scheme Description

- The scheme envisages delivering comprehensive cover which will:
- Have a single premium across age band
- Provide same coverage irrespective of the type of disability covered under the National Trust Act
- Insurance cover upto Rs.1.0 lakh , on reimbursement basis only.
- All persons with disabilities under the National Trust Act with valid disability certificate will be eligible and included.
- No pre-insurance medical tests
- Treatment can be taken from any hospital.

Q.39) Which of the following is a statutory body of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, set up under the “National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities” Act (Act 44 of 1999)?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **SOCIAL ISSUES**

Difficulty Level – **TOUGH**

Topic – **SOCIAL JUSTICE: POSITIVE DISCRIMINATION IN FAVOR OF THE UNDER PRIVILEGED**

Options:

- (a) The Divyangjan Trust
- (b) Persons with Disability Welfare Trust
- (c) Empowerment of Person with Disability Trust
- (d) The National Trust
- (e) None of the above

Answer: D

Explanation:

The National Trust is a statutory body of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, set up under the “National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities” Act (Act 44 of 1999).

GOAL Scheme

Q.40) The above-mentioned scheme was launched by which of the following organizations/companies?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **SOCIAL ISSUES**

Difficulty Level – **EASY**

Topic – **SOCIAL JUSTICE: POSITIVE DISCRIMINATION IN FAVOR OF THE UNDER PRIVILEGED**

Options:

- (a) Facebook
- (b) Apple
- (c) Microsoft
- (d) Amazon
- (e) Google

Answer: A

Explanation:

Going Online as Leaders (GOAL) Program was launched by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) and Facebook on 15th May 2020 to digitally skill and empower 5000 youth from tribal communities over five years. The project aims to identify and mobilise 2500 renowned people from the industry which include policy makers and influencers, teachers, artists, entrepreneurs and social workers known for their achievements in their respective

domains, to personally mentor tribal youth across India. The nine-month program includes seven months of mentorship in areas such as digital literacy, life skills, leadership & entrepreneurship and sector-specific skills followed by a two-month internship for the mentees to gain an on-ground experience.

The programme has been designed for the youth in tribal areas and targets their capacity building which will in turn inspire, guide and encourage them and boost their confidence levels while igniting higher aspirations among them. The acquired skills and abilities will help them gain leadership skills, and equip them to identify challenges in the society, find solutions to fight those challenges and use that knowledge to support their livelihood as well as the society's socio-economic status. The core areas of mentorship program are digital literacy, life skills, leadership & entrepreneurship and sector-specific skills.

Q.41) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has partnered with which of the following organizations to run this scheme?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **SOCIAL ISSUES**

Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**

Topic – **SOCIAL JUSTICE: POSITIVE DISCRIMINATION IN FAVOR OF THE UNDER PRIVILEGED**

Options:

- (a) TRIFED
- (b) SIDBI
- (c) NITI Aayog
- (d) District Mineral Foundation
- (e) KVIC

Answer: C

Explanation:

Ministry of Tribal Affairs has partnered with NITI Aayog and Facebook for the Second Phase of Going Online as Leaders (GOAL), a Facebook program.

Q.42) Which of the following statements is true about the scheme mentioned above?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **SOCIAL ISSUES**

Difficulty Level – **TOUGH**

Topic – **SOCIAL JUSTICE: POSITIVE DISCRIMINATION IN FAVOR OF THE UNDER PRIVILEGED**

Options:

- (a) The program aims to enable Scheduled Tribe (ST) youth in remote areas to use digital platforms.
- (b) All the mentees will be provided with smartphones and Internet.
- (c) The program will focus on three core areas - Digital Literacy, Life Skills and Leadership and Entrepreneurship.
- (d) The program intends to upskill and empower 5,000 tribal youths
- (e) All of the above

Answer: E

Explanation:

Key Points

- The GOAL programme is designed to provide mentorship to tribal youth through digital mode.
- The program will focus on three core areas - Digital Literacy, Life Skills and Leadership and Entrepreneurship.
- The program intends to upskill and empower 5,000 tribal youths in the current phase to harness the full potential of digital platforms and tools to learn new ways of doing business, explore and connect with domestic and international markets.
- The programme has been designed with a long-term vision to develop the potential of tribal youth and women to help them acquire skills and knowledge through mentorship in various sectors including horticulture, food processing, bee keeping, tribal art and culture, medicinal herbs, entrepreneurship among others.
- The program aims to enable Scheduled Tribe (ST) youth in remote areas to use digital platforms for sharing their aspirations, dreams and talent with their mentors.
- All the mentees will be provided with smartphones and Internet access (for one year) by Facebook along with exposure to various external forums that will give opportunity to the participants to showcase their entrepreneurial skills and leadership abilities.
- The program will also create awareness amongst tribal beneficiaries about various schemes initiated by Central and State Governments for welfare of STs as well as their fundamental duties.

Skill India Mission

Q.43) Which of the following is the tagline of the scheme mentioned in the above passage?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **EASY**

Topic – **POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND EMPLOYMENT GENERATION IN INDIA**

Options:

- (a) Skill hai toh Bhavishya hai
- (b) Trained India, Prosperous India
- (c) Skilled Bharat, Saksham Bharat
- (d) Kaushal Bharat, Kushal Bharat
- (e) Padhe Bharat, Bhade Bharat

Answer: D

Explanation:

Landmark initiatives like National Skill Development Mission, National Policy for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship 2015, Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) scheme and the Skill Loan scheme along with logo for Skill India with the tagline 'Kaushal Bharat, Kushal Bharat' were launched at the event. It is important to note that The National Policy for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, 2015 is the country's first integrated national policy for developing skills and promoting entrepreneurship on a large scale.

Q.44) In 2015, four landmark initiatives were launched along with the scheme mentioned in the above passage. Which one of the following was not one among them?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **TOUGH**

Topic – **POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND EMPLOYMENT GENERATION IN INDIA**

Options:

- (a) National Policy for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
- (b) National Skill Development Mission
- (c) Stand-Up India
- (d) Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana
- (e) Skill Loan Scheme

Answer: C

Explanation:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 15 July 2015 formally launched four initiatives- National Policy for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship 2015, National Skill Development Mission (NSDM), Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) and Skill Loan scheme- aimed at achieving the vision of Skill India.

They were launched in a programme held on the occasion of first-ever World Youth Skills Day in New Delhi.

The four initiatives are aimed at making India as a hub of world's human resource capital.

Q.45) Which of the following statements is true about the above-mentioned scheme?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **1 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **TOUGH**

Topic – **POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND EMPLOYMENT GENERATION IN INDIA**

Options:

- (a) Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana and Jan Shikshan Sansthan are being for short term training.
- (b) Skill India Mission aims to train over 40 crore people in India in different skills by 2022.
- (c) Long Term Training is imparted through Industrial Training Institutes under Craftsmen Training Scheme.
- (d) Setting up of Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and its operation are in the domain of respective State Governments
- (e) All of the above

Answer: E

Explanation:

- The National Skill Development Mission (NSDM) was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on July 15, 2015, to provide a strong institutional framework to implement and scale up skill development efforts across the country and to impart training to one crore youth every year.
- Under Skill India Mission, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship imparts employable skills to the youth through long term and short term training.
- The Ministry is implementing Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY 2.0) and Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS) for short term training.

- The Long Term Training is imparted through Industrial Training Institutes under Craftsmen Training Scheme.
- The total no. of ITIs have increased from 11964 in the year 2014 to 14939 in the year 2018-19 and trainees enrolment increased from 16.90 lakh to 23.08 lakh during the period.
- Setting up of Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and its operation are in the domain of respective State Governments, whereas preparation of norms and designing curriculums along with conducting examination and certification are the responsibility of Central Government.

Q.46) Which of the following actor & actress have promoted the mission talked about in the passage given above through one of their Hindi movies, Sui Dhaga?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **EASY**

Topic – **POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND EMPLOYMENT GENERATION IN INDIA**

Options:

- (a) Varun Dhawan & Alia Bhatt
- (b) Ranveer Kapoor & Anushka Sharma
- (c) Varun Dhawan & Anushka Sharma
- (d) Ranveer Singh & Deepika Padukone
- (e) Ranveer Kapoor & Alia Bhatt

Answer: C

Explanation:

Varun Dhawan and Anushka Sharma, through their much awaited film 'Sui Dhaaga – Made in India' are saluting India's entrepreneurs and skilled workforce, especially homegrown artisans, craftspeople and weavers who are making the country proud the world over.

Q.47) Which of the following is/are the reasons for the slowdown experienced in Q4 of 2018-19?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**

Topic – **GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT – MEASUREMENT OF GROWTH: NATIONAL INCOME AND PER CAPITA INCOME**

Options:

- (a) Weaker domestic consumption
- (b) Slower global growth
- (c) Weak increase in fixed investment
- (d) Muted exports
- (e) All of the above

Answer: E

Explanation:

A declining growth of private consumption, weak increase in fixed investment and muted exports were some reasons for the slowdown, the ministry's department of economic affairs said in a report titled 'Monthly Economic Report' for March 2019.

The lower GDP growth figures are attributed to weaker domestic consumption, slower global growth and tensions between the United States and China.

Passage on RCEP

Q.48) Which organization has been referred to in the above-mentioned passage?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**
1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**
Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**
Difficulty Level – **EASY**
Topic – **REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION**

Options:

- (a) Comprehensive Economic Partnership for East Asia
- (b) Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership
- (c) Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership
- (d) South Asian Free Trade Area
- (e) Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific

Answer: B

Explanation:

The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership is a proposed free trade agreement between the Asia-Pacific nations of Australia, Brunei, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Q.49) The referred deal is a free trade agreement with _____ and their 5 Free Trade Agreement partners?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **EASY**

Topic – **REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION**

Options:

- (a) African Union
- (b) Four Asian Tigers
- (c) BASIC
- (d) CLMV
- (e) ASEAN

Answer: E

Explanation:

ASEAN Plus Three was the first of attempts for further integration to improve existing ties of Southeast Asia with East Asian countries of China, Japan and South Korea.

The group became ASEAN Plus Six with Australia, New Zealand, and India, and stands as the linchpin of Asia Pacific's economic, political, security, socio-cultural architecture, as well as the global economy.

Codification of the relations between these countries has seen progress through the development of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, a free-trade agreement involving the 15 countries of ASEAN Plus Six.

Q.50) Which of the following is/are the reasons for India to leave the deal referred to in the above-mentioned passage?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**

Topic – **REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION**

Statements:

1. To protect domestic industry, India had proposed an auto trigger mechanism which has not been accepted.
2. Lack of Consensus on Rules of Origin.
3. Proposed trade bloc represents an insignificant share of global trade.
4. India has already signed FTA with all the countries of proposed trade bloc except China.

Options:

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (b) 1, 3 and 4 only
- (c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 4 only
- (e) All of the above

Answer: D

Explanation:

India has blocked itself from a trade bloc that represents 30% of the global economy and world population, touching over 2.2 billion people.

Reasons for India's Withdrawal

- Unfavourable Balance of Trade: Though trade has increased the post-Free Trade Agreement with South Korea, ASEAN countries and Japan, imports have risen faster than exports from India.
- Chinese Angle: India has already signed FTA with all the countries of RCEP except China. Trade data suggests that India's deficit with China, with which it does not have a trade pact, is higher than that of the remaining RCEP constituents put together.
- Non-acceptance of Auto-trigger Mechanism: To deal with the imminent rise in imports, India had been seeking an auto-trigger mechanism.
- Protection of Domestic Industry: India had also reportedly expressed apprehensions on lowering and eliminating tariffs on several products like dairy, steel etc.
- Lack of Consensus on Rules of Origin: India was concerned about a "possible circumvention" of rules of origin.

Paragraph on Industrial Policy

Q.51) Government of India plans to launch the third industrial policy in India after the ones that were released in 1956 & 1991. The new policy will be framed keeping in mind

Static or Current – **CURRENT**
1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**
Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**
Difficulty Level – **EASY**
Topic – **INDUSTRIAL & LABOUR POLICY**

Options:

- (a) Frugal Innovation
- (b) Industry 4.0
- (c) Work 4.0

(d) Industrial Ecology

(e) Environmental Technology

Answer: B

Explanation:

The government will soon announce a new industrial policy aimed at promoting growth of industries and creation of jobs, President Ram Nath Kovind said recently. Addressing the joint sitting of both Houses of Parliament, the President said work is underway in full earnest to transform India into a global manufacturing hub. "Keeping in view Industry 4.0, a new industrial policy will be announced shortly," he said.

Q.52) Which of the following has released the policy talked about in the above-mentioned passage?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **EASY**

Topic – **INDUSTRIAL & LABOUR POLICY**

Options:

(a) Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade

(b) Department of Economic Affairs

(c) NITI Aayog

(d) Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs

(e) None of the above

Answer: A

Explanation:

The group has been setup after the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) prepared the draft industrial policy and sent it for Cabinet approval, but certain new suggestions have been made with regard to the policy.

This will be the third industrial policy after the first in 1956 and the second in 1991. It will replace the industrial policy of 1991 which was prepared in the backdrop of the balance of payment crisis. The DPIIT had initiated the process of formulation of a new industrial policy in May 2017. The new policy will subsume the National Manufacturing Policy (NMP).

Q.53) The main objectives of the Industrial Policy of the Government are ?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**

Topic – **INDUSTRIAL & LABOUR POLICY**

Options:

- (a) to maintain a sustained growth in productivity
- (b) to enhance gainful employment
- (c) to achieve optimal utilisation of human resources
- (d) to transform India into a major partner and player in the global arena
- (e) all of the above

Answer: E

Explanation:

The main objectives of the Industrial Policy of the Government are (i) to maintain a sustained growth in productivity;(ii) to enhance gainful employment;(iii) to achieve optimal utilisation of human resources; (iv) to attain international competitiveness; and (v) to transform India into a major partner and player in the global arena. To achieve these objectives, the Policy focus is on deregulating Indian industry; allowing freedom and flexibility to the industry in responding to market forces; and providing a policy regime that facilitates and fosters growth. Economic reforms initiated since 1991 envisages a significantly bigger role for private initiatives. The policy has been progressively liberalized over years to at present, as would be evident in subsequent paragraphs.

Q.54) Which of the following is the aim of the National Manufacturing Policy talked about in the above given passage?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **TOUGH**

Topic – **INDUSTRIAL & LABOUR POLICY**

Options:

- (a) Enhancing the share of manufacturing in GDP to 25% within a decade and creating 100 million jobs.
- (b) Enhancing the share of manufacturing in GDP to 20% within a decade and creating 100 million jobs.
- (c) Enhancing the share of manufacturing in GDP to 25% within a decade and creating 200 million jobs.

- (d) Enhancing the share of manufacturing in GDP to 20% within a decade and creating 200 million jobs.
- (e) Enhancing the share of manufacturing in GDP to 25% within a decade and creating 150 million jobs.

Answer: A

Explanation:

The Government of India has announced a national manufacturing policy with the objective of enhancing the share of manufacturing in GDP to 25% within a decade and creating 100 million jobs. It also seeks to empower rural youth by imparting necessary skill sets to make them employable. Sustainable development is integral to the spirit of the policy and technological value addition in manufacturing has received special focus.

Paragraph on Jal Shakti Abhiyan

Q.55) Which of the following is/are the components of the mission talked about in the passage?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**

Topic – **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

Options:

- (a) Water conservation and rainwater harvesting
- (b) Renovation of traditional and other water bodies/tanks
- (c) Watershed development
- (d) Intensive afforestation
- (e) All of the above

Answer: E

Explanation:

Secretary, Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Shri Parameswaran Iyer, informed that the Jal Shakti Abhiyan is a collaborative effort of various Ministries of the Government of India and State Governments, being coordinated by the DDWS.

He said that teams of officers from the central government will visit and work with district administration in 1592 water stressed blocks in 256 districts, to ensure five important water conservation interventions. These will be water conservation and rainwater

harvesting, renovation of traditional and other water bodies/tanks, reuse, bore well recharge structures, watershed development and intensive afforestation.

Q.56) How many blocks have been covered as part of the mission talked about in the passage?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **TOUGH**

Topic – **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

Options:

- (a) 1548
- (b) 1592
- (c) 1496
- (d) 1689
- (e) 1336

Answer: B

Secretary, Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Shri Parameswaran Iyer, informed that the Jal Shakti Abhiyan is a collaborative effort of various Ministries of the Government of India and State Governments, being coordinated by the DDWS. He said that teams of officers from the central government will visit and work with district administration in 1592 water stressed blocks in 256 districts, to ensure five important water conservation interventions.

Q.57) The mission referred to in the passage is being coordinated by which of the following ministries?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **EASY**

Topic – **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

Options:

- (a) Ministry of Jal Shakti
- (b) Ministry of Rural Development
- (c) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- (d) Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare
- (e) None of the above

Answer: A

Explanation:

Jal Shakti Abhiyan is a collaborative effort of various ministries of the Government of India and state governments, being coordinated by the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS) that comes under the Jal Shakti Ministry.

Paragraph on External Benchmarks

Q.58) Under the External Benchmark Based Lending of the personal or retail loans, which one of the following is not one of the benchmarks for linking the loan rates?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**
1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**
Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**
Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**
Topic – **MONETARY POLICY**

Options:

- (a) Repo Rate
- (b) Three-month treasury bill yield
- (c) Banks own cost of fund rate
- (d) Six-month treasury bill yield
- (e) All of the above are benchmarks

Answer: C

Explanation:

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Wednesday made it mandatory for all banks to link floating rate loans — to retail customers and loans to micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) — to an external benchmark.

The move is aimed at faster transmission of monetary policy rates.

Banks can choose from one of the four external benchmarks — repo rate, three-month treasury bill yield, six-month treasury bill yield or any other benchmark interest rate published by Financial Benchmarks India Private Ltd.

Q.59) What will be the impact of the transmission of lower interest rates on loans?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**
Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**
Difficulty Level – **EASY**
Topic – **MONETARY POLICY**

Options:

- (a) Lower requirement of collateral
- (b) Lower default risk
- (c) Lower tenor of loans availed
- (d) Lower uptake of loans
- (e) Lower EMI of loans

Answer: E

Explanation:

You repay the loan in Equated Monthly Installments (EMIs) comprising both principal and interest. Repayment by way of EMI starts from the month following the month in which you take full disbursement. (For understanding how EMI is calculated, please see annex).

The EMI of a floating rate loan changes with changes in market interest rates. If market rates increase, your repayment increases. When rates fall, your dues also fall. The floating interest rate is made up of two parts: the index and the spread. The index is a measure of interest rates generally (based on say, government securities prices), and the spread is an extra amount that the banker adds to cover credit risk, profit mark-up etc. The amount of the spread may differ from one lender to another, but it is usually constant over the life of the loan. If the index rate moves up, so does your interest rate in most circumstances and you will have to pay a higher EMI. Conversely, if the interest rate moves down, your EMI amount should be lower.

Q.60) As per the bimonthly monetary policy released by the RBI in October 2019, what is the GDP growth forecast for 2019-20?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**
1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**
Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**
Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**
Topic – **GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT – MEASUREMENT OF GROWTH:
NATIONAL INCOME AND PER CAPITA INCOME**

Options:

- (a) 6.5%
- (b) 6.3%
- (c) 6.4%
- (d) 6.1%
- (e) 5.9%

Answer: D

Explanation:

Reserve Bank of India revised GDP growth downwards to 5 per cent for 2019-20 from 6.1 per cent projected in its October policy.

Q.61) What has been the forecast of India's growth rate for 2019 by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**

Topic – **GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT – MEASUREMENT OF GROWTH: NATIONAL INCOME AND PER CAPITA INCOME**

Options:

- (a) 5.8%
- (b) 6.2%
- (c) 6.4%
- (d) 6%
- (e) 6.3%

Answer: D

Explanation:

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has pegged India's economic growth rate at a seven-year low of 6 per cent in calendar year (CY) 2019. It also highlighted the pitfalls of shadow banking in countries such as India and China, citing the example of Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services (IL&FS).

Q.62) Who is the Chair of committee on Ban of virtual Currencies in India?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **EASY**

Topic – **MONETARY POLICY**

Options:

- (a) Shaktikanta Das
- (b) Subhash Chandra Garg
- (c) Amitabh Kant
- (d) Arvind Panagariya
- (e) Rajiv Kumar

Answer: B

Explanation:

A high-level Inter-ministerial Committee (IMC) was constituted on 2nd November, 2017 under the Chairmanship of Secretary, DEA to study the issues related to Virtual Currencies and propose specific action to be taken in this matter. The mandate of the Committee included an examination of the policy and legal framework for the regulation of virtual currencies. The subject of virtual currency is complex owing to its unique features and varying degree of understanding in different jurisdictions.

Q.63) Recently, Union Finance Minister proposed establishing a social stock exchange under the regulatory ambit of which of the following bodies?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **SOCIAL ISSUES**

Difficulty Level – **EASY**

Topic – **SOCIAL JUSTICE: POSITIVE DISCRIMINATION IN FAVOR OF THE UNDER PRIVILEGED**

Options:

- (a) Reserve Bank of India
- (b) Securities Exchange Board of India
- (c) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- (d) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority
- (e) None of the above

Answer: B

Explanation:

In budget session, Finance Minister proposed a social stock exchange (SSE) under the regulatory ambit of the Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to support social enterprises and non-profits in raising funds.

Q.64) The report titled “World Resources Report: Creating a Sustainable Food Future” has been issued by which of the following organisations?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **MODERATE**

Topic – **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

Options:

- (a) World Bank
- (b) UN Environment Programme
- (c) UN Development Programme
- (d) All of the above
- (e) None of the above

Answer: D

Explanation:

The report titled “World Resources Report: Creating a Sustainable Food Future” was co issued by the World Bank, UN Environment Programme and UN Development Programme. The report offers solutions to ensure we can feed 10 billion people by 2050 without increasing emissions, fueling deforestation or exacerbating poverty.

Q.65) Recently, the Government of India has granted approvals for establishment of National Investment and Manufacturing Zones (NIMZ). Which of the following locations is not one of those selected for establishment of NIMZ?

Static or Current – **CURRENT**

1 marker or 2 marker – **2 MARKER**

Economics or Social Issues – **ECONOMICS**

Difficulty Level – **EASY**

Topic – **INDUSTRIAL & LABOUR POLICY**

Options:

- (a) Prakasam

- (b) Sangareddy
- (c) Kalinganagar
- (d) Jind
- (e) None of the above

Answer: D

Explanation:

Recently, the Government of India has granted the final approval to three National Investment and Manufacturing Zones (NIMZ), namely Prakasam (Andhra Pradesh), Sangareddy (Telangana) and Kalinganagar (Odisha).

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Question Paper Analysis:

TABLE 1

QUESTION #	MARKS	ECONOMICS OR SOCIAL ISSUES	TOPIC	STATIC OR CURRENT	DIFFICULTY LEVEL
1	1	ECONOMICS	GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT – MEASUREMENT OF GROWTH: NATIONAL INCOME AND PER CAPITA INCOME	STATIC	EASY
2	1	ECONOMICS	GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT – MEASUREMENT OF GROWTH: NATIONAL INCOME AND PER CAPITA INCOME	STATIC	EASY
3	1	ECONOMICS	GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT – MEASUREMENT OF GROWTH: NATIONAL INCOME AND PER CAPITA INCOME	STATIC	EASY
4	1	ECONOMICS	MONETARY POLICY	STATIC	MODERATE
5	1	ECONOMICS	FISCAL POLICY	STATIC	EASY
6	1	ECONOMICS	BALANCE OF PAYMENTS	STATIC	TOUGH
7	1	ECONOMICS	INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC INSTITUTIONS	CURRENT	EASY
8	1	SOCIAL ISSUES	INDIAN POLITICAL SYSTEM	STATIC	MODERATE
9	1	SOCIAL ISSUES	INDIAN POLITICAL SYSTEM	STATIC	TOUGH
10	1	ECONOMICS	GENDER ISSUES	CURRENT	TOUGH
11	1	ECONOMICS	FISCAL POLICY	CURRENT	MODERATE
12	1	ECONOMICS	MONETARY POLICY	CURRENT	MODERATE
13	1	ECONOMICS	MONETARY POLICY	CURRENT	MODERATE
14	1	ECONOMICS	INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC INSTITUTIONS	CURRENT	MODERATE
15	1	SOCIAL ISSUES	SOCIAL SECTORS IN INDIA, HEALTH AND EDUCATION	CURRENT	MODERATE
16	1	ECONOMICS	POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND EMPLOYMENT GENERATION IN INDIA	CURRENT	MODERATE
17	1	ECONOMICS	SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND	CURRENT	MODERATE

			ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES		
18	1	ECONOMICS	MONETARY POLICY	CURRENT	MODERATE
19	1	SOCIAL ISSUES	SOCIAL SECTORS IN INDIA, HEALTH AND EDUCATION	CURRENT	EASY
20	1	ECONOMICS	INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC INSTITUTIONS	CURRENT	MODERATE
21	1	ECONOMICS	EXPORT-IMPORT POLICY	CURRENT	MODERATE
22	1	ECONOMICS	MONETARY POLICY	CURRENT	MODERATE
23	1	SOCIAL ISSUES	POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND EMPLOYMENT GENERATION IN INDIA	CURRENT	MODERATE
24	1	ECONOMICS	INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC INSTITUTIONS	CURRENT	EASY
25	1	ECONOMICS	GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT - MEASUREMENT OF GROWTH: NATIONAL INCOME AND PER CAPITA INCOME	CURRENT	MODERATE
26	1	ECONOMICS	MONETARY POLICY	CURRENT	MODERATE
27	1	ECONOMICS	REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION	CURRENT	EASY
28	1	ECONOMICS	EXPORT-IMPORT POLICY	CURRENT	EASY
29	1	SOCIAL ISSUES	SOCIAL SECTORS IN INDIA, HEALTH AND EDUCATION	CURRENT	MODERATE
30	1	ECONOMICS	SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	CURRENT	MODERATE
31	2	ECONOMICS	POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND EMPLOYMENT GENERATION IN INDIA	CURRENT	MODERATE
32	2	ECONOMICS	SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	CURRENT	EASY
33	2	ECONOMICS	SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	CURRENT	TOUGH
34	2	ECONOMICS	SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND	CURRENT	MODERATE

			ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES		
35	2	ECONOMICS	SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	CURRENT	MODERATE
36	2	ECONOMICS	SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	CURRENT	MODERATE
37	2	SOCIAL ISSUES	SOCIAL JUSTICE: POSITIVE DISCRIMINATION IN FAVOR OF THE UNDER PRIVILEGED	CURRENT	MODERATE
38	2	SOCIAL ISSUES	SOCIAL JUSTICE: POSITIVE DISCRIMINATION IN FAVOR OF THE UNDER PRIVILEGED	CURRENT	TOUGH
39	2	SOCIAL ISSUES	SOCIAL JUSTICE: POSITIVE DISCRIMINATION IN FAVOR OF THE UNDER PRIVILEGED	CURRENT	TOUGH
40	2	SOCIAL ISSUES	SOCIAL JUSTICE: POSITIVE DISCRIMINATION IN FAVOR OF THE UNDER PRIVILEGED	CURRENT	EASY
41	2	SOCIAL ISSUES	SOCIAL JUSTICE: POSITIVE DISCRIMINATION IN FAVOR OF THE UNDER PRIVILEGED	CURRENT	MODERATE
42	2	SOCIAL ISSUES	SOCIAL JUSTICE: POSITIVE DISCRIMINATION IN FAVOR OF THE UNDER PRIVILEGED	CURRENT	TOUGH
43	2	ECONOMICS	POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND EMPLOYMENT GENERATION IN INDIA	CURRENT	EASY
44	2	ECONOMICS	POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND EMPLOYMENT GENERATION IN INDIA	CURRENT	TOUGH
45	2	ECONOMICS	POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND EMPLOYMENT GENERATION IN INDIA	CURRENT	TOUGH

46	2	ECONOMICS	POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND EMPLOYMENT GENERATION IN INDIA	CURRENT	EASY
47	2	ECONOMICS	GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT – MEASUREMENT OF GROWTH: NATIONAL INCOME AND PER CAPITA INCOME	CURRENT	MODERATE
48	2	ECONOMICS	REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION	CURRENT	EASY
49	2	ECONOMICS	REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION	CURRENT	EASY
50	2	ECONOMICS	REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION	CURRENT	MODERATE
51	2	ECONOMICS	INDUSTRIAL & LABOUR POLICY	CURRENT	EASY
52	2	ECONOMICS	INDUSTRIAL & LABOUR POLICY	CURRENT	EASY
53	2	ECONOMICS	INDUSTRIAL & LABOUR POLICY	CURRENT	MODERATE
54	2	ECONOMICS	INDUSTRIAL & LABOUR POLICY	CURRENT	TOUGH
55	2	ECONOMICS	SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	CURRENT	MODERATE
56	2	ECONOMICS	SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	CURRENT	TOUGH
57	2	ECONOMICS	SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	CURRENT	EASY
58	2	ECONOMICS	MONETARY POLICY	CURRENT	MODERATE
59	2	ECONOMICS	MONETARY POLICY	CURRENT	EASY
60	2	ECONOMICS	GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT – MEASUREMENT OF GROWTH: NATIONAL INCOME AND PER CAPITA INCOME	CURRENT	MODERATE
61	2	ECONOMICS	GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT – MEASUREMENT OF GROWTH: NATIONAL INCOME AND PER CAPITA INCOME	CURRENT	MODERATE
62	2	ECONOMICS	MONETARY POLICY	CURRENT	EASY

63	2	SOCIAL ISSUES	SOCIAL JUSTICE: POSITIVE DISCRIMINATION IN FAVOR OF THE UNDER PRIVILEGED	CURRENT	EASY
64	2	ECONOMICS	SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	CURRENT	MODERATE
65	2	ECONOMICS	INDUSTRIAL & LABOUR POLICY	CURRENT	EASY

Analysis:

- This paper was not fundamentally different from the papers of the previous years.

TABLE 2

SUBJECT	TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ASKED	TOTAL MARKS ALLOCATED
ECONOMICS	52	80 MARKS
SOCIAL ISSUES	13	20 MARKS

Analysis:

- Trend of economics having relatively higher weightage has continued. This is likely to continue going ahead as well. Students are advised to prioritize Economics over Social Issues in their overall preparation.

TABLE 3

DIFFICULTY LEVEL	TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ASKED	TOTAL NUMBER OF MARKS
EASY	22	35
MODERATE	32	46
TOUGH	11	19

Analysis:

- Above break up of questions and marks confirm the feeling of many students that this paper was of easy to moderate levels.

- Many data/number/fact based questions were asked and these have been classified as being of moderate difficulty level. It is important to be mindful of collecting relevant facts and figures and committing the same to memory as a part of the preparation.

TABLE 4

TYPE OF QUESTION	TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ASKED	TOTAL NUMBER OF MARKS
CURRENT	8	8
STATIC	57	92

Analysis:

- Trend of current affair being more important than static part of the syllabus has continued. Most of the current affairs-based questions were based on developments that took place within six months before the exam.
- Therefore, current Affairs covering a period of 6 months before the examination should be prepared very thoroughly from EduTap’s current affairs magazine. Note that current affairs comprises of three important pillars: General current affairs, Government Schemes and Programmes and Reports.
- Students must not make the folly of completely leaving static syllabus untouched. Remember, the trend can always reverse; understanding of static syllabus is key to answering descriptive questions well; and the interviewer can always be an economy buff wanting to have a long and meaningful conversation regarding the Indian economy!!

TABLE 5

TYPE OF QUESTION	TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ASKED	TOTAL NUMBER OF MARKS
QUESTIONS BASED ON OLD SCHEMES (LAUNCHED MORE THAN AN YEAR BEFORE THE EXAM)	09	17
QUESTIONS BASED ON NEW SCHEMES (LAUNCHED WITHIN THE ONE YEAR PERIOD BEFORE THE EXAM)	06	12
QUESTIONS BASED ON OLD AND NEW SCHEMES	15	29

Analysis:

- About 30% of the marks are devoted to government schemes and programmes and therefore these should be covered very well by students.

- As the above table shows, students are advised to cover both old and new schemes well.

TABLE 6

TYPE OF QUESTION	TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ASKED	TOTAL NUMBER OF MARKS
QUESTIONS BASED ON NATIONAL REPORTS	10	16
QUESTIONS BASED ON INTERNATIONAL REPORTS	05	06
QUESTIONS BASED ON NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL REPORTS	15	22

Analysis:

- Overall, questions on reports and indices had more than 20% weightage in terms of marks.
- Both national and international reports and indices should be covered well by students.

TABLE 7

NAME OF CHAPTER	TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ASKED	TOTAL MARKS ALLOCATED
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	11	20
SOCIAL JUSTICE: POSITIVE DISCRIMINATION IN FAVOR OF THE UNDER PRIVILEGED	07	14
MONETARY POLICY	09	12
POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND EMPLOYMENT GENERATION IN INDIA	07	12
GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT – MEASUREMENT OF GROWTH: NATIONAL INCOME AND PER CAPITA INCOME	07	10
INDUSTRIAL & LABOUR POLICY	05	10
REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION	04	07
INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC INSTITUTIONS	04	04
SOCIAL SECTORS IN INDIA, HEALTH AND EDUCATION	03	03
FISCAL POLICY	02	02

EXPORT-IMPORT POLICY	02	02
INDIAN POLITICAL SYSTEM	02	02
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS	01	01
GENDER ISSUES	01	01

Analysis:

- Picking and choosing a handful of chapters of the syllabus as a part of preparation can be a risky strategy. As can be seen from the above table, questions have been asked from a diverse set of chapters. Each and every mark is important to finally clear the exam with a rank.

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