1. With reference to ‘Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan’; consider the following statements:
   1. It is aimed at ensuring that every pregnant woman undergoes essential checkups during pregnancy to avoid unnecessary complication
   2. It aims to prevent gender biased sex selective elimination.
Which of the following statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only  
(b) 2 only  
(c) Both 1 and 2  
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (a)

Explanation: Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan (PMSMA) was launched on 9th June, 2016). The scheme is aimed at ensuring that every pregnant woman undergoes essential checkups during pregnancy to avoid unnecessary complication. This is applicable to women through their third to sixth month of pregnancy. A key feature of the scheme includes services by gynaecology specialists and physicians with support from private sector doctors to supplement the efforts of the government sector. These services include ultrasound, blood and urine tests, in addition to routine antenatal check-up. It also invites the private sector to provide free ante-natal services (ANC) on a voluntary basis to pregnant women, especially those living in under-served, semi-urban, poor and rural areas.

2. ‘Operation Muskaan-II’ is a campaign to
   (a) prevent trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation
   (b) clean up the country and promote hygiene and sanitation among government employees
   (c) trace and rescue missing children and those found abandoned
   (d) make people aware about cashless economic system

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Operation Muskaan-II Campaign (Launched from 1st July, 2016 to 31st July, 2016) is the second phase of ‘Operation Muskaan’. Under this campaign, missing children and those found abandoned would be rescued and reunited with their families, officials of the district children protection office, social welfare department, police department, differently abled welfare office, labour department, Childline 1098 and NGOs has been constituted for “Operation Muskaan-II”. Thousands of children have been rescued under the campaign so far. Option (a) is the objective of Ujjwala Scheme. Option (b) is the objective of Swachhta Pakhwada Scheme. Option (d) is the objective of Vittiya Saksharata Abhiyan.

3. ‘Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana’ has been launched for
   (a) providing Free LPG connections to Women from BPL Households across the country
   (b) providing integrated support and assistance to women affected by violence
   (c) provide piped cooking (PNG) gas to residents of the eastern region of the country
   (d) providing public assistance to its citizens in case of unemployment

Answer: (a)

Explanation: The Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojan was launched on 1st May, 2016. It is aimed at providing 5 Crore LPG connections in the name of women in BPL (Below Poverty Line) households across the country. The scheme will be implemented by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (first time in the history). This Scheme would be implemented over three years, namely, the FY 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19.
Option (b) is the objective of **One Stop Centre Scheme/ Sakhi Scheme**. Option (c) is the objective of **Urja Ganga** Scheme. Option (d) is the objective of **National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)**.

4. Regarding ‘**Vittiya Saksharata Abhiyan**’, which of the following statements is/are correct?
   1. It aims to make people aware about cashless economic system
   2. It aims to capture and showcase innovations and progress in Elementary Education sector of India by continuous monitoring of the flagship scheme – Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA).
   3. It aims at providing strategic funding to eligible state higher educational institutions throughout the country.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 only  (b) 2 and 3 only  (c) 1 and 3 only  (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:** *Vittiya Saksharata Abhiyan* was launched on 1st December, 2016. It aims to make people aware about cashless economic system. For active participation of youth and faculty, HRD Minister also launched a webpage where students can register themselves. Young students and faculty members will be roped to encourage, create awareness and motivate all people to use digitally enabled cashless economic system.

5. Regarding ‘**Varishtha Pension Bima Yojana**’, which of the following statements is/are correct?
   1. It aims to provide social security during old age and protect elderly persons aged 60 years and above.
   2. Only one member of a family can join the scheme.
   3. The scheme will be implemented through Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC).

Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 only  (b) 2 and 3 only  (c) 1 and 3 only  (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:** *Varishtha Pension Bima Yojana (VPBY)* was launched on 16th September, 2014. It aims to provide social security during old age and protect elderly persons **aged 60 years and above** against a future fall in their interest income due to uncertain market conditions. The scheme is meant to provide an assured pension based on a guaranteed rate of return of 8% per annum for ten years, with an option to opt for pension on a monthly/quarterly/half-yearly or annual basis. It is a part of Government’s commitment for financial inclusion and social security. The scheme will be implemented through Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC). *Varishtha Pension Bima Yojana-2017* was launched on 25th Jan, 2017. VPBY-2017 is proposed to be open for subscription for a period of one year from the date of launch.

6. ‘**One Stop Centre Scheme**’ launched by the Government of India pertains to
   (a) provide integrated support and assistance to women affected by violence, both in private and public spaces under one roof
   (b) strengthen community health centres in 708 open defecation-free blocks across the country to enable them to achieve higher levels of cleanliness and hygiene
   (c) Social security scheme for rural landless household
   (d) Financial inclusion of all the households in the country

**Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:** *One Stop Centre Scheme/ Sakhi Scheme* (Implemented from 1st April, 2015) aims to provide integrated support and assistance to women affected by violence, both in private and public spaces under one roof. It aims to facilitate immediate, emergency and non-emergency access to a range of services including medical, legal, psychological and counselling support under one roof to fight against any forms of violence against women.
The Scheme will be funded through Nirbhaya Fund. The Central Government will provide 100% financial assistance to the State Government /UT Administrations under the Scheme. It has been envisaged to facilitate access to an integrated range of services including medical aid, police assistance, legal aid, psycho-social counseling etc. Option (b) is the objective of Swachh Swasth Sarvatra initiative. Option (c) is the objective of Aam Aadmi Bima Yojana. Option (d) is the objective of Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana.

7. Consider the following statements with regard to Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban:
1. It aims to build affordable pucca houses with water facility, sanitation and electricity supply
2. It is only meant to cover people in the economically weaker sections and low-income group
3. It aims to transform slum areas by building homes for slum dwellers in collaboration with private developers

Which of the following statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (c)
Explanation: The Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban (PMAY-U) aims to building affordable pucca houses with water facility, sanitation and electricity supply. It aims to transform slum areas by building homes for slum dwellers in collaboration with private developers. It is meant to cover people in the economically weaker sections, low-income group and mid-income group. Further specifications of people are: Indian women of all religions and castes Scheduled tribes and scheduled castes. This ‘Housing For All - Urban’ scheme to be achieved by the year 2022. Under the scheme, construction developers should strictly follow eco-friendly development technologies. Around 305 cities were identified by the government for the implementation of this scheme.

8. Consider the following statements with regard to ‘Swachh Swasth Sarvatra initiative’:
1. Its objective is to build on and leverage achievements of two complementary programmes – Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) and Kayakalp.
2. It is only focused on the objective of constructing toilets.
3. It aims to strengthen community health centres in 708 ODF blocks across the country to enable them to achieve higher levels of cleanliness and hygiene.

Which of the following statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (c)
Explanation: ‘Swachh Swasth Sarvatra’, an inter-ministerial joint initiative between the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. The objective of the ‘Swachh Swasth Sarvatra’ initiative is to build on and leverage achievements of two complementary programmes – Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) and Kayakalp. It is focused on the twin objectives of constructing toilets and enabling behavioural change. It aims to strengthen community health centres in 708 open defecation blocks across the country to enable them to achieve higher levels of cleanliness and hygiene. Under it, financial assistance of 10 lakh rupees will be given to the community health centres so that they can be strengthened to meet the standards of sanitation, hygiene and infection control.

9. With reference to ‘Road Connectivity Project for Left Wing Extremism (LWE) Affected Areas’, recently in the news, which of the following statement is/are correct?
1. This to improve the rural road connectivity in the worst LWE affected districts from security angle.
2. The project will be implemented as a vertical under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) to provide connectivity with necessary culverts and cross-drainage structures.
3. The likely duration of implementation of the project is four years from 2016 to 2025.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved a Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely "Road Connectivity Project for Left Wing Extremism (LWE) Affected Areas" to improve the rural road connectivity in the worst LWE affected districts from security angle.

The project will be implemented as a vertical under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) to provide connectivity with necessary culverts and cross-drainage structures in 44 worst affected LWE districts and adjoining districts, critical from security and communication point of view. Ministry of Rural Development will be the sponsoring Ministry as well as the implementing Ministry of this project. The likely duration of implementation of the project is four years from 2016-17 to 2019-20.

10. With reference to ‘ShaGun’; consider the following statements:
1. It is a web portal which aims to capture and showcase innovations and progress in Elementary Education sector of India by continuous monitoring of the flagship scheme – Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)
2. It is a portal has been developed for connecting breeders and farmers regarding availability of bovine germplasm.
Which of the following statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only  (b) 2 only  (c) Both 1 and 2  (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (a)
Explanation: ‘ShaGun’ is a web portal which aims to capture and showcase innovations and progress in Elementary Education sector of India by continuous monitoring of the flagship scheme - Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). in this direction Ministry of HRD will be codifying the learning outcome to set assessment standards for abilities with regards to comprehension, mathematics, language etc. and thus ensuring that “all children acquire at least the minimum levels of learning” from Class I to Class VIII under Right to Education Act, 2009. The learning outcomes would help teachers to understand the learning levels of children in their respective classes individually as well as collectively. This e-initiative termed it as a global democratic forum enabled by technology which will give a peek in the Indian elementary education scenario and spread constructive lessons.

11. Which one of the following is a purpose of “Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana”, a scheme of the Government?
(a) Providing continuous power supply to rural India
(b) Providing all-weather road connectivity to all eligible unconnected habitations
(c) Providing accessible, affordable and quality health care to the rural population
(d) Providing affordable Health Insurance to the persons with disabilities

Answer: (b)
Explanation: Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) was launched on 25th December, 2000. It aims to promote access to economic and social services and thereby generating increased agricultural incomes and productive employment opportunities in India. It aims to provide all-weather road connectivity to all eligible unconnected habitations/villages (as part of a poverty reduction strategy). It will permit the Upgradation (to prescribed standards) of the existing roads in those Districts where all the eligible Habitations of the designated population size have been provided all-weather road connectivity. Since 2004, World Bank support has helped build and improve some 16,000 km of rural roads. Project has helped to lay down an environmental protection code to ensure that trees are planted along the newly built roads. Option (a) is the purpose of Deen Dayal Upadhyayi Gram Jyoti Yojana. Option (c) is the purpose of National Rural Health Mission. Option (d) is the purpose of Swavlamban Health Insurance Scheme.
12. ‘Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana’ has been launched for
(a) Indian youth to take up industry-relevant skill training
(b) providing integrated support and assistance to women affected by violence
(c) skill training of rural youth and provide them with jobs
(d) providing public assistance to its citizens in case of unemployment

Answer: (a)
Explanation: Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKvy) was launched on 16th July, 2015. This will be the flagship scheme for skill training of youth to be implemented by the new Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship through the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC). The scheme will cover 24 lakh persons. It aims to enable a large number of Indian youth to take up industry-relevant skill training that will help them in securing a better livelihood. Skill training would be done based on the National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) and industry led standards. Option (b) is the purpose of One Stop Centre Scheme/ Sakhi Scheme. Option (c) is the purpose of Deen Dayal Gramin Kaushalya Yojana. Option (d) is the purpose of National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP).

13. Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana is aimed at
(a) providing loans to poor farmers for cultivating particular crops
(b) instilling certain value in the villages and their people so that they get transformed into models for others
(c) building affordable pucca houses with water facility, sanitation and electricity supply
(d) development of 300 rural growth clusters called ‘Rurban Clusters’

Answer: (b)
Explanation: Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) is a village development project launched by Government of India in October 2014, under which each Member of Parliament will take the responsibility of developing physical and institutional infrastructure in three villages by 2019. It is aimed at instilling certain value in the villages and their people so that they get transformed into models for others. The goal is to develop three Adarsh Grams by March 2019, of which one would be achieved by 2016. Thereafter, five such Adarsh Grams (one per year) will be selected and developed by 2024. Option (a) is the objective of Kisan Credit Card Scheme. Option (c) is the objective of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana. Option (d) is the objective of Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Rurban Misison.

14. Among the following who are eligible to benefit from the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana?
(a) Members of the scheduled caste and scheduled tribe households
(b) Economically weaker sections, low income group and mid-income group
(c) Physically differently abled or senior citizens
(d) All the above

Answer: (d)
Explanation: Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna (PMAY) is a mission started with an aim ‘Housing for All’ (HFA) scheme by the present Government to be achieved by the year 2022, that is when India will be completing its 75 years of Independence. The mission started in June 2015 and will be attained in seven years i.e., during 2015 – 2022. The scheme originally was meant to cover people in the economically weaker sections (EWS - annual income not exceeding ₹3 lakh) and low-income group (LIG - annual income not exceeding ₹6 lakh) sections, but now covers the mid-income group (MIG) as well. However there are further specifications of people who are targeted as direct beneficiaries: (i) Indian women of all religions and castes: There will be no biased approach depending on the said factors and everyone will be equally eligible, (ii) Scheduled tribes and scheduled castes and (iii) Physically differently abled or senior citizens. So, option (a), option (b) and option (c) are also eligible under the scheme.
15. Regarding ‘Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana’, which of the following statements is/are correct?
1. It aims to skill all the youth who are poor and provide them with jobs having regular monthly wages.
2. It envisages setting up of at least 1500 to 2000 training centers across the country.
3. It is guaranteed placement for at least 75% trained candidates.
Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 only  (b) 2 and 3 only  (c) 1 and 3 only  (d) 1, 2 and 3
Answer: (b)
Explanation: Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) was launched on 25th September, 2014. The new training programme envisages setting up of at least 1500 to 2000 training centres across the country and will be run on PPP model. DDU-GKY aims to skill rural youth who are poor and provide them with jobs having regular monthly wages or above the minimum wages. It seeks to promote rural livelihoods as part of the Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana (DAY-NRLM). Rural youth, under the age group of 15–35 years are eligible to get the benefits of the scheme. It is also guaranteed placement for at least 75% trained candidates.

16. With reference to ‘Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana’, which of the following statements is/are correct?
1. It provides for accidental Death Insurance.
2. It is available to people between 18 and 70 years of age with bank accounts
Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 only  (b) 2 only  (c) Both 1 and 2  (d) Neither 1 nor 2
Answer: (c)
Explanation: Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana is a government-backed accident insurance scheme in India. It provides for accidental Death Insurance. The PMSBY is aimed at covering the uncovered population at a highly affordable premium of just ₹ 12 per year. The scheme will be available to people in the age group of 18 to 70 years of age with bank accounts.

17. With reference to ‘Mission Poorna Shakti’, consider the following statements:
1. It aims to ensure violence against women is eliminated progressively.
2. It aims to prevent gender biased sex selective elimination
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only  (b) 2 only  (c) Both 1 and 2  (d) Neither 1 nor 2
Answer: (a)
Explanation: National Mission for Empowerment of Women (NMEW) / Mission Poorna Shakti are an initiative of the Government of India (GOI) for empowering women holistically. It is conceived as an umbrella mission with a mandate to strengthen inter-sectoral convergence and facilitate the process of coordinating all the women’s welfare and socio economic development programmes across ministries and departments. The salient features of the National Mission for Empowerment of Women (NMEW) are: (i) to ensure economic empowerment of women, (ii) to ensure that violence against women is eliminated progressively, (iii) to ensure social empowerment of women with emphasis on health and education, (iv) to oversee gender mainstreaming of programmes, policies, institutional arrangements and processes of participating Ministries, Institutions and Organizations and (v) to undertake awareness generation as well as advocacy activities to fuel demand for benefits under various schemes and programmes and create, if required, structures at district, tehsil and village level with the involvement of Panchayats for their fulfillment. It aims to setup Poorna Shakti Kendra (PSK) at every village.
18. With reference to Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, consider the following statements:
1. It provides a legal guarantee of 100 days of work in a financial year.
2. Adult members of only below poverty line (BPL) households are eligible to get the benefits.
3. One-third of the stipulated work force must be women.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) was passed in 2005 and scheme was launched in 2006. It aims at enhancing livelihood security of people in rural areas. It provides a legal guarantee of 100 days of work in a financial year. Additional 50 days of work in drought-hit areas to provide a relief to farmers. The work is usually on projects to build durable assets like roads, canals, ponds and wells. Every rural household whose adult members are willing to do unskilled manual work at a minimum wage rate are eligible to get the benefits. One-third of the stipulated work force must be women. Scheme is inclusive — with higher participation of women, SC and ST individuals.

19. ‘PRAGATI’, an initiative of the Government of India, aims at
(a) starting a culture of Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation
(b) providing financial and technical assistance to young start-up entrepreneurs
(c) bringing the small entrepreneurs into formal financial system
(d) protecting, restoring and enhancing India’s diminishing forest cover

Answer: (a)

Explanation: PRAGATI (Pro-Active Governance And Timely Implementation) was launched on 25th March, 2015. It aimed at starting a culture of Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation. It also aimed at addressing common man’s grievances, and simultaneously monitoring and reviewing important programmes and projects of the Government of India as well as projects flagged by State Governments. PRAGATI platform uniquely bundles three latest technologies: (i) Digital data management, (ii) video-conferencing and (iii) geo-spatial technology. Option (b) is the objective of Start-up India Scheme. Option (c) is the objective of Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana. Option (d) is the objective of Green India Mission.

20. ‘Operation Malyuddh’ is a campaign to
(a) create Open Defecation Free gram punchayats in western Rajasthan
(b) clean up the country and promote hygiene and sanitation among government employees
(c) engage communities and create an Open Defecation Free environment in villages of Harda district, Maharashtra
(d) encourage cost effective and appropriate technologies for ecologically safe and sustainable sanitation

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Harda is a district in Madhya Pradesh which has come up with many innovations to promote sanitation. Operation Malyuddh (literally meaning ‘war against impurity’) started off as an experiment to engage communities and create an Open Defecation Free (ODF) environment in villages by shifting onus to people of the village. Gradually, it turned into a more institutionalized campaign involving every possible stakeholder and making them change agents in the behaviour change process. Option (a) is a campaign under Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) in Rajasthan. Option (b) is the objective of Swachhta Pakhwada Scheme. Option (d) is was the objective of Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan.
21. Consider the following statements with regard to Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Rurban Mission:
1. It aims at creating efficient and effective institutional platforms of the rural poor and improved access to financial services.
2. It aims to spur social, economic and infrastructure development in rural areas by developing a cluster of 300 Smart Villages.
3. It aims at developing skills and local entrepreneurship and providing infrastructure facilities.
Which of the following statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 2 and 3 only  
(c) 1 and 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b)
Explanation: Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Rurban Mission (SPMRM) aims at development of 300 rural growth clusters called ‘Rurban Clusters’. These clusters have latent potential for growth in all the states and union territories which would trigger holistic development in the region where they located. These clusters would be developed by provisioning economic activities, developing skills and local entrepreneurship and providing infrastructure facilities. Required amenities would be provided in these clusters through the mode convergence of various programmes and schemes of the centre, state and panchayats and deficit would be filled through the mechanism of critical gap funding (CGF) under the mission for focused development.

22. Consider the following schemes:
1. Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme
2. National Maternity Benefit Scheme
3. Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme
4. National Family Benefit Scheme
5. Annapurna Scheme
Which among the above social sector schemes are currently as part of the National Social Assistance Programme?
(a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only  
(c) 2, 4 and 5 only  
(d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Answer: (b)
Explanation: National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) which came to effect from 15th August, 1995 represents a significant step towards the fulfillment of the Directive Principles in Article 41 of the Constitution. The programme introduced a National Policy for Social Assistance for the poor and aims at ensuring minimum national standard for social assistance in addition to the benefits that states are currently providing or might provide in future. Initially started with three schemes National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS), National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) and National Maternity Benefit Scheme (NMBS), it has now expanded to five schemes namely – Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGBNOAPS), Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS), Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDS), National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) and Annapurna Scheme. Annapurna Scheme was introduced in year 2000 for providing 10kg of free food grains to those not covered under NOAPS, while the National Maternity Benefit Scheme was transferred to Ministry of Health in 2001-02, which eventually became part of Janani Suraksha Yojana.

23. With reference to ‘Sakhi’, recently in the news, which of the following statement is/are correct?
1. This scheme will support women affected from violence.
2. It will offer Medical aid, Police assistance, Legal aid, Counselling and shelters.
Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 only  
(b) 2 only  
(c) Both 1 and 2  
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (c)
Explanation: Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD), has formulated a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for setting up One Stop Centre (Sakhi), a sub scheme of Umbrella
Scheme for National Mission for Empowerment of Women including Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojana. These centres provide counselling, medical assistance, legal assistance and police assistance under one roof. In the first phase, one Centre shall be established in every State/UT on a pilot basis. As on 30th June, 2016, 17 One Stop Centres are operational in different part of India. Under the scheme, it has been envisaged to facilitate access to the women affected by violence including sexual assault.

24. Regarding ‘Pradhan Mantri YUVA Yojana’, which of the following statements is/are correct?
   1. It will provide entrepreneurship education and training to students.
   2. The scheme spans over four years (2016-17 to 2019-20) under the Ministry of Skill Development And Entrepreneurship.
   3. It will also include easy access to information and mentor network, credit, incubator and accelerator and advocacy to create a pathway for the youth.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 only    (b) 2 and 3 only    (c) 1 and 3 only    (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (c)
Explanation: Pradhan Mantri YUVA Yojana, the Ministry of Skill Development And Entrepreneurship’s flagship scheme on entrepreneurship education and training was launched on 9th November, 2016. The schemes span over five years (2016-17 to 2020-21) with a project cost of Rs. 499.94 crore, and will provide entrepreneurship education and training to over 7 lack students in 5 years through 3050 institutes. It will also include easy access to information and mentor network, credit, incubator and accelerator and advocacy to create a pathway for the youth. It is an important initiative to scale up entrepreneurship in the country and has national and international best practices of learning in entrepreneurship education.

25. Which of the following is/are the target group of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban?
   1. The mid-income group
   2. The economically weaker sections
   3. The low-income group

Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 only    (b) 2 and 3 only    (c) 1 and 3    (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (d)
Explanation: Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) was launched in June 2015. The Government envisages building affordable pucca houses with water facility, sanitation and electricity supply round-the-clock. The scheme originally was meant to cover people in the EWS (annual income not exceeding ₹3 lakh) and LIG (annual income not exceeding ₹6 lakh) sections, but now covers the mid-income group (MIG) as well. PMAY scheme comprises of four key aspects. One, it aims to transform slum areas by building homes for slum dwellers in collaboration with private developers. Two, it plans to give a credit-linked subsidy to weaker and mid income sections on loans taken for new construction or renovation of existing homes. Three, the Government will chip in with financial assistance for affordable housing projects done in partnership with States/ Union Territories for the EWS. Four, it will extend direct financial assistance of ₹1.5 lakh to EWS.

26. Consider the following statements with regard to ‘Target Olympic Podium scheme’:
   1. It was formulated within the overall ambit of National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) with the objective of identifying and supporting potential medal prospects for 2016 and 2020 Olympic Games.
   2. Under the scheme the selected athletes are provided financial assistance for their customized training at Institutes having world class facilities and expected to result in improved performance and a higher position in medals tally for the country.
   3. The benchmark for selection of athletes under the scheme is in relation to international standards.
Which of the following statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d)
Explanation: TOP (Target Olympic Podium) Scheme was formulated within the overall ambit of National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) with the objective of identifying and supporting potential medal prospects for 2016 and 2020 Olympic Games. Now, it has reconstituted the committee and expanded its target for 2020 and 2024 Olympic Games. Under the scheme the selected athletes are provided financial assistance for their customized training at institutes having world class facilities and other necessary support which is expected to result in improved performance and a higher position in medals tally for the country. Benchmark for selection of athletes under the scheme is in relation to international standards.

27. Consider the following statements with regard to ‘Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana– National Rural Livelihoods Mission:

1. The mission seeks to improve livelihood options of rural poor by strengthening self-help group and providing skill development.
2. It has set out with an agenda to cover 7 crore rural poor households.
3. It is also providing umbrella cover to, Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana in order to meet the specific needs of women farmers.

Which of the following statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d)
Explanation: Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) was launched by the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD), Government of India in June 2011. The Mission aims at creating efficient and effective institutional platforms of the rural poor enabling them to increase household income through sustainable livelihood enhancements and improved access to financial services. The mission seeks to improve livelihood options of rural poor by strengthening self-help group and providing skill development. Under the scheme, Skill development training centre to be launched so as to address the unemployment problem in the rural area. It is also providing umbrella cover to, Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana (MKSP), in order to meet the specific needs of women farmers and achieve socio-economic and technical empowerment of the rural women farmers, predominantly small and marginal farmers.

28. With reference to ‘National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF); consider the following statements:

1. The Framework is an official ranking of higher education institutions.
2. This Framework will have three separate categories of ranking for engineering colleges, business schools and universities.
3. Ranks will be declared on the 1st Monday of April every year.

Which of the following statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b)
Explanation: The National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) has been launched by Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Government of India on 29th September, 2015. Ranking of Institutions of Higher Education will be an annual exercise. Ranks will be declared on the 1st Monday of April every year. For 2016, the 1st Monday falls on 4th April, 2016. Central and State universities will have to compete with institutions like Indian Institutes of Technology and Indian Institutes of Management in this year’s official rankings of higher education institutions. The first NIRF ranked engineering colleges, business schools and universities in three separate categories. But, this year onwards, this framework will have a common list of all institutions across disciplines and fields.
The IITs, IIMs and universities will be ranked in a common list. The NIRF rankings are done on the basis of five parameters against which institutions are rated: teaching and learning resources; research and professional practice; graduation outcome; outreach and inclusivity, and perception.

29. With reference to ‘Smart Cities Mission;’ consider the following statements:
1. It aims to develop and upgrade living conditions and infrastructure in selected 500 cities across the country.
2. It aims to drive economic growth and improve the quality of life of people by enabling local development and harnessing technology as a means to create smart outcomes for citizens.
3. The programme is using the ‘Challenge’ or competition method to select cities.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only  (b) 2 and 3 only  (c) 1 and 3 only  (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b)
Explanation: The Smart Cities Mission is an innovative and new initiative by the Government of India to drive economic growth and improve the quality of life of people by enabling local development and harnessing technology as a means to create smart outcomes for citizens (2nd Statement). It aims to develop and upgrade living conditions and infrastructure in selected 100 cities across the country. Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) is targeted to cover 500 cities and towns into efficient urban living spaces over a period of five years. So the 1st statement is wrong. The programme is using the ‘Challenge’ or competition method to select cities (3rd Statement) for funding and using a strategy of area-based development.

30. Which of the following statements are correct about ‘Saakshar Bharat’ scheme?
1. It is a centrally sponsored scheme which was launched during the Eleventh Five Year Plan.
2. The scheme is to impart functional literacy and numeracy to non-literate and non-numerate adults.
3. The scheme applied to women in particular and disadvantaged group in general.
4. The scheme applies to persons above the age of 10 years.
Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1, 2 and 3  (b) 2, 3 and 4  (c) 1, 2 and 4  (d) 1, 3 and 4

Answer: (a)
Explanation: Saakshar Bharat has been devised as the new variant of National Literacy Mission. It is a centrally sponsored scheme which was launched during the Eleventh Five Year Plan (September, 2009). The scheme is to impart functional literacy and numeracy to non-literate and non-numerate adults. Saakshar Bharat will cover all adults in the age group of 15 and beyond though its primary focus will be on women.

31. Which of the following statements are correct about ‘One Rank One Pension Scheme’?
1. The scheme is for the Ex-Servicemen.
2. It aims to provide same pension, for same rank, for same length of service, irrespective of the date of retirement.
3. Personnel who voluntarily retire will also cover under the scheme.
4. The pension would be re-fixed every 5 years.
Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1, 2 and 3  (b) 2, 3 and 4  (c) 1, 2 and 4  (d) 1, 3 and 4

Answer: (c)
Explanation: The One Rank One Pension Scheme is the pension scheme for the Ex-Servicemen (Indian Armed Forces). It aims to provide same pension, for same rank, for same length of service, irrespective of the date of retirement. Personnel who voluntarily retire will not be covered under the OROP scheme. The pension would be re-fixed every 5 years.
scheme:
1. It required the consumer to mandatorily have an Aadhaar number for availing LPG Subsidy.
2. The LPG consumer should have an active bank account to avail benefits under the scheme.
3. Once a consumer joins the scheme, he will get the cylinders at market price.
Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b)

Explanation: The PAHAL (Pratyaksh Hanstantrit Labh) or the Direct Benefit Transfer of LPG (DBTL) scheme was earlier launched on 1st June 2013 and finally covered 291 districts. The modified scheme has been re-launched in 54 districts on 15th November, 2014 in the 1st Phase and launched in rest of the country on 1st January, 2015. This scheme is under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. Under the modified scheme, Consumers who wish to join the scheme will have to either link their Aadhaar number into their bank account and their LPG consumer or if they do not possess Aadhaar number, they will have to link their bank account directly with their 17 digit LPG Id. The consumer should have an active bank account to avail benefits under the scheme. Once a Consumer joins the scheme, he will get the cylinders at market price and will receive LPG subsidy directly in his bank account.

33. Consider the following statements with regard to DISHA:
1. It is a District Development Coordination and Monitoring Committee for effective development coordination of almost all the programmes of Central Government.
2. These committees would monitor the implementation of schemes and programmes of Ministry of Rural Development.
3. The meetings of the committee should be held twice in a year.
Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (a)

Explanation: The District Development Coordination and Monitoring Committee (DDCMC) to be named “Disha” for effective development coordination of almost all the programmes of Central Government, whether it is for infrastructure development or Social and human resource development. These committees would monitor the implementation of 28 schemes and programmes of Ministry of Rural Development and other Ministries to promote synergy and convergence for greater impact. The main purpose of this committee is to coordinate with Central and State and local Panchayat Governments (to ensure the participation of people’s representative), for successful and timely implementation of the schemes. The meetings of the committee should be held once in every Quarter (Third Saturdays of April, July, October and February) and this has been made mandatory.

34. With reference to ‘National Health Policy 2017’; consider the following statements:
1. It aims at achieving universal health coverage.
2. It aims to raise public health care expenditure to 4% of GDP.
3. It aims to reduce mortality rate (MR) of children under 5 years of age by 2025.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (c)

Explanation: The National Health Policy 2017 seeks to promote quality of care; focus is on emerging diseases and investment in promotive and preventive healthcare. It aims at achieving universal health coverage and delivering quality health care services to all at affordable cost. It aims to raise public healthcare expenditure to 2.5% of GDP from current 1.4%, with more than two-thirds of those resources going towards primary healthcare.
This Policy looks at problems and solutions holistically with private sector as strategic partners. It envisages providing a larger package of assured comprehensive primary healthcare through the ‘Health and Wellness Centers’. It also aims to reduce mortality rate (MR) of children under 5 years of age to 23 per 1000 by 2025 and maternal mortality rate (MMR) to 100 by 2020.

35. With reference to ‘Regional Connectivity Scheme (UDAN)’, consider the following statements:
1. It is aimed at facilitating / stimulating regional air connectivity by making it affordable.
2. It also intends to revive un-served and under-served airports, promote tourism, increase employment and promote balanced regional growth.
3. Under this scheme, the entire seats on the plane will be capped at Rs. 2,500 per hour’s flight.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only             (b) 2 and 3 only                (c) 1 and 3 only           (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (a)
Explanation: Regional Connectivity Scheme (UDAN - Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik) is an innovative scheme to develop the regional aviation market. The Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) launched the scheme on 21st October, 2016. Primary objective of RCS is to facilitate / stimulate regional air connectivity by making it affordable. It also intends to revive un-served and under-served airports, promote tourism, increase employment and promote balanced regional growth. Under this scheme, half of the seats on the plane will be capped at Rs. 2,500 per hour’s flight. Government will subsidise the losses incurred by airlines flying to dormant airports by charging Rs. 2,500 per hour’s flight.

36. Which one of the following is a purpose of ‘Deen Dayal Upadhyay Gram Jyoti Yojana’, a scheme of the Government?
(a) Providing skill training for the rural youth who are poor and provide them with jobs having regular monthly wages or above the minimum wages
(b) Providing all-weather road connectivity to all eligible unconnected habitations
(c) Providing accessible, affordable and quality health care to the rural population
(d) Providing round the clock power to rural households and adequate power to agricultural consumers

Answer: (d)
Explanation: The Deen Dayal Upadhyay Gram Jyoti Yojana is one of the flagship programmes of the Ministry of Power and will facilitate 24x7 supply of power. This scheme focuses on feeder separation (rural households & agricultural) and strengthening of sub-transmission & distribution infrastructure including metering at all levels in rural areas. This will help in providing round the clock power to rural households and adequate power to agricultural consumers. Option (a) is the objective of Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana. Option (b) is the objective of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. Option (c) is the objective of National Rural Health Mission.

37. With reference to ‘Ujjawala Scheme’; consider the following statements:
1. It is for prevention of trafficking and rescue, rehabilitation, re-integration and repatriation of victims of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation
2. It is only targeting the Women who are vulnerable to trafficking and who are victims of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only             (b) 2 only                (c) Both 1 and 2           (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (a)
Explanation: The Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing “Ujjawala” – a Comprehensive Scheme for Prevention of Trafficking and Rescue, Rehabilitation, Re-
integration and Repatriation of Victims of Trafficking for Commercial Sexual Exploitation.

The scheme is effective from 1st April, 2016. It aims to prevent trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation through social mobilization and involvement of local communities, awareness generation programmes, generate public discourse through workshops/seminars and such events and any other innovative activity. **It is targeting the Women and children** who are vulnerable to trafficking and who are victims of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation.

38. What is/ are the purpose/purposes of Government’s ‘Lucky Grahak Yojana’ and ‘Digi-Dhan Vyapar Yojana’?

1. To promote digital payment methods to encourage consumers and merchants
2. To give cash awards to consumers and merchants who utilize digital payment instruments for personal consumption expenditures.
3. To incentivize digital transactions so that electronic payments are adopted by all sections of the society, especially the poor and the middle class.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:** The Government of India seeks to **promote digital payment methods** to encourage consumers and merchants to increasingly shift to these payment modes. The two schemes, namely **Lucky Grahak Yojana** for Consumers and **Digi-Dhan Vyapar Yojana** for Merchants, seek to nudge people towards significantly higher usage of digital transactions through the offer of incentives. The Lucky Grahak Yojana and the Digi-Dhan Vyapar Yojana **offers cash awards to consumers and merchants** who utilize digital payment instruments for personal consumption expenditures. The scheme specially **focuses on bringing the poor, lower middle class and small businesses** into the digital payment fold. The National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) is the **implementing agency** for this scheme. The scheme is operational during the period 25th December, 2016 to 14th April 2017.

39. Which one of the following is a purpose of ‘Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation’, a scheme of the Government?

(a) It aims to transform slum areas by building homes for slum dwellers.
(b) It aims to develop and upgrade living conditions and infrastructure in selected 100 cities across the country.
(c) It is aimed at preserving and revitalizing the soul and unique character of the heritage cities in India.
(d) It is aimed at transforming 500 cities and towns into efficient urban living spaces over a period of five years.

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:** Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) was launched on 24th in June, 2015. AMRUT **along with smart cities** were jointly planned and launched by the government to **transform urban living conditions** through **infrastructure upgradation.** AMRUT is aimed at transforming **500 cities and towns** into efficient urban living spaces over a period of **five years.** The purpose of Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) is to (i) ensure that every household has access to a tap with assured supply of water and a sewerage connection; (ii) increase the amenity value of cities by developing greenery and well maintained open spaces (parks); and (iii) reduce pollution by switching to public transport or constructing facilities for non-motorized transport (e.g. walking and cycling). Option (a) is the objective of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban. Option (b) is the objective of **Smart Cities Mission.** Option (c) is the objective of **Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana (HRIDAY) scheme.**
With reference to **Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana**, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It aims to provide LPG connections in the name of women in all households across the country.
2. It aims to reduce the serious health hazards associated with cooking based on fossil fuel.
3. The scheme will be implemented by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

**Answer:** (b)

**Explanation:** The **Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana** was launched on 1st May, 2016. It is aimed at **providing 5 Crore LPG connections in the name of women in BPL (Below Poverty Line)** households across the country. It aims to **reduce the serious health hazards** associated with cooking based on fossil fuel. The scheme is also for **reducing the number of deaths** in India due to unclean cooking fuel. The scheme will be implemented by the **Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas** (first time in the history). This Scheme would be implemented over **three years**, namely, the FY 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19.
NEO IAS
Turning Dreams into Reality

MAINS
2017 BATCH
Commences on
27th June 2017 @ NEO IAS, Kochi
28th June 2017 @ NEO IAS, TVM

Complete Coverage of Syllabus
Printed Study Material (Refer our website for sample notes)
Daily Current Affair updates through Telegram app

Limited Seats
Start your Registration Now

Near Kerala State Civil Service Academy, Charachira Road, TVM - 695003
39/4078 [61/2810], Sannidhi Road, Ravipuram, Kochi-682016
Call: +91 9446331522, 9605501353, 0484 3103190, 0471 6555775

Watch our Latest Classes @ www.youtube.com/neoiias