

Direction:

Passage on Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (for next 2 Qs)

Senior officials from India and the EU resumed the much-awaited negotiations for a proposed free trade agreement (FTA) here on Monday, after a gap of almost nine years. Both the sides are set to focus on the “deliverables” first during the course of the negotiations, before moving on to contentious matters.

Duty-free access to the EU market for labour-intensive industries, mainly textiles and garments, will be among India’s key demands.

The negotiations restart at a time when the US and the EU, India’s top markets that accounted for as much as 44% of the country’s merchandise exports in FY22, are staring at a recession. Any collapse in economic growth in these economies could, therefore, potentially put the brakes on the resurgence in India’s exports witnessed in FY22.

Before the negotiations began, commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal met European Commission executive vice-president Valdis Dombrovskis on June 17 and “discussed ways to fast track negotiations”.

Formal negotiations between the two sides for the FTA were stuck over stark differences after 16 rounds of talks between 2007 and 2013. The EU insisted that India scrap or slash hefty import duties on sensitive products such as automobiles, alcoholic beverages and dairy products, and open up legal services. Similarly, India’s demand included greater access to the EU market for its skilled professionals, among others. However, both the sides have now decided to take the negotiations to their logical conclusion.

- Question No. 1

With which of the following countries Indian has recently signed Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA)?

Options :

1. Sri Lanka
2. Bhutan
3. Thailand
4. Australia
5. UAE

Answer : Australia

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• Question No. 2

As on April, 2022, What is the total number of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) India has signed?

Options :

1. 10
2. 13
3. 14
4. 11
5. 16

Answer : 13

Direction:

Passage on ONORC (for next 4 Qs)

Every fifth family in India is still unaware about the benefits of the portability facility provided by the 'One Nation, One Ration Card' (ONORC) scheme, considered to be key to the success of the public distribution system (PDS). This is according to a recent study by social impact advisory group, Dalberg.

The study was conducted in Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, covering 6,700 low-income households and 1,500 PDS dealers. These states have a 40 per cent share in the PDS and were the first to adopt ONORC.

The study said ONORC was specifically designed to benefit migrants. However, marginalised women have not able to benefit much from it, especially in matters of availing food grains.

The study also noted that the facility of inter-state portability for food security and that of selecting a fair price ration shop (FPS) of one's choice was being availed by 58 per cent of migrant workers.

The study, conducted in collaboration with the Omidyar Network India, said technical failure of FPS and fear of stocks running out have been found to be the main reasons behind ONORC transaction failures.

Government orders to provide rations have been given even after transactions failed. Most PDS dealers are unaware of what steps should be taken on such occasions.

- Question No. 3

ONORC has been implemented in how many States and UTs as on February 2022?

Options :

1. 33
2. 35
3. 36
4. 28
5. 30

Answer : 35

Direction:

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• Question No. 4

The landmark plan of ONORC is a countrywide innovation that allows all _____ beneficiaries, particularly migrant beneficiaries, to claim either full or part foodgrains from any Fair Price Shop (FPS) of choice in the country through existing ration card with biometric/Aadhaar authentication in a seamless manner.

Options :

1. BPL
2. DAY-NRLM
3. People Under extreme Poverty defined by State Governments
4. NFSA
5. None of the above

Answer : NFSA

Direction:

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• Question No. 5

Department of Food and Public Distribution gets Prime Minister's award for excellence in Public Administration, 2020 for ONORC on

Options :

1. Independence Day
2. Republic Day
3. National Women's Day
4. International Inequality Day
5. Civil Services Day

Answer : Civil Services Day

Direction:

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• Question No. 6

In the event of non-supply of food grains, how the Government compensate the beneficiaries under the NFSA?

Options :

1. Provide double the food grains allotted in the next 15 days
2. Provide 50% more food grains from different Fair Price Shop in the radius of not more than 15 kms
3. Provide the allotted food grains in not less than a week's time
4. Provide food security allowance to the beneficiary
5. No such provision

Answer : Provide food security allowance to the beneficiary

Direction:

Passage on SMILE Scheme (for next 3 Qs)

A recent World Bank Report has shown that extreme poverty in India more than halved between 2011 and 2019 – from 22.5 per cent to 10.2 per cent. The reduction was higher in rural areas, from 26.3 per cent to 11.6 per cent. The rate of poverty decline between 2015 and 2019 was faster compared to 2011-2015.

While debates on the World Bank's methodology continue to rage, it is important to understand how poverty in rural areas was reduced at a faster pace. Much of the success can be credited to all government departments, especially their janbhagidari-based thrust on pro-poor public welfare that ensured social support for the endeavour. It will nevertheless be useful to delineate the key factors that contributed to the success.

First, the identification of deprived households on the basis of the Socioeconomic and Caste Census (SECC) 2011 across welfare programmes helped in creating a constituency for the well-being of the poor, irrespective of caste, creed or religion. The much-delayed SECC 2011 data was released in July 2015. This was critical in accomplishing the objectives of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas". Since deprivation was the key criterion in identifying beneficiaries, SC and ST communities got higher coverage and the erstwhile backward regions in Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Assam, Rajasthan and rural Maharashtra got a larger share of the benefits. This was a game-changer in the efforts to ensure balanced development, socially as well as across regions. Social groups that often used to be left out of government programmes were included and gram sabha validation was taken to ensure that the project reached these groups. A Central Sector scheme "SMILE: Support for Marginalised Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise" has recently been launched to provide welfare measures to the Transgender community and the people engaged in the act of begging.

- Question No. 7

Under the Smile Scheme, Shelter Homes _____ where food, clothing, recreational facilities, skill development opportunities, recreational activities, medical support etc. will be provided.

Options :

1. Swabhiman Desh
2. Swabhiman Greh
3. Garima Griha
4. Utishtha Jeevika
5. None of the above

Answer : Garima Griha

Direction:

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• Question No. 8

One of the sub-schemes of SMILE is Central Sector Scheme for Comprehensive Rehabilitation for Welfare of Transgender Persons. Which of the following is included in this sub-scheme?

(I)- Scholarships for students studying in IX and till post-graduation to enable them to complete their education.

(II)- Skill Development and Livelihood under PM-DAKSH scheme of the Department

(III)- Setting up Shelter Homes that will facilitate education for children engaged in the act of Begging and children of persons engaged in the act of Begging.

Options :

1. Only I
2. Only III
3. I & II
4. II & III
5. I, II, and III

Answer : I & II

Direction:

Passage on SMILE Scheme (for next 3 Qs)

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- Question No. 9

Which of the following Statement about the SMILE Scheme is True?

Options :

1. The Ministry has allocated Rs. 400 Crore for the scheme from 2021-22 to 2025-26.
2. The Ministry has allocated Rs. 365 Crore for the scheme from 2021-22 to 2025-26.
3. The Ministry has allocated Rs. 365 Crore for the scheme from 2021-22 to 2024-25.
4. The Ministry has allocated Rs. 565 Crore for the scheme from 2021-22 to 2025-26.
5. None of the above

Answer : The Ministry has allocated Rs. 365 Crore for the scheme from 2021-22 to 2025-26.

Direction:

Passage on Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY) (for next 3 Qs)

On the eve of World Environment Day, around 200 local people, including youths, men and women, on Sunday planted saplings on the banks of a pond in the village of Nagepur here. The village was adopted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi under the Centre's Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY).

Under the joint aegis of Lok Samiti, Vishwa Jyoti Jan Sanchar Samiti and Asha Trust, hundreds of youths took out a public awareness rally in the village and appealed to the locals to plant more and more saplings for environmental protection.

They carried placards with messages like 'water is life, protect it', 'stop defecating in the open', etc.

A large number of young women and girls also participated in the rally. They also planted trees and told people to save trees and plant more trees.

Everyone took a pledge to keep the village green. Nagepur village head Mukesh Kumar said that in the upcoming monsoon, a public awareness campaign will be launched in the village for environmental protection. All the youth took the responsibility of planting and saving trees in their own house, village's public places and roadside.

- Question No. 10

Progress of Implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY) is monitored against

_____ identified monitorable indicators in 10 domains.

Options :

1. 6
2. 7
3. 8
4. 9
5. 10

Answer : 10

Direction:

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- Question No. 11

Which of the following is not included in the pilot phase implementation of Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY)?

Options :

1. Andhra Pradesh
2. Tamil Nadu

3. Bihar
4. Assam
5. Himachal Pradesh

Answer : Andhra Pradesh

Direction:

Passage on Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY) (for next 3 Qs)

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• Question No. 12

One of the objectives of the Scheme is integrated development of SC majority Villages By taking up identified activities, which do not get covered under the existing Central and State Government Schemes, through _____ funds provided as Central Assistance to the extent of Rs.20.00 lakh per village.

Options :

1. Viability Fund
2. Viability Gap Fund
3. CSR Fund

4. Gap-Filling Fund
5. None of the above

Answer : Gap-Filling Fund

Direction:

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- Question No. 13

_____district has bagged the first spot in the country for the successful implementation of welfare and infrastructure development schemes under the Adarsh Gram Yojana.

Options :

1. Chengalpattu
2. Erode
3. Hamirpur
4. Araria
5. Bhagalpur

Answer : Hamirpur

Direction:

Passage on Raisana Dialogue (for next 3 Qs)

The 7th Edition of the “X” will be inaugurated on 25 April. The Dialogue will be held in an in-person format over three days, 25-27 April 2022. It is India’s flagship conference on geopolitics and geoeconomics, held annually since 2016. It is organized by the Ministry of External Affairs in collaboration with the Observer Research Foundation (ORF).

Last year, the Dialogue was held in a virtual format due to exceptional circumstances necessitated by the Covid-19 pandemic. This year, the Dialogue is being held in an ‘in-person’ format. The organizers have taken all necessary measures to adhere to Covid-19 health protocols to ensure safe conduct of the Dialogue. The theme for the 2022 Edition is “Terra Nova: Impassioned, Impatient, and Imperilled”.

The 2022 Edition will have over 100 sessions with over 210 speakers from more than 90 countries and multilateral organisations. A large audience is also likely to join the Dialogue across various social media platforms.

In the past seven years, it has grown in stature and profile to emerge as a leading global conference on international affairs. It attracts prominent thought leaders from the global strategic and policy-making community to discuss key geopolitical developments and strategic issues facing the world.

- Question No. 14

Which of the following is referred as X in the above passage?

Options :

1. Ex- Khaan Quest-2022
2. Raisina Dialogue
3. WIPO Meet on Intellectual Property Rights
4. SIPRI Year of Military Restrain Event
5. None of the above

Answer : Raisina Dialogue

Direction:

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• Question No. 15

Which of the following regarding the X is True?

(I)- Event X is a meet of QUAD Leaders.

(II)- One of the pillars of X is- Rethinking Democracy: Trade, Tech and Ideology

(III)- President of the European Commission, H.E. Ms. Ursula Von Der Leyen delivered the keynote address in X.

Options :

1. Only I
2. Only III
3. I & II
4. II & III
5. I, II, and III

Answer : II & III

Direction:

Passage on Raisana Dialogue (for next 3 Qs)

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• Question No. 16

This year, Raisina Dialogue side-events will be hosted in Berlin and Washington D.C. The Raisina Young Fellows programme will be also be conducted on the sidelines of the main conference.

Options :

1. New York
2. Washington D.C.
3. Berlin
4. Both a & c
5. Both b & c

Answer : Both b & c

Direction:

Passage on Export & Import (for next Q)

India's merchandise export in May 2022 was \$37.29 billion, 15.46% year-on-year increase compared to \$32.30 billion in May 2021, according to official data released on Thursday.

India's merchandise export in the first two months of current fiscal year (April -May 2022-23) was \$77.08 billion with an increase of 22.26% over \$63.05 billion in April -May 2021-22.

Value of non-petroleum exports in May 2022 was \$29.18 billion, registering a positive growth of 8.13% over non-petroleum exports of \$26.99 billion in May 2021.

Value of non-petroleum and non-gems and jewellery exports in May 2022 was \$26.08 billion, registering a positive growth of 8.57% over non-petroleum and non-gems and jewellery exports of \$24.02 billion in May 2021. The cumulative value of non-petroleum and non-gems and jewellery exports in April -May 2022-23 was \$54.52 billion, an increase of 14.15% over cumulative value of non-petroleum and non-gems and jewellery exports of \$47.76 billion in April -May 2021-22.

• Question No. 17

Which of the following is/are applicable for imports in India?

Options :

1. Customs Duty
2. Excise Duty
3. IGST
4. a & c
5. b & c

Answer : a & c

Direction:

Passage on Human Capital Index 2020 (for next 3 Qs)

The most important resource in any economy or organization is its human capital—that is, the collective knowledge, attributes, skills, experience, and health of the workforce. While human capital development starts in early childhood and continues through formal education, the McKinsey Global Institute and McKinsey's People & Organizational Performance Practice have focused new research on the next stage, which spans the full working life.

Human capital is much more than a macroeconomic abstraction. Each person has a unique, living, breathing set of capabilities. Those capabilities belong to the individual, who decides where to put them to work. The degree of choice is not limitless, of course. People are the products of geography, family, and education; their starting points matter. Having career options also depends on an individual's abilities and attributes, their networks, their family obligations, the health of the broader labor market, and societal factors.

- Question No. 18

What is India's Rank in Human Capital Index 2020?

Options :

1. 111
2. 115
3. 116
4. 119
5. 98

Answer : 116

Direction:

Passage on Human Capital Index 2020 (for next 3 Qs)

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obligations, the health of the broader labor market, and societal factors.

• Question No. 19

The HCI includes _____ data from 174 countries- covering 98% of World's Population.

Options :

1. Schooling
2. Health
3. Environment
4. a & Only
5. a, b, & c

Answer : a & Only

Direction:

Passage on Human Capital Index 2020 (for next 3 Qs)

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• Question No. 20

As on February 2022, how many countries have participated in the Human Capital Project?

Options :

1. 79
2. 80
3. 82
4. 83
5. 85

Answer : 83

• Question No. 21

Which of the following Statements about the Stand Up India scheme is/are Correct?

- (I) It facilitates bank loans between Rs. 10 lac to Rs 1 Crore.
- (II) It should be repaid in up to 7 years with a moratorium of up to 36 months.
- (III) The interest rate would be the lowest applicable rate of the bank not exceeding Bank's MCLR + 4% + Tenor Premium

Options :

1. Only I
2. I & II
3. II & III
4. I & III
5. Only III

Answer : Only I

• Question No. 22

Which of the following Statements about the PM Vaya Vandana Yojana is/are True?

- (I) A person at the age of 61 can invest.
- (II) Pension is paid monthly/quarterly/half-yearly/yearly basis.
- (III) The investment limit under the scheme is Rs 7 lakhs.

Options :

1. Only I
2. I & II
3. II & III
4. I & III
5. Only III

Answer : I & II

• Question No. 23

Which of the following Statements regarding the Sovereign Gold Bond Scheme is/are True?

- (I) The upper limit for retail (individual) investors and HUFs is 12 kilograms each per financial year.
- (II) A lady can buy SGB in the name of her minor daughter in May 2017 series.
- (III) Minimum permissible investment is 1 gram of gold.

Options :

1. Only I
2. I & II
3. II & III
4. I & III
5. Only III

Answer : II & III

• Question No. 24

Who among the following can be the beneficiary of PM Kisan Maan Dhan Yojana?

Options :

1. Any 46-year-old person
2. A 35 years old person with less than 2 hectares of land

3. A 36 years old person who has invested in NPS.
4. a & b
5. None of the above

Answer : A 35 years old person with less than 2 hectares of land

• Question No. 25

Which of the following Statements about the PM eVidya Scheme is/are correct?

- (I)- Siksha Vani of CBSE disseminates audio content for various subjects of grade 9 to 12.
- (II)- e-learning content for visually impaired is also provided under the scheme.
- (III)- Educational content is available across the country on radio, YouTube, and TV.

Options :

1. Only I
2. I & II
3. II & III
4. I & III
5. I, II, and III

Answer : I, II, and III

• Question No. 26

_____ will help cooperative institutions access new and innovative ideas of young professionals while the interns will gain experience of working in the field to be self-reliant. It will provide the young professionals an opportunity of practical exposure and learning from the working of NCDC and cooperatives as a paid intern.

Options :

1. Sahakar Mitra
2. Yuva Sahakar
3. Sahakar Bandhu

4. Ayushman Sahakar
5. None of the above

Answer : Sahakar Mitra

• Question No. 27

Which of the following Statements about the Bhoomi Rashi Portal is/are True?

(I)- The Bhoomi Rashi Portal is an e-Governance initiative of the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways.

(II)- Compensation will directly go to the land owner's account.

(III)- Compensation will be processed through Public Financial Management System (PFMS).

Options :

1. Only I
2. I & II
3. II & III
4. I & III
5. I, II, and III

Answer : I, II, and III

• Question No. 28

Who among the following is/are required to obtain IEC or import-export code?

Options :

1. Proprietorship
2. Partnership
3. LLP
4. Trust
5. Any party who wants to import or export

Answer : Any party who wants to import or export

• Question No. 29

Which of the following pair(s) has been correctly matched.

- (i) Someone wants to improve the breed of milch Animal - Rashtriya Gokul Mission
- (ii) A lady from the SC Community wants to invest in a green filed project – Stand Up India
- (iii) A married woman recently shifted to the city with her husband – One Stop Centre

Options :

- 1. Only I
- 2. I & II
- 3. II & III
- 4. I & III
- 5. I, II, and III

Answer : I & II

• Question No. 30

Which of the following is not one of the objectives of PMMSY?

Options :

- 1. Enhance fish production by an additional 70 lakh tonne and increase fisheries export earnings to Rs.1,00,000 crore by 2024-25.
- 2. Double the incomes of fishers and fish farmers.
- 3. Reduce post-harvest losses from 20-25% to about 10%.
- 4. Provide educational support to the children of fishermen
- 5. Generate an additional 55 lakhs direct and indirect gainful employment opportunities in the fisheries sector and allied activities.

Answer : Provide educational support to the children of fishermen

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