



ACADEMY OF CIVIL SERVICES

INDIAN ECONOMY

UPSC PREVIOUS YEARS PRELIMS QUESTIONS (2011-2018)

2011

1) In the Union Budget 2011-12, a full exemption from the basic customs duty was extended to the bio-based asphalt (bioasphalt). What is the importance of this material?

1. Unlike traditional asphalt, bio-asphalt is not based on fossil fuels.
2. Bioasphalt can be made from non-renewable resources.
3. Bioasphalt can be made from organic waste materials.
4. It is eco-friendly to use bioasphalt for surfacing of the roads.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- b) 1, 3 and 4 only
- c) 2 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

2) India has experienced persistent and high food inflation in the recent past. What could be the reasons?

1. Due to a gradual switchover to the cultivation of commercial crops, the area under the cultivation of food grains has steadily decreased in the last five years by about 30%.

2. As a consequence of increasing incomes, the consumption patterns of the people have undergone a significant change.
3. The food supply chain has structural constraints.

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
- 3) In terms of economy, the visit by foreign nationals to witness the XIX Common Wealth Games in India amounted to**
- a) Export
 - b) Import
 - c) Production
 - d) Consumption
- 4) Which one of the following statements appropriately describes the “fiscal stimulus”?**
- a) It is a massive investment by the Government in manufacturing sector to ensure the supply of goods to meet the demand surge caused by rapid economic growth.
 - b) It is an intense affirmative action of the Government to boost economic activity in the country.
 - c) It is government’s intensive action on financial institutions to ensure disbursement of loans to agriculture and allied sectors to promote greater food production and contain food inflation
 - d) It is an extreme affirmative action by the Government to pursue its policy of financial inclusion.
- 5) Consider the following actions which the Government can take:**
1. Devaluing the domestic currency.
 2. Reduction in the export subsidy
 3. Adopting suitable policies which attract greater FDI and more funds from FIIs.

Which of the above/ actions can help in reducing the current account deficit?

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 3 only
- d) 1 and 3

6) A rapid increase in the rate of inflation is sometimes attributed to the “base effect”.

What is “base effect”?

- a) It is the impact of drastic deficiency in supply due to failure of crops.
- b) It is the impact of the surge in demand due to rapid economic growth
- c) It is the impact of the price levels of previous year on the calculation of inflation rate
- d) None of the statements (a), (b) and (c) given above is correct in this context

7) Which one of the following is not a feature of “Value Added Tax”?

- a) It is a multi-point destination – based system of taxation.
- b) It is a tax levied on value addition at each stage of transaction in the production – distribution chain
- c) It is a tax on the final consumption of goods and services and must ultimately be borne by the consumer
- d) It is basically a subject of the Central government and the State governments are only a facilitator for its successful implementation.

8) A “closed economy” is an economy in which

- a) The money supply is fully controlled
- b) Deficit financing takes place
- c) Only exports take place
- d) Neither exports nor imports take place

9) The “New START” treaty was in the news. What is this treaty?

- a) It is a bilateral strategic nuclear arms reduction treaty between the USA and the Russian Federation
- b) It is a multilateral energy security cooperation treaty among the members of the East Asia Summit
- c) It is a treaty between the Russian Federation and the European Union for the energy security cooperation

- d) It is a multilateral cooperation treaty among the BRICS countries for the promotion of trade

10) Karl Marx explained the process of class struggle with the help of which one of the following theories?

- a) Empirical liberalism
- b) Existentialism
- c) Darwin's theory of evolution
- d) Dialectical materialism

11) Both Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and Foreign Institutional Investor (FII) are related to investment in a country. Which one of the following statements best represents an important difference between the two?

- a) FII helps bring better management skills and technology, while FDI only brings in capital
- b) FII helps in increasing capital availability in general, while FDI only targets specific sectors
- c) FDI flows only into the secondary market, while FII targets primary market
- d) FII is considered to be more stable than FDI

12) Microfinance is the provision of financial services to people of low-income groups. This includes both the consumers and the self-employed. The service/services rendered under microfinance is/are:

- 1. Credit facilities
- 2. Savings facilities
- 3. Insurance facilities
- 4. Fund Transfer facilities

Select the correct answer using the codes given below the lists:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 4 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

13) A company marketing food product advertises that its items do not contain trans-fats. What does this campaign signify to the customers?

1. The food products are not made out of hydrogenated oils.
2. The food products are not made out of animal fats/oils.
3. The oils used are not likely to damage the cardiovascular health of the consumers.

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

14) Regarding the International Monetary Fund, which one of the following statements is correct?

- a) It can grant loans to any country
- b) It can grant loans to only developed countries
- c) It grants loans to only member countries
- d) It can grant loans to the central bank of a country

15) Why is the offering of “teaser loans” by commercial banks a cause of economic concern?

1. The teaser loans are considered to be an aspect of sub-prime lending and banks may be exposed to the risk of defaulters in future.
2. In India, the teaser loans are mostly given to inexperienced entrepreneurs to set up manufacturing or export units.

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

16) In the context of Indian economy, consider the following statements:

1. The growth rate of GDP has steadily increased in the last five years.

2. The growth rate in per capita income has steadily increased in the last five years.

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

17) In India, which of the following have the highest share in the disbursement of credit to agriculture and allied activities?

- a) Commercial banks
- b) Cooperative banks
- c) Regional Rural banks
- d) Microfinance institutions

18) Economic growth is usually coupled with

- a) Deflation
- b) Inflation
- c) Stagflation
- d) Hyperinflation

19) The lowering of Bank Rate by the Reserve Bank of India leads to

- a) More liquidity in the market
- b) Less liquidity in the market
- c) No change in the liquidity in the market
- d) Mobilization of more deposits by commercial banks

2012

1) With reference to consumers' rights/privileges under the provisions of law in India, which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. Consumers are empowered to take samples for food testing.
- 2. When a consumer files a complaint in any consumer forum, no fee is required to be paid.

3. In case of death of a consumer, his/her legal heir can file a complaint in the consumer forum on his/her behalf.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

2) Which of the following can be said to be essentially the parts of 'Inclusive Governance'?

1. Permitting the Non-Banking Financial Companies to do banking
2. Establishing effective District Planning Committees in all the districts
3. Increasing the government spending on public health
4. Strengthening the Mid-day Meal Scheme

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 3 and 4 only
- c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

3) The Multi-dimensional Poverty Index developed by Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative with UNDP support covers which of the following?

1. Deprivation of education, health, assets and services as household level
2. Purchasing power parity at national level
3. Extent of budget deficit and GDP growth rate at national level

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

4) In India, in the overall Index of Industrial Production, the Indices of Eight Core Industries have a combined weight of 37.90%. Which of the following are among those Eight Core Industries?

1. Cement
2. Fertilizers
3. Natural gas
4. Refinery products
5. Textiles

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) 1 and 5 only
- b) 2, 3 and 4 only
- c) 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

5) Consider the following:

1. Hotels and restaurants
2. Motor transport undertakings
3. Newspaper establishments
4. Private medical institutions

The employees of which of the above can have the 'Social Security' coverage under Employees' State Insurance Scheme?

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- b) 4 only
- c) 1, 3 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

6) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) acts as a bankers' bank. This would imply which of the following?

1. Other banks retain their deposits with the RBI.
2. The RBI lends funds to the commercial banks in times of need.
3. The RBI advises the commercial banks on monetary matters.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

7) Under which of the following circumstances may 'capital gains' arise?

- 1. When there is an increase in the sales of a product
- 2. When there is a natural increase in the value of the property owned
- 3. When you purchase a painting and there is a growth in its value due to increase in its popularity

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

8) Which of the following measures would result in an increase in the money supply in the economy?

- 1. Purchase of government securities from the public by the Central Bank.
- 2. Deposit of currency in commercial banks by the public.
- 3. Borrowing by the government from the Central Bank.
- 4. Sale of government securities to the public by the Central Bank.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 4 only
- c) 1 and 3
- d) 2, 3 and 4

9) Which of the following would include Foreign Direct Investment in India?

- 1. Subsidiaries of foreign companies in India
- 2. Majority foreign equity holding in Indian companies

3. Companies exclusively financed by foreign companies
4. Portfolio investment

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- b) 2 and 4 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3 only

10) Consider the following statements:

The price of any currency in international market is decided by the

1. World Bank
2. Demand for goods/services provided by the country concerned
3. Stability of the government of the concerned country
4. Economic potential of the country in question

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 3 and 4 only
- d) 1 and 4 only

11) The basic aim of Lead Bank Scheme is that

- a) Big banks should try to open offices in each district
- b) There should be stiff competition among the various nationalized banks
- c) Individual banks should adopt particular districts for intensive development
- d) All the banks should make intensive efforts to mobilize deposits

2013

1) The balance of payments of a country is a systematic record of

- a) All import and export transactions of a country during a given period of time, normally a year

- b) Goods exported from a country during a year
 - c) Economic transaction between the government of one country to another
 - d) Capital movements from one country to another
- 2) **The Reserve Bank of India regulates the commercial banks in matters of**
- 1. Liquidity of assets
 - 2. Branch of expansion
 - 3. Merger of banks
 - 4. Winding up of banks

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) 1 and 4 only
 - b) 2, 3 and 4 only
 - c) 1, 2 and 3 only
 - d) 1, 2, 3 and 4**
- 3) **An increase in the bank rate generally indicates that the**
- a) Market rate of interest is likely to fall
 - b) Central bank is no longer making loans to commercial banks
 - c) Central bank is following an easy money policy
 - d) Central bank is following a tight money policy**
- 4) **In India, deficit financing is used for raising resources for**
- a) Economic development**
 - b) Redemption of public debt
 - c) Adjusting the balance of payments
 - d) Reducing the foreign debt
- 5) **Which of the following constitute Capital Account?**
- 1. Foreign loans
 - 2. Foreign Direct Investment\
 - 3. Private Remittances
 - 4. Portfolio Investment

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) 1, 2 and 3
- b) 1, 2 and 4
- c) 2, 3 and 4
- d) 1, 3 and 4

6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Inflation benefits the debtors.
- 2. Inflation benefits the bond-holders.

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

7) Disguised unemployment generally means

- a) Large number of people remain unemployed
- b) Alternative employment is not available
- c) Marginal productivity of labour is zero**
- d) Productivity of workers is low

8) Consider the following liquid assets:

- 1. Demand deposits with the banks
- 2. Time deposits with the banks
- 3. Savings deposits with the banks
- 4. Currency

The correct sequence of these assets in the decreasing order of liquidity is

- a) 1-4-3-2
- b) 4-3-2-1
- c) 2-3-1-4
- d) 4-1-3-2**

9) In the context of Indian economy, 'Open Market Operations' refers to

- a) Borrowing by scheduled banks from the RBI

- b) Lending by commercial banks to industry and trade
- c) Purchase and sale of government securities by the RBI**
- d) None of the above

10) Priority sector lending by banks in India constitutes the lending to

- a) Agriculture
- b) Micro and small enterprises
- c) Weaker sections
- d) All of the above**

11) Which one among the following industries is the maximum consumer of water in India?

- a) Engineering
- b) Paper and pulp
- c) Textiles
- d) Thermal power**

12) A rise in general level of prices may be caused by

1. An increase in the money supply
2. A decrease in the aggregate level of output
3. An increase in the effective demand

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

13) Which one of the following groups of items is included in India's foreign-exchange reserves?

- a) Foreign-currency assets, Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) and loans from foreign countries
- b) Foreign-currency assets, gold holdings of the RBI and SDRs**
- c) Foreign-currency assets, loans from the World Bank and SDRs
- d) Foreign-currency assets, gold holdings of the RBI and loans from the World bank

14) Which one of the following is likely to be the most inflationary in its effect?

- a) Repayment of public debt
- b) Borrowing from the public to finance a budget deficit
- c) Borrowing from banks to finance a budget deficit
- d) Creating new money to finance a budget deficit**

15) Supply of money remaining the same when there is an increase in demand for money, there will be

- a) A fall in the level of prices
- b) An increase in the rate of interest**
- c) A decrease in the rate of interest
- d) An increase in the level of income and employment

16) Economic growth in country X will necessarily have to occur if

- a) There is technical progress in the world economy
- b) There is population growth in X
- c) There is capital formation in X**
- d) The volume of trade grows in the world economy

17) The national income of a country for a given period is equal to the

- a) Total value of goods and services produced by the nationals
- b) Sum of total consumption and investment expenditure
- c) Sum of personal income of all individuals
- d) Money value of final goods and services produced**

18) Which of the following grants/grant direct credit assistance to rural household?

1. Regional Rural Banks
2. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
3. Land Development Banks

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

2014

1) With reference to a grouping of countries known as BRICS, consider the following statements:

1. The First Summit of BRICS was held in Rio de Janeiro in 2009.
2. South Africa was the last to join the BRICS grouping.

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

2) The sales tax you pay while purchasing a toothpaste is a

- a) Tax imposed by the Central Government
- b) Tax imposed by the Central Government but collected by the state government
- c) Tax imposed by the state government but collected by the Central government
- d) Tax imposed and collected by the state government**

3) What does venture capital mean?

- a) A short-term capital provided to industries
- b) A long-term start-up capital provided to new entrepreneurs**
- c) Funds provided to industries at times of incurring losses.
- d) Funds provided for replacement and renovation of industries

4) The main objective of the 12th Five Year Plan is

- a) Inclusive growth and poverty reduction
- b) Inclusive and sustainable growth
- c) Sustainable and inclusive growth to reduce unemployment
- d) Faster, sustainable and more inclusive growth**

5) With reference to the Balance of Payments, which of the following constitutes/constitute the Current Account?

1. Balance of trade
2. Foreign assets

3. Balance of invisibles
4. Special Drawing Rights

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) 1 only
 - b) 2 and 3
 - c) 1 and 3**
 - d) 1, 2 and 4
- 6) The terms ‘Marginal Standing Facility Rate’ and ‘Net Demand and Time Liabilities;’ sometimes appearing in news, are used in relation to**
- a) Banking operations**
 - b) Communication networking
 - c) Military strategies
 - d) Supply and demand of agricultural products
- 7) What is/are the facility/facilities the beneficiaries can get from the services of Business Correspondent (Bank Saathi) in branchless area?**
1. It enables the beneficiaries to draw their subsidies and social security benefits in their villages.
 2. It enables the beneficiaries in the rural areas to make deposits and withdrawals.

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
- 8) In the context of Indian economy, which of the following is/are the purpose/purposes of ‘Statutory Reserve Requirements??**
1. To enable the Central Bank to control the amount of advances the banks can create
 2. To make the people’s deposits with banks safe and liquid
 3. To prevent the commercial banks from making excessive profits

4. To force the banks to have sufficient vault cash to meet their day-to-day requirements.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) **1 only**
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- 9) If the interest rate is decreased in an economy, it will
- a) **Decrease the consumption expenditure in the economy**
- b) Increase the tax collection of the Government
- c) Increase the investment expenditure in the economy
- d) Increase the total savings in the economy
- 10) Which of the following organizations brings out the publication known as 'World Economic Outlook'?
- a) **The International Monetary Fund**
- b) The United Nations Development Programme
- c) The World Economic Forum
- d) The World Bank

2015

- 1) The 'Fotaleza Declaration', recently in the news, is related to the affairs of
- a) ASEAN
- b) **BRICS**
- c) OECD
- d) WTO
- 2) A decrease in tax to GDP ratio of a country indicates which of the following?
1. Slowing economic growth rate
2. Less equitable distribution of national income

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
- 3) **The Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane is approved by the**
- a) **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs**
 - b) Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices
 - c) Directorate of Marketing and Inspection, Ministry of Agriculture
 - d) Agricultural Produce Market Committee
- 4) **Which one of the following issues the ‘Global Economic Prospects’ report periodically?**
- a) The Asian Development Bank
 - b) The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
 - c) The US Federal Reserve Bank
 - d) **The World Bank**
- 5) **When the Reserve Bank of India reduces the Statutory Liquidity Ratio by 50 basis points, which of the following is likely to happen?**
- a) India’s GDP growth rate increases drastically
 - b) Foreign institutional investors may bring more capital into our country.
 - c) **Scheduled Commercial Banks may cut their lending rates**
 - d) It may drastically reduce the liquidity to the banking system
- 6) **In India, markets in agricultural products are regulated under the**
- a) Essential Commodities Act, 1955
 - b) **Agricultural Produce Market Committee Act enacted since by states**
 - c) Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act, 1937
 - d) Food Products Order, 1956 and Meat and Food Products Order, 1973
- 7) **Which of the following brings out the ‘Consumer Price Index Number for Industrial Workers’?**
- a) The Reserve Bank of India
 - b) The Department of Economic Affairs
 - c) **The Labour Bureau**

- d) The Department of Personnel and Training.
- 8) The terms 'Agreement on Agriculture', 'Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures' and 'Peace Clause' appear in the news frequently in the context of the affairs of the
- a) Food and Agriculture Organization
 - b) United Nations Framework Conference on Climate Change
 - c) World Trade Organization**
 - d) United Nations Environment Programme
- 9) Convertibility of rupee implies
- a) Being able to convert rupee notes into gold
 - b) Allowing the value of rupee to be fixed by market forces
 - c) Freely permitting the conversion of rupee to other countries and vice versa**
 - d) Developing an international market for currencies in India
- 10) What is Rio+20 Conference, often mentioned in the news?
- a) It is the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development**
 - b) It is a Ministerial Meeting of the World Trade Organization
 - c) It is a Conference of the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate change
 - d) It is a Conference of the member countries of the convention on Biological Diversity.
- 11) 'Biocarbon Fund Initiative for Sustainable Forest Landscapes' is managed by the
- a) Asian Development Bank
 - b) International Monetary Fund
 - c) United Nations Environment Programme
 - d) World Bank**
- 12) India is a member of which among the following?
1. Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
 2. Association of South-East Asian Nations
 3. East Asia Summit

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 and 2 only

b) 3 only

c) 1, 2 and 3

d) India is a member of none of them

13) In the Mekong-Ganga Cooperation, an initiative of six countries, which of the following is/are not a participant/participants ?

1. Bangladesh

2. Cambodia

3. China

4. Myanmar

5. Thailand

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

a) 1 only

b) 2, 3 and 4

c) 1 and 3

d) 1, 2 and 5

14) 'Basel III Accord' or simply 'Basel III', often seen in the news, seeks to

a) Develop national strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity

b) Improve banking sector's ability to deal with financial and economic stress and improve risk management

c) Reduce the greenhouse gas emissions but places a heavier burden on developed countries

d) Transfer technology from developed countries to poor countries to enable them to replace the use of chlorofluorocarbons in refrigeration with harmless chemicals

15) With reference to 'Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Cooperation (IOR-ARC)', consider the following statements:

1. It was established very recently in response to incidents of piracy and accidents of oil spills.

2. It is an alliance meant for maritime security only.

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**

16) With reference to Indian economy, consider the following statements:

- 1. The rate of growth of Real Gross Domestic Product has steadily increased in the last decade.
- 2. The Gross Domestic Product at market prices (in rupees) has steadily increased in the last decade.

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

17) With reference to Indian economy, consider the following:

- 1. Bank rate
- 2. Open market operations
- 3. Public debt
- 4. Public revenue

Which one of the above is/are component/components of Monetary policy?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2, 3 and 4
- c) 1 and 2**
- d) 1, 3 and 4

18) With reference to inflation in India, which of the following statements is correct?

- a) Controlling the inflation in India is the responsibility of the Government of India only
- b) The Reserve Bank of India has no role in controlling the inflation
- c) Decreased money circulation helps in controlling the inflation**

d) Increased money circulation helps in controlling the inflation

19) The problem of international liquidity is related to the non-availability of

a) Goods and services

b) Gold and silver

c) Gold and other hand currencies

d) Exportable surplus

20) There has been a persistent deficit budget year after year. Which of the following actions can be taken by the government to reduce the deficit?

1. Reducing revenue expenditure

2. Introducing new welfare schemes

3. Rationalizing subsidies

4. Expanding industries

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

a) 1 and 3 only

b) 2 and 3 only

c) 1 only

d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

21) Which of the following has/have been accorded 'Geographical Indication' status?

1. Banaras Brocades and Sarees

2. Rajasthani Daal-Bati-Churma

3. Tirupathi Laddu

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

2016

1) Which of the following is/are the indicator/indicators used by IFPRI to compute the Global Hunger Index Report?

1. Undernourishment
2. Child stunting
3. Child mortality

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

2) There has been a persistent deficit budget year after year. Which action/actions of the following can be taken by the Government to reduce the deficit?

1. Reducing revenue expenditure
2. Introducing new welfare's schemes
3. Rationalizing subsidies
4. Reducing import duty

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, 3 and 4

3) The establishment of 'Payment Banks' is being allowed in India to promote financial inclusion. Which of the following statements is/are correct in this context?

1. Mobile telephone companies and supermarket chains that are owned and controlled, by residents are eligible to be promoters of Payment Banks.
2. Payment Banks can issue both credit cards and debit cards.
3. Payment Banks cannot undertake lending activities.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 and 2 only
 - b) 1 and 3 only**
 - c) 2 only
 - d) 1, 2 and 3
- 4) Which one of the following is a purpose of 'UDAY', a scheme of the Government?
- a) Providing technical and financial assistance to start-up entrepreneurs in the field of renewable sources of energy.
 - b) Providing electricity to every household in the country by 2018
 - c) Replacing the coal-based power plants with natural gas, nuclear, solar, wind and tidal power plants over a period of time.
 - d) Providing for financial turnaround and revival of power distribution companies.**
- 5) With reference to 'IFC Masala Bonds', sometimes seen in the news, which of the statements given below is/are correct?
- 1. The International Finance Corporation, which offers these bonds, is an arm of the World Bank.
 - 2. They are the rupee-denominated bonds and are a source of debt financing for the public and private sector.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
 - b) 2 only
 - c) Both 1 and 2**
 - d) Neither 1 and 2
- 6) Regarding the taxation system of Krishna Deva, the ruler of Vijayanagar, consider the following statements:
- 1. The tax rate on land was fixed depending on the quality of the land.
 - 2. Private owners of workshops paid an industries tax.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2**
- d) Neither 1 and 2

7) In the context of which of the following do you sometimes find the term ‘amber box, blue box and green box’ in the news?

- a) WTO affairs**
- b) SAARC affairs
- c) UNFCCC affairs
- d) India-EU negotiations on FTA

8) Which of the following is/are included in the capital budget of the Government of India?

- 1. Expenditure on acquisition of assets like roads, buildings, machinery, etc.
- 2. Loans received from foreign governments.
- 3. Loans and advances granted to the states and union territories.

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**

9) Recently, which one of the following currencies has been proposed to be added to the basket of IMF’s SDR?

- a) Rouble
- b) Rand
- c) Indian Rupee
- d) Renminbi**

10) With reference to the International Monetary and Financial Committee (IMFC), consider the following statements:

- 1. IMFC discusses matters of concern affecting the global economy and advises the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on the direction of its work.

2. The World Bank participates as observer in IMFC's meetings.

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

11) Which of the following best describes the term 'import cover', sometimes seen in the news?

- a) It is the ratio of value of imports to the Gross Domestic Product of a country.
- b) It is the total value of imports of a country in a year.
- c) It is the ratio between the value of exports and that of imports between two countries.
- d) It is the number of months of imports that could be paid for by a country's international reserves.**

12) The FAO accords the status of 'Globally Important Agricultural Heritage System (GIAHS)' to traditional agricultural systems. What is the overall goal of this initiative?

- 1. To provide modern technology, training in modern farming methods and financial support to local communities of identified GIAHS so as to greatly enhance their agricultural productivity.
- 2. To identify and safeguard eco-friendly traditional farm practices and their associated landscapes, agricultural biodiversity and knowledge systems of the local communities.
- 3. To provide Geographical Indication status to all the varieties of agricultural produce in such identified GIAHS.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 2 only**
- c) 2 and 3 only

d) 1, 2 and 3

13) The term 'Core Banking Solutions' is sometimes seen in the news. Which of the following statements best describes/describe this term?

1. It is a networking of a bank's branches which enables customers to operate their accounts from any branch of the bank on its network regardless of where they open their accounts.
2. It is an effort to increase RBI's control over commercial banks through computerization.
3. It is a detailed procedure by which a bank with huge non-performing assets is taken over by another bank.

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

14) Which of the following best describes/describe the aim of 'Green India Mission' of the Government of India?

1. Incorporating environmental benefits and costs into the Union and State Budgets thereby implementing the 'green accounting'.
2. Launching the second green revolution to enhance agricultural output so as to ensure food security to one and all in the future.
3. Restoring and enhancing forest cover and responding to climate change by a combination of adaptation and mitigation measures.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

15) India's ranking in the 'Ease of Doing Business Index' is sometimes seen in the news.

Which of the following has declared that ranking?

- a) Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)
- b) World Economic Forum
- c) World Bank**
- d) World Trade Organization (WTO)

16) What is/are the purpose/purposes of the 'Marginal Cost of Funds based Lending Rate (MCLR)' announced by RBI?

- 1. These guidelines help improve the transparency in the methodology followed by banks for determining the interest rates on advances.
- 2. These guidelines help ensure availability of bank credit at interest rates which are fair to the borrowers as well as the banks.

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

17) With reference to 'Initiative for Nutritional Security through Intensive Millets Promotion', which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. This initiative aims to demonstrate the improved production and post-harvest technologies, and to demonstrate value addition techniques, in an integrated manner, with cluster approach.
- 2. Poor, small, marginal and tribal farmers have larger stake in this scheme.
- 3. An important objective of the scheme is to encourage farmers of commercial crops to shift to millet cultivation by offering them free kits of critical inputs of nutrients and microirrigation equipment.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3 only

c) 1 and 2 only

d) 1, 2 and 3

18) 'Doctors without Borders (Medecins Sans Frontieres)', often in the news, is

a) A division of World Health Organization

b) A non-governmental international organization

c) An Inter-governmental agency sponsored by European Union

d) A specialized agency of the United Nations

19) The term 'Base Erosion and Profit Shifting' is sometimes seen in the news in the context of

a) Mining operation by multinational companies in resource-rich but backward areas

b) Curbing of the tax evasion by multinational companies

c) Exploitation of genetic resources of a country by multinational companies

d) Lack of consideration of environmental costs in the planning and implementation of developmental projects

20) Consider the following statements:

1. New Development Bank has been set up by APEC.

2. The headquarters of New Development Bank is in Shanghai.

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

21) Which of the following is not a member of 'Gulf Cooperation Council'?

a) Iran

b) Saudi Arabia

c) Oman

d) Kuwait

22) What is/are the purpose/purposes of Government's 'Sovereign Gold Bond Scheme' and 'Gold Monetization Scheme'?

1. To bring the idle gold lying with Indian households into the economy

2. To promote FDI in the gold and Jewellery sector.
3. To reduce India's dependence on gold imports.

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

23) 'Belt and Road Initiative' is sometimes mentioned in the news in the context of the affairs of

- a) African Union
- b) Brazil
- c) European Union
- d) China**

24) 'Global Financial Stability Report' is prepared by the

- a) European Central Bank
- b) International Monetary Fund**
- c) International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- d) Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

25) The term 'Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership' often appears in the news in the context of the affairs of a group of countries known as

- a) G20
- b) ASEAN**
- c) SCO
- d) SAARC

26) With reference to the economic history of medieval India, the term 'Arghatta' refers to

- a) Bonded labour
- b) Land grants made to military officers
- c) Waterwheel used in the irrigation of land**
- d) Wasteland converted to cultivated land

2017

1) Which of the following gives ‘Global Gender Gap Index’ ranking to the countries of the world?

- a) World Economic Forum**
- b) UN Human Rights Council
- c) UN Women
- d) World Health Organization

2) Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)?

- 1. It decides the RBI’s benchmark interest rates.
- 2. It is a 12-member body including the Governor of RBI and is reconstituted every year.
- 3. It functions under the chairmanship of the Union Finance Minister.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only**
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 3 only
- d) 2 and 3 only

3) The term ‘Digital Single Market Strategy’ seen in the news refers to

- a) ASEAN
- b) BRICS
- c) EU**
- d) G20

4) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Standard Mark of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is mandatory for automotive tyres and tubes.
- 2. AGMARK is a quality Certification Mark issued by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

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

5) What is/are the advantage/advantages of implementing the 'National Agriculture Market' scheme?

1. It is a pan-India electronic trading portal for agricultural commodities.
2. It provides the farmers access to nationwide market, with prices commensurate with the quality of their produce.

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

6) With reference to the 'National Intellectual Property Rights Policy', consider the following statements:

1. It reiterates India's commitment to the Doha Development Agenda and the TRIPS Agreement.
2. Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion is the nodal agency for regulating intellectual property rights in India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

a) 1 only

b) 2 only

c) Both 1 and 2

d) Neither 1 nor 2

7) What is the purpose of setting up of Small Finance Banks (SFBs) in India?

1. To supply credit to small business units.
2. To supply credit to small and marginal farmers.

3. To encourage young entrepreneurs to set up business particularly in rural areas.

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

8) With reference to 'Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development (APMCHUD)', consider the following statements:

1. The first APMCHUD was held in India in 2006 on the theme 'Emerging Urban Forms – Policy Responses and Governance Structure'.
2. India hosts all the Annual Ministerial Conferences in partnership with ADB, APEC and ASEAN.

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

9) Which of the following is a most likely consequences of implementing the 'Unified Payments Interface (UPI)'?

- a) Mobile wallets will not be necessary for online payments.
- b) Digital currency will totally replace the physical currency in about two decades.
- c) FDI inflows will drastically increase.
- d) Direct transfer of subsidies to poor people will become very effective.

10) With reference to agriculture in India, how can the technique of 'genome sequencing', often seen in the news, be used in the immediate future?

1. Genome sequencing can be used to identify genetic markers for disease resistance and drought tolerance in various crop plants.
2. This technique helps in reducing the time required to develop new varieties of crop plants.

3. It can be used to decipher the host-pathogen relationships in crops.

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**

11) The Global Infrastructure Facility is a/an

- a) ASEAN initiative to upgrade infrastructure in Asia and financed by credit from the Asian Development Bank.
- b) World Bank collaboration that facilitates the preparation and structuring of complex infrastructure Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) to enable mobilization of private sector and institutional investor capital.**
- c) Collaboration among the major banks of the world working with the OECD and focused on expanding the set of infrastructure projects that have the potential to mobilize private investment.
- d) UNCTAD funded initiative that seeks to finance and facilitate infrastructure development in the world.

12) With reference to the role of UN-Habitat in the United Nations programme working towards a better urban future, which of the statements is/are correct?

- 1. UN-Habitat has been mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities to provide adequate shelter for all.
- 2. Its partners are either governments or local urban authorities only.
- 3. UN-Habitat contributes to the overall objective of the United Nations system to reduce poverty and to promote access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1, 2 and 3
- b) 1 and 3 only**
- c) 2 and 3 only

d) 1 only

13) Consider the following statements:

The nation-wide 'Soil Health Card Scheme' aims at

1. Expanding the cultivable area under irrigation.
2. Enabling the banks to assess the quantum of loans to be granted to farmers on the basis of soil quality.
3. Checking the overuse of fertilizers in farmlands.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

a) 1 and 2 only

b) 3 only

c) 2 and 3 only

d) 1, 2 and 3

14) Which of the following has/have occurred in India after the liberalization of economic policies in 1991?

1. Share of agriculture in GDP increased enormously.
2. Share of India's exports in world trade increased.
3. FDI inflows increased.
4. India's foreign exchange reserves increased enormously.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

a) 1 and 4 only

b) 2, 3 and 4 only

c) 2 and 3 only

d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

15) Consider the following statements:

1. National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) helps in promoting the financial inclusion in the country.
2. NPCI has launched RuPay, a card payment scheme.

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

16) What is/are the most likely advantages of implementing ‘Goods and Services Tax (GST)’?

1. It will replace multiple taxes collected by multiple authorities and will thus create a single market in India.
2. It will drastically reduce the ‘Current Account Deficit’ of India and will enable it to increase its foreign exchange reserves.
3. It will enormously increase the growth and size of economy of India and will enable it to overtake China in the near future.

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

17) ‘Broad-based Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA)’ is sometimes seen in the context of negotiations held between India and

- a) European union**
- b) Gulf Cooperation Council
- c) Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
- d) Shanghai Cooperation Organization

18) Consider the following statements:

1. India has ratified the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) of WTO.
2. TFA is a part of WTOs Bali Ministerial Package of 2013
3. TFA came into force in January 2016.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only

- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3**

19) Consider the following statements:

1. Tax revenue as a percent of GDP of India has steadily increased in the last decade.
2. Fiscal deficit as a percent of GDP of India has steadily increased in the last decade.

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**

2018

1) As per the NSSO 70th Round “Situation Assessment Survey of Agricultural Households”, consider the following statements:

1. Rajasthan has the highest percentage share of agricultural households among its rural households.
2. Out of the total agricultural households in the country, a little over 60 percent belong to OBCs.
3. In Kerala, a little over 60 percent of agricultural households reported to have received maximum income from sources other than agricultural activities.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

2) How is the National Green Tribunal (NGT) different from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)?

1. The NGT has been established by an act whereas the CPCB has been created by an executive order of the government.
2. The NGT provides environmental justice and helps reduce the burden of litigation in the higher courts whereas the CPCB promotes cleanliness of streams and wells and aims to improve the quality of air in the country.

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

3) Which one of the following best describes the term “Merchant Discount Rate” sometimes seen in the news?

- a) The incentive given by a bank to a merchant for accepting payments through debit cards pertaining to that bank.
- b) The amount paid back by banks to their customers when they use debit cards for financial transactions for purchasing goods and services.
- c) The charge to a merchant by a bank for accepting payments from his customers through the bank’s debit cards.**
- d) The incentive given by the Government to merchants for promoting digital payments by their customers through Point of Sale (PoS) machines and debit cards.

4) What is/are the consequence/consequences of a country becoming the member of the ‘Nuclear Suppliers Group’?

1. It will have access to the latest and most efficient nuclear technologies.
2. It automatically becomes a member of ‘The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)’.

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

5) With reference to India's decision to levy an equalization tax of 6% on online advertisement services offered by non-resident entities, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is introduced as a part of the Income Tax Act.

2. Non-resident entities that offer advertisement services in India can claim a tax credit in their home country under the "Double Taxation Avoidance Agreements".

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

6) Consider the following statements:

1. The Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Review Committee Report has recommended a debt to GDP ratio to 60% for the general (combined) government by 2023, comprising 40% for the central government and 20% for the state governments.

2. The central government has domestic liabilities of 21% of GDP as compared to that of 49% of GDP of the state governments.

3. As per the constitution of India, it is mandatory for a state to take the central government's consent for raising any loan of the former owes any outstanding liabilities to the latter.

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

7) Consider the following statements:

1. The quantity of imported edible oils is more than the domestic production of edible oils in the last five years.
2. The Government does not impose any customs duty on all the imported edible oils as a special case.

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

8) Consider the following statements:

1. Aadhar Card can be used as a proof of citizenship or domicile.
2. Once issued, Aadhar number cannot be deactivated or omitted by the issuing authority.

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

9) “Rule of Law Index” is released by which of the following?

- a) Amnesty International
- b) International Court of Justice
- c) The Office of UN Commissioner for Human Rights

d) World Justice Report

10) Which one of the following links all the ATMs in India?

- a) Indian Banks’ Association
- b) National Securities Depository Limited
- c) National Payments Corporation of India**

d) Reserve Bank of India

11) Consider the following statements:

1. Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR) is the amount that banks have to maintain in the form of their own funds to offset any loss that banks incur if the account-holders fail to repay dues.
2. CAR is decided by each individual bank.

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

12) The identify platform ‘Aadhar’ provides open “Application Programming Interface (APIs)”. What does it imply?

1. It can be integrated into any electronic device.
2. Online authentication using iris is possible.

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

13) With reference to the provisions made under the National Food Security Act, 2013, consider the following statements:

1. The families coming under the category of ‘below poverty line (BPL)’ only are eligible to receive subsidised food grains.
2. The eldest woman in a household, of age 18 years or above, shall be the head of the household for the purpose of issuance of a ration card.
3. Pregnant women and lactating mothers are entitled to a ‘take-home ration’ of 1600 calories per day during pregnancy and for six months thereafter.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) 1 and 2

b) 2 only

c) 1 and 3

d) 3 only

14) India enacted The Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999 in order to comply with the obligations to

a) ILO

b) IMF

c) UNCTAD

d) WTO

15) With reference to digital payments, consider the following statements:

1. BHIM app allows the user to transfer money to anyone with a UPI-enabled bank account.
2. While a chip-pin debit card has four factors of authentication, BHIM app has only two factors of authentication.

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

16) International Labour Organization's Conventions 138 and 182 are related to

a) Child labour

b) Adaptation of agricultural practices to global climate change

c) Regulation of food prices and food security

d) Gender parity at the workplace

17) Consider the following countries:

1. Australia
2. Canada
3. China
4. India

- 5. Japan
- 6. USA

Which of the above are among the 'free-trade partners' of ASEAN?

- a) 1, 2, 4 and 5
- b) 3, 4, 5 and 6
- c) 1, 3, 4 and 5**
- d) 2, 3, 4 and 6

18) Which one of the following statements correctly describes the meaning of legal tender money?

- a) The money which is tendered in courts of law to defray the fee of legal cases.
- b) The money which a creditor is under compulsion to accept in settlement of his claims.**
- c) The bank money in the form of cheques, drafts, bills of exchange, etc.
- d) The metallic money in circulation in a country

19) If a commodity is provided free to the public by the Government, then

- a) The opportunity cost is zero
- b) The opportunity cost is ignored**
- c) The opportunity cost is transferred from the consumers of the product to the tax-paying public
- d) The opportunity cost is transferred from the consumers of the product to the government

20) Increase in absolute and per capita real GNP do not connote a higher level of economic development, if

- a) Industrial output fails to keep pace with agricultural output
- b) Agricultural output fails to keep pace with industrial output
- c) Poverty and unemployment increase**
- d) Imports grow faster than exports

21) Consider the following statements:

Human capital formation as a concept is better explained in terms of a process which enables

1. Individuals of a country to accumulate more capital
2. Increasing the knowledge, skill levels and capacities of the people of the country
3. Accumulation of tangible wealth
4. Accumulation of intangible wealth

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 only
- c) 2 and 4**
- d) 1, 3 and 4

22) Despite being a high saving economy, capital formation may not result in significant increase in output due to

- a) Weak administrative machinery
- b) Illiteracy
- c) High population density
- d) High capital-output ratio**

23) Consider the following statements:

1. The Reserve Bank of India manages and services Government of India Securities but not any State Government Securities.
2. Treasury bills offer are issued by the Government of India and there are no treasury bills issued by the state governments.
3. Treasury bills offer are issued at a discount from the par value

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

24) The Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE), a UN mechanism to assist countries transition towards greener and more inclusive economies, emerged at

- a) The Earth Summit on Sustainable Development 2002, Johannesburg.

b) The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development 2012, Rio de Janeiro

c) The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 2015, Paris

d) The World Sustainable Development Summit 2016, New Delhi

25) “Momentum for Change: Climate Neutral Now” is an initiative launched by

a) The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

b) The UNEP Secretariat

c) The UNFCCC Secretariat

d) The World Meteorological Organization

26) Consider the following:

1. Areca nut

2. Barley

3. Coffee

4. Finger millet

5. Groundnut

6. Sesamum

7. Turmeric

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has announced the Minimum Support Price for which of the above?

a) 1, 2, 3 and 7 only

b) 2, 4, 5 and 6 only

c) 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 only

d) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7

27) With reference to the governance of public sector banking in India, consider the following statements:

1. Capital infusion into public sector banks by the Government of India has steadily increased in the last decade.

2. To put the public sector banks in order, the merger of associate banks with the parent State Bank of India has been affected.

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

28) Consider the following items:

- 1. Cereal grains hulled
- 2. Chicken eggs cooked
- 3. Fish processed and canned
- 4. Newspapers containing advertising material

Which of the above items is/are exempted under GST (Goods and Services Tax)?

- a) 1 only**
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1, 2 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

29) With reference to organic farming in India, consider the following statements:

- 1. “The National Programme for Organic Production” (NPOP) is operated under the guidelines and directions of the Union Ministry of Rural Development.
- 2. The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority’ (APEDA) functions as the Secretariat for the implementation of NPOP
- 3. Sikkim has become India’s first fully organic state.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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