



**Directions for the following 7 (seven) Items:**

Read the following **seven passages** and answer the items that follow the passages. Your answers to these items should be based on the passages only.

**Passage-1**

An air quality index (AQI) is a way to combine measurements of multiple air pollutants into a single number or rating. This index is ideally kept constantly updated and available in different places. The AQI is most useful when lots of pollution data are being gathered and when pollution levels are normally, but not always, low. In such cases, if pollution levels spike for a few days, the public can quickly take preventive action (like staying indoors) in response to an air quality warning. Unfortunately, that is not urban India. Pollution levels in many large Indian cities are so high that they remain well above any health or regulatory standard for large part of the year. If our index stays in the 'Red/Dangerous' region day after day, there is not much any one can do, other than getting used to ignoring it.

1. Which among the following is the **most logical and rational inference** that can be made from the above passage?
  - (a) Our governments are not responsible enough to keep our cities pollution free.
  - (b) There is absolutely no need for air quality indices in our country.
  - (c) Air quality index is not helpful to the residents of many of our large cities.
  - (d) In every city, public awareness about pollution problems should increase

**Passage-2**

Productive jobs are vital for growth and a good job is the best form of inclusion. More than half of our population depends on agriculture, but the experience of other countries suggests that the number of people dependent on agriculture will have to shrink if per capita incomes in agriculture are to go up substantially. While industry is creating jobs, too many such jobs are low-productivity non-contractual jobs in the unorganized sector, offering low incomes,

little protection, and no benefits. Service jobs are relatively of high productivity, but employment growth in services has been slow in recent years.

2. Which among the following is the **most logical and rational inference** that can be made from the above passage?
  - (a) We must create conditions for the faster growth of highly productive service jobs to ensure employment growth and inclusion.
  - (b) We must shift the farm workers to the highly productive manufacturing and service sectors to ensure the economic growth and inclusion.
  - (c) We must create conditions for the faster growth of productive jobs outside of agriculture even while improving the productivity of agriculture.
  - (d) We must emphasize the cultivation of high-yielding hybrid varieties and genetically modified crops to increase the per capita income in agriculture.

**Passage-3**

A landscape-scale approach to land use can encourage greater biodiversity outside protected areas. During hurricane 'Mitch' in 1998, farms using ecoagricultural practices suffered 58 per cent, 70 per cent and 99 per cent legs damage in Honduras, Nicaragua and Guatemala, respectively. than farms using conventional techniques. In Costa Rica, vegetative windbreaks and fencerows boosted farmers' income from pasture and coffee while also increasing bird diversity. Bee pollination is more effective when agricultural fields are closer to natural or seminatural habitat, a finding that matters because 87 per cent of the world's 107 leading crops depend on animal pollinators. In Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Colombia silvopastoral systems that integrate trees with pastureland are improving the sustainability of cattle production, and diversifying and increasing farmers' income.

3. Which among the following is the **most logical and rational inference** that can be made from the above passage?
- (a) Agricultural practices that enhance biodiversity can often increase farm output and reduce the vulnerability to disasters.
  - (b) All the countries of the world should be encouraged to replace ecoagriculture with conventional agriculture.
  - (c) Ecoagriculture should be permitted in protected areas without destroying the biodiversity there.
  - (d) The yield of food crops will be very high if ecoagricultural practices are adopted to cultivate them.

#### Passage-4

The medium term challenge for Indian manufacturing is to move from lower to higher tech sectors, from lower to higher value-added sectors, and from lower to higher productivity sectors. Medium tech industries are primarily capital intensive and resource processing and high tech industries are mainly capital and technology intensive. In order to push the share of manufacturing in overall GDP to the projected 25 per cent, Indian manufacturing needs to capture the global market in sectors showing a rising trend in demand. These sectors are largely high technology and capital intensive.

4. Which among the following is the **most logical and rational inference** that can be made from the above passage?
- (a) India's GDP displays high value added and high productivity levels in medium tech and resource processing industries.
  - (b) Promotion of capital and technology intensive manufacturing is not possible in India.
  - (c) India should push up the public investments and encourage the private investments in research and development, technology upgradation and skill development.
  - (d) India has already gained a great share in global markets in sectors showing a rising trend in demand.

#### Passage-5

Over the last decade, Indian agriculture has become more robust with record production of food grains and oilseeds. Increased procurement, consequently,

has added huge stocks of food grains in the granaries. India is one of the world's top producers of rice, wheat, milk, fruits and vegetables; India is still home to a quarter of all undernourished people in the world. On an average, almost half of the total expenditure of nearly half of the households is on food.

5. Which among the following is the **most logical corollary** to the above passage?
- (a) Increasing the efficiency of farm to-fork value chain is necessary to reduce the poverty and malnutrition.
  - (b) Increasing the agricultural productivity will automatically eliminate the poverty and malnutrition in India.
  - (c) India's agricultural productivity is already great and it is not necessary to increase it further.
  - (d) Allocation of more funds for social welfare and poverty alleviation programmes will ultimately eliminate the poverty and malnutrition in India.

#### Passage-6

The States are like pearls and the Centre is the thread which turns them into a necklace; if the thread snaps, the pearls are scattered.

6. Which one of the following views corroborates the above statement?
- (a) A strong Centre and strong States make the federation strong.
  - (b) A strong Centre is a binding force for national integrity.
  - (c) A strong Centre is a hindrance to State autonomy.
  - (d) State autonomy is a prerequisite for a federation.

#### Passage-7

Really I think that the poorest he that is in England has a life to live, as the greatest he, and therefore truly, I think it is clear that every man that is to live under a government ought first by his own consent to put himself under the government, and I do think that the poorest man in England is not at all bound in a strict sense to that government that he has not had a voice to put himself under.

7. The above statement argues for
- (a) distribution of wealth equally to all
  - (b) rule according to the consent of the governed
  - (c) rule of the poor
  - (d) expropriation of the rich