



Prelims Practice Questions 15-02-2019

1) Consider the following statements with respect to Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan (PM- SYM) Scheme

1. Under the Scheme, the beneficiary should not be an income tax payer.
2. It is implemented through Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC).

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : c

- PM-SYM is a voluntary and contributory pension scheme on a 50:50 basis (contribution shall be made by the beneficiary and the matching contribution by the Central Government).
- The unorganised workers whose monthly income is Rs 15,000/ per month or less and belong to the entry age group of 18-40 years are eligible for the scheme.
- They should not be covered under New Pension Scheme (NPS), Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) scheme or Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO).
- Further, he/she **should not be an income tax payer**.
- Each subscriber under the PM-SYM, shall receive minimum assured pension of Rs 3000/- per month after attaining the age of 60 years.
- It will be a Central Sector Scheme **administered** by the Ministry of Labour and Employment and **implemented** through **Life Insurance Corporation of India** and CSCs.
- LIC will be the Pension Fund Manager and responsible for Pension pay out.

2) *Anoop Satpathy committee* sometimes seen in the news recently, was constituted to review and recommend which of the following?

- a. Methodology for fixation of National Minimum Wage
- b. Measures to reorient disinvestment policy of India
- c. Suggestions to avoid future bank frauds in India
- d. Guidelines to combat reducing glacier cover over Himalayas

Answer : a

- The Ministry of Labour and Employment had constituted an expert committee, under the Chairmanship Dr. **Anoop Satpathy** to review and recommend methodology for fixation of **National Minimum Wage** (NMW).
- *The Expert Committee has submitted its report recently.*

3) Consider the following statements with respect to Nord Stream-2 Project

1. It is an expansion of Russia's existing Nord Stream gas pipeline to Germany across the Caspian Sea.

2. U.S.A is opposing the project citing the increase in Russian gas supply to Europe would increase Moscow's leverage over European countries.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are *incorrect*?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : a

- Nord Stream 2 is an expansion of Russia's existing Nord Stream gas pipeline to Germany across the **Baltic Sea**.
- The U.S says the new pipeline, and the resultant increase in Russian gas supply to Europe, would increase Moscow's leverage over European Countries.
- It would also make Russia richer, and as a result, more aggressive.

WHAT IS NORD STREAM 2?

Nord Stream 2 is an expansion of Russia's existing Nord Stream gas pipeline to Germany across the Baltic Sea. It's expected to carry 110 billion cubic meters of natural gas per year to Europe, where demand is set to rise

WHY THE U.S. IS WORRIED

The US says the new pipeline, and the resultant increase in Russian gas supply to Europe, would increase Moscow's leverage over European countries. It would also make Russia richer, and as a result, more aggressive, US argues

WOULD IT BENEFIT EUROPE?

Europe's natural gas demand is expected to spike in coming years, meaning its dependence on Russia will continue

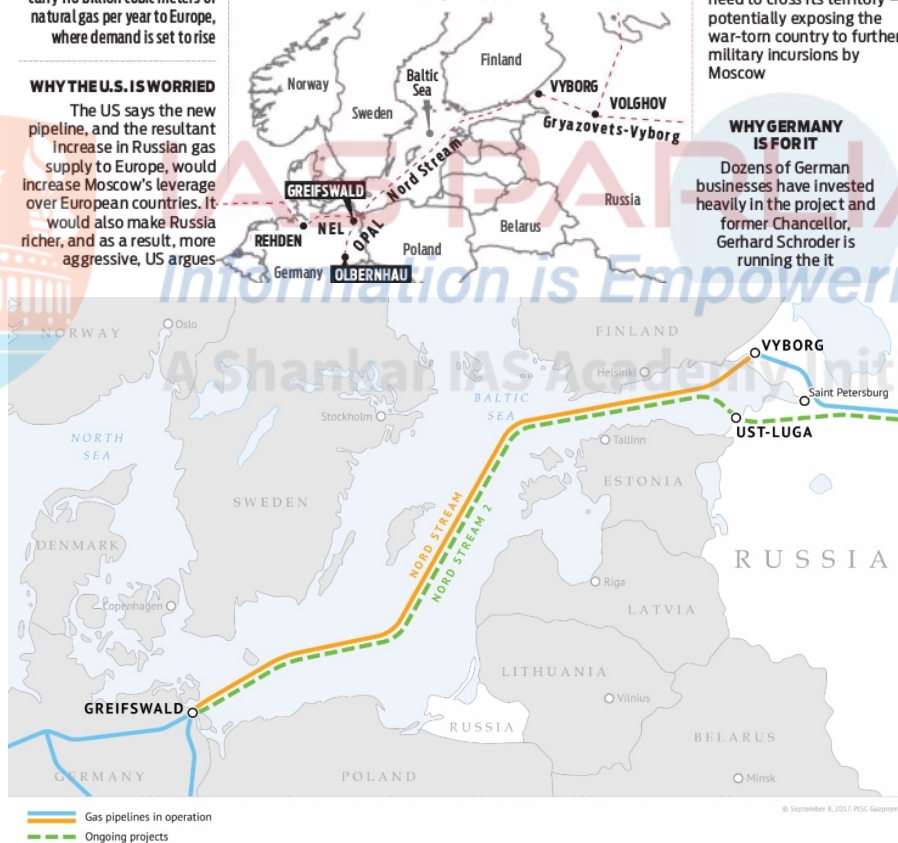
Also, gas production in EU countries is projected to decline by **43 per cent** in the next 12 years, thanks to a mostly depleted resource base. Thus, gas supply from Russia is vital

WHY IS UKRAINE ANXIOUS?

Ukraine is concerned as Nord Stream II and the planned Turkstream connection would eliminate Russian energy's need to cross its territory — potentially exposing the war-torn country to further military incursions by Moscow

WHY GERMANY IS FOR IT

Dozens of German businesses have invested heavily in the project and former Chancellor, Gerhard Schröder is running the it



4) "World Employment and Social Outlook" is an annual report published by which of the following organisations?

- a. World Bank
- b. International Labour Organisation
- c. International Organisation of Employers
- d. Oxfam International

Answer : b

- **World Employment and Social Outlook** is an annual report published by **International**

Labour Organisation (ILO), a UN agency.

- Global unemployment levels fell one percentile to a steady 5 per cent in 2018, the lowest figures since the economic crisis that wreaked havoc on labour markets, the International Labour Organization said in its recent report **World Employment and Social Outlook Trends 2019**.

5) *Green New Deal (GND)* sometimes seen in the news recently, is associated with which of the following countries?

- U.S.A
- France
- Germany
- U.K

Answer : a

- **U.S** has recently proposed the **Green New Deal (GND)** to address both climate change and economic inequality.
- The Green New Deal “is a four-part programme for moving America quickly out of crisis into a secure, sustainable future.
- The resolution was introduced in the House and Senate recently.

6) *Spirit and Opportunity rovers* sometimes seen in the news recently, are associated with which of the following?

- NASA and MOON
- ESA and JUPITER
- JAXA and RYUGU
- NASA and MARS

Answer : d

- **Spirit and Opportunity** were identical, golf-cart-sized, solar-powered rovers.
- Spirit landed at Gusev Crater on January 4, 2004; Opportunity followed, landing on the opposite side of **Mars** at Meridiani Planum on January 24.
- Contact with Spirit was lost in March 2010, and the mission was declared over on May 25, 2011.
- Opportunity continued to roam Mars — and sent out its last signals on June 10, 2018, when the most intense dust storm in recorded Martian history encrusted its solar panels, and damaged critical components.
- **NASA** has recently announced the end of the **Opportunity** rover’s mission.

7) Consider the following statements with respect to Sambar deer

1. It is large in size and endemic to Indian subcontinent.
2. It has been protected under schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : d

- The sambar deer is a large deer native to the Indian subcontinent, **southern China**, and **Southeast Asia**.
- It has been listed as **Vulnerable** on the IUCN Red List.

- Sambar is a protected animal under schedule **three** of Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

8) *Kattaikkuttu* is a rural theatre form, practiced in which of the following states?

- Tamil Nadu
- Telangana
- Odisha
- Rajasthan

Answer : a

9) Which of the following is/are *not* the features of Indus Valley Civilisation (IVC)

- Use of Pottery wheels
- Undeciphered script
- Proper town planning
- Domestication of animals
- Use of standard weights and measurements

Select the correct answer using the code given below

- 4 only
- 4 and 5 only
- 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
- None

Answer : d

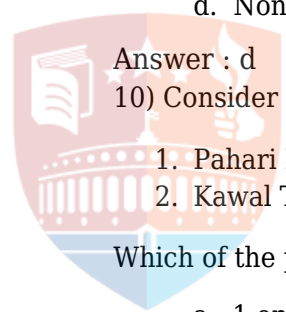
10) Consider the following pairs

- Pahari Dam - Madhya Pradesh
- Kawal Tiger Reserve - Andhra Pradesh

Which of the pair(s) given above is/are correctly matched?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : d



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