



Phase 02 ESI & ARD Objective Answers - 2024

Q.1) (b)

Explanation:

The agrisilviculture system is a type of agroforestry that combines agricultural crops with tree species, often including fruit crops like mango, guava, or citrus. This system is designed to maximize land productivity by simultaneously cultivating food crops and trees that provide additional benefits such as fruits, fodder, and soil enrichment. By integrating fruit-bearing trees, this approach supports economic diversification and enhances food security for farming communities.

Q.2) (b)

Explanation:

Tree species selected for **high forests** need to exhibit **high growth rates** to ensure quick canopy development and economic returns. Additionally, trees should demonstrate **low allelopathy**, meaning they should not release chemicals that inhibit the growth of neighboring plants or crops. High forests are typically managed for timber production, biodiversity conservation, and environmental benefits such as carbon sequestration. Therefore, selecting appropriate species with these qualities ensures sustainable forest establishment and management.

Q.3) (c)

Explanation:

Agroforestry systems play a crucial role in mitigating climate change through carbon sequestration, a process in which carbon dioxide (CO₂) is captured from the atmosphere and stored in biomass (trees, shrubs, and crops) and soil. The deep root systems of trees in agroforestry enhance carbon storage in soil by accumulating organic matter. Additionally, above-ground biomass such as trunks, branches, and leaves act as significant carbon sinks.

Q.4) (b)

Explanation:

Crops of the second cropping season (RABI Season) are sown after the monsoon ends in October-November and grow in cool, dry conditions until March-April. As rainfall is limited during this period, irrigation or the residual moisture from monsoon rains is crucial for their development. These crops typically include wheat, barley, and chickpea, which are suited to such conditions. This distinguishes them from crops dependent on heavy monsoon rains or high temperatures.

Q.5) (c)

Explanation:

Rice is best suited for the season starting with the monsoon as it requires high water levels and warm temperatures. A delayed monsoon can pose challenges such as insufficient water availability for transplanting, affecting yield and potentially forcing farmers to shift to alternative crops.

Q.6) (c)

Explanation:

The third cropping season in India mentioned in the paragraph is Zaid season. It occurs between March and June. It is characterized by crops with short growing periods. These crops often depend on irrigation as this season falls in the summer months when natural rainfall is limited. Crops like melons and cucumbers are typically grown during this time.

Q.7) (c)

Explanation:

In 2022-23, the per capita egg consumption in India was 101 eggs, reflecting the growing importance of eggs as a source of protein in the Indian diet. Egg consumption in India has steadily increased due to its affordability, nutritional value, and versatility in various culinary preparations. This trend is significant in combating protein malnutrition, especially in rural and semi-urban areas, where eggs serve as an accessible source of high-quality animal protein.

Q.8) (c)

Explanation:

Poultry farming contributes a substantial 51.14% of the total meat production in India, making it the largest source of meat in the country. This percentage reflects the rising demand for chicken meat due to its relative affordability and widespread acceptance across various regions and communities. The poultry industry plays a crucial role in India's economy, providing not only meat but also eggs, which are integral to nutritional security. The sector has seen significant growth with advancements in breeding, feed production, and veterinary care, further boosting its contribution to the country's overall meat production.

Q.9) (d)

Explanation:

The 69th meeting of NABARD (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development) in 1993 led to the establishment of the Cooperative Development Fund (CDF) with an initial corpus of ₹10 crores. The fund was created to promote and support the development of cooperative institutions in India, particularly focusing on strengthening their financial capabilities and operational efficiency. The CDF plays a crucial role in revitalizing cooperative banks, which are key to rural financial inclusion, providing easy access to credit for farmers and rural entrepreneurs. This initiative aimed to empower cooperative societies to better serve rural areas with credit facilities and developmental support.

Q.10) (b)

Explanation:

The key factor in the successful adoption of new agricultural practices was the continuous support and follow-up from extension workers. These workers played a critical role in building trust and offering hands-on training and assistance to the farmers. Their regular field visits, workshops, and demonstrations ensured that farmers were not only introduced to modern techniques but were also guided through the process of implementation. This personal engagement helped overcome initial skepticism and resistance, which is often a challenge in agricultural extension programs. Furthermore, the availability of mobile apps to share timely information further supported the adoption process. While financial incentives and government policies can play a role, direct interaction and ongoing support were crucial in this case.

Q.11) (c)

Explanation:

- Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan was launched in 2024 with total outlay of Rs.79,156 crore (Central Share: Rs.56,333 crore and State Share: Rs. 22,823 crore) for improving the socio-economic condition of tribal communities, by adopting saturation coverage for tribal families in tribal-majority villages and aspirational districts.
- The will cover around 63,000 villages benefitting more than 5 crore tribal people as announced in the Budget Speech 2024-25. It will cover 549 districts and 2,740 blocks spread across all tribal majority villages across 30 States / UTs.
- It envisions saturation of critical gaps in social infrastructure, health, education, livelihood, through different schemes of Govt of India by convergence and outreach and ensure holistic and sustainable development of tribal areas and communities based on learnings and success of PMJANMAN (Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan).
- It comprises of 25 interventions which will be implemented by 17-line ministries. Each Ministry/Department would be responsible for implementation of scheme related to it in a time bound manner through funds allocated to them under Development Action Plan for Scheduled Tribes (DAPST) in next 5 years

Q.12) (e)

Explanation:

- The initiatives under the Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan (PMJUGA) that promote livelihood and generate income amongst tribals and forest dwelling communities include
- Tourism
- Improve infrastructure of Ashram schools/hostels/tribal schools/Govt residential schools
- FRA Patta: It focuses more on recognizing and securing forest rights, rather than directly promoting livelihood.

Q.13) (e)

Explanation:

- Scheme Y is PMJANMAN - Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan.
- It was launched in 2023, by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs in India. This initiative aims to improve the socio-economic conditions of particularly vulnerable tribal groups (PVTGs) and includes provisions such as housing, road connectivity, and water supply, among others.
- The program is part of a broader strategy to promote tribal welfare and has been introduced in accordance with the budget speech for 2023-24.

Q.14) (d)

Explanation:

- As per the report, the overall Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) in usual status (ps+ss) for persons of age 15 years and above has increased, overall Worker Population Ratio (WPR) has increased, while the Unemployment Rate (UR) has remained same in Rural and Urban areas.

Q.15) (b)

Explanation:

- According to the Economic Survey 2023-24, Tamil Nadu has the lowest unemployment rate among states with high utilization of MGNREGA funds.
- Tamil Nadu accounted for nearly 15% of all MGNREGS funds utilized, despite having less than 1% of the country's poor population.

Q.16) (d)

Explanation:

Objective of PLFS is primarily twofold:

- To estimate the key employment and unemployment indicators (viz. Worker Population Ratio, Labour Force Participation Rate, Unemployment Rate) in the short time interval of three months for the urban areas only in the 'Current Weekly Status' (CWS).
- To estimate employment and unemployment indicators in both 'Usual Status' (ps+ss) and Current Weekly Status (CWS) in both rural and urban areas annually.

Q.17) (a)

Explanation:

The Scheme X mentioned in the above passage is Uttar Poorva Transformative Industrialization Scheme (UNNATI, 2024) for Industrial Development in North Eastern Region

- Under it, an industrial unit will be considered as an 'Expansion' only if the cost of new P&M required is at least 25% of the total investment in the unit.

Q.18) (c)

Explanation:

- There are 5 formally approved SEZs in the NER, out of which 4 are notified. However, none of the SEZs is operational.

Q.19) (e)

Explanation:

The UTTAR POORVA TRANSFORMATIVE INDUSTRIALIZATION SCHEME, 2024 (UNNATI 2024) includes the following features

- Access to pre-defined process-based incentives
- Streamlined application process
- Guidance and support from experienced professionals
- A dedicated team committed to ensuring your success.

Q.20) (b)

Explanation:

- National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) has been made operational from the year 2014-15 which aims at making agriculture more productive, sustainable, remunerative and climate resilient by promoting location specific integrated /composite farming systems; soil and moisture conservation measures;

comprehensive soil health management; efficient water management practices and mainstreaming rainfed technologies.

Q.21) (b)

Explanation:

As per the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, the tenure of members of Panchayats at all levels is fixed at 5 years. This is stipulated to ensure democratic functioning and timely elections, thereby enabling local self-governance. The provision of regular elections helps maintain the responsiveness of Panchayats to local issues and strengthens grassroots democracy in India.

Q.22) (b)

Explanation:

The Hallikar breed is renowned for its strength and endurance, making it a preferred draught breed used for agricultural labor in harsh conditions, particularly in the southern and central parts of India. Known for its agility and stamina, Hallikar cattle are crucial for tasks such as plowing and transporting goods. Draught breeds like Hallikar are essential for farmers in regions where mechanization is limited.

Q.23) (d)

Explanation:

The farmer is the most pivotal agent in agricultural extension education because the ultimate success of any extension program depends on the farmer's ability and willingness to adopt the innovations and practices promoted by the extension service. Extension services are designed to enhance farmers' productivity, and their involvement in the decision-making process and practical application is essential for the program's success.

Q.24) (c)

Explanation:

According to Economic Survey 2023-24, approximately **45%** of India's workforce is employed in agriculture, making it the largest sector for employment. Despite the rapid urbanization and industrialization, agriculture continues to provide livelihoods for a

significant portion of the population, especially in rural areas. This figure highlights the sector's importance not only in food production but also in providing employment opportunities, particularly for the rural poor.

Q.25) (b)

Explanation:

In India, farmers owning **1 to 2 hectares** of land are classified as **small farmers**. This classification is important for policy formulation, as small farmers often face challenges like limited access to credit, resources, and technology. Recognizing their status helps in designing targeted interventions such as subsidies, crop insurance, and extension services that are tailored to the needs of small-scale agricultural producers.

Q.26) (c)

Explanation:

- Bharatiya Prakritik Krishi Paddhati (BPKP) is a sub-mission under the Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), which falls within the umbrella of the National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA).
- BPKP aims at promoting traditional indigenous practices, which give freedom to farmers from externally purchased inputs. It focuses on on-farm biomass recycling with major stress on biomass mulching; use of cow dung–urine formulations; and exclusion of all synthetic chemical inputs either directly or indirectly.
- The scheme has a total outlay of Rs 4645.69 crore for the period of six years (2019-20 to 2024-25) and implemented on demand driven basis following Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) guidelines.
- Under BPKP, financial assistance of Rs 12200/ha for 3 years is provided for cluster formation, capacity building and continuous handholding by trained personnel, certification and residue analysis with a vision of covering 12 lakh ha in 600 major blocks of 2000 hectare in different states.
- The scheme is compliant to PGS-India certification under PGS India programme.
- Eight states—Andhra Pradesh, Chattisgarh, Kerala, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Tamil Nadu and Jharkhand—have opted for the scheme.

Q.27) (b)

Explanation:

- India's inclusion in the JP Morgan emerging market debt index is expected to increase foreign investments in the bond market.
- However, the government is cautious to avoid the phenomenon of 'hot money,' which refers to short-term, speculative capital flows that can lead to volatility in the currency and bond markets.

Q.28) (e)

Explanation:

- Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) aims to create holistically developed model Gram Panchayats across the country.
- It is a unique scheme of the Ministry of Rural Development wherein, for the first time, the leadership, capacity, commitment and energy of the Members of Parliament are being leveraged directly for development at the Gram Panchayat level.
- **Main objectives of SAGY are:**
 - To substantially improve the standard of living and quality of life of all sections of the population through improved basic amenities, higher productivity, enhanced human development, better livelihood opportunities, reduced disparities, access to rights and entitlements, wider social mobilization and enriched Social Capital.
 - To generate models of local level development and effective local governance, which can motivate and inspire neighbouring Gram Panchayats to learn and adapt.
 - To trigger processes, which lead to holistic development of the identified Gram Panchayats
 - In order to achieve these objectives, SAGY is guided by the following approach:
 - Leveraging the leadership, capacity, commitment and energy of the Members of Parliament (MP) to develop model Gram Panchayats.
 - Engaging with and mobilizing the community for participatory local level development.
 - Converging different government programmes as well as private and voluntary initiatives to achieve comprehensive development in tune with people's aspirations and local potential.
 - Building partnerships with voluntary organizations, cooperatives and academic and research institutions
 - Focusing on outcomes and sustainability

Q.29) (e)

Explanation:

Under the Agri Clinics and Agri Business Centres (ACABC) Scheme, Agri-Clinics provide expert advice and services to farmers on all of the following to enhance productivity and income of the farmers:

- Soil health
- Cropping practices
- Plant protection
- Crop insurance
- Clinical services for animals, feed and fodder management
- Post-harvest technology
- Prices of various crops in the market

Q.30) (c)

Explanation:

Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare has launched Kisan Suvidha App for dissemination of information to farmers on the critical parameters viz., Weather; Market Prices; Plant Protection; Input Dealers (Seed, Pesticide, Fertilizer) Farm Machinery; Soil Health Card; Cold Storages & Godowns, Veterinary Centres and Diagnostic Labs.