Economics & Social Issues

2 Markers

I.1-4) Read the passage and answer the following questions

India has advanced to the 9th position globally in total forest area in the X Report 2025 released by the Food and Agriculture Organization in October 2025, improving from its earlier 10th rank. India has also retained its 3rd position worldwide in annual net gain of forest area, reflecting sustained expansion and restoration efforts. The X Report is FAO's periodic global assessment based on official national data, providing comprehensive insights into forest area, change, management, and utilisation. India has emerged as a global leader in bamboo resources, accounting for 11.8 million hectares out of Asia's 21.2 million hectares. Globally, bamboo area expanded significantly between 1990 and 2025, driven largely by China and India. In rubber plantations, India ranks 5th globally with 831 thousand hectares. Agroforestry is another area of prominence. India, along with Indonesia, accounts for nearly the entire agroforestry area in Asia (39.3 million hectares) and contributes around 70% of the global total. These diversified forestry systems enhance rural incomes while strengthening ecological resilience. Globally, forests acted as a net carbon sink during 2021–2025, removing 3.6 gigatonnes of CO_2 annually. India ranked 5th among global carbon sinks, with forests absorbing approximately 150 million tonnes of CO_2 per year. Asia recorded significant forest carbon removals, supported by reduced deforestation and expansion efforts.

Q.1)
Which of the following is correct regarding the X Report mentioned in the above passage?

1) It is the only worldwide assessment based on official national data.
2) The 2025 edition is its first ever such kind of the assessment report
3) It identifies two broad categories of forest: naturally regenerating and planted

(a) 3 Only
(b) 1 Only
(c) 1 and 2 Only
(d) 2 and 3 Only
(e) 1 and 3 Only

Q.2)
Which of the following statement is incorrect with respect to the X Report mentioned in the above passage?

1) Global forest area stands at approximately 4.14 billion hectares, covering about 32% of the world's land area, or roughly 0.5 hectares per person
2) India accounts for about 72.7 million hectares, nearly 7% of global forest area
3) Regionally, Europe holds the largest share of global forest area (25%), while South America has the highest proportion of forest relative to land area (49%)

(a) 2 and 3 Only
(b) 1, 2 and 3
(c) 2 Only
(d) 1 and 3 Only
(e) 1 and 2 Only

Q.3)
Which of the following is the goal of the Green Credit Programme?

(a) To impose penalties for environmental violations
(b)To incentivise environmental positive actions across diverse through a marketbased mechanism and generate Green Credit
(c) To replace existing environmental laws and regulations
(d) To privatise environmental conservation activities
(e) To restrict participation to only large industries

Q.4)
Which of the following is correct regarding Environment Audit Rules, 2025?
1) Auditor will be selected on the basis of experience and interview
2) Both centre and state will provide tasks to auditors
3) There will be two tired mechanisms for auditors to cross check audit details

(a) 1 and 2 Only
(b)2 and 3 Only
(c) 1 and 3 Only
(d) All of the above
(e) None of the above

I.5-6) Read the passage and answer the following questions

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has issued a comprehensive circular introducing major reforms to the regulatory framework governing India's equity derivatives market. A key highlight of the reform package is the recalibration of the Market Wide Position Limit (MWPL) framework. Historically, MWPL was determined solely on the basis of a stock's free float market capitalisation. While this approach provided a broad benchmark, it did not fully capture actual trading activity or liquidity conditions in the cash market. As a result, certain stocks frequently entered the F&O ban period despite relatively moderate underlying trading volumes, leading to distortions in price discovery and hedging activity. Under the revised framework, SEBI has

introduced a dualbenchmark approach for determining MWPL. This change is intended to align derivatives exposure more closely with actual delivery-based trading in the cash market. By incorporating ADDV into the calculation, the revised formula ensures that position limits are reflective of genuine liquidity and participation levels rather than being driven solely by theoretical free float availability. The reform is expected to achieve multiple objectives. First, it strengthens risk management by preventing excessive build-up of speculative positions that are disproportionate to cash market activity. Second, it reduces the likelihood of frequent and unwarranted F&O bans, thereby enhancing market efficiency and continuity. Third, it promotes better price discovery by ensuring that derivatives positions remain grounded in underlying market fundamentals.

Q.5)
Which of the following is objective of the SEBI revised farmwork of MWPL?
(a) Protect investors
(b)Ensure orderly development of the equity Futures & Options market
(c) Strengthen risk oversight
(d) All of the above
(e) None of the above

Q.6)
Under the revised MWPL framework, which of the following entity-level position limits is correctly matched?

(a) NRIs - 20% of MWPL
(b)Proprietary Traders - 10% of MWPL
(c) Category 1 FPIs / Mutual Funds - 30% of MWPL
(d) Category II FPIs (Individuals/Family offices) - 15% of MWPL
(e) Category I| FPIs (Others) - 5% of MWPL

Q.7)
Under the SEBI framework for Specialized Investment Funds (SIF), evaluate the following statements regarding investment and withdrawal rules:

1) The minimum investment threshold of ₹10 lakh is applicable per investor at the PAN level across all SIF strategies offered by a single AMC
2) If an investor's total holding falls below ₹10 lakh due to market-driven NAV decline (Passive Breach), they are immediately required to exit the fund.
3) In the event of an Active Breach (e.g., partial redemption causing thebalance to drop below ₹10 lakh), the investor is given a 30-calendar-day notice to restore the threshold.
(4) Individual investors who meet the criteria for Accredited Investors are still mandated to maintain the ₹10 lakh minimum investment threshold.

Which of the above statements are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 Only
(b) 1 and 3 Only
(c) 1, 2 and 4 Only
(d) 3 and 4 Only
(e) 2, 3 and 4 Only

I.8-10) Read the passage and answer the following questions

To facilitate the procedure of MSME registration in accordance with the revised MSME definition, Ministry of MSME launched a new portal ...X... on 1st July 2020. This portal is a unified portal with registration process free of cost, paperless and digital. It is aimed at reducing transaction time and costs for entrepreneurs and to promote Ease of Doing Business. Ministry of MSME has also signed MoU with CBDT for data exchange. .....Y.... portal, being setup as per the RBI guideline issued on December 3, 2014. It is an online electronic platform and an institutional mechanism for financing / factoring of trade receivables of MSME Sellers against Corporate Buyers, Govt. Departments and PSUs. The main objective of it is to address the financing needs of MSMEs as well as the delayed payments issue.

Q.8)
Which of the following is X portal mentioned in the above passage?

(a) GeM Portal
(b)Udyam Registration Portal
(c) Startup India Portal
(d) National Single Window System
(e) MSME Samadhaan Portal

Q.9)
Which of the following regulates the portal Y mentioned in the above passage?

(a) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
(b)Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA)
(c) Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)
(d) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)
(e) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

Q.10)
Which of the following is correct about portal Y mentioned in the above passage?

(1) It allows MSMEs to get pre-shipment and post shipment

factoring
(2) Organizations are onboarded to help provide finance to MSMEs
(3) Under this credit facility is being provided by RBI

(a) 1 Only
(b) 1 and 3 Only
(c) All of the above
(d) 2 Only
(e) None of the above

I.11-14) Read the passage and answer the following question

A new nationwide X Scheme has been introduced to accelerate agricultural development in selected regions through a convergence-based model. Instead of creating fresh schemes, the approach focuses on integrating multiple ongoing interventions to deliver comprehensive results at the farm level. This shift marks a move away from fragmented execution of agricultural programs toward coordinated, need-based, district-specific planning. The model draws inspiration from a successful governance framework previously used to uplift underdeveloped districts, demonstrating the value of targeted, performance-driven development. The X Scheme concentrates on enhancing agricultural systems across identified districts that exhibit lower productivity, limited diversification, weak credit penetration, and sub-optimal utilisation of natural resources. Selection aims to ensure balanced representation across states, with at least one district chosen from each. The focus is on enabling a structural transformation of the local rural economy by aligning interventions with the agro-climatic and socio-economic profile of each district rather than applying a uniform template. A strong institutional mechanism lies at the core of the X Scheme. At the district level, a dedicated committee led by the administrative head will prepare a comprehensive plan for agriculture and allied sectors. This plan will be developed through multi-stakeholder engagement, scientific assessment of local conditions, and alignment with national priorities such as diversification, sustainability, resource conservation, and natural farming. The implementation strategy is strengthened through a three-tier governance structure spanning district, state, and national levels, enabling coordinated planning, review, and course correction. By combining scale, institutional convergence, and technology, the X Scheme aims to boost productivity, improve value-addition, diversify income sources, and strengthen rural livelihoods. The focus extends beyond traditional crops to encompass allied sectors, aligning with the broader objective of self-reliance and resilient rural transformation.

Q.11)
Which organization will be reviewing the district plan under the Scheme X, mentioned in the above passage?

(a) NITI Aayog
(b) ICAR
(c) ICMR
(d) DPIIT
(e) APEDA

Q.12)
What is the year wise budgetary allocation of the Scheme X mentioned in the above passage?

(a) Rs. 14000 Crores
(b) Rs.47000 Crores
(c) Rs.18000 Crores
(d) Rs.33000 Crores
(e) Rs.24000 Crores

Q.13)
Progress in each district under the Scheme X mentioned in the above passage will be tracked through how many Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) using a centralized dashboard with monthly reviews?

(a) 117
(b) 210
(c) 156
(d) 140
(e) 135

Q.14)
The Scheme X mentioned in the above passage aims to accelerate development in 100 agricultural districts. Which of the following is/are the criteria/s for identifying these districts under it?

(a) Low productivity
(b)Low cropping intensity
(c) Lower loan payments
(d) A and B
(e) A, B and C

Q.15)
X Scheme is a long-term, government-backed savings-cum-tax-saving instrument in India, designed to provide retirement security with guaranteed returns and high safety. Which of the following statement is correct about X Scheme?

1) Beneficiary can withdraw partially after 10 years of opening of account
2) It is mandatory for beneficiary to deposit Rs.500 every year in the account
3) Under this X scheme, 25% of partial withdrawal is allowed only after completion of 5 years of account opening
(a) Only 3
(b) Only 1
(c) Only 1 and 2
(d) All of the above
(e) None of the above

I.16-18) Read the passage and answer the following question

The X 2025 campaign is a focused, time-bound outreach initiative designed to strengthen the implementation of Y 2.0 scheme by enhancing awareness, improving beneficiary outreach, and accelerating the delivery of housing outcomes. As India advances toward inclusive urban development, the campaign reflects a shift towards last-mile governance,

ensuring that policy benefits effectively reach intended beneficiaries across urban areas.

Structured as a two-month nationwide effort from 4th September 2025 to 31st October 2025, the campaign aims to deepen citizen engagement while addressing operational bottlenecks in Y 2.0 scheme implementation. The campaign focuses on strengthening awareness about Y 2.0 scheme, encouraging eligible beneficiaries to participate, and facilitating faster verification of applications to reduce delays in approvals.

A key objective of the initiative is to expedite the completion of already sanctioned houses, thereby improving delivery efficiency and enhancing the credibility of public housing programmes. Alongside this, the campaign disseminates information regarding complementary financial support mechanisms, including schemes designed to improve access to housing finance for economically weaker sections and low-income groups. This integrated approach ensures that beneficiaries are not only informed but also empowered to access multiple support systems simultaneously.

The campaign also promotes convergence with other flagship initiatives aimed at improving the quality of life of beneficiaries. In particular, it facilitates access to benefits under schemes that support energy access and sustainability, thereby linking housing provision with broader goals of affordability and environmental resilience.

Q.16)
Which of the following is the flagship anchor event of the campaign X mentioned in the above passage?

(a) PM Awas Mela – Shehri
(b) Awas Jan Samvad
(c) Urban Housing Summit
(d) Housing for All Expo
(e) Awas Utsav

Q.17)
Which of the following initiatives were undertaken under the two month long X campaign mentioned in the above passage?

(a) Accelerate the implementation of PMAY-U 2.0 by creating widespread awareness about the scheme across the country
(b)Fast-track verification of applications under the scheme and expedite the completion of already sanctioned houses under PMAY-U
(c) Inform stakeholders about the Credit Risk Guarantee Fund Trust for Low Income Housing (CRGFTLIH) scheme
(d) Provide benefits of the PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana to beneficiaries of PMAY-U
(e) All of the above

Q.18)
The campaign X mentioned in above passage will be covering more than_____ Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) across the country, during its 2 months duration from 4th September 2025 to 31st October 2025. Fill the gaps

(a) 1,000
(b) 3,000
(c) 5,000
(d) 2,000
(e) 4,000

Q.19)
Whom of the following are eligible under the CARA (Central Adoption Resource Authority) rules for legal adoption of children in India?

1) A female single parent aged 45 want to adopt a male or female child aged 4 years
2) Parents having composite age 92 years want to adopt a child aged upto 4 years
3) A single male parent wants to adopt a female child aged 2 years

(a) 1 Only
(b) 1 and 2 Only
(c) 1 and 3 Only
(d) All of the above
(e) None of the above

Q.20)
Which of the following statement with respect to regulatory framework for Specialized Investment Fund introduced by SEBI, effective April 1, 2025 is correct?

(a) A minimum investment of ₹20 lakh is required, except for accredited investors
(b) SIFs can employ derivative strategies, including unhedged short positions up
to 25% of the portfolio.
(c) Fund houses must meet specific criteria, including 3 years of operation with a
minimum average AUM of ₹20,000 crore, or strong, experienced investment
teams
(d) SIFs require a 2-level risk classification, must have distinct branding from the
parent AMC, and closed-ended schemes must be listed on stock exchanges.
(e) Permissible strategies include only equity and debt

1 marks

Q.21)
Which of the following statements are correct regarding PM Suraksha Bima Yojana?

(1) Nisha, a 14 girl is eligible for availing accidental death and disability cover under it
(2) Bhimsen's insurance coverage will be stopped once he attains age of 68
(3) Heeralal who died at age of 54 years is eligible for insurance cover of Rs. 2 Lakh
(4) Mahesh due to accident suffered irrecoverable loss of sight of one eye, is eligible for cover of 1 lakh

(a) 2, 3 and 4 Only
(b) 1, 2 and 3 Only
(c) 1 and 2 Only
(d) 3 and 4 Only
(e) 1 and 3 Only

Q.22)
Which of the following are correct eligibility criteria for opening Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendra (PMKK)

(1) In category A areas, the total area needed to establish PMKK is 8000 sq ft.
(2) Corporate entity X can establish PMKK, as it listed on stock exchange with A- rating
(3) NGO Y is permitted to open PMKK as it is a separate legal entity

(a) 2 and 3 Only
(b) 1 and 3 Only
(c) 1 and 2 Only
(d) None of the above
(e) All of the above

Q.23)
Who can avail the benefit under PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli yojana?

(1) Arun from Nashik has installed a 3 kw solar rooftop system and can avail 60% subsidy on this upto Max Rs. 78000
(2) Soham has applied for for a 2 kw connection under the scheme, but his application was rejected as he already had a 1 kw solar roof top connection
(3) Neha from Pune has applied for the solar rooftop connection under the scheme for her rented house

(a) 1 Only
(b) 1 and 2 Only
(c) 1 and 3 Only
(d) 3 Only
(e) None of the above

Q.24)
Amit is a 45 year old who recently enrolled under National Pension Scheme(NPS), which of the following is true?

(1) He can contribute for 25 more years
(2) He will be eligible for withdrawal after 5 years
(3) He made an investment of 40 lakh and on premature withdrawal will be eligible for a lump sum of 10 lakh
(4) He can change his fund manager 5 times in a year

(a) 3 and 4 Only
(b) 1, 2 and 3 Only
(c) 1 and 2 Only
(d) 2, 3 and 4 Only
(e) All of the above

Q.25)
Which of the following statement is correct regarding SHRESHTA (Scheme for Residential Education for Students in High Schools in Targeted Areas) scheme?

(1) A girl taking admission in 11th class will get a scholarship of two lakhs for school fees and hostel fees
(2) Student passed 7th class will be eligible for scholarship
(3) A student whose parental annual income is less than 2.5 lakh will be eligible

(a) 3 Only
(b) 2 and 3 Only
(c) 1 and 2 Only
(d) All of the above
(e) 3 Only

Q.26)
Who is eligible under the PM Shram Yogi Maan Dhan Yojana?

(1) A is 65 years old, has a monthly income of Rs.18000 would receive Rs.3000 as the pension
(2) B is 32 years old, works in an unorganized sector, and earns Rs.12000 per month
(3) C is a member of NPS but she earns only 10000 per month and is 29 years old

(a) A Only
(b) B Only
(c) A and B Only
(d) A and C Only
(e) All of the above

Q.27)
Which of the following statements are incorrect with respect to Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana (AVYAY)?

(1) A person belonging to BPL and who is above 60 is eligible under this scheme
(2) Under it, government provides up to 40% of the project cost to NGOs for the maintenance of Senior Citizen Homes
(3) It mandates a minimum of 7.5 square meters official area for dormitories in these homes

(a) 1 Only
(b) 1 and 2 Only
(c) 2 and 3 Only
(d) 3 Only
(e) All of the above

Q.28)
Who is eligible to avail benefits under the Standup India Scheme?

(1) Given a case of a tech skilling company who has a good historic record of 5 years, its application is accepted
(2) A partnership firm, where 51% shareholding and controlling stake is held by woman entrepreneur
(3) The applicant is applying for non-greenfield project and owns less that 51% stake in the firm

(a) 3 Only
(b) 2 and 3 Only
(c) All of the above
(d) 2 Only
(e) 1 and 2 Only

Q.29)
Swachh Bharat Mission – Grameen Phase II was launched in 2020 after India was declared Open Defecation Free (ODF) with the objective of achieving Sampoorna Swachha-

ta. The key objective of SBM(G) Phase II is to ensure that all villages sustain their ODF status and progress towards becoming ODF Plus
(Model) Villages. This includes which of the following components?

(1) ODF Sustainability
(2) Solid Waste Management
(3) Visual Cleanliness
(4) Liquid Waste Management

(a) 1, 2 and 4 Only
(b) 1, 3 and 4 Only
(c) 1, 2 and 3 Only
(d) 2, 3 and 4 Only
(e) All of the above

Q.30)
Government's flagship platform PRAGATI system has accelerated the implementation of mega projects and key welfare schemes. So far, 50 meetings of PRAGATI have been held, and under it, over three thousand three hundred projects worth Rs. 85 lakh crore including those which faced problems, were reviewed. What does PRAGATI stand for?

(a) Programme for Rapid Action and Governance Integration
(b) Platform for Review and Acceleration of Government Initiatives
(c) Proactive Review and Governance Implementation Tool
(d) Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation
(e) Programme for Results-Oriented Administrative Governance

Finance and Management

1 Marker:

Q.1)
The T+2 trading cycle prescribed by the Securities and Exchange Board of India applies to which of the following corporate actions?

(a) Rights Issue
(b) Preferential Allotment
(c) Bonus Issue
(d) Buyback of Shares
(e) Qualified Institutional Placement (QIP)

Q.2)
In a public issue of units by an Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT), what is the minimum allocation to Qualified Institutional Buyers (QIBs)?

(a) 50%
(b) 60%
(c) 65%
(d) 75%
(e) 80%

Q.3)
What is the minimum allocation to Retail Individual Investors (RIIs) in a public issue of InvIT units?

(a) 5%
(b) 10%
(c) 15%
(d) 20%
(e) 25%

Q.4)
In an InvIT public issue, what is the maximum portion of the Institutional Investors' allocation that may be allocated to Anchor Investors?

(a) 40%
(b) 50%
(c) 60%
(d) 75%
(e) 100%

Q.5) How does the Reserve Bank of India primarily maintain price stability through its monetary policy framework?

(a) By directly controlling retail prices of essential commodities
(b) By regulating money supply and interest rates to anchor inflation expectations
(c) By increasing government expenditure during inflationary periods
(d) By fixing the exchange rate of the Indian Rupee
(e) By imposing quantitative restrictions on imports

2 Marker