



## DAILY PT MCQs-CRACK PRELIMS 2020 TEST-XIII (CURRENT AFFAIRS-II)

1. Which of the following is/are the reason/s of falling of Rupee in the current situation?

1. Higher domestic inflation in emerging economies when compared to the West.
2. Rise in current account deficit.
3. Volatility in Turkey's currency, Lira.

Correct code is

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

2. Consider the following statements about GST Network, framed to provide IT infrastructure and services to the Central and State Governments, taxpayers and other stakeholders for implementation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST).

1. Government holds only less than 50% of equity of GST Networks.
2. Government has decided to change the composition of Boards of GSTN, which will increase government's control.

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

- a) 1 Only                      b) 2 Only  
c) Both                        d) None

3. What does 'Endogenic Growth Model' mean in Economy?

- a) It is an economic model, which is totally demand-supply driven.
- b) An economic model, which keeps environment at the center.
- c) A model where more importance is given on internal factors like innovation and human resource instead of demand and supply.
- d) An economic model where economic equality is the first priority.

4. Consider the following statements about Multidimensional Poverty Index, released recently.

1. It is released by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) .
2. A person is identified as multidimensionally poor (or 'MPI poor') if deprived in at least one third of the dimensions.
3. More than 80% of multidimensionally poor people (more than 1.1 billion people) live in either Sub-Saharan Africa or South Asia.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

5. Recently, Union Cabinet approved the National Digital Communications Policy-2018 (NDCP- 2018) and re-designated Telecom Commission as the “Digital Communications Commission”. Consider the following statements related to this.

1. It has three pillar namely, Connect India, Propel India and Uplift India.
2. Policy plans to secure India by enhancing Public Protection and Disaster Relief (PPDR) plan by use of INSAT satellite and pan-India PPDR network.
3. Policy plans to enhance implementation of Rashtriya Broadband Abhiyan through BharatNet, NagarNet and Jan WiFi.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

6. Which of the following will not be the benefit of AAPOORTI App launched recently by Indian Railway?

- a) Increasing Green Environment in Indian Railway infrastructure.
- b) Digitalization of Indian railway.
- c) Ease of business, transparency and efficiency in Indian Railway.
- d) Bringing new investment in Indian Railway.

7. Consider the following about cities often seen in news:

- |          |             |
|----------|-------------|
| 1. Male  | 2. Ashgabat |
| 3. Erbil | 4. Manila   |
| 5. Lhasa | 6. Beijing  |

In which of the following code, are these cities arranged in chronological order while moving from west to east?

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

8. ‘Swachhata Hi Seva’ movement has been launched recently across the country . Consider the following statements related to this.

1. The campaign is being coordinated by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the convening Ministry for the Swachh Bharat Mission.
2. Campaign’s objective is to create ‘Jan Andolan’ and mobilise people for Sramdan
3. Public health and Sanitation is in Union list under 7<sup>th</sup> Schedule of Indian Constitution.

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

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

9. The 28<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Southern Zonal Council was recently held. Consider the following statements related to Zonal Council.

1. It is a statutory body created under the States Reorganization Act 1956.
2. The Chief Ministers of the States included in each zone act as Vice-Chairman of the Zonal (Council for that zone by rotation, each holding office for a period of one year at a time.
3. They are only deliberative and advisory bodies, whose decisions are not binding.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

10. Which of the following is incorrect regarding Defense Acquisition Council (DAC)?

- Recently DAC has approved procurement of Akash Missile systems and Individual Under water Breathing Apparatus (IUWBA).
- Defense Minister heads the Defense Acquisition Council.
- The DAC is responsible to give policy guidelines to acquisitions, based on long-term procurement plans.
- DAC has recently recommended to restructuring of Indian Armed Force and newer technology Armed Force need.

11. Consider the following statements about 'Atal Bimit Vyakti Kalyan Yojna' launched recently.

- It aims to financially support those who lost their jobs or rendered jobless for whatsoever reasons due to changing employment pattern.
- Under this scheme financial assistance will be given to insured persons even while they search for new engagement.
- Beneficiaries under this scheme will be insured persons covered under Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948 for period of two years continuously.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- 1 and 2
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

12. Central Information Commission (CIC) has asked the Lok Sabha Speaker and the Rajya Sabha Chairman to come out with a legal framework to ensure transparency

in MP Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS). Consider the following statements related to MPLADS.

- Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation looks after MPLADS.
- The Lok Sabha Members can recommend works in their respective constituencies. The elected members of the Rajya Sabha can recommend works anywhere in the state from which they are elected.
- Nominated members of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha may select works for implementation anywhere in the country.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- 1 and 2
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

13. Which of the following will be the benefit of COMCASA for India and USA?

- It will give access, to both countries, to designated military facilities on either side for the purpose of refueling and replenishment.
- This agreement would facilitate exchange of geospatial information between India and United States for both military and civilian use.
- It allows sharing of classified information from U.S government and its companies with Indian government and defense PSU's.
- The COMCASA provides the legal framework for the US to part with its sensitive communication equipment and codes to enable transfer of realtime operational information.

14. The Centre has approved financial assistance to projects being implemented under the umbrella scheme of Border

**Infrastructure and Management (BIM).** Consider the following statements relating to above measures.

1. BIM scheme is being implemented in states having the international borders with Pakistan, China, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar and Bangladesh.
2. India has longest border with China and Bangladesh shares border with most number of states viz-a-viz other neighboring countries of India.
3. BIM schemes include construction of roads, schools, primary health centres, promotion of rural tourism, border tourism, promotion of sports activities, cleanliness mission etc.

Which of the above statement/s is/are correct?

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

**15. Consider the following statements about Asia-Pacific Group (APG) on Money Laundering, often seen in news**

1. It is a regional body within financial Action Task force to curtail money laundering in Asia-Pacific.
2. Members have to allow mutual evaluation (Peer Review) to determine the level of compliance of the member with the international standards against money laundering and terrorist financing.
3. APG on Money laundering does not deal with the cases involving terror financing.

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

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

**16. Consider the following statements related to Uniform Civil Code (UCC) and issues related to it.**

1. Indian constitution originally had no mention of the word Uniform civil code.
2. Recently Law Commission has given report under which the Law Commission feels that a Uniform Civil Code (UCC) is "neither necessary nor desirable at this stage"

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

- a) 1 only            b) 2 Only  
c) Both            d) None

**17. Consider the following statements related to Krishna Kutir, inaugurated recently at Mathura.**

1. It is a special home built by Central government in collaboration with Ministry of Social Justice to provide shelter to Hindu, Jain, Sikh and Buddhist saints and monks.
2. This project is inspired by SwadherGriha scheme launched by Ministry of Schedule caste to for rehabilitation of schedule caste people caught in difficult circumstances.

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

- a) 1 only            b) 2 Only  
c) Both            d) None

**18. Consider the following statements relating to Ethics Committee of Lok Sabha.**

1. It is an adhoc committee.
2. It cannot take upsuomotu investigation into matters relating to ethics.

3. The Ethics Committee examines every complaint relating to unethical conduct of a member, even if unethical conduct is performed outside the parliament.

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

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

19. Consider the following statements related to Animal Welfare board of India.

1. The Animal Welfare Board of India is a statutory advisory body Established in 1962 under Section 4 of *The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960*.
2. The Board was initially within the jurisdiction of the Government of India's Ministry of Food and Agriculture later transferred to the Ministry of Environment and Forests.
3. The Board oversees Animal Welfare Organizations (AWOs) by granting recognition to them if they meet its guidelines.

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

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

20. The Supreme Court has struck down the constitutional validity of section 377 of the IPC, thus decriminalizing consensual gay sex. Which of the following Articles under Fundamental Rights were considered by SC for it's verdict?

1. Article 14, Right to Equality
2. Article 19 Freedom of speech and expression.
3. Article 21 Right to Life and Right to Privacy

4. Article 15, prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste sex or place of birth.

5. Article 32, Right to Constitutional Remedies.

Which of the above are correct?

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

21. Which of the following convey the meaning of 'Call for Code' initiative launched by Global IT giant IBM in partnership with Indian IT companies?

- a) It is an initiative to select best coder from India under the age of 20years and train them.
- b) It aims to bring startups and academics together to develop technological solution to climate change.
- c) Its objective is to develop a mechanism to solve the problem of e-waste and its disposal.
- d) Its aim is to build global solutions for disaster management by bringing startup, academic and enterprise developers together to respond to and recover from natural disasters.

22. Which of the following ministry has recently launched a web portal called 'PENCIL'?

- a) Labor Ministry
- b) Ministry of Human Resource and Development
- c) Ministry of Tribal Affairs
- d) Ministry of Women and Child Development.

23. Consider the following statements about Kanyashree scheme often seen in news.

1. Kanyashree is a conditional cash transfer scheme aiming at improving the status and well being of the girl child by incentivizing schooling of teenage girls and delaying their marriages until the age of 18.
2. The scheme received UN Public Service Award for this innovative idea and excellent performance.
3. UN Public Service award highlights the role of public services in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

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

24. China has recently launched Xingkong-2, which of the following describe uniqueness of Xingkong-2?

- a) It is hypersonic aircraft that can carry nuclear warloads.  
b) It is a first moon mission to be landed on far side of moon.

- c) It is first crew escape system from spacecraft, developed by an Asian country.  
d) None of the above.

25. Recently, India has become home to *the world's first-ever thermal battery plant*. Consider the following statements related to this.

1. Lithium-ion battery works on electrical energy whereas thermal batteries operate on thermal energy that is energy created by temperature differences.
2. Thermal batteries will help boost signal strength and network connectivity thus Internet and smartphone penetration.
3. Unlike solar power, thermal batteries will not have constrain to work only during daytime i.e. sunrise.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

## ANSWER

1. **Ans-C**

Explanation: Reasons of falling rupee

- **Increasing demand for the dollar across the globe:** Investors who earlier put their money in emerging markets have recently preferred American assets, which now yield higher returns.
- Higher domestic inflation in emerging economies when compared to the West:
- **Trade war** between China and America, leading to import restrictions with high tariffs is causing dollar to appreciate.

- **Oil prices:** Iran sanctions have been driving oil prices higher despite OPEC move to raise output.
- **More imports than exports:** India's import bill has been significantly rising without increase in net exports. India's current account deficit is rising and is expected to go up to 2.5-3% of the gross domestic product (GDP) in the current financial year.
- Volatility of foreign currency like Chinese Yun or Turkey's Lira- which in turn increase the demand of dollar thus leading to weakening of rupee.

2. **Ans- C**

**Explanation:**The Union Cabinet has approved increasing of Government ownership in Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN).

- It has decided that the Centre and the State Governments will acquire the entire 51% equity held by the Non-Government Institutions in GSTN equally.
- Hence the restructure GSTN will have 100%( government ownership equally distributed between the Centre (50%) and the States (50%).
- There will also be a change in the existing composition of the Board of GSTN and increase government member to have greater control.
- The decision was taken as the government felt that a vast amount of GST related data should be completely under its supervision, as it contains sensitive information of over 1 crore taxpayers.

3. **Ans- C**

**Explanation:**

- **Endogenous growth theory** holds that economic growth is primarily the result of endogenous and not external forces.
- Endogenous growth theory holds that investment in human capital, innovation, and knowledge are significant contributors to economic growth.
- The theory also focuses on positive externalities and spillover effects of a knowledge-based economy which will lead to economic development.
- The endogenous growth theory primarily holds that the long run growth rate of an economy depends on policy measures.

- For example, subsidies for research and development or education increase the growth rate in some endogenous growth models by increasing the incentive for innovation.

4. **Ans- D**

**Explanation:** The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) have released the 2018 Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI).  
Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI):

- The MPI provides the most comprehensive view of the various ways in which 1.3 billion people worldwide experience poverty in their daily life.
- The MPI looks at the multifaceted nature of poverty. It identifies people’s deprivations across three key dimensions – health, education and living standards, lacking amenities such clean water, sanitation, adequate nutrition or primary education.
- India has made giant strides in reducing multidimensional poverty, bringing down its poverty rate from 55% to 28% in ten years.

5. **Ans- B**

**Explanation:**Strategies for Three Missions

1. **Connect India:**Establishing a ‘National Broadband Mission
2. **Propel India:**Catalysing Investments for Digital Communications sector by according Telecom Infrastructure the status of Critical and Essential Infrastructure, reforming the licensing and regulatory regime to catalyse Investments and Innovation.

3. **Secure India:** Establishing a strong, flexible and robust Data Protection Regime, assuring Security of Digital Communications

6. **Ans- A**

**Explanation:** Ministry of Railways & Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS) organised a seminar on “Leveraging IT for Mobility”.

Minister also launched a new app – “AAPOORTI’ mobile App of ‘Indian Railways e-procurement system’.

7. **Ans- A**

8. **Ans- A**

**About the campaign:**

- The campaign is being coordinated by the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, the convening Ministry for the Swachh Bharat Mission.
- The objective of the campaign is to mobilise people and reinforce the “Jan Aandolan” for sanitation to contribute to Mahatma Gandhi’s dream of a Clean India.
- Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation has made elaborate plans along with the State Governments to involve people from various walks of life and make this an unprecedented Reaching out to the poor and marginalised and providing them with sustainable sanitation services would be the hallmark of this campaign.
- Sanitation is in State list

9. **Ans- C**

**Explanation:** Composition:

- Chairman – The Union Home Minister is the Chairman of each of these Councils.
- Vice Chairman – The Chief Ministers of the

States included in each zone act as Vice-Chairman of the Zonal ( Council for that zone by rotation, each holding office for a period of one year at a time.

- Members- Chief Minister and two other Ministers as nominated by the Governor from each of the States and ( two members from Union Territories included in the zone.
- Advisers- One person nominated by the Planning Commission (which has been replaced by NITI Ayog now) for ( each of the Zonal Councils, Chief Secretaries and another officer/Development Commissioner nominated by ( each of the States included in the Zone.
- Union Ministers are also invited to participate in the meetings of Zonal Councils depending upon necessity

10. **Ans- D**

11. **Ans- D**

**Explanation:**

- The Employee’s State Insurance (ESI) has approved a scheme named ‘Atal BimitVyakti Kalyan Yojna’ ( for Insured Persons (IP) covered under the Employees’ State Insurance Act, 1948.
- Atal BimitVyakti Kalyan Yojna:
- It aims to financially support those who lost their jobs or rendered jobless for whatsoever reasons due to changing employment pattern.

12. **Ans- D**

**Explanation:**

- Noting that ‘12,000 crore of the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) funds remains unspent, the Central Information Commission (CIC)



has asked the Lok Sabha Speaker and the Rajya Sabha Chairman to come out with a legal framework to ensure its transparency and hold parliamentarians and political parties accountable for their obligations under the scheme.

- Funds are released in the form of grants in-aid directly to the district authorities. The funds released under the scheme are non-lapsable. The liability of funds not released in a particular year is carried forward to the subsequent years, subject to eligibility. (
- The Lok Sabha Members can recommend works in their respective constituencies. The elected members of the Rajya Sabha can recommend works anywhere in the state from which they are elected. Nominated members of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha may select works for implementation anywhere in the country.

**13. Ans- D**

**Explanation:**

India and the U.S. on September 6 signed the foundational or enabling agreement COMCASA on the side-lines of the inaugural 2+2 dialogue. COMCASA stands for Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement and is one of the four foundational agreements that the U.S. signs with allies and close partners to facilitate interoperability between militaries and sale of high end technology. COMCASA is an India-specific version of the Communication and Information on Security Memorandum of Agreement (CISMOA). It comes into force immediately, and is valid for a period 10 year. COMCASA allows India to procure transfer specialised

equipment for encrypted communications for US origin military platforms like the C-17, C130 and P-8Is. Currently, these platforms use commercially available communication systems.

**14. Ans- A**

**Explanation:**The Centre has approved 1 8,606 crore for 60 projects being implemented under the umbrella scheme of Border Infrastructure and Management (BIM) to meet special development needs of people living in those areas.

India shares borders with Pakistan (3,323 km), China (3,488 km), Nepal (1,751 km), Bhutan (699 km), Myanmar (1,643 km) and Bangladesh (4,096 km).

**15. Ans- B**

**Explanation:** About APG:

- It is the FATF-style regional body for the Asia-Pacific region. (
- It is an inter-governmental organisation founded in 1997 in Bangkok, Thailand. (
- Under the APG’s Terms of Reference (updated 2012) membership is available for jurisdictions with a presence in the Asia-Pacific region who commit to the policy objectives of the organisation including undergoing a mutual evaluation (peer review) to determine the level of compliance of the member with the international standards against money laundering and terrorist financing.

**16. Ans- B**

**Explanation:**Article 44 of the Constitution says that there should be a Uniform Civil Code. According to this article, “The State shall endeavor to secure for the citizens a

uniform civil code throughout the territory of India". Since the Directive Principles are only guidelines, it is not mandatory to use them.

**17. Ans- D**

**Explanation:** About SwadharGreh Scheme:

- The Swadhar scheme was launched by the Union Ministry of Women and Child Development in 2002 for rehabilitation of women in difficult circumstances. (

Krishna Kutir:

- Krishna Kutir is a special home for 1000 widows set under SwadharGreh scheme and is the largest ever facility of its kind created by government organization.
- It was constructed to mitigate the plight of widows living in pathetic condition in Vrindavan

**18. Ans- B**

**Explanation:** The Ethics Committee of the Lok Sabha was constituted on 16 May 2000 as an adhoc committee. However, in August 2015 it was given permanent Standing Committee status.

- The Ethics Committee examines every complaint relating to unethical conduct of a member referred to it relating to cases within the house.

**19. Ans- D**

**Explanation:** The **Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI)**, headquartered at Ballabgarh in Haryana state, is a statutory advisory body advising the Government of India's Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. The Board was initially within the jurisdiction of the Government of India's

Ministry of Food and Agriculture. In 1990, the subject of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was transferred to the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate change, where it now resides

Some of the functions of the Board include:

- Recognition of Animal Welfare Organisations
- **Financial assistance**
- The Board suggests changes to laws and rules about animal welfare issues.
- The Board issues publications to raise awareness of various animal welfare issues

**20. Ans- C**

**Explanation:** The judgment related to section 377 of the IPC is based on the interpretation of ( Article 14 (Right to Equality); Article 15 (prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth); Article 19 (Freedom of Speech and Expression); and Article 21 (Right to Life and Right to Privacy) of the Indian Constitution. (

**21. Ans- D**

**Explanation:**

- It is an initiative launched by Global IT giant IBM in partnership with Indian IT companies.
- The aim is to build global solutions for disaster management. It also aims to bring startup, academic and enterprise developers together to respond to and recover from natural disasters.

**22. Ans- A**

**Explanation:**

- The Labour Ministry has launched a web portal called 'PENCIL' for effective

implementation of the National Child Labour Project, (NCLP).

- PENCIL (Platform for Effective Enforcement for No Child Labour) — an electronic platform for no child labour in the country has been developed by the Labour Ministry.

23. Ans- D

**Explanation:** Kanyashree is a conditional cash transfer scheme aiming at improving the status and well being of the girl child by incentivising schooling of teenage girls and delaying their marriages until the age of 18. It received the United Nations Public Service Award last year.

24. Ans- A

**Explanation:** China recently announced that it has successfully tested its first cutting-edge hypersonic (more than five times the speed of sound) aircraft which could carry nuclear warheads and penetrate any current generation anti-missile defence systems.

25. Ans- D

**Explanation:** The world's first-ever facility

to create thermal batteries inaugurated in Andhra Pradesh. that will see thermal batteries being manufactured by Bharat Energy Storage Technology Private Limited (BEST).

These batteries are based on alternative sources of energy production, and their presence is expected to reduce the dependence on fossil fuels. Through thermal batteries, BEST will look to store energy that can power telecommunications, commercial enterprises, electric vehicles as well as charging systems. Not only will it help create renewable energy, but these batteries are also expected to help provide energy to remote areas.

As per the plans known, BEST aims to commercially open up the plant by May 2019, where it could provide an initial capacity of 1000MW. In its first phase, it will produce batteries for telecom, mini/microgrids, and electric buses, that are expected to run for up to 800kms on a single charge.



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