

1. How does the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) define “unemployment”?

- A. Situation in which people without work but actively seeking employment.
- B. Situation in which people without work but given up seeking employment.
- C. Situation in which people are employed at less than full-time or regular jobs.
- D. Situation in which people earn less than minimum wage level.

Answer: **A**

Explanation:

- NSSO defines unemployment as a situation in which all those who, owing to lack of work, are not working but either seek work through employment exchanges, intermediaries, friends or relatives or by making applications to prospective employers or express their willingness or availability for work under the prevailing conditions of work and remuneration.

<https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/joblessness-and-opportunity-in-tamil-nadu/article32024995.ece>

2. With reference to the International Court of Justice (ICJ), consider the following statements.

- 1. It is the principal judicial organ of the UN.
- 2. The Court is composed of 15 judges, who are elected for terms of office of nine years.
- 3. All members of the UN are automatic parties to the statute.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: **D**

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations.
- It was established in June 1945 by the Charter of the United Nations.
- The Court’s role is to settle, in accordance with international law, legal disputes submitted to it by States and to give advisory opinions on legal questions referred to it by authorized United Nations organs and specialized agencies.
- Unlike most other organs of international organizations, the Court is **not composed of representatives** of governments. Members of the Court are **independent judges**.

- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Court is composed of 15 judges, who are elected for terms of office of nine years by the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** All members of the UN are **automatic** parties to the statute of the court, but this does not automatically give the ICJ jurisdiction over disputes involving them. The ICJ gets jurisdiction **only on the basis of consent of both parties**.

Difference between ICC and ICJ

No.	International Criminal Court (ICC)	International Court of Justice (ICJ)
1	Independent judicial body distinct from the UN	Principal judicial organ of the UN
2	Handles prosecutions of individuals	Hears disputes between sovereign states
3	Established by the Rome Statute in 2002	Established in 1945 by the San Francisco Conference, which also created the UN
4	Only those who ratified the Rome Statute are parties to ICC	All members of the UN are parties to the statute of the ICJ, and non-members may also become parties
5	The judges are elected by the Assembly of States Parties, the court's governing body.	The judges are elected by the UN General Assembly and the Security Council
6	Headquarters of both the courts are situated at The Hague, Netherlands.	

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/jadhav-refused-to-file-review-petition-against-his-death-sentence-claims-pakistan/article32020510.ece>

3. Consider the following statements about the “core inflation”.

1. It measures the price movements of eight core industries which comprise 40.27 per cent of the Index of Industrial Production (IIP).
2. The flexible inflation targeting (FIT) framework of the RBI targets to contain CPI core inflation within 4 percent with a band of (+/-) 2 percent.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: **D**

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Core inflation is a measure of inflation obtained by excluding commodities of high price volatility such as food items, energy products etc.
- If temporary price shocks are taken into account, they may affect the estimated overall inflation numbers in such a way that they are different from actual inflation. To eliminate this possibility, core inflation is calculated to gauge the actual inflation apart from temporary shocks and volatility.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Under the flexible inflation targeting (FIT) framework, RBI aims to contain **headline CPI (Combined)** within 4 percent with a band of (+/-) 2 percent.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/indicators/india-inflation-likely-slowed-in-june-as-output-returns/articleshow/76867710.cms>

4. In which one of the following States is Dehing Patkai Elephant Reserve located?

- A. Meghalaya
- B. Arunachal Pradesh
- C. Sikkim
- D. Assam

Answer: **D**

Explanation:

About Dehing Patkai Elephant Reserve

- It is a part of Dehing Patkai Wildlife Sanctuary located in **Assam**.
- Dehing is the name of the river that flows through the reserve and Patkai is the hill at the foot of which the sanctuary lies.
- The Reserve consists of wet tropical evergreen Assam valley forests. It is often referred to as "**The Amazon of the east**" owing to its large area and thick forests.
- The Dehing Patkai Forest is one of the most important forests of Assam in terms of orchid diversity. So far, 101 species of orchids within 45 genera have been recorded there.



<https://indianexpress.com/article/north-east-india/assam/assam-govt-to-upgrade-dehing-patkai-wildlife-sanctuary-to-national-park-6493214/>

5. Consider the following statements about the State Development Loans (SDLs).

1. SDLs are market borrowings of state governments, issued by the RBI on their behalf.
2. Foreign Portfolio Investment is allowed in SDLs.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** State Development Loans (SDLs) are market borrowings by state governments. RBI issues these securities on their behalf, through auctions.
- Purpose of issuing State Development Loans is to meet the budgetary needs of state governments.
- Each state is allowed to issue securities up to a certain limit each year.
- SDLs are eligible securities for Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) and Liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) purposes, and are bought by banks, insurance companies, mutual funds, provident funds and other institutional investors.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The limits for FPI investment in Government securities (G-secs) and State Development Loans (SDLs) are 6% and 2%, respectively, of outstanding stocks of securities.

<https://www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/state-borrowings-set-to-rise-53-in-first-half-care-ratins/article32024991.ece>

