

# OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

29/8

1. "Senkaku Islands dispute" sometimes mentioned in the news in the context of the affairs of?

- A. Philippines and China
- B. Indonesia and Papua new guinea
- C. China and Japan
- D. Malaysia and Singapore

Answer: C

**Explanation:**

- The Diaoyu archipelago (known as the Senkakus in Japanese) is an uninhabited chain of islands in the **East China Sea** claimed by **China and Japan**.
- In recent years, the increased presence of Japanese and Chinese vessels in nearby waters has heightened concerns about possible clashes between the two countries.
- The archipelago has been controlled by **Japan** since 1895.
- It is also claimed by Taiwan as its territory.



<https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/analysis-shinzo-abe-the-prime-minister-who-raised-japans-profile-deepened-ties-with-india/article32467220.ece>

2. With reference to the Extra Budgetary Resources (EBR), consider the following statements.

1. EBRs are those financial liabilities that are raised by public sector undertakings for which repayment of the entire principal and interest is done from the Central Government Budget.
2. EBRs are not taken into account while calculating the Fiscal Deficit.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only

# OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

## IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

### Explanation:

- Apart from budgetary spending, Extra Budgetary Resources (EBR) have also been mobilized to finance infrastructure investment since 2016-17.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** EBRs are those financial liabilities that are raised by public sector undertakings for which repayment of the entire principal and interest is done from the Central Government Budget.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** These EBRs are not taken into account while calculating the Fiscal Deficit.
- However, they are considered in the calculations of Government Debt.

<https://indianexpress.com/article/india/to-raise-funds-govt-moots-divestment-in-kolkata-metro/>

### 3. Consider the statements about Atal Bhujal Yojana

1. It is a pan India initiative of the Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation.
2. The chief objective of the Mission is to provide Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) to every rural household by 2024.

### 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:

- **Both statements are incorrect:**
- Atal Bhujal Yojana (or, Atal Jal) has been designed with the principal objective of strengthening the institutional framework for **participatory groundwater management and bringing about behavioral changes** at the community level for sustainable groundwater resource management in **seven States**, viz. Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. (not a pan India initiative).
- The scheme envisages undertaking various interventions, including awareness programmes, capacity building, convergence of ongoing/new schemes and improved agricultural practices etc.

## OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

### IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

- It is implemented by the Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation under the Ministry of Jal Shakti.
- **Jal Jeevan Mission** has the chief objective of providing Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) to every rural household by 2024.

<https://government.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/digital-india/atal-bhujal-joyana-bets-on-ai-and-space-tech-to-improve-groundwater-management/74252215>

#### 4. Consider the following statements about Priority Sector Lending (PSL) norms

1. Foreign Banks are exempted from PSL norms.
2. Payment Banks are outside the ambit of PSL obligations.

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: **B**

#### Explanation:

- Priority Sector means those sectors which the Government of India and Reserve Bank of India consider as important for the development of the basic needs of the country and are to be given priority over other sectors. The banks are mandated to encourage the growth of such sectors with adequate and timely credit.
- Priority Sector includes the following categories:
  - (i) Agriculture
  - (ii) Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
  - (iii) Export Credit
  - (iv) Education
  - (v) Housing
  - (vi) Social Infrastructure
  - (vii) Renewable Energy
  - (viii) Others
- **Targets Under the Priority Sector Lending**
  - Domestic scheduled commercial banks (excluding Regional Rural Banks and Small Finance Banks) and **Foreign banks** with 20 branches and above: 40 per cent of **Adjusted Net Bank Credit or Credit Equivalent Amount of Off-Balance Sheet Exposure**, whichever is higher. **Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.**

## OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

### IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

- Regional Rural Banks & Small finance banks: 75 per cent of Adjusted Net Bank Credit or Credit Equivalent Amount of Off-Balance Sheet Exposure, whichever is higher.
- Foreign banks with less than 20 branches: 40 per cent of Adjusted Net Bank Credit or Credit Equivalent Amount of Off-Balance Sheet Exposure, whichever is higher, to be achieved in a phased manner by 2020.
- Sub-targets are specified for certain sectors like 18% to agriculture with 8% to small and marginal farmers, 7.5% to micro units etc.
- **Adjusted Net Bank Credit** is the net bank credit plus investments made by banks in non-SLR bonds held in the held-to-maturity category.
- Payment banks are the new age banks with limited facilities. It exists in between the mobile wallet and regular banks.
- Payment banks cannot lend or offer credit advance to customers like traditional banks.  
**Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- A payment bank provides the following services to its customers.
  - Accept demand deposits (currently restricted upto Rs.1 lakh)
  - Remittance services
  - Mobile payments
  - Fund transfers
  - **Debit card** and associated services (Payment banks are not allowed to provide credit card facilities)
  - Net Banking services
  - Sell third-party financial products like insurance and mutual funds
  - **They can't offer loans**

<https://bfsi.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/policy/priority-sector-lending-rules-revised-start-ups-get-psl-status/77389937>

### 5. 'Sadhujana Paripalana Sangham' was founded by

- A. Sree Narayana Guru
- B. Ayyankali
- C. K. Kelappan
- D. Accamma Cherian

Answer: B

### Explanation:

- Born on August 28th, 1863 in a small village in the princely state of Travancore, now within Kerala, Ayyankali efforts influenced many changes that improved social wellbeing of Dalits.
- Ayyankali was the first of eight children born to Ayyan and Mala, who were members of the Pulayar community of untouchable people. Growing up illiterate and seeing that many Pulayars had been efficaciously rural slaves, Ayyankali resolved to do what he should to get rid of the boundaries of the caste system.

## OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

### IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

- Ayyankali was 30 years old when he challenged the caste practices and rode a 'villuvandi' (ox-cart) challenging the 'ban' on untouchables from accessing public roads by caste-Hindus. It created the new phenomenon of self-respect and major historical achievement in the social reformation and Dalit history in Kerala.
- Ayyankali also led a rally to assert the rights of 'untouchables' at Balaramapuram. An 'upper caste' mob attacked them and a fight broke out. The walk Ayyankali took came to be known as '**walk for freedom**' and the consequent riots as '**Chaliyar riots**'.
- He prompted the Travancore government to issue an order mandating the admission of Dalit children in public schools in 1907.
- Mahatma Gandhi called Ayyankali as '**Pulaya king**'. Indira Gandhi described him as '**India's greatest son**'.
- A **contemporary of social reformer Sri Narayana Guru**, Ayyankali drew a lot of inspiration from the great man, though their philosophies and the means of turning it into reality varied in different levels.
- He also went on to found **Sadhu Jana Paripalana Sangham** (Association for the Protection of the Poor), which aimed at uniting members from suppressed communities and campaigned for access to schools along with raising funds to set up Pulayar-operated schools.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1649195>

