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1. Which among the following statements is *incorrect* with respect to Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY), a component under the Ayushman Bharat?

- a) PM-JAY is the world's largest health insurance/ assurance scheme fully financed by the government and cost of implementation is shared between the Central and State Governments
- b) It provides a cover of Rs. 5 lakhs per family per year for primary, secondary and tertiary healthcare care needs across public and private empanelled hospitals in India
- c) The households included are based on the deprivation and occupational criteria of Socio-Economic Caste Census 2011 for rural and urban areas respectively
- d) Benefits of the scheme are portable across the country i.e. a beneficiary can visit any empanelled public or private hospital in India to avail cashless treatment

Answer : B

Explanation

Ayushman Bharat

- Ayushman Bharat, a **flagship scheme of Government of India**, was launched as recommended by the **National Health Policy 2017**, to achieve the **vision of Universal Health Coverage (UHC)**
- This scheme aims to undertake path breaking interventions to **holistically address the healthcare system (covering prevention, promotion and ambulatory care)** at the primary, secondary and tertiary level.
- Ayushman Bharat adopts a continuum of care approach, comprising of two inter-related components, which are

Ø Health and Wellness Centres (HWCs)

Ø Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY)

Health and Wellness Centers (HWCs)

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- In February 2018, the Government of India announced the **creation of 1,50,000 Health and Wellness Centres (HWCs)** by transforming the existing Sub Centres and Primary Health Centres
- Health and Wellness Centers are **envisaged to deliver an expanded range of services** to address the **primary health care needs** of the entire population in their area, expanding access, universality and equity close to the community.

Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY)

- The **second component under Ayushman Bharat** is the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojna or PM-JAY as it is popularly known
- **Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY** is the **largest health assurance scheme in the world** which aims at providing a health cover of **Rs. 5 lakhs per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization (not for primary health care needs)** to over 10.74 crores poor and vulnerable families (approximately 50 crore beneficiaries) that form the bottom 40% of the Indian population.
- The households included are **based on the deprivation and occupational criteria of Socio-Economic Caste Census 2011 (SECC2011) for rural and urban areas respectively.**
- PM-JAY was earlier known as the **National Health Protection Scheme (NHPS)** before being rechristened.
- It subsumed the then existing Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) which had been launched in 2008. The coverage mentioned under PM-JAY, therefore also **includes families that were covered in RSBY** but are not present in the SECC 2011 database.
- PM-JAY is **fully funded by the Government** and cost of implementation is shared between the Central and State Governments

Key Features of PM-JAY

- PM-JAY is the **world's largest health insurance/ assurance scheme** fully financed by the government
- It provides a **cover of Rs. 5 lakhs per family per year** for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization across public and private empanelled hospitals in India.
- Over 10.74 crore poor and vulnerable entitled families (approximately 50 crore beneficiaries) are eligible for these benefits.

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- PM-JAY provides **cashless access to health care services** for the beneficiary at the point of service, that is, the hospital.
- It covers up to **3 days of pre-hospitalization and 15 days post-hospitalization expenses** such as diagnostics and medicines.
- There is **no restriction on the family size, age or gender.**
- All pre-existing conditions are covered from day one
- Benefits of the scheme are **portable across the country** i.e. a beneficiary can visit any empanelled public or private hospital in India to avail cashless treatment.
- Public hospitals are reimbursed for the healthcare services at par with the private hospitals.

<https://pmjay.gov.in/about/pmjay>

2. Consider the following statements regarding S-400 defence missile system:

- 1) It is a long-range surface-to-air missile system developed by Russia.
- 2) It has the capability of destroying any incoming hostile air object within a range of 400 km.

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:

- The S-400 Triumf is a modern **long-range surface-to-air missile (MLR SAM) system developed by Russia.**
- The missile system **integrates a multifunction radar, autonomous detection** and targeting systems, anti-aircraft missile systems, launchers, and command and control centre. It can provide a layered defence as it is capable of firing three types of missiles.

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- The S-400 Triumpf can engage **all types of aerial targets** such as aircraft, ballistic and cruise missiles, unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) which are within the **range of 400km, at an altitude of up to 30km.**

Hence both the statements are correct.

Why in the news?

- U.S. imposes CAATSA sanctions on Turkey for S-400 Purchase from Moscow.

About CAATSA:

- The Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA) mandates the U.S. administration to impose sanctions on any country carrying out significant defence and energy trade with sanctioned entities in North Korea, Iran and Russia.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/us-imposes-caatsa-sanctions-on-turkey-for-s-400-purchase/article33333317.ece>

3. Consider the following statements about the "core inflation".

1. It measures the price movements of eight core industries (Electricity, steel, refinery products, crude oil, coal, cement, natural gas and fertilizers) 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:

- 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.
- Under the flexible inflation targeting (FIT) framework, RBI aims to contain **headline CPI (Combined)** within 4 percent with a band of (+/-) 2 percent.

Why in the news?

Food inflation in November drops to 9.43% from 11%.

<https://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/november-sees-food-inflation-drop-to-943/article33332634.ece>

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/definition/Core-inflation>

4. Which among the following is/are the likely measure to increase the tax-GDP ratio of a country.

1. Widening the tax base
2. Increasing tax exemptions
3. Formalisation of economy
4. Promoting Round tripping and Treaty shopping

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

A. 1 and 3 only

B. 1, 3 and 4 only

C. 2 and 3 only

D. 1,2 and 3 only

Answer: A

Explanation:

- The tax-to-GDP ratio is the ratio of tax collected compared to national gross domestic product (GDP). It marks the contribution of taxes towards GDP.
 - According to the Economic Survey 2019, the gross tax to GDP ratio in India is 10.9 per cent in 2018-19.
 - Some of the major reasons for India's low tax-to-GDP ratio are low direct tax base and large unorganised sector where tax evasion is more rampant compared to the organized sector.
- Hence, statements 1 and 3 are correct.**
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** "Round tripping" and "Treaty shopping" are tax avoidance strategies employed by corporates. It further reduces the tax-to-GDP ratio. Increasing tax exemptions reduces the tax base and results in lowering the tax-to-GDP ratio. **Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.**

5. Consider the following statements about the Capital market

1. The primary market is where companies float shares to the general public in an initial public offering (IPO) to raise capital
2. A stock exchange is an example of the primary market
3. In India, the primary and secondary markets are regulated by the Security and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 2 only

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

Answer: C

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The primary market is where companies float shares to the general public in an initial public offering (IPO) to raise capital.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Once new securities have been sold in the primary market, they are traded in the secondary market—where one investor buys shares from another investor at the prevailing market price or at whatever price both the buyer and seller agree upon. A stock exchange is an example of the secondary market.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** In India, the primary and secondary markets are regulated by the Security and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).

Why in the news?

Strong markets led to a 2.25 times jump in the initial public offerings in 2020 to Rs 45,000 crore.

https://www.business-standard.com/article/markets/ipo-fundraising-more-than-doubles-to-rs-45-000-crore-in-2020-kib-120121401324_1.html