

# OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

Daily MCQs: 13-07-2024

**1. SDG India Index is published by which of the following?**

- A) Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
- B) NITI Aayog
- C) Reserve Bank of India
- D) Ministry of Finance

**2. With reference to the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), consider the following statements.**

- 1. It was launched by the Ministry of Rural Development.
- 2. The scheme aims at helping the rural poor by enabling them to increase household income through sustainable livelihood enhancements and improved access to financial services.
- 3. Beneficiaries of the scheme are restricted to women with no exceptions.

**How many of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

**3. Why does the Government of India promote the use of 'Nano Urea' in agriculture?**

- A) Nano Urea releases plant nutrients in a controlled manner contributing to higher nutrient use efficiency.
- B) Nitrous oxide, which is a greenhouse gas, is not at all released into the atmosphere by crop fields.
- C) It will address Sulphur deficiency for the soil in the country.
- D) None of the above

**4. The government implements the PM-DAKSH Yojana with the main objective of**

- A) Computerization of records & strengthening of State Waqf Boards
- B) Preserve rich heritage of minority communities of India under the overall concept of Indian Culture
- C) Provide interest subsidy on educational loans for overseas studies for the students belonging to the minority communities
- D) Conducting skill development training programmes for marginalized persons of the society

**5. With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram, consider the following statements.**

- 1. It aims to provide installation of solar pumps and grid connected solar and other renewable power plants.
- 2. It is an initiative of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

# OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

## IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

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

**Solutions:**

**1. Answer: B**

**Explanation**

- The Index for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) **evaluates progress of states and Union Territories (UTs) on various parameters** including health, education, gender, economic growth, institutions, climate change and environment. It is released by the **NITI Aayog**.
- First launched in **2018**, the index has become the primary tool for **monitoring progress on the SDGs in India**. It has also fostered competition among the states and UTs by ranking them on the global goals.
- The SDG India Index **evaluates progress made across 16 goals on a scale of 1 to 100**, higher the score of a State/UT, the greater the distance to target achieved. States and UTs are classified in four categories based on their SDG India Index score — **aspirant: 0–49; performer: 50–64; front-runner: 65–99, achiever: 100**.

**What is the significance of the SDG India Index?**

- The index is developed in **collaboration with the United Nations in India**. It tracks the progress of all states and UTs on **115 indicators** aligned with the **National Indicator Framework (NIF) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation**.
- The index is a key tool for focused policy dialogue, formulation and implementation through development actions, in line with the global SDG framework. It helps in identifying crucial gaps related to tracking the SDGs and the need for India to develop its statistical systems.

**Why in News?**

- NITI Aayog has released its fourth SDG India Index, giving India a **score of 71 out of 100, as compared to 57 in 2018**.
- The Index rated **Kerala and Uttarakhand** as the **best performing states** with a score of 79 points each, while **Bihar** emerged as a laggard with 57 points, followed by **Jharkhand** at 62 points.
- Compared to 2020-21 scores, which was the last time NITI Aayog published the index, Punjab, Manipur, West Bengal, and Assam recorded the highest increase of 8 points to 76, 72, 70, and 65 points respectively.

**2. Answer: B**

**Explanation**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Aajeevika-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) was launched by the **Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) in 2011**.

# OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

---

## IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

- **Statement 2 is correct:** Aided in part through investment support by the **World Bank**, the scheme aimed at helping the rural poor by enabling them to increase household income through sustainable livelihood enhancements and improved access to financial services.
- NRLM has the mandate of reaching out to 100 million rural poor in 6 lakh villages across the country.
- **In 2015, the program was renamed Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM).**

### Mission

- The poor have innate capabilities to overcome poverty. DAY-NRLM believes in harnessing these innate capabilities of the poor and complements them with capacities (information, knowledge, skills, tools, finance and collectivization) to participate in the growing economy of the country.
- NRLM rests on **three major pillars – universal social mobilization, financial inclusion and livelihood enhancement.**

### Implementation

- It works towards **bringing at least one member (preferably a woman) from all poor families into the Self Help Group (SHG) network.**
- The SHGs and their federations offer their members microfinance services such as – savings, credit, bank linkages, insurance, remittances, equity etc. They also offer collectivization and group activities. The SHGs offer social security and social action in various fronts including health, nutrition, food, gender, convergence etc., directly or through their federations.
- NRLM facilitates the SHGs to open and operate bank accounts and bank linkages. It also facilitates access to insurance to members. It encourages individual members too to open bank accounts.
- As the **Institutions of the Poor (IoP)** mature, they are facilitated to take up livelihoods/income-generating activities.
  - *SHGs, their federations at the village, cluster levels and beyond, and other collectives of the poor constitute IoP.*
- DAY-NRLM adopts a **demand driven approach**, enabling the States to formulate their own State specific poverty reduction action plans.

### Beneficiaries

- NRLM's priority is to reach out to the poorest, most vulnerable and marginalized. It **begins with targeting women** and they are considered as representatives of their households.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** In case of **extremely vulnerable persons** like Persons with Disabilities (PwDs), elders etc., NRLM mobilizes **both men and women.**
- The NRLM Target Households (NTH) are identified through the **Participatory Identification of Poor (PIP).** The PIP is a community-driven process where the Community Based Organisations (CBOs) themselves identify the poor in the village using participatory tools. The list of poor identified by the CBO is vetted by the Gram Sabha.

### 3. Answer: A

### Explanation

- **About Nano Urea:** Nano urea, also known as nanotechnology-based urea, is a type of fertilizer that incorporates nanotechnology to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of

# OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

## IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

urea-based fertilizers. **A 500ml bottle of nano urea is equivalent to a 45 kg bag of conventional urea.**

- **Need for Nano urea:** Urea is one of the most commonly used nitrogen fertilizers in agriculture, but it has some drawbacks, including potential loss of nitrogen through leaching and volatilization, which can harm the environment and reduce crop yields.
- **Significance of Nano urea:** Nano urea is designed to address these issues by utilizing nanoscale materials and formulations. Here are some key points about nano urea:
  - **Nanoencapsulation:** Nano urea involves encapsulating urea molecules in nanoscale materials or coatings. This encapsulation serves several purposes:
    - It reduces the release of nitrogen into the environment, **minimizing nitrogen loss through leaching and volatilization.**
    - It allows for **controlled and slow-release of nitrogen** to provide nutrients to plants over an extended period.
    - It **improves nutrient uptake** by plants, reducing the amount of fertilizer required and enhancing crop yield.
  - **Efficiency:** Nano urea is more **efficient in terms of nutrient delivery** compared to traditional urea fertilizers. This efficiency can lead to reduced fertilizer application rates, cost savings for farmers, and a decreased environmental impact.
  - **Environmental Benefits:** By reducing nitrogen runoff and leaching, nano urea can help **mitigate water pollution** and the negative impacts of excess nitrogen in ecosystems. It can also contribute to a more sustainable and environmentally friendly agriculture industry.
  - **Crop Yield:** Nano urea has the potential to **increase crop yields and improve food security** by providing plants with a more readily available and efficient source of nitrogen.
  - **Reduce dependence on imports:** Nano Urea usage will help reduce India's dependence on urea imports.
  - **Helps farmers:** It will also help in direct savings, reduce transportation costs, and make storage much easier.

### About Urea Gold

- Sulphur coated Urea (Urea Gold) is being introduced in the country for the first time. It is more economical and efficient than the currently used Neem coated urea.
- It will address Sulphur deficiency for the soil in the country.
- It will also save input costs for the farmers and also raise incomes for farmers with enhanced production & productivity.

### 4. Answer: D

### Explanation:

- The **Pradhan Mantri Dakshta Aur Kushalta Sampann Hitgrahi, PM-DAKSH Yojana** is being implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment from 2020-21.
- The scheme aims to cover **marginalized persons of Scheduled Castes, Other Backward Classes, Economically Backward Classes, De-notified Tribes and Safai karamcharis including waste pickers.**
- Under this Yojana, eligible target groups are being provided **skill development training programmes** on (i) Up-skilling/Reskilling (ii) Short Term Training Programme (iii) Long Term Training Programme and (iv) Entrepreneurship Development Program (EDP).



# OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

---

## IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

- The scheme is implemented by the **three Corporations**
  - a. National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC),
  - b. National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation (NBCFDC) &
  - c. National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC).

### 5. Answer: D

#### Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK) seeks to provide better **socio-economic infrastructure facilities to the minority communities** which would further lead to lessening of the gap between the national average and the minority communities with regard to backwardness parameters.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** It is an initiative of the **Ministry of Minority Affairs**.
- Under PMJVK, 80% of the resources would be utilized for projects related to **education, health and skill development** of which at least 33-40% will be earmarked for creation of assets/facilities for **women/girls**.
- The erstwhile **Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP)** has been restructured and renamed as Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram for effective implementation since 2018.
- The areas under PMJVK, have been identified on the basis of minority population and socio-economic and basic amenities data of Census 2011. These areas will be known as **Minority Concentration Areas**.
- It will reduce the imbalances in the identified minority concentration areas to be at par with the rest of the country.
- **Note:** Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, Buddhists, Jain and Zorastrians (Parsis) have been notified as minority communities under the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992.

#### Backwardness parameters for minority concentration areas

- Religion-specific socio-economic indicators at the district level:
  - Literacy rate
  - Female literacy rate
  - Work participation rate
  - Female work participation rate
- Basic amenities indicators at the district level:
  - Percentage of households with pucca walls'
  - Percentage of households with safe drinking water; and
  - Percentage of households with electricity.