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Daily MCQs: 08-08-2024

1. The PRANA Portal launched by the Government of India is most closely associated with

- A. Promoting renewable energy sources in urban areas
- B. Tracking progress of the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP)
- C. Monitoring water quality in major rivers
- D. Disseminating information on sustainable agriculture practices

2. The Government of India has launched the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana with the main objective of?

- A. Replace incandescent lamps with LED bulbs at the residential level
- B. Distribute LPG connections to beneficiaries
- C. Installation of solar pumps and grid connected solar and other renewable power plants
- D. None of the Above

3. Consider the following statements about the Pradhan Mantri Van Dhan Yojana.

- 1. It is an initiative targeting livelihood generation for tribals by harnessing the wealth of forest.
- 2. Under the program, tribal enterprises such as Van Dhan Self Help Groups and Van Dhan Vikas Kendras are formed for collection, value addition, packaging & marketing of Minor Forest Produces.

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

4. Consider the following statements about Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana

- 1) The objective of this programme is to enable a large number of Indian youth to take up industry-relevant skill training.
- 2) It is the flagship scheme of the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

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

5. With reference to the PM Vishwakarma scheme, consider the following statements.

- 1. It is a Central Sector Scheme fully funded by the Central government.
- 2. It aims to provide end-to-end support to artisans and craftspeople.
- 3. The scheme covers both rural and urban areas.

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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

Solutions:

1. Answer: B

Explanation

- **PRANA (Portal for Regulation of Air-pollution in Non-Attainment Cities)**, is a portal for monitoring the implementation of the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP).

About NCAP

- The National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) was launched in **2019** by the **Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC)** as a **time-bound, national level strategy to tackle the air pollution crisis** in the country in a comprehensive manner.
- The national level target of **20 per cent to 30 per cent reduction of PM2.5 and PM10 concentration by 2024** was proposed under the NCAP, taking **2017 as the base year** for the comparison of concentration.
- To begin with, city specific action plans were formulated for **102 non-attainment cities**, which exceed the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for 5 consecutive years.
- Gradually, the number of cities identified for implementing mitigation actions under NCAP was increased to **131**.
- In **2022**, the NCAP target was **revised to a 40 per cent reduction** in particulate matter concentration in cities and the deadline was extended till 2025-26.

2. Answer: B

Explanation:

- Launched in 2016, Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana is a scheme of the **Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas** which aims to safeguard the health of women & children by providing them with a clean cooking fuel – LPG.
- The scheme provides free LPG connections to economically weaker families. The connections are issued in the **name of women of the households**.
- Under the scheme, **cash assistance of Rs. 1600** is given to the beneficiaries to get a deposit-free new connection.
- Initially, the beneficiaries under PMUY were identified either from the SECC list or from seven other identified categories.
- In 2018, the Government **extended the benefit to all left out poor families** under PMUY subject to fulfillment of terms & conditions.

3. Answer: C

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Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Pradhan Mantri Van Dhan Yojna (PMVDY) is an initiative targeting **livelihood generation for tribals** by harnessing the wealth of forest i.e. Van Dhan.
- Launched by the **Ministry of Tribal Affairs and TRIFED** in **2018**, the programme aims to tap into traditional knowledge & skill sets of tribals by adding technology & IT to upgrade it at each stage and to convert the tribal wisdom into a viable economic activity.
- It is a mechanism for marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) & Development of Value Chain.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Under the program, MFP based tribal groups / enterprises of around 300 members will be formed for collection, value addition, packaging & marketing of Minor Forest Produces. These tribal enterprises will be in the form of **Van Dhan Self Help Groups (SHGs)** which will be a group of 15-20 members and such 15 SHG groups will further be federated into a larger group of **Van Dhan Vikas Kendras (VDVKs)** of around 300 members.
- **TRIFED** will support the VDVks through providing them with model business plans, processing plans & tentative list of equipment for carrying out the value addition work of MFPs.

4. Answer: A

Explanation

- Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) is the flagship scheme of the **Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship** implemented by **National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)**. The scheme was launched in 2015. **Hence statement 2 is incorrect.**
- It is implemented under the **Skill India Mission**.
- The objective of this programme is to **enable a large number of Indian youth to take up industry-relevant skill training** that will help them in securing a better livelihood. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- Individuals with prior learning experience or skills will also be assessed and certified under **Recognition of Prior Learning**.
- Skill training is based on the **National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF)** and industry led standards.

Objectives of PMKVY

- To impart industry-related skills to the **unemployed youth and school/college dropout;**
- To provide **financial and placement assistance** to trained candidates.

PMKVY has three key components

- **Short Term Training (STT):** Under this component, training is given to unemployed youths or school/college dropouts in line with the National Skills Qualification Framework.
- **Recognition of Prior Learning:** Under this module, assessment and certification is given to applicants with existing skills or a prior learning experience.
- **Special Projects:** This module has been designed to create a platform that facilitates training for special job roles in government, corporate or industrial bodies.

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5. Answer: D

Explanation:

- **Statements 1 & 2 are correct:** PM Vishwakarma is a **Central Sector Scheme** launched recently to **provide end-to-end support to artisans and craftspeople who work with their hands and tools.**
- It is a new scheme with an outlay of **Rs 13,000 crore** and is **fully funded by the Central government. The Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprise** is the nodal ministry of PM Vishwakarma Yojana.
- The prime focus of PM Vishwakarma is at improving the **quality** as well as the **reach of products and services** of artisans and craftspeople and to ensure that they are **integrated with the domestic and global value chains.**
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The scheme will provide support to artisans and craftspeople of **rural and urban areas** across India.
- **Eighteen traditional crafts** will be covered under PM Vishwakarma. These include (i) Carpenter; (ii) Boat Maker; (iii) Armourer; (iv) Blacksmith ; (v) Hammer and Tool Kit Maker; (vi) Locksmith; (vii) Goldsmith; (viii) Potter; (ix) Sculptor, Stone breaker; (x) Cobbler (Shoemaker/ Footwear artisan); (xi) Mason (Rajmistri); (xii) Basket/Mat/Broom Maker/Coir Weaver; (xiii) Doll & Toy Maker (Traditional); (xiv) Barber; (xv) Garland maker; (xvi) Washerman; (xvii) Tailor; and (xviii) Fishing Net Maker.

Benefits of the scheme

- The Scheme envisages provisioning of the following benefits to the artisans and craftspersons:
 - **(i) Recognition:** Recognition of artisans and craftspeople through PM Vishwakarma certificate and ID card.
 - **(ii) Skill Upgradation:** Basic Training and Advanced Training, with a stipend of Rs. 500 per day;
 - **(iii) Toolkit Incentive:** A toolkit incentive of upto Rs. 15,000 in the form of e-vouchers at the beginning of Basic Skill Training.
 - **(iv) Credit Support:** Collateral free 'Enterprise Development Loans' of upto Rs. 3 lakh at a concessional rate of interest.
 - **(v) Incentive for Digital Transaction:** An amount of Re. 1 per digital transaction, upto maximum 100 transactions monthly for each digital pay-out or receipt.
 - **(vi) Marketing Support:** Marketing support in the form of quality certification, branding, onboarding on e-commerce platforms, advertising, publicity, etc.