

# OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

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Daily MCQs: 13-12-2024

**1. The Geological Survey of India functions under**

- A. Ministry of Science and Technology
- B. Ministry of Mines
- C. Ministry of Earth Sciences
- D. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

**2. Consider the following statements.**

- 1) Price of urea is controlled by the government.
- 2) No subsidy is available for non-urea fertilizers.
- 3) Majority of India's fertilizer subsidy burden is used in subsidizing urea.

**Which of the above given statement(s) is/are correct?**

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

**3. Consider the following statements about Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana.**

- 1) A habitation having an inferior quality of all-weather connectivity road is eligible under the scheme.
- 2) The scheme promotes the use of green technology in road construction.

**Which of the above given statement(s) is/are correct?**

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

**4. Onges and Sentinelese are Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups belonging to which of the following states/UTs?**

- A. Odisha
- B. Jharkhand
- C. Lakshadweep
- D. Andaman & Nicobar Islands

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### 5. Consider the following statements about the Real Estate (regulation and development) Act, 2016.

1. The act establishes Real Estate Regulatory Authorities (RERAs) at state level for regulation and promotion of the real estate sector.
2. Appeals from RERAs shall lie with the National Company Law Tribunal.
3. A specific percentage of the amount collected from buyers for a project must be maintained in an escrow account and must only be used for construction of that project.

### Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

### Solutions:

#### 1. Answer: B

#### Explanation:

- **Option B is correct:** The Geological Survey of India (GSI) was set up in **1851** as a Government of India organization under the **Ministry of Mines** primarily to **find coal deposits for the Railways**. Over the years, GSI has grown into a **repository of geo-science information** required in various fields in the country.
- Its main functions relate to **creating and updating of national geoscientific information and mineral resource assessment**.
- GSI's chief role includes providing objective, impartial and up-to-date geological expertise and geoscientific information of all kinds, with a focus on policy making decisions, commercial and socio-economic needs.
- GSI also emphasises on **systematic documentation** of all geological processes derived out of surface and subsurface of India and its offshore areas.
- GSI, headquartered in **Kolkata**, has **six regional offices** located in Lucknow, Jaipur, Nagpur, Hyderabad, Shillong and Kolkata and state unit offices in almost all states of the country.

#### 2. Answer: B

#### Explanation

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- To make fertilisers affordable to farmers, the Centre controls the **maximum retail price (MRP) of urea** at a low level unrelated to the cost of production and distribution, which is higher. The excess of cost over MRP is **reimbursed to the manufacturer as a subsidy**. Retail prices of **non-urea fertilisers** such as Di-ammonium Phosphate (most widely used one after urea), Muriate of Potash (MoP) are **decontrolled** and are determined by manufacturers, while the Centre gives a **fixed subsidy** each year. **Hence statement 1 is correct and statement 2 is incorrect.**
- **Two-thirds of India's fertilizer subsidy burden** — estimated at around ₹2.50 trillion — goes into **ensuring that farmers get urea**, the most commonly used fertilizer, at a **reasonable cost. Hence statement 3 is correct.**
- New nano-urea plants are expected to offset the burden of mounting fertiliser subsidies.

### 3. Answer: B

#### Explanation

- The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), was launched in 2000 as **centrally sponsored scheme** to provide **connectivity to unconnected habitations of designated population size** (500+ in plain areas and 250+ in North-East, hill, tribal and desert areas as per Census, 2001).
- The **Ministry of Rural Development** along with state governments is responsible for the implementation of PMGSY.

#### Guiding Principles of PMGSY

- The spirit and the objective of the scheme is to provide good all-weather road connectivity to **unconnected habitations**.
  - A habitation which was **earlier provided all-weather connectivity would not be eligible even if the present condition of the road is bad. Hence statement 1 is incorrect.**
- The unit for this Programme is a **Habitation** and not a Revenue village or a Panchayat.
  - *A Habitation is a cluster of population, living in an area, the location of which does not change over time.*
- PMGSY promotes the use of **new and green technology** in the process of rural road construction. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- **Locally available materials** are used in road construction activities to promote cost effective and fast construction.
- The PMGSY shall cover **only the rural areas**. Urban roads are excluded from the purview of this Programme.

#### Funding Pattern

- Currently, the fund sharing pattern of PMGSY is **60:40** between the **Centre and States** for all states **except for North Eastern and Himalayan States**. For these states the fund sharing pattern is **90:10**.

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- In **union territories**, **100%** of funds will be provided by the **Central Government**.

#### 4. Answer: D

#### Explanation:

- In India, tribal population makes up for 8.6% of the total population. Tribal people live in about 15% of the geographical area of the country.
- Among them some groups are declared as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) based on the following criteria.
  1. **A pre-agriculture level of technology;**
  2. **A stagnant or declining population;**
  3. **Extremely low literacy; and**
  4. **A subsistence level of economy.**

#### Livelihood

- In 1973, the **Dhebar Commission** created Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) as a separate category, who are less developed among the tribal groups.
- In 2006, the Government of India renamed the PTGs as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups.
- **75 tribal groups** have been categorized by the **Ministry of Home Affairs** as PVTGs.
- PVTGs reside in **18 States and UT of A&N Islands**.
- Among the 75 listed PVTG's the highest number are found in **Odisha (13)**, followed by Andhra Pradesh (12).
- The Ministry of Tribal Affairs implements the **Scheme of "Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)"** exclusively for them.
- PVTGs depend on various livelihoods such as food gathering, Non Timber Forest Produce (NTFP), hunting, livestock rearing, shifting cultivation and artisan works. Most of their livelihoods depend on the forest.

#### Statewise PVTGs

State / UT Name	PVTGs Name
<i>Andhra Pradesh and Telangana</i>	1.Bodo Gadaba 2.Bondo Poroja 3.Chenchu 4.Dongria Khond 5.Gutob Gadaba 6.Khond Poroja 7.Kolam 8.Kondareddis 9.Konda Savaras 10.Kutia Khond 11.Parengi Poroja 12.Thoti

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<i>Jharkhand</i>	Same as above
<i>Gujarat</i>	22.Kathodi 23.Kohvalia 24.Padhar 25.Siddi 26.Kolgha
<i>Karnataka</i>	27. Jenu Kuruba 28. Koraga
<i>Kerala</i>	29.Cholanaikayan (a section of Kattunaickans) 30.Kadar 31.Kattunayakan 32.Kurumbas 33.Koraga
<i>Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh</i>	34.Abujh Macias 35.Baigas 36.Bharias 37.Hill Korbas 38.Kamars 39.Saharias 40.Birhor
<i>Chhattisgarh</i>	Same as above
<i>Maharashtra</i>	41.Katkaria (Kathodia) 42.Kolam 43.Maria Gond
<i>Manipur</i>	44. Marram Nagas
<i>Odisha</i>	45.Birhor 46.Bondo 47.Didayi 48.Dongria-Khond 49.Juangs 50.Kharias 51.Kutia Kondh 52.Lanjia Sauras 53.Lodhas 54.Mankidias 55.Paudi Bhuyans 56.Soura 57.Chuktia Bhunjia
<i>Rajasthan</i>	58.Seharias
<i>Tamil Nadu</i>	59.Kattu Nayakans 60.Kotas 61.Kurumbas 62.Irulas 63.Paniyans 64.Todas

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<i>Tripura</i>	65.Reangs
<i>Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand</i>	66.Buxas 67.Rajis
<i>West Bengal</i>	68.Birhor 69.Lodhas 70.Totos
<i>Andaman &amp; Nicobar Islands</i>	71.Great Andamanese 72.Jarawas 73.Onges 74.Sentinelese 75.Shorn Pens

5. Answer: B

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The real estate (regulation and development) Act 2016 was enacted with the main purpose to establish the state level regulatory authorities called **Real Estate Regulatory Authority** for regulation and promotion of the real estate sector.
- The Act has the following objectives:
  - To protect the interest of the allottees and ensure their responsibility;
  - To maintain transparency and reduce the chances of fraud;
  - To implement Pan-India standardization and bring about professionalism;
  - To enhance the flow of correct information between the home buyers and the sellers;
  - To impose greater responsibilities on both the builders and the investors;
  - To enhance the reliability of the sector and thereby increase confidence amongst the investors.
- Residential real estate projects, with some exceptions, need to be **registered with RERAs**. Promoters cannot book or offer these projects for sale without registering them. Real estate agents dealing in these projects also need to register with RERAs.
- On registration, the promoter must upload details of the project on the website of the RERA. These include the site and layout plan, and schedule for completion of the real estate project.
- **Statement 3 is correct: 70% of the amount** collected from buyers for a project must be maintained in a separate bank account (*escrow account*) and must only be used for construction of that project.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Act establishes state level tribunals called **Real Estate Appellate Tribunals**. Decisions of RERAs can be appealed in these tribunals.