

# OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

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Daily MCQs: 11-02-2025

**1. Which of the following statements is correct regarding windfall taxes?**

- A. Windfall taxes are generally permanent and unchangeable.
- B. Windfall taxes are designed to capture additional revenue from companies experiencing unexpected profit surges.
- C. Windfall taxes are applicable to all sectors uniformly.
- D. Windfall taxes are only imposed during economic booms.

**2. 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.

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

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All the three
- D. None of the above

**3. Consider the following statements about the GSLV Mk-III launch vehicle.**

- 1. It is a four stage vehicle powered by a cryogenic engine in the upper stage.
- 2. GSLV Mk III is designed to carry 4 tonne class of satellites into Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit or about 10 tonnes to Low Earth Orbit.
- 3. GSLV Mk III vehicle is proposed to be used in Gaganyaan mission.

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

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All the three
- D. None of the above

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Ph: 044-40483555,9677120226,9677174226

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4. Among the following, which one is the largest producer of milk in the world?

- A. China
- B. India
- C. Myanmar
- D. Vietnam

5. Consider the following statements about the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948.

- 1. It sets out, for the first time, fundamental human rights to be universally protected.
- 2. India is a signatory to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

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**

- Windfall taxes are designed to **tax the profits a company derives from an external, sometimes unprecedented event**— for instance, the energy price-rise as a result of the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Hence **option B is the correct answer**.
- These are profits that cannot be attributed to something the firm actively did, like an investment strategy or an expansion of business.
- Governments typically levy a **one-off tax retrospectively over and above the normal rates of tax on such profits**, called **windfall tax**.
- One area where such taxes have routinely been discussed is **oil markets**, where price fluctuation leads to volatile or erratic profits for the industry.
- They are not necessarily permanent, applicable to all sectors uniformly, or restricted to times of economic booms.

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2. Answer: C

### 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.

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- **(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.

### 3. Answer: B

#### Explanation

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** GSLV Mk-III is a **three stage vehicle** designed for catering the need of carrying **heavier communication satellites to Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO)**.
- GSLV Mk-III is powered by a core liquid engine, has two solid boosters that are used to provide the massive thrust required during liftoff, and a cryogenic engine in the upper stage.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** GSLV Mk III is designed to carry 4 tonne class of satellites into GTO or about 10 tonnes to Low Earth Orbit (LEO).
- **Statement 3 is correct:** GSLV Mk III vehicle is proposed to be used in Gaganyaan mission.

### 4. Answer: B

#### Explanation

- **India is the world's top milk producer**, with production having reached 230.58 million tonnes during 2022-23.
- The **average yield** is, however, only 8.55 kg per animal per day for exotic/ crossbred animals, and 3.44 kg/ animal/ day for indigenous/ nondescript animals.
- The yield in Punjab is 13.49 kg/ animal/ day (exotic/ crossbreed), but only 6.30 kg/ animal/ day in West Bengal.
- The **national per capita availability of milk is 459 grams/ day**, which is **higher than the global average** of 323 g/ day.

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- The **top five milk producing states** are **UP** (15.72%), **Rajasthan** (14.44%), **Madhya Pradesh** (8.73%), **Gujarat** (7.49%), and **Andhra Pradesh** (6.70%), which together contribute **53.08% of the country's total milk production**.

5. Answer: C

#### Explanation

- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948, is a historic document which outlined the rights and freedoms everyone is entitled to. It was the **first international agreement on the basic principles of human rights**.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Declaration was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in Paris in 1948 as a common standard of achievement for all people and all nations.
- It sets out fundamental human rights to be universally protected. The UDHR is widely recognized as having inspired, and paved the way for, the adoption of more than seventy human rights treaties, applied today on a permanent basis at global and regional levels.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Nearly every state in the world has accepted the Declaration. **India** is also a signatory to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.