

# OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

Daily MCQs: 25-02-2025

**1. Consider the following statements about the University Grants Commission (UGC).**

1. It is a statutory body.
2. It works under the Union Ministry of Education.
3. It provides grants to all Universities and Colleges.

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

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

**2. Consider the following statements.**

1. Fortification is the addition of key vitamins and minerals to staple foods to improve their nutritional content.
2. Hidden hunger problem is targeted by the food fortification process.
3. In India, '+F' logo has been notified to identify fortified foods.

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

- A. 1, 2 and 3
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. None of the above

**3. Which of the following countries is/are not members of G7?**

1. Japan
2. Russia
3. U.S
4. Canada
5. India

**Select the correct answer using the given code below.**

- A) 1,3 and 4 only
- B) 2 and 5 only
- C) 1,2 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 5 only

**4. The 'Sukanya Samridhi Yojana' was launched by the government with the main objective of?**

- A) Reducing maternal and neonatal mortality by promoting institutional delivery among pregnant women especially with weak socio-economic status
- B) To mitigate gender disparity in science and engineering research funding

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- C) Providing a government-backed small savings scheme that can help parents secure the future of their girl child
- D) To increase the number of girls enrolled in prestigious engineering and technical colleges across India

### 5. In the context of India's energy security, what is the significance of Methanol?

- A) It is a major component of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG).
- B) It can be a low-carbon alternative fuel for transportation.
- C) It is a radioactive isotope used in nuclear power generation.
- D) It is a primary material for producing solar panels.

### Solutions:

#### 1. Answer: B

#### Explanation

##### University Grants Commission (UGC):

- The University Grants Commission (UGC) is a **statutory body** established to **oversee and advance higher education** within the country. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- It was created through an Act of Parliament (UGC Act) in 1956 and operates under the **Ministry of Education. Hence, statement 2 is correct**
- It was established for the **promotion and co-ordination of University education** and for the **determination and maintenance of standards** of teaching, examination and research in Universities, and for the purpose of **performing its functions** under the UGC Act.
- In addition to providing **grants to eligible universities and colleges**, the Commission provides **recognition to universities** in India, and also **advises** the Central and State Governments on the measures which are necessary for the development of Higher Education. **Hence, statement 3 is incorrect.**
- Head office: **New Delhi.**

#### 2. Answer: A

#### Explanation

##### Food Fortification:

- Fortification is the **addition of key vitamins and minerals** such as iron, iodine, zinc, Vitamin A & D to staple foods such as rice, milk and salt to improve their nutritional content. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- These nutrients may or may not have been originally present in the food before processing.
- It is a **cost-effective** strategy for improving diets and for the prevention and control of **micronutrient deficiencies.**
- It can be **carried out by food manufacturers, or by governments** as a public health policy which aims to reduce the number of people with dietary deficiencies within a population.

##### Need for Food Fortification

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- **Deficiency of micronutrients**, also known as “**hidden hunger**”, is a serious health risk.
- According to the **National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5)**:
  - 67 percent of children (6-59 months) are anaemic
  - 57 percent women in the reproductive age group are anaemic
  - every third child still suffers from chronic undernourishment, and every fifth child is acutely malnourished.
- Food fortification is one strategy to address these issues, as it provides essential nutrients **without requiring changes to people’s dietary habits. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- This approach is **socio-culturally acceptable** since it **does not affect the taste, texture, or appearance of the food.**

### How does the government use food fortification in various schemes?

- In 2016, FSSAI operationalized the **Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) Regulations, 2016** for fortifying staples namely:
  - **Wheat Flour and Rice with Iron, Vitamin B12 and Folic Acid,**
  - **Milk and Edible Oil with Vitamins A and D and**
  - **Double Fortified Salt with Iodine and Iron**
- The ‘+F’ logo has been notified to identify fortified foods. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

### Significance

- Rice is an ideal vehicle for supplying micronutrients in the Indian context as **65% of India's population consumes rice as a staple food.**
- Rice fortification involves the addition of **Fortified Rice Kernels (FRK) enriched with micronutrients (Iron, Folic Acid, Vitamin B 12)** as per standards prescribed by FSSAI to regular Rice.

### 3. Answer: B

#### Explanation

- The Group of Seven (G7) is an **informal group of seven of the world's most industrialized and developed economies.**
- Their political leaders come together annually to discuss important global economic, political, social and security issues.
- The G7 draws its roots from a meeting between the current G7 members, excluding Canada, that took place in 1975.

#### Members

- The G7 member countries are the **United States, Britain, France, Japan, Germany, Italy, and Canada.**
- Unlike the United Nations or NATO, the G7 is **not a formal institution with a charter and a secretariat.**
- The **presidency**, which **rotates annually among member states**, is responsible for setting the agenda of each year’s summit.
- The **European Union** is a “**non-enumerated**” member and **does not assume the rotating G7 presidency.**
- **Russia** belonged to the forum from 1998 through 2014, when the bloc was known as the **G8**, but was **suspended** following its annexation of Crimea.

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### 4. Answer: C

#### Explanation:

- Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana is a **government-backed small savings scheme that helps parents secure the future of their girl child**. It was launched as a **part of the 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' campaign**.
- This scheme can be easily opened at post offices and designated private or public banks in the form of a savings account in the name of the baby girl. The **interest rates** for Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana are **declared quarterly**.

#### Eligibility criteria for opening a Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana account

- Only parents or legal guardians of the girl child can open a Sukanya Samriddhi account in the name of the girl.
- The **girl child should be less than 10 years** at the time of account opening. The account can be operational till the girl reaches the **age of 21 years**.
- To meet the requirement of the child's higher education expenses, **partial withdrawal of 50 per cent of the balance is allowed after she turns 18**.
- The **investment can start at Rs. 250 and go up to Rs. 1,50,000 annually**.
- A single girl child cannot have multiple Sukanya Samriddhi accounts.
- Only two Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana accounts are allowed per family, i.e., one for each girl child.

### 5. Answer: B

#### Explanation

- Methanol (**CH<sub>3</sub>OH**) is a clear liquid chemical, comprising four parts hydrogen, one part oxygen, and one part carbon.
- It is **water-soluble and readily biodegradable**.

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- The **human body contains infinitesimal quantities of methanol** (4.5 ppm in the breath of healthy individuals) as a result of **eating some fruits**. But even for an adult, **more than 0.1 ml of pure methanol** per kilogram of body-weight can be **devastating**.

#### Applications

- Methanol, also known as **methyl alcohol**, is a **clean-burning, biodegradable fuel**.
- Increasingly, methanol's environmental and economic advantages make it an **attractive alternative fuel for powering vehicles and ships, cooking food, and heating homes**.
- Methanol also has several **industrial applications**, including as a precursor to acetic acid, formaldehyde, and aromatic hydrocarbons.
- It is used as a **solvent** and as **antifreeze**.

