

# OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

## IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

Daily MCQs: 26-02-2025

**1. Consider the following statements about the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) Of India.**

1. The CAG is appointed by the Prime Minister.
2. The procedure to remove a CAG is similar to that of a Supreme Court Judge.
3. The Constitution has explicitly explained the duties and powers of the CAG.

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

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

**2. Consider the following statements about the types of trade integration.**

1. Customs Union has harmonised fiscal/monetary policies and shared executive, judicial & legislative institutions.
2. An Economic Union has provisions for free movement of labour and capital.
3. The European Union (EU) is an example of an economic union.

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

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

**3. Consider the following statements about the INS Tamal.**

1. It was manufactured by Goa Shipyard Ltd (GSL) under technology transfer from Russia.
2. It is a stealth frigate.

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

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

**4. With reference to District Mineral Foundations (DMFs), consider the following statements.**

1. The Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Amendment Act, 2015 mandates setting up of DMFs in all districts in the country affected by mining related operations.

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2. Its manner of operation comes under the jurisdiction of the relevant State Government.

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. 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

Solutions:

1. Answer: B

Explanation:

**Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG):**

- The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India is one of the most important officers under the Constitution of India.
- As mentioned by Dr Ambedkar, he/she is to be the guardian of the public purse and it is his/her duty to see that not a rupee is spent out of the Consolidated Fund of India or of a State without the authority of the appropriate Legislature.
- **Article 149** specifies the duties and powers of the Comptroller and Auditor General as follows:
  - The Comptroller and Auditor General shall perform such duties and exercise such powers in relation to the accounts of the Union and of the States and of any other authority or body as **may be prescribed by any law made by the Parliament**, and
  - Until provision in that behalf is so made, shall perform such duties and exercise such powers exercisable by the Auditor General of India immediately before the commencement of the Constitution.
- **CAG (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971** has been passed by the Parliament as **per provisions of Article 149**. This act explains the duties and powers of CAG in detail. **Hence, statement 3 is incorrect.**

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- This Act lists down the powers and duties of the CAG apart from laying down the conditions of service.
  - The CAG is appointed by the President of India and holds office for a period of 6 years or up to age of 65 years, whichever is earlier [Art 148 and CAG Act, 1971]. Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.
  - He/she can resign by addressing his/her resignation to the President.
  - He/she can be removed by the Parliament on the same grounds and procedure for removal of a Judge of the Supreme Court [Art 148 and CAG Act, 1971]. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
  - The CAG is paid a salary which is equal to the salary of a Judge of the Supreme Court [Art 148 and CAG Act, 1971].
  - The CAG takes an oath to bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution, to uphold the sovereignty and integrity of India; to perform his/her duties to the best of his/her ability without fear or favour and affection or ill-will; and to uphold the Constitution and laws [form of oath as per the Third Schedule].

2. Answer: B

Explanation:

Custom Union:

- In a Customs union, partner countries may decide to trade at zero duty among themselves, however they maintain common tariffs against the rest of the world. Harmonised fiscal/monetary policies and shared executive, judicial & legislative institutions is a feature of economic union. Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.
- An example is Southern African Customs Union (SACU) amongst South Africa, Lesotho, Namibia, Botswana and Swaziland.

Common Market:

- Integration provided by a Common market is one step deeper than that by a Customs Union. A common market is a Customs Union with provisions to facilitate free movements of labour and capital, harmonise technical standards across members etc.
- The European Common Market is an example.

Economic Union:

- Economic Union is a Common Market extended through further harmonisation of fiscal/monetary policies and shared executive, judicial & legislative institutions.
- As any economic union is also a common market, free movement of labour and capital is allowed. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- The European Union (EU) is an example. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

3. Answer: B

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### Explanation:

- The Indian Navy crew that will operate **Tamal, the stealth frigate** under **construction in Russia**, reached St. Petersburg to prepare for its commissioning. **Hence, option 1 is incorrect and 2 is correct.**
- Tamal will be the last warship to be commissioned outside India or imported. The country now designs and constructs its own warships.
- The ship is being built as part of the deal for four additional follow-on stealth frigates under an Inter-Governmental Agreement signed in October 2016 between India and Russia..
- Under the deal, two ships are to be imported and two manufactured by Goa Shipyard Ltd. (GSL) under technology transfer.
- **INS Tushil, the first ship** to be manufactured in Russia under the deal, was commissioned in December 2024 at Kaliningrad.

### 4. Answer: C

### Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Setting up of District Mineral Foundations (DMFs) in **all districts in the country affected by mining related operations** was mandated through the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Amendment Act, (MMDRA) 2015.
- Under the Act, mining lease holders are required to make contributions to DMF funds. This contribution is equivalent to a certain percentage of the royalty paid by them. PMKKKY was launched in 2015 to implement the projects approved by DMFs.

### About DMFs

- District Mineral Foundation is a trust set up as a non-profit body, in those districts affected by the mining works, to work for the interest and benefit of persons and areas affected by mining related operations. It is funded through the contributions from miners.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Its manner of operation comes under the jurisdiction of the relevant State Government.
- In case of all mining leases executed before 12th January, 2015 miners will have to contribute an amount equal to 30% of the royalty payable by them to the DMFs. Where mining leases are granted after 12.01.2015, the rate of contribution would be 10% of the royalty payable.
- **They act as implementing agencies of the Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana.**

### About PMKKKY

- The Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana (PMKKKY) has been launched by the Government which will be implemented by DMFs of the respective districts using the funds accruing to the DMF.

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- At least 60% of PMKKKY funds will be utilized for high priority areas like: (i) drinking water supply; (ii) environment preservation and pollution control measures; (iii) health care (iv) education; (v) welfare of women and children; (vi) welfare of aged and disabled people; (vii) skill development; and (viii) Sanitation.
- The rest of the funds will be utilized undertaking works like for: (i) physical infrastructure; (ii) irrigation; (iii) energy and watershed development; and (iv) any other measures for enhancing environmental quality in mining districts.

#### 5. 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.