

IAS Prelims Exam 2015

General Studies Paper I

Solution with Explanation e-book



Introduction

Present eBook “**IAS Prelims 2015 General Studies Paper I Solution with Explanation**” provides the exhaustive and comprehensive explanation to the questions asked in IAS Prelims 2015 General Studies Paper I.

Importance of Economic and Social Development has increased substantially in IAS Prelims Exam 2015. Around **twenty two questions** were asked from this section. This was surprising trend as candidates did not expect such a good number of questions from this section. But the questions were comparatively easy and understandable.

Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) did not follow trend for Art and Culture set in the year 2013 and 2014. Candidates were expecting around five to ten questions from this section but this year only **around five questions** were figured in the paper from this section. Candidates did not find it difficult to answer these questions.

Further, Geography and Environment related questions were given huge importance as given in the past. More than **twenty five questions** were asked from this section as expected by the candidates. Questions from Indian Polity section were easy and manageable.

Directly and indirectly, **16 questions appeared from Current Affair Section of Jagranjosh.com** in IAS Prelims 2015 General Studies Paper I. These questions were related to the Economy, Environment, Science and Technology, Polity and other events of National and International Importance. Pattern of current affairs questions being asked has substantially changed from superficial understanding to in-depth grasp over the issue. Jagran Josh not only covers the current events but also provide lucid description about historical background and its ramifications.

Copyright ©Jagranjosh.com All rights reserved. No part or the whole of this eBook may be copied, reproduced, stored in retrieval system or transmitted and/or cited anywhere in any form or by any means (electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise), without the written permission of the copyright owner. If any misconduct comes in knowledge or brought in notice, strict action will be taken.

Disclaimer: Readers are requested to verify/cross-check up to their satisfaction themselves about the advertisements, advertorials, and external contents. If any miss-happening, ill result, mass depletion or any similar incident occurs due to any information cited or referenced in this e-book, Editor, Director/s, employees of Jagranjosh.com can't be held liable/responsible in any matter whatsoever. No responsibilities lie as well in case of the advertisements, advertorials, and external contents.

IAS Prelims 2015: General Studies I: Solution with Explanation

1. 'Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojna' has been launched for

- (a) providing housing loan to poor people at cheaper interest rates
- (b) promoting women's Self-Help Groups in backward areas
- (c) promoting financial inclusion in the country
- (d) providing financial help to the marginalized communities

Answer: (c)

Explanation- The flagship programme called the 'Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana' was announced by Hon'ble Prime Minister in his Independence Day address on 15 August, 2014. This is a National Mission on Financial Inclusion encompassing an integrated approach to bring about comprehensive financial inclusion of all the households in the country. The plan envisages universal access to banking facilities with at least one basic banking account for every household with financial literacy, access to credit, insurance and pension facility. In addition, the beneficiaries would get RuPay Debit card having inbuilt accident insurance cover of Rs.1 lakh. The plan also envisages channeling all Government benefits (from Centre / State / Local Body) to the beneficiaries' accounts and pushing the Direct Benefits Transfer (DBT) scheme of the Union Government. As of now more than 18 crore accounts has been opened so far.

Holders of accounts opened before January 26, 2015 is also provided with a premium-free life insurance cover.

The programme will be executed in two phases:

- Phase I (15 Aug, 2014 - 14 Aug, 2015)
- Phase II (15 Aug, 2015 - 15 Aug, 2018)

Census 2011 estimated that out of 24.67 crore households in the country, only 14.48 crore (58.7%) households had access to banking services.

2. With reference to the Fourteenth Finance Commission, which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. It has increased the share of States in the central divisible pool from 32 percent to 42 percent.
- 2. It has made recommendations concerning sector-specific grants.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (a)

Explanation-The commission has recommended that the states' share in the central divisible pool should be increased from the current 32 percent to 42 per cent which is the biggest ever increase in vertical tax devolution. The commission has subsumed both plan and non-plan expenditure and not given any sectoral grants.

3. The 'Fortaleza Declaration', recently in the news, is related to the affairs of

- (a) ASEAN
- (b) BRICS
- (c) OECD
- (d) WTO

Answer: (b)

Explanation- The 6th BRICS summit was held in Fortaleza in Brazil in 2014. BRICS is the acronym for an association of five major emerging national economies: Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa. The 6th BRICS summit resulted in the official inauguration of the New Development Bank. The 7th BRICS summit was held in Ufa, Russia.

4. A decrease in tax to GDP ratio of a country indicates which of the following?

1. Slowing economic growth rate
2. Less equitable distribution of national income

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (b)

Explanation-Tax to GDP ratio may decline:

- If tax revenue remains static or falls while GDP increases.
- The proportionate increase in tax collection is not same as GDP increase so again tax to GDP ratio will decline.

So, slowing growth rate cannot be the sole criteria for determining this fall it can decrease in case of increasing growth rate due to lower tax realisation.

Transfer of income by the government is done from high income groups to low income groups through taxation policy. Thus lower tax to GDP ratio means lesser equitable distribution of income.

5. In the South Atlantic and South-Eastern Pacific regions in tropical latitudes, cyclone does not originate. What is the reason?

- (a) Sea surface temperatures are low
- (b) Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone seldom occurs
- (c) Coriolis force is too weak
- (d) Absence of land in those regions

Answer: (a)

Explanation - Tropical Cyclones doesn't originate in the South Atlantic and the South-Eastern Pacific regions in tropical latitudes because the water is cold and high pressure dominates. The cold currents coming from the higher latitudes like 'Peru Current' and 'Benguela Current' lowers the sea surface temperature in this area.

The conditions favourable for the formation and intensification of tropical storms are:

- Large sea surface with temperature higher than 27° C
- Presence of the Coriolis force
- Small variations in the vertical wind speed
- A pre-existing weak low-pressure area or low-level-cyclonic circulation
- Upper divergence above the sea level system.

6. Which one of the following pairs of States of India indicates the easternmost and westernmost State?

- (a) Assam and Rajasthan
- (b) Arunachal Pradesh and Rajasthan
- (c) Assam and Gujarat
- (d) Arunachal Pradesh and Gujarat

Answer: (d)

Explanation- Arunachal Pradesh is the easternmost state of India. Kibithu is the easternmost point of India in Arunachal Pradesh's Lohit District, bordering China's Tibet region.

Gujarat is the westernmost state of India. West of Ghuar Mota in Gujarat is the westernmost point of India.

7. Consider the following statements regarding the Directive Principles of State Policy:

1. The Principles spell out the socio-economic democracy in the country.
2. The provisions contained in these Principles are not enforceable by any court.

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

Answer: (c)

Explanation- The enumeration of the Directive Principles of State Policy under part IV of the constitution covering **Articles 36 to 51** forms a unique feature of Indian constitution. Their purpose is to secure a truly welfare state by bringing social and economic democracy in the country. The Directive Principles provide the framework which guides the state in the formulation of its policy. The sanctions behind DPSP are political and moral. DPSP are not enforceable by any court of law as laid down specifically in Art. 37. They are non-justiciable.

8. In the 'Index of Eight Core Industries', which one of the following is given the highest weight?

- (a) Coal production
- (b) Electricity generation
- (c) Fertilizer production
- (d) Steel production

Answer: (b)

Explanation - The Eight Core Industries comprise nearly 38 % of the weight of items included in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) as per 2004-05 base year. The weights of different sectors are as follows:

- Electricity generation 10.32
- Steel production 6.68
- Petroleum Refinery production 5.94
- Crude Oil production 5.22
- Coal production 4.38
- Cement production 2.41
- Natural Gas production 1.71
- Fertilizer production 1.25

9. Which of the following National Parks is unique in being a swamp with floating vegetation that supports a rich biodiversity?

- (a) Bhitarkanika National Park
- (b) Keibul Lamjao National Park
- (c) Keoladeo Ghana National Park
- (d) Sultanpur National Park

Answer: (b)

Explanation- It is the only floating park in the world, located in Manipur and is an integral part of **Loktak Lake**. The national park is characterized by many floating decomposed plant materials locally called **phumdis**.

It is home to the **brow-antlered deer** or **Sangai** also called as dancing deer, listed as an endangered species by IUCN. The park which was initially declared to be a sanctuary in 1966 was subsequently declared to be a national park in 1977 through a gazette notification.

10. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding National Innovation Foundation-India (NIF)?

1. NIF is an autonomous body of the Department of Science and Technology under the Central Government.
2. NIF is an initiative to strengthen the highly advanced scientific research in India's premier scientific institutions in collaboration with highly advanced foreign scientific institutions.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (a)

Explanation - National Innovation Foundation-India (NIF) is an autonomous body of the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, based on the **Honey Bee Network Philosophy**, which provides institutional support to grassroots innovators and outstanding traditional knowledge holders from the unorganized sector of the society.

Building upon the Honey Bee Network Philosophy, the National Innovation Foundation-India (NIF) started functioning in March 2000 as India's national initiative to strengthen the grassroots technological innovators. NIF is committed to look for grassroots innovators who have developed technological innovations in any field of human survival without any outside help.

11. What can be the impact of excessive/inappropriate use of nitrogenous fertilizers in agriculture?

1. Proliferation of nitrogen-fixing microorganisms in soil can occur.
2. Increase in the acidity of soil can take place.

3. Leaching of nitrate to the ground-water can occur.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 and 3 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (c)

Explanation - Excessive use of nitrogenous fertilizers result in soil acidity is a well-known fact. Nitrogenous fertilizers acidify soil over the long term because they produce nitrous and nitric acid when oxidized in the process of nitrification.

High water-solubility of nitrate leads to increased runoff into surface water as well as leaching into groundwater and thereby increasing ground water pollution.

12. With reference to the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. IUCN is an organ of the United Nations and CITES is an international agreement between governments.
- 2. IUCN runs thousands of field projects around the world to better manage natural environments.
- 3. CITES is legally binding on the States that have joined it, but this Convention does not take the place of national laws.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (C) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b)

Explanation- IUCN is a voluntary organization, not an agency of United Nations founded in 1948 as the world's first global environmental organisation. Today it is the largest professional global

conservation network. Has the Official Observer Status at the United Nations General Assembly. The Union's headquarters are located in Gland, near Geneva, in Switzerland.

CITES was drafted as a result of a resolution adopted in 1963 at a meeting of members of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). States (countries) adhere voluntarily to the agreement. States that have agreed to be bound by the Convention ('joined' CITES) are known as Parties.

CITES is legally binding on the Parties as they have to implement the Convention by making national laws in consonance with CITES provisions. It provides a framework for making national legislation.

13. The Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane is approved by the

- (a) Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs
- (b) Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices
- (c) Directorate of Marketing and Inspection, Ministry of Agriculture
- (d) Agricultural Produce Market Committee

Answer: (a)

Explanation - CACP submits its recommendations to the government in the form of Price Policy Reports every year, separately for five groups of commodities namely Kharif crops, Rabi crops, Sugarcane, Raw Jute and Copra.

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) of the Union government takes a final decision on the level of MSP, Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) and other recommendations made by CACP.

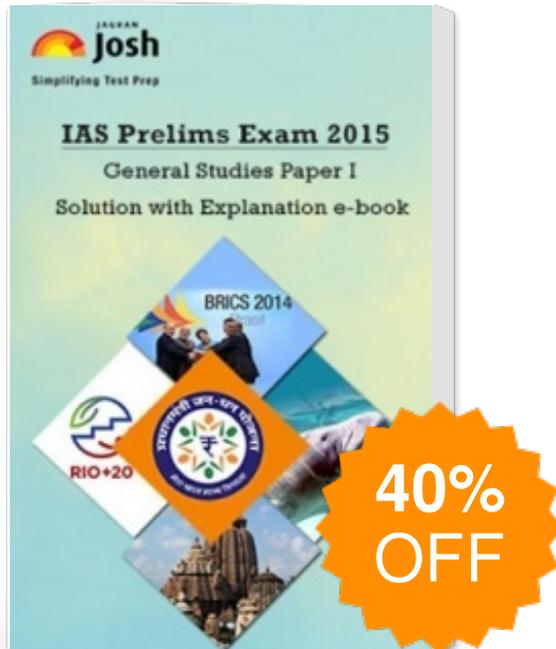
Q. 14. What explains the eastward flow of the equatorial counter-current?

- (a) The Earth's rotation on its axis
- (b) Convergence of the two equatorial currents
- (c) Difference in salinity of water
- (d) Occurrence of the belt of calm near the equator

Answer: (b)

Explanation - As the North Equatorial Current and South Equatorial Current flow from east to west, there is a piling of water in the western part of the Ocean basin and this leads to the flow of surface water from west to east (called Counter Equatorial Current).

IAS Prelims 2015 General Studies Paper I Solution with Explanation



Publisher : Jagran Josh

Author : Jagran Josh Expert

Type the URL : <http://www.kopykitab.com/product/8297>



Get this eBook