

## General Awareness

1. Which of the following statements about the BRIC countries is **not correct** ?
  - (1) The four BRIC countries encompass over 25% of the world's land and 40% of world's population. They also hold a combined GDP (PPP) of about 15 trillion US\$
  - (2) These four BRIC countries are the biggest and fastest growing/emerging global markets
  - (3) As per an indication, in 2009 the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the BRIC countries will come down by a whopping 36% as compared to last year
  - (4) The BRIC countries can contribute to build a harmonious world of lasting peace and common prosperity
  - (5) The first summit of the BRIC was held in June 2009 in Russia
2. The cheap imports from which of the following countries is giving a tough competition to Small and Medium Enterprises in India, specially when the global economic slow down and weak domestic demand have already affected companies across sectors ?
  - (1) China
  - (2) South Korea
  - (3) Japan
  - (4) Russia
  - (5) None of these
3. Which of the following statements about the Growth of Indian Economy in 2009-10 or the part of it, is **correct** ?
  - (1) Economy grew by 5.8 per cent during the period of January-March 2009
  - (2) India's growth estimates prepared by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) say that the growth would be in the band of 8.5 to 10 per cent during the year 2009-10
  - (3) The most promising growth of about 6 to 7.5% would be in the agriculture sector which contribute around 60-70 per cent in the total GDP of India
  - (4) Service sector which is a stronghold of the economy is also likely to grow at the rate of 13% during the year
  - (5) All statements are correct
4. Which of the following is/are the reasons owing to which about 105 million new people are added in the list of Hungry people and the total number of the same has reached to about 1 billion ?
  - (A) Unprecedented increase in food prices, particularly in poor nations.
  - (B) Cut in the supply of foodgrains to poor nations by many European countries.
  - (C) Sudden increase in population of the countries like Uganda, Ethiopia, Sudan and Namibia etc. as many refugees have taken shelter there.
  - (1) Only A
  - (2) Only B
  - (3) Only C
  - (4) All A, B and C
  - (5) None of the above
5. Which of the following statements about the Reforms introduced in Pension sector is/are **correct** ?
  - (A) Govt. has allowed 26% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the pension sector.
  - (B) A new regulatory and development authority to monitor pension sector is set up.
  - (C) Only three banks HDFC Bank, Vysya Bank and Axis Bank are appointed as fund managers of the pension funds.
  - (1) Only A
  - (2) Only B
  - (3) All A, B and C
  - (4) Only B and C
  - (5) Only A and B
6. As per projections made by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the credit flow expansion during the current financial year should be of the tune of
  - (1) 10%
  - (2) 15%
  - (3) 30%
  - (4) 25%
  - (5) 20%

7. As we all know Govt. of India is giving much emphasis these days on the development of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). Which of the following statements reflects the importance of SME sector in Indian economy ?
- (A) The Govt. is following a policy of keeping some items reserved for SMEs only. Hence, a good number of items for local consumption come from these alone.  
 (B) The main advantage of SME are reduction of regional imbalances, low investment, greater operational flexibility and low production cost. This helps in good control over prices of such items in local markets.  
 (C) A very large number of people are employed in this sector and this sector is the second largest employer in India, after agriculture.
- (1) Only A (2) Only B  
 (3) Only C (4) All A, B and C  
 (5) None of these
8. After the latest global slowdown and financial crisis, a debate is going on, on "Dollar Hegemony". What does it really mean ? In simple terms
- (A) it is the trade practice prevalent all over the world in which USA provides dollars and the rest of the world manufactures the commodities which dollars can purchase.  
 (B) it is the situation in which all the nations are forcefully required to evaluate their local currencies against the value of the dollars. Hence, countries are forced to keep as many dollars as they can to operate safely in global markets.  
 (C) now economists all over the world are trying to find out a solution to come out of this dollar trap as this hegemony prevents exporting nations from spending domestically the dollars they have earned from USA.
- (1) Only A (2) Only B  
 (3) Only C (4) Only A and C  
 (5) All A, B and C
9. As reported in some major financial newspapers/magazines, the Private Equity (PE) investments into India for the quarter ending March 2009 have dropped by a whopping 87%. What is Private Equity (PE) and why is it so important for our economy ?
- (A) The PE is the purchase of a majority or total ownership in an operating company.  
 (B) The purchase is done normally through institutional investors like banks or insurance companies. They are avoiding such investments these days.  
 (C) Private Equity stake gives a chance to the stake holders to have a better control over its management and crucial functions.
- (1) Only A (2) Only B  
 (3) All A, B and C (4) Only B and C  
 (5) Only A and B
10. Which of the following is/are the Non-Tax Revenue components of the Union Budget of India ?
- (A) Custom Duties  
 (B) Interest Receipts  
 (C) Dividends and Profits
- (1) Only A (2) Only B  
 (3) Only B and C (4) Only C  
 (5) All A, B and C
11. The investments done by "Those financial entities which were launched or incorporated in a foreign country but are investing in an Indian venture in India" are generally known as .....
- (1) Patent Money  
 (2) Private Equity  
 (3) Foreign Institutional Investment  
 (4) Current Account Money  
 (5) None of the above
12. Which of the following projections is/are made by the RBI in its Monetary and Credit Policy of the RBI for 2009-10 ?
- (A) It has projected that the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) based inflation would be around 4% by March 2010.  
 (B) The RBI has decided that it would continue to use the combination of monetary and debt management tools to ensure successful completion of Govt. Borrowing plans.  
 (C) As per RBI projections deposits of scheduled commercial banks would grow to about 18%.
- (1) Only A (2) Only B  
 (3) Only C (4) Only A and C  
 (5) All A, B and C
13. As we all know, a Committee on Financial Sector Assessment (CFSA) was set up in 2006 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Rakesh Mohan. What were its major observations ?
- (A) The banks in India are in a good position to absorb shocks due to credit, liquidity and market risks.  
 (B) It is found that the financial sector is generally sound, and fairly liquid. However, cooperative sector needs some strengthening.  
 (C) Committee recommended that the foreign investments in infrastructure and banking sector should not be more than 22% as the free flow of the same is adversely affecting the growth of domestic deposit and savings. Domestic investors do not get attractive investment options.
- (1) Only A (2) Only B  
 (3) Only A and B (4) All A, B and C  
 (5) None of these
14. Which of the following is/are the major recommendations of Prof. Joseph Stiglitz Committee set up recently by a major international forum ?
- (A) The Committee recommended that a Global Economic Council should be set up urgently to address global financial issues.  
 (B) All developed countries should take strong coordinated and effective actions to stimulate their economies. Industrial nations should dedicate 10% of their stimulus package for this cause.  
 (C) Developed countries should suspend all their investments they are making in developing and poor countries at least for a period of 5yr. The only aid which should continue should be to UN sponsored Food Assistance and Emergency programmes. This will help developed nations to consolidate their domestic positions.
- (1) Only A (2) Only B  
 (3) Only A and B (4) Only B and C  
 (5) None of these

15. As we all know managing inflation has been a very important aspect of the economy in India. Which of the following is/are **true** about the inflation and its effects on economy ?
- (A) Lack of inflation (deflation) is not necessarily a thing which is always good.  
 (B) Inflation is an increase in the general level of prices for goods and services.  
 (C) When inflation goes up the purchasing power of the money also goes up.
- (1) Only A (2) Only B  
 (3) Only A and B (4) Only A and C  
 (5) None of these
16. Which of the following is the correct definition of the term National Income ?
- (A) National Income means the total amount of money Govt. earns only through direct tax collections every year.  
 (B) It is the total value of all sorts of stocks held by a country at a particular point of time.  
 (C) This is the measure of the volume of commodities and services turned out during a given period counted without duplication.
- (1) Only A (2) Only B  
 (3) Only C (4) All A, B and C  
 (5) None of these
17. As we all know irrigation is a very crucial problem of the Indian Agriculture. At present how much area (in terms of percentage) out of the total cropped area is irrigated ?
- (1) 30% (2) 35%  
 (3) 40% (4) 45%  
 (5) More than 45%
18. As we all know, the Cooperative Banks in India are passing through a difficult phase and their performance is NOT as glamorous as that of the Commercial Banks today. What went wrong with Cooperative Banks ?
- (A) The Cooperative Banks disbursed credit on the loans on demand mostly without proper guarantees and documents. Hence, repayments were always at the mercy of the borrowers and upto some extent on good crops.  
 (B) The Cooperative Banks are mostly under the supervisory control of the Panchayats, which are not professionally qualified to control such institutions.  
 (C) Cooperative Banks do not get any relief package from the Govt. Hence, they have to manage their affairs on their own resources only.
- (1) Only B (2) Only A  
 (3) Only C (4) All A, B and C  
 (5) None of these
19. As we have noticed many banks are now entering into Insurance business. Why are Banks entering into this sector particularly when many insurance companies are already there in India ?
- (A) By providing insurance products banks are earning additional revenue in terms of fee/commission.  
 (B) Banks with their huge customer base are leveraging on their existing relationship to convert customers into policyholders.  
 (C) With increase of health related problems, everybody wants an insurance cover no matter how big or small it is. Banks are coming up with many attractive offers, which are also affordable.
- (1) Only A (2) Only B  
 (3) Only C (4) All A, B and C  
 (5) Only A and B
20. As we know sometimes the Exim Bank of India extend the line of credit at the behest of and with the support of the Govt. of India to developing countries as part of bilateral economic cooperation programmes named as IDEAS. What is the full form of IDEAS ?
- (1) Indian Development and Economic Assistance Scheme  
 (2) Industrial Designing and Exemplary Assistance Scheme  
 (3) International Division of Export Accounts and Services  
 (4) Integrated Development of European and Asian Societies  
 (5) None of the above
21. One of the key factors that provide impetus to strong growth is **Interest Rates**. How do interest rates contribute to the growth of economy particularly when these are lowered down ?
- (A) It gives corporations the opportunity to prepay high cost debts and replace them with fresh funds raised at lower rates.  
 (B) Banks use this opportunity to maximize profits on their treasury operations and these excess profits are used to clean their Balance Sheets by making higher provisions for NPAs or sticky loans.  
 (C) The Govt. also gets benefited as it can borrow funds from open market at low interest rates and bridge its fiscal deficit.
- (1) Only A (2) Only B  
 (3) Only C (4) All A, B and C  
 (5) None of these
22. The concept of "Meeting the needs of present without compromising the ability of future generation to meet their needs", is generally known as the concept of
- (1) Climate Migration  
 (2) Sustainable Development  
 (3) Structural Development  
 (4) Inclusive Growth  
 (5) None of the above
23. Which of the following is **NOT** the component of India's Securities Market ?
- (1) Commodity Futures  
 (2) Small Savings in National Saving Certificates  
 (3) Government Bonds  
 (4) Corporate Equity  
 (5) Derivatives on Currency
24. Which of the following was/were the objectives of the Competition Act, 2002 ?
- (A) To keep a check on unfair trade practices.  
 (B) To promote Govt. supported products/services in competition to those launched by private parties.

- (C) To control the activities of the stock markets in India which are considered highly volatile.
- (1) Only A (2) Only B  
(3) Only C (4) All A, B and C  
(5) None of these
25. Which of the following is/was **NOT** included in the agenda set for the Banking Reforms in India ?
- (1) Dismantling of administered interest rates  
(2) Measures to strengthen risk management  
(3) Promulgation of SARFAESI Act  
(4) Promotion of the concept of easy credit to all with a guaranteed subsidy from the Govt.  
(5) Granting of operational autonomy to public sector banks and allowing them to raise capital from the open market
26. Which of the following is the full form of the 'BRA' as used in Banking field ?
- (1) Brazilian and Russian Association  
(2) Banking Restructuring Act  
(3) Banking Resources for Agriculture  
(4) Borrowing Risk Assessment  
(5) Banking Regulation Act
27. As we all know Govt. of India pays special emphasis on management of Fiscal Deficit. What is **Fiscal Deficit** ?
- (1) The gap between projected or estimated GDP and actual GDP  
(2) The gap between the total number and value of the currency notes issued by the RBI uptill now over the number and value of those which are in actual circulation  
(3) The gap between the actual borrowings of the Govt. of India and the expected expenditure for which provision is made in the budget  
(4) Excess of Govt.'s disbursement comprising current and capital expenditures over its current receipts (Tax/non tax receipts)  
(5) None of the above
28. An argument amongst the economists all over the world is going on, on the issue of imposing special taxes on goods and services whose prices do not reflect the true social cost of their consumption, for example, tax on polluting environment. Which of the following are the other examples of such taxes ?
- (A) Duties on cigarettes  
(B) Duties on alcohol  
(C) Tax on gambling and lotteries  
(D) Airport Tax
- (1) Only A  
(2) Only A and B  
(3) Only A, B and C  
(4) All A, B, C and D  
(5) None of the above
29. The presidential election of Iran held in June 2009 was contested between Mahmoud Ahmedinejad and
- (1) Hashmi Rafsanjani (2) Ali Larijani  
(3) Mohd. Ali Jafari (4) Mir Hossein Mousavi  
(5) None of these
30. The presidential and Provincial Council elections took place in which of the following countries in August 2009 ?
- (1) Nepal (2) Afghanistan  
(3) Myanmar (4) Pakistan  
(5) Sri Lanka
31. Alice Munro who won the Man Booker Prize 2009, is from which of the following countries ?
- (1) Canada (2) Britain  
(3) USA (4) Italy  
(5) France
32. Which of the following statements **truly** reflects India's position in the report titled as "Agriculture Outlook 2009-18" released by the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) ?
- (A) India is required to develop its infrastructure and also to take care of growing water shortage.  
(B) India is self-sufficient in its food production. Hence, it should help countries like Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka etc. who are badly in need of support. At least 100 million tonnes foodgrain should be provided by India to all these countries immediately.  
(C) India should find out some other methods of calculating inflation as the present index of the prices does not give the correct picture of the same.
- (1) Only A  
(2) Only B  
(3) Only C  
(4) All A, B and C  
(5) None of the above
33. Which of the following is/are **correct** statements as per the "World Bank's Report on Global Economy" ?
- (A) The report says that India's growth rate will swing back to 8 per cent in 2010 and move to 8.5 per cent in 2011.  
(B) Global growth will be even worse than what we say earlier. There may be 2.9 per cent contraction in 2009.  
(C) Report says that Brazil and China will emerge as two fastest developing economies of the world in 2011 and 2012. India may be lagging behind as its infrastructure development is very slow and inappropriate.
- (1) Only A  
(2) Only B  
(3) Only A and B  
(4) All A, B and C  
(5) None of the above
34. Which of the following countries is **NOT** the member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) which was in news recently ?
- (1) Russia (2) China  
(3) India (4) Britain  
(5) Iran
35. The Govt. of India has authorized which of the following organizations to raise ₹ 10000 crore to refinance those banks who are lending money for infrastructural projects ?
- (1) IIFCIL (2) SIDBI  
(3) IDBI Bank (4) LIC  
(5) None of these

36. Which of the following is/are true about the Loan Waiver scheme for the farmers launched by the Govt. of India recently ?
- (A) The Govt. has taken over the debt of the farmers and has made reimbursement to the banks.  
(B) The Govt. has identified 237 low productivity districts where farmers would be eligible for a minimum loan relief of ₹ 20,000 even if their land holding were above two hectares.  
(C) Andhra Pradesh has the highest number of beneficiaries of the scheme.
- (1) Only A (2) Only B  
(3) Only C (4) All A, B and C  
(5) None of these
37. As we all know India's one of the major imports is oil and petroleum. Out of the total consumption of the oil and petroleum, how much is consumed by the transport sector ? **About**
- (1) 20% (2) 40%  
(3) 30% (4) 50%  
(5) 60%
38. Specially Developed Economic Zones in India where some of the economic laws and restrictions of the land are relaxed with the purpose of giving incentives to investors are commonly known as
- (1) Preferential Zones  
(2) Economic Corridors  
(3) Industrial Parks  
(4) Special Economic Zones  
(5) None of the above
39. Stock market indexes traditionally served as a benchmark to measure the performance of which of the following types of portfolios of the investors/promoters ?
- (1) Equity portfolio  
(2) Tax saving instruments  
(3) Mutual Funds  
(4) Investments in Govt. Securities  
(5) All of the above
40. Which of the following is the name of the organization, created to provide full employment and self reliance to the women folk in India ?
- (1) OECD (2) ROSCA  
(3) SVP (4) USO  
(5) SEWA
41. An agreement which in fact is a contract between the RBI and Banks for the sale and repurchase of Govt. securities and short term treasury bills at a future date and for which the RBI indicates the interest rate, is generally known as
- (1) Repo Rate  
(2) Bank Rate  
(3) Reverse Repo Rate  
(4) Prime Lending Rate  
(5) None of the above
42. 'Focus Africa' programme launched by the Govt. of India in 2002 was to promote
- (1) cooperation in the fields of higher and technical education  
(2) bilateral trade between the two countries  
(3) healthcare service in Africa, as Africa is badly affected by HIV/AIDS  
(4) safety cover to the workers of India origin in African countries as Indian workers are becoming victim of racial discrimination there  
(5) None of the above
43. Usain Bolt who won the "Laureus World Sportsman of the Year Award", for his record breaking performance in Beijing Olympics is basically a/an
- (1) Golfer  
(2) Badminton player  
(3) Tennis player  
(4) Boxer  
(5) Athlete
44. Which of the following team won the Roger Danet Trophy (Junior Hockey) 2009 ?
- (1) Italy (2) Germany  
(3) Netherlands (4) Pakistan  
(5) India
45. Habib Tanvir who passed away recently was a famous
- (1) politician (2) playwright  
(3) classical singer (4) sportsman  
(5) social worker
46. Mr. Rameshwar Thakur has taken over as the new Governor of
- (1) Uttar Pradesh (2) Madhya Pradesh  
(3) Andhra Pradesh (4) Goa  
(5) None of these
47. Which of the following States has launched an insurance scheme named as "Aam Aadami Insurance Scheme" which will provide ₹ 75,000 insurance cover to all the beneficiaries ?
- (1) Delhi  
(2) Himachal Pradesh  
(3) Karnataka  
(4) Maharashtra  
(5) Bihar
48. UN Security Council recently imposed sanctions on which of the following nations for its recent missile tests and an underground test of a nuclear device ?
- (1) Pakistan (2) North Korea  
(3) Iran (4) Turkey  
(5) None of these
49. In which of the following countries, India recently started its first Poverty Alleviation Project by sponsoring a farmers' training and information centre ?
- (1) Bangladesh (2) Nepal  
(3) Afghanistan (4) Iraq  
(5) China
50. Who amongst the following is the author of the book "The Grass is Singing" ?
- (1) Gunter Grass  
(2) John Maxwell Coetzee  
(3) Harold Pinter  
(4) Daris Lessing  
(5) Orhan Pamuk