

Q: Recently train services started between India and Bangladesh after Pandemic. Which among the following train/s services were started between the two countries?

1. Mitali Express
2. Maitree Express
3. Bandhan Express

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: d

Explanation:-

- The new Jalpaiguri-Dhaka Mitali Express flagged off on its maiden commercial run by the Railways Ministers of India and Bangladesh.
- The Mitali Express, announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visit to Dhaka in March 2021, will connect North Bengal with the Bangladesh capital.
- This will be the third train in three days to begin running between the countries as international surface transport links return to normal after the disruption caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.
- The other two train started between India and Bangladesh were:
 - ❖ The Bandhan Express which set off from Kolkata for Khulna
 - ❖ Maitree Express between Kolkata and Dhaka Cantonment, which started in April 2008.

Q: Consider the following statements:

1. If the government earned more from tax than spend on subsidy, GDP will be higher than GVA.
2. If the government provided subsidies in excess of its tax revenues, GVA will be higher than GDP.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below-

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Ans: c

Explanation:-

- Recently, the National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation released the Provisional Estimates of National Income 2021-22 as well as Quarterly Estimates of GDP (Q4) 2021-22.
- The growth in GDP during 2021-22 is estimated at 8.7 percent as compared to a contraction of 6.6 percent in 2020-21.
- The Gross Value Added (or GVA) grew by 8.1% in FY22.
- The two measures of national income are linked as follows:
 - ❖ $GDP = GVA + \text{ Taxes earned by the government } - \text{ Subsidies provided by the government}$
- As such, if the government earned more from taxes than it spent on subsidies, GDP will be higher than GVA.
- If, on the other hand, if the government provided subsidies in excess of its tax revenues, the absolute level of GVA would be higher than that of GDP.
- Simply put, GDP provides the demand side of the economy, and GVA the supply side.
- The GVA is considered to be a more realistic proxy to measure expansion of economic activity.

Q: Recently, India scaled its highest ever exports tally in Textiles and Apparel (T&A). The top exporting nation is-

- a) France
- b) Japan
- c) South Korea
- d) USA

Ans: d

Explanation:-

- India scaled its highest ever exports tally at US\$ 44.4 Bn in Textiles and Apparel (T&A) including Handicrafts in FY 2021-22, indicating a substantial increase of 41% and 26% over corresponding figures in FY 2020-21 and FY 2019-20, respectively.
- USA was the top export destination accounting for 27% share, followed by EU (18%), Bangladesh (12%) and UAE (6%).

Q: Consider the following statements:

1. Article 142 provides discretionary power to the Supreme Court.
2. States had the power to aid and advice the Governor in case of pleas of pardon under Article 161.
3. The subject matter of “murder” falls under the fifth schedule.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: a

Explanation:-

- Article 142 provides discretionary power to the Supreme Court as it states that the Supreme Court in the exercise of its jurisdiction may pass such decree or make such order as is necessary for doing complete justice in any cause or matter pending before it.
- The subject matter (Section 302 in the Indian Penal Code) murder, falls within Lists II and III (State and Concurrent lists) of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution.
- The court protected federalism by holding that States had the power to aid and advice the Governor in case of pleas of pardon under Article 161 made by convicts in murder cases.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding The Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies Benefits and Services) Act, 2016:

1. Aadhaar authentication is not necessary for availing subsidies from the Consolidated Fund of India.
2. Aadhaar Payments Bridge and the Aadhaar Enabled Payment System facilitate direct benefit transfer.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Ans: b

Explanation:-

- The Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 states that Aadhaar authentication is necessary for availing subsidies and services that are financed from the Consolidated Fund of India.
- However, confidentiality needs to be maintained and the authenticated information cannot be used for anything other than the specified purpose.
- The NPCI’s Aadhaar Payments Bridge (APB) and the Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AEPS) facilitate direct benefit transfer (DBT) and allow individuals to use Aadhaar for payments.
- This requires bank accounts to be linked to Aadhaar.