Passage Based MCQs

Directions: Read the following case study paragraphs carefully and answer the question based on the same.

PASSAGE-1

The central bank of India (Reserve Bank of India) is the apex institution that controls the entire financial market. It's one of the major functions is to maintain the reserve of foreign exchange. Also, it intervenes in the foreign exchange market to stabilise the excessive fluctuations in the foreign exchange rate. In other words, it is the central bank's job to control a country's economy through monetary policy.

If the economy is moving slowly or going backward, there are steps that central bank can take to boost the economy. These steps, whether they are asset purchases or printing more money, all involve injecting more cash into the economy. The simple supply and demand economic projection occur and currency will devalue. When the opposite occurs, and the economy is growing, the central bank will use various methods to keep that growth steady and in-line with other economic factors such as wages and prices.

Whatever the central bank does or in fact don't do, will affect the currency of that country. Sometimes, it is within the central bank's interest to purposefully affect the value of a currency. For example, if the economy is heavily reliant on exports and their currency value becomes too high, importers of that country's commodities will seek cheaper supply; hence directly affecting the economy.

- 1. Which of the following tools are used by the central bank to control the flow of money in domestic economy?
 - A. Fiscal tools
 - B. Quantitative monetary tools
 - C. Qualitative monetary tools
 - D. Both (B) and (C)
- 2. Money supply is a concept.
 - A. Flow
 - B. Stock
 - C. Ratio of stock and flow
 - D. None of above
- **3.** Which of the following steps should take by the central bank if there is excessive rise in the foreign exchange rate?
 - A. Supply foreign exchange from its stock
 - B. Demand more of other foreign exchange

- C. Allow commercial banks to work under less strict environment
- D. Both (B) and (C)
- **4.** Dear money policy of central bank, which is used to keep the growth steady and in-line with other economic factors, refers to
 - A. Tighten the money supply in the economy
 - B. Ease the money supply in the economy
 - C. Allow commercial banks to work under less strict environment
 - D. Both (B) and (C)

PASSAGE-2

The Reserve Bank of India raised inflation forecasts on the back of higher oil and other raw materials while it maintained the growth forecast at 9.5% for FY22 despite anemic investment demand.

Governor Shaktikanta Das said inflation measured by the consumer price index (CPI) might remain close to the upper tolerance band of 6% up to September expecting easing of pressure thereafter on kharif harvest arrivals.

[RBI has fixed inflation rate target in between 2%-6 %.]

The central bank projected CPI at 5.7% for FY22 compared to its earlier projection of 5.1%. "The supply-side drivers could be transitory while demand-pull pressures remain inert, given the slack in the economy. A pre-emptive monetary policy response at this stage may kill the nascent and hesitant recovery that is trying to secure a foothold in extremely difficult conditions," Das said.

Crude oil prices are volatile with implications for imported cost pressures on inflation, RBI said. The combination of elevated prices of industrial raw materials, high pump prices of petrol and diesel with their secondround effects, and logistics costs continue to impinge adversely on cost conditions for manufacturing and services, although weak demand conditions are tempering the passthrough to output prices and core inflation.

- 1. How does RBI promote growth process of country:
 - A. By controlling price level in country
 - B. By changing various interest rates and money supply
 - C. By increasing supply of products
 - D. All of above

- 2. Why does RBI fix the inflation target?
 - A. To make growth process fast
 - B. To make coordination with government
 - C. To manage exchange rate
 - D. To stabilize economy
- 3. Why increasing crude oil prices are matter of concern:
 - A. Increasing crude oil prices are increasing transportation cost
 - B. Increasing crude oil prices are making economy potentially unstable
 - C. Increasing crude oil prices are volatising growth process
 - D. Increasing crude oil prices are adversely affecting demand

India's total Money Supply (M3) stood at ₹ 18907383 crore as on April 9th 2020, recording a rise of 11.3% over the same time last year. Currency with the public stood at ₹ 2787941 crore, up 16.7% over the year. Demand deposits with banks were up 17% at ₹ 1867606 crore.

Time deposits with banks were also up 9.6% at $\mathbf{\overline{\xi}}$ 14205545 crore. The bank credit to commercial sector edged up 5.1% on year to $\mathbf{\overline{\xi}}$ 11552069 crores. However, this indicates moderation from 7.2% at the same time last year.

- **1.** How does increase in deposits with commercial banks will affect credit creation process?
 - A. Credit creation process will increase
 - B. Credit creation process will remain unaffected
 - C. Credit creation process will reduce
 - D. None of above
- 2. M3 is consist of:
 - A. C + OD + Time deposits
 - B. C + DD + OD + time deposits
 - C. M1 + deposits of post office saving bank
 - D. All of above
- 3. What is indicated by increasing deposits?
 - A. People prefer to save more now
 - B. Income level of people are increasing
 - C. People prefer to keep money in the bank accounts after demonetisation
 - D. All of above

PASSAGE-4

Repo (repurchase) rate also known as the benchmark interest rate is the rate at which the RBI lends money to the commercial banks for a short-term (a maximum of 90 days). When the repo rate increases, borrowing from RBI becomes more expensive. If RBI wants to make it more expensive for the banks to borrow money, it increases the repo rate similarly, if it wants to make it cheaper for banks to borrow money it reduces the repo rate. If the repo rate is increased, banks can't carry out their business at a profit whereas the very opposite happens when the repo rate is cut down. Generally, repo rates are cut down whenever the country needs to progress in banking and economy.

If banks want to borrow money (for short term, usually overnight) from RBI then banks have to charge this interest rate. Banks have to pledge government securities as collateral. This kind of deal happens through a re-purchase agreement. If a bank wants to borrow, it has to provide government securities at least worth ₹ 1 billion (could be more because of margin requirement which is 5%–10% of loan amount) and agree to repurchase them at ₹ 1.07 billion (US\$15 million) at the end of borrowing period. So the bank has paid ₹ 65 million (US\$910,000) as interest. This is the reason it is called repo rate.

- 1. What kind of tool Repo rate is?
 - A. Qualitative tool B. Quantitative tool
 - C. Fiscal tool D. None of these
- Why Repo rate is called Repurchasing rate?
 A. Commercial bank has to mortgage its securities
 - B. Commercial bank has to make an agreement to repurchase the securities mortgage with RBI
 - C. Commercial banks have to pay interest on borrowings
 - D. None of these

with RBI

- **3.** If inflationary conditions persist in economy then what should be done with Repo rate?
 - A. Repo rate should be reduced
 - B. Repo rate should be increased
 - C. Does not change Repo rate
 - D. None of above
- 4. On which type of borrowing Repo rate is charged by RBI?
 - A. On short term borrowings
 - B. On long term borrowings
 - C. Borrowings to maintain reserves
 - D. Borrowings to purchase assets

PASSAGE-5

The Indian economy has diversified quite significantly and been growing rapidly since 1991, and getting increasingly integrated with the global economy. Therefore, the fourth generation (1991-2014) of Indian banking saw landmark reforms such as issue of fresh licences to private and foreign banks to infuse competition, thereby enhancing productivity as well as efficiency by leveraging technology; introduction of prudential norms; providing operational flexibility coupled with functional autonomy; focus on implementation of best corporate governance practices; and strengthening of capital base as per the Basel norms. Since 2014, the banking sector has witnessed the adoption of the JAM (Jan-Dhan, Aadhaar, and Mobile) trinity, and issuance of licences to Payments Banks and Small Finance Banks (SFBs) to achieve last-mile connectivity in the financial inclusion drive. For instance, SFBs had mobilised deposits of ₹ 82,488 crore and extended credit of ₹ 90,576 crore to small and marginal farmers, and MSMEs (micro small & medium enterprises) by the end of FY 2019-20.

Given the current challenges of a burgeoning population, the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, and the West's intention to shift its manufacturing base as well as supply/ value chains from China to India and elsewhere, it is essential to say 'yes' to fifth generation (2014 and beyond) banking reforms. This calls for a paradigm shift in the banking sector to improve its resilience and maintain financial stability.

The Narasimham Committee Report (1991), as well as the discussion paper on Banking structure in India – The way forward (Reserve Bank of India, 2013), emphasised that India should have three or four large commercial banks, with domestic and international presence, along with foreign banks. The second tier may comprise several mid-size lenders, including niche banks, with economy-wide presence.

- 1. How does financial inclusion programme "jan dhan yojana" affect financial conditions of commercial banks?
 - A. Availability of funds with commercial banks have increased
 - B. Availability of funds with commercial banks have decreased
 - C. Not affected in any way
 - D. None of the above
- 2. Small Finance Banks had mobilised deposits of ₹ 82,488 crore and extended credit of ₹ 90,576 crore to small and marginal farmers, and MSMEs (micro small & medium enterprises) by the end of FY 2019-20. How will it affect economy?
 - A. Growth of MSME and agriculture sector become faster
 - B. Financial inclusion of people
 - C. Economic strengthening of rural areas
 - D. All of above
- **3.** What type of fourth generation reforms are made by government in banking sector?
 - A. Reduction in mandatory reserves
 - B. Operational flexibility
 - C. Improvement in competition
 - D. All of above

PASSAGE-6

Public expenditure accelerates the pace of GDP growth. Higher rate of GDP growth is achieved through (A) investment expenditure in public sector enterprises, (B) capital grants by the government for the purchase of capital equipment, (C) subsidies for the purchase of inputs, and (D) purchase of farm output at the minimum support price. Public expenditure promotes equality in the distribution of income and wealth. This is achieved by offering old-age pensions, as well as by providing free food, education, and health services to the Below Poverty Line Population.

Public expenditure plays a significant role in restoring economic stability. Particularly, when the economy is battling economic recession. The government expenditure (consumption expenditure as well as investment expenditure) raises the level of AD. Only when AD is raised that the vicious circle of economic recession is broken. Public expenditure generates investment-friendly environment in the economy. The government spends money on infrastructural development. It constructs roads, dams, bridges. It introduces faster and convenient means of transportation. Such facilities promote inducement to investment. Briefly, public expenditure is indispensable in any welfare state like India. It not only promotes GDP growth, but also promotes social welfare.

- 1. The construction of roads, dams, bridges is called:
 - A. Social development
 - B. Infrastructure development
 - C. Industrial development
 - D. Agrarian development
- **2.** The government expenditure does not raise the level of AD:
 - A. True B. False
 - C. Partially true D. Partially false
- 3. Read the following statement:

Assertion (A): Public expenditure generates investment-friendly environment in the economy.

Reason (**R**): It raises the infrastructural development in the economy.

- A. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true.
- B. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are false.
- C. Assertion (A) is true and Reason (R) is false.
- D. Assertion (A) is false and Reason (R) is true.
- 4. Which is included in the non-transfer income:
 - A. Old age pension
 - B. Subsidies
 - C. Retirement pension
 - D. Scholarship

PASSAGE-7

GDP growth is the central objective of government budgetary policy. It is achieved in two ways: (*i*) by making public investment expenditure, and (*ii*) by inducing private investment expenditure (through tax rebates and subsidies).

Allocation of Resources: Private enterprises will always desire to allocate resources to those areas of production

where profits are high. However, it is possible that such areas of production (like production of alcohol) may not promote social welfare. Through its budgetary policy, the government of a country directs the allocation of resources in a manner such that there is a balance between the goals of profit maximisation and social welfare. Production of goods which are injurious to health (like Cigarettes and Whisky) is discouraged through heavy taxation. On the other hand, production of 'socially useful goods' (like, 'Khadi') is encouraged through subsidies.

- **1.** Public enterprises will always desire to allocate resources to those areas of production, where:
 - A. Profits are high
 - B. Cost is low
 - C. Social welfare is high
 - D. Revenue is high
- **2.** GDP growth is the central objective of government budgetary policy.
 - A. True B. False
 - C. Partially true D. Partially false
- **3.** Suitable title for the passage:
 - A. GDPB. Private enterprisesC. SubsidiesD. Government Budget

PASSAGE-8

Exchange rate between Indian Rupee and US Dollar has changed from 71. 49 (November, 2020) to 72.82 (January 2021) through changes to market forces of demand and supply. Therefore, it is believed that India's balance of payments this year going to be "very very strong" Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Monday.

1. Change from 1\$ = 71.49 INR to 72.82 is called as

A.	Appreciation	В.	Depreciation
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- C. Revaluation D. Devaluation
- 2. This kind of determination is applicable in system of exchange rate
 - A. Flexible exchange rate system
 - B. Fixed exchange rate system
 - C. Managed floating
 - D. None of above

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PASSAGE-9

India's foreign exchange reserves have jumped by \$100 billion in 10 months to a record high of \$534.5 billion. The rise has been led by strong foreign fund inflows recently and decline in import bill due to dip in crude oil prices and trade impact following COVID-19 pandemic. Reduced imports of gold also cut down India's import bill.

- 1. Import of Petroleum from Iran will be mentioned:
 - A. Credit side of Capital Account
 - B. Debit side of Capital Account
 - C. Credit side of Current Account
 - D. Debit side of Current Account
- 2. Increase in import duty of gold will lead to:
 - A. Reduction in import of gold
 - B. Import of gold will increase
 - C. No effect on import of gold
 - D. Outflow of Foreign Exchange
- **3.** India's foreign exchange reserves has jumped high. The reason may be:
 - A. Inflow foreign exchange
 - B. Outflow of foreign exchange
 - C. Autonomous payments over Autonomous Receipts
 - D. All the above

PASSAGE-10

Each nation has its own currency when monetary transactions are conducted within the national borders, payments are made in the currency of that country for example Indian currency is called rupee. To be more exact it is called Indian rupee payments within the national borders of India are made in Indian rupees. Similarly, each other nation has its own currency, for example, Pakistan currency is called Pakistani rupee, USA currency US dollar, Kuwait currency Kuwaiti Dinar, UAE currency dirham and so on. Payments within the national borders of Pakistan are made in Pakistani rupees, payment within the national border of USA in USA dollars, etc. When transactions are conducted across National borders one currency must be converted into another. Conversion rate between two currencies is decided by two ways first fixed exchange rate and second floating or flexible exchange rate.

- **1.** Exchange rate refer to the rate at which the following is exchanged:
 - A. Goods C. Services
 - B. Currencies D. All the above
- **2.** Who fixed the flexible exchange rate?
 - A. Market force B. Government
 - C. Both (A) and (B) D. None of these
- **3.** refers to a system in which exchange rate for a currency is fixed by the government.
 - A. Fixed exchange rate
 - B. Flexible exchanged rate
 - C. Floating exchange rate
 - D. None of above

PASSAGE-11

Before colonial period, India was exporting manufactured goods which enjoyed worldwide demand. Under the colonial (2715) Eco./Business Eco.—14 rule, India was reduced to a supplier of raw materials like jute, cotton, indigo, wool, sugar etc. and importer of finished consumer goods like silk and woolen clothes and light machinery manufactured in the factories of Britain. Additionally, the opening of Suez Canal intensified this control of Britishers over Indian foreign trade.

The remaining volume of foreign trade was allowed with a handful of countries namely China, Ceylon (Sri Lanka) and Persia (Iran). Interestingly, even this trade was heavily monitored by the colonials. As a matter of fact, there was a large generation of export surplus under the British Raj. India was a large exporter in the colonial period. However, it did not affect the country's economy. Commodities like food grains, cloths, kerosene hit the country hard with its scarcity. Ironically, this export surplus never made its way to India. It was used to make payments for an office set up in Britain, war expenses of the British and import of invisible items. Such brutalities eventually led to the dawn of a rising foreign trade aspect of India.

- **1.** The opening of Suez Canal served as a direct route for ship operating between:
 - A. India and America
 - B. India and Sri Lanka
 - C. India and Pakistan
 - D. India and Britain
- 2. "The export surplus was used for the welfare of Indian Industry."
 - A. True B. False
- **3.** Assertion (A): India became an exporter of primary products and an importer of finished consumer and capital goods produced in Britain.

Reason (**R**): Restrictive policies of commodity production, trade and tariff structure, composition and volume of India's foreign trade.

- A. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
- Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A)
- C. Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
- D. Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R)is true.

PASSAGE-12

The various social development indicators were also not quite encouraging. The overall literacy level was less than 16 per cent. Out of this, the female literacy level was at a negligible low of about seven per cent. Public health facilities were either unavailable to large chunks of population or, when available, were highly inadequate. Consequently, water and air-borne diseases were rampant and took a huge toll on life. No wonder, the overall mortality rate was very high and in that, particularly, the infant mortality rate was quite alarming about 218 per thousand in contrast to the present infant mortality rate of 63 per thousand. Life expectancy was also very low 44 years in contrast to the present 66 years. In the absence of reliable data, it is difficult to specify the extent of poverty at that time but there is no doubt that extensive poverty prevailed in India during the colonial period which contributed to the worsening profile of India's population.

- Which year is described as a "year of Great Divide"?
 A. 1931 B. 1921
 - C. 1941 D. 1911
- 2. What were the causes of higher infant mortality rate during the British period?
 - A. Poor health care
 - B. Lack of education
 - C. Traditional outlook of society
 - D. All of above
- **3.** During colonial period, India's demographic profile showed:
 - A. High birth rate
 - B. High death rate
 - C. High infant mortality
 - D. All of these

PASSAGE-13

India's economy under the British colonial rule remained fundamentally agrarian about 85 per cent of the country's population lived mostly in villages and derived livelihood directly or indirectly from agriculture. However, despite being the occupation of such a large population, the agricultural sector continued to experience stagnation and, not infrequently, unusual deterioration. Agricultural productility became low though, in absolute terms, the sector experienced some growth due to the expansion of the aggregate area under cultivation. This stagnation in the agricultural sector was caused mainly because of the various systems of land settlement that were introduced by the colonial government. Particularly, under the zamindari system which was implemented in the then Bengal Presidency comprising parts of India's present day eastern states.

- **1.** The main reason for stagnation in the agriculture sector the British rule was:
 - A. Technological deceleration
 - B. Problems of irrigation facilities
 - C. Land settlement system
 - D. Deindustrialization
- **2.** "Commercialisation of agriculture increased the burden of revenue on farmers."
 - A. Lower productive
 - B. Lower profit
 - C. Due to higher margins of Middlemen's share
 - D. All of the above

3. Assertion (A): Zamindari (Semi Feudal Economy) in the colonial era were also responsible for the misery of the cultivators.

Reason (R): The terms of revenue settlement system introduced were harsh on the Zamindars.

- A. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
- B. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
- C. Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
- D. Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R)is true.

PASSAGE-14

A plan spells out how the resources of a nation should be use. It should have some general goals as well as specific objectives which are to be achieved within a specified period. In India plans were of five years duration and were called five-year plans (we borrow this from the former Soviet Union, the pioneer in national planning). Our plan documents up to the year 2017 not only specify the objectives to be attained in the five years of a plan but also what is to be achieved over a period of twenty years. This long-term plan is called 'perspective plan'. The five-year plans were supposed to provide the basis for the perspective plan.

1. When did India give its first five-year plan?A. 1950B. 1951

С.	1947	D.	1949

- 2. Planning commission, the erstwhile central planning authority in the country, has been replaced by
 - A. NITI Aayog
 - B. UGC
 - C. Finance Commission
 - D. NTA
- **3.** 'Government decides what goods are to be produced in accordance with the needs of society'. Under what type of economic system does this take place:
 - A. Capitalistic economy
 - B. Socialist economy
 - C. Both (A) and (B)
 - D. None of these
- 4. When was Indian planning commission constituted?
 - A. 6th August, 1952
 - B. 15th March, 1950
 - C. 15th August, 1947
 - D. 1st April, 1997

PASSAGE-15

The Green Revolution started in 1965 with the first introduction of HYV seeds in Indian agriculture. This was

coupled with better and efficient irrigation and the correct use of fertilizers to boost the crop. The result of the Green Revolution was to make India self-sufficient when it came to food grains.

After 1997 India had to rebuild its economy. Over three-quarters of the population depended on agriculture in some way. But agriculture in India was faced with several problems. Firstly, the productivity of grains was very low, and India was still monsoon dependent because of lack of irrigation and other infrastructure.

There was also an absence of modern technology. And India had previously faced severe famines during the British Raj, who has only promoted cash crops instead of food crops. The idea was to never depend on any other country for food sufficiency.

So in 1965, the government with the help of Indian geneticists M.S. Swaminathan, known as the father of Green Revolution, launched the Green Revolution. The movement lasted from 1967 to 1978 and was a great success.

- 1. Green revolution is related with
 - A. Modern technology
 - B. Better irrigation facilities
 - C. HYV seeds
 - D. All of the above
- **2.** Britishers encouraged Indian farmers to grow food crops. (true/false)
- **3.** What was the need of green revolution to make India?
 - A. Sufficient production
 - B. Modernisation
 - C. Self-sufficient
 - D. None of these.

PASSAGE-16

We now look at some trends in the post-reform period. Data from Sri Lanka which started on a programme of economic reform in 1977 indicates that an increasing awareness on health issues is coupled with the growing incidence of diseases associated with stress, particularly those of the cardio-respiratory kind (Gunawardena 1995). A similar pattern is emerging in India with the advent of tropical diseases like falciparum malaria and Japanese B encephalitis, stress-and environment related cardiovascular complaints, respiratory and endemic intestinal problems as well as nervous disorders (Ghosh 1996). It is likely that with continued rural-urban migration, the mushrooming of unhealthy towns and cities and the degradation of the natural environment combined with jobs which increasingly concentrate workers in industries, Export Promotion Zones and sweat shops, the range of diseases and illnesses will

increase. Women and their health will be adversely affected as they form the basis of the pool of cheap labour, essential for the growth of EPZs.

А.	1978	В.	1977
C.	1990	D.	1992

- A similar pattern is emerging in India with the growing incidence of diseases with stress, particularly those of the kind. (Choose the correct option) (cardio-respiratory/heart diseases)
- 3. State whether the given statement is true or false:

It is likely that with continued rural-urban migration, the mushrooming of unhealthy towns and cities and the degradation of the natural environment combined with jobs which increasingly concentrate workers in industries. (Choose the correct option) (True/False)

4. Read the following statements:

Assertion (A): Women and their health will be adversely affected.

Reason (R): As they form the basis of the pool of cheap labour, essential for the growth of Export Promotion Zones.

- A. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
- Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason(R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
- C. Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
- D. Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

PASSAGE-17

While the beginning of the current economic liberalization policy in India could be traced to the period much earlier than the 1990s, the explicit acceptance and implementation of the economic liberalization program during mid-1991 by Indian government could be seen as the starting point of the new reform program, and its subsequent change of approach and priorities about its governance. It was based on the belief that economic globalization/liberalization worked toward the integration of national economies into the international economy through trade, direct foreign investment, short-term capital flows, international flow of workers and humanity, and flow of technology. But in the process of liberalizing the economy, the state's role has transformed in prioritizing a strong military, police and legal structures, and functions to protect private property rights and ensure proper functioning of markets. If the markets

do not exist in the areas of land, water, education, health care, social security, and so on, the state must take initiative in creating a market. After creating such markets, the state should keep its activities to bare minimum without interfering with the functions of the market for it to perform efficiently. Such thinking based on Neoliberalism (Neoliberalism refers to a political ideology that espouses economic liberalism as a means of promoting economic development and securing political liberty.) started occupying the minds, in a measured manner, in the policy circle worldwide during the 1970s, which led to a major shift in the political–economic practices, and started moving toward deregulation, privatization, and withdrawal of state from many areas of social security, for efficient governance, based on market economy.

- 1. Liberalism as a means of:
 - A. Promoting economic development
 - B. Securing political liberty
 - C. Freedom of private enterprises
 - D. All the above
- **2.** refers to a political ideology that espouses economic liberalism as a means of promoting economic development and securing political liberty.

Choose the correct option:

(Neoliberalism/ Liberalism)

3. State whether the given statement is true or false:

While the beginning of the current economic liberalization policy in India could be traced to the period much earlier than the 1990s.

Choose the correct option:

(TRUE/FALSE)

4. Read the following statements:

Assertion (A): Started occupying the minds, in a measured manner, in the policy circle worldwide during the 1970s.

Reason (R): Which led to a major shift in the political– economic practices, and started moving toward deregulation, privatization, and withdrawal of state from many areas of social security, for efficient governance, based on market economy.

- A. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
- B. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason(R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
- C. Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
- D. Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R is true.

The reduction of fiscal deficits is an inalienable component normally included in the conditionality of Structural Adjustment Program (SAP)5 and consequently government expenditures must be cut to meet the targets for reducing fiscal deficits. There are several studies that have pointed out the declining trend in social sector expenditures.

UNICEF's Adjustment with a Human Face was the first major study of SAPs to point out its impact on the vulnerable. This study has also shown that out of 78 countries that were implementing IMF-guided structural adjustment reforms, 91% had put a constraint on government expenditure, 83% had reduced the budget deficits, and 65% followed a policy of wage restraint. It has further noted a strong association between reduction in social sector expenditures and social indicators.

Thus, reducing the public debt and stabilizing the economy were the main objectives of India liberalizing its economy in 1991. This path toward reducing the fiscal deficit has resulted in pruning down the expenditure in social sectors (which includes education).

These measures in a longer run have affected the development and growth of social sectors by curtailing its new infrastructure and other resources.

- **1.** The main objectives of India liberalizing its economy in 1991. (choose the correct alternative)
 - A. Reducing the public debt and stabilizing the economy
 - B. To improve economy
 - C. Improvement of education
 - D. None of these
- 2. The reduction ofis an inalienable component normally included in the conditionality of Structural Adjustment Program. (Choose the correct alternative) (fiscal deficits/Financial deficits)
- **3.** State whether the given statement is true or false. UNICEF's Adjustment with a Human Face was the first major study of SAPs to point out its impact on the vulnerable. (Choose the correct alternative) (True / False)
 - 4. Read the following statements:

Assertion (A): Indian economy has become a more vibrant economy.

Reason (R): Overall level of economic activity has trended up as indicated by GDP growth.

Post LPG policies, the growth of GDP shot up to as high as 8 per cent per annum

A. Both Assertion (A) and Reason(R) are true, and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

- B. Both Assertion (A) and Reason(R) are true, and Reason(R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
- C. Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
- D. Assertion (A) is false, but Reason(R) are true.

PASSAGE-19

New Economic Policy of India was launched in the year 1991 under the leadership of P.V. Narasimha Rao. This policy opened the door of the Indian Economy for the global exposure for the first time. In this New Economic Policy P.V. Narasimha Rao government reduced the import duties, opened reserved sector for the private players, devalued the Indian currency to increase the export. This is also known as the LPG Model of growth.

New Economic Policy refers to economic liberalisation or relaxation in the import tariffs, deregulation of markets or opening the markets for private and foreign players, and reduction of taxes to expand the economic wings of the country.

Former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh is considered to be the father of New Economic Policy (NEP) of India. Manmohan Singh introduced the NEP on July 24,1991. Main Objectives of New Economic Policy – 1991, July 24.

The main objectives behind the launching of the New Economic policy (NEP) in 1991 by the union Finance Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh are stated as follows:

- (*a*) The main objective was to plunge Indian Economy in to the arena of 'Globalization' and to give it a new thrust on market orientation.
- (b) The NEP intended to bring down the rate of inflation.
- **1.** New Economic Policy of India was launched in the year 1991 under the leadership of (choose the correct alternative)
 - A. P.V. Narasimha Rao
 - B. Atal Behari Bajpayi
 - C. Sharad Pawar
 - D. None of these
-is also known as the LPG Model of growth. (choose the correct alternative))
 (New Economic Policy / New Education Policy)
- **3.** State whether the given statement is true or false. Former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh is considered to be the father of New Economic Policy (NEP) of India. (choose the correct alternative) (True / False)
- 4. Read the following statements

Assertion (A): New Economic Policy is to expand the economic wings of the country.

Reason (R): Due to economic liberalisation or relaxation in the import tariffs, deregulation of markets or opening the markets for private and foreign players, and reduction of taxes.

- A. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
- B. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
- C. Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
- D. Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

PASSAGE-20

The performance of Indian economy during the period of first seven five -year plans (1950-1990) was satisfactory if not very impressive. On the eve of independence, India was an industrially backward country, but during this period of first seven plans our industries became far more diversified, with the stress being laid on the public investments in the industrial sector. The policy of import substitution led to protection of the domestic industries against the foreign producers but we failed to promote a strong export surplus.

Although public sector expanded to a large extent but it could not bring desired level of improvement in the secondary sector. Excessive government regulations prevented the natural trajectory of growth of entrepreneurship as there was no competition, no innovation and no modernization on the front of the industrial sector. Many Public Sector Undertakings (PSU's) incurred huge losses due to operational inefficiencies, red-tapism, poor technology and other similar reasons. These PSU's continued to function because it was difficult to close a government undertaking even it is a drain on country's limited resources. On the Agricultural front, due to the measures taken under the Green Revolution, India more or less became selfsufficient in the production of food grains. So the needs for reform of economic policy was widely felt in the context of changing global economic scenario to achieve desired growth in the country.

- 1. Which of the following was not a reason for the public sector to play a major role in the initial phase of Indian Economic Planning?
 - A. Private entrepreneurs lacked sufficient capital for investment.
 - B. Government aimed at social welfare.
 - C. The market was big enough to encourage private industrialists for investment.
 - D. The government wanted to protect the indigenous producers from the foreign competition.
- **2.** The policy of led to protection of the domestic industries against the foreign producers but

we failed to promote a strong export surplus. (fill up the blank with the correct alternative)

- A. Import substitution
- B. Trade
- C. Exports
- D. None of these
- 3. State whether the given statement is true or false:

Mechanization of the Indian agriculture was one of the cause of Green Revolution in India.

(TRUE/FALSE)

4. Read the following statements:

Assertion (A): Many public sector undertakings incurred huge losses due to operational inefficiencies. **Reason** (R): Red-tapism was one of the reasons for continuation of such enterprises.

Select the correct alternative from the following:

- A. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
- Both Assertion (A) and Reason(R) are true and Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
- C. Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is True.
- D. Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

PASSAGE-21

The poverty lines refer to a cut-off point that divides people of a region as poor and non poor. Poverty line cutoff may be determined in the terms of income or in terms of consumption. The percentage of the population below the poverty line is called the headcount ratio. The poverty incidence ratio is the same as the headcount ratio.

Headcount ratio refers to the measurement of poverty in the term of number of person below the poverty line, where the poverty line means some cutoff point with respect to the individual consumption expenditure per month. The poverty line usually measured in terms of per capita expenditure.

Consumption reflects the actual use of goods and service by an individual as well as the type of goods used while income only shows the capacity to purchase.

- **1.** A cut off point dividing people as poor and non poor indicates the number of those who are:
 - A. absolute poverty
 - B. below poverty line
 - C. Both (A) and (B)
 - D. None of the above
- **2.** The absolute poverty in India is measured with reference to (Headcount ratio/poverty line)

- **3.** Poverty line cut off can be determined in terms of (investment/consumption)
- **4.** Poverty line is measured normally in terms of (per capita expenditure/per capita income)

This paragraph talks about economic inequalities in India that have been driven by the employment pattern and changes in labour market, which in turn have been affected by the macroeconomic policies and process as well as forms of social discrimination and exclusion. While many Asian economies have shown indications of rising inequalities in recent decades, the Indian experience is particularly remarkable in the way inequalities have intertwined with economic growth process. Structural change and the persistence of the low productivity employment in India are strongly related to following wage shares of national income and growing wage inequality and the close relationship between formal and informal sectors is the sharpest exemplar of this. Patterns of social discrimination along with gender and caste line have reinforced tendency to create segmented labour market that offer little incentives for the employers to focus on productivity improvement.

- 1. Why did the government shift its strategy from long term to short term programs to remove unemployment?
 - A. Short term policies are more effective
 - B. Long term policy do not give appropriate response
 - C. It is easy to check the progress
 - D. All the above
- **2.** Increase in the proportion of casual worker as the proportion of the total work force is known as (informalization/casualization)
- **3.** is used to measure the concept of relative poverty.
- **4.** Women participation in rural areas is found to be higher in rural areas as compared with area in India due to which of the following reasons?
 - A. Widespread poverty
 - B. Male member do not earn sufficient income
 - C. Wages level are low in rural areas
 - D. All the above.

PASSAGE-23

The first ever Human Development Report (2001) of India has been released. It focuses on the vital-facts related to bureaucratic controls and poor governance of the country. The report was prepared by the Planning Commission under the guidance of its Deputy Chairman, Mr. K.C. Pant. This 297-page document was released on April 23, 2002 and submitted to the Prime Minister. The report states that from 1983 to 1993-94, the Human Development Index (HDI) improved by nearly 2.6 per cent per annum and by over 3 per annum during the period 1993-2001. Rural and urban areas have shown signs of improvement, according to the report.

Kerala, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Haryana have good HDIs. But states like Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Mandhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Odisha have HDIs close to nearly one-half to that to Kerala. Funds must be distributed efficiently and effectively so that human development processes do not suffer according to the report.

India's growth in terms of HDI has shown dismal trends during the recent past. Lack of resources, communal feelings and illiteracy are the chief causes of decay of the average Indian. Further, politicians, bureaucrats and other elements of the administration exploit the masses, executives, and business houses. The economic and political systems need serious transformations. The socio-cultural fabric of the nation cannot be weaved again because of religious compulsions. Ironically, we believe in religion so that our passage into the next world could be smooth and sans agonies. But we are least worried about our courses of action (and their outcomes) in this world. Religion often forces us to dominate other communities and sects. We attack them at opportune moments and face reprisals from them. This vicious cycle has been going on in India for the past 3,000 years. In order to develop the quality of life of Indians, the administration must become honest, efficient, productive and agile. Plant workers must increase productivity and eschew violence and strikes. Businessmen must conduct their business operations with honesty; they never do so. Further, political parties must guide the electorate and also, the masses towards prosperity and not chaos. Our psyche has to be changed; a change of government cannot lead us to a new era sans corruption and poor governance. Economic growth is linked to social growth, moral awareness, health and education. Every industrialist must work for the benefit of his or her nation. We have least interest in our nation and that is why, we are not receiving anything from her. The targeted rate of growth (of GDP) for the Tenth Plan is 8 per cent. However, the GDP growth rate during the Ninth Plan was a meagre 5.4 per cent. During the Eighth Plan, this rate was 6.7 per cent. How can we ensure consistent human development on a national scale if our results always fall short of targets. Our economy should grow at the rate of 7-8 per cent. During 2001-02, it grew at the rate of 5.4 per cent.

1. Which state is lag in good HDI according to this report?

A.	Punjab	В.	Kerala
C.	Bihar	D.	Tamil Nadu

2. When was first report on HRD was published?

A.	In 1998	B. In 2000
C.	In 2001	D. In 2005

3. What was the target for GDP Growth during 10th five year plan?

A.	5%	В.	7%
C.	8%	D.	10%

- 4. Which is not related with human capital formation?A. Education B. Health
 - C. Skill D. Internet
- 5. India's HDI rank was too low because of
 - A. Poor literacy rate
 - B. Poor education facilities
 - C. Poor health services
 - D. All of the above

PASSAGE-24

The objectives of public finance are to ensure macroeconomic stability, achieve the desired state of distribution, provide public services to accelerate growth and development. Fiscal policy has both macro and microeconomic aspects. Further, the objectives include allocating resources for the provision of public services. The important point is that ensuring security and protection of property rights is a basic public good and this can be provided only by the government. The governments have the task of distributing incomes and alleviating poverty.

After the Great Depression and influenced by Keynesian economics, public spending was assigned a central role. Thus, the role of public finance is inextricably linked to the role of the state. From merely ensuring safety, security and property rights, governments have expanded their activities to providing a variety of public services with externalities. The expansion has been a subject matter of debate. Musgrave considers that the expansion of the public sector has been a necessary and constructive development and strong public sector is needed along with the capitalist market. In contrast, Buchanan argues that dispute arises when the state expands to areas beyond the realm of boundaries of the protective state into a productive or tax-transfer state. In India, state intervention through public finance policy has to play an important role besides ensuring the safety and security of people and their property rights. These include the need to overcome large social and physical infrastructure deficit, provide correctives to missing and imperfect markets, introduce measures to reduce acute inequalities and poverty and provide correctives to widespread information asymmetry. Interventions are needed also to provide externalities in terms of market development, irrigation, storage and price support in agriculture to deal with market imperfections and supply volatility. Similarly, generalized externalities have to be ensured for the manufacturing and service sectors through competitive levels of infrastructure. India's public finance policies have enabled the government to play a catalytic role in the development of the economy as a whole. In addition over the years, there has been a significant increase in transfers from the government such as for employment guarantee and food security, national housing scheme, Swachchh Bharat Abhiyan, Ujjawala Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi, periodic loan waives, etc.

- 1. Which one of the following statements is correct?
 - (a) The expansion of the public sector has been a necessary and constructive development and a strong public sector is needed along with the capitalist market
 - (b) There are several reasons for the state to embrace a much larger role
 - (c) In India, state intervention through public finance policy has to play an important role
 - (d) Keynesian economics states that the state has to ensure full employment

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- A. (a) and (b) only
- B. (a), (b) and (c) only
- C. (a) and (c) only
- D. (a), (b), (c) and (d)
- 2. The statement, "Dispute arises when the state expands to areas beyond the realm of boundaries of the protective state into a productive or tax-transfer state", was given by
 - A. Musgrave B. Keynes
 - C. Dalton D. Buchanan
- **3.** Which one of the following objectives of public finance is NOT correct?
 - A. Ensure macroeconomic stability
 - B. Ensure reduction of adverse balance of payments
 - C. Accelerate growth and development
 - D. Desired state of distribution
- **4.** The externalities of the government intervention in the economy can be found in terms of
 - (a) Market development
 - (b) Money supply
 - (c) Storage and price support in agriculture
 - (d) Irrigation

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- A. (c) and (d) only
- B. (a), (b) and (d) only
- C. (a), (b) and (c) only
- D. (a) and (d) only
- **5.** Which one of the following does NOT fall in the category of government transfers?
 - A. National Housing
 - B. Swachchh Bharat Abhiyan
 - C. Periodic loan waivers
 - D. Education

There is considerable evidence that some consumers are willing to pay more for green goods. To produce green goods we need not to use skill and human resources. Green goods are goods that are manufactured in an environmentally friendly way (e.g. wood products from sustainable forests, electricity produced from wind power) without a direct impact on a consumer. These are referred to as impure Public goods - a package of Private good and Public good. Why consumers are willing to pay more for these goods is complex.

Whatever the reason, it is clear some consumers are willing to pay for green actions that do not benefit them directly. One example of green goods is 'green electricity'. Green power is simply electricity produced using renewable sources of energy. Of course, electricity itself is completely indistinguishable from non-green electricity. There are two ways in which consumers may buy green electricity; either by buying it directly or by contributing to the cost of building green electricity capacity. Consumers are clearly willing to spend more for green electricity and their preference for green production is indicated by the recent rise in popularity of retail carbon offsets. Offsets of emissions have long been used by firms to buy and sell the obligation to reduce emissions. In the USA, new emitters setting up a business in an urban area have to 'offset' their emission additions by finding (and paying) existing firms to reduce their emissions. In recent years, firms have used offsets to effectively reduce their emissions in order to provide a green image, particularly in the case of carbon emissions. The purchase of offsets by consumers is different when consumers buy offsets. They are making a purely voluntary contribution to the environment. Retail offsets are a way in which consumers can produce a green product from a brown product. For example, one can make his part of the flight carbon neutral by paying someone else to reduce his or her carbon emission. This is formalized in an offset market whereby sellers of offsets reduce emissions and then sell these 'reductions'.

- 1. Green Electricity means
 - A. Electricity produced from renewable sources of energy
 - B. Electricity from Thermal plants
 - C. Electricity from Gas-powered plants
 - D. Hydro-power
- 2. Impure Public goods are
 - A. Private goods
 - B. Public goods
 - C. A package of Public and Private goods
 - D. Harmful goods for the society
- 3. Offset of emissions are used
 - (a) To reduce emissions

- (b) To provide green image
- (c) For emission addition
- (d) To satisfy consumer preferences

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- A. (a), (b) and (c) only
- B. (a), (c) and (d) only
- C. (a), (b) and (d) only
- D. (b), (c) and (d) only
- 4. An example of green good is
 - (a) White paper
 - (b) Wind power
 - (c) Forest product
 - (d) Solar energy

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- A. (a) and (b) only
- B. (b) and (c) only
- C. (c) and (d) only
- D. (b) and (d) only
- **5.** The way in which consumers can produce a green product from a brown product:
 - A. Monopoly
 - B. Retail offsets
 - C. Price discrimination
 - D. Fiscal deficit

PASSAGE-26

In agriculture, due to long time gap between crop sowing and realisation of income, farmers are in strong need for credit. Farmers need money to meet initial investment on seeds, fertilisers, implements and other family expenses of marriage, death, religious ceremonies, etc. So, credit is one of the important factors, which contribute to agricultural production. An efficient and effective rural credit delivery system is crucial for raising agricultural productivity and incomes.

- **1.** Which one of the following is not a non-institutional source of credit?
 - A. Money lenders
 - B. Co-operative Credit
 - C. Trader and commission agents
 - D. Land development bank
- **2.** (NABARD/RBI) is the Apex Bank which coordinates the functioning of different financial institutions, working for expansion of rural credit.
- **3.** Regulated markets were organised to protect the farmers from the malpractices of consumers. (True/ False)

Prior to independence, farmers, while selling their produce to traders, suffered from faulty weighing and manipulation of accounts. Farmers who did not have the required information on prices prevailing in markets were often forced to sell at low prices. They also did not have proper storage facilities to keep back their produce for selling later at a better price. Measures that were initiated to improve the marketing aspect.

1. Government improve agriculture marketing system through

(Controlled market/Regulated market)

- 2. Agricultural marketing is a process that involves the A. Transportation B. Packaging
 - C. Grading D. All of these
- **3.** The first step was regulation of markets to create orderly and transparent marketing conditions. (True/False)

PASSAGE-28

At the time of independence, money lenders and traders exploited small and marginal farmers and landless labourers by lending to them on high interest rates and by manipulating the accounts to keep them in a debt-trap. A major change occurred after 1969 when India adopted social banking and multi-agency approach to adequately meet the needs of rural credit.

The institutional structure of moral banking today consists of a set of multi-agency institutions, namely, commercial banks, regional rural banks. cooperatives and land development banks. They are expected to dispense adequate credit at cheaper rates. Recently, self-help groups have emerged to fill the gap in the formal credit system. The SHGs promoter shift in small proportions by a minimum contribution from each member. From the pooled money, credit is given to the needy members to be repayable in small instalments at reasonable interest rates.

By May 2019, nearly 6 crore women in India have become member in 54 lakh women SHGs. About Rs 10-15,000 per SHG as a community investment support fund are provided as part of renovating fund to take up selfemployment for income generation.

- 1. Was set up in 1982 as an apex body to coordinate the activities of all institutions involved in the rural financing system. (RBI/NABARD)
- **2.** The was a harbinger of major changes in the credit system as it led to the diversification of the portfolio of rural credit towards production-oriented lending.
 - A. Green Revolution

- B. Golden Revolution
- C. White revolution
- D. None of these
- **3.** Recently, Self Help Groups have emerged to fill the gap in the formal credit system. Such credit provisions are generally referred to as
 - A. Macro credit programmes
 - B. Micro credit programmes
 - C. Both (A) and (B)
 - D. None of these
- **4.** Which of the following part is not a part of the institutional structure of rural banking today?
 - A. Commercial banks
 - B. Regional rural banks
 - C. Non-banking finance companies
 - D. Land development banks

PASSAGE-29

Rural Development is the key issue with the government. Without the development of rural areas India cannot increase its growth to desired level. Rural development does not mean only to develop its agriculture marketing and credit but also to develop education, training, and infrastructure in rural areas. The government has launched many programs especially of provision of credit and marketing facilities. The farmers often have shortage of funds. Farmers generally go to non-institutional sources for their short-term and long term-loans. But farmers are generally exploited. To help them government started provided loan through commercial banks and an apex bank named NABARD was established in 1982.

Government is also making efforts to improve agricultural marketing by removing the role of intermediaries where farmers can directly sell their produce to seller without involving any commission agent or middlemen.

- 1. Name the Non-institutional sources of credit
 - A. Landlords
 - B. Moneylenders
 - C. Traders and commission agents
 - D. All of above
- 2. NABARD is established in the year

A.	1982	В.	1992
C.	1981	D.	1991

- 3. Non-farm activities are promoted by government for
 - A. regular income to farmer
 - B. addressing the problem of disguised unemployment
 - C. reducing pressure on land
 - D. All of the above

There is considerable evidence that some consumers are willing to pay more for green goods. Green goods are goods that are manufactured in an environmentally friendly way (e.g. wood products from sustainable forests, electricity produced from wind power) without a direct impact on a consumer. These are referred to as impure Public goods – a package of Private good and Public good.

Why consumers are willing to pay more for these goods is complex. Whatever the reason, it is clear some consumers are willing to pay for green actions that do not benefit them directly.

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 - (a) To reduce emissions
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 - (c) For emission addition
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- B. (a), (c) and (d) only
- C. (a), (b) and (d) only
- D. (b), (c) and (d) only
- 3. An example of green good is:
 - (a) White paper (b) Wind power
 - (c) Forest products (d) Solar energy

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- A. (a) and (b) only B. (b) and (c) only C. (c) and (d) only D. (b) and (d) only
- **4.** The way in which consumers can produce a green product from a brown product:
 - A. Monopoly
 - B. Retail offsets
 - C. Price discrimination
 - D. Fiscal deficit
- 5. Impure Public goods are:
 - A. Private goods
 - B. Public goods
 - C. A package of Public and Private goods
 - D. Harmful goods for the society

	PASSAGE		PASSAGE-			
2	3	4	1	2	3	
В	А	А	A	В	D	
	PASSAGE	-2			PASSAGE	-4
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ANSWERS

	P	ASSAGE-	5			F	PASSAGE	-18
1	2	3			1	2		3
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		ASSAGE-1	2			F	PASSAGE	-25
1 B	2 D	3 D			1	2	3	4
D		ASSAGE-1	3		А	С	С	D
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1 C	D D	S C			1	2	3	
-		ASSAGE-1	1		В	NABARD	False	
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B	2 A	B	н В			1	2	3
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PASSAGE-18 2 3 Fiscal deficits True 4 А PASSAGE-19 2 3 4 New Economic Policy True А PASSAGE-20 2 3 4 A True C PASSAGE-21 2 3 4 verty line Consumption per capita expenditure PASSAGE-22 2 3 4 Casualization Gini Coefficient D PASSAGE-23 3 4 C D 2 5 С D PASSAGE-24 2 3 4 D B A 5 Α D PASSAGE-25 2 3 4 C C D

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С