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Institute for IAS Examination

The Analyst

CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout

16th December 2025



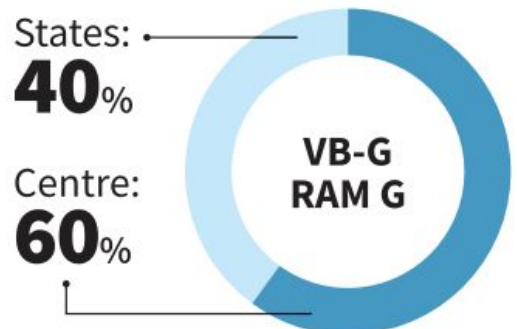
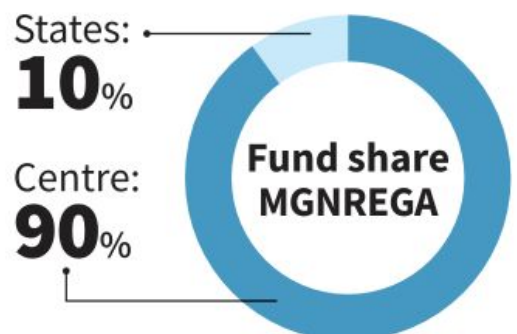
16th December, 2025

A radical revamp of rural jobs Framework

CONTEXT: The proposed Viksit Bharat-Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission Bill, which will replace the MGNREGA, 2005 intends to effectively overhaul the rural jobs scheme that has long served as a social security net for the rural poor.

Proposed changes:

- **No. of guaranteed wage employment days:** in a financial year from 100 to 125.
- **Changes in funding patterns:**
 - ◆ **MGNREGA:** Union government was responsible for 100% of the labour wages and 75% of the material wages.
 - In practice, this translated to a **90:10 cost** share between the Centre and the States.
 - ◆ **Now: Section 22(2) of the VB-G RAM G Bill**
- **Year - round to Seasonal pause:** proposes a **60-day pause** in the scheme during the peak agricultural seasons of sowing and harvesting, a move said to be aimed at ensuring farm labour availability.
- **'Normative allocation': Top-down approach:**
 - ◆ **Earlier - Bottom up approach:** states have to present their **annual work plan and labour budget** to the Union Ministry of Rural Development before the beginning of each financial year. The Centre then finalises the allocation
- The Central Government shall **determine the state-wise normative allocation** for each financial year, based on objective parameters as may be prescribed by the Central Government.



**North-Eastern, Himalayan States, and J&K retain 90:10 ratio*

- **Any expenditure incurred by a State in excess of its normative allocation** shall be borne by the State Government in such manner and by such procedure as may be prescribed by the Central Government.
- Centre will not only set the budget for each State but also decide where it will be spent.
 - ◆ **Section 5(1)** empowers the Union government to **"notify rural areas** in a State" where the scheme will be implemented.
- The MGNREGA was demand-based and allowed flexibility to increase the budget based on need.



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→ Technological interventions:

- ◆ introduced under the MGNREGA — such as mobile app-based attendance, Aadhaar-based payment systems, and geotagging of worksites — are now codified into law.

→ Viksit Gram Panchayat Plans:

- ◆ all works under the new scheme shall be originated from the Viksit Gram Panchayat Plans consolidated at the Block, District and State levels and further aggregated into the Viksit Bharat National Rural Infrastructure Stack.
- ◆ **Viksit Bharat National Rural Infrastructure Stack** shall encompass four thematic focus domains:
 - Water security through water-related work
 - Core rural infrastructure
 - Livelihood-related infrastructure
 - Works for the mitigation of extreme weather events
- ◆ These plans will be integrated with the PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan.

→ Gramin Rozgar Guarantee Card to replace job cards:

- ◆ Such persons may submit the names, ages and address of the household to the Gram Panchayat within whose jurisdiction they reside.
- ◆ **Special Gramin Rozgar Guarantee Cards** to single women, persons with disability, persons above sixty years; released bonded labourers; persons belonging to Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups; and transgender persons. The **special card will have a distinct colour.**

→ Unlike **existing job cards which are valid for five years**, the Gramin Rozgar Guarantee Card will be **valid for three years**, after which it may be renewed upon verification.

→ Higher penalty

- ◆ **Section 27** – earlier Rs 1,000 ; now it is proposed to be Rs 10,000.

Issues with Proposed Changes:

- **Shift from a “demand-driven framework” to a “supply-driven scheme:**
 - **Earlier**, the scheme envisaged a bottom-up approach wherein states would estimate the demand for work and share it with the Centre.
 - **Affect states that see a higher demand under the MGNREGS** (top five states seeing the highest demand were Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar and Andhra Pradesh
- **Top-down approach:**
 - The Central Government shall determine the state-wise normative allocation for each financial year & allocations will be **capped within a fixed budget.**
 - **New Bill – Section 5(1)** empowers the Union government to “notify rural areas in a State” where the scheme will be implemented.
- **Increased Financial burden on States:**
 - implementation of the GST and the Centre’s increasing focus on different kinds of cess have constrained states’ revenue streams.



A radical revamp of rural jobs Framework

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- **Similar to PMFBY**, where the failure of many states to make timely payments of their 50 per cent premium subsidy share has led to its suboptimal performance.
- **Issues with seasonal Pause:**
 - States are to notify this 60-day period in advance. They may issue distinct notifications for different areas based on agro-climatic zones, local patterns of agricultural activities or other factors.
 - *effectively results in a shorter window to avail of the 125-day scheme*
 - **Paddy:** sowing period starts in May and continues till August & harvesting – from September to January.
 - **Wheat:** sowing – starts in October and continues till January. Harvesting – February to June.

Mains Practise Question

“The Viksit Bharat–Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) Bill seeks to reform India’s rural employment framework.” Critically examine the key proposed changes and their implications for rural livelihoods.

(15 Marks, 250 words)

Table 1 shows how the actual devolution of Central taxes to States has fallen short

Finance Commission	Recommended share on shareable pool (in %)	Actual share on GTR (in %)
13Th FC	32	28
14th FC	42	32
15th FC up to 2023-24	41	31



16th December, 2025

India - Oman Relations

CONTEXT: The PM is going to visit Oman on December 17, as part of the three-nation tour (Jordan and Ethiopia), which starts from December 15-18.

India-Oman relations: Convergences:

- **Historic Cooperation:**
 - During and after the Cold War era, Oman was friendlier to India compared to the Arab World (which was supportive of Pakistan).
- **Strategic Relations:**
 - Diplomatic relations were established in 1955 and upgraded to a strategic partnership in 2008.
- **Defence and security engagement:**
 - MoU on military cooperation, signed in 2005.
 - Oman is the **first Gulf country** with which all the three wings of India's defence forces hold joint exercises.
 - **Since 2012-13**, an Indian naval ship has remained on duty in the Gulf of Oman for anti-piracy operations.
 - In recent years, both countries have cooperated in ensuring **maritime security in the Indian Ocean Region**.
- **Logistics Support:**
 - The logistics agreement on **Duqm Port in Oman**, signed in **2018** - providing basing facilities, operational turnaround and other logistics facilities to the Indian Navy.
- **Oman's strategic location:**
 - overlooking the **Gulf of Oman** and the **Arabian Sea** also allows India to keep a *discreet watch on growing Chinese PLA Naval activity* in the region.
- **Economic and commercial relations:**
 - **Bilateral trade** - \$10.613 billion for FY 2024-25.
 - **Foreign direct investment** equity inflow **from Oman to India** from April 2000 to March 2025 is **\$605.57 million**.
 - **Oman-India Joint Investment Fund:** between the **SBI and Oman Investment Authority**, has already invested \$600 million in India.
 - **India-Oman CEPA is likely to be signed**, making Oman only the second country in the region (after the United Arab Emirates) to sign such an agreement with India.
- **Fintech and digital payments:**
 - **October 2022:** Central Bank of Oman signed a landmark MoU with NPCI to link the payment systems between the two countries and **launched the Rupay debit card in Oman**.



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Way Ahead:

- **Energy cooperation:** may expand to include green hydrogen, renewable energy and critical minerals. There could also be a discussion on Oman holding strategic petroleum reserves in India.
- **Expanding defence ties:**
 - Setting up **joint production facilities**, supply of critical weapon platforms such as the Tejas fighter aircraft, naval patrol ships and radar equipment too may be finalised.

- A deal with Oman to supply spare parts of Jaguar fighter aircraft to India too is likely.
- **Education and health:** setting up of offshore campuses of prestigious Indian institutes such as the Indian Institute of Technology and the Indian Institute of Management in Oman.

Mains Practise Question

"India–Oman relations have been characterised by historical linkages, strategic trust, and Oman's balanced foreign policy in West Asia." Highlight the key pillars of India–Oman relations and analyse their significance for India's strategic interests in the Indian Ocean Region and West Asia.

(15 Marks, 250 words)



Indian's need Universal Healthcare

SYLLABUS: G.S. 2: Issues related to health

Newspaper : The Indian Express; Page No : 13

Context: December 12 was **Universal Health Coverage Day**. This year's theme was *"Unaffordable health costs? We're sick of it!."* (growing frustration with the rising financial burden of healthcare)

- **Universal health coverage (WHO):** means that all people have access to the full range of quality health services they need, when and where they need them, without financial hardship. It covers the full continuum of essential health services, from *health promotion to prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and palliative care*.
 - universal human right to health
 - reinforced by the WHO in the Alma-Ata Declaration, 1978
 - UHC was included in the Sustainable Development Goals (Target 3.8 of SDG-3).
- **India's Scenarios:**
 - **OOPE as a share of Total Health Expenditure:** declined significantly from 62.6% in 2014-15 to 39.4% in 2021-22.
 - **Doctor-population ratio** in the country is 1:834; better than the WHO standard of 1:1000.
- **AB-PMJAY** aims to provide **health cover of Rs. 5 lakhs per family per year** for *secondary and tertiary care hospitalization* to approximately 55 crore beneficiaries corresponding to 12.37 crore families constituting the economically vulnerable bottom 40% of India's population.

→ Issues:

◆ **Undermined the primary care approach:** privileged financial protection through public health insurance.

- These schemes focus on covering costs for hospitalisation and often define packages for different disease conditions.
- Evidence suggests that patients often have to incur out-of-pocket expenditure.
- due to services that are not covered or inadequately covered by packages, or due to abuse of coverage provision by service providers.

→ International Practices:

- ◆ **East Asian countries:** adopted UHC through an insurance approach, but have also strengthened primary and secondary care over time.
- ◆ **China have near-universal insurance coverage**, but the cost to the exchequer has been very high.



Indian's need Universal Healthcare

SYLLABUS: G.S. 2: Issues related to health

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- Nearly a decade ago, China decided to contain costs and **invest in strengthening primary and secondary care**, focusing on prevention, early detection and follow-up care.

- ◆ A strong public sector seems to act as a bulwark to regulate the private sector in terms of quality and cost.

→ **India's legacy:**

- ◆ **Bhore Committee (1943-1946):** public insurance schemes must not be introduced until a robust primary healthcare system is in place.

- ◆ **Chronic under financing of primary healthcare** has resulted in weak public sector provisioning, contributing to increased reliance on the private sector.
- ◆ **NSS data** show growing reliance of the poor on increasingly expensive privately provided healthcare — *an important contributor to household indebtedness.*
- ◆ **Covid pandemic** drew attention to inequities in access to health insurance schemes and the *need to shift from universal health coverage to universal healthcare* in many countries.

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Project Suncatcher

SYLLABUS: Prelims: Science and technology
Newspaper : The Indian Express; Page No : 16

GOOGLE CEO Sundar Pichai recently announced that his company had started a long-term research initiative, Project Suncatcher, which aims to put solar-powered data centres into space by 2027. "We'll send tiny, tiny racks of machines, and have them in satellites, test them out, and then start scaling from there," he told Fox News.

He added that in a decade, it would be normal to build extraterrestrial data centres.

→ About Project Suncatcher:

- ◆ a research initiative exploring how *constellations of solar-powered satellites* could host data centres in space.
- ◆ **idea is similar to satellite constellations like Starlink**, which provide high-speed internet services from space via thousands of orbiting satellites. The **difference** is that Google aims to **deploy high-performance AI accelerators in space** and build a space-based infrastructure.
- ◆ **Vision** for scalable orbiting data centres **relies on solar-powered satellites**, with free-space optical links connecting the nodes into a distributed network.
- ◆ **Relevance:** because AI data centres consume enormous amounts of energy, and their impact on energy use, water consumption, and carbon emissions has become a growing concern.

- ◆ **Billionaires**, including Jeff Bezos, Elon Musk, and Sam Altman, have plans to put data centres in orbit and even on the Moon. *Now, Google has joined the effort.*

→ What are data centres?

- ◆ Data centers are warehouse-like facilities that contain computers for processing and storing data.

→ Why Suncatcher?

- ◆ The **Sun is the ultimate energy source** in our solar system, emitting *more power than 100 trillion times humanity's total electricity production*.
- ◆ In the right orbit, a **solar panel can be up to 8 times more productive than on Earth**, and produce power nearly continuously
- ◆ *Similar to how a network of satellites in low Earth orbit beams internet from space*, Google believes that placing massive computer hardware, specifically **Tensor Processing Units**, connected by *free-space optical links* capable of transferring data at tens of terabits per second, could enable space-based AI data centres.



Project Suncatcher

SYLLABUS: Prelims: Science and technology
Newspaper : The Indian Express; **Page No :** 16

What does Project Suncatcher entail?

According to a policy note released recently, Project Suncatcher will equip solar-powered satellite constellations with **Tensor Processing Units** (Google's patented chip capable of high-volume, low-precision computation) and optical links that may scale machine learning computations in space.

Why in Space?

- ◆ **Growing demand for artificial intelligence computing**, which tech companies believe cannot be met by existing infrastructure.
- ◆ **AI tools** like ChatGPT and Gemini **consume large amounts of energy**, even if only for short periods of time resulting in a much **higher carbon footprint**.

- Placing data centres in space could solve numerous problems, including **providing 24/7 solar power** and mitigating air, water, and noise pollution.
- **Building data centres on Earth is slow** due to site approvals and local opposition. In space, there is virtually no regulation yet—making it an attractive alternative.
- **Problems which will still remain:**
 - ◆ **cooling the hardware** because conventional cooling systems don't work well without gravity.
 - ◆ **space weather** can **damage electronics** and internal components, and the ever-increasing quantity of space debris poses a risk to physical hardware.

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SYLLABUS: Prelims: Economy

Newspaper : The Indian express; Page No : 17

Siddharth Upasani

New Delhi, December 15

INDIA'S HEADLINE retail inflation rate rose to 0.71 per cent in November from October's all-time low of 0.25 per cent. However, to understand what the latest inflation data tells us about the Indian economy, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) data must be looked at in three different ways.

The primary reason behind headline retail inflation being as low as it has been is food prices, which were down on a year-on-year basis for the sixth month in a row. In November, food inflation was a negative 3.91 per cent, slightly higher than a negative 5.02 per cent in October.

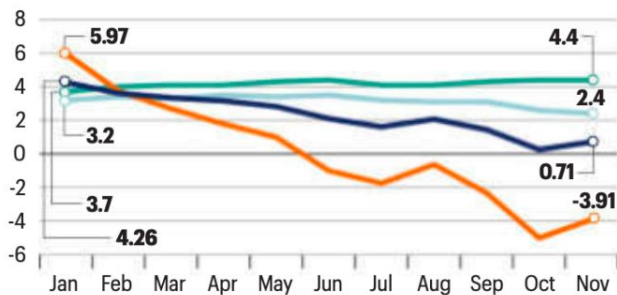
However, these are price changes compared to the same

month last year. When compared to October, food prices were 0.5 per cent higher in November. Daily price data for December also shows a further rise in prices on a month-on-month basis. This is what matters to households, who don't really care so much about the year-on-year inflation rate but how prices are evolving from one day, week, and month to another. And if prices of key food items such as vegetables are up — as they were in November, 2.6 per cent higher from October — then even a record low inflation number stops making sense.

Then there is core inflation, or inflation excluding items whose prices are volatile, such as food and fuel. This measure of inflation is important because it is seen as a sign of underlying

• What do different inflation measures mean?

■ CPI inflation (%) ■ CPI food inflation (%)
■ Core inflation (%) ■ Super-core inflation (%)



SOURCE: MoSPI, THE INDIAN EXPRESS CALCULATIONS

price pressures in the economy; people will buy food and fuel to an extent irrespective of their prices because they are required

for survival — food for nourishment and fuel for mobility.

As such, inflation excluding food and fuel tells us how prices

are moving when we consider only those items whose demand is impacted by changes in prices. And this is where things get interesting, for core inflation has been broadly inching up in 2025, standing around 4.4 per cent in November. This suggests rising demand, which is good. Except, there is a huge problem here.

This 'simple' core inflation includes some fuel items as well as two items that recorded all-time high inflation rates of more than 50 per cent each in November: gold and silver. The two — as well as petrol and diesel — together make up around 3.5 per cent of the entire CPI basket. And if their prices rise or fall sharply, it can completely distort the overall picture. For instance,

if gold and silver are excluded from the CPI, headline retail inflation would have been (-)0.19 per cent in November, according to *The Indian Express'* calculations.

Removing gold, silver, petrol, and diesel from core inflation gives us what economists call 'core-core' or 'super-core' inflation. And calculations show this measure of inflation fell to a new record low of 2.4 per cent in November, indicating price pressures are very weak.

This may be for a variety of reasons, including the September 22 Goods and Services Tax cuts, some weakness in demand, and some statistical issues with how the statistics ministry compiles CPI data.



Unpacking inflation

16th December, 2025

SYLLABUS: Prelims: Economy

Newspaper : The Indian express; Page No : 17

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vehicle' and 'diesel for vehicle', which have relatively large weights, are not included in 'fuel and light'. These fuel items are included in 'transport and communication', a subgroup under the miscellaneous group. Therefore, conventional way of calculating retail core inflation, instead of excluding the volatile fuel items from core inflation, continue to include volatile fuel items in core inflation. As a result, the fuel price rise continues to impact core inflation.

5.8 A 'refined' core inflation was constructed to address this anomaly by excluding main fuel items viz., 'petrol for vehicle', 'diesel for vehicle' and 'lubricants and other fuels for vehicles', in addition to 'food and beverages' and 'fuel and light' from the headline retail inflation. Both the conventional core inflation and refined core inflation are presented in figure 4. Since June 2020, refined core inflation has been much below the conventional core inflation, indicating the impact of inflation in fuel items in the conventional core inflation measure.



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<https://www.pib.gov.in> > PressReleasePage

consumer price index for agricultural labourers & rural ...

18 Jul 2025 — The newly constructed **CPI – AL & RL series (Base: 2019=100)** replaces the CPI – AL/RL (Base: 1986-87=100) series. The revised series has ... [Read more](#)

About CPI

- measures **price changes** from the perspective of a **retail buyer**.
- Four types of CPI** are as follows:
 - CPI for Industrial Workers** – Labour Bureau
 - CPI for Agricultural Labourer** – Labour Bureau
 - CPI for Rural Labourer** – Labour Bureau
 - CPI (Rural/Urban/Combined)** – NSO
- Base Year for CPI:**
 - CPI (IW)** – 2016
 - CPI (AL & RL)** – 2019
 - CPI (U/R/Combined)** – 2012 (proposed base year is 2024)
- CPI Combined** is widely used as the official retail inflation rate in India.

PYQ. Consider the following statements:
(2020)

- The weightage of food in Consumer Price Index (CPI) is higher than that in Wholesale Price Index (WPI).
- The WPI does not capture changes in the prices of services, which CPI does.
- The Reserve Bank of India has now adopted WPI as its key measure of inflation and to decide on changing the key policy rates.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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



PLFS: Unemployment dips to 4.7%

16th December, 2025

SYLLABUS: Prelims: Economy

Newspaper : The Hindu; Page No : 14

Basic Concepts

- **Labour force participation rate** is the ratio between the total labour force divided by the total working-age population.
- **Worker Population Ratio:** is defined as the percentage of employed persons in the population.
- **Unemployment Rate:** is defined as the percentage of persons unemployed among the persons in the labour force.

Participation Rate Formula

$$\text{Participation Rate} = \frac{\text{Employed People} + \text{Unemployed People}}{\text{Working Age Non-Institutionalized Population}}$$



Unemployment
Rate

=

Unemployed

Labour force

× 100

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The unemployment rate (UR) among people aged 15 years and above declined to 4.7% in November, the lowest level since April, when it stood at 5.1%, according to the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) report for November released on Monday.

The PLFS, conducted by the National Statistical Office (NSO) of the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI), stated that the overall Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) increased to 55.8% in November, the highest level recorded since April.

According to a MoSPI statement based on the PLFS report, the rise in LFPR was primarily driven by rural areas, where it increased to 58.6% in November from 58% in April.

On a month-on-month basis, the rural LFPR rose from 57.8% in October, while the urban LFPR decreased marginally from 50.5% to 50.4%.

Overall, the female LFPR showed a steady rise from June 2025 to November 2025, the MoSPI said.

"It increased from 32%

The overall LFPR increased to 55.8% in November, the highest since April, the survey found

to 35.1% during this period, driven mainly by higher labour force participation in rural areas, while urban female LFPR remained relatively stable. Rural female LFPR recorded a consistent upward movement, rising from 35.2% in June 2025 to 39.7% in November 2025," it added.

The Worker Population Ratio (WPR) for persons aged 15 years and above in rural areas increased from 55.4% in April 2025 to 56.3% in November 2025, while the overall WPR rose from 52.8% to 53.2%.

"Urban WPR remained largely stable. Notably, rural female WPR improved from 36.8% in April 2025 to 38.4% in November 2025, driving the rise in overall female WPR from 32.5% to 33.4% over this period," the Centre said.

The NSO surveyed 3,73,229 people for the PLFS. 2,13,337 from rural and 1,59,892 from urban areas were surveyed in this round.



16th December, 2025

PLFS: Unemployment dips to 4.7%

SYLLABUS: Prelims: Economy

Newspaper : The Hindu; Page No : 14

About PLFS

- **Conducting agency:** National Statistics Office
- **Ministry:** Introduced in 2017 by **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation**
- **NSO revamped PLFS from January 2025:**
 - ◆ **Availability of** key employment and unemployment indicators on **monthly basis for rural and urban areas** in **Current Weekly Status**.

- ◆ **Extending quarterly estimates to rural areas in CWS:** Previously PLFS provided quarterly labour market indicators **for urban areas only**; now it will be available for both rural and urban areas.
- ◆ **Enhanced sample size: 2.65 time increase** in sample households to be covered in PLFS.
- ◆ **Improved social indicators data availability:** Additional details about education; land possessed and land leased out; and households' usual monthly income from rent, pension, interest and remittances is now covered.



16th December, 2025

SYLLABUS: Prelims: Places in News

Newspaper : The Hindu; Page No : 12



The Prime Minister, along with the Crown Prince, is scheduled to visit Petra, the historic city that shares ancient trade linkages with India, subject to weather conditions.

to Palestine. India and Jordan share strong economic ties, with New Delhi being Amman's third-largest trading partner.

- **Location:** in the **north of the Arabian Peninsula** and in West Asia.
- **Bordering Countries:** **Syria** in the north, **Iraq** in the east, **Saudi Arabia** in the south and southeast and **Israel and Palestine** in the west.
- **Bordering water bodies:** Jordan river, Dead Sea and Gulf of Aqaba
 - The **Jordan River** which drains into the Dead Sea.
- **Ports:** **Al-Aqabah**, the only port of Jordan is located in the south-western part of the country along the coasts of the Gulf of Aqaba.
- **Capital City:** Amman
- **Natural Resources:** It mainly consists of phosphates, potash and shale oil.
 - Jordan is a major supplier of phosphates and potash to India.

between our nations,” he added. This full-fledged bilateral visit to Jordan is taking place after 37 years, coinciding with the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Jordan is the first leg of Modi's four-day, three-nation tour, which will also take him to Ethiopia and Oman.

Modi will meet King Abdullah II ibn Al Hussein for a one-on-one talk followed by a delegation-level meeting. On Tuesday, the Prime



16th December, 2025

Q1. Regarding the proposed “Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission Bill”, consider the following statements:

1. It seeks to integrate employment generation with livelihood security.
2. It aims to move beyond skill-linked pathways by emphasising pure wage employment.
3. Its objectives are intended to be implemented exclusively through State governments without any Central coordination mechanism.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only One
- b) Only Two
- c) All Three
- d) None

Answer: a

Q2.Regarding Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in India, consider the following statements:

1. Universal Health Coverage necessarily implies free healthcare services for all citizens, irrespective of income.
2. Ayushman Bharat–Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana primarily addresses the financial protection component of UHC.
3. Out-of-pocket expenditure in India is a major indicator of gaps in achieving UHC.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: c

Q3. Regarding Project Suncatcher, consider the following statements:

1. The project proposes deploying high-performance AI accelerators as the primary payload.
2. The proposed inter-satellite communication architecture relies solely on radio-frequency links, similar to existing satellite internet systems.
3. The project explores the feasibility of hosting distributed data centres in Earth’s orbit.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only One
- b) Only Two
- c) All Three
- d) None

Answer: b

Q4. Which of the following statements regarding the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in India is/are correct?

1. The CPI for Industrial Workers and the CPI for Agricultural Labourers (CPI-AL) are compiled by the same organisation but have different base years.
2. The Consumer Price Index for Rural Labourers and CPI-AL share a common base year but differ in the population group they represent.
3. The CPI (Combined) is compiled by the National Statistical Office.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: d

Q5. Regarding the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), consider the following statements:

1. Monthly employment data uses Current Weekly Status.
2. Quarterly PLFS estimates earlier covered both rural and urban areas.
3. Revamped PLFS increased the household sample size significantly.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: a





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