



INSIGHTSIAS

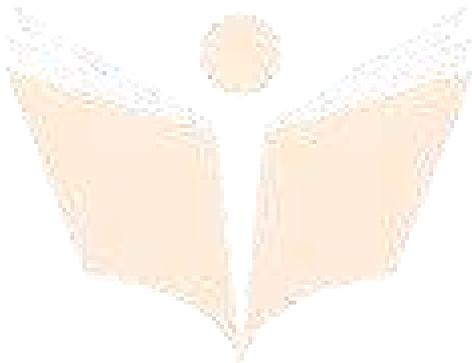
SIMPLIFYING
IAS EXAM PREPARATION

Insights into Yojana: October 2017

New India

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Creating a Clean India

Introduction

- The practice of open defecation causes over **1 lakh preventable child deaths** every year through diarrhoeal infections.
- A **study by World Bank** estimates that nearly **40% of India's children are stunted**, primarily because of **lack of sanitation**. This has an adverse impact on their **economic potential**, and is estimated to **cost India over 6% of our GDP**.
- **Women's safety and dignity** are often compromised due to open defecation. A 21st century India on the path to becoming a global economic super power should have no place for open defecation.

The Progress of SBM

- The Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) has completed 3 years. **Overall, progress is good**, with some states performing better than others.
- Rural sanitation coverage has gone up to 68%. **Five states – Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Haryana and Uttarakhand have become Open Defecation Free (ODF)**.
- One of the biggest achievements has been that all the 4000+ villages on the banks of the river Ganga have become ODF.

How is SBM unique

- The SBM is a globally unique programme, different in scope and scale from any other sanitation initiative in the world.
- Changing habits and getting millions of people to voluntarily engage in **janandolan** to fight the practice of open defecation.
- SBM is about bringing **changes in people's minds** and not about creating infrastructure.
- The key differentiator is the focus on **behaviour change** through Information, Education and Communication (IEC) and **shifting the focus from outputs to outcomes**.
- The community are leading the **Swachhta revolution**. Children, women, senior citizens and specially abled citizens have emerged as the biggest **Swachhta Champions**.
- Lakhs of sanitation motivators called **Swachhagrahis** are being trained in community approaches to sanitation.
- Bollywood stars and cricketers are also getting involved. Amitab Bachchan is leading a "**Darwaza Bandh**" campaign on TV, radio and outdoor hoarding across the country.
- Sustaining of ODF is no easy task and states, districts and villages will need to continue the focus on IEC to ensure that they remain ODF.
- Districts are ranked under **Swachhta Darpan** based on their performance, sustainability and transparency on SBM-G.
- Waste is now being used as a resource and the name has been re-christened to **Solid and Liquid Resource Management (SLRM)**.

SBM is Everyone's Business

- Sanitation must become everyone's business and not the responsibility of one Ministry or Department alone. A major step in this direction was taken with the launch of **Swachh Iconic Places (SIP) and Swachhta Action Plans (SAP)**.

- The SIP has seen identification of 20 iconic places of historical and cultural significance and make them **islands of excellence** with respect to Swachhta.
- The SAP has successfully gotten all Ministries and Departments of the government to take up swachhta and sanitation related activities in their respective sectors.
- Even the private sector has been inspired to contribute to the SBM through CSR and also leveraging their human and managerial resources to help in direct implementation of SBM.

SBM becoming a Janandolan

- **Swachhathon – the Swachh Bharat Hackathon** which invited innovation technology based solutions to some of the most challenging questions being faced by SBM-G.
- Inspired by **Sankalp Se Siddhi initiative**, the SBM-G has launched the **Swachh Sankalp Se Swachh Siddhi** film, essay and painting competition across India in making swachhta a janandolan.
- **Swachhta Hi Seva**, a time bound nationwide mass mobilisation campaign to construct toilets, clean up public spots and spread awareness about SBM.

Questions

1. Critically evaluate performance and outcomes of the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM).
2. Despite some success, it's argued that there is a key binding constraint to achieving Swachh Bharat under the Swachh Bharat Mission(SBM). What's this constraint? Discuss it's importance for the success of SBM.
3. Sanitation must become everyone's business and not the responsibility of one Ministry or Department alone. Comment
4. Which of the following state was declared as the 5th Open Defecation Free (ODF) State in India?
 - a. Uttrakhand
 - b. Haryana
 - c. Himachal Pradesh
 - d. Gujarat

Solution (b)

5. Who is leading the toilet usage campaign "Darwaza Band" of the Union Government?
 - [A] Aamir Khan
 - [B] Mary Kom
 - [C] Geeta Phogat
 - [D] Amitabh Bachchan

Solution (d)

6. Consider the following statements about the campaign "Swachhta Hi Seva".
 1. It was launched by President Ram Nath Kovind.
 2. The objective of the campaign is to mobilise people and reinforce the "Jan Aandolan" for sanitation
 3. This is being coordinated by the Ministry of Drinking Water and SanitationWhich of the above statements is/are correct?
 - a. 1 and 2

- b. 2 and 3
- c. 1 and 3
- d. 1, 2 and 3

Solution (d)

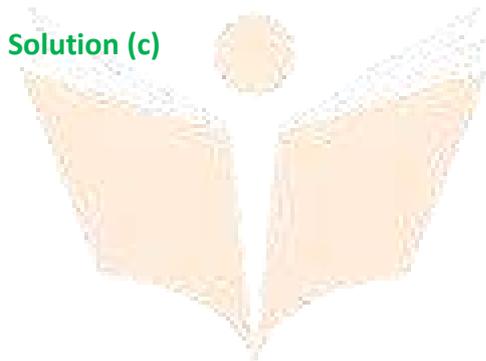
7. Consider the following statements about Swachh Iconic Places (SIP).

1. The Swachh Iconic Places is an initiative under the Swachh Bharat Mission.
2. It is a special clean-up initiative focused on select iconic heritage, spiritual and cultural places in the country.
3. The initiative is being coordinated by the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation in association with the Ministry of Urban Development, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Tourism and the concerned State governments.
4. The SIP has identified 20 iconic places of historical and cultural significance.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. 1, 2 and 3
- b. 2, 3 and 4
- c. 1, 2, 3 and 4
- d. 1, 3 and 4

Solution (c)



Creating Casteism Free India

Introduction

- Casteism is one of the greatest **social evils plaguing the socio-economic development** of India as well as its unity.
- At a time when we are looking towards an India that is united, dignified and developed, casteism is acting as a powerful social and political divisive force, causing social conflicts, effecting stability, peace and harmony, manipulating electoral outcomes and effecting legislative and executive decision making.
- For making an India that is strong, self-reliant, free of poverty, illiteracy, and diseases, occupying a place of honour in world community, **elimination of casteism is among the essential needs of the time.**

Caste in Colonial Period

- British colonial rule treated **caste as the institutional key stone of Indian society**. Beginning with the first decennial census of 1871, the census became the main instrument of gathering information about the caste system and classifying it.
- British rulers used caste system as one of the **instruments of divide and rule**. They enforced caste affiliations rigorously and institutionalised caste into the working of governmental institutions.
- The immediate effect of this was that it increased **caste consciousness and inter-caste competition**.
- The national leaders attempted to reduce the differences and subsume the social justice issues in national struggle but could not succeed much.

Casteism

- The term casteism means the tendency of caste or sub-caste groups to maximise economic, social and political advantages of its members to the detriment of the other caste members and society as a whole.
- At times it amounts to hatred of one caste by the other.
- Politicians in their bid to mobilise support have been exploiting the caste loyalties. They view democracy and elections as a way to gain power and control over state.
- Caste is being used as a pressure group to receive due or undue benefits. There are caste based educational institutions, hostels, housing societies, etc.
- In general **casteism is causing social disharmony**. It is seriously affecting the task of socio-economic development and building of a new modern India.

Need for Elimination

- Casteism has been eating into the socio-economic and political fabric of our society. The task of elimination or atleast to begin with the **reduction of casteism is the need of the hour**.
- The **first step** towards reducing casteism is **Education**. It includes generation and dissemination of **awareness about myths associated with the caste system**.
- **Voters need to be educated** about how they are exploited by caste leaders without any developmental benefits.

- **Civil society has a significant role** in social and political reforms. They have to **create awareness** and mobilise voters on non-caste basis, inform them about the imperatives of development and negative effects of casteism on social disharmony and conflicts.
- Civil society can play a useful role by **encouraging inter-caste marriages, dining and other social interactions** to highlight the myths of separation.
- **Election commission** will have to find ways to curb the use of caste. State funding of elections, strict imposition of code of conduct, voter's education etc. can be some means for that. Most important is **political will and consensus**.
- Recent trends in elections suggest that voters are giving importance to performance of governments, leadership and developmental issues. This trend needs to be strengthened.
- Political parties should rise above politics of short term gains and think in terms of **long term task of nation building**.
- Citizens must exercise their vote according to their free will and not muffled by caste or community.
- We Indians must contribute in **nation building based on values of freedom, equality, justice and fraternity** leading to a society where all have access to livelihood, health care, education and opportunities to develop their personality.
- That is the India the founding fathers of our constitution envisaged and that we are still looking for after 70 years of independence.

Questions

1. **Casteism is one of the greatest social evils plaguing the socio-economic development of India. Analyse.**
2. **Essay Topic: Caste System – Source of India's Eternal Inequality?**
3. **Critically examine the need for elimination of casteism in India.**
4. **Analyse how casteism is causing social disharmony in India. What is the role of civil society in eliminating casteism?**

Farmers' Welfare Holds the Key

Introduction

- To attain the goals of **New India** in our predominantly agrarian economy, **agriculture** remains one of the core issues as it provides livelihood support to nearly 55% workforce and also contributes around 14% to national GDP.
- Overall growth rate of agriculture sector during 2016-17 was recorded as 4.4% which needs to be raised to 10.4% to meet the target of **doubling farmers' income by 2022**.

Strategic Moves through Novel Schemes

- Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare has developed a **seven point strategic plan** to realize the **vision of New India** by focusing on new agriculture and prosperity of farmers.
- The strategy focuses on enhancing crop production, slashing cultivation costs and post-harvest losses and reform of agriculture markets.
- Value addition of agri-produce, crop insurance and disaster relief, promotion of horticulture and dairy production are other priority areas.
- Efforts made under **Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)** have substantially increased the area under micro-irrigation.
- The **soil health card scheme** is helping farmers to cut down cultivation costs and enhancing soil productivity on sustainable basis.
- **Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)** ensures higher income to farmers due to lower cost of cultivation and premium price of organic produce.
- **Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)** provides insurance umbrella to all food grains, oilseeds and commercial crops.
- Realisation of better price in the market is one of the critical prerequisites for enhancing farmers' income. **E-NAM** is addressing the issue by integrating over 410 mandis of 13 states on a common e-platform.
- These schemes and programmes need to be implemented in a time bound manner to get the desired impact on farmers' income.

Enhanced Productivity for Increased Profitability

- New farming technologies need to be extensively propagated in fields for raising productivity.
- Modern farming practices like **SRI (System of Rice Intensification)**, direct seeded rice, and zero tillage also promise attractive returns on investment.
- **Integrated farming system** provides more stable incomes even during years of extreme weather events.
- Diversification towards high value crops and other allied enterprises such as forestry, processing of agriculture produce etc offers great scope to improve farmers' income.
- The skill development can play a substantial role in improving skills of farming community for better income in allied or non-farm sectors.

New Vision

- In the past, the Government's vision and strategy focused on increasing agricultural production for food security. Of late, policy planners realised the need to raise farmers' income and promote farmers' welfare.
- The new vision aims to reduce agrarian distress and bring parity between income of farmers and those working in non-agricultural professions.

Questions

1. What are the biggest challenges faced by Indian agriculture today? How can we overcome these challenges? Discuss.
2. How realistic is the objective of the Government of India to double the income of farmers by 2022? Examine what it takes to achieve this objective
3. Critically comment on the measures taken by the government towards doubling farmers' income?
4. Consider the following statements:
 1. It is a set of ideas which are the absolute opposite to those of the first green revolution
 2. This method uses fewer seeds than traditional methods of the green revolutionWhich of the above statements about the 'System of Rice Intensification' technique is/are true?
 - a. 1 only
 - b. 2 only
 - c. both 1 and 2
 - d. none of the above

Solution (c)

5. Which committee has been constituted by the Union Government to suggest ways for doubling farmers' income by 2022?
 - [A]Arvind Panagariya committee
 - [B]Ashok Dalwai committee
 - [C]Amitabh Kant committee
 - [D]Bibek Debroy committee

Solution (b)

Triple Talaq Verdict: A Victory for Muslim Women

Introduction

- The Supreme Court has delivered its historic judgement, which has liberated the Muslim women from the barbaric practice of Triple Talaq.
- It is now evident that the nation is now free from the malpractices of Triple Talaq.

Humanity Wins

- The Supreme Court in its judgement gave a new life to Muslim women.
- The court has held the practice of triple talaq **unconstitutional** striking it down with the majority.
- The court also asked the parliament to frame a law on the issue within six months.
- Due to lack of sound provision for marriage, divorce and alimony, most of the Muslim women suffer a worse life.
- A survey carried out by the **Bharatiya Muslim Mahila Andolan** revealed that 92.1% of Muslim, women in India were pushing hard to put an end to verbal and instant talaq. After this historic judgement by apex court, indeed their wish has been accomplished.
- Now, abiding by the orders of the court, the government has to bring a stringent law in order to safeguard their rights, a law which results in the betterment of their life.

Questions

1. It is said that abolition of instant triple talaq is the beginning of the process of reforms in Muslim personal law. What more reforms are needed in Muslim personal law? Discuss.
2. Are judicial pronouncements on the issue of triple talaq in India liberal and favourable to women compared to practice of triple talaq in Islamic countries? Critically examine.

Innovation Led Reforms for New India

Introduction

- The “New India” that inspires, motivates, disrupts governance; empower to partner with the government and emphasises on inclusive growth of the country.
- This is the first ever initiative taken by NITI Ayog through ‘**Champions of Change**’- an attempt to bring entrepreneurs from varied industries in direct dialogue with the government and share their vision for the ‘New India’ of their dreams.
- **Disrupt Governance Model:**
 - In order to make governance effective for all citizens, reforms were taken by government such as scrapping the 1200 odd laws which were ineffective but were in existence, increasing the reach of banking and financial sector through PMJDY, provide an opportunity to partner and do business through Government e-Marketplace (GeM).
- **Innovation leads development** in the same spirit as what Mahatma Gandhi did during the freedom struggle. He turned the freedom struggle into a mass movement and we saw the results.
- Similarly we need to **make India’s development a mass movement**. When we work together we can solve every problem our country faces. We as a society are responsible to use our strengths to resolve the challenges to build the New India.

Nurture Big Ideas of Small Minds

- Dr APJ Abdul Kalam lived his life in transforming society through technology and has always believed in motivating and inspiring students and youth of country.
- The best way to enhance critical thinking in students and youth is by making them to think “out-of-the-box”, motivating them to observe the surrounding challenges and address the problems they observe or routinely face.
- Allow them to learn through their failure and facts, give them the opportunity to become unique. Dr Kalam used to tell students and youth that one must have great aims in life as **aiming low is a crime!**
- Steve Jobs, Bill Gates, Michael Dell, and so many other entrepreneurs weren’t created overnight. Students will have to learn by experience that the expert in some area was a beginner at one point in time.

Questions

1. **What’s the role of innovation, entrepreneurship and faster technology deployment in economic growth? It’s is said that democratization of these three factors is crucial for India to reach new heights in economy and technology. Discuss.**
2. **Essay Topic: “Innovation is the key determinant of economic growth and social welfare”**
3. **Dr Abdul Kalam used to tell students and youth that one must have great aims in life as aiming low is a crime! Analyse the relevance of the statement in present time.**

Zero Tolerance to Corruption

Introduction

- Corruption and black money have destroyed Indian democracy. Smart governance has given the roadmap for India's fight against corruption.

Zero Tolerance to Corruption Approach

- India's **zero tolerance to corruption** approach as well as **minimum government and maximum governance** approach resulted in simplification of the governance model in recent years.
- The government sought international cooperation in G-20 meetings on ending tax havens in Europe and other countries.

Frameworks to Fight Corruption

- India's fight against corruption is led by a robust **institutional and legislative framework** including:
 - Prevention of Corruption Act
 - Independent Central Vigilance Commission
 - Comptroller and Auditor General
 - The Judges (Inquiry) Act
 - The Lokpal and Lokayukta Act 2013
 - Whistle Blowers Protection Act 2011
 - Prevention of Money Laundering Act
 - Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Act

Making Governance Smarter

- **Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana** is a national mission encompassing an integrated approach to bring financial inclusion of all the households of the country.
- The **Aadhaar Act** provided a legal backing to the Aadhaar-Unique Identification number project and provided for an efficient, transparent and targeted delivery of subsidies.
- The **BHIM application** facilitates e-payments directly through banks, promoted the drive towards cashless transactions.

Focus on Preventive Vigilance

- The CVC has endeavoured to ensure transparency, objectivity and accountability into the public administration. Measures include:
 - Government E-Market (GEM)
 - Promote ethics through education of students and youth
 - Process simplification to reduce interfere with public servants
 - Awarding exemplary punishment in cases of proven misconduct to create deterrence

Strengthening Audit and Accounting

- Some of the changes introduced in financial governance are:
 - Amalgamation of railways and general budgets
 - The merger of plan and non-plan expenditures

- Opening of number of sector for FDI
- Introduction of GST
- There are challenges posed by shadow economy and black money, transfer pricing, etc and the need to manage large volumes of digital information that will emerge from increasing automation of tax filing, assessment and recovery procedures.

Transparency in Governance

- The RTI Act has deepened India's democracy and created a durable stake for citizens in the administration of the nation.
- By sharing information, the citizens have become part of the decision making process which leads to creation of trust between citizens and government.

Prevention of Corruption

- The accountability standards for public servants have to be kept at realistic levels so that officers do not hesitate in taking honest decisions.

Questions

1. **Essay Topic: "Corruption in India: Neither Systemic Reforms nor Surgical Strikes would End it"**
2. **Critically examine India's achievement in elimination of corruption during last three years.**



Energising Youth through Skill Development

Introduction

- India is yet to reap the benefits of demographic dividend in view of its huge young population.
- India's working age population is projected to touch 170 million by 2020, according to ASSOCHAM study.
- Therefore, if we do not train our young workforce now, we run the risk of losing the fruits of our working age population and turning our demographic dividend into a demographic disaster.
- Creation of employment opportunities and creation of employable youth population should go hand in hand.

Skill Deficit

- **Lack of quality education** has resulted in higher instances of **employability deficit** among youth. Scarcity of employment opportunities has increased competition in the job market.
- Continuing high drop-out rates in schools and colleges coupled with lack of entrepreneurial motivation and orientation have also caused widespread unemployment among the youth of the nation.
- Capacity building in existing systems of training, maintaining quality and relevance in training, creating institutional mechanism and financing these training initiatives are some of the challenges for skill development.

To create Employable Workforce

- The ASSOCHAM study points that India has not fared well on the ranking for patent and growth of new start-ups.
- Institutes of higher learning such as state and central universities are starved of funds to establish research infrastructure and promote entrepreneurship.
- Skilling has become the only way out to improve the entrepreneurship landscape of the country.
- Resources should be mobilised and vocational education and skill development platforms will create an employable workforce for the overall economy.

Skill India Programme

- The **National Policy on Skill Development** envisions enhancing employability among the labour force of the country. It aspires to increase productivity in the economy and strengthen the competitiveness of the country to raise the standard of living of the poor.
- **Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana** identifies industry relevant skills required to acquire gainful employment for the youth.

Enabling Environment for Entrepreneurship

- A study conducted by ISEED found that 87% of the students surveyed aspired to become entrepreneurs. The study reports entrepreneurial aspirations higher among economically weaker sections.
- The modern workforce culture demands new skills and attitudes among the employees.

- India's skill development and training programmes must include these advanced skill-set and progressive work attitudes in order to develop human capital with increased competitiveness.

Employability Skills through Entrepreneurship Education

- Entrepreneurial skills are a bundle of integrated skill-set that includes: people skills, life skills and other soft skills.
- Education with a clear purpose has to enhance entrepreneurial efficacy through providing them knowledge, skills and attitude to deal with complex situations arising out of any entrepreneurial venturing.

Suggestions and Road-Ahead to create more Skill-Preneurs

- **Gender focus** is important to advance women and transgender focused skill development initiatives and promote entrepreneurship among the discriminated genders.
- Special focus on skill training should be mooted for lower caste groups and other marginalised communities to ensure **"inclusivity for all"**.
- Experts and scholars must come together to develop a comprehensive and accessible "online assessment tools and training curriculum".
- Government and other institutional bodies must engage in impact evaluation of government schemes.
- There is a need to connect industry with institutions and incubation centres.

Conclusion

- For New-India to achieve its full potential students must be encouraged to undergo training to sharpen their entrepreneurial skills, equip them with risk bearing capacity and help them overcome the hurdles they face during the beginning phase of new venture.

Questions

1. **"Improving the gender balance in labour force participation, entrepreneurship and growth is an important first step for India's development."** Discuss.
2. **What's the role of innovation, entrepreneurship and faster technology deployment in economic growth? It's is said that democratization of these three factors is crucial for India to reach new heights in economy and technology.** Discuss.

Role of Women in New India by 2022

Introduction

- Government has chosen 2022 as the target year as it marks the completion of 75 years of independence.
- The 'New India' initiative envisages that the poor shall have concrete houses, access to electricity, healthcare, sanitation, and education; farmers' incomes shall be doubled, there must be ample opportunities for the youth and women, and India would be free of scourges such as communalism, casteism and terrorism by 2022.
- A new slogan has been given "**Sankalp Se Siddhi**" which means "**Attainment through Resolve**".
- In Housing for All scheme, women will be given preference in allocation of house.

Constitutional Provisions

- The constitution of India has given special attention to the needs of women to enable them to exercise their rights and to safeguard their interests.
- The constitution guarantees all Indian women equality (A 14), no discrimination by State (A 15(1)), equality of opportunity (A 16), and equal pay for equal work (A 39(d)).
- The constitutional guarantees of equality would be meaningless and unrealistic unless women's right to economic independence is acknowledged and improvements are made in their skill training.
- Through **73rd and 74th constitutional amendment acts** women have been brought to the centre-stage in the efforts to strengthen democratic institutions.
- The pendency of **Women's Reservation Bill** in the parliament is not a very encouraging sign for ensuring gender equality.

Women Empowerment

- The empowerment of women is **fundamental for the progress of the country**.
- India is a signatory to a number of international conventions- the **Convention on Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)** and SDGs which will address gender equity.
- Once **Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru had said, "You can tell the condition of a nation by looking at the status of women"**. In that regard, India has made considerable advancement in empowering women politically and socio-economically.

Concerns / Challenges

- India's female workforce participation at 25.5% is lower than even Somalia where 37% of women are engaged in active workforce.
- In India about 43% of women of working age (15-59) only work at home for which they don't get any monetary remunerations.
- The data show that there is big difference in letter and spirit in actually executing the schemes for women development.
- Women constitute 48% of India's population, but they lag behind men in health, education, economic opportunities etc.

Gender Budget

- Gender Budget (GB) initiatives was started to analyse how governments raise and spend public money, with the aim of securing gender equality.
- GB is positive and significant for education enrolment and health equality and can potentially improve gender equality at large.

Way Forward

- Education of girls should be given priority and awareness needs to be generated regarding the necessity of educating girls.
- There is a strong need to eliminate all forms of discrimination in employment, especially wage differentials.
- Government should effectively secure participation of women in the decision making process at national, state and local levels.
- For making New India by 2022, we will have to ensure the equality of status for one half of the population in our country.

Questions

1. It is said that women's entrepreneurship might be the tool needed to improve the labour force's gender balance in India. Do you agree? Substantiate
2. "Women are active agents of change. Real development is only possible with their economic empowerment." Discuss any three areas where and why women empowerment is most needed to bring economic development in India.
3. Women empowerment is not possible without involving them in decision-making at all levels. Suggest measures to achieve the same.
4. Analyse the role of education in empowering today's women?
5. Essay Topic: "You can tell the condition of a nation by looking at the status of women".
6. Consider the following statements about the slogan Sankalp Se Siddhi
 1. The 75th anniversary of the Quit India Movement was observed with the theme "Sankalp se Siddhi-the attainment through resolve".
 2. The campaign pledges to build new India by 2022.
 3. It calls on everyone to pledge together towards Clean India, Poverty-free India, Corruption-free India, Terrorism-free India, Communalism-free India, Casteism-free India.Which of the above statements is/are correct?
 - a. 1 and 2
 - b. 2 and 3
 - c. 1 and 3
 - d. 1, 2 and 3

Solution (d)

North East Diary

North East Calling Festival

- The festival '**North East Calling**' was organised by the **Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region** in New Delhi recently.
- The purpose was to promote north eastern art, food, music and culture and to enlighten Delhi people about the sister states.

North-East Venture Fund for Start-ups

- **North-East Venture Fund** offered by Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region is attracting young start-ups and has generated huge enthusiasm among entrepreneurs looking for an opportunity in the North-Eastern region.
- North-east venture fund is the **first dedicated venture capital fund for North-Eastern region**.

First Meeting of Japan-India Coordination Forum (JICF) for Development of North-Eastern Region

- Priority areas of cooperation identified by Indian side including **connectivity and road development, disaster management, food processing, organic farming and tourism**.

