

Corporation Bank Probationary Officers Exam.

General Awareness on Socio-Economic Developments

1. Which of the following is/are the highlights of the Union Budget 2009-10 ? The Finance Minister promised

1. To bring fiscal deficit under control, institutional reforms will be initiated during the year.
2. Banks and insurance companies will remain in public sector and government will provide full support to these institutions to remain competitive by capital infusion, wherever necessary.
3. Banks will be allowed to set up offsite ATMs without prior approval from the RBI.

- (A) Only 1
(B) Only 2
(C) Only 3
(D) Only 1 and 3
(E) All 1, 2 and 3

Ans : (E)

2. As per the reports published in various newspapers/magazines and journals, the year 2008 was an important milestone in the evaluation of human settlements. For the first time in the human history, the population living in urban areas exceeded that in rural areas. What is India's position in this regard ?

1. India is a relatively less urbanized country with only 30% of its total population living in cities.
2. The size of its urban population is the second largest in the world.
3. India has more than 100 biggest cities in the world.

- (A) Only 1
(B) Only 2
(C) Only 1 and 2
(D) All 1, 2 and 3
(E) None of these

Ans : (E)

3. According to Dr. Mohammad Yunus, the Nobel prize winner Economist, a particular type of financing undertaken by the banks, has created a miraculous situation where every year about 5 per cent clients of the Grameen Banks come out of their poverty and join the main stream of the socio economic development in poor/developing countries. This financing activity of the banks is known as—

- (A) Trade Finance
(B) Micro Credit
(C) Export finance
(D) All of these
(E) None of these

Ans : (B)

4. As per the reports published by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the developing economies across the world are holding a massive stockpile of foreign exchange reserves. Which of the following is/are the resultant consequences of this type of stockpiling by various nations ?

1. A trade imbalance (vast difference in value of imports/exports) is generated between the developing and emerging economies and the rich countries. It is not a healthy sign.
2. Many economists are of the opinion that these imbalances created

the underpinning of the current global economic crisis.

3. This stockpiling is responsible not only for problems in trade balances but has also created a problem of money laundering.

- (A) Only 1
- (B) Only 2
- (C) Only 3
- (D) Only 1 and 2
- (E) All 1, 2 and 3

Ans : (E)

5. Which of the following is/are true about the Railway Budget 2009-10 ?

1. Railway tickets to be made available through post offices and mobile vans.
2. Long distance trains will have on-board doctor and infotainment services.
3. Tatkal scheme of booking is modified. Instead of booking tickets under the scheme five days in advance, it can now be done only two days in advance.

- (A) Only 1
- (B) Only 2
- (C) Only 3
- (D) All 1, 2 and 3
- (E) None of these

Ans : (D)

6. The Govt. of India has set up a special group to devise a long term pricing formula, so that it can cope up with the prevailing global volatility in the prices of which of the following commodities ?

- (A) Sugar
- (B) Paddy
- (C) Crude oil and Petroleum
- (D) Gold
- (E) Pulses

Ans : (C)

7. Which of the following is not included in the core sectors of Indian economy ?

- (A) Transport
- (B) Coal
- (C) Steel
- (D) Cement
- (E) Electricity

Ans : (A)

8. As we all know India has a threetier structure of tax administration. There are taxes levied by Central Govt., State Govts. and Local Govts. Which of the following taxes is levied by the Local Government Bodies ?

- (A) Value Added Tax
- (B) Stamp Duty
- (C) Service Tax
- (D) Land Revenue
- (E) Tax on water supply and drainage etc.

Ans : (E)

9. What was the amount sanctioned by the Govt. of India during 2008-09 for providing drinking water to rural parts of India ?

- (A) Rs. 30,000 crore
- (B) Rs. 40,000 crore
- (C) Rs. 53,000 crore

- (D) Rs. 60,000 crore
 - (E) Rs. 73,000 crore
- Ans : (E)

10. The Reserve Bank of India has reconstituted the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on monetary policy with effect from 1st July 2009. Who is the Chairperson of the same ?

- (A) D. Subbarao
- (B) K. C. Chakrabarty
- (C) Shyamala Gopinath
- (D) Usha Thorat
- (E) None of these

Ans : (E)

11. Which of the following statements about the 'State of Indian Economy, during 2008-09 is/are true ?

1. The growth of real GDP during 2008-09 was recorded at 6.7%, compared to 9% during 2007-08.
2. The fiscal deficit was the greatest cause of concern as it exceeded the budget estimates and stood at 13%.
3. Forex reserves were at a very comfortable position as India got a lot of FDIs and FIIs during the year. However, 60% of the reserves were deployed to manage oil and petroleum imports and subsidies on all such products.

- (A) Only 1
- (B) Only 2
- (C) Only 3
- (D) All 1, 2 and 3
- (E) None of these

Ans : (A)

12. Many times we see a term 'PPP in financial newspapers. One full form of it is 'Private Public Partnership'. What is another version of the same also used in the financial world ?

- (A) Perfect, Preferred and Protected
- (B) Point to Point Protocol
- (C) Power Point Presentation
- (D) Purchasing Power Parity
- (E) None of these

Ans : (B)

13. As per the announcement made recently, the Govt. of India is going to launch a National Mission for which of the following in near future ?

- (A) National Mission for Female Literacy
- (B) National Mission for Abolishing Child Labour
- (C) National Mission for Computer Literacy
- (D) National Mission for protecting the Rights of Physically Challenged
- (E) None of these

Ans : (A)

14. Which of the following is one of the most successful programmes under Bharat Nirman ?

- (A) Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana
- (B) Watershed Development Scheme
- (C) Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana
- (D) Indira Awas Yojana
- (E) None of these

Ans : (D)

15. As we all know 'Mobile Banking' is comparatively a new mode of banking all over the world, what is its status in India ?

1. The willingness to conduct banking through mobile devices is higher in India.
2. About 4% of total m-commerce transactions have taken place in the first few months of the current fiscal year in India.
3. Since RBI's permission is needed for offering mobile banking, only two private banks are providing this service at present.

- (A) Only 1
(B) Only 2
(C) Only 3
(D) All 1, 2 and 3
(E) None of these

Ans : (C)

16. Which of the following is/are true about the Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY) to be launched soon ?

1. The scheme will be launched in one village of each district in U.P., Bihar and Rajasthan as a pilot project.
2. The scheme is only for villages where the 50 per cent population is of Scheduled Castes.
3. An amount of Rs. 1,00,000 crore is provided for the scheme out of which 50% will come as grant-in-aid from the UNO.

- (A) Only 1
(B) Only 2
(C) Only 3
(D) All 1, 2 and 3
(E) None of these

Ans : (B)

17. As per the recent announcement made by the Govt. of India, a special One Time Grant of Rs. 100 crore is given to which of the following organizations ?

- (A) Administrative Staff College of India (Hyderabad)
(B) Tata Institute of Social Sciences (Mumbai)
(C) International Institute for Population Sciences (Mumbai)
(D) Indian Institute of Technology (Delhi)
(E) Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (Dehradun)

Ans : (E)

18. Many times we hear about the 'Banking Ombudsman'. What is/are the major roles of same ?

1. Banking Ombudsman is a quasi judicial authority having powers to summon, the banks and the customers both in case of dispute.
2. The Banking Ombudsman are appointed by the President of India and are retired judges of the High or Supreme Courts.
3. The decisions/judgements given by the Banking Ombudsman cannot be taken to any court of justice as their decisions are last in case of bank related problems/disputes.

- (A) Only 1
(B) Only 2
(C) Only 3
(D) All 1, 2 and 3
(E) None of these

Ans : (A)

19. Who amongst the following is the Union Home Minister at present ?

- (A) Kapil Sibbal
(B) Sharad Pawar

- (C) P. Chidambaram
 - (D) Murli Deora
 - (E) None of these
- Ans : (C)

20. Which of the following is NOT prescribed/recommended by the Economic Survey 2008-09 presented to the Lok Sabha recently ?

- (A) Allow 49% FDI in defence and insurance sectors
- (B) Decontrol diesel and petroleum prices
- (C) Increase exemption limit on personal income tax upto Rs. 5,00,000
- (D) List all unlisted PSUs and sell a minimum 10% equity to public
- (E) Decontrol sugar and fertilizer

Ans : (C)

21. The Reliance Power (R-Power) is working on four Hydropower projects in Arunachal Pradesh which are 'Run-of-River' (R-O-R) type of projects. What is the main characteristic of ROR projects ?

- (A) These projects are developed only in hilly areas. They can't be developed on plains
- (B) In these projects there is no need of storing the water in dams which is very costly
- (C) In ROR projects the only requirement is to make a big reservoir and turn the flow of river in the direction in which we need it
- (D) ROR projects are three to four times costlier as compared to old patterned dam type of projects
- (E) None of these

Ans : (B)

22. Which of the following countries is planning to launch its first Mars probe in near future ?

- (A) China
- (B) Japan
- (C) India
- (D) Russia
- (E) USA

Ans : (A)

23. India recently inducted Airborne Warning And Control System (AWACS) platforms in its Airforce. These sophisticated machines are supplied by which of the following countries ?

- (A) Australia
- (B) Germany
- (C) Israel
- (D) France
- (E) Russia

Ans : (E)

24. Dr. Manmohan Singh is the member of the Parliament from which of the following constituencies ?

- (A) New Delhi (South)
- (B) Amritsar
- (C) Lucknow
- (D) Medak
- (E) None of these

Ans : (E)

25. Which of the following pairs of countries are the signatories of a Gas pipeline Deal christened as Peace Pipeline ?

- (A) Iran – Iraq

- (B) Iraq – UAE
- (C) Kuwait – Iran
- (D) Pakistan – Iran
- (E) Pakistan – India

Ans : (D)

26. Which of the following countries is at the top of the 'World Green Index' compiled by the America's 'National Geographic Society' and also through an international polling from 'Global Scan' ?

- (A) South Africa
- (B) USA
- (C) China
- (D) India
- (E) None of these

Ans : (D)

27. As we all know G-20 has set up a working group to find out the reasons of the recent economic crisis and global slowdown. What according to the reports of the working group was/were the main reasons of the crisis and slowdown ?

1. Allowing cheap liquidity and sub-prime lending
2. Poor credit appraisals and securitisation
3. Excessive dependence on credit ratings

- (A) Only 1
- (B) Only 2
- (C) Only 3
- (D) Only 1 and 3
- (E) All 1, 2 and 3

Ans : (E)

28. Which of the oil rich gulf countries elected its first women parliamentarians when four women were declared elected in its recently held elections ?

- (A) Iran
- (B) UAE
- (C) Kuwait
- (D) Iraq
- (E) None of these

Ans : (C)

29. 'Mardeka Cup' is associated with game of—

- (A) Hockey
- (B) Golf
- (C) Football
- (D) Badminton
- (E) Lawn Tennis

Ans : (C)

30. Which of the following state govts. decided to have a 'Mahila Court' in every district of the state ?

- (A) Tamil Nadu
- (B) Andhra Pradesh
- (C) Karnataka
- (D) Delhi
- (E) Uttar Pradesh

Ans : (B)

31. Who amongst the following is the author of the book 'Faith and Compassion' ?

- (A) Arun Gandhi

- (B) Kuldeep Nayyar
- (C) Amit Chaudhury
- (D) Navin Chawla
- (E) None of these

Ans : (D)

32. Which of the following countries has developed 'sajjil-2' missiles, which were test fired recently ?

- (A) Pakistan
- (B) Iran
- (C) North Korea
- (D) India
- (E) None of these

Ans : (B)

33. The first Republic Day of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal was celebrated on which of the following days ?

- (A) 16th August 2009
- (B) 29th June 2009
- (C) 16th July 2009
- (D) 29th May 2009
- (E) 20th May 2009

Ans : (E)

34. Pankaj Advani has become the world's professional champion player of—

- (A) Badminton
- (B) Tennis
- (C) Golf
- (D) Chess
- (E) None of these

Ans : (E)

35. We hear a term 'Carbon Foot Print' these days very frequently. What does it indicate ?

1. The amount of carbondioxide released in the atmosphere ever day by an electronic gadget/organization or even by an individual.
2. The quantity of CO₂ released when one ton of air recycled by an Air conditioner, during every hour of its functioning.
3. The quantity of all green house gases put together required to maintain C at nodal°the temperature of the environment at a fixed level of 30 points in a country.

- (A) Only 1
- (B) Only 2
- (C) Only 3
- (D) All 1, 2 and 3
- (E) None of these

Ans : (D)

36. The letter 'D' stands for which of the following in the abbreviated name OECD ?

Organisation of Economic Cooperation and.....

- (A) Defence
- (B) Direction
- (C) Dominance
- (D) Development
- (E) Devaluation

Ans : (D)

37. The '8th Annual Asian Security Summit' was organized in which of

the following places in May 2009 ?

- (A) Seoul
- (B) Yangon
- (C) Singapore
- (D) Kathmandu
- (E) New Delhi

Ans : (C)

38. Which of the following countries is the host of FIFA World Cup 2010 ?

- (A) Italy
- (B) France
- (C) Brazil
- (D) Germany
- (E) South Africa

Ans : (E)

39. Late Y. S. Rajasekhar Reddy was from which of the following political parties ?

- (A) Telugu Desham
- (B) Bharatiya Janta Party
- (C) DMK
- (D) Samajwadi Party
- (E) None of these

Ans : (E)

40. Who amongst the following won Women's singles Title of 'Spanish Open Badminton-2009' the final for which was played at Madrid in May 2009 ?

- (A) Sayali Gokhale
- (B) Lianne Tan
- (C) Nathalie Descamps
- (D) Jill Pittard
- (E) None of these

Ans : (E)

41. Which of the following is the Bank Rate at present ?

- (A) 3%
- (B) 5%
- (C) 6%
- (D) 7%
- (E) None of these

Ans : (C)

42. P. Mangesh Chandran whose name was in news recently is a famous —

- (A) Chess player
- (B) Playback singer
- (C) Cine actor
- (D) Author
- (E) Journalist

Ans : (A)

43. Which of the following teams won the Champions League Football 2009, the final of which was played in Rome in May 2009 ?

- (A) Manchester United
- (B) Barcelona
- (C) Everton
- (D) Chelsea
- (E) None of these

Ans : (B)

44. Which of the following states is holding a unique summit on Tigers at global level ?

- (A) West Bengal
- (B) Andhra Pradesh
- (C) Tamil Nadu
- (D) Rajasthan
- (E) Chhattisgarh

Ans : (D)

45. Which of the following books is NOT written by Daris Lessing ?

- (A) The Golden Note book
- (B) Memoirs of a survivor
- (C) The city of joy
- (D) The summer before the Dark
- (E) The fifth child

Ans : (C)

46. Which of the following is Statutory Liquidity Ratio at present in India ?

- (A) 16%
- (B) 11%
- (C) 6%
- (D) 33%
- (E) None of these

Ans : (E)

47. Mr. Deep Joshi's name was in news as he has been awarded—

- (A) Pulitzer Prize
- (B) Raman Magsaysay Award
- (C) Man Booker Prize
- (D) Jamunalal Bajaj Award
- (E) None of these

Ans : (B)

48. Bihar Sugarcane Amendment Bill (Regulation of Supply and purchase) 2007 will enable State Govt. to—

- (A) Purchase sugarcane from the farmers and supply it to sugar factories directly at a predetermined price. This will save farmers from exploitation by the factories who do not pay them adequately and in time.
- (B) Produce ethanol directly from sugarcane
- (C) Force farmers to sell their entire production of sugarcane to sugar mills in cooperative sector only and not to private mills who are paying exorbitantly high price to the farmers. Cooperative mills are not getting enough supply to keep them alive
- (D) Compel farmers to produce sugarcane in at least 30% of their land as Bihar is losing its major share in sugarcane production due to unwillingness of farmers to grow sugarcane. They wish to switch over to other high cost crops which give them good returns
- (E) None of these

Ans : (B)

49. Ms. Nirupama Rao has taken over as the new—

- (A) Home Secretary of India
- (B) Foreign Secretary of India
- (C) Cabinet Secretary of India
- (D) Attorney General of India
- (E) None of these

Ans : (B)

50. Who amongst the following is adjudged as the CEO of the year 2009 by the 'Global Supply Chain Leaders' ?

- (A) Mr. Lalit Modi
- (B) Mr. Yash Birla
- (C) Mr. Kumar Mangalam Birla
- (D) Ms. Indra Nooyi
- (E) Mr. Ratan Tata

Ans : (D)