

# Current Affairs

2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2017

For UPSC and State Services

RCR IAS

1. Under the National Biopharma Mission, the Ministry of S & T launched Innovate in India (i3) program to create an enabling ecosystem to promote entrepreneurship and indigenous manufacturing in the sector. Consider the following statements regarding Innovate in India (i3) program.

1. i3 program is meant to accelerate the translation of research concepts into viable products, enabling sustainable networks for collaboration between industry and academia, and supporting entrepreneurial ecosystem amongst many others.

2. Innovate in India, i3 is a flagship program of the Government of India in collaboration with IMF.

3. i3 will be implemented by Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC).

Which of the above statements are correct using the codes given below?

A. 3 Only

B. 1 and 2 Only

C. 1 and 3 Only

D. 2 Only

Answer

# Answer: C

## Explanation:

- National Biopharma Mission is an Industry-Academia Collaborative Mission for Accelerating Discovery Research to Early Development for Biopharmaceuticals.
- Under the National Biopharma Mission, the Ministry Of S &T launched Innovate in India (i3) program to create an enabling ecosystem to promote entrepreneurship and indigenous manufacturing in the sector. Consider the following statements regarding Innovate in India (i3) program.
- Innovate in India (i3)
- In collaboration with **World Bank** i3 will accelerate discovery Research to Early Development for Biopharmaceuticals
- i3 committed to make India a hub for development of affordable & effective biopharmaceutical products.
- The mission aspires to create an enabling ecosystem to promote entrepreneurship & indigenous drug manufacturing.

- This flagship program of the GOI in collaboration with World Bank will be implemented by **Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC)**, a Public Sector Enterprise, set up by DBT.
- The programme will specifically focus on the development of new vaccines, bio-therapeutics, diagnostics and medical devices to better address the rising burden of diseases in the country.
- It will also bring isolated centres of excellence together, enhance regional capabilities and strengthen the current bio-clusters network in terms of capacities as well as quantity and quality of output.
- It promises to boost the growth curve for domestic biopharma in India by accelerating the translation of research concepts into viable products, enabling sustainable networks for collaboration between industry and academia, and supporting entrepreneurial ecosystem amongst many others.

## 2. Consider the following statements with reference to 'City Livability Index'.

1. It measures quality of life in cities based on indigenously evolved Index.
2. Liveability Standards of 140 cities including 53 cities with population of one million and above and Smart Cities will be assessed.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- A. 1 Only
- B. 2 Only
- C. Both 1 and 2 Only
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 Only

Answer

# Answer : C

## **Explanation:**

- The Ministry of Urban Development recently launched the 'City Liveability Index' for measuring the quality of life in 116 major cities including smart cities, capital cities and cities with a population of above one million each.
- In a first of its kind Index to be introduced in the country, cities will be assessed on a comprehensive set of 79 parameters to capture the extent and quality of infrastructure including availability of roads, education and health care, mobility, employment opportunities, emergency response, grievance redressal, pollution, availability of open and green spaces, cultural and entertainment opportunities etc.
- Andhra Pradesh topped the list scoring 96.06% marks.

### 3. Which of the following statements regarding GST are correct?

1. GST, generally collected as a multi-stage tax, facilitates the 'flow-through' of the tax burden to the final consumer while maintaining neutrality within the GST system.
  2. GST is a destination based tax, where tax must accrue to the state where goods and services are consumed.
  3. GST is levied and taxed only by the Centre and revenue accrues only to the Centre.
- A. 1 and 2 Only  
B. 2 and 3 Only  
C. 3 Only  
D. 1 and 3 Only

Answer

# Answer : A

## Explanation:

- Indirect taxes can be either origin based or **destination based**. Origin based tax (also known as production tax) is levied where goods or services are produced. Destination based tax (consumption tax) are levied where goods and services are consumed. Generally collected as a **multi-stage tax**, GST system facilitates the 'flow-through' of the tax burden to the final consumer while maintaining neutrality within the GST system.
- Earlier, in India, services are taxed only by the Centre and revenue accrues only to the Centre. The place of consumption of service, whether in one state or the other, is of no material consequence. In this situation, barring some exceptions, service tax has been conveniently collected from the service provider.
- However, the situation was drastically changed with **states also acquired the right to charge tax on services as consumed in the respective state**. In the dual structure GST, which is the basic feature of GST in India, tax on services would comprise the central component and the state component and the tax collected in a manner that the sanctity of the destination principle—which is the soul of VAT or GST—is not violated.