

Most Important GA Questions For RBI Grade B Phase I Exam 2026- Part 2

Q1. Under the MSMED Act, 2006, an enterprise is classified as a Medium Enterprise if the investment in plant and machinery/equipment does not exceed which of the following limits, and the annual turnover does not exceed which amount?

- (A). ₹50 crore investment and ₹250 crore turnover
- (B). ₹75 crore investment and ₹300 crore turnover
- (C). ₹100 crore investment and ₹400 crore turnover
- (D). ₹125 crore investment and ₹500 crore turnover
- (E). ₹150 crore investment and ₹600 crore turnover

Ans. (d)

Sol. Under the **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (MSMED) Act, 2006**, enterprises are classified into:

- Micro Enterprises
- Small Enterprises
- Medium Enterprises

The Government revised the MSME classification criteria based on:

- Investment in plant and machinery/equipment, and
- Annual turnover.

For a **Medium Enterprise**, the limits are:

- Investment in plant and machinery/equipment: Up to **₹125 crore**
- Annual turnover: Up to **₹500 crore**

Both manufacturing and service enterprises now follow the same classification criteria.

Therefore, the correct answer is:

₹125 crore investment and ₹500 crore turnover

Important Key Points:

- MSMED Act governs MSME classification.
- Classification is based on:
 - Investment criteria
 - Turnover criteria
- Same criteria apply to manufacturing and services sectors.

Q2. The VB-G RAM G Act, 2025 is structured around four thematic work domains. Which of the following is NOT one of the four work domains under the Act?

- (A). Rural Infrastructure
- (B). Natural Resource Management
- (C). Agriculture and Allied Activities
- (D). Individual Beneficiary Works
- (E). Water Resource Management

Ans. (e)

Sol.

The **four thematic work domains** under the VB-G RAM G Act, 2025 are:



Work Domain	Key Activities
Rural Infrastructure	Construction of rural roads, bridges, drainage systems, panchayat buildings, anganwadi centres, and irrigation canals
Natural Resource Management	Water conservation, watershed development, afforestation, land development, flood management, and drought-proofing
Agriculture and Allied Activities	Land levelling, soil and water conservation on agricultural land, construction of farm ponds, vermicompost pits, and livestock-related works
Individual Beneficiary Works	Works on land owned by SC/ST households, small and marginal farmers, BPL families — including construction of houses, wells, and toilets

The Act mandates that **at least 60% of expenditure** must be on works falling under the **Rural Infrastructure** and **Natural Resource Management** domains — ensuring that the bulk of public investment creates **durable and productive rural assets**.

Individual Beneficiary Works are specifically designed to benefit the **most vulnerable households** — SC/ST families, BPL households, women-headed households, and persons with disabilities — ensuring targeted outreach of the scheme

Q3. What is maximum limit of FDI in under government approved mechanism in Public Sector Banks, Maximum permissible FDI in Private Banks and maximum individual stake in bank?

- (A). 40:100:10
- (B). 20:74:10
- (C). 26:49:26
- (D). 20: 49:10
- (E). 49:74:20

Ans. (b)

Sol.

Public Sector Banks (20%): Under the current FDI policy, the maximum foreign investment in Public Sector Banks (PSBs) is capped at **20%**. This limit is strictly under the **Government Approval** route. As of early 2026, there are ongoing inter-ministerial discussions to potentially raise this to 49%, but the official existing cap remains 20%.

Private Sector Banks (74%): For Private Sector Banks, the composite limit for foreign investment (FDI, FPI, NRI, etc.) is **74%**.

- Up to **49%** is allowed under the **Automatic Route**.
- Above 49% and up to **74%** requires **Government Approval**

Maximum Individual Stake (10%): Per standard RBI guidelines for long-term shareholding in commercial banks:

- The limit for an **individual** or a non-financial entity is generally capped at **10%** of the paid-up capital of the bank.
- For specialized financial institutions or promoters, this can go up to 15% or 26% with specific RBI approval, but for general individual investors, the 10% cap is the standard threshold for "fit and proper" oversight.

Q4. With reference to the Rah-Veer (Good Samaritan) Scheme introduced by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH), which of the following statements is correct?

- (A). A Rah-Veer is eligible for a cash reward of ₹10,000 per incident for helping a road accident victim reach medical care within the Silver Hour, with a maximum of three recognitions per year.
- (B). A Rah-Veer is eligible for a cash reward of ₹25,000 per incident for helping a road accident victim reach medical care within the Golden Hour, with a maximum of five recognitions per year, and 10 outstanding Rah-Veers are selected annually for a National Award of ₹1,00,000.
- (C). A Rah-Veer is eligible for a cash reward of ₹50,000 per incident for helping a road accident victim reach medical care within the Golden Hour, with a maximum of three recognitions per year, and 5 outstanding Rah-Veers are selected annually for a National Award of ₹2,00,000.
- (D). A Rah-Veer is eligible for a cash reward of ₹25,000 per incident, and in case a single Rah-Veer helps multiple victims in the same accident, the reward of ₹25,000 per victim is multiplied accordingly — making no upper cap applicable per incident.
- (E). The Rah-Veer Scheme mandates that a Good Samaritan must remain at the hospital as a witness until the victim is discharged, in order to be eligible for the cash reward under the scheme.

Ans. (b)

Sol.

The Rah-Veer Scheme was introduced by **MoRTH on 21 April 2025** under the **Good Samaritan Rules, 2020**, framed under **Section 134A of the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019**. The scheme is integrated with the **PM RAHAT Scheme**, under which road accident victims receive **cashless treatment of up to ₹1.5 lakh per victim for 7 days** at designated hospitals.

Under the Rah-Veer Scheme, a Good Samaritan is eligible for:

- **₹25,000 cash reward + Certificate of Appreciation** per eligible incident
- **Maximum of 5 recognitions per year** per individual
- **The Golden Hour** is the critical time window
- **10 outstanding Rah-Veers** are selected annually for a **National Award of ₹1,00,000** along with a **Trophy and Certificate**

A **district-level evaluation committee** comprising the **District Magistrate, Senior Police Officer, Chief Medical Officer, and Regional Transport Officer** evaluates claims and transfers rewards **directly to the Rah-Veer's bank account** through a **digital online platform**

Q5. The Second Global Summit on Blue Food Security titled "Sea the Future 2026" was held from 13–15 January 2026. Where was this summit hosted?

- (A). Tel Aviv, Israel
- (B). Oslo, Norway
- (C). Eilat, Israel
- (D). Bergen, Norway
- (E). Dubai, UAE

Ans. (c)

Sol.

The **Second Global Summit on Blue Food Security: "Sea the Future 2026"** was held from 13–15 January 2026 at the Herods Hotel, **Eilat, Israel**. Eilat is a port city located on the northern tip of the Red Sea, which, along with its desert landscape and abundant sunshine, provides an ideal setting for research in biotechnology, aquaculture, and renewable energy.



Key Outcomes — India's Participation:

- India and Israel signed a **Joint Ministerial Declaration of Intent** to deepen bilateral cooperation in **fisheries and aquaculture**, covering technology exchange, capacity building, sustainable practices, and joint research.
- The summit focused on **food security, sustainable fisheries, and aquaculture innovations**, underlining the global importance of oceans and water bodies as the next frontier in addressing food insecurity.
- The summit underscored the growing **India–Israel strategic partnership** in blue economy sectors.

Additional Information:

- **Blue Food Security** refers to the sustainable and responsible production, management, and utilization of food derived from **aquatic sources** — including marine and freshwater fisheries, aquaculture, and related ecosystems.
- The venue city **Eilat** sits on the **Gulf of Aqaba**, a branch of the **Red Sea**, making it a natural hub for **marine research, desalination technology, and aquaculture innovation** in arid conditions.
- The first edition of "**Sea the Future**" was also hosted in Israel, establishing it as a flagship global platform for advancing blue food systems.

Q6. According to the recent report of Forbes, which is the strongest currency in the world?

- (A). Omani Rial
- (B). Kuwaiti Dinar
- (C). Bahrain Dinar
- (D). More than one of the above
- (E). None of the above

Ans. (b)

Sol.

The correct answer is **(B) Kuwaiti Dinar**

Explanation:

- According to Forbes and consistent international foreign exchange valuations, the Kuwaiti Dinar (KWD) ranks as the strongest and highest-valued currency in the world against the US Dollar.
- Its exceptional value is deeply tied to Kuwait's massive global oil exports, which generate a significant influx of foreign wealth into the nation.

Information Booster:

- **Currency Pegging:** Unlike many global currencies that float freely, the Kuwaiti Dinar is strategically pegged to an undisclosed, weighted basket of international currencies to ensure its immense stability and purchasing power.

Additional Knowledge:

- **Bahrain Dinar (Option C):** The Bahraini Dinar (BHD) is consistently ranked as the second-strongest currency globally.
- **Omani Rial (Option A):** The Omani Rial (OMR) also ranks extremely high, generally sitting as the third-strongest currency in the world. However, neither surpasses Kuwait.

Q7. How many languages are displayed in the language panel appearing on Indian currency banknotes issued by RBI?

- (A). 10 languages
- (B). 12 languages
- (C). 15 languages
- (D). 18 languages
- (E). 22 languages

Ans. (c)

Sol.

Indian currency notes issued by the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** contain a:

Language Panel

The language panel displays the denomination value of the note in:

- **15 Indian languages**

Apart from these 15 languages:

- The denomination is also written in:
 - Hindi (on the front side),
 - English (on the front side).

Thus, Indian currency notes display denomination information in a total of:

17 languages (including Hindi and English).

Languages in the Language Panel:

The panel includes languages such as:

- Assamese
- Bengali
- Gujarati
- Kannada
- Kashmiri
- Konkani
- Malayalam
- Marathi
- Nepali
- Odia
- Punjabi
- Sanskrit
- Tamil
- Telugu
- Urdu

Therefore, the correct answer is:

15 languages

Important Key Points:

- RBI issues Indian banknotes.
- Language panel contains 15 regional languages.
- Hindi and English appear separately on the note.

Knowledge Booster:

Indian currency notes are printed at:

- Currency Note Presses and Security Printing Presses under authorized government institutions.

Q8. Consider the following statements regarding the new Consumer Price Index (CPI) series with Base Year 2024=100, released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI):

1. MoSPI released the first data under the new CPI series with Base Year 2024=100 on 12 February 2026, replacing the earlier series with Base Year 2012=100, based on the Household Consumption Expenditure Survey (HCES) 2023-24.
2. The new CPI series adopts 12 consumption divisions in place of the earlier 6 groups, in alignment with the international COICOP 2018 (Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose) framework.
3. The new CPI series, for the first time, includes rural house rent as a consumption item, while also adding modern items such as OTT subscriptions and CNG/PNG — and removing obsolete items like VCR/DVD players and tape recorders.
4. Under the new CPI series, the number of services items has been increased from 40 to 60, to better capture the growing share of services in household expenditure.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A). 1, 2 and 3 only
- (B). 1, 2 and 4 only
- (C). 2, 3 and 4 only
- (D). 1, 3 and 4 only
- (E). 1, 2, 3 and 4

Ans. (a)

Sol.

Statement 1 is correct — MoSPI released the first CPI data under the **new series with Base Year 2024=100** on 12 February 2026, replacing the earlier series with Base Year 2012=100. The item basket and corresponding weights are **based on the Household Consumption Expenditure Survey (HCES) 2023-24**, ensuring that the index reflects current household consumption patterns and price structures. Under the new series, India's retail inflation for January 2026 was 2.75% (Provisional).

Statement 2 is correct — The new CPI series adopts **12 consumption divisions in place of the earlier 6 groups**, in alignment with the international COICOP 2018 (Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose) framework. This change enhances the comparability of India's inflation data with global standards and enables more granular tracking of price changes across different consumption categories.

Statement 3 is correct — The new CPI series introduces **rural house rent** for the **first time** to improve coverage of rural housing consumption. It also adds modern items such as **OTT subscriptions (online streaming services), CNG/PNG fuels, pen drives, fitness equipment, and babysitting services**, while removing **obsolete items** such as **VCR/DVD players and tape recorders** — reflecting the digital transformation of Indian households.

Statement 4 is incorrect — The number of **services items has been increased from 40 to 50**, not 60. Similarly, the number of goods items has been increased from 259 to 308. At the all India level, number of weighted items has increased from 299 to 358 in CPI 2024.

Additional Information:

- The RBI uses the CPI (Combined) as the headline inflation indicator for its monetary policy framework (inflation targeting), making the accuracy of CPI data critical for interest rate decisions.
- MoSPI also revised the base year of **GDP to 2022-23** (released on **27 February 2026**) and plans to revise the base year of the **Index of Industrial Production (IIP) to 2022-23** in **May 2026**, as part of a comprehensive overhaul of India's core economic indicators

Q9. Consider the following statements regarding the Bilateral Swap Arrangement (BSA) between India and Japan:

- I. The Bank of Japan acts as the primary principal in the agreement, while the Reserve Bank of India acts as the agent for the Government of India.
 - II. The BSA allows both the RBI and the Japanese authorities to exchange their respective local currencies for US Dollars.
 - III. The size of the BSA has been enhanced from USD 50 billion to USD 75 billion upon its renewal in 2026.
- Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

- (A). Only I
- (B). Only II
- (C). Only I and II
- (D). Only III
- (E). Only I and III

Ans. (e)

Sol.
Statement I is incorrect — The roles have been **interchanged** in this statement. It is the **Bank of Japan** that acts as the **agent for the Minister of Finance of Japan** — not as the primary principal. Similarly, the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** acts as a **principal on its own behalf** — it does not act as an agent for the Government of India

Statement II is correct — The BSA is a two-way arrangement. Both the RBI and the Japanese authorities (Bank of Japan on behalf of the Minister of Finance of Japan) can swap their respective local currencies — Indian Rupee and Japanese Yen — for the US Dollar. This reciprocal mechanism ensures mutual financial support and strengthens the bilateral financial safety net.

Statement III is incorrect — Under the **third Amendment and Restatement Agreement** effective **28 February 2026**, the maximum swap limit was **NOT expanded to USD 100 billion**. The facility size **remains unchanged at up to USD 75 billion** — the same as when it was enhanced from USD 50 billion to USD 75 billion in **October 2018**.

Additional Information:

- The **history of BSA enhancements** between India and Japan:
 - **2013:** Enhanced from USD 15 billion → **USD 50 billion**
 - **2018:** Enhanced from USD 50 billion → **USD 75 billion**
 - **2026:** Renewed at **USD 75 billion** (unchanged)
- The BSA helps a country tide over **Balance of Payments (BOP) pressures**, deters **speculative attacks** on the domestic currency, and enhances the **RBI's ability to manage exchange rate volatility**

Q10. The Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution is related to which of the following aspects?

- (A). Fundamental Rights
- (B). Directive Principles of State Policy
- (C). Distribution of Powers between Centre and States
- (D). Official Languages of India
- (E). Emergency Provisions

Ans. (d)

Sol.

The **Eighth Schedule** of the Indian Constitution is related to the **official languages of India**.

- **Content:** It lists the official languages recognized by the Indian Constitution.
- **Articles:** Part XVII of the Constitution deals with the official languages in Articles 343 to 351.
- **Number of Languages:** Initially, the Eighth Schedule had 14 languages; it now includes **22 languages**.
- **Purpose:** The schedule ensures linguistic diversity and representation of various regional languages across India.

Q11. Consider the following statements regarding the World Happiness Report 2026:

1. The World Happiness Report 2026 was released by the United Nations Sustainable Development Solution Network, covering 147 countries on International Day of Happiness observed on 22 March 2026.
2. Finland topped the World Happiness Report 2026 for the ninth consecutive year, followed by Iceland and Denmark in the top three.
3. India ranked 116th in the World Happiness Report 2026, improving by two positions from its 118th rank in 2025, but continues to rank below its neighbours Nepal and Pakistan.
4. The World Happiness Report 2026 uses the Cantril Scale- a self-assessment tool where respondents rate their lives on a scale of 0 to 10.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A). 1, 2 and 3
- (B). 1, 2 and 4
- (C). 2, 3 and 4
- (D). 1, 3 and 4
- (E). All of the above

Ans. (c)

Sol.

Statement 1 is incorrect — The World Happiness Report 2026 was released on **20 March 2026 (not 22 March)**, on the occasion of the **International Day of Happiness**, by the **United Nations Sustainable Development Solution Network (UN SDSN)**. The report covers **147 countries** and is thematically focused on the **impact of the digital age and social media on well-being**.

Statement 2 is correct — **Finland** topped the World Happiness Report 2026 for the **ninth consecutive year** with a score of **7.74**, followed by **Iceland (7.52)** and **Denmark (7.52)** in the top three. The **Nordic nations** — Finland, Iceland, Denmark, Sweden, and Norway — continue to dominate the top rankings, reflecting the region's strong social support systems, low corruption, and high freedoms.

Statement 3 is correct — India ranked **116th out of 147 countries** in the World Happiness Report 2026, a marginal improvement of **two positions** from its **118th rank in 2025**. India continues to trail neighbours **Nepal (99th)** and **Pakistan (104th)**, while ranking higher than **Bangladesh (127th)** and **Sri Lanka (134th)**.

Statement 4 is correct — The rankings are based on the **Cantril Scale** (also known as the "ladder of life"), a self-assessment tool where respondents rate their current lives on a scale from **0 (worst possible life) to 10 (best possible life)**. Scores are calculated as a **three-year average (2023–2025)** from the **Gallup World Poll** to reduce year-to-year volatility and improve cross-country comparability.

Additional Information:

- The report evaluates happiness based on **six key factors: Per Capita Income (GDP), Social Support, Healthy Life Expectancy, Freedom to make life choices, Generosity, and Perceptions of Corruption**.
- **Afghanistan (147th)** remains the **unhappiest country** in the world, preceded by **Sierra Leone (146th)** and **Malawi (145th)** at the bottom.
- The **World Happiness Report** has been published **since 2012**, under the auspices of the **United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)** in collaboration with partner organizations like the **Gallup World Poll** and the **University of Oxford's Wellbeing Research Centre**.
- The **International Day of Happiness** was established by the **UN General Assembly in 2012** and has been observed every year on **20 March since 2013**.

Q12. Under the Credit Guarantee Scheme for Exporters (CGSE), the interest rate on the additional collateral-free working capital support extended by Member Lending Institutions (MLIs) is capped at _____ percent per annum for Scheduled Commercial Banks and Small Finance Banks, and at _____ percent per annum for Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs).

- (A). 8 ; 10
- (B). 10 ; 14
- (C). 10 ; 12
- (D). 10 ; 13
- (E). 12 ; 15

Ans. (b)

Sol. Under the CGSE, the **interest rate ceiling** prescribed for Member Lending Institutions (MLIs) is as follows:

Category of MLI	Maximum Interest Rate (p.a.)
Scheduled Commercial Banks and Small Finance Banks	10%
Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs)	14%

The **lower cap of 10% for banks** ensures that exporters — particularly MSMEs — can access additional working capital at **affordable rates**, reducing their cost of export financing.

The **higher cap of 14% for NBFCs** reflects the **higher cost of funds** for non-banking entities, while still keeping the rate within a regulated ceiling to prevent excessive interest burden on exporters.

Both caps are significantly **below prevailing market rates** for unsecured working capital loans, making the CGSE an attractive and cost-effective instrument for boosting India's export competitiveness.

Additional Information:

- The **processing fee** under the scheme is **Nil** — further reducing the cost burden on exporters.
- The **loan tenor** is **4 years**, including a **moratorium of 1 year** — giving exporters adequate time to utilise the funds and stabilise their export cash flows before commencing repayment.
- The **maximum loan amount** under the scheme is **₹50 crore per borrower** across all banks and financial institutions combined.

Q13. In February 2026, which country was officially certified by the World Health Organization (WHO) as the first nation in the European Union to eliminate mother-to-child transmission of both HIV and syphilis?

- (A). Norway
- (B). Sweden
- (C). Denmark
- (D). Finland
- (E). Iceland

Ans. (c)

Sol. In **February 2026**, the **World Health Organization** officially certified **Denmark** as the **first European Union country** to eliminate **mother-to-child transmission (MTCT)** of both **HIV and syphilis**.

This recognition is granted after meeting strict WHO benchmarks such as:

- High coverage of antenatal care
- Universal screening of pregnant women
- Effective treatment ensuring negligible transmission rates

Information Booster:

WHO validation of elimination requires:

- ≥95% pregnant women tested for HIV and syphilis
- ≥95% treatment coverage
- Sustained low transmission rates over time

This is part of the global initiative to eliminate MTCT as a public health threat.

Q14. The provisions of the PESA Act, 1996 currently extend to how many Indian States?

- (A). 8 States
- (B). 9 States
- (C). 10 States
- (D). 11 States
- (E). 12 States

Ans. (c)

Sol.

PESA applies to **10 States**: Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, and Telangana.

Knowledge Booster:

These states include **Fifth Schedule Areas**, which are primarily tribal-dominated regions requiring special governance provisions.

Q15. Consider the following statements regarding Pashu Aadhar:

1. Pashu Aadhar is a unique 14-digit bar-coded ear tag issued to livestock animals and it acts as a primary key for registering all types of transactions done on the animals such as Vaccination, Breeding, Treatment, etc.
2. The database for Pashu Aadhar is called the Information Network for Animal Productivity and Health (INAPH), developed and managed by the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), which is the equivalent of UIDAI for animals.
3. Pashu Aadhar was originally introduced under the Pashu Sanjivni component of the National Mission on Bovine Productivity (now subsumed under Rashtriya Gokul Mission) and was later expanded under the National Digital Livestock Mission (NDLM).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A). 2 only
- (B). 1 and 2 only
- (C). 1 and 3 only
- (D). 2 and 3 only
- (E). 1, 2 and 3

Ans. (e)

Sol. Statement 1 is correct — In line with international practices, a unique **12-digit bar-coded Tag ID** in the form of an ear tag is issued to all livestock animals. This unique code is called "**Pashu Aadhar**", and it acts as a primary key for recording all services — Vaccination, Breeding, Treatment, Artificial Insemination, etc. All such transactions can be viewed at a single place against the Tag ID and are visible to both the farmer and the field veterinarians.

Statement 2 is correct — The **INAPH (Information Network for Animal Productivity and Health)** portal is developed by the **National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)**. NDDB functions analogously to UIDAI (for Aadhaar), while INAPH serves as the equivalent of the Central Identities Data Repository (CIDR). The 12-digit Animal Unique Identification Number (AUID) is as per the standards of the **International Committee on Animal Recording (ICAR)**.



Statement 3 is correct — Pashu Aadhar was first introduced under the **Pashu Sanjivni** component of the National Mission on Bovine Productivity (now subsumed into the **Rashtriya Gokul Mission**) in **November 2016**. It was later scaled under the **National Digital Livestock Mission (NDLM)**.

Additional Information:

- The Pashu Aadhar ecosystem is part of the **Bharat Pashudhan** — India's Digital Public Infrastructure for the livestock sector, dedicated to the nation by the Prime Minister on **2nd March 2024**.
- The 12-digit UID tags are made of **polyurethane** and are applied as **ear tags** on all bovine animals (cattle, buffaloes), as well as **sheep, goats, and pigs** — covering a target population of **53.5 crore animals** under the National Animal Disease Control Programme (NADCP).
- Farmers can access veterinary services and scheme information through the **1962 mobile app** and the **toll-free helpline 1962**, which also facilitates **Mobile Veterinary Units** dispatched at the farmer's doorstep.
- The Pashu Aadhar initiative was originally suggested by a government committee in **2015** following a **Supreme Court order** on a petition to outlaw livestock smuggling

Q16. Accounts opened through OTP-based eKYC for both deposit and borrowal purposes cannot continue beyond what period unless customer identification through Video-based Customer Identification Process (V-CIP) is completed?

- (A). 3 months
- (B). 6 months
- (C). 1 year
- (D). 2 years
- (E). 5 years

Ans. (c)

Sol.

The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** permits banks and regulated entities to open accounts using: OTP-based eKYC authentication.

However, such accounts are subject to certain restrictions unless full customer verification is completed through:

Video-based Customer Identification Process (V-CIP) or equivalent KYC procedures.

According to RBI guidelines:

Accounts opened through OTP-based eKYC cannot continue beyond **1 year** if V-CIP or complete customer identification is not completed.

The objective is to:

- Promote digital onboarding,
- Ensure customer convenience,
- Maintain strong anti-money laundering safeguards.

Therefore, the correct answer is:

1 year

Important Key Points:

- OTP-based eKYC allows simplified digital onboarding.
- V-CIP enables remote face-to-face customer verification.
- Full KYC compliance is mandatory for long-term continuation.

Knowledge Booster:

V-CIP is considered:

A secure digital alternative to physical customer verification.



It helps banks:

- Reduce fraud,
- Improve customer experience,
- Enable paperless account opening.

Q17. The Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, organised the first BRICS Youth Coordination Meeting 2026 in virtual format. Under which of the following themes was this meeting held?

- (A). Youth as a Bridge for Intra-BRICS Exchanges
- (B). Youth Entrepreneurship for Sustainable Growth
- (C). Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability
- (D). Empowering Youth for Inclusive and Sustainable Development
- (E). Youth, Peace and Security: BRICS Vision 2030

Ans. (c)

Sol.

The first BRICS Youth Coordination Meeting 2026 was organised by the **Department of Youth Affairs** under the **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports**, Government of India on 25 March 2026 in virtual format, with representatives **from all BRICS member countries** participating. The meeting was held under the theme "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability" — formally initiating youth engagements under **India's BRICS Chairship for 2026**.

The meeting presented an overview of the BRICS Youth Track 2026, outlining a structured roadmap of key initiatives for the year.

The **priority pillars** of collaboration identified during the meeting include: **education and skills, youth entrepreneurship, science and innovation, social participation and inclusion, health and sports, environment and sustainability, interfaith dialogue, and youth exchange**.

India assumed the **BRICS Chair for 2026** — the country had previously held the BRICS Chair in **2012, 2016, and 2021**.

Q18. Which country hosted the world's first international conference focused on "Transitioning Away from Fossil Fuels (TAFF)" aimed at promoting global decarbonisation and clean energy transition?

- (A). Netherlands
- (B). Ireland
- (C). Colombia
- (D). Tuvalu
- (E). Denmark

Ans. (c)

Sol.

Colombia, along with the Netherlands, co-hosted the first-ever global conference on "**Transitioning Away from Fossil Fuels (TAFF)**" in Santa Marta.

The conference brought together nearly 60 countries to develop a global framework for:

- Decarbonisation
- Clean energy transition
- Reduction in fossil fuel dependence

The initiative promoted the vision of a transition that is "**Fast, Fair, and Financed.**"

The event marked a major shift in global climate discussions by focusing directly on reducing fossil fuel production rather than only limiting emissions.

Key Points:

- **Host Country:** Colombia
- **Co-Host:** Netherlands
- **Conference Theme:** Transitioning Away from Fossil Fuels (TAFF)
- **Venue:** Santa Marta, Colombia
- **Focus:** Decarbonisation and clean energy transition

Knowledge Booster:

According to the International Energy Agency (IEA), renewable energy sources generated **33.8% of global electricity**, surpassing coal for the first time in global power generation.

Q19. Consider the following statements regarding the National Productivity Council (NPC) being designated as the Environment Audit Designated Agency (EADA) under the Environment Audit Rules, 2025:

1. The National Productivity Council (NPC) is an autonomous body under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
2. NPC has signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) to act as the EADA.
3. As the EADA, NPC is responsible for certification, registration, oversight, and training of Registered Environment Auditors (REAs).
4. The random allocation of Registered Environment Auditors (REAs) to industries is done by MoEFCC directly, not by the EADA.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A). 1, 2 and 3 only
- (B). 1, 3 and 4 only
- (C). 1, 2 and 4 only
- (D). 1 and 3 only
- (E). 1, 2, 3 and 4

Ans. (a)

Sol.

Statement 1 is correct — The **National Productivity Council (NPC)** is an autonomous body under the **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)**, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India. Established in **1958**, NPC is India's national apex body for productivity promotion and advisory services across sectors.

Statement 2 is correct — NPC signed a **Memorandum of Agreement (MoA)** with the **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC)** on **20 March 2026**, formalising its designation as the **Environment Audit Designated Agency (EADA)** under the Environment Audit Rules, 2025.

Statement 3 is correct — As the **EADA**, NPC's key responsibilities include:

- **Certification and Registration** of environment auditors
- **Oversight** of the auditing process
- **Training and capacity building** of Registered Environment Auditors (REAs)
- Maintaining a **national registry** of accredited auditors



Statement 4 is incorrect — The **random allocation of REAs** to industries is the responsibility of the **EADA (i.e., NPC)** — not MoEFCC directly. This random allocation mechanism ensures **impartiality** and prevents **collusion** between auditors and the industries being audited, thereby strengthening the integrity of the audit process.

Q20. The Indian women’s Kabaddi team clinched the Gold medal at the 6th Asian Beach Games by defeating which country in the final?

- (A). Iran
- (B). China
- (C). Sri Lanka
- (D). Thailand
- (E). South Korea

Ans. (c)

Sol.

- India concluded its kabaddi campaign at the **Asian Beach Games 2026** with strong performances.
- The tournament is being held in **Sanya, China**.
- The **Indian women’s kabaddi team won the gold medal**, defeating Sri Lanka by **47–31** in the final.
- This victory marks **India’s first gold medal** in the 2026 edition of the Games.
- The **Indian men’s kabaddi team secured a silver medal**, losing to Iran by **31–44** in the final.
- The Asian Beach Games are organised by the Olympic Council of Asia and focus on **beach and coastal sports**.
- India has fielded a **31-member contingent** for the 2026 Games.
- In the previous **2016 edition**, India won **24 medals**, including **2 gold, 4 silver, and 18 bronze**.