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Cloze Test Ex. 51

Directions: In the following passage, some of the words have been left out, each of which is indicated by a letter. Find the suitable word from the options given against each letter and fill up the blanks with appropriate words to make the paragraph meaningful.

The Centre has reportedly recommended a new model ____ A ____ to replace the restrictive Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) Act that makes it mandatory for farmers to sell only to ____ B ____ middlemen, who then control trade in farm produce and corner the benefit of higher prices. An overhaul of the law to create a barrier-free single market is long overdue. State APMC Acts have created thousands of ____ C ____ and inefficient markets. Bihar scrapped the law. Some states have modified it, but changes have been patchy because of the political influence of the middlemen. Reform would enable organised retail to ____ D ____ directly from farmers, giving them better incomes and the incentive to produce more.

The new model law suggests single-point ____ E ____ of a market fee and single registration or licence for trade in more than one market and delisting fruit and vegetables from the APMC Act. This makes sense. It also proposes to cap mandi taxes at 1% for food grain and 2% for vegetables, and pegs the commission agents' levy at 2% of the total transaction cost. At present, mandi taxes vary from 14.5% in Punjab to 10.5% in Haryana, driving the private trade out and eating up the Centre's food subsidy subvention. The procurement price must ____ F ____ all taxes and the Food Corporation of India must stop paying such huge levies. Rightly, the model law also has provisions to declare warehouses and cold storages as market sub-yards to provide better access and linkages to farmers. This is welcome, and investments must be stepped up. A vast network of regulated warehouses, whose receipts are negotiable instruments, will also make middlemen ____ G _____. The need is to develop marketing infrastructure and make the supply chain that links the farmer and the consumer efficient.

1. A

- A. Scheme B. Measure C. Proposal D. Law E. Plan

2. B

- A. Upright B. Designated C. Vindicated D. Ethical E. Right-minded

3. C

- A. Far-flung B. Fragmented C. Prolific D. Sequestered E. Coveted

4. D

- A. Procure B. Stock C. Hoard D. Pilfer E. Garner

5. E

A. Transfer B. Solution C. Distribution D. Reference E. Levy

6. F

A. Yearn B. Allocate C. Elaborate D. Subsume E. Define

7. G

A. Unhinged B. Necessary C. Risible D. Redundant E. Absurd

Correct Answers:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
D	B	B	A	E	D	D

Explanations :

1. The most suitable word for the blank is 'law' as the whole paragraph is centered upon it. Kindly refer to the sentences taken from the passage below.

An overhaul of the law to create a barrier-free single market is long overdue. State APMC Acts have created thousands of fragmented and inefficient markets. Bihar scrapped the law. Some states have modified it, but changes have been patchy because of the political influence of the middlemen. Reform would enable organised retail to procure directly from farmers, giving them better incomes and the incentive to produce more.

The new model law suggests single-point levy of a market fee and single registration or licence for trade in more than one market and delisting fruit and vegetables from the APMC Act.

Option D is hence the correct answer.

2. Usage of the word 'vindicated' is absolutely illogical in the context and hence option C can be eliminated immediately.

The words 'upright', 'ethical' and 'right-minded' are synonyms and this confirms that none of them can fit the blank. Options A, D and E also get eliminated.

Clearly, the word 'designated' which refers to 'appointed' or 'nominated for a specific task' would be the best choice for the blank.

Option B is hence the correct answer.

3. Here, we can infer from the sentence that the word for the blank has to be a synonym of the word 'inefficient' or it could be a word with negative connotation and out of the choices given, only the word 'fragmented' which refers to 'disintegrated' fits the blank most appropriately.

Option B is hence the correct answer.

4. The presence of the word 'Reform' in the very beginning of the sentence implies that the word for the blank has to be positive in nature. This eliminates options C and D immediately.

The word 'garner' is mainly used with reference to gathering ideas or someone's approval and doesn't fit in the given context of the passage. Option E also gets eliminated.

Between 'Procure' which refers to 'obtaining (something), especially with care or effort' and 'Stock', the former seems to fit the blank more appropriately.

Option A is hence the correct answer.

5. Usage of any of the words 'Transfer', 'Solution', 'Distribution' and 'Reference' would not be logical in the context of the passage and thus options A, B, C and D get eliminated.

The word 'Levy' is used while referring to 'imposing a tax, fee or fine and hence is the most suitable choice for the blank.

Option E is hence the correct answer.

6. The sentence with the blank seems to imply that the procurement price must include all the taxes and out of the choices given, only the word 'subsume' fits in appropriately.

Subsume (Verb):

The verb means to absorb or include.

Ex. A successful company might subsume a failing competitor through a merger.

Ex. Love may subsume you in the early stages of a romance.

Option D is hence the correct answer.

7. The whole passage discusses how the reform brought in would put an end to the 'middlemanship' that restrains farmers from enjoying the benefits of their crops. The measure will clearly make the middleman unnecessary.

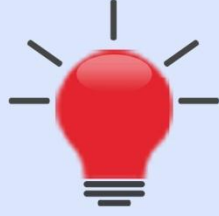
Out of the choices given, the word 'Redundant' which refers to things that are unnecessary or could be left out.

Redundant (Adjective):

not or no longer needed or useful; superfluous.

Ex. "an appropriate use for a redundant church"

Option D is hence the correct answer.



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