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CLOZE TEST EXERCISE 61

Direction: In the following passage seven blanks have been given. For each blank, a number of phrases have been suggested, one of which is the correct one for that blank grammatically and contextually. Select the answer for each and mark that as your answer.

With the decades-old minimum support price (MSP) system _____ A _____ the crisis at the farm gate, the three schemes that are a part of AASHA – the Price Support Scheme (PSS) itself, the Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS) and the Pilot of Private Procurement and Stockist Scheme (PPPS) – point to an innovative, MSP-plus approach to the problem of non-remunerative prices. Under the PDPS, the Centre _____ B _____ to pay oilseed farmers the difference between the MSP and market price. The advantage of this scheme is that the Centre can keep the farmer satisfied without having to go through the hassle of physical procurement, storage and disposal. Freed of these logistical hassles, the geographical reach and coverage of PDPS is likely _____ C _____. The PSS, or expanded MSP, will allow the FCI to procure pulses, oilseeds and copra from States that display interest. The PPPS is a new idea. _____ D _____, the Centre will persuade States to bring in private players to procure at MSP. It promises a maximum of 15 per cent of MSP as a service charge to the private player to compensate for the loss. In all these schemes however, the key will be the implementation; failure to create a system of checks and balances can derail them. For instance, the experience of Madhya Pradesh which implemented the PDPS under the Bhavantar Bhugtan Yojana last year, shows that it _____ E _____. Ground level checks reveal that traders connive with each other and depress prices at mandis. They force farmers to sell at lower

prices and pocket the compensation from the government. Many small and marginal farmers _____ F _____ to sell their produce under the Bhavantar scheme, face a double whammy of lowered price and no compensation. The PSS would be easier to implement, with nodal agencies doing the procurement. However, the Centre _____ G _____ to provide funds. With the additional Rs.16,550 crore guarantee for raising working capital from banks now being made available, the total credit guarantee given to institutions under PSS is already Rs.45,550 crore. But if all States apply to NAFED/FCI for procurement of oilseeds or pulses, the agencies will fall short of funds.

1. A.

- A. Fragmentation of yield
- B. Failing to address
- C. Understanding to ratify
- D. Interested in developing
- E. None of the above

2. B.

- A. Makes a promise
- B. Decides a way-out
- C. Announces a weather-based yield scheme
- D. Determines to ensure that
- E. Attends to consolidate

3. C.

- A. To remain constant
- B. To attend the farmers very carefully



- C. To be superior
- D. To guide the farmers to increase in income
- E. To utilize the sources of the irrigation

4. D.

- A. Regarding this scheme
- B. Through this scheme
- C. On account of this scheme
- D. Against this scheme
- E. None of the above

5. E.

- A. Is very useful for the farmers
- B. Is not careful enough for the farmers
- C. Can be easily manipulated
- D. Could not be understood
- E. None of the above



Correct answers:

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| B | A | C | B | C | C | A |

Explanations:

1.

From the given context, it is clear that the age-old Minimum Support Prices scheme was not enough to address the problems of the farmers in the country. That is why, the government has decided to announced the new schemes so that they can address the issues faced by the farmers in the country.

Coming to the given options, option A is not correct since it is not relevant to the given context and the same can be commented about the options C and D, which are also out of context for the given blank. Hence, these options can be eliminated easily. Option B correctly explains the perception regarding the MSP scheme of the government.

This makes option B the correct choice among the given options.

2.

If we go through the context of this blank, it is clear that the government wants to keep the farmers happy and that is why, it has decided to pay the farmers under the Price Deficiency Payment Scheme.

Among the given options, option B is not correct since it is not a way-out for the government to pay the farmers under the PDPS scheme announced by it. Option C is not relevant since there is no reference in the passage

regarding the weather-based yield scheme of the farmers. Option D and E are also out of context as per the given blank. Only option A is correct in the context of the given blank as it implies that the government is going to ensure that the oilseed farmers will be given the price difference by it.

This makes option A the correct choice among the given options.

3.

According to the given context, the PDPS scheme is not concerned with physical storage and procurement of crops from the farmers. That is why it will be easier for the government to ensure that the coverage of the new scheme will be more as compared to the previous schemes.

Among the given options, option A is not correct since it is not possible that the coverage will be the same, as is evident from the tone of the sentence also. Option B is not correct since we are talking about the coverage of the new scheme and not regarding its objectives. Option D is also not true since it is again regarding the advantage of the new scheme whereas option E can be easily eliminated on the ground that there is no reference to irrigation in the passage. Only option C can be used in the given blank since it implies that the coverage of the PDPS scheme is going to be more, as is intended.

This makes option C the correct choice among the given options.

4.

It is clear from the given context that the government is going to use the new scheme to bring private players in the farming sector and also in giving the MSP to the farmers.

Among the given options, option A is not correct since we are talking about the details of the scheme and not about the perception regarding the scheme and same can be said regarding option C. Option D is completely out of context since it cannot be placed in the blank by any stretch of imagination. Only option B fits the context and it implies that the government is going to utilize the scheme to bring in the private players.

This makes option B the correct choice among the given options.

5.

If we go through the context, it is very much evident that the author is talking about the possibility of the PDPS scheme being exploited by the dishonest elements. It has also been observed that a similar scheme in Madhya Pradesh has been subjected to manipulations.

Among the given options, option A is not correct because it is in contravention to the essence of the context whereas option B is not logical if placed in the blank. Option D is also out of context whereas option C correctly explains the intended meaning of the given statement.

This makes option C the correct choice among the given options.

6.

According to the given context, it is intended to imply that the PDPS scheme is not a full-proof scheme for the farmers and it has already been proved in Madhya Pradesh that the dishonest elements can exploit such a scheme if there is no mechanism for check and balance in this kind of scheme.

Coming to the options, option A is not correct since a farmer who does not produce anything will not come under the purview of the scheme whereas option B is completely out of context. Option D and E are also eliminated easily since they have no relation with the given information in the passage. Option C can be used in this context as the correct phrase for the blank as it implies the intended meaning that the small and marginal farmers have been affected a lot in Madhya Pradesh under the Bhavantar scheme.

This makes option C the correct choice among the given options.

7.

According to the given context, it is implied that the government will have to arrange for additional funds from somewhere since there is no provision of the funds made in this scheme by the government.

Among the given options, option B is not correct it is not relevant in the given context whereas options C and D are also not correct for the given blank since these phrases, if placed in the blank, will not imply the meaning of the passage. Option A is correct since it correctly explains that the government will find it difficult to provide the additional funds under the PDPS scheme recently announced by the government.

This makes option A the correct choice among the given options.



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