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The Question Bank

Comprehension Test Questions for IBPS Clerk Pre, SBI Clerk Pre and LIC Assistant Pre Exams.

Passage No. 166

Direction: Read the following passage carefully and answer the following questions.

Financial and social security are interlinked. Old-age social security is considered a family subject, as most people live with their children in old age. With rapid increase in population of older persons and a changing socio-economic scenario, issues concerning old people are now also being included in social security schemes.

Generally, India's social security schemes cover initiatives for the elderly such as retirement pension, family pension, widow pension, old-age pension, health insurance and medical benefits, disability benefits and gratuity. Largely, the study found out that 77% of old men and 50% of old women are utilising some form of social security. However, 53% of the elderly find it difficult in utilizing the social security schemes and 79% found these are not sufficient to meet their basic needs. The majority of the elderly are illiterate and partially or totally dependent on others for their economic needs.

On the basis of survey findings and observations, the Agewell Foundation has recommended the government to ensure maximum coverage under existing and/or new social security schemes. The organization has recommended that there should be dedicated healthcare facilities, particularly in rural and semi-urban areas for the elderly. Old-age pension should be **benchmarked** to the increasing cost of living and the provisions for tax incentives for younger people should be tied to looking after dependent senior citizens. The foundation has also recommended that there should be provisions for a dependent ageing parent allowance for employees in the government sector. There should be some kind of financial incentive for setting up a network of caregivers for the elderly at the block level to assist older persons living alone.

Questions :

1. Which of the following statements is/are true with respect to the passage?

- I. Old age security is not considered a family subject now-a-days.
- II. Old age pension should be adjusted as per the increasing cost of living standards.
- III. The government has decided to give allowance to government employees to look after dependent aged parents.

A. Only I

B. Only II

C. Only III

D. Only I and II

E. Only II and III

2. Which of the following statements is/are true with respect to the passage?

- I. Fifty-three per cent of the elderly find it difficult to utilize social security schemes of the government.
- II. Agewell Foundation recommended various measures to provide social security to the women and children.
- III. Population of aged people is declining day by day.

A. Only I B. Only II C. Only III D. Only I and II E. Only I and III

3. Identify the word that is not similar in meaning to the word given below. If none of the options conveys the correct meaning, mark (E) as your answer. The options do not necessarily need to be grammatically correct.

BENCHMARK

A. Standard B. Basis C. Criterion D. Yardstick E. None of the above

4. As per the passage, which of the following recommendations were given by the Agewell Foundation to ensure social security to the elderly?

- A. Dedicated healthcare facilities for the elderly in rural and sub-urban areas.
- B. Penalty for the children for not taking care of elderly parents.
- C. Constructing modern old age homes for the aged people.
- D. Providing financial literacy to the elderly.
- E. None of the above

5. Which of the following statements is/are not true with respect to the passage?

- A. 50% of old women and 77% of old men are utilizing some form of social security.
- B. 53% of the elderly say that existing social security schemes are not sufficient to meet their basic needs.
- C. India's social security schemes cover initiatives like widow pension, family pension, health insurance etc.
- D. A network of caregivers should be set up at the block level to assist the aged persons living alone.
- E. None of the above

Correct Answers :

1	2	3	4	5
B	A	E	A	B



Explanations:

1. Refer to:

Old-age social security is considered a family subject, as most people live with their children in old age.

The highlighted part confirms that statement I is not true.

Refer to:

Old-age pension should be benchmarked to the increasing cost of living and the provisions for tax incentives for younger people should be tied to looking after dependent senior citizens.

The highlighted part confirms that statement II is true.

Refer to:

The foundation has also recommended that there should be provisions for a dependent ageing parent allowance for employees in the government sector.

The highlighted part confirms that it was the recommendation of a foundation, not the decision of the government. Therefore, statement III is also not true.

Hence, option B is the correct answer.

2. Refer to:

However, **53% of the elderly find it difficult in utilizing the social security schemes** and 79% found these are not sufficient to meet their basic needs.

The highlighted part confirms that statement I is true.

Refer to:

On the basis of survey findings and observations, the **Agewell Foundation** has recommended the government to ensure maximum coverage under existing and/or new social security schemes. The organization **has recommended** that there should be dedicated **healthcare facilities, particularly in rural and semi-urban areas for the elderly**.

The highlighted parts confirm that statement II is not true.

Refer to:

With rapid increase in population of older persons and a changing socio-economic scenario, issues concerning old people are now also being included in social security schemes.

The highlighted part confirms that statement III is not true.

Hence, option A is the correct answer.

3. “Benchmark” means ‘a standard or point of reference against which things may be compared’.

All the words given in the options are similar in meaning to ‘benchmark’.

Hence, option E is the correct answer.

4. **Refer to:**

On the basis of survey findings and observations, the Agewell Foundation has recommended the government to ensure maximum coverage under existing and/or new social security schemes. **The organization has recommended that there should be dedicated healthcare facilities, particularly in rural and semi-urban areas for the elderly.**

The highlighted part confirms that the recommendation of option A was indeed given by the Agewell Foundation.

The other ‘recommendations’ of option B, option C and option D are nowhere mentioned in the passage.

Hence, option A is the correct answer.

5. **Refer to:**

Largely, the study found out that **77% of old men and 50% of old women** are utilising some form of social security.

The highlighted part confirms that the statement given in option A is true.

Refer to:

However, 53% of the elderly find it difficult in utilizing the social security schemes and **79% found these are not sufficient to meet their basic needs.**

The highlighted part confirms that the statement given in option B is not true.

Refer to:

Generally, **India’s social security schemes** cover initiatives for the elderly such as retirement pension, **family pension, widow pension**, old-age pension, **health insurance** and medical benefits, disability benefits and gratuity.

The highlighted parts confirm that the statement given in option C is true.

Refer to:

There should be some kind of financial incentive for setting up **a network of caregivers for the elderly at the block level to assist older persons living alone.**

The highlighted part confirms that the statement given in option D is true.

Hence, option B is the correct answer.



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