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

Passage No. 169

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

The blanket of haze over Delhi thickened on Friday morning with the national capital's pollution levels increasing overnight by around 50 points, taking the overall air quality index to 459. A Central Pollution Control Board official said the AQI entered the "severe plus" or "emergency" category late Thursday night, the first time since January this year. According to official data, the overall AQI was 582 at 12.30 am. As part of the emergency measures, the Delhi government has decided to shut schools till November 5 as the air quality in the national capital deteriorated further. If the air quality persists in the "severe plus" category for more than 48 hours, emergency measures such as odd-even car rationing scheme, banning entry of trucks, construction activities and shutting down schools are taken under the Graded Response Action Plan, the official said.

The hazardous pollution levels forced a number of people to miss morning walks and other activities. Shubhomoy Sikdar, a Delhi-based journalist, said the pollution levels gave him a throat infection and he had to skip his daily sports session. Amanpreet Singh, a resident of Jangpura, said he has been avoiding morning and evening walks and preferring to stay indoors.

The number of masked faces continued to grow as the city remained shrouded in **pungent** haze for the fourth consecutive day. At 8.30 am, the capital's overall air quality index stood at 459. It was 410 at 8 pm on Thursday. All the 37 air quality monitoring stations across Delhi recorded the air quality in the severe category on Friday morning. Bawana was the most-polluted area with an AQI of 497, followed by Delhi Technological University (487), Wazirpur (485), Anand Vihar (484) and Vivek Vihar (482). Neighbouring Ghaziabad was the most-polluted city in the country, with the levels of PM2.5 – tiny particulate matter less than 2.5 microns that can enter deep into the lungs -- reaching as high as 493. Greater Noida (480), Noida (477), and Faridabad (432) also breathed extremely polluted air. An AQI between 0-50 is considered "good", 51-100 "satisfactory", 101-200 "moderate", 201-300 "poor", 301-400 "very poor", and 401-500 "severe". Above 500 is "severe-plus or emergency" category.

Delhi is impatiently hoping for favourable meteorological conditions to blow away the toxic air, as health experts said the hazardous air pollution has become a serious health concern for about 2 crore residents.

"Intake of every 22 micrograms per cubic metre of polluted air is equivalent to smoking a cigarette. So whether the PM2.5 level is 700 or 300 units, the impact is still as bad. People

need to take precautions, especially those suffering from asthma, bronchitis or other respiratory illness," said Dr Arvind Kumar, lung surgeon at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital here. Weather experts said increased wind speed due to a fresh western disturbance approaching the northern region would help disperse pollutants faster from Saturday.

Questions :

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

- I. Delhi government has decided to shut schools till November 5 due to severe pollution.
- II. Hazardous pollution levels forced a number of people to stay indoors.
- III. Intake of every 24 micrograms per cubic metre of polluted air is equivalent to smoking a cigar.

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

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

- I. In Delhi, If the air quality persists in the "severe plus" category for more than 48 hours, counteractive several measures are taken under Graded Response Action Plan.
- II. The hazardous air pollution is harmful for Delhi's 2 lakh residents.
- III. Air Quality Index having value above 500 falls under "severe-plus or emergency" category.

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

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

- I. In spite of such high levels of pollution, no proper data was maintained to monitor it.
- II. Recently, Delhi's pollution levels increased by around 50 points overnight.
- III. More and more people began using masks to save themselves from the harmful effects of the pollution.

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

4. Identify the words that are 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.

PUNGENT

- A. harmful B. rewarding C. carcinogenic D. having a sharply strong taste or smell
- E. None of the above

5. As mentioned in the passage, which patients should take special care to protect themselves from the pollution?

- A. Patients suffering from asthma and bronchitis

- B. Patients suffering from skin diseases
- C. Patients of young and old age
- D. Patients suffering from viral fever and cold
- E. All of the above

6. As per the passage, how many air quality monitoring stations are present in Delhi?

- A. 50
- B. 22
- C. 37
- D. 48
- E. Not mentioned in the passage

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

- A. In Delhi, AQI entered the "severe plus" or "emergency" category twice this year.
- B. Western disturbance approaching the northern region would help bring down the pollution levels.
- C. A Delhi-based athlete recently contacted throat infection due to sever pollution.
- D. AQI in the range of 201-300 is considered "poor".
- E. Tiny particles less than 2.5 microns can enter deep into the lungs.

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

- I. Delhi Technological University was the second-most polluted region in the capital city.
- II. The LG of Delhi expressed his deep concerns at the deteriorating pollution levels of the city.
- III. The Twitterati urged the government to take immediate steps to control the inimical pollution levels in the city.

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

Correct Answers :

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
B	B	E	D	A	C	C	A



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Explanations:

1. Refer to:

As part of the emergency measures, the **Delhi government has decided to shut schools till November 5** as the air quality in the national capital deteriorated further.

The highlighted part confirms that statement I is true.

Refer to:

The hazardous pollution levels forced a number of people to miss morning walks and other activities. Shubhomoy Sikdar, a Delhi-based journalist, said the pollution levels gave him a throat infection and he had to skip his daily sports session. Amanpreet Singh, a resident of Jangpura, said **he has been avoiding morning and evening walks and preferring to stay indoors.**

The highlighted parts confirm that statement II is true.

Refer to:

"Intake of every **22 micrograms** per cubic metre of polluted air is equivalent to smoking **a cigarette**. So whether the PM2.5 level is 700 or 300 units, the impact is still as bad.

The highlighted parts confirm that statement III is not true.

Hence, option B is the correct answer.

2.

Refer to:

If the air quality persists in the "severe plus" category for more than 48 hours, emergency measures such as odd-even car rationing scheme, banning entry of trucks, construction activities and shutting down schools **are taken under the Graded Response Action Plan**, the official said.

The highlighted parts confirm that statement I is true.

Refer to:

Delhi is impatiently hoping for favourable meteorological conditions to blow away the toxic air, as health experts said the hazardous air pollution has become a serious health concern for about **2 crore residents**.

The highlighted parts confirm that statement II is not true.

Refer to:

Above 500 is "severe-plus or emergency" category.

The highlighted sentence confirms that statement III is true.

Hence, option B is the correct answer.

3.

Refer to:

The blanket of haze over Delhi thickened on Friday morning with the national capital's pollution levels **increasing overnight by around 50 points**, taking the overall **air quality index to 459**. A Central Pollution Control Board official said the AQI entered the **"severe plus" or "emergency" category late**

Thursday night, the first time since January this year. **According to official data, the overall AQI was 582 at 12.30 am.**

The highlighted parts denote that proper data was maintained. Hence, statement I is not true.

Refer to:

The blanket of haze over Delhi thickened on Friday morning with the **national capital's pollution levels increasing overnight by around 50 points**, taking the overall air quality index to 459.

The highlighted part confirms that statement II is true.

Refer to:

The number of masked faces continued to grow as the city remained shrouded in pungent haze for the fourth consecutive day.

The highlighted part confirms that statement III is true.

Hence, option E is the correct answer.

4. “Pungent” literally means ‘having a sharply strong taste or smell / penetrating / stifling’.

Refer to:

The number of masked faces continued to grow as the city remained shrouded in pungent haze for the fourth consecutive day.

The sentence also insinuates the meaning of the word ‘pungent’.

Obviously, option D is the correct answer.

5. **Refer to:**

People need to take precautions, especially those suffering from asthma, bronchitis or other respiratory illness," said Dr Arvind Kumar, lung surgeon at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital here.

The highlighted part confirms that the recommendation contained in option A is true. The other recommendations mentioned in the other options are nowhere mentioned in the passage.

Hence, option A is the correct answer.

6. **Refer to:**

All the 37 air quality monitoring stations across Delhi recorded the air quality in the severe category on Friday morning.

The highlighted part confirms that Delhi has 37 air quality monitoring stations in total.

Hence, option C is the correct answer.

7. Refer to:

A Central Pollution Control Board official said the AQI entered the "severe plus" or "emergency" category late Thursday night, **the first time since January this year.**

The highlighted part confirms that this recent "severe plus" pollution level also happened in January this year. Hence, the statement contained in option A is true.

Refer to:

Weather experts said increased wind speed due to a fresh **western disturbance approaching the northern region would help disperse pollutants faster** from Saturday.

The highlighted part confirms that the statement contained in option B is true.

Refer to:

Shubhomoy Sikdar, **a Delhi-based journalist**, said the pollution levels gave him a throat infection and he had to skip his daily sports session.

The highlighted part confirms that the statement contained in option C is not true.

Refer to:

An AQI between 0-50 is considered "good", 51-100 "satisfactory", 101-200 "moderate", **201-300 "poor"**, 301-400 "very poor", and 401-500 "severe". Above 500 is "severe-plus or emergency" category.

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

Refer to:

Neighbouring Ghaziabad was the most-polluted city in the country, with the levels of PM2.5 – tiny particulate matter less than **2.5 microns that can enter deep into the lungs** -- reaching as high as 493.

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

Hence, option C is the correct answer.



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8. Refer to:

Bawana was the most-polluted area with an AQI of 497, followed by Delhi Technological University (487), Wazirpur (485), Anand Vihar (484) and Vivek Vihar (482).

The highlighted part confirms that statement I is true.

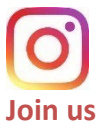
No information regarding the LG of Delhi, or the Twitterati is present in the passage.

Hence, statement II and statement III are not true.

Therefore, option A is the correct answer.



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