
Topic 1: Governance & Legal Reforms — Jan Vishwas, Regulatory Cholesterol & Trust-Based Regulation

1. Context & The Core Problem

- Low Wages vs. Job Shortage: India's primary employment challenge is low wages and lack of formalisation, rather than a mere shortage of jobs.
- Regulatory Cholesterol: Defined as a systemic lack of transparency, consistency, and trust in rule enforcement. Opaque regulations and complex compliance burdens act as a financial penalty on formal hiring, forcing a third of the labor force into informal wage labor or underpaid self-employment.
- Global Benchmarking: While India's debt-to-GDP and equity ratios match global standards, per capita GDP lags significantly behind (ranking 128th globally; China's per capita GDP is currently 5 times that of India).

---

2. The Jan Vishwas Framework & The Three Proposed Pillars

Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Act, 2023
- Decriminalised 183 provisions across 42 central Acts
- Replaced imprisonment with monetary penalties
- ▶ Proposed Next-Stage Interventions:
  - 1. Siddhant (Trust-Based Principle)
  - 2. Sangreh (National Legal Repository)
  - 3. Ashwasan (Legal Enforceability Guarantee)

1. Jan Vishwas Act, 2023 (Back2Basics): Decriminalised 183 provisions across 42 central Acts, replacing criminal prosecution and prison terms for minor, technical non-compliances with monetary penalties.
2. Siddhant (Trust-Based Regulatory Principle): Focuses on three core criteria—*freedom, necessity, and proportionality*—in administrative rulemaking. It aims to eliminate six entrenched administrative habits ("thought worlds"):
    - Prior approval regimes (prohibiting activities until explicitly permitted).

- Enforcing unenforceable mandates beyond regulator capacity.
- Process as punishment for non-offenders.
- Compliance blind spots (untrackable administrative circulars/edicts outside formal Acts).
- Drafting laws around edge cases.
- Excessive criminalisation without swift prosecution.

3. Sangreh (Single Source of Legal Truth):
    - Addresses the constitutional principle that citizens cannot plead ignorance of the law, establishing that the state has a reciprocal duty to make laws accessible.
    - Indexes distributed repositories (e.g., Housing Ministry's physical gazette, MeitY e-gazette, Law Ministry's India Code) into a single, machine-readable national repository.
    - Judicial Precedents: Supported by Supreme Court rulings in *Harla v. State of Rajasthan (1952)* (rejecting unpublished "secret laws"), *B.K. Srinivasan v. State of Karnataka (1987)* (mandating law knowability), and *Viraj Impex v. Union of India (2019)* (holding that laws operate only post-publication).
    - Global equivalents include the US *Federal Register*, UK *legislation.gov.uk*, and EU *EUR-Lex*.
4. Ashwasan (Legal Enforceability Guarantee):
    - Enacted via a proposed Transparency of Rules Act (TORA).
    - Guarantees that any rule, edict, or compliance obligation *not* indexed on *Sangreh* is legally unenforceable against enterprises.
    - Integrates Bharat Niti Lipi—a standardized, machine-readable legal drafting language.

Topic 2: Labour Economics — Decent Work Index, Informality & Structural Challenges

1. Employment Trends & Decent Work Deficit

- Macro Trends: India's unemployment rate fell from 6.1% (2017–18) to 3.2% (2023–24), accompanied by a rise in female workforce participation.
- Job Quality vs. Job Quantity: Despite falling unemployment, job quality improvements remain slow.
- Decent Work Definition (ILO & SDG-8): Work that delivers equitable income, workplace rights, social security, and human dignity.

---

2. Decent Work Index (DWI) Sectoral Analysis

Based on Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) data across 5 sectors, the national DWI score rose modestly from 0.247 to 0.302.

Sector	DWI Trend / Score	Key Drivers & Characteristics
Manufacturing	0.324 ➔ 0.411 (Highest Gain)	Progressive formalisation and digital compliance integration.
Transport	0.285 ➔ 0.350	Expansion of urban logistics and app-based platform work.
Agriculture	0.211 ➔ 0.267 (Lowest Score)	Dominated by self-employed workers and unpaid family labor.
Construction & Retail	Low Growth	High reliance on casual labor and fragmented subcontracting chains.

---

3. Informality & Social Vulnerabilities

- Informality Scale: Nearly 90% of the Indian workforce remains informally employed (ILO–IHD India Employment Report 2024), spreading through supply chains, contract hiring, and gig platforms.
- Intersectional Penalty: Post-pandemic data shows worsening decent work outcomes for Scheduled Tribe (ST) and Other Backward Classes (OBC) women, reflecting persistent caste and gender structural barriers.
- Key Welfare & Labour Initiatives:
    - e-Shram Portal: National database for unorganised workers (requires enhanced benefit delivery linkage).
    - Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan: Provides unorganised workers a guaranteed pension of ₹3,000/month after age 60.
    - Occupational Safety Code, 2020: Legally mandates formal appointment letters for all employees.
    - PM Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana: Employment-Linked Incentive (ELI) scheme with a ₹99,446 crore outlay targeting 3.5 crore jobs.

NOVEMBER 2026

CALL/WHATSAPP - 8999069628

Topic 3: Energy Security & Industrial Decarbonisation — Electrification & Heat Pumps

1. Energy Security Vulnerability

- LPG Import Exposure: India imports ~60% of its Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG), with nearly 90% passing through the Strait of Hormuz.
- Electrification Mandate: Shifting end-use demand (cooking, heating, industrial processes) from imported fossil fuels to the domestic power grid mitigates geopolitical supply shock risks.
- Net-Zero Trajectory (NITI Aayog): Under *Scenarios Towards Viksit Bharat and Net Zero*, electricity's share of final energy demand will rise from 21% (2025) to 60% by 2070, reducing the fuel import bill from 4% to 0.2% of GDP.

	Current (2025)	Net Zero (2070 Scenario)
Electricity Share:	21%	⟶ 60%
Fuel Import Cost:	4% of GDP	⟶ 0.2% of GDP

---

2. Industrial Heat & Heat Pump Technology

- Industrial Energy Use: Industry accounts for nearly half of India's total energy consumption, but electricity satisfies only ~25% of its needs (compared to ~50% in China).
- Low-Temperature Heat in MSMEs: About 50% of MSME thermal demand (dairies, textiles, hospitals) requires temperatures below 250°C.
- Heat Pump Mechanics:
  - Functions as a reverse air conditioner, extracting ambient/waste thermal energy and boosting it for application.
  - Efficiency: Achieves a Coefficient of Performance (COP) of 2.5 to 4 units of heat per unit of electricity in Indian ambient conditions (far superior to resistive electric boilers).
- Key Adoption Barriers: High upfront costs, lack of Indian testing standards, and a 90% import dependence on China for heat pump units.

---

3. Regulatory Efficiency & Standards

- Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE): Energy efficiency programmes saved 53.6 million tonnes of oil equivalent (Mtoe) in 2023–24.
- Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS): Replaces the Perform, Achieve and Trade (PAT) scheme to create a market-based carbon credit mechanism administered by BEE.
- Solar & Appliance Standards: BEE expanded star labelling to grid-connected solar inverters and PV modules (March 2024). Mandatory star labelling for induction cooktops has been deferred to January 2027.

Topic 4: Space Technology & Positioning Systems — NavIC & NVS-03 Launch

1. NavIC System Overview & Challenges

- NavIC (Navigation with Indian Constellation): India's independent regional navigation satellite system providing Position, Navigation, and Timing (PNT) services covering India and a 1,500 km region beyond its landmass.
- Atomic Clock Vulnerabilities:
    - Satellite positioning relies on onboard atomic clocks to measure precise signal transit time.
    - Out of 11 launched satellites, 6 experienced clock failures due to defective imported atomic units (e.g., IRNSS-1F's final clock failed in March 2026).

---

2. GSLV-F18 / NVS-03 Mission Highlights

- Launch Vehicle: GSLV-F18 successfully placed the 2,250 kg NVS-03 into Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO) with a 12-year design life.
- Key Innovations in NVS-03:
    - Indigenous Atomic Clock: Integrates a domestically developed atomic clock alongside procured clocks to eliminate import vulnerabilities.

    - L1 Band Signal: Adds an L1 signal band (civilian navigation standard) to the existing L5 and S bands, enhancing interoperability with consumer devices and GPS.
- Legal Metrology (Indian Standard Time) Rules, 2026: Authorises NavIC as an official broadcast source for Indian Standard Time (IST), reducing foreign GPS reliance across critical infrastructure.

Topic 5: Agriculture & Macroeconomics — El Niño, Fertiliser Sales Dip & Food Inflation

1. Fertiliser Sales Dip as an Early Indicator

- Anomaly: April–September fertiliser sales (including urea) dropped despite increased domestic production and import arrivals.
- Monsoon Deficit: Driven by a 12.6% rainfall deficit during the June–September southwest monsoon, which reduced soil moisture and hindered crop input application.
- Policy Takeaway: Fertiliser sales figures act as an early indicator of drought-induced yield drops before actual sown area reductions register in official data.

---

2. El Niño Dynamics & Agricultural Impact

- El Niño Definition: The warm phase of the El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO), characterized by unusual sea surface warming in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific.
- Current Cycle: Classified by WMO as "firmly established and strengthening rapidly" (super strong event), extending through early 2027.
- Rabi Crop Vulnerability: Compounded by a 31.4% rainfall deficit in October and warmer-than-usual winter temperatures, threatening both Rabi acreage and yields.
- Food Inflation Cascade: Consumer food inflation surged from 4.2% to >7.7% (April–September).

3. Immediate Trade Policy Recommendations

- Pulses & Sugar Duty Waivers: Permit duty-free imports of masoor, chana, yellow peas, raw sugar, and cotton.
- Edible Oil Tariff Relief: Scrap basic customs duties on crude palm oil and crude soybean oil.
- Long-Term Adaptation: Shift policy from treating climate anomalies as temporary shocks to default realities by scaling up climate-smart crop breeding and water/fertiliser use efficiency.

Topic 6: Industrial Policy & Trade — National Steel Policy 2047: Protectionism vs. Competition

1. Status of the Indian Steel Industry

- Global Position: India is the second-largest global steel producer (170 million tonnes output), though trailing China (961 million tonnes).
- Draft National Steel Policy (Vision 2047): Aims to elevate Indian steel to global competitiveness and expand steel exports to 45 million tonnes (Mt).

---

2. Structural Protection & Market Distortions

Research by the Centre for Social and Economic Progress (CSEP) indicates that high steel sector profitability (~15% operating EBITDA) stems from trade shelter rather than operational efficiency.

PROTECTIONIST MECHANISMS

▼ ▼ ▼

30% Iron Ore Export Duty (Keeps domestic ore 30-40% below global price)

~18% Combined Tariff (7.5% Duty + 11.5% Safeguard Duty)

228 Quality Control Orders (QCOs) (Bar foreign supply)

1. Iron Ore Export Duty: A 30% export duty on high-grade ore (>58% Fe content) suppresses domestic ore prices 30–40% below global rates, providing cheap raw materials to steelmakers while depriving mineral-rich mining regions of revenue.
2. High Tariff Protection: Combined import tariffs and safeguard duties reach ~18% (compared to 3–4% in ASEAN).
3. Non-Tariff Barriers: Quality Control Orders (QCOs) restrict import competition across 228 steel products.
4. Price Premium & Downstream Penalty: Domestic hot-rolled coil (HRC) sells at a 6–7% price premium over Japanese steel. Downstream industries (construction, where steel is ~15% of project cost, and automotive, where steel is ~5% of raw material cost) bear inflated input costs.

---

3. Policy Reform Recommendations

- Phased Tariff Reductions: Lower steel import tariffs progressively to ASEAN levels (3–4%) over 5 years.
- Eliminate Export & Quality Distortions: Remove the 30% export duty on high-grade iron ore and withdraw non-tariff steel QCOs.
- Mining Exploration Reform: Shift toward Australia-style exploration incentives to unleash geological potential (currently, only 10% of India's obvious geological potential is explored).

NOVEMBER 2026

CALL/WHATSAPP - 8999069628

UPSC Style Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the regulatory reform proposals following the Jan Vishwas Act:

1. The Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Act, 2023 replaced imprisonment with monetary penalties across technical offences in central Acts.
2. The 'Sangreh' proposal aims to create a single, unified national legal repository indexing all laws, rules, circulars, and gazettes.
3. Under the Transparency of Rules Act (TORA) / 'Ashwasan', an administrative obligation not published on the national legal repository cannot be legally enforced against enterprises.

Which of the statements given above are correct? (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Q2. With reference to the Decent Work Index (DWI) in India based on Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) data, consider the following statements:

1. Between recent PLFS rounds, the Manufacturing sector recorded the largest improvement in its Decent Work Index score.
2. Agriculture holds the highest Decent Work Index score among major economic sectors due to widespread self-employment.
3. According to the ILO-IHD India Employment Report 2024, nearly 90% of India's workforce remains in informal employment.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding the Navigation with Indian Constellation (NavIC) and the NVS-03 satellite:

1. NavIC is a regional navigation system designed to cover India and an area extending up to 1,500 km beyond its borders.
2. The NVS-03 satellite incorporates an indigenous atomic clock and introduces the L1 band signal to the existing L5 and S bands.
3. NavIC operates exclusively using Geostationary Earth Orbit (GEO) satellites.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Q4. With reference to industrial electrification and energy efficiency in India, consider the following statements:

1. Heat pumps operate by transferring heat from air, water, or waste streams, delivering multiple units of thermal energy per unit of electricity consumed.
2. In NITI Aayog's Net Zero scenario for 2070, India's electricity share in final energy use is projected to reach 60%.
3. The Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS) is administered by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) to establish a carbon market mechanism.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Q5. With reference to recent trends in Indian agriculture and monsoon patterns, consider the following statements:

1. A fall in fertiliser sales during a dry spell can serve as an early indicator of potential crop yield decline even if the total sown area remains unchanged.
2. El Niño refers to the unusual cooling of sea surface temperatures in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean, which typically enhances Indian monsoon rainfall.
3. High food inflation in India during strong El Niño years is primarily driven by production shortfalls in Kharif and Rabi crops.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Q6. Consider the following statements regarding India's steel industry and the Draft National Steel Policy Vision 2047:

1. India is currently the second-largest steel producer in the world.
2. India imposes a 30% export duty on high-grade iron ore to keep raw material prices lower for domestic steelmakers.
3. Import tariffs combined with safeguard duties on foreign steel in India are significantly lower than those in ASEAN countries.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Q7. Which of the following Supreme Court of India judgments upheld the principle that a legal rule or obligation operates only once it is properly published and made knowable to citizens?

1. *Harla v. State of Rajasthan (1952)*
2. *B.K. Srinivasan v. State of Karnataka (1987)*
3. *Viraj Impex v. Union of India (2019)*

Select the correct answer using the code given below: (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Q8. Consider the following pairs of Government Initiatives and their primary objectives:

1. Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan: Monthly pension of ₹3,000 for unorganised workers after 60 years of age.
2. Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020: Mandatory legal requirement of formal appointment letters for all employees.
3. PM Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana: Employment-Linked Incentive scheme targeting unorganised sector contract workers exclusively.

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched? (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Q9. Why did ISRO transition from imported atomic clocks to indigenous atomic clocks in its next-generation navigation satellites (NVS series)?

(a) Imported atomic clocks operated on radio frequencies prohibited by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).
(b) Defective imported atomic clocks caused timing failures across multiple operational IRNSS satellites.
(c) Foreign atomic clocks were technically incompatible with the L5 and S signal bands used by NavIC.
(d) Indigenous atomic clocks use Rubidium isotopes that emit positioning signals directly without satellite transponders.

Q10. With reference to Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) programmes, consider the following statements:

1. BEE sets mandatory energy performance standards and star labelling for designated electrical appliances.
2. BEE has launched labelling programmes for grid-connected solar inverters and photovoltaic modules.
3. Star labelling for induction cooktops is currently mandatory across all commercial and residential models in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Q11. Which of the following trade policy measures are recommended by agricultural economists to mitigate food inflation during El Niño induced dry spells?

1. Permitting duty-free imports of pulses such as masoor, chana, and yellow peas.
2. Scrapping basic customs duties on crude palm oil and crude soybean oil.
3. Imposing prohibitive export duties on raw agricultural commodities.

Select the correct answer using the code given below: (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Q12. In the context of the Indian industrial landscape, Quality Control Orders (QCOs) in the steel sector act primarily as:

(a) Mandatory export quotas enforced on domestic steel producers.
(b) Import restriction mechanisms requiring mandatory certification before selling specific steel products domestically.
(c) Price ceilings regulated directly by the Competition Commission of India.
(d) Statutory environmental compliance certificates required for blast furnace operation.

Q13. Consider the following statements regarding Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) findings:

1. India's unemployment rate declined significantly from 6.1% in 2017–18 to 3.2% in 2023–24.
2. Female labor force participation in India declined continuously during the same period.
3. A fall in the national unemployment rate automatically indicates a proportional rise in formal, protected jobs.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Q14. The Strait of Hormuz is critical to India's energy security primarily because:

(a) It is the primary maritime route for coastal coal movement between Indian ports.
(b) Nearly 90% of India's Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) imports transit through this waterway.
(c) It connects India's offshore Krishna-Godavari gas fields to mainland refineries.
(d) It serves as the exclusive transit corridor for Indian refined oil exports to Western Europe.

Q15. Consider the following statements regarding 'Regulatory Cholesterol' and legal drafting reforms:

1. Regulatory cholesterol refers to untrustworthy, opaque rules and heavy compliance burdens that raise formal job creation costs.
2. 'Bharat Niti Lipi' proposes a standardized, machine-readable legal language and structure for drafting legislation.
3. Jan Vishwas Siddhant mandates that all economic activities remain prohibited until prior permission is granted by regulators.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

NOVEMBER 2026

CALL/WHATSAPP - 8999069628

Answer Key & Detailed Explanations

Question	Correct Option	Primary Topic Reference
Q1	(d)	Jan Vishwas, Sangreh & Ashwasan Proposals
Q2	(a)	Decent Work Index & Sectoral Performances
Q3	(a)	NavIC Architecture & NVS-03 Specifications
Q4	(d)	Electrification, Heat Pumps & BEE Carbon Trading
Q5	(a)	El Niño Dynamics & Agriculture Indicators
Q6	(a)	Steel Sector Protectionism & Trade Duties
Q7	(d)	Legal Precedents on Law Accessibility
Q8	(a)	Labour Welfare Schemes & Occupational Code
Q9	(b)	Space Tech — Atomic Clock Failures
Q10	(a)	BEE Efficiency & Star Labelling Deferral
Q11	(a)	Agriculture Trade Policy & Food Inflation
Q12	(b)	Industrial Policy & Non-Tariff Barriers (QCOs)
Q13	(a)	PLFS Unemployment Metrics vs. Work Quality
Q14	(b)	Energy Vulnerability & LPG Transit Routes
Q15	(a)	Administrative Reform — Siddhant & Bharat Niti Lipi

NOVEMBER 2026

Detailed Explanations

1. Answer: (d)

- Statement 1 is correct: The Jan Vishwas Act, 2023 decriminalised 183 provisions across 42 central Acts, replacing criminal imprisonment with financial penalties.
- Statement 2 is correct: 'Sangreh' is proposed as a single national legal repository to index all laws, rules, circulars, and edicts across ministries.
- Statement 3 is correct: Under the proposed Transparency of Rules Act (TORA) / 'Ashwasan', any administrative obligation not published on *Sangreh* cannot be legally enforced against an enterprise.

2. Answer: (a)

- Statement 1 is correct: Manufacturing registered the largest improvement in the Decent Work Index (rising from 0.324 to 0.411) due to increasing formalisation and digitization.
- Statement 2 is incorrect: Agriculture holds the lowest Decent Work Index score (0.211 to 0.267) among major sectors due to heavy reliance on casual and unpaid family labor.
- Statement 3 is correct: According to the ILO-IHD India Employment Report 2024, nearly 90% of India's labor force remains in informal employment.

3. Answer: (a)

- Statement 1 is correct: NavIC covers India and an extended region up to 1,500 km beyond its national borders.
- Statement 2 is correct: NVS-03 carries a domestically developed atomic clock and introduces the L1 band signal alongside existing L5 and S bands.
- Statement 3 is incorrect: NavIC utilizes a combination of Geostationary (GEO) and Geosynchronous (GSO) orbit satellites, not GEO exclusively.

4. Answer: (d)

- Statement 1 is correct: Heat pumps move thermal energy from ambient air/water/waste streams, delivering 2.5 to 4 units of heat per unit of electricity.
- Statement 2 is correct: In NITI Aayog's Net Zero scenario for 2070, electricity's share of final energy demand reaches 60%.

- Statement 3 is correct: The Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS), administered by BEE, has replaced the PAT scheme across multiple sectors.

5. Answer: (a)

- Statement 1 is correct: A drop in fertiliser purchase reflects drought severity and lower input usage, signaling crop yield declines even if sown area figures remain constant.
- Statement 2 is incorrect: El Niño is the unusual warming (not cooling) of sea surface temperatures in the central/eastern equatorial Pacific, which weakens Indian monsoon rainfall.
- Statement 3 is correct: Strong El Niño events cause Kharif and Rabi harvest shortfalls, escalating food inflation.

6. Answer: (a)

- Statement 1 is correct: India is the world's second-largest steel producer (170 Mt output).
- Statement 2 is correct: India imposes a 30% export duty on high-grade iron ore to keep raw material costs 30–40% lower for domestic steelmakers.
- Statement 3 is incorrect: Combined import tariffs and safeguard duties in India total ~18%, which is significantly higher than ASEAN's 3–4% level.

7. Answer: (d)

- All three judgments established that laws must be published to be enforceable: *Harla v. State of Rajasthan (1952)* rejected secret laws; *B.K. Srinivasan v. State of Karnataka (1987)* mandated law knowability; *Viraj Impex v. Union of India (2019)* ruled that laws operate only post-publication.

8. Answer: (a)

- Pair 1 is correctly matched: PM Shram Yogi Maan-dhan provides a ₹3,000/month pension for unorganised workers after age 60.
- Pair 2 is correctly matched: The Occupational Safety Code, 2020 makes formal appointment letters a statutory requirement.
- Pair 3 is incorrectly matched: PM Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana is an Employment-Linked Incentive scheme with a ₹99,446 crore outlay targeting 3.5 crore jobs across sectors, not exclusively unorganised contract workers.

9. Answer: (b)

- Correct Option (b): Out of 11 launched satellites, 6 experienced clock failures primarily due to defective imported atomic clocks, necessitating the development of indigenous Rubidium atomic clocks.

10. Answer: (a)

- Statement 1 is correct: BEE sets standards and star labelling to improve appliance efficiency.
- Statement 2 is correct: BEE launched labelling programmes for grid-connected solar inverters and PV modules in March 2024.
- Statement 3 is incorrect: Mandatory star labelling for induction cooktops was deferred to January 2027.

11. Answer: (a)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct: Economists advocate permitting duty-free imports of pulses (masoor, chana, yellow peas) and scrapping basic customs duties on crude palm and soybean oil to check food inflation.
- Statement 3 is incorrect: Prohibitive export duties distort domestic markets and harm agricultural realisations rather than curbing food inflation efficiently.

12. Answer: (b)

- Correct Option (b): Quality Control Orders (QCOs) act as non-tariff barriers by prohibiting the domestic sale of foreign steel products without prior mandatory certification.

13. Answer: (a)

- Statement 1 is correct: Unemployment fell from 6.1% (2017–18) to 3.2% (2023–24).
- Statement 2 is incorrect: Female workforce participation rose during this period for the first time in decades.
- Statement 3 is incorrect: Unemployment metrics measure job volume, not job quality or protection, as nearly 90% of the workforce remains informal.

14. Answer: (b)

- Correct Option (b): India imports ~60% of its LPG, and nearly 90% of those shipments transit through the Strait of Hormuz, creating a strategic energy bottleneck.

15. Answer: (a)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct: Regulatory cholesterol raises formal job creation costs, and *Bharat Niti Lipi* proposes a standardized, machine-readable legal drafting language.
- Statement 3 is incorrect: Prior approval (where activity is prohibited until permitted) is one of the six flawed administrative habits that *Jan Vishwas Siddhant* seeks to eliminate, not mandate.
