10 POINTER
Your Study Companion

IPPB PO Prelims

Memory Based
Paper of
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2017

English

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Memory Based English Paper for IPPB PO Prelims 2017

Directions (1 -10): Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it.

The last 10 years have seen an extraordinary quantum of interest and debate on the benefits and dangers of modernisation of India's retail sector, though never has this debate been shriller and more contentious than what has been seen in the past.

Unfortunately, no discussion has taken place even once in these years on the importance of the retail sector to India (not only just the 15+ million independent retailers and street hawkers), the need to make the producer to the consumer distribution system more efficient and less wasteful, and how to make these millions of independent retailers not only relevant for tomorrow but actually increase their numbers and enhance the economic and social vibrancy of their vocation. Sadly, much more attention has been misguidedly focused on just one single dimension of modernisation of the distribution and retail infrastructure namely "foreign direct investment". And most of the rhetoric of recent years has largely been on emotional and sometimes incorrect factual positions. Private consumption has long been the larger constituent of India's economy and even today, it accounts for almost 60% of India's GDP. Of this private consumption, more than 60% is what would constitute what we typically route through retail channels.

The fact is India's retail story is not a zero sum game i.e. growth of new, modern, and sometimes larger in scale retail businesses has to come at the expense of decimation of the traditional, independent retail business owners. Even at a real growth of 6% per year and inflation of about 5% for the next 15 years, India's nominal GDP will be about \$8,000 billion in 2026. The size of India's retail market would have also moved up from about \$500 billion in 2011 to about \$2,500 billion in 2026.

Traditional retail currently accounts for as much as about \$475 billion of this market. Even if modern retail attracts as much as \$150 billion in fresh direct and indirect investment (from within India and overseas) over the next 15 years (i.e., \$10 billion per year), the size of modern retail business in India is

not likely to cross \$300-350 billion by 2026, implying that traditional retail will account for as much as \$2,150-2,200 billion in revenues (or more than four times of their current size).

Accounting for inflation and some increase in productivity of traditional retailers, it can be very confidently assumed that in the most optimistic of all scenarios as far as investment in modern retail is concerned, the numbers of independent retail outlets in India will more than double by 2026 rather than show any decline whatsoever. If these facts are understood, then what should India be doing to facilitate this retail consumption taking place in a planned, organised manner rather than seeing millions of illegal retail establishments sprouting all over?

First, our politicians, our bureaucrats, and our urban planners must realise the need and relevance of providing for retail spaces in an integrated, holistic planned way. At the very least, about 10-12 square feet of retail space is needed for every urban inhabitant. Urban agglomerations such as NCR, Greater Mumbai, and Kolkata therefore require at least 200 million square feet each of legalised retail space.

1. Which of the following is/ are the major concern for India's retail sector?

- (a) More attention is being paid to the possible role of FDI.
- (b) No efforts are made by the authority to enhance efficiency of retail distribution.
- (c) The retailers are not regulated.
- (d) The retail sector in India is a potential retail market for employment prospects.
- (e) Both 1) and 2)

2. What has/have been suggested by the author? Answer in the context of the passage.

- (A) FDI should allowed only in a few restricted sectors.
- (B) New players should not be allowed to invest funds.

- (C) There should be proper planning for the developing of retail sectors.
- (a) Only (A)
- (b) Only (B)
- (c) Only (C)
- (d) Only (A) and (B)
- (e) Only (B) and (C)

3. What does the author mean by 'zero sum gain'?

- (a) Gain of branded retailers at the cost of traditional retailers.
- (b) Loss of some best retailers at the gain of others.
- (c) The number of retailers remain the same over the period of time.
- (d) Both 1 and 2
- (e) All 1, 2 and 3

4. Which of the following is not contextual according to the passage?

- (a) The modern retail will grow substantially but not relatively.
- (b) Traditional retailer will evaporate in the course of time.
- (c) Traditional retailer will grow relatively.
- (d) Inflation will be a factor to attribute growth
- (e) Other than given options

5. Choose the word which is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning to the word 'decimation' as used in the passage?

- (a) Annihilation
- (b) Devastation
- (c) Catastrophe
- (d) Holocaust
- (e) Establishment

6. Which of the following is true according to the passage?

- (a) Retail market is the backbone of distribution system of the country.
- (b) Modernisation of India's retail sector is not that pious.
- (c) Retail management is required to work with wholesale market as well as Internet sales.
- (d) Independent retailer in the future market is a major concern.
- (e) Other than given options

7. Choose the word which is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning of the word 'sprouting' as used in the passage?

- (a) Germinating
- (b) Burgeoning
- (c) Proliferating
- (d) Expanding
- (e) Subsiding

8. What is the central idea of the given passage?

- (a) Impact of FDI on India's retail sector.
- (b) Growth in India's GDP.
- (c) Declining trend of traditional retail sector.
- (d) Issues related to management of modernisation of India's retail sector.
- (e) Other than given options

9. Give a suitable title to the above passage?

- (a) Retailing in India
- (b) Retail sector in India and growing e–commerce challenge
- (c) Retail sector in India growing at phenomenal pace
- (d) India's retail sector: Missing the wood for the trees
- (e) FDI in retail sector in India

10. Choose the word which is MOST SIMILAR in meaning to the word 'contentious' as used in the passage?

- (a) Submissive
- (b) Complaisant
- (c) Netted
- (d) Controversial
- (e) Agreeable

Directions (11-20): In the following passage there are blanks, each of which has been numbered. These numbers are printed below the passage and against each five words are suggested, one of which fits the blank appropriately. Find out the appropriate words.

The capital's "airpocalypse", the choking smog that descended on Beijing in the winter of 2012-13, galvanised public opinion and(11)... the government. The strange thing is, though, that information about air pollution—how extensive it is, how much damage it does—has long been sketchy, ... (12).... mostly on satellite data or computer models. Until now.

.....(13).... to the outcry, the government set up a national air-reporting system which now has almost 1,000 monitoring stations, pumping out hourly reports on six pollutants, including sulphur dioxide, ozone and (the main(14)... particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter, or PM2.5. These are tiny particles which lodge in the lungs and(15)....

respiratory disease. The six are the main cause of local pollution but have little to do with climate change, since they do not include carbon dioxide, the main greenhouse gas. Scientists from Berkeley Earth, a not-for-profit foundation in America, have ... (16)... through this recent cloud of data for the four months to early August 2014, sieved out the bits that are manifestly wrong (readings where the dial seems to be stuck, for instance) and emerged with the most detailed and up-to-date picture of Chinese air pollution so far.

Pollution is sky-high ...(17).... in China. Some 83% of Chinese are ...(18)... to air that, in America, would be deemed by the Environmental Protection Agency either to be unhealthy or unhealthy for sensitive groups. Almost half the population of China experiences levels of PM2.5 that are ...(19)... America's highest threshold. That is even(20)... than the satellite data had suggested.

11.

- (a) Frightened
- (b) Spooked
- (c) Startled
- (d) Pleased
- (e) Agitated

12.

- (a) Situated
- (b) Stationed
- (c) Based
- (d) Enacted
- (e) Disambiguated

13.

- (a) Countering
- (b) Retorting
- (c) Answering
- (d) Greeting
- (e) Responding

14.

- (a) Fugitive
- (b) Felon
- (c) Miscreant
- (d) Culprit
- (e) Suspect

15.

- (a) Hamper
- (b) Cause
- (c) Lead

- (d) Result
- (e) Originate

16.

- (a) Seined
- (b) Drained
- (c) Carried
- (d) Trawled
- (e) Propelled

17.

- (a) All over
- (b) Nowhere
- (c) Around
- (d) Ubiquitous
- (e) Everywhere

18.

- (a) Exposed
- (b) Obscured
- (c) Exhibited
- (d) Blocked
- (e) Concealed

19.

- (a) Above
- (b) Over
- (c) Aloft
- (d) Beyond
- (e) After

20.

- (a) Better
- (b) Worse
- (c) Poo
- (d) Horrible
- (e) Repugnant

Directions (21-30): In the following exercise, each of the sentences is divided into four parts, i.e. A, B, C and D. Find the part that has an error. If the sentence is error-free mark your answer as E.

- 21. (A) No sooner had he arrive/(B) than his best friend arranged a reception/(C) in his honour/(D) in the best hotel in the town./
 (E) No error
- 22. (A) Manali was trying for admission/(B) in the engineering college/(C) even though her parents wanted/(D) her to take up medical./ (E) No error

- 23. (A) He told me that/(B) he could not buy paintings/(C) which he wanted very much/(D) because he had not enough money./(E)No error
- 24. (A) Although he had worked hard/(B) and was understanding as much about the subject/(C) as I did/(D) he failed to get a second class in the examination./(E) No error
- 25. (A) She has told me that her brother might have/(B) done much better at the university last year/(C) he had not given so much time/ (D) to the students union./(E) No error
- 26. (A) Even though he was over/(B) ninety he still enjoyed reading/(C) novel and sometimes

- spend an/(D) evening at the cinema./(E) No error
- 27. (A) I will now deal with him/(B) in a manner different/(C) from the one /(D) I have adopted so far./(E) No error
- 28. (A) Mr. Kumar is planning/(B) to settle in Kolkata/(C) as soon as/(D) he will retire in April next year./(E) No error
- 29. (A) The film show/(B) began when/(C) we arrived/(D) in the hall./(E) No error
- 30. (A) No sooner had the news appeared/(B) in the paper than/(C) there is a rush/(D) at the counter./(E) No error
