

Que-1 With reference to Competition (Amendment) Bill, 2022, consider the following statements

1- Section 5 currently says parties indulging in merger, acquisition, or amalgamation need to notify the Commission of the combination only on the basis of 'asset' or 'turnover'. The new Bill proposes to add a 'deal value' threshold.

2- The new Bill seeks to accelerate the timeline from 210 working days to only 100 working days with a conservatory period of 30 days for extensions.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

- a) 1 only b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2
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Que-2 What is gun-jumping as per Competition Act?

1- If the combining parties close a notified transaction before the approval, or have consummated a reportable transaction without bringing it to the Commission's knowledge, it is seen as gun-jumping.

2- The penalty for gun-jumping was a total of 2% of the asset or turnover.

3- This is now proposed to be 1% of the deal value.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

- a) 1 and 2 only b) 1 and 3 only
c) 1, 2 and 3 d) 2 only
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Que-3 Consider the following statements about National Food Security Act (NFSA)

1- Under this ration cardholders are allowed to buy 5 kg of foodgrains per person each month at a subsidised rate of ₹2 per kg of wheat and ₹3 per kg of rice.

2- The Central Issue Price (CIP), has not been increased since the NFSA was enacted in 2019.

3- It includes the Midday Meal Scheme, Integrated Child Development Services scheme and the Public Distribution System.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

- a) 2 only b) 1 and 3 only
c) 1, 2 and 3 d) 2 and 3 only
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Que-4 Consider the following statements about gene called CSA6

1- This has been identified in *Candida albicans* a fungal species infamous for causing high rates of morbidity and mortality under certain immuno-compromised conditions such as AIDS or during cancer treatment.

2- This can hold the key to prevent fungal infection Candidiasis that often affects intensive-care unit (ICU) patients, cancer patients and patients receiving immunosuppressive therapy.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

- a) 1 only b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2

Que-5 Consider the following statements about Battery Waste Management Rules, 2022

1- New rules will replace Batteries (Management and Handling) Rules, 2001.

2- The rules cover all types of batteries, viz. Electric Vehicle batteries, portable batteries, automotive batteries and industrial batteries.

3- The rules function based on the concept of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) where the producers (including importers) of batteries are responsible for collection and recycling/refurbishment of

waste batteries and use of recovered materials from wastes into new batteries.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

- a) 1 and 2 only b) 3 only
c) 1, 2 and 3 d) 2 and 3 only

Que-6 Consider the following statements about Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules 2011, recently amended

1- For ease of doing business and reducing the compliance burden for the garment or hosiery sold in loose or open.

2- The amendment exempts the garment or hosiery industry selling in loose or open from 6 declarations required under the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011.

3- To protect the interest of consumers, 2 declarations relevant to the consumers only to be given.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

- a) 1 and 2 only b) 1 only
c) 1, 2 and 3 d) 2 and 3 only

Que-7 What is 'Arth Ganga', the govt's new model for the river's sustainable development?

1- Arth Ganga model seeks to use economics to bridge people with the river.

2- Under Arth Ganga, the government is working on sixteen verticals.

3- The model also wants to promote the cultural heritage and tourism of Ganga and its surroundings, through boat tourism, adventure sports and by conducting yoga activities.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

- a) 1 and 2 only b) 1 and 3 only
c) 1, 2 and 3 d) 3 only

Que-8 With reference to GAGAN (GPS Aided GEO Augmented Navigation), consider the following statements

1- This helps aircraft with guided landing at airports that do not have instrument landing system for low-visibility operations.

2- It provides an aid where two radio beams provide pilots with vertical and horizontal guidance during landing.

3- It is an Indian Satellite Based Augmentation System jointly developed by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) and the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

Which of the following given above is/are correct

- a) 1 and 2 only b) 1 only
c) 1, 2 and 3 d) 2 and 3 only

ANSWER

1- (a)

- Any acquisition, merger or amalgamation may constitute a combination. Section 5 currently says parties indulging in merger, acquisition, or amalgamation need to notify the Commission of the combination only on the basis of 'asset' or 'turnover'. The new Bill proposes to add a 'deal value' threshold. It will be mandatory to notify the Commission of any transaction with a deal value in excess of ₹2,000 crore and if either of the parties has 'substantial business operations in India'.
- When business entities are willing to execute a combination, they must inform the Commission. The Commission may approve or disapprove the combination, keeping in mind the appreciable adverse effect on competition that is likely to be caused. The Commission earlier had 210 days to approve the combination, after which it is automatically approved. The new Bill seeks to

accelerate the timeline from 210 working days to only 150 working days with a conservatory period of 30 days for extensions. This will speed up the clearance of combinations and increase the importance of pre-filing consultations with the Commission.

2- (b)

- Parties should not go ahead with a combination prior to its approval. If the combining parties close a notified transaction before the approval, or have consummated a reportable transaction without bringing it to the Commission's knowledge, it is seen as gun-jumping.
- The penalty for gun-jumping was a total of 1% of the asset or turnover. This is now proposed to be 1% of the deal value.

3- (b)

- The Central Issue Price (CIP), has not been increased since the NFSA was enacted in 2013.
- The coverage under the NFSA is still as per the population figures of 2011 census.

4- (c)

- The gene called CSA6 has been identified in *Candida albicans* a fungal species infamous for causing high

rates of morbidity and mortality under certain immuno-compromised conditions such as AIDS or during cancer treatment. The fungal species residing in mucosal linings of the gastrointestinal and urogenital tract of healthy individuals turns into a pathogen under immuno-compromised conditions breaching the host defense causing superficial as well as life-threatening systemic infection.

- The authors from JNCASR, an autonomous institute of Department of Science and Technology (DST), individually screened the effect of overexpression of more than a thousand genes of *C. albicans* on genome stability and were successful in identifying a set of six chromosome stability (CSA) genes that are important for maintaining genome integrity. While five of the CSA genes identified in the study are known to be important for cell division in other species, the sixth CSA gene, named CSA6 encoded for a protein that is essential for viability in *C. albicans*. They found that Csa6 was a critical regulator of cell cycle progression wherein both overexpression and deletion of Csa6 lead to reduced growth of *C. albicans* cells.

5- (c)

- EPR mandates that all waste batteries to be collected and sent for recycling/refurbishment, and its prohibits disposal in landfills and incineration. To meet the EPR obligations, producers may engage themselves or authorise any other entity for collection, recycling or refurbishment of waste batteries.
- On the principle of Polluter Pays Principle, environmental compensation will be imposed for non-fulfilment of Extended Producer Responsibility targets, responsibilities and obligations set out in the rules. The funds collected under environmental compensation shall be utilised in collection and refurbishing or recycling of uncollected and non-recycled waste batteries.

6- (a)

- To protect the interest of consumers, 4 declarations relevant to the consumers only to be given.

Department of Consumer Affairs vide the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) (Third Amendment) Rules, 2022 has exempted the garment or hosiery industry selling garment or hosiery items in loose or open, for ease of doing business and reducing the compliance burden, from declaring the following:

- (i) Common/ generic name of the commodity
- (ii) Net qty. in std. unit of W or M or no. of commodity in the package
- (iii) Unit sale price
- (iv) Month and year of manufacture or pre-packing or import
- (v) Best before or use by date, month and year in case of commodity becoming unfit for human consumption with time
- (vi) Consumer Care name & address

Now, only the following information relevant to consumers is to be given viz.:

- (i) Name and address of the manufacturer/ marketer/ brand owner/ importer with country of origin or manufacture in case of imported products,
- (ii) Consumer care email id and phone number,
- (iii) Sizes with internationally recognizable size indicators such as S, M, L, XL, XXL and XXXL along with details in metric notation in terms of cm or m and
- (iv) Maximum retail price (MRP).

7- (b)

- PM first introduced the concept during the first National Ganga Council meeting in Kanpur in 2019, where he urged for a shift from Namami Gange, the Union Government's flagship project to clean the Ganga, to the model of Arth Ganga.
- Under Arth Ganga, the government is working on six verticals. The first is Zero Budget Natural Farming, which involves chemical-free farming on 10 km on either side of the river, and the promotion of cow dung as fertiliser through the GOBARdhan scheme. The Monetization and Reuse of Sludge & Wastewater is the second, which seeks to reuse treated water for irrigation, industries and revenue generation for Urban Local Bodies (ULBs).
- Arth Ganga will also involve Livelihood Generation Opportunities, by creating haats where people can sell local products, medicinal plants and ayurveda. The fourth is to increase public participation by increasing synergies between the stakeholders involved with the river. The model also wants to promote the cultural heritage and tourism of Ganga and its surroundings, through boat tourism, adventure sports and by conducting

yoga activities. Lastly, the model seeks to promote institutional building by empowering local administration for improved water governance.

8- (a)

- GAGAN is an Indian Satellite Based Augmentation System jointly developed by the AAI and the Indian Space Research Organisation.
 - There are only three other space-based augmentation systems available in the world which include Wide Area Augmentation System in the U.S., European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service and Japan's Multi-functional Satellite Augmentation System.
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