

# IASbaba's Daily Quiz

February 23, 2017

## Q.1) Consider the following statements about Mycorrhiza

1. It is a symbiotic association between bacterial micro-organism and roots of plants
2. It is used as a biofertiliser
3. The shelf life of mycorrhiza biofertiliser is higher than rhizobium

## Which of the following statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3
- d) All of the above

## Q.1) Solution (b)

Mycorrhiza basically is the name given to the system in which fungal micro organism make an association with the roots of plants. This mutual association results in the improved supply of water and nutrients, such as phosphate and nitrogen, to the host plant. In return, the fungal partner gets plant-fixed carbon as its food. We can envisage mycorrhiza as the extended arms of plants which procure foods from more distant regions under the earth where the roots of plants cannot reach. The best part of this story is that this association is natural and nearly 90 per cent of plants make such associations.

This broad spectrum host-non-specificity of mycorrhiza is an important factor in its use as biofertiliser when compared with other microbial biofertilisers such as rhizobium which are host-specific. Also, the shelf life of mycorrhiza biofertiliser (3-5 years) is much higher than rhizobium (six months).

The use of mycorrhiza biofertiliser provides benefits at both ends of crop management, with reduction in chemical fertiliser (up to 50 per cent in certain cases) and associated yield increase (5-25 per cent).

The role of mycorrhiza in supplying nutrients is particularly important from the phosphorus nutrition point of view, which is otherwise an extremely immobile element in soil.

With the rising price of phosphatic fertilisers and nearly 50 per cent of Indian soils being phosphorus deficient, mycorrhiza can play a big role in farm fertilisation. Apart from this, mycorrhiza also performs other functions, such as increasing tolerance to environmental stress, providing protection from soil-born pathogenic disease and maintaining biological health of the soil.

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In News - <http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/opinion/columns/the-biofertiliser-option/article4279979.ece>

**Q.2) Petrology is concerned with**

- a) Rocks
- b) Petrol
- c) Fluid dynamics
- d) Dinosaurs

**Q.2) Solution (a)**

It is the branch of geology that studies the origin, composition, distribution and structure of rocks.

In News - <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/goa/nio-scientists-selected-for-award-by-ministry-of-mines/articleshow/57261074.cms>

**Q.3) Consider the following statements about Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram (RKSK)**

1. The scheme is for boys and girls between the ages of 10-19 years
2. Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has developed a National Adolescent Health Strategy in collaboration with United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to guide the implementation of this programme

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.3) Solution (c)**

The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has launched a health programme for adolescents, in the age group of 10-19 years, which would target their nutrition, reproductive health and substance abuse, among other issues.

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The Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram was launched on 7th January, 2014. The key principle of this programme is adolescent participation and leadership, Equity and inclusion, Gender Equity and strategic partnerships with other sectors and stakeholders. The programme envisions enabling all adolescents in India to realize their full potential by making informed and responsible decisions related to their health and well being and by accessing the services and support they need to do so.

To guide the implementation of this programme, MOHFW in collaboration with UNFPA has developed a National Adolescent Health Strategy. It realigns the existing clinic-based curative approach to focus on a more holistic model based on a continuum of care for adolescent health and developmental needs.

The Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram (National Adolescent Health Programme), will comprehensively address the health needs of the 243 million adolescents. It introduces community-based interventions through peer educators, and is underpinned by collaborations with other ministries and state governments.

## Objectives:

- Improve Nutrition
- Improve Sexual and Reproductive Health
- Enhance Mental Health
- Prevent Injuries and violence
- Prevent substance misuse

In News - <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/1-6-lakh-peer-educators-to-address-health-queries-of-adolescents/articleshow/57262939.cms>

## Q.4) Consider the following statements about National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSCFDC)

1. It is an institution under Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment for financing, facilitating and mobilizing funds for the economic empowerment of persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes families living below Double the Poverty Line
2. It finances income generation schemes for the target group through the State Channelizing Agencies (SCAs) nominated by respective State/UT Governments.
3. It provides concessional finance for setting up of self-employment projects and skill-training grants to unemployed SC persons living below Double the Poverty Line

## Select the correct statements

- a) 1 and 2

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- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3
- d) All of the above

## Q.4) Solution (d)

**VISION:** "To be the leading catalyst in systematic reduction of poverty through socio-economic development of Scheduled Castes living below double the poverty line, working in an efficient, responsive and collaborative manner with channelizing agencies and other development partners."

**MANDATE:** Providing concessional finance for setting up of self-employment projects and skill-training grants to unemployed SC persons living below Double the Poverty Line.

**NSFDC:** NSFDC is an institution under Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India for financing, facilitating and mobilizing funds for the economic empowerment of persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes families living below Double the Poverty Line. NSFDC finances income generation schemes for the target group through the State Channelising Agencies (SCAs) nominated by respective State/UT Governments.

**BROAD OBJECTIVE:** NSFDC is the apex institution for financing, facilitating and mobilizing funds from other sources and promoting the economic development activities of the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes living below double the poverty line.

**SHARE CAPITAL:** The authorised share capital of the Corporation is Rs 1500 crores as on 30th September 2016 and the Paid up Share Capital is Rs 1218.02 cr. as on 30.09.2016.

In News - [http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/social-justice-ministry-spent-54-of-budget-on-sc-scholarships-117020901108\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/social-justice-ministry-spent-54-of-budget-on-sc-scholarships-117020901108_1.html)

## Q.5) Which of the following corporates is associated with Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment?

1. National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC)
2. National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation (NBCFDC)
3. National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC)

Select the correct code:

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3

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- c) 1 and 3
- d) All of the above

### Q.5) Solution (d)

Corporations - <http://socialjustice.nic.in/UserView/index?mid=1517>

Commissions - <http://socialjustice.nic.in/UserView/index?mid=1514>

National Institutes - <http://socialjustice.nic.in/UserView/index?mid=1516>

Foundations - <http://socialjustice.nic.in/UserView/index?mid=1518>

In News - [http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/social-justice-ministry-spent-54-of-budget-on-sc-scholarships-117020901108\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/social-justice-ministry-spent-54-of-budget-on-sc-scholarships-117020901108_1.html)

