



and social characteristic took in the entire continent of British India (except Kashmir).

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/02/01/centre-likely-to-postpone-census-to-2022/>

4. Consider the following statements:

1. Currently, Minimum Support Price (MSP) does not have any legal backing.
2. The MSP is fixed every quarter of the fiscal year on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP).
3. Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) an attached office of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- S1: **Minimum Support Price** is a safety net given to the farmers to ensure guaranteed prices and assured markets. The MSP-based procurement system is aimed to save the crops from price fluctuations due to various unwarranted factors such as the monsoon, lack of market integration, information asymmetry and other elements of market imperfection plaguing Indian agriculture. However, **currently MSP does not have any legal backing**. The three new farm laws also do not have any provision for MSP.
- S2: The **MSP is fixed twice a year** on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP)
- S3: The CACP, as its website states, is just “an **attached office of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare**, Government of India”. It can recommend MSPs, but the decision on fixing (or even not fixing) and enforcement rests finally with the government.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/02/01/14-new-minor-forest-produce-items-included-under-msp-scheme/>

5. Consider the following statements about ‘MSP for MFP scheme’.

1. It is a Central Sector Scheme.
2. The responsibility of purchasing MFP on MSP will be with State designated agencies.
3. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs will be the nodal Ministry for implementation and monitoring of the scheme

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Stat1: The Union Cabinet, in 2013, approved a **Centrally Sponsored Scheme** for marketing of non-nationalized / non monopolized Minor Forest Produce (MFP) and development of a value chain for MFP through Minimum Support Price (MSP).