

**PASSAGE No. 1 (With solutions)****1. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow: (8 Marks)****SPEEDING UP INDIA'S JOURNEY BY BULLET TRAINS**

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High speed in Indian Railways is at present limited to 150 KMPH. However, in many other countries the speed of Railways is of the order of 200 KM per hour (KMPH). In France, Japan, Germany, China, Spain and South Korea high speed traction above 280 KMPH has been introduced. India and Japan have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on 12th December, 2015 on cooperation and assistance in the Mumbai–Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (HSR) Project referred to by many as 'Bullet Train Project'. Japan has offered an assistance of over Rs. 79,000 crore for the project. The loan is for a period of 50 years with a moratorium of 15 years, at an interest rate of 0.1 per cent.

The project is a 508-kilometre Railway line costing a total of Rs 97,636 crore, to be implemented in a period of seven years. It has been agreed that for the Mumbai – Ahmedabad HSR Project. Japan's Shinkansen Technology, known for its speeds reliability and safety, will be adopted. Transfer of technology and "Make in India" will be essential part of this assistance package. Japan will also assist India in training of personnel for HSR.' The two countries have also entered into two comprehensive technological cooperation agreements on 11th December 2015, for modernization and upgradation of Indian railways. These agreements have been signed during the official visit to India of His Excellency Mr. Shinzo Abe, the Prime Minister of Japan, during December 11-13, 2015.

**On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the questions: (1x8=8 Marks)**

- Name the countries where high speed traction above 280 KMPH has been introduced.
- Which project is known as "Bullet Train Project"?
- How much time and money is estimated for the Project?
- Which technology will be adopted for the Project?
- What agreements were signed during 11<sup>th</sup> December to 13<sup>th</sup> December 2015?
- What is Shinkansen Technology famous for?
- How has Japan assisted India financially for the Project?
- Find a word from the paragraph No. 2 which means 'Necessary'.

**ANSWERS:**

- High speed traction above 280 KMPH has been introduced in France, Japan, Germany, China, Spain and South Korea.
- The MoU signed between India and Japan on cooperation and assistance in the Mumbai–Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (HSR) Project is known as "Bullet Train Project"
- The time of seven years and an amount of about Rs 97,636 crore is estimated for the project.
- Shinkansen Technology will be adopted for the Project.
- The agreements signed during 11<sup>th</sup> December to 13<sup>th</sup> December 2015 were modernization and upgradation of Indian railways.

- f) Shinkansen Technology is famous for its speeds reliability and safety.
- g) Japan has offered an assistance of over Rs. 79,000 crore for the project. The loan is for a period of 50 years with a moratorium of 15 years, at an interest rate of 0.1 per cent.
- h) The word is 'essential'.

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