Not losing steam: On latest industrial output estimates

The capital goods data **point to** continuing **uncertainty** on the private sector investment **front**.

The latest industrial output estimates from the National Statistical Office indicate an across-the-board loss of momentum in December with overall production growth slowing to 4.3% year-on-year, from November's 7.3% pace. While activity was unchanged or moderated across all the three constituents of the Index of Industrial Production — mining, manufacturing and electricity — the largest sector manufacturing, with a weight of almost 78%, was the biggest drag as the expansion decelerated to 2.6%, from the preceding month's 6.4% increase. Assessed on a sequential or monthon-month basis, mining and manufacturing posted slowdowns, with only electricity growing 7.6% in the wake of November's contraction of 1.5%. Manufacturing, where the sequential growth slowed by more than 2 percentage points to 4.7%, from 6.9% in the previous month, was weighed down by three of the six use-based sectors including consumer durables, consumer non-durables and capital goods. The three categories reflect a broader trend in the economy. For one, private consumption is still to regain an enduring footing notwithstanding a post-pandemic surge in pent-up spending most visible in the services sector. Production of consumer durables shrank 10.4% year-on-year and 2.2% sequentially in December, after rebounding in November following festival demand. Non durables experienced a sharp sequential deceleration, with growth braking to 7.4% month-on-month.

The capital goods data point to continuing uncertainty on the private sector investment front. Production of the plant and machinery ordered when expanding or starting **ventures** is struggling to **sustain** momentum, with output growth **sliding appreciably** both sequentially and year-on-year. In December, **growth** from a year earlier in the segment **slowed** to 7.6%, compared with November's 21.6%. Month-on-month, the **slowdown** was **starker** with output **barely inching up** 0.2%, after expanding 13% in November. However, primary and infrastructure and construction goods offer hope that some positive momentum can be **built on** with the right policy measures. While the sequential **pace** of growth for primary goods output **quickened** to 9.2% from 1.1%, the month-on-month advance for **infrastructure** and construction **ticked up** to 4%, from November's 3.2%. With the RBI's survey of the manufacturing sector's **outlook** indicating firms expect some **softening** in **order books** and **overseas** demand in the current quarter, a lot will **hinge on** policy **staying** supportive. The Union Budget's **plan** to provide a **push** for infrastructure through a **substantial** increase in the government's **capital expenditure should** provide a big **fillip** to construction goods and is likely to **feed through** to other sectors as well in the coming months.

• Red/blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where 'red' denotes 'subject' and 'blue' denotes 'verb'.

Vocabulary

- Lose steam (phrase) lose energy, enthusiasm, or importance उत्साह खोना
- Point to (phrasal verb) indicate, mention,
 note, highlight, emphasize इशारा करना
- 3. Uncertainty (noun) Improbability, changeableness, variability, inconstancy अगिश्चितता
- 4. Front (noun) a particular area of activity ਸੀਚੀ
- 5. Across-the-board (phrase) involving or affecting all groups, members, cases, etc. एक समान रूप से
- 6. **Momentum** (noun) impetus, energy, impulse, speed, velocity गति
- 7. Pace (noun) speed, rate, swiftness, quickness गति
- 8. **Moderate** (verb) lessen, reduce, soften, temperate नरमी आना
- 9. **Constituent** (noun) component, element, part, ingredient, factor ঘটক
- 10. **Mining** (noun) the process or industry of obtaining coal or other minerals from a mine. खनन
- 11. **Weight** (noun) it refers to what weightage something carries out of the total. For example:- in an exam there is 5 subject of

- total marks 100 out of which English subject 20 marks so the weightage of English is 20%.
- 12. **Drag** (noun) Hindrance, encumbrance; thing that impedes progress or development ৰাधা
- 13. **Expansion** (noun) growth, increase, extension, enlargement विस्तार
- 14. **Decelerate** (verb) slow down, slow, brake, retard गिरावट होना
- 15. **Preceding** (adjective) prior, previous, foregoing, earlier, former पिछले
- 16. **Assess** (verb) evaluate, gauge, rate, estimate, appraise मूल्यांकन करना
- 17. **Sequential** (adjective) consecutive, serial, successive, sequent, subsequent आनुक्रमिक
- 18. **Post** (verb) to announce, display, record दर्ज करना
- 19. **Slowdown** (noun) A decline in economic activity. मंदी
- 20. **In the wake of** (phrase) after, following, as a result of, as a consequence of परिणामस्वरूप
- 21. **Contraction** (noun) Reduction, Shrinkage, Tightening संक्चन
- 22. **Weigh down** (phrasal verb) burden, oppress, encumber, overload, load बोझ लादना

- 23. **Use-based sector** (noun) Use-based sectors like capital goods, basic goods, intermediate goods, infrastructure goods, consumer durables, and consumer nondurables.
- 24. Consumer durable goods (noun) Consumer durables, also known as durable goods (typically cars or household appliances), are goods that do not need to be purchased very often and last for at least three years उपभोक्ता टिकाऊ वस्तुएँ
- 25. Consumer non-durable goods (noun) —
 Consumer nondurable goods (such as food,
 drink, or tobacco) are purchased for
 immediate or almost immediate
 consumption and have a life span ranging
 from minutes to three years उपभोक्ता गैरटिकाऊ वस्तुएँ
- 26. **Capital goods** (noun) Capital goods are physical assets that a company uses in the process to manufacture products and services that consumers will later use(such as buildings, machinery, equipment, vehicles, and tools.) पूंजीगत माल
- 27. **Reflect** (verb) Indicate, show, display, manifest, exhibit, signify, suggest दिखाना, प्रदर्शित करना
- 28. **Regain** (verb) recover, recuperate, reclaim पुनः प्राप्त करना
- 29. **Enduring** (adjective) lasting over a period of time; durable स्थायी

- 30. **Footing** (noun) basis, base, foundation, underpinning, support, आधार
- 31. **Notwithstanding** (Pre./Adv.) nevertheless, nonetheless, though के बावजूद
- 32. **Post-pandemic** (Adjective) Of or relating to a period after pandemic महामारी के बाद
- 33. **Surge** (noun) Sudden rise <u>उछा</u>ल
- 34. **Pent-up** (adjective) suppressed, restrained, constrained दबा ह्आ
- 35. **Pent-up spending** (noun) The spending by consumers after the end of the recession or fortuitous event (i.e. Pandemic) to buy goods and services is called pent up spending
- 36. **shrink** (verb) Fall, decrease, decline, diminish, lessen, dwindle कमी होना/ घटना
- 37. **Rebound** (verb) recover in value, amount, or strength after a decrease or decline. ਤਜਟ आग
- 38. **Following** (preposition) –After के बाद
- 39. **Deceleration** (noun) —Reduction in speed or rate गिरावट
- 40. **Braking** (noun) –a slowing down or stopping of something such as expenditure or development
- 41. **Venture** (noun) a new business or business activity, especially one that involves risk ਤੁਰਪਸ

- 42. **Sustain** (verb) —support, maintain, uphold, keep, बनाए रखना
- 43. **Slide** (verb) —change gradually to a worse condition or lower level. गिरावट होना
- 44. **Appreciably** (adverb) considerably, substantially, significantly, markedly काफी
- 45. **Stark** (adjective) Complete or extreme করা
- 46. **Barely** (adverb) hardly, scarcely, just मुश्किल से
- 47. **Inch up** (phrase) –to move very slowly or in a lot of short stages
- 48. **Build on** (phrasal verb) Develop; use something as a basis for further development पर आधारित होना
- 49. **Quicken** (verb) Accelerate, pick up speed, speed up, increase बढ़ना
- 50. Infrastructure (noun) The infrastructure of a country, society, or organization consists of the basic facilities such as transport, communications, power supplies, and buildings, which enable it to function बुनियादी ढाँचा, अवसरंचना
- 51. **Tick up** (phrasal verb) To increase or go up बढ़ना
- 52. **Outlook** (noun) perspective, prospect, attitude, view, viewpoint दृष्टिकोण

- 53. **Soften** (verb) moderate, allay, mollify, alleviate, ease, diminish, decrease, नरमी होना
- 54. **Order book** (noun) –An order book is a list of all the orders that are used to describe all buy and sell orders for a specific security or financial instrument.
- 55. **Overseas** (adjective) In a foreign country विदेशी
- 56. **Hinge on** (phrasal verb) –depend, hang, rest, turn, pivot निर्भर होना/पर टिका होना
- 57. **Stay** (verb) remain, keep on, continue बना रहना
- 58. **Push** (for) (noun) —an act of progressing by using an effort ; Impetus, force, motivation बढ़ावा, ज़ोर
- 59. **Substantial** (adjective) sizeable, considerable, significant, large, ample काफी / पर्याप्त
- 60. **Capital expenditure** (noun) the money spent by the government on the development of machinery, equipment, building, health facilities, education, etc.
- 61. **Fillip** (noun) incentive, boost, stimulus, impetus, spur प्रोत्साहन
- 62. **Feed through** (phrase) to reach someone or something after going through a process or system; To supply something to someone प्रदान करना

Practice Exercise

Direction (Q1 – Q3): Select the best express synonym of the given words

[Editorial page]

- 1. Footing
 - A. Bolstering
 - B. Tailoring
 - C. Base
 - D. Vision
- 2. Fillip
 - A. Deficit
 - B. Room
 - C. Surveillance
 - D. Stimulus
- 3. Drag
 - A. Fragility
 - B. Distrust
 - C. Controversy
 - D. Hindrance
- 4. Idioms & Phrase

The war hero's new memoir tells the inspiring story of how she **<u>kept hope alive</u>** during her eight years as a prisoner of war.

- A. To have a slight advantage or superiority over
- B. To remain hopeful and optimistic about the future
- C. To induct into office by administration of an oath
- D. To do what one wishes to do
- 5. Direction: Two statements are given below, which are jumbled in any random order. These statements will form a coherent and meaningful paragraph, when arranged in the correct sequence. Arrange the sentences in the right order and answer the questions that follow.
 - (i) Maharashtra's Minister of Minority Affairs and Skill Development and Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) leader Nawab Malik is(A)/ the second Minister in the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) (B)/ alliance to be arrested by the Enforcement Directorate (ED). (C)/
 - (ii) belonging to him for a price (D)/ The case against Mr. Malik pertains to (E)/ a transaction in 1999 in which a property was sold to one of the companies (F)/ ostensibly much lower than its actual worth.(G)/
 - A. ABC, EFDG
 - B. DGFE, BAC
 - C. BAC, FDEG
 - D. FDGE, CBA
 - E. None of the above

Direction (Q6 – Q9): Read the given sentences to find out whether there is any grammatical error in them

- 6. The government needs provide (A)/ specific regulations that create an environment (B)/ where a trained scientific personnel enjoyed space and freedom(C)/to design new products benefiting society. (D)/ No Error(E)
- 7. Though the book is not yet available on India, (A)/ previews published in this country suggest (B)/ that it is a complex study of (C)/ an extremely complex personality. (D)/No Error. (E)
- 8. The movement, which aims to (A)/ raise awareness about climate change, hopes (B)/ to bring people together to think about (C)/ what they can do for reduce harmful pollution. (D)/No Error(E)
- 9. Workers batting to restore power (A)/ supply to damaged reactors (B)/ have successful in (C)/ reaching up to the second reactor. (D)/No Error. (E)

10. Find out the misspelt word

- A. Conspicious
- B. Deterioration
- C. Compelling
- D. Habitually

Direction: Read the passage given below and answer the following questions.

(The Hindu Editorial: Crypto coordination)

Page 6

Therefore, India and some other countries have been calling for concerted action by all nations and a standardised regulatory framework to regulate these assets. (1)/ Crypto assets, including private crypto currencies and non-fungible tokens, pose a unique challenge to regulators with their issuance as well as the transactions taking place beyond traditional channels involving banks, other financial intermediaries or central banks. (2)/ With users able to transact on platforms located in other countries and transfer funds easily across borders, ability to tax these transactions and to halt the misuse of these channels for illicit purposes also becomes difficult through unilateral action.(3)/ The Crypto-Asset Reporting Framework (CARF), drafted by the OECD, is in response to this. (4)/ It primarily seeks to enable exchange of information between countries so that all crypto asset related transactions or money transfer done by the residents of a country are available with the government and regulators. Indian regulators were extremely _____ (a) ____ about the surge in trading in crypto assets during the pandemic; about 9 to 11 crore users were estimated to be indulging in speculative trading in these assets. But the Centre's move to tax gains made in trading crypto assets at punitively high rate in the Union Budget of 2022 and mandating crypto trading platforms to deduct TDS of 1 per cent on sale of these assets have helped restrain this speculative (b) effectively. Trading volume on Indian crypto trading platforms is down over 75 per cent over the last one year. But India, as well as other countries are yet to decide whether holding and trading in crypto assets is a legal activity or not. Also, it is currently not possible to acquire information regarding crypto trading transactions by Indian residents on overseas platforms. The CARF regulation (c) a way in which information can be collected from crypto asset trading platforms and service providers and shared with the countries where the traders or users reside. The framework(A) addresses four areas – one, the scope(B) of crypto currencies covered by the rules, two, the entities and individuals mandated to collect the data and the reporting requirement, three, the kind of transactions which have to be reported(C) and four, the due diligence(D) needed to identify the crypto asset users and to

identify the tax jurisdiction to which they belong so that information can be exchanged. The model rules contained in the CARF can be included in the domestic laws and the OECD is planning to work with all jurisdictions over the coming months to implement the framework.

		• • •	. •	tandard which has resulted on			
• •	_	_		ion financial accounts in 2021,			
· -		-	* *	ns may be the way forward to			
_				pto assets. Though regulatory			
=	_			nent, users will be pleased as			
(a) or t	nese ruies wiii	make trading a	nd use of crypto asset	s a legal activity.			
Fill in the blanks wi	th the most ap	propriate comb	oinations of words				
11. Indian regulators were extremely (a) about the surge in trading in crypto assets							
		it 9 to 11 crore	users were estimated	I to be indulging in speculative			
trading in the							
Fill the most	appropriate o	ption in (a)					
(i) Defe							
(ii) Conc							
(iii) Critic							
(iv) Adve							
A. Only (i)	B. Only (ii)	C. Only (iii)	D. Both (ii) and (iv)	E. None of the above			
Union Budge sale of these	et of 2022 and assets have he appropriate o	mandating crypelped restrain the	= ::	es at punitively high rate in the to deduct TDS of 1 per cent on to) effectively.			
(ii) Elevat (iii) Confli	ion ct						
(iv) Fervoi		C O -1 (')	D. D. alle (!!) (!)	E Nove Ciberoles			
A. Only (I)	B. Only (II)	C. Only (IV)	D. Both (II) and (IV)	E. None of the above			
asset trading or users resid	g platforms and de. appropriate o	d service provid		n can be collected from crypto ne countries where the traders			
(ii) Defen							
(iii) Outlin							
(iv) Check	S						
A. Only (i)	B. Only (ii)	C. Only (iii)	D. Both (i) and (ii)	E. None of the above			

14. Though	regulatory scrutin	y could result i	n reducing the specul	ative activity in this seg	ment,		
users w	vill be pleased as _	(d)	of these rules will m	ake trading and use of o	crypto		
assets a	a legal activity.						
Fill the most appropriate option in (d)							
(i) A	Adoption						
(ii) li	nfluence						
(iii) Deterioration							
(iv) C	Optimism						
A. Only	(i) B. Only (iv)	C. Only (iii)	D. Both (iii) and (ii)	E. None of the above			

15. The following sentence may or may not contain an error in one of its parts. Identify the part containing the error. If the sentence is correct, select 'No error' as your answers.

The OECD has met decent success with **(A)/** the Common Reporting Standard which has resulted on **(B)/** over 100 countries exchanging information regarding **(C)/** 111 million financial accounts in 2021, helping check tax evasion.**(D)/**

- A. (A)
- B. (B)
- C. (C)
- D. (D)
- E. No Error
- 16. Rearrange the sentence to form a meaningful sentence.

Therefore, India and some other countries have been calling for concerted action by all nations and a standardised regulatory framework to regulate these assets. (1)/ Crypto assets, including private crypto currencies and non-fungible tokens, pose a unique challenge to regulators with their issuance as well as the transactions taking place beyond traditional channels involving banks, other financial intermediaries or central banks. (2)/ With users able to transact on platforms located in other countries and transfer funds easily across borders, ability to tax these transactions and to halt the misuse of these channels for illicit purposes also becomes difficult through unilateral action.(3)/ The Crypto-Asset Reporting Framework (CARF), drafted by the OECD, is in response to this. (4)/

- A. 2314
- B. 1243
- C. 2134
- D. 2143
- E. 4321
- 17. Given below is a word, followed by three sentence that consist of that word. Identify the sentence (S) that best express (es) the meaning of the word. Choose option 5 'None of the above' if the word is not suitable in any of the sentence

INDULGE

- (i) When I get my first paycheck I'm going to **indulge** in a shopping spree
- (ii) He **indulged** his passion for skiing whenever he could.
- (iii) They reinvested in their trades and indulged in conspicuous consumption at home

- B. Only (ii)
- C. Only (iii)
- D. (i), (ii)
- E. (i), (ii), (iii)
- 18. In the following question, a sentence is given with four words marked as (A), (B), (C), and (D). These words may or may not be placed in the correct order. Four options with different arrangements of these have been provided. Mark the option with the correct arrangement as the answer. If no rearrangement is required, mark option (5) as your answer.

The **framework(A)** addresses four areas – one, the **scope(B)** of crypto currencies covered by the rules, two, the entities and individuals mandated to collect the data and the reporting requirement, three, the kind of transactions which have to be **reported(C)** and four, the due **diligence(D)** needed to identify the crypto asset users and to identify the tax jurisdiction to which they belong so that information

- A. A D
- B. B A
- C. C D
- D. A-C
- E. No arrangement
- 19. In the following question, two statements and five connectors are given. Only one of the connectors from those given can be used to combine the given two statements into one sentence without changing the meaning. Choose that connector as your answer.
 - (i) You will have to start taking better care of your body and stop smoking
 - (ii) You will die early.
 - A. Unlike
 - B. Though
 - C. Yet
 - D. Otherwise
 - E. None of these
- 20. Fill the appropriate preposition in the given blanks

Instead of being happy he is indignant _____my offer.

- A. At
- B. In
- C. Upon
- D. To

Answers

1. C 2.D 3.D 4. B 5. A 6.C 7. A 8.D 9.C 10.A 11.B 12. C 13.C 14. A 15. B 16. A 17.E 18. E 19.D 20.A [Practice Exercise]

Explanations

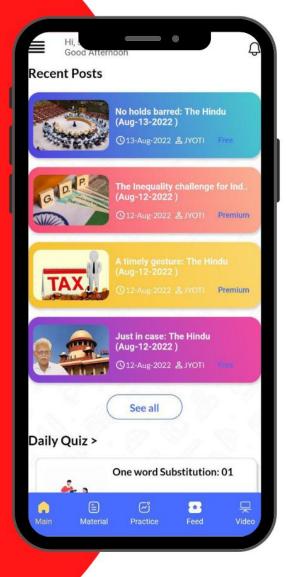
- 1. Footing (noun) basis, base, foundation, underpinning, support, आधार
 - Bolstering (noun) Strengthening, reinforcing, encouraging, supporting, augmenting मजब्ती, स्दढ़ीकरण
 - Tailoring (noun) an act of making or adapting for a particular purpose or person. तबदीली, रूप-परिवर्तन
 - Vision (noun) imagination, forethought, prediction, apparition, visualization दृष्टि
- 2. Fillip (noun) incentive, boost, stimulus, impetus, spur प्रोत्साहन
 - **Deficit** (noun) shortage, deficiency, shortfall, lack, inadequacy घाटा, कमी, अभाव
 - Room (noun) scope, capacity, margin, leeway गुंजाइश
 - Surveillance (noun) –observation, scrutiny, watch, view, inspection निगरानी
- 3. Drag (noun) Hindrance, encumbrance; thing that impedes progress or development ৰাधা
 - Fragility (noun) delicacy, weakness, frailty, infirmity, debility कमजोरी/ नाज्कता
 - **Distrust** (noun) —Disbelief, suspicion, doubt, mistrust अविश्वास
 - Controversy (noun) public discussion and disagreement about something विवाद
- 4. **Keep one's hopes alive (phrase)** To remain hopeful and optimistic about the future
- 5. ABC, EFDG
 - Maharashtra's Minister of Minority Affairs and Skill Development and Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) leader Nawab Malik is the second Minister in the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) alliance to be arrested by the Enforcement Directorate (ED). The case against Mr. Malik pertains to a transaction in 1999 in which a property was sold to one of the companies belonging to him for a price ostensibly much lower than its actual worth
- 6. (C) 'enjoyed' के बदले 'enjoys' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि Part (A) में 'needs' तथा Part (B) में 'create' का प्रयोग Simple Present में है और घटनाएँ present की है अतः Sequence of Tense को बनाये रखने के लिए Part (C) में भी simple Present Tense का प्रयोग होगा।
 - 'enjoys' will be used instead of 'enjoyed' because 'needs' in Part (A) and 'create' in Part (B) is used in Simple Present and events have been presented, so to maintain Sequence of Tense For the simple Present Tense will be used in Part (C) also.
- 7. (A) 'on India' के बदले 'in India' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि किसी state, country, continent के नाम के पहले 'मे' अर्थ में 'in' का प्रयोग होता है।

- 'in India' will be used instead of 'on India' because 'in' is used in the meaning of 'may' before the name of any state, country, continent.
- 8. (D) 'for reduce' के बदले 'for reducing' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि किसी Preposition के बाद आनेवाला Verb हमेशा V⁴ रूप में होता है।
 - 'for reducing' will be used instead of 'for reducing' because the Verb that comes after a preposition is always in V4 form.
- 9. (C) 'have' के बदले 'are' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'successful' एक Adjective है और किसी Adjective के पहले 'Be' क्रिया का प्रयोग होता है, न कि 'have' क्रिया का; जैसे— He is successful in his business.
 - 'have' will be replaced with 'are' because 'successful' is an Adjective and an Adjective is
 preceded by the verb 'be' and not the verb 'have'; like- He is successful in his business.
- 10. Conspicuous (adjective) clear, visible, apparent, obvious स्पष्ट
- 11. Concerned (adjective) worried, anxious, troubled, afraid, disturbed, alarmed, fretful चिंतित
 - **Deferred** (adjective) postponed, delayed स्थगित
 - Critical (adjective) crucial, vital, essential, of the essence, all-important महत्वपूर्ण
 - Adverse (adjective) Unfavorable, harmful, opposing प्रतिकूल
- 12. **Fervour** (noun) ardour, passion, zeal, vehemence, excitement उत्साह, जोश
 - Assurance (noun) confidence, certainty, conviction, sureness आश्वासन
 - **Elevation** (noun) promotion, upgrading, advancement, advance पदोन्नित
 - Conflict (noun) Battle, fight, war, struggle, skirmish, clash, encounter संघर्ष
- 13. **Outline** (verb) summarize, delineate, sketch out, draw, give a rough idea, रेखांकित करना
 - Threaten (verb) endanger, jeopardize, menace, intimidate, imperil खतरे में डालना
 - **Defend** (verb) Protect, guard, preserve, shield, secure बचाव करना
 - Check (verb) halt, stop, bar, obstruct, hamper, impede, inhibit, रोकना
- 14. **Adoption** (noun) Acceptance, implementation, espousal, acquiring अपनाना
 - Influence (noun) Power, sway, authority, weight, control बोलबाला, प्रभाव
 - **Deterioration** (noun) decline, decay, degradation, worsening, degeneration गिरावट
 - Optimism (noun) Hopefulness, cheerfulness, buoyancy, positivity आशावाद
- 15. 'on' के बदले 'in' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'result' के साथ Preposition 'in' का प्रयोग होता है
- 16. (A) **2314**

Crypto assets, including private crypto currencies and non-fungible tokens, pose a unique challenge to regulators with their issuance as well as the transactions taking place beyond traditional channels involving banks, other financial intermediaries or central banks. With

users able to transact on platforms located in other countries and transfer funds easily across borders, ability to tax these transactions and to halt the misuse of these channels for illicit purposes also becomes difficult through unilateral action. Therefore, India and some other countries have been calling for concerted action by all nations and a standardised regulatory framework to regulate these assets. The Crypto-Asset Reporting Framework (CARF), drafted by the OECD, is in response to this.

- 17. **Indulge** (verb) to allow yourself to have or do something for pleasure किसी काम में लिप्त होना
 - According to the given options all options are contextually correct.
- 18. The framework addresses four areas one, the scope of crypto currencies covered by the rules, two, the entities and individuals mandated to collect the data and the reporting requirement, three, the kind of transactions which have to be reported and four, the due diligence needed to identify the crypto asset users and to identify the tax jurisdiction to which they belong so that information can be exchanged.
- 19. You will have to start taking better care of your body and stop smoking **otherwise** you will die early



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