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Q8

In the 'Index of Eight Core Industries', which one of the following is given the highest weight? (a) Coal production (b) Electricity generation (c) Fertilizer production (d) Steel production Official key: B.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2015 · General Studies · 2 marks · Economy

Indian economy, budget, schemes - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation**(a)**

(a) Coal production. Coal is a core industry but, on the 2004-05-based Index of **Eight Core Industries** used around this paper, its weight was well below electricity. Coal is not the highest-weighted item.

(b) Official key

(b) Electricity generation. In the Index of **Eight Core Industries** (Office of the Economic Adviser), electricity carried the largest weight-about 10.32 on the old 2004-05 series among the eight, and still the top slot after later revisions relative to coal, fertiliser and the listed peers in this question's era. That **highest weight** is the official key.

(c)

(c) Fertilizer production. Fertiliser has one of the smallest weights in the eight-core basket. It cannot be the key.

(d)

(d) Steel production. Steel is heavy in the index but still below electricity. Steel is not the highest-weighted industry.

Summary

Official key is (b) Electricity generation. The **eight core industries** are coal, crude oil, natural gas, **refinery products**, fertilisers, steel, cement and electricity. Electricity has the largest weight in that index. Coal, fertiliser and steel are core items but not the top weight. Only electricity matches the keyed choice.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Eight core industries

About 40% of the Index of Industrial Production

Compiler

Office of the Economic Adviser, DPIIT

Highest weight (2004-05 base)

Electricity

Refinery products

Often second by weight after later rebasing

Fertiliser weight

Smallest among the eight

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