



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 02-06-2021

EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

Germany for the first time has recognised that it committed genocide against the Herero and Nama people in present-day Namibia during its colonial rule over a century ago. Germany has also announced a fund of €1.1 billion (\$1.2 billion) to help aid community projects in Namibia. Between 1904 and 1908, German colonial settlers killed tens of thousands of men, women and children from the Herero and Nama tribes after they rebelled against colonial rule in what was then called German South West Africa. Reasons for the rebellion: Local tribes saw the German settlers as a threat to their land and resources. Important events- the Battle of Waterberg: around 80,000 Herero, including women and children, were chased across the desert by German troops. A mere 15,000 survived. How long was the present day Namibia under the control of Germans?

Between 1884 and 1890, Germany formally colonised parts of present-day Namibia. The Germans continued to rule the region till 1915, following which it fell under South Africa's control for 75 years.

Namibia finally gained independence in 1990.

So, what happens now?

The atrocities committed have been described by some historians as the first genocide of the 20th century. Now, after the announcement, a declaration will be signed by Germany, following which it will be ratified by the parliaments of both countries. President Frank-Walter Steinmeier is then expected to officially apologize for Germany's crimes in front of the Namibian Parliament.

2. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

The Supreme Court has called dowry harassment a "pestiferous" crime where women are subjected to cruelty by "covetous" husbands and in-laws. Also, the Court indicated in a judgment that a straitjacket and literal interpretation of Section 304-B, a penal provision on dowry death may have blunted the battle against the "long-standing social evil".

About Section 304-B of the Indian Penal Code:

According to Section 304-B, to make out a case of dowry death, a woman should have died of burns or other bodily injuries or "otherwise than under normal circumstances" within seven years of her marriage. She should have suffered cruelty or harassment from her husband or in-laws "soon before her death" in connection with demand for dowry.

Issues with Section 304-B:

The courts have mostly resorted to the narrow view of Section 304-B. For example:

Courts had interpreted the phrase ‘soon before’ in Section 304-B as ‘immediately before’. This interpretation would make it necessary for a woman to have been harassed moments before she died. The phrase “otherwise than under normal circumstances” in the Section also calls for a liberal interpretation.

Dowry related deaths in India- a quick look:

Dowry deaths accounted for 40% to 50% homicides in the country for almost a decade from 1999 to 2018. In 2019 alone, 7,115 cases of dowry death were registered under Section 304-B of the Indian Penal Code.

Need of the hour:

Courts should instead interpret Section 304-B liberally while keeping in mind the law’s intention to punish dowry and bride-burning. Absurd interpretations should be avoided. Instead, courts need to show only a “proximate and live link” between the harassment and her death. The court must also put incriminating circumstances before the accused and seek his response. He should be given sufficient opportunity to give his side of the story.

Causes of dowry and related atrocities:

Greed: Expectations of material benefits from the bride’s family. Illiteracy: The communities that are not knowledgeable about the laws and legislation face several atrocities owing to dowry exchange practices.

Lack of Willingness to adhere to laws.

3. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

National Security Advisor Shri Ajit Doval dedicated to the nation, the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV) Sajag digitally on May 29, 2021. Sajag is the third in a series of five offshore patrol vessels indigenously designed and constructed by M/s Goa Shipyard Limited.

4. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

As tensions with Russia simmer, thousands of NATO troops, several warships and dozens of aircraft are taking part in military exercises stretching across the Atlantic, through Europe and into the Black Sea region.

5. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

ZebPay launched a lending platform where investors can lend their coins to the cryptocurrency exchange

and earn returns depending on the token and the time period it is loaned for. Lending facility will be available in two options — open term and fixed term.

6. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

The Centre has decided to give about ₹100 each to children studying in Class 1 to Class 8 in government schools, who are beneficiaries of the Mid-Day Meal scheme. The money, ₹1200 crore in total, will be given to 11.8 crore children through direct benefit transfer as a one-time payment. Cash payment under the Mid-Day Meal scheme: The money comes from the cooking cost component of the scheme. Please note that cooking costs formed the largest component of the Central allocation for the Mid-Day Meal scheme in 2021-22. It covers the prices of ingredients such as pulses, vegetables, cooking oil, salt, and condiments.

What's the issue now?

Children are being given cash in lieu of the mid-day meal in some places and dry rations in others. Either way, the quantities/amounts are too low to be even adequate for one nutritious meal a day. ₹100 per child amounts to less than ₹4 a day even if it was a monthly payment. Therefore, the Centre should provide enhanced take-home rations, including eggs, vegetables, fruits, dal/chana, oil in order to ensure nutrition security.

About the Mid-Day meal scheme:

The scheme guarantees one meal to all children in government and aided schools and madaras supported under Samagra Shiksha. Students up to Class VIII are guaranteed one nutritional cooked meal at least 200 days in a year. The Scheme comes under the Ministry of HRD. It was launched in the year 1995 as the National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (NP – NSPE), a centrally sponsored scheme. In 2004, the scheme was relaunched as the Mid Day Meal Scheme. The Scheme is also covered by the National Food Security Act, 2013.

7. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

The second Floating jetty at Old Goa was inaugurated recently. Ministry: Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways

Key takeaways

The jetty will offer safe, hassle free transportation to the tourists. The Government of India has approved setting up of two Concrete floating jetties on River Mondovi (NW-68) to connect Old Goa and Panjim.

This is the second floating jetty constructed. The first jetty located at Captain of Ports, Panjim Goa was inaugurated in February 2020 at Panjim. Concrete floating jetties have many advantages over the fixed jetties Their price is approximately 1/5th of the price of a fixed jetty. Similarly, they are quicker to build

and install, easier to use. The designed life of a floating jetty is up to 50 years. Also, being floating structures they don't need CRZ clearances. They can be increased in size or reduced as per changes in users' requirements or the changes in jetty site's hydrographic profile.

8. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

China recently launched and docked a cargo spacecraft, Tianzhou-2. It is another step towards completing the construction of its first space station.

Key takeaways

It was launched on a Long March-7 rocket. It will be followed by the launch of another cargo spacecraft, Tianzhou-3, and two manned missions, Shenzhou-12 and Shenzhou-13. The manned missions will each carry three astronauts who will spend several months in orbit. The launch was a third landmark for China's space programme in recent weeks. China landed a spacecraft in Mars on May 15 carrying its first Mars rover, Zhurong. The Tianhe module, which the cargo spacecraft docked with was launched on April 29.

9. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

Jayanti has become the twelfth subgenus, or species, of cricket identified under the genus *Arachnomimus* Saussure, 1897. It was found in the Kurra caves of Chhattisgarh in April 2021 by a team of zoologists.

It was named Jayanti after Professor Jayant Biswas, one of the leading cave explorers in the country, who assisted the team. Interestingly, males of the new Jayanti subgenus cannot produce sound and their females don't have ears. *Arachnomimus* is the genus name given by Swiss Entomologist Henri Louis Frédéric de Saussure in 1878 to crickets that resembled spiders.

10. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

The 'Bell of Faith' scheme will now be implemented for senior citizens staying alone in villages. Previously, this scheme was successfully implemented in a number of urban households in Kerala.

What is the 'Bell of Faith' scheme all about? It is a safety project conceived under Kerala's Community Policing Scheme. It will help elderly citizens attract the attention of their neighbours using a loud, remote-controlled alarm in emergencies. It has been under implementation in Kerala since 2018.

Significance of the Project: It sets an example for community participation to ensure the well-being and safety of the elderly. It can be of great support for the aged during the COVID-19 pandemic as many live in fear for their health.