



# EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

## DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 08-02-2021

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### EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

Eravikulam National Park is located along the Western Ghats in the Idukki district of Kerala. The terrain consists of high-altitude grasslands interspersed with sholas. Anamudi, 2,695 meters, the highest peak in south India is inside this park. The Grasshopper Specialist Group of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) is initiating the Red List Assessment of grasshoppers in India for the first time. The assessment will include a new species of grasshopper discovered recently in the Eravikulam National Park in Kerala's Idukki district. So far, none of the Indian grasshopper species have been listed in the Red Data Book. The Red List of Threatened Species, founded in 1964, is the world's most comprehensive inventory of the global conservation status of biological species.

2. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is a statutory body established by an Act of Parliament (Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act of 1956). In April 1957, it took over the work of former All India Khadi and Village Industries Board. Functions: It is an apex organization under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, with regard to khadi and village industries within India, which seeks to – “plan, promote, facilitate, organise and assist in the establishment and development of khadi and village industries in the rural areas in coordination with other agencies engaged in rural development wherever necessary.” The Commission has three main objectives which guide its functioning. These are:

The Social Objective – Providing employment in rural areas. The Economic Objective – Providing salable articles. The Wider Objective – Creating self-reliance amongst people and building up a strong rural community spirit. Establishing a major khadi industry in every village is not a listed objective and may not be economically feasible as well.

3. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

Mental health rehabilitation helpline (Kiran Helpline 1800-599-0019) was launched in September 2020 by the Social Justice and Empowerment (SJE) Ministry. India has one of the world's highest suicide rates and now, has finally got its first national mental health helpline.

The helpline aims to provide early screening, first-aid, psychological support, distress management, mental well-being, and psychological crisis management and will be managed by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD).

4. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

Currently, Indian laws have vague provisions for suspending telecommunication services, including the Internet, during times of public emergencies, or, if required, for protecting 'public interest'. Meanwhile, the Supreme Court had declared in January 2020 that the right to access the Internet is one of our fundamental rights, alongside the freedom to carry on any trade, business or occupation over the medium of Internet, under Article 19 of the Constitution.

5. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

The newly constituted Square Kilometre Array Observatory (SKAO) Council held its maiden meeting on 4 February 2021 and approved for the establishment of the world's largest radio telescope. The headquarters of SKAO is based in the United Kingdom.

6. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

President Moon Jae-in-led South Korea Government has approved a plan to build the world's largest wind power plant in the country by 2030. The Wind power Plant will be located in the southwestern coastal town of Sinan.

7. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

The Indian Ocean Region (IOR) Defence Ministers' Conclave began with a keynote address from the Union Defence minister on 4th February on the sidelines of Aero India 2021 in Bengaluru. As the largest nation in the IOR region with a vast coastline of 7500 Kms, India has an active role to play for peaceful and prosperous co-existence of all countries. SAGAR – Security and Growth for All in the Region is the theme of Indian Ocean Policy as outlined by Indian Prime Minister in 2015. India's approach and vision to tackle global challenges was highlighted by Prime Minister's dynamic five 'S' vision – Samman (Respect), Samvaad (Dialogue), Sahyog (Cooperation), Shanti (Peace) and Samridhi (Prosperity).

Conclave of Defence Ministers of Indian Ocean Region (IOR). Theme: 'Enhanced Peace, Security and Cooperation in the Indian Ocean'.

8. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Registration of Political parties is governed by the provisions of Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951. A party seeking registration under the said Section with the Election Commission has to submit an application to the Commission within a period of 30 days following the date of its formation as per guidelines prescribed by the Election Commission of India in exercise of the powers conferred by Article 324 of the Commission of India and Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

To be eligible for a 'National Political Party of India:

It secures at least six percent of the valid votes polled in any four or more states, at a general election to the House of the People or, to the State Legislative Assembly. In addition, it wins at least four seats in the House of the People from any State or States. It wins at least two percent seats in the House of the People (i.e., 11 seats in the existing House having 543 members), and these members are elected from at least three different States. As per Association For Democratic Reforms (ADR)'s latest report:

The contribution reports of only 78 (3.39%) of the total 2,301 registered unrecognised political parties are available in the public domain for 2018-19. The reports of only 82 such parties (3.56%) for 2017-18 are uploaded on the respective State Chief Electoral Officers' websites. The number of these parties increased two-fold in the last 10 years, from 1,112 in 2010 to 2,301 in 2019.

9. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

Denmark has approved a plan to build the world's first energy island in the North Sea. About the Project: The artificial island, in its initial phase, will be the size of 18 football fields. It will be linked to hundreds of offshore wind turbines and will supply both power to households and green hydrogen for use in shipping, aviation, industry and heavy transport. The island will produce and store enough green energy to cover the electricity needs of three million European households.

10. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

A global collaboration for the world's largest radio telescope took formal shape with the constitution of an Intergovernmental Council recently. The Square Kilometre Array Observatory (SKAO) project spans two continents and involves the participation of 20 countries. The SKA is not a single telescope but will be an array of antennas strategically designed and set up in South Africa and Australia. It is expected to be ready for carrying out observations towards the end of this decade. Goals: Studying the universe and its evolution, the origin and evolution of cosmic magnetism, and dark energy and evolution of galaxies.

It is proposed to be built in two phases, with an estimated 1.8 billion euros required for phase-I, planned over the next ten years. Its Headquarters will be located in United Kingdom.