



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 09-01-2021

EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

Egypt, Ethiopia and Sudan agreed to resume their yearslong negotiations over the controversial building of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam hydropower project. It is located about 30 km upstream of the border with Sudan. Upon completion, the GERD will be the largest dam in Africa-- 1,800 m long, 155 m high and a total volume of 10.4 million m³.

2. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

The central government, through an ordinance, has merged the Jammu & Kashmir cadre for all India Services, that is, IPS, IAS, and IFS officers with that of AGMUT- Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram, and Union Territory.

3. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

The Chief Minister of Karnataka , Shri B.S. Yediyurappa flagged off 40 Krishi Sanjeevani vans in Bengaluru on January 07, 2021. These vans have been launched by state Agriculture Department with Central assistance under National Krishi Vikas Yojana to take up this novel programme.

4. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

The Delhi High Court granted the Centre and the Delhi government one last chance to file a response to petitions seeking the recognition and registration of same-sex marriages under the Hindu Marriage Act, the Special Marriage Act and the Foreign Marriage Act. The court was told that no reply has been filed in the case by authorities despite issuance of notice in October and November. The Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code makes sex or marriage with persons of the same gender punishable by law. However, on September 6, 2018, the Supreme Court of India decriminalised Section 377 making gay sex legal. On 2 July 2009, in Naz Foundation v. Govt. of NCT of Delhi, the Delhi High Court held that provision to be unconstitutional with respect to sex between consenting adults, but the Supreme Court of India overturned that ruling on 11 December 2013.

5. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

The Supreme Court on Friday agreed to consider after three weeks a petition filed by a group of women against the compulsory nature of sacred confessions to priests in Christianity. The court will examine the issues in the petition as they came within the ambit of the questions of faith, rights of women and equality. Under the religious practice followed by Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church, it's members are required to undergo 'Sacramental Confession' before a priest to relieve themselves of sin. According to the practice, it's a condition precedent for fulfilling the temporal and spiritual needs of being a Christian. The one who doesn't do that would be denied the benefit of such services from the Church.

6. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

India has moved down 10 places to rank 68th on the annual global competitiveness index, largely due to improvements witnessed by several other economies. Global Competitiveness Index is compiled by the Geneva-based World Economic Forum (WEF).

7. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Countervailing duty is levied on the imported goods to counterbalance (Countervail) the subsidies provided by the exporting country's Government. Many of the governments provide subsidies either during production or during exports to create price advantage for their products, this can be harmful to the products of the importing country, so Countervailing duties are levied to equalize the advantage.

Anti-dumping Duties are levied on the goods that are either sold either, below the cost of production or below the prices in the home country. This is considered predatory as it tries to drive-out the products of importing country and create a monopoly. To prevent this from happening, anti-dumping duty is levied.

8. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Recently, a video of a group of men and boys in Uttar Pradesh's Pratapgarh district beating to death a Gangetic river dolphin surfaced on social media recently. It is an endangered species, the Gangetic River Dolphin is recognised as the National Aquatic Animal of India. These are generally blind. They catch their prey by emitting an ultrasonic sound which reaches the prey. These are also called Susu. It is found mainly in the Indian subcontinent, particularly in Ganga-Brahmaputra-Meghna and Karnaphuli-Sangu river systems and in the Ganga's tributaries.

9. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

Natural Capital Accounting and Valuation of the Ecosystem Services (NCAVES) India Forum-2021 is being organised by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) in virtual format. The MoSPI has taken up several initiatives under the project “Natural Capital Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services (NCAVES)” which aims to advance the theory and practice of ecosystem accounting in India. The NCAVES Project, funded by the European Union, has been jointly implemented by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Secretariat of the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD). India is one of the five countries taking part in this project - the other countries being Brazil, China, South Africa and Mexico.

10. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Jammu and Kashmir, LG, Manoj Sinha launched Mobile Application ‘Satark Nagrik’ and Departmental Vigilance Officers Portal of J&K Anti Corruption Bureau. It has been developed with a purpose to facilitate seamless flow of information about corruption and enable citizens to submit their grievances with ease and mobility.