



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 12-07-2021

EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared China as “malaria-free”. It is a result of a seven decade-long, multi-pronged health strategy that was able to entirely eliminate indigenous cases for four straight years. 40 countries and territories have been granted a malaria-free certification from WHO – including, most recently, El Salvador (2021), Algeria (2019), Argentina (2019), Paraguay (2018) and Uzbekistan (2018) [India is not yet Malaria free]

About Malaria

Malaria is a life threatening mosquito borne blood disease caused by plasmodium parasites. It is predominantly found in the tropical and subtropical areas of Africa, South America as well as Asia. The parasites spread through the bites of infected female Anopheles mosquitoes. Symptoms: Fever and flu-like illness, including shaking chills, headache, muscle aches, and tiredness. It is preventable as well as curable. According to the World Malaria Report, 2020, the number of malaria cases worldwide in 2019 was around 229 million, with 4,09,000 lives lost to the mosquito-borne disease.

China’s Malaria Strategy

The efforts began in the early 1950s starting with a multi-pronged approach of providing anti-malarial medicines while targeting mosquito breeding grounds and using insecticide spraying. The 523 Project: It led to the discovery of artemisinin in the 1970s. Artemisinin is the core compound of antimalarial drugs available today. Insecticide-treated Nets: In the 1980s, China began using insecticide-treated nets widely, distributing 2.4 million nets by 1988.

1-3-7 Strategy: The strategy refers to:

A one-day deadline to report a malaria diagnosis, Confirming a case and determining the spread by the third day, and Measures taken to stop the spread by the seventh day, along with continued surveillance in high-risk areas.

2. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

Recently, the Justice Department commemorated the milestone of crossing 9 lakh beneficiaries under its Tele-Law programme through Common Service Centres. Common Services Centre (CSC) programme is an initiative of the Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY), that serves as the access points for delivery of various electronic services to villages in India

About Tele-Law It was launched by the Ministry of Law and Justice in collaboration with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) in 2017 to address cases at the pre-litigation stage. It is presently operating in 633 districts (including 115 Aspirational Districts) across 34 States/UTs through a network of 50,000 CSCs. Under this programme, smart technology of video conferencing, telephone/instant calling facilities available at the vast network of CSC. It enables anyone to seek legal advice without wasting precious time and money. The service is free for those who are eligible for free legal Aid as mentioned under Section 12 of the Legal Services Authority Act, 1987. For all others a nominal fee is charged This is useful for weaker & vulnerable sections of society to gain access to justice. Even though the Tele-law programme is technology driven, its success is dependent on the working of field functionaries comprising Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs), Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs), State Coordinators and Panel Lawyers.

3. Ans) (d)

Explanation :

In a major boost to wheat exports, the first shipment of Geographical Indication (GI) certified Bhalia variety of wheat was exported to Kenya and Sri Lanka from Gujarat.

About Bhalia Wheat The wheat has high protein content It is sweet in taste. The crop is grown mostly across Bhal region of Gujarat which includes Ahmadabad, Anand, Kheda, Bhavanagar, Surendranagar, Bharuch districts.

What is Geographical Indication (GI)?

It is a sign on products having a unique geographical origin and evolution over centuries with regard to its special quality or reputed attributes. It is a mark of authenticity and ensures that registered authorized users or at least those residing inside the geographic territory are allowed to use the popular product names. GI tag in India is governed by Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration & Protection) Act, 1999. It is issued by the Geographical Indications Registry (Chennai).

What are the Benefits of GI Tag?

It provides legal protection to Indian Geographical Indications thus preventing unauthorized use of the registered GIs by others. It promotes economic prosperity of producers of goods produced in a geographical territory. It leads to recognition of the product in other countries thus boosting exports.

4. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

INS Tabar Exercises were held recently with Italian navy off Naples, Italy as part of an ongoing deployment to the Mediterranean The exercise covered a wide range of naval operations including air defence procedures, communication drills etc. The exercise was mutually beneficial in enhancing interoperability and towards consolidating combined operations against maritime threats.

5. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

Recently, a rare Melanistic Leopard (commonly known as Black Panther) has been recorded in Navegaon-Nagzira Tiger Reserve (NNTR) of Maharashtra.

The melanistic leopards are either all-black or very dark in coloration. It is a color variant of spotted Indian leopards, reported from densely forested areas of south India. Black coat coloration is attributed to the expression of recessive gene in leopards and dominant gene in jaguars.

In each species, a certain combination of gene stimulates the production of large amounts of the dark skin pigment melanin in the animal's fur and skin. It is as shy as a normal leopard and very difficult to detect.

Habitat:

They are mainly found in Southwestern China, Burma, Nepal, Southern India, Indonesia, and the southern part of Malaysia. In India they can be spotted in the states of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Maharashtra etc.

Threats: Habitat loss, Collision with vehicles, Diseases, Human encroachment, Poaching.

Protection Status:

IUCN Red List: Vulnerable. CITES: Appendix I. Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I.

6. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

China has launched the new Fengyun-3E (FY-3E) meteorological satellite from the SLS-2 launch site at China's Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre. The satellite is launched onboard the Long March-4C carrier rocket, which placed it into its planned orbit.

7. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Ministry of Defence has implemented SPARSH [System for Pension Administration (Raksha)] which is a web-based system, for automated sanction and disbursement of defence pension. The system has been implemented with agreement between Controller General of Defence Accounts (CGDA), State Bank of India (SBI) and Punjab National Bank (PNB).

8. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

A sandcastle in Denmark has entered into new Guinness World Record for being the tallest sandcastle in the world.

9. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC) has inaugurated the online filing of Authorised Economic Operators (AEO). The new version (V 2.0) of the web application is designed to ensure continuous real-time and digital monitoring of physically filed applications for timely intervention and expedience.

Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) Programme:

AEO is a programme under the aegis of the World Customs Organization (WCO) SAFE Framework of Standards to secure and facilitate Global Trade. The programme aims to enhance international supply chain security and facilitate movement of legitimate goods. AEO is a voluntary compliance programme.

10. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

A report titled, A future for all – the need for human-wildlife coexistence, was recently released by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP).

Highlights of the Report:

Conflict between humans and animals is one of the main threats to the long-term survival of some of the world's most iconic species. Globally, conflict-related killing affects more than 75 per cent of the world's wild cat species. It also affects polar bears and Mediterranean monk seals as well as large herbivores such as elephants. Global wildlife populations have fallen an average of 68 per cent since 1970.

Indian scenario:

Over 500 elephants were killed between 2014-2015 and 2018-2019, mostly due to human-elephant conflict. During the same period, 2,361 people were killed as a result of conflict with elephants. India will be most-affected by human-wildlife conflict because it had the world's second-largest human population as well as large populations of tigers, Asian elephants, one-horned rhinos, Asiatic lions and other species.

Sonitpur Model:

In Sonitpur district in Assam, destruction of forests had forced elephants to raid crops, in turn causing deaths of both, elephants and humans. In response, WWF India had developed the 'Sonitpur Model' during 2003-2004 by which community members were connected with the state forest department. They were given training on how to work with them to drive elephants away from crop fields safely. WWF India had also developed a low-cost, single strand, non-lethal electric fence to ease the guarding of crops from elephants. Afterwards, crop losses dropped to zero for four years running. Human and elephant deaths also reduced significantly.