



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 13-08-2021

EXPLANATION

1. Ans:C

Explanation:

The Constitution 127th Amendment Bill, 2021 was passed with unanimous support in Lok Sabha, recently. The Bill amends the Constitution to allow states and union territories to prepare their own list of socially and educationally backward classes.

Need for:

On May 5, while scrapping a separate quota for the Maratha community in Maharashtra, the Supreme Court had ruled that after a 2018 amendment in the Constitution (102nd constitutional amendment), only the central government could notify socially and educationally backward classes (SEBCs) – not the states. The 102nd constitutional amendment (Inserted Articles 338B and 342 A after Article 342) was related to giving constitutional status to the National Commission of Backward Classes and interpretation of this constitutional amendment effectively struck a blow to the authority of state governments in identifying backward classes and provide them with reservation benefits.

Highlights of the 127th Amendment Bill:

The Bill seeks to restore the power of State governments to identify Other Backward Classes that are socially and economically backward. Please note that In May 2021, the Supreme Court, in an order, had empowered only the Central government for such identification. The Bill amends this to provide that the President may notify the list of socially and educationally backward classes only for purposes of the central government. This central list will be prepared and maintained by the central government. The Bill enables states and union territories to prepare their own list of socially and educationally backward classes. This list must be made by law, and may differ from the central list.

2. Ans:A

Explanation:

A national level meet was recently organised by the National Human Rights Commission to discuss the status of various policies to ensure Right to Food and nutrition.

Following are the suggestions made by the experts at the end of the meet:

Extend the midday meal scheme up to Class XII. Start an urban employment guarantee scheme. Come up with a public distribution system (PDS) not exclusively linked to Aadhaar.

About the Mid-Day meal scheme:

The scheme guarantees one meal to all children in government and aided schools and madarasas

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.

Objective:

Address hunger and malnutrition, increase enrolment and attendance in school, improve socialisation among castes, provide employment at grassroot level especially to women.

The MDM rules 2015, provide that:

The place of serving meals to the children shall be school only. If the Mid-Day Meal is not provided in school on any school day due to non-availability of food grains or any other reason, the State Government shall pay food security allowance by 15th of the succeeding month. The School Management Committee mandated under the Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 shall also monitor implementation of the Mid-day meal Scheme.

3. Ans:C

Explanation:

The government has launched the second phase of the Ujjwala gas connection scheme for the poor.

About Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana:

Launched in May 2016.

Aim: To provide LPG (liquefied petroleum gas) connections to poor households. Key features: A deposit-free LPG connection is given to the eligible household with financial assistance of Rs 1,600 per connection by the Centre. Target: The scheme gained traction with its ambit being expanded to include 80 million poor families from the earlier target of 50 million families with an additional allocation of Rs 4,800 crore.

Objectives of the scheme are:

Empowering women and protecting their health. Reducing the serious health hazards associated with cooking based on fossil fuel. Reducing the number of deaths in India due to unclean cooking fuel.

Preventing young children from significant number of acute respiratory illnesses caused due to indoor air pollution by burning the fossil fuel.

Eligibility criteria:

Applicant must a woman above the age of 18 and a citizen of India. Applicant should belong to a BPL (Below Poverty Line) household. No one in the applicant's household should own an LPG connection.

The household income of the family, per month, must not exceed a certain limit as defined by the government of the Union Territories and State Government. Applicant must not be a recipient of other

similar schemes provided by the government.

4 Ans:A

Explanation:

India is ranked 122nd on a new Global Youth Development Index measuring the condition of young people across 181 countries, released by the Commonwealth Secretariat in London.

Singapore ranked topmost followed by Slovenia, Norway, Malta and Denmark. Chad, the Central African Republic, South Sudan, Afghanistan and Niger came last respectively.

5 Ans:B

Explanation:

The Quad country navies including, India, the US, Japan and Australia, will be conducting the annual Malabar naval exercises, from August 21, off the coast of Guam, in the Indo-Pacific.

6 Ans:D

Explanation:

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully test-fired medium range subsonic cruise missile Nirbhay from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur, off Odisha coast.

Nirbhay is India's first Indigenous Technology Cruise Missile (ITCM).

7 Ans:B

Explanation:

Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) is a Central Sector Scheme. It is being implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. The scheme aims to supplement the financial needs of the farmers in procuring various inputs to ensure proper crop health and appropriate yields, commensurate with the anticipated farm income. Under the PM-KISAN scheme, all landholding farmers' families shall be provided the financial benefit of Rs. 6000 per annum per family payable in three equal installments of Rs. 2000 each, every four months. All land holding eligible farmer families (subject to the prevalent exclusion criteria) are to avail of the benefits under this scheme. The entire responsibility of identification of beneficiary farmer families rests with the State/UT Governments.

8 Ans:B

Explanation:

Mount Merapi is an active stratovolcano located in Indonesia. It is the most active volcano in Indonesia and has erupted regularly since 1548. Indonesia is located on the Pacific Ring of Fire.

The Ring of Fire, also referred to as the Circum-Pacific Belt, is a path along the Pacific Ocean characterized by active volcanoes and frequent earthquakes.

9. Ans:B

Explanation:

Owing to the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic, Census 2021 and other Census-related field activities have been postponed until further orders.

The forthcoming Census is to be the first digital Census and there is a provision for self-enumeration.

Self-enumeration refers to completion of census survey questionnaires by the respondents themselves.

A mobile application for data collection and a Census portal for managing and monitoring various Census related activities have been developed.

What is Census?

In Census (decennial census), data is collected on demographic and various socio-economic parameters like education, SC/ST, religion, language, marriage, fertility, disability, occupation and migration of the individuals. Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India under Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India is responsible for carrying out the census. It provides information on size, distribution and socio-economic, demographic and other characteristics of the country's population. The first synchronous census in India was held in 1881. Since then, censuses have been undertaken uninterruptedly once every ten years. As per the official Gazette, the individual data collected in Census under the Census Act, 1948, are not made public as per the provisions contained in the Act. The individual data are not used for the preparation of any other database, including the National Register of Citizens. Only the aggregated Census data at various administrative levels are released.

10. Ans:D

Explanation:

Action Plan for effective and efficient inclusion of Homeopathy in Integrative care The Homoeopathy Education and Practice is regulated by the National Commission for Homoeopathy (NCH) Act, 2020.

About the National Commission for Homoeopathy (NCH) Act, 2020 The NCH, Act, 2020 come in to force w.e.f. 5th July 2021 after repealing the Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973 and applies to whole of India. The 2020 Act replaced the Council with a National Commission of Homoeopathy for regulating homoeopathic education and practice. The Act is having the provision for having interface between Homoeopathy, Indian system of Medicine and Modern system of Medicine to promote medical pluralism. It also provides provision for the State Government to take necessary measures to address various issues related to health including promotion of public health through Homoeopathy.

About National Commission of Homoeopathy The Commission shall consist of the following

persons, namely: –(a) a chairperson; (b) seven ex officio Members; and (c) nineteen part-time Members. Functions of the National Commission for Homoeopathy:
Framing policies for regulating medical institutions and homoeopathic medical professionals.
Assessing the requirements of healthcare related human resources and infrastructure.