



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 16-09-2021

EXPLANATION

1. Sol. (c)

INDRA is a joint biennial military exercise that was first conducted by India and Russia in 2003. The 12th edition, INDRA 2021 took place at Prudboy Ranges, Volgograd between 1st and 13th August 2021. This exercise was aimed to enhance interoperability between the Indian and Russian Armies and to facilitate joint training between Indian and Russian Armies to jointly plan and conduct counter-terror operations under the United Nations mandate. The conduct of the exercise also entailed academic discussions between expert groups of both contingents.

2. Sol. (a)

These represent a new species named by the research team as *Strophodus jaisalmerensis*. The genus *Strophodus* has been identified for the first time from the Indian subcontinent and is only the third such record from Asia, the other two being from Japan and Thailand. This discovery marks an important milestone in the study of Jurassic vertebrate fossils in the Jaisalmer region of Rajasthan, and it opens a new window for further research in the domain of vertebrate fossils.

3. Sol. (c)

These ceramics are a new class of advanced materials with unique transparency and excellent mechanical properties. These can be designed not only as transparent to visible light but also for ultraviolet (UV), Infrared (IR), and Radiofrequency (RF), giving opportunity for diverse applications.

4. Sol. (b)

This campaign aims to accelerate adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) in the urban deliveries segment and create consumer awareness about the benefits of zero-pollution delivery. Initially, close to 30 companies including Mahindra Electric, Tata Motors, Zomato, Sun Mobility, Lightning Logistics, Big Basket, Bluedart, Hero Electric, and Swiggy among others attended the kick-off meeting chaired by Amitabh Kant, the CEO of NITI Aayog, to show their support for the campaign. Subsequently, additional industry players will be invited to join the initiative.

5. Sol. (c)

The NCRB acts as a repository of information on crime and criminals so as to assist the investigators in linking crime to the perpetrators. It was set up based on the recommendations of the National Police Commission (1977-1981) and the MHA's Task Force (1985).

6. Sol. (d)

A week before a meeting of Quad leaders in Washington DC, the Biden administration has announced a new trilateral security partnership for the Indo-Pacific region between Australia, the U.K. and the U.S. (AUKUS). The grouping is security focused. It is also different from, but complementary to, arrangements such as the Quad.

7. Sol. (c)

The Delhi High Court recently upheld the view that the “Right to Privacy” includes the “Right to be forgotten” and the “Right to be Left Alone”. The Right to be Forgotten falls under the purview of an individual’s right to privacy, which is governed by the Personal Data Protection Bill that is yet to be passed by Parliament. Broadly, under the Right to be forgotten, users can de-link, limit, delete or correct the disclosure of their personal information held by data fiduciaries.

8. Sol. (d)

This year i.e. 2021, marks the 160th birth anniversary of M Visvesvaraya who was born on September 15, 1861, in the Muddenahalli village of Karnataka.

9. Sol. (c)

Formal announcement of the Gaganyaan programme was made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his Independence Day address on August 15, 2018. The initial target was to launch the human spaceflight before the 75th anniversary of India’s independence on August 15, 2022. There are blind spots due to which there is a possibility of not receiving signals. The data relay satellite tracking from Cocos Keeling Island is expected to help address the issue.

10. Sol. (b)

Government of Sri Lanka declared an economic emergency in last week of August 2021 because of rising food prices, depreciating currency, and depleting forex reserves.