



# EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

## DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 26-07-2021

### EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Monuments at Nagarjunakonda, Buddhist remains at Salihundam and Veerabhadra Temple at Lepakshi are identified as 'Adarsh Smarak' in Andhra Pradesh for providing additional facilities.

About the Adarsh Smarak scheme:

Launched in 2014 for providing improved visitor amenities, especially for the physically challenged. Implemented by the Ministry of Culture. The civic amenities are being augmented at the protected sites under the scheme. Archaeological Survey of India had identified 100 monuments as "Adarsh Smarak" for upgradation.

Objectives of the Scheme:

- To make the monument visitor friendly.
- To provide interpretation and audio-video centers.
- To make the monument accessible to differently-abled people.
- To implement Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.

2. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

Madhya Pradesh has launched UNESCO's 'Historic Urban Landscape' project for Gwalior and Orchha cities of State. The development and management plan of these cities will be prepared by UNESCO. All aspects including history, culture, food, lifestyle, economic development, community development will be included in it. These places will now be jointly developed by UNESCO, Government of India and Madhya Pradesh by focusing on their historical and cultural improvement.

Background:

Gwalior and Orchha in Madhya Pradesh were included in the list of UNESCO's world heritage cities under its urban landscape city programme in December 2020.

Gwalior:

Gwalior was established in the 9th century and ruled by Gurjar Pratihara Rajvansh, Tomar, Baghel Kachvaho and Scindias. The memorabilia left by them are found in abundance in memorials, forts and palaces in the area.

Orchha:

Orchha is popular for its temples and palaces and was the capital of the Bundela kingdom in the 16th

century. The famous spots in the town are Raj Mahal, Jehangir Mahal, Ramraja Temple, Rai Praveen Mahal, and Laxminarayan Mandir.

3. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

More than two years after the Lokpal came into being, the Centre is yet to appoint a director of inquiry.

Who is a director of inquiry?

According to the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013:

There shall be a director of inquiry, not below the rank of Joint Secretary to the Government of India.

He/she shall be appointed by the Central government for conducting preliminary inquiries referred to the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) by the Lokpal.

What's the issue?

Though Director of Inquiry has not been appointed by Govt. of India, cases are being received in the commission for conducting preliminary inquiries. Forty-one cases have been received for preliminary inquiry as of March 2021.

Highlights of the Lokpal Act of 2013:

The Act allows setting up of anti-corruption ombudsman called Lokpal at the Centre and Lokayukta at the State-level. The Lokpal will consist of a chairperson and a maximum of eight members. The Lokpal will cover all categories of public servants, including the Prime Minister. But the armed forces do not come under the ambit of Lokpal. The Act also incorporates provisions for attachment and confiscation of property acquired by corrupt means, even while the prosecution is pending. The States will have to institute Lokayukta within one year of the commencement of the Act. The Act also ensures that public servants who act as whistleblowers are protected.

4. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

The Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully flight-tested the New Generation Akash Missile (Akash-NG), from Integrated Test Range (ITR) off the coast of Odisha on July 21, 2021. The Akash-NG weapon system is a surface-to-air Missile that can strike targets at a distance of around 60 km and fly at a speed of up to Mach 2.5.

5. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

The Government of India is set to establish the **Indian Institute of Heritage** at Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar.

6. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

Russia's S-500 next-generation missile system has struck a fast-moving ballistic target in a training exercise at the Kapustin Yar range.

7. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Indian Council for Agricultural Research celebrated its 93rd Foundation Day recently.

ICAR is an autonomous organisation under the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India.

It was established on 16 July 1929.

ICAR was Formerly known as Imperial Council of Agricultural Research. Headquartered at New Delhi, ICAR has 101 institutes and 71 agricultural universities spread across the country. Indian Council of Agriculture Research is the apex body for coordinating, guiding and managing research and education in agriculture including horticulture, fisheries and animal sciences in the entire country.

Union Minister of Agriculture is the ex-officio President of the ICAR Society. Shri Narendra Singh Tomar is the President of ICAR. 'ICAR Vision 2050', provides the strategic framework for innovation-led inclusive and sustainable agricultural growth in the country.

8. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

A new generation of Akash surface-to-air missile was successfully flight-tested on by the DRDO from an integrated test range off the Odisha coast in a boost to air defence capabilities. The new variant of the Akash missile (Akash-NG) has a slightly better range compared to the original version that can strike targets at a distance of around 25 km. During the test, the missile demonstrated high manoeuvrability required for neutralising fast and agile aerial threats.

About Akash Missile System

Akash is India's first indigenously produced medium range Surface to Air missile that can engage multiple targets from multiple directions. Manufactured by: Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) The all-weather missile can engage targets at a speed 2.5 times more than the speed of sound and can detect and destroy targets flying at low, medium and high altitudes. The Akash missile system has been designed and developed as part of India's 30-year-old Integrated guided-missile development programme (IGMDP) which also includes other missiles like Nag, Agni, Trishul and Prithvi. The nuclear-capable missile can fly at a speed of up to Mach 2.5 (nearly 860 m/s) at a maximum

height of 18 km. It can strike enemy aerial targets from a distance of 30 km. Unique features of Akash:

It can be launched from mobile platforms like battle tanks or wheeled trucks. It has nearly 90% kill probability.

The missile is supported by the indigenously developed radar called 'Rajendra' that can handle highly-maneuvring multiple targets from multiple directions in group or autonomous mode. The missile is reportedly cheaper and more accurate than USA's Patriot missiles due to its solid-fuel technology and high-tech radars.

9. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

The Government of India has extended the duration of 'Stand Up India Scheme' up to the year 2025.

Performance of the scheme:

Banks have sanctioned Rs 26,204 crore to about 1,16,266 beneficiaries under the Scheme in the last five years. The scheme has benefited more than 93,094 women entrepreneurs. About the 'Stand Up India Scheme':

Launched in 2016.

It seeks to promote entrepreneurship at the grass-root level of economic empowerment and job creation.

The offices of SIDBI and NABARD shall be designated Stand-Up Connect Centres (SUCC).

Loans under the scheme are available for only Greenfield project. The objective of the scheme is:

To facilitate loans from Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) of value between Rs 10 lakh and Rs 1 crore to atleast one SC or ST borrower and one woman borrower per bank branch for setting up green field enterprise in manufacturing, service or trading sector.

10. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has formulated this scheme for Support for Marginalized Individuals.

About the scheme:

"SMILE stands for Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise". Focus of the scheme is on rehabilitation, provision of medical facilities, counseling, basic documentation, education, skill development, economic linkages etc. It includes sub scheme – 'Central Sector Scheme for Comprehensive Rehabilitation of persons engaged in the act of Begging'. The scheme would be implemented with the support of State/UT Governments/Local Urban Bodies, Voluntary Organizations, Community Based Organizations (CBOs), institutions and others.