



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 27-05-2021

1. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) ordered all encroachments to be removed from Gujarat's Banni grasslands within six months and directed a joint committee to prepare an action plan in a month. The court also said the Maldharis will continue to hold the right to conserve the community forests in the area, granted to them as per the provisions in Section 3 of Forest Rights Act, 2006.

What's the issue?

The Maldhari community had filed a case against the rampant encroachment in the ecologically-sensitive grassland in May, 2018.

Who are Maldharis?

Maldharis are a tribal herdsmen community in Gujarat, India. Maldhari community breeds Banni Buffaloes, a species endemic to the region. The buffaloes are adaptive to Kutch's hot weather conditions.

About Banni Grasslands:

Banni grassland is spread over 2,618 kilometres and accounts for almost 45 per cent of the pastures in Gujarat. It comprises 48 hamlets / villages organised into 19 panchayats, with a population of about 40,000. Two ecosystems, wetlands and grasslands, are juxtaposed in Banni. The area is rich in flora and fauna, with 192 species of plants, 262 species of birds, several species of mammals, reptiles and amphibians.

2. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

The US space agency National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has planned to send its first mobile robot to the Moon in late 2023 in search of ice and other resources on and below the lunar surface. The robot is named as Volatiles Investigating Polar Exploration Rover (VIPER). The mission is a part of the Artemis programme of NASA, under which it will send robots and humans to explore more of the Moon than ever before.

3. Ans) (a)

The US Space agency National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is developing a new system called the Earth System Observatory, to mitigate efforts related to climate change and disaster mitigation.

4. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

Recently, the world's largest iceberg has been discovered in Weddell Sea of Antarctica as per the information by European Space Agency (ESA). The iceberg, named A-76, broke off from the western side of the Ronne Ice Shelf, one of the biggest of several gigantic floating sheets of ice in the continent.

5. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

NASA has also partnered with the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) which will provide

NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR). NISAR will carry two radar systems to measure changes in the Earth's surface, during one of the observatory's first missions intended as a pathfinder.

6. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

India and Israel have signed a three-year work program for cooperation in agriculture. India and Israel are implementing the "INDO-ISRAEL Agricultural Project Centres of Excellence" and "INDO-ISRAEL Villages of Excellence".

7. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

Season's first consignment of Shahi Litchi from Bihar was recently exported to United Kingdom by air route. Shahi litchi was the fourth agricultural products to get GI certification from Bihar in 2018, after Jardalu mango, Katarni rice and Magahi paan. India is the second largest producer of litchi (Litchi chin) in the world, after China.

8. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

Vesak is the most sacred day for Buddhists around the world. It is also known as Buddha Purnima and Buddha Day. Significance: The day commemorates birth, enlightenment and Death (or Parinirvana) of Lord Buddha, the founder of Buddhism, all of which is said to have taken place on the same day.

Vesak, falls on the full moon day (Purnima) of the month Vaishakha (May) Recognition by United Nations (UN): The General Assembly, by its resolution in 1999, recognized internationally the Day of Vesak. It was done to acknowledge the contribution that Buddhism made to humanity.

9. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

The President of Belarus, Alexander Lukashenko sparked international outrage after his regime forced a commercial airline flying from Greece to Lithuania to land in its territory allegedly on the pretext of a bomb scare, so it could arrest a dissident journalist on board. The journalist, Roman Protasevich, is a prominent opponent of Lukashenko. He had been living in exile in neighbouring Lithuania since 2019.

He is also the co-founder of the NEXTA media outlet on social media platform Telegram. The regime has also put his name on a list of terrorists, and if convicted, he could face the death penalty. Western leaders have denounced the incident. Important value additions Belarus is a landlocked country in Eastern Europe. It is bordered by Russia, Ukraine, Poland, and Lithuania, and Latvia (See the map) Capital: Minsk During the dissolution of the Soviet Union, Belarus declared independence in 1991.

10. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

India and Israel have signed a three-year work program (2021-23) for cooperation in Agriculture.

Key takeaways

India and Israel are implementing the "INDO-ISRAEL Agricultural Project Centres of Excellence" and "INDO-ISRAEL Villages of Excellence". This is the 5th Indo-Israel Agriculture Action Plan (IIAP).

Aim: To grow existing Centres of Excellence, establish new centers, increase CoE's value chain, bring the Centres of Excellence into the self-sufficient mode, and encourage private sector companies and collaboration. "INDO-ISRAEL Villages of Excellence" is a new concept Aim: Creating a model ecosystem in agriculture across eight states, alongside 13 Centers of Excellence within 75 villages.

Focus: (1) Modern Agriculture infrastructure, (2) Capacity Building, (3) Market linkage.