



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 08-12-2020

EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Union Finance Minister released the Smuggling in India Report 2019-20 which analyses organised smuggling trends on Gold and Foreign Currency, Narcotic Drugs, Security, Environment and Commercial Frauds. The report has been compiled by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI). The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence detected 412 cases of smuggling resulting in the seizure of contraband worth ₹1,949 crore in 2019-20. It arrested 837 economic offenders and also unearthed 761 complex cases of Customs duty evasion amounting to ₹2,183 crore. On the occasion, the DRI Utkrisht Seva Samman, 2020 was awarded to B. Sankaran, an officer of the 1961 batch of the Indian Revenue Service.

2. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

At the 37th General Body meeting of Central Zoo Authority chaired by Union Minister for Environment, two new zoos the Rajgir Zoo Safari in Nalanda, Bihar and Shaheed Ashfaque Ullah Khan Prani Udyaan in Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh were granted recognition. Rajgir Zoo Safari, Nalanda, Bihar The zoo is established exclusively comprising on only safari enclosures which, on contrary to conventional enclosure, offer larger space for captive animals. The zoo is located close to the historically important Nalanda. Shaheed Ashfaque Ullah Khan Prani Udyaan, Gorakhpur, U.P. With the establishment of this zoo, the state of Uttar Pradesh has a total of 9 zoos. The zoo is situated in the spiritual land of Gorakhpur and has a high visitation.

3. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways has issued the draft guidelines for technical specifications of floating structures for public consultation, with a vision to deploy world-class floating infrastructure all along the coastline. Floating structure because of its inherent advantages, is attractive solution and being encouraged by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways. Deployment of floating jetties, especially in locations having a large tidal range, where conventional quay poses problems during low tide periods, is very convenient. The benefits of floating jetties over the conventional quay and fixed concrete structures are as follows:

It is a cost-effective solution and much cheaper than conventional structures price. Setting up of floating

structures is much faster as compared to conventional jetties. Usually, floating structures can be built in 6-8 months as compared to 24 months for conventional structures. Its environmental impact is minimal. Expansions are easily feasible due to modular construction techniques. It is easily transportable in case of reconfiguring of the port. It provides constant freeboard between jetties and boats.

4. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation (NBCFDC) and National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) under M/O Social Justice & Empowerment entered in to MoA With Central Bank of India for implementation of Vanchit Ikai Samooh aur Vargon ki Aarthik Sahayta (VISVAS) Yojana. It is an Interest subvention Scheme of Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment for financial empowerment of economically marginalized OBC/SC SHGs & Individuals. The scheme will benefit OBC/SC SHGs with loans/borrowings up to Rs.4.00 Lakh and OBC/SC individuals with loan/borrowing up to Rs.2.00 Lakh with a quick interest subvention benefit of 5% directly into the standard accounts of borrowing SHGs/beneficiaries.

5. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

The United Nations (UNCTAD) has declared Invest India- the National Investment Promotion Agency of India- as a winner of the 2020 United Nations Investment Promotion Award. The award ceremony took place on 7th December 2020 at UNCTAD Headquarters in Geneva. The award recognizes and celebrates the outstanding achievements and best practices of Investment Promotion Agencies (IPAs) across the globe. This United Nations Investment Promotion Award is the most coveted award for Investment Promotion Agencies. UNCTAD is a central agency that monitors performance of IPAs and identifies global best practices. Germany, South Korea and Singapore have been some of the past winners of the award.

6. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

The Uttar Pradesh government has recently embarked upon a scheme to take the unique culture of its ethnic Tharu tribe across the world. The community of Tharu people belongs to the Terai lowlands, amid the Shivaliks or lower Himalayas. Most of them are forest dwellers, and some practice agriculture. The word tharu is believed to be derived from sthavir, meaning followers of Theravada Buddhism. Tharus worship Lord Shiva as Mahadev, and call their supreme being "Narayan", who they believe is the provider of sunshine, rain, and harvests. The Tharus live in both India and Nepal. In the Indian terai, they live mostly in Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, and Bihar. Members of the tribe survive on wheat, corn and

vegetables grown close to their homes. A majority still lives off the forest. They speak various dialects of Tharu, a language of the Indo-Aryan subgroup, and variants of Hindi, Urdu, and Awadhi. In central Nepal, they speak a variant of Bhojpuri, while in eastern Nepal, they speak a variant of Maithili. Tharu women have stronger property rights than is allowed to women in mainstream North Indian Hindu custom.

7. Ans) (a)

Explanation

According to India's Foreign Exchange Management Act 1999 (FEMA), Non Resident Indian (NRI) is an Indian citizen or Foreign National of Indian Origin residing outside India for purposes of employment, carrying on business or vocation in circumstances as would indicate an intention to stay outside India for an indefinite period. According to a United Nations report of 2015, India's diaspora population is the largest in the world at 16 million people. However, registration of NRI voters has been very low with a little over one lakh overseas Indians registered as voters in India. Voting rights for NRIs were introduced only in 2011, through an amendment to the Representation of the People Act 1950. Hence, statement 2 is not correct. An NRI can vote in the constituency in his/her place of residence, as mentioned in the passport, is located. He/She can only vote in person and will have to produce her passport in original at the polling station for establishing identity.

8. Ans) (d)

Explanation

Recently, Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) has received a capsule from the unmanned Hayabusa 2, carrying the first extensive samples of dust from the asteroid Ryugu. The mission builds on the original Hayabusa mission that was launched in 2003 and successfully linked up with asteroid Itokawa in 2005. It returned samples to Earth in 2010 marking the first time when sample materials from an asteroid were brought back to Earth. Trojans are asteroids that share an orbit with a larger planet, but do not collide with it because they gather around two special places in the orbit (called the L4 and L5 Lagrangian points). There, the gravitational pull from the sun and the planet are balanced.

9. Ans) (b)

Explanation

Vittala Temple was built in the 15th century during the rule of Devaraya II, one of the rulers of the Vijayanagara Empire. The temple is dedicated to Vittala and is also called Vijaya Vittala Temple. Vittala is said to be an incarnation of Lord Vishnu. Dravidian style adorns the built of the complex, which is further enhanced with elaborate carvings. Dravidian architecture survives in the rest of Southern India spread through the patronage of the Vijayanagara rulers. Vijayanagara architecture is also known for its

adoption of elements of Indo Islamic Architecture in secular buildings like the Queen's Bath and the Elephant Stables, representing a highly evolved multi-religious and multi-ethnic society.

10. Ans) (a)

Explanation

The International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) aims to build the world's largest tokamak to prove the feasibility of fusion as a large-scale and carbon-free source of energy. The tokamak is an experimental machine designed to harness the energy of fusion. Inside a tokamak, the energy produced through the fusion of atoms is absorbed as heat in the walls of the vessel. Like a conventional power plant, a fusion power plant uses this heat to produce steam and then electricity by way of turbines and generators. International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) is a collaboration of 35 nations launched in 1985. It is located in France.