



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 09-11-2020

EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

In a significant victory for India at the United Nations, Indian diplomat Vidisha Maitra was elected to the UN Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly. The 193-member General Assembly appoints members of the Advisory Committee. Members are selected on the basis of broad geographical representation, personal qualifications and experience. The Fifth Committee of the General Assembly, which deals with administrative and budgetary issues, recommended Maitra to the Assembly for a three-year term beginning January 1, 2021. The victory comes as India gets ready to sit in the UN Security Council as a non-permanent member for a two-year term beginning January 2021. ACABQ consists of 16 members appointed by the Assembly in their individual capacity. ACABQ ensures that fund contributions to the UN system are put to good effect and that mandates are properly funded. The major functions of the Advisory Committee are to examine and report on the budget submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly and to advise the General Assembly concerning any administrative and budgetary matters referred to it.

2. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

Democrat Joe Biden has been declared the winner of the 2020 US presidential election, defeating Donald Trump, to become the 46th President of the United States. With the declaration of Joe Biden as the President-Elect based on the projections of the electoral votes, Democratic Party candidate Kamala Harris has also secured her position as the first woman to be the Vice President of the USA. Ms. Harris, is also credited to be the first woman of Indian-American and African-American origin to be a member of the United States Senate. The Electoral College representatives elected by the popular votes will cast their votes to officially elect the new president on the 14th of next month. The new president will thereafter assume office on the 20th of January next year after the inauguration ceremony. Amidst the ongoing electoral process, Republican Candidate Donald Trump has challenged the lengthy process of counting mail ballots across many key states. Raising serious allegations, the Trump campaign team has also filed legal suits against the process in the States of Pennsylvania, Nevada and Arizona among others.

3. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

Ministry of Labour and Employment said that submitting claims through Affidavit Form is now no longer required under Atal Beemit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana (ABVKY) of Employees' State Insurance Corporation-ESIC. Atal Bimit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana is a welfare measure being implemented by the Employee's State Insurance (ESI) Corporation. It offers cash compensation to insured persons when they are rendered unemployed. The scheme provides relief to the extent of 50% of the average per day earning during the previous four contribution periods (total earning during the four contribution period/730) to be paid up to maximum 90 days of unemployment once in lifetime of the Insured Person. The Scheme was introduced w.e.f. 01-07-2018. The ESI Corporation in its meeting held in August this year had extended the Atal Beemit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana' from 1st of July, 2020 to 30th June,2021.

4. Ans) (a)

Explanation :

The Prime Minister Modi said that the Government of India is changing the name of the Ministry of Shipping and it will be known as the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways. In most of the developed economies, the Shipping Ministry is also responsible for Ports and Waterways. In India, the Shipping Ministry has been doing a lot of work related to Ports and Waterways. Sagarmala Project is an initiative of Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways

5. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

World Science Day for Peace and Development will be observed on 10 November. Celebrated every 10 November, World Science Day for Peace and Development highlights the significant role of science in society and the need to engage the wider public in debates on emerging scientific issues. 2020 Theme: This year, at a time when the world is struggling with the global COVID-19 pandemic, the focus of World Science Day is on "Science for and with Society in dealing with the global pandemic." The organization of a focused event related to the commitment to science and society was one of the positive outcomes of the 1999 World Conference on Science in Budapest. It was considered an opportunity to reaffirm each year the commitment to attaining the goals proclaimed in the Declaration on Science and the Use of Scientific Knowledge and to follow up the recommendations of the Science Agenda: Framework for Action. It was proclaimed by UNESCO in 2001 and was first celebrated worldwide on 10 November 2002.

6. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

Chinese President Xi Jinping instructed officials to expedite the construction of the new USD 47.8 billion

railway projects connecting the country's southwest Sichuan province to Linzhi in Tibet close to the Indian border in Arunachal Pradesh, saying it would play a key role in safeguarding stability in the border areas. The Sichuan-Tibet Railway will be the second railway line into Tibet after the Qinghai-Tibet Railway project. It will go through the southeast of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, one of the world's most geologically active areas. The Sichuan-Tibet Railway starts from Chengdu, capital of Sichuan province and travels through Ya'an and enters Tibet via Qamdo, shortening the journey from Chengdu to Lhasa from 48 hours to 13 hours. Linzhi, also known as Nyingchi, is located close to the Arunachal Pradesh border. The India-China border dispute covers the 3,488-km-long Line of Actual Control, the de-facto border between the two countries. China claims Arunachal Pradesh as part of south Tibet which is firmly rejected by India.

7. Ans) (b)

Explanation

The Kepler mission was named in honor of 17th-century German astronomer Johannes Kepler, who discovered the laws of planetary motion. The Kepler Mission was launched in 2009 on a three-and-a-half year mission to monitor 1,50,000 stars in a patch of sky in the Milky Way. It was NASA's first planet-hunting mission, it discovered more than 2,600 of around 3,800 exoplanets. It looked for tiny dips in starlight caused by an exoplanet passing in front of its home star. Kepler's formal goal was to measure a number called eta-Earth: the fraction of sunlike stars that have an Earth-size object orbiting them in the "goldilocks" or habitable zone, where it is warm enough for the surface to retain liquid water. Kepler is succeeded by NASA's Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite, or TESS, which was launched in April 2018. TESS is the new planet hunter for NASA.

8. Ans) (c)

Explanation

The Protected Areas in Arunachal Pradesh are:

Pakke Tiger Reserve

Talle Wildlife Sanctuary

Dihang Dibang Biosphere Reserve

Eagle Nest Wildlife Sanctuary

Namdapha Tiger Reserve

Mouling National Park

Sessa Orchid Sanctuary

The Orang National Park is a national park in India located on the northern bank of the Brahmaputra River in the Udalguri and Sonitpur districts of Assam.

9. Ans) (a)

Explanation

According to historians, the first Sikh Guru (Guru Nanak Dev) had arrived in Kartarpur between 1520 and 1522, and spent the last 18 years of his life there. It was in Kartarpur where he laid the foundations of a Sikh religion. The Kartarpur corridor connects the Darbar Sahib Gurdwara in Narowal district of Pakistan with the Dera Baba Nanak shrine in Gurdaspur district Punjab, India. The corridor was built in 2019 to commemorate the 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev, founder of Sikhism.

10. Ans) (c)

Explanation

National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) is an umbrella organisation for all retail payments systems in India. It was set up with the guidance and support of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Indian Banks' Association (IBA). Objectives:

To consolidate and integrate the existing multiple systems into a nation-wide uniform and standard business process for all retail payment systems. To facilitate an affordable payment mechanism to benefit the common man across the country and propel financial inclusion