



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 09-03-2021

EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

It is common to see politicians often going to different Sattras to seek blessings or extolling the virtues of Sankardeva, especially in the run-up to elections. About Sattras: Sattras are monastic institutions created as part of the 16th century Neo-Vaishnavite reformist movement started by Vaishnavite saint-reformer Srimanta Sankaradeva (1449-1596). These Sattras/Thans were established as centres of religious, social and cultural reforms in the 16th century across Assam. Sattras promulgate Sankardeva's unique "worship through art" approach with music (borgeet), dance (xattriya) and theatre (bhauna). Each Sattra has a naamghar (worship hall) as its nucleus and is headed by an influential "Sattradhikar". Monks, known as bhakats, are inducted into Sattras at a young age. They may or may not be celibate, depending on the kind of Sattra they are inducted into. What is Sankardeva's philosophy? Sankardeva propagated a form of Bhakti called eka-sharana-naam-dhrama, and espoused a society based on equality and fraternity, free from caste differences, orthodox Brahmanical rituals and sacrifices. His teaching focused on prayer and chanting (naam) instead of idol worship. His dharma was based on the four components of deva (god), naam (prayers), bhakats (devotees), and guru (teacher).

2. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

The Delhi High Court has set up a special committee to find a time-bound solution on ways to provide treatment and therapy options to patients suffering from rare diseases. The committee has been asked to give "immediate concrete proposals for crowdfunding of the costs of treatment for children with rare diseases". What's the issue? The High Court's direction came while hearing a bunch of petitions filed by patients suffering from rare diseases such as Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD) and Hunter's syndromes seeking direction to the government to provide them uninterrupted free treatment in view of the exorbitant cost of treatment. DMD is a condition that causes progressive muscle degeneration and weakness in the victim. Hunter's syndromes is a rare disease that is passed on in families. It mostly affects boys and their bodies cannot break down a kind of sugar that builds bones, skin, tendons, and other tissues. What is a rare disease? A rare disease, also referred to as an orphan disease, is any disease that affects a small percentage of the population. Most rare diseases are genetic, and are present throughout a person's entire life, even if symptoms do not immediately appear.

3. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

China recently warned the Biden administration to roll back former President Donald Trump's "dangerous practice" of showing support for Taiwan. China has also warned Taiwan that any attempt to seek independence "means war". What's the issue? China sees democratic Taiwan as a breakaway province, but Taiwan sees itself as a sovereign state, with its own constitution, military, and elected leaders. China- Taiwan relations- Background: China has claimed Taiwan through its "one China" policy since the Chinese civil war forced the defeated Kuomintang, or Nationalist, to flee to the island in 1949 and has vowed to bring it under Beijing's rule, by force if necessary. China is Taiwan's top trading partner, with trade totaling \$226 billion in 2018. Taiwan runs a large trade surplus with China. While Taiwan is self-governed and de facto independent, it has never formally declared independence from the mainland. Under the "one country, two systems" formula, Taiwan would have the right to run its own affairs; a similar arrangement is used in Hong Kong. Taiwan is a member of the World Trade Organization, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation and Asian Development Bank under various names. Indo- Taiwan relations: Although they do not have formal diplomatic ties, Taiwan and India have been cooperating in various fields. India has refused to endorse the "one-China" policy since 2010.

4. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

In a recently held referendum, Switzerland has narrowly voted in favour of banning face coverings in public, including the burka or niqab worn by Muslim women. Exceptions: The places where the full facial coverings will be allowed include places of worship and other sacred sites. Besides, it will be allowed for health and safety reasons and also in situations where it is "local custom" such as carnivals. Background: Swiss people are given a direct say in their own affairs under the country's system of direct democracy. They are regularly invited to vote on various issues in national or regional referendums. First European Country to ban: France was the first country in Europe to ban burqas and niqabs in public places in 2011.

5. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

The bridge 'Maitri Setu' has been built over the Feni river which flows between the Indian boundary in Tripura State and Bangladesh. The construction was taken up by the National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd at a project cost of Rs. 133 Crores. The 1.9 km long bridge joins Sabroom in India with Ramgarh in Bangladesh.

6. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Indian Medicines Pharmaceutical Corporation Limited (IMPCL) has tied up with the Government e-Market (GeM) portal for selling its products online. Key takeaways GeM has created 31 categories under which IMPCL can upload medicines on the Portal. Now, the Ayurvedic and Unani medicines will figure on the portal to hundreds of government sector buyers. The prices are finalised by Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure. IMPCL is the public sector manufacturing unit of the Ministry of AYUSH. It is the only CPSE under Ministry of AYUSH.

7. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

The Indian Naval Ships, INS Sumedha—an indigenously build Offshore Patrol vessel, and INS Kulish—an indigenously built guided missile corvette, are on three day visit to the historic port town of Mongla in Bangladesh. They are the first ships of India to visit the port town.

8. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

India's first-ever 'Transgender Community Desk' has been launched by the Cyberabad Police at the Gachibowli Police Station in Hyderabad, Telangana. The 'Transgender Community Desk' is first-of-its-kind gender-inclusive community policing initiatives in the country as well as world's first-ever help desk for the transgender community.

9. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Virtual Summit was held between India and Sweden Bilateral issues and other regional and multilateral issues of mutual interest were discussed. The two countries expressed satisfaction at the implementation of the Joint Action Plan and Joint Innovation Partnership These were agreed during Indian Prime Minister's visit to Sweden for India-Nordic Summit in 2018. Sweden's decision to join the International Solar Alliance (ISA) was also welcomed. The growing membership the Leadership Group on Industry Transition (LeadIT) was appreciated. LeadIT was launched during the UN Climate Action Summit in September 2019 in New York. The Nordic Region consists of Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Iceland, as well as the Faroe Islands, Greenland, and Åland.

10. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

A three-member panel constituted by the Orissa High Court made a field trip to the Gahirmatha marine sanctuary to assess the measures taken for the conservation of endangered olive ridley sea turtles. According to an environment magazine's report, 800 olive ridley turtles died since January due to

negligence of the States Forest and Fisheries department. The olive ridley turtles turn up in millions for mass nesting along the Odisha coast every year. Gahirmatha beach off Bay of Bengal coast in Odisha is acclaimed as the world's largest nesting ground of these turtles.