



# EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

## DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 17-04-2021

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### EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

The Economist Intelligence Unit(EIU), in partnership with Facebook, has released the Inclusive Internet Index 2021, which measure the extent to which internet is available and affordable by region, and highlights additional insight into how people around the world are using the web.

2. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

India's one of the largest crypto currency exchange, WazirX has launched India's first marketplace for Non-Fungible Tokens (NFT).

3. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Several types of coronavirus vaccination records, sometimes called "vaccine passports," already exist, in paper and digital form. Hundreds of airlines, governments and other organizations are experimenting with them. What is a "vaccine passport?" It is an electronic record of vaccination, possibly in the form of a QR code, that is easily accessible through a smartphone or possibly stored on the device, though it could also be printed out. It is mostly used for International travel. In February 2021, Israel became the first country to introduce a certification system that allows those who have been vaccinated against Covid-19 to access certain facilities and events.

Challenges and criticisms:

World Health Organisation (WHO) is against the introduction of Covid-19 vaccination proofs as a requirement for international travel. There are still critical unknown facts regarding the efficacy of vaccination in reducing transmission. There is also the lack of uniformity across jurisdictions in requirement and issuance of proofs of vaccination. Preferential vaccination of travellers could result in inadequate supplies of vaccines for priority populations considered at high risk of severe Covid-19 disease. There is a possibility that they would be used by authorities to track the movement of their holders. This may give rise to privacy concerns.

4. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

Odisha has released the final data on the dolphin census. Key findings: The population of dolphins in Chilika, India's largest brackish water lake, and along the Odisha coast has doubled this year compared with last year. Three species were recorded during the census, with 544 Irrawaddy, bottle-nose and humpback dolphins sighted this year, compared with 233 last year. The rise in the Irrawaddy dolphin population in Chilika can be attributed to the eviction of illegal fish enclosures.

About Irrawaddy dolphins: Found in coastal areas in South and Southeast Asia, and in three rivers: the Irrawaddy (Myanmar), the Mahakam (Indonesian Borneo) and the Mekong (China). They are 'Endangered' as per the IUCN Red List.

5. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

Also called the Thwaites Glacier, it is located in Antarctica. The melting of this glacier has long been a cause of concern because of its high potential of speeding up the global sea level rise happening due to climate change. It is 120 km wide at its broadest. Because of its size (1.9 lakh square km), it contains enough water to raise the world sea level by more than half a metre.

6. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

It is a river in Meghalaya.

It is considered to be India's clearest river. The river attracts many tourists to Dawki bordering Bangladesh. The river is the natural boundary between Ri Pnar (of Jaintia Hills) with Hima Khyrim (of Khasi Hills). There is a stiff resistance from at least 12 villages in Meghalaya on a 210 MW hydroelectric project on Umngot.

7. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

The SC said that people are free to choose their religion and it lashed out at a petition claiming there is mass religious conversion happening "by hook or by crook" across the country. It said that people have a right under the Constitution to profess, practise and propagate religion. Article 25: It grants Fundamental right to freely profess, practise and propagate religion, subject to public order, morality and health. Every person is the final judge of his/her choice of religion or who their life partner should be. Courts cannot sit in judgment of a person's choice of religion or life partner. Religious faith is a part of the fundamental right to privacy. The Constitution Bench judgment had earlier upheld inviolability of the right to privacy, equating it with the rights to life, of dignity and liberty.

8. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

SAAMAR (Strategic Action for Alleviation of Malnutrition and Anemia Reduction) campaign has been launched by Jharkhand government to tackle malnutrition in the state.

Key takeaways

The campaign aims to identify anaemic women and malnourished children and converge various departments to effectively deal with the problem. It has a 1000 days target, under which annual surveys will be conducted to track the progress. To tackle severe acute malnutrition children, every Anganwadi Centres will be engaged to identify these children and subsequently will be treated at the Malnutrition Treatment Centres. In the same process the anaemic women will also be listed and will be referred to health centres in serious cases. Angawadi's Sahayika and Sevika will take them to the nearest Health Centre where they will be checked again and then registered on the portal of State Nutrition Mission.

9. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Skymet (a private weather forecast company) Weather report: The monsoon is likely to be 103% of the long period average (LPA) this year. The LPA refers to the average all-India monsoon rainfall of 88 cm, which is a 50-year mean. The odds of an El Nino, characterised by a heating of the equatorial central Pacific over half a degree, are low this year. Currently, the Pacific is in a [converse] La Nina mode. The plains of North India, along with a few parts of northeast India, are at risk of being rain deficient through the season. The Indian Ocean Dipole, characterised by a temperature gradient in the western and eastern Indian Ocean, is expected to be slightly on the negative. A positive dipole usually aids the monsoon. The monsoon in 2019 and 2020 was only the third time in a century of back-to-back years of above normal rainfall (rainfall that is 5% above normal, or 105%) during the season in India. What is Indian Ocean Dipole? It is an atmosphere-ocean coupled phenomenon in the tropical Indian Ocean (like the El Nino is in the tropical Pacific), characterised by a difference in sea-surface temperatures.

Key features:

IOD is the difference between the temperature of eastern (Bay of Bengal) and the western Indian Ocean (Arabian Sea). This temperature difference results into pressure difference which results in flowing of winds between eastern and western parts of Indian Ocean. A 'positive IOD' — or simply 'IOD' — is associated with cooler than normal sea-surface temperatures in the eastern equatorial Indian Ocean and warmer than normal sea-surface temperatures in the western tropical Indian Ocean. The opposite phenomenon is called a 'negative IOD', and is characterised by warmer than normal SSTs in the eastern equatorial Indian Ocean and cooler than normal SSTs in the western tropical Indian Ocean.

10. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

Sushil Chandra has assumed charge as the 24th chief election commissioner of India. About Election commission of India: The constitution under article 324 provides for an Election Commission for the superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of the electoral rolls for the conduct of elections to parliament, state legislatures and to the offices of president and vice president. Composition Election commission of India: The constitution provides for the following provisions in relation to the composition of the election commission: The election commission shall consist of the Chief Election Commissioner and a such number of other election commissioners, if any, as the president may from time to time fix. The appointment of the chief election commissioner and other election commissioners shall be made by the president. When any other election commissioner is so appointed the chief election commissioner shall act as the chairman of the election commission. The president may also appoint after consultation with the election commission such regional commissioners as he may consider necessary to assist the election commission. The conditions of service and tenure of office of the election commissioners and the regional commissioners shall be such as the President may by rule determine. The Chief Election Commissioner and other election commissioners hold office for 6 years or till they attain the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier. They can resign at any time by addressing their resignation to the president.