



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 01-04-2021

EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

India's First Indo-Korean Friendship Park was jointly inaugurated by Republic of Korea and India at Delhi Cantonment. It is in Delhi Cantonment. The park is significant for it being a symbol of strong India-South Korea friendly relations. It is also a monument to India's contributions as part of 21 countries which participated in Korean war 1950-53, under the aegis of the UN. One of the pillars in the park encompasses Nobel Laureate Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore's narration of Korea as "The Lamp of the East" which was published in Korean daily "Dong-A-Ilbo" in 1929.

2. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

The Heart of Asia – Istanbul Process (HoA-IP) is an initiative of Afghanistan and Turkey, which was officially launched at a conference hosted by Turkey in Istanbul in 2011. Since then, Afghanistan supported by 14 Participating Countries of the Heart of Asia Region, 16 Supporting Countries beyond the region and 12 Regional and International Organizations are leading and coordinating this Process. It is a platform for promoting regional security, economic and political cooperation centred on Afghanistan through dialogue and a set of Confidence Building Measures (CBMs). De facto Secretariat: The Directorate General for Regional Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan The geographical area covering the 15 Participating Countries of the HoA-IP is defined as the Heart of Asia Region. It is one of the biggest regions in the world with a collective geographical area covering around 27% of the land area of the Earth.

3. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

India abstained from voting on a resolution in the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) that makes a wide-ranging and damaging commentary on the human rights situation in Sri Lanka. Resolution 46/L1 has decided, among other things, to "strengthen" the Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights to collect evidence and develop possible strategies for future accountability processes for gross violations of human rights in Sri Lanka. It refers to "persistent" lack of accountability for rights abuses committed through the years by "all parties" in Sri Lanka. Most seriously, it expresses a lack of

confidence in the ability of the present government to address the shortcomings. Among the 14 countries that abstained were Japan, Indonesia, Bahrain and Nepal. Among the 11 that voted against were China, Cuba, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Russia, and Venezuela.

4. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

The Global Wind Energy Council, GWEC was established in 2005. It provides credible and representative form for the complete wind energy industry on an international scale.

The 93 GW of new installations across the world has brought global cumulative wind power capacity up to 743 GW. China and the US remained the world's largest markets for new onshore additions.

5. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

The Indian Navy is scheduled to participate in France-led naval drill named "La Perouse", which will be held from April 5 to 7, 2021 in the Bay of Bengal. The participating nations also include the other Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD) member countries namely Australia, Japan and the United States of America (USA).

6. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

A public interest litigation has been filed in the Supreme Court seeking declaration of 26 verses of the Quran as unconstitutional, non-effective and non-functional on the ground that these promote extremism and terrorism and pose a serious threat to the sovereignty, unity and integrity of the country. Can such a belief be protected under freedom of religion? Certainly not, as freedom of religion under Article 25 is subject to public order, health, morality and other fundamental rights. No one can take away anybody's life as it would be contrary to Article 21, which guarantees right to life and personal liberty to everyone.

What's the issue now? The petitioner has named three secretaries of the Centre as respondents. But, in purely legal terms, the writ jurisdiction lies against the "state" and all these persons named as respondents are certainly not 'state' within the meaning of Article 12 of the Constitution. Also, Under Indian law, only a "law" can be challenged as unconstitutional (Defined under Article 13(3)). Any religious scripture including the Quran is not considered a law. The divine books can be sources of law but not law in themselves.

7. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Chief Justice of India (CJI) S A Bobde recently lauded Goa's Uniform Civil Code, and encouraged

“intellectuals” indulging in “academic talk” to visit the state to learn more about it. UCC in Goa applies in marriage and succession, governing all Goans irrespective of religious affiliation.

Background:

Whereas the founders of the Constitution in Article 44 in Part IV dealing with the Directive Principles of State Policy had hoped and expected that the State shall endeavour to secure for the citizens a Uniform Civil Code throughout the territories of India, till date no action has been taken in this regard. What is uniform civil code? A generic set of governing laws for every citizen without taking into consideration the religion. What the constitution says? Article 44 of the Constitution says that there should be a Uniform Civil Code. According to this article, “The State shall endeavor to secure for the citizens a uniform civil code throughout the territory of India”. Since the Directive Principles are only guidelines, it is not mandatory to use them. Indian laws do follow a uniform code in most civil matters – Indian Contract Act, Civil Procedure Code, Sale of Goods Act, Transfer of Property Act, Partnership Act, Evidence Act etc. States, however, have made hundreds of amendments and therefore in certain matters, there is diversity even under these secular civil laws.

8. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

People of Indian origin and the Indian diaspora having Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) cards will not have to carry their old, expired passports for travel to India, as was required earlier, according to a government notification. Who are OCI cardholders? Government of India launched the ‘Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) Scheme’ by making amendments to Citizenship Act, 1955 in 2005 On 09 January 2015, the Government of India discontinued the PIO card and merged it with OCI card.

Exceptions:

Anyone who is applying for OCI card should hold a valid Passport of another country. Individuals who do not have citizenship of any other country are not eligible to gain an OCI status. Individuals whose parents or grandparents hold citizenship of Pakistan and Bangladesh are not eligible to apply.

9. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

In a complaint against Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Trinamool Congress has alleged that his recent tour of Bangladesh amounts to a violation of the model code of conduct. Mr. Modi visited Bangladesh to participate in the 50th anniversary of the Independence of Bangladesh and the birth centenary of ‘Bangabandhu’ Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on March 26.

What is MCC?

These are the guidelines issued by the Election Commission of India for conduct of political parties and candidates during elections mainly with respect to speeches, polling day, polling booths, election

manifestos, processions and general conduct. This is in keeping with Article 324 of the Constitution, which mandates EC to conduct free and fair elections to the Parliament and State Legislatures.

Aim: To ensure free and fair elections. When it comes into force? So far, the Model Code of Conduct came into force immediately on announcement of the election schedule by the commission. The Code remains in force till the end of the electoral process.

10. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Finance and Corporate Affairs Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has urged the New Development Bank (NDB) to consider working closely with India's new development financing institution for funding infrastructure.

Background:

NDB has so far approved 18 projects in India, including emergency loans of \$2 billion to support health spending and economic recovery in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic.

About NDB:

It is a multilateral development bank operated by the BRICS states (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa). It was agreed to by BRICS leaders at the 5th BRICS summit held in Durban, South Africa in 2013. It was established in 2014, at the 6th BRICS Summit at Fortaleza, Brazil. The bank is set up to foster greater financial and development cooperation among the five emerging markets. Headquartered in Shanghai, China. In 2018, the NDB received observer status in the United Nations General Assembly, establishing a firm basis for active and fruitful cooperation with the UN.

Voting:

Unlike the World Bank, which assigns votes based on capital share, in the New Development Bank each participant country will be assigned one vote, and none of the countries will have veto power.