



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 04-06-2021

EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Delegates at the 74th World Health Assembly unanimously adopted a proposal by the United Arab Emirates. to declare January 30 as ‘World Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTD) Day’.

What are Neglected Tropical Diseases?

They are infections that are most common among marginalised communities in the developing regions of Africa, Asia and the Americas. Caused by a variety of pathogens such as viruses, bacteria, protozoa and parasitic worms. They generally receive less funding for research and treatment than malaises like tuberculosis, HIV-AIDS and malaria. Some examples include snakebite envenomation, scabies, yaws, trachoma, Leishmaniasis and Chagas disease. The WHO’s new road map for 2021–2030 calls for three strategic shifts to end NTDs:

From measuring process to measuring impact.

From disease-specific planning and programming to collaborative work across sectors.

From externally driven agendas reliant to programmes that are country-owned and country-financed.

Why was January 30 chosen?

It was on this day that the London Declaration on NTDs was adopted, January 30, 2012. The first World NTD Day was celebrated informally in 2020.

2. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

The Defence Ministry has notified the second negative import list — now renamed as the ‘positive indigenisation list’ — of 108 items that can now be only purchased from indigenous sources. The new list takes the total number on the list to 209. The list comprises complex systems, sensors, simulator, weapons and ammunitions like helicopters, next generation corvettes, Air Borne Early Warning and Control (AEW&C) systems, tank engines.

Significance and implications of this move:

Recognises the potential of local defence industry. Invigorate impetus to domestic Research and Development by attracting fresh investment into technology and manufacturing capabilities. Provides an excellent opportunity for ‘start-ups’ as also Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

What is the negative imports list policy?

Introduced in August 2020, the negative list essentially means that the Armed Forces—Army, Navy and

Air Force—will only procure such items from domestic manufacturers. The manufacturers could be private sector players or Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs).

Why was this policy needed? What will be the impacts?

As per Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, India has been the second largest importer between 2014 and 2019 with US\$ 16.75 billion worth of imports during this period. The government wants to reduce the dependence on imported items in defence and give a shot in the arm to the domestic defence manufacturing industry. By denying the possibility of importing the items on the negative list, the domestic industry is given the opportunity to step up and manufacture them for the needs of the forces.

3. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

Several thousand Rohingya recently staged “unruly” protests against living conditions on Bhashan Char—a cyclone-prone island off Bangladesh.

What’s the issue?

Since December, Bangladesh has shifted 18,000 refugees to the low-lying silt island of Bhashan Char from the mainland Bangladesh, where around 8,50,000 people live in squalid and cramped conditions.

What’s the main concern now?

Bhasan Char (Floating Island) also known as Char Piya or Thengar Char Island, is an island in Hatiya, Bangladesh. The island was formed from a build-up of silt in the Bay of Bengal only 20 years ago, and concerns have been consistently raised about Bhasan Char’s exposure to extreme weather and distance from the mainland in emergencies.

4. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

Leading cooperative society, IFFCO has launched the world’s first “Nano Urea” for farmers across the world. The indigenously developed “Nano Urea” will be in liquid form. The production of the urea will begin from June 2021.

5. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) has organised three-part series of multilateral military exercises, dubbed as Steadfast Defender 2021, to test NATO’s readiness and military mobility. The exercise will be taking place in the Atlantic and Europe, and into the Black Sea region.

6. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

The UN health agency, World Health Organisation (WHO), has given easy-to-say labels to two variants of the Covid-19, first found in India. The two variants are B.1.617.1 and B.1.617.2. The B.1.617.1 variant of the Covid 19 has been named as 'Kappa' while the B1.617.2 variant is named as 'Delta.'

7. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

SBI Ecowrap report on 'States' ranking on Covid management, macro parameters & central government schemes has been released recently by The State Bank of India's Economic Research Department.

States have been ranked on the basis of performance on three broad categories :

COVID Management, Macro Parameters (fiscal parameters and CPI) and performance of states on Central Government Schemes. North east is at the top while West Bengal and Chhatisgarh at bottom. For ranking SBI has combined North East into one.

8. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta launched Lamu Port, the country's newest mega infrastructure project. With its second deep-water port after Mombasa, Kenya is planning to become the go-to port for landlocked Ethiopia and South Sudan. The project is a part of the LAPSSET corridor which has been constructed by China Communications Construction Company.

9. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

A species of frog lives in the rainforests of New Guinea that appears to be made from chocolate. The cocoa-coloured frogs have turned out to be a new species. It is called *Litoria Mira*. It is an undescribed member of the Australian *Litoria* genus of tree frogs. *Litoria mira* can be distinguished from all other *Litoria* by its unique combination of moderately large size, webbing on hand, short limbs, and small violet patch of skin on the edge of its eyes. The island of New Guinea is separated from the 'horn' of Queensland by the Torres Strait.

10. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

A virtual program organised on the occasion of World Milk Day was chaired by Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying. 1st June is observed as World Milk Day every year. On the occasion, the launch of Gopal Ratna Awards were announced. E-Gopala App will be integrated with UMANG platform and users of Umang platform will get access to App. e-GOPALA app (Generation of wealth through Productive Livestock) is a comprehensive breed improvement marketplace and

information portal for direct use of farmers. Milk sector in India India is the world's largest milk producer and accounts for over one-fifth of the global milk production. Other major producers: USA, China, Pakistan and Brazil. Value of output of milk is more than the value of output of wheat and paddy together.