



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 04-03-2021

EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

The Election Commission has said it had reduced the public notice period for new political parties seeking registration from 30 days to seven days due to the delays caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The relaxation in notice period would remain in force till the last dates of nomination for the Assam, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Puducherry and West Bengal elections, that is March 19 and April 7 respectively. According to guidelines, the applicants are supposed to publish the proposed name of their party in two national and local daily newspapers each on two days, seeking objections, if any, within 30 days. Registration of political parties: Registration of Political parties is governed by the provisions of Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951. A party seeking registration under the said Section with the Election Commission has to submit an application to the Commission within the said period following the date of its formation as per guidelines prescribed by the Election Commission of India in exercise of the powers conferred by Article 324 of the Commission of India and Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

2. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

In 2013, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) proclaimed 3 March – the day of signature of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in 1973 – as UN World Wildlife Day to celebrate and raise awareness of the world's wild animals and plants. The UNGA resolution also designated the CITES Secretariat as the facilitator for the global observance of World Wildlife Day. Theme this year: “Forests and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Planet”.

About CITES: The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) is an international regulatory treaty between 183 party states. Formed in 1973 and regulates the international trade in over 35,000 wild species of plants and animals. The focus of the convention is not solely on the protection of species. It also promotes controlled trade that is not detrimental to the sustainability of wild species. How does CITES work? The convention works primarily through a system of classification and licensing. Wild species are categorised in Appendices I to III. This often reflects species' threat status on the Red List of the IUCN, the International Union for Conservation of Nature's Red List of Threatened Species first created in 1964. Appendix I prohibits trade in species classified as highly endangered. Appendix II allows trade under very specific conditions. This requires exporting

countries obtain a permit, but not the importing country. Appendix III species require only a certificate of origin to be traded. National CITES management authorities may issue permits once scientific authorities show non-detriment findings. CITES is legally binding on state parties to the convention, which are obliged to adopt their own domestic legislation to implement its goals.

3. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

The National Board for Wildlife and Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change last month included the caracal, a medium-sized wildcat found in parts of Rajasthan and Gujarat, in the list of critically endangered species. The recovery programme for critically endangered species in India now includes 22 wildlife species. About Caracal: Besides India, the caracal is found in several dozen countries across Africa, the Middle East, Central and South Asia. While it flourishes in parts of Africa, its numbers in Asia are declining. The wildcat has long legs, a short face, long canine teeth, and distinctive ears — long and pointy, with tufts of black hair at their tips. The iconic ears are what give the animal its name — caracal comes from the Turkish *karakulak*, meaning ‘black ears’. In India, it is called *siya gosh*, a Persian name that translates as ‘black Ear’. About the Species Recovery Programme: It is one of the three components of the Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats (IDWH). IDWH was started in 2008-09 as a Centrally sponsored Scheme. It is meant for providing support to protected areas (national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, conservation reserves and community reserves except tiger reserves), protection of wildlife outside protected areas and recovery programmes for saving critically endangered species and habitats.

4. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

The share of cess and surcharge in the gross tax revenue (GTR) of the Centre has almost doubled to 19.9% in 2020-21 from 10.4% in 2011-12, leading to the 15th Finance Commission (FC) recommending a higher grant-in-aid and lower tax devolution to the States, as per a report. What is cess? It is a form of tax levied or collected by the government for the development or welfare of a particular service or sector. It is charged over and above direct and indirect taxes. Cess collected for a particular purpose cannot be used for or diverted to other purposes. It is not a permanent source of revenue for the government, and it is discontinued when the purpose levying it is fulfilled. Currently, the cess and surcharge collected by the Centre are not part of the tax devolution. What is Surcharge? ‘Surcharge’ is an additional charge or tax levied on an existing tax. Unlike a cess, which is meant to raise revenue for a temporary need, surcharge is usually permanent in nature. It is levied as a percentage on the income tax payable as per normal rates. In case no tax is due for a financial year, then no surcharge is levied. The revenue earned via surcharge is solely retained by the Centre and, unlike other tax revenues, is not shared with States. Collections from

surcharge flow into the Consolidated Fund of India.

5. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

It is a Himalayan mammal, somewhere between a goat and an antelope. It has been confirmed as the newest creature to be spotted in Assam. It was spotted in the 950-sq.km Manas Tiger Reserve on December 3. Categorized as 'vulnerable' in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. It is listed under Schedule I of The Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, which provides absolute protection.

6. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

Some villages in Nagaland are trying to revive a traditional form of punishment to reduce crime. Khujli ghar is a cramped, triangular cage made from the logs of Masang-fung. Masang-fung is a local tree that causes irritation. Social offenders of Naga customary laws dread this punishment due to humiliation within the community. Such itchy cages are referred to as khujli ghar in Nagamese — a pidgin lingua franca — but each Naga community has its own name. The Aos, one of the major tribes of Nagaland, call it Shi-ki (flesh-house). The cage is usually placed at a central spot in the village, usually in front of the morung (bachelor's dormitory) for the inmate to be in full public view.

7. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

Swachhta Saarthi Fellowship was Recently launched. Launched by: The Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India under its "Waste to Wealth" Mission Aim: To recognize students, community workers/self-help groups, and municipal/sanitary workers who are engaged in tackling the enormous challenge of waste management, scientifically and sustainably. The Waste to Wealth Mission is one of the nine national missions of the Prime Minister's Science, Technology, and Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC). The three categories of awards under the fellowships are as below: Category-A – Open to School students from 9th to 12th standards engaged in waste management community work Category-B – Open to College students (UG, PG, Research students) engaged in waste management community work Category-C – Open to Citizens working in the community and through SHGs, municipal or sanitary workers working beyond specifications of their job requirement Up to 500 fellows will be recognised under the fellowship.

8. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

Indian Scientists at Aryabhata Research Institute of observational sciences (ARIES), Nainital, have

indigenously designed and developed a low-cost optical Spectrograph named as Aries-Devasthal Faint Object Spectrograph & Camera (ADFOSC).The ADFOSC spectroscope is the largest of its kind among the existing astronomical spectrographs in India.

9. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

The BJP-led Haryana government on Tuesday approved a bill that reserves 75 per cent jobs in private sector for the people of the state. The legislation was passed by the state assembly last year. The new law will provide 75 per cent reservation to local candidates applying to private sector jobs in the state that pay less than Rs 50,000 per month. The Haryana State Employment of Local Candidates Act, 2020 will apply to companies, societies, trusts, limited liability partnership firms, partnership firms etc. located across the state.

10. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Mobile Train Radio Communication (MTRC) System has been commissioned in Western Railway Trains in Mumbai. The Mobile Train Radio Communication system is an effective and a technologically advanced communication system. It can play an important role in preventing train accidents and reducing delays through effective communication.MTRC acts in a similar way to that of Air traffic control (ARC) for aircrafts. The system will monitor, track and aid in communication between the trains and the control room. This is the first time that MTRC is commissioned in Indian Railways. The new system has already been installed in 90 out of 100 rakes running between Churchgate and Virar.