



# EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

## DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 06-04-2021

### EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Some people may experience parosmia as a symptom of COVID-19. Affected individuals experience “distortions of the sense of smell”. A person with parosmia can detect certain odours, but they might experience the smell of certain things as different and often unpleasant. For instance, to someone with parosmia, coffee may smell like burnt toast. Parosmia is a temporary condition and is not harmful. Some common triggers: Roasted, toasted or grilled foods, coffee, onions, chocolate, garlic and eggs. It is likely that parosmia manifests itself due to the damage caused to the olfactory neurons when “the delicate and complex structure in the nose is attacked by a virus.”

2. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

Lake Baikal

Lake Baikal is a rift lake located in southern Siberia, Russia. It is the largest freshwater lake by volume in the world, containing 22 to 23% of the world’s fresh surface water. It is the seventh-largest lake in the world by surface area. Maximum depth: 1,642 m (5,387 ft)

- It is the world’s oldest (25–30 million years) and deepest lake.
- It has a long, crescent shape.
- The region to the east of Lake Baikal is referred to as Transbaikalia or as the Trans baikal.
- The loosely defined region around the lake itself is sometimes known as Baikalia.
- UNESCO declared Lake Baikal a World Heritage Site in 1996.

3. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

A new species of flowering plants belonging to the genus ‘Argyreia’, recently discovered in south Maharashtra’s Kolhapur district, has been named for NCP chief Sharad Pawar.

4. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

World Economic Forum has released the Global Gender Gap Report 2021. India specific findings:

Overall Ranking: India has fallen 28 places- it is now ranked 140 among 156 countries. Among Neighbours: It is now one of the worst performers in South Asia, trailing behind neighbours Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka and Myanmar. Political empowerment: India has declined on the political empowerment index as well by 13.5 percentage points. In the index of education attainment, India has been ranked at 114. India has fared the worst on “Health and Survival”, which includes the sex ratio, and economic participation of women. The estimated earned income of women in India is only one-fifth of men’s, which puts the country among the bottom 10 globally on this indicator. Global Scenario: For the 12th time, Iceland is the most gender-equal country in the world. The top 10 most gender-equal countries include Finland, Norway, New Zealand, Rwanda, Sweden, Ireland and Switzerland. Many countries have fared worse in this year’s rankings compared to last year’s, on account of economic performance. The gender gap in political empowerment remains the largest: women represent only 26.1 per cent of some 35,500 parliament seats and just 22.6 per cent of over 3,400 ministers worldwide. In 81 countries, there has never been a woman head of state, as of January 15, 2021. Bangladesh is “the only country where more women have held head-of-state positions than men in the past 50 years. The countries with the largest gender gaps in economic participation include Iran, India, Pakistan, Syria, Yemen, Iraq, and Afghanistan.

5. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

The U.S. and Iran will soon begin negotiations through intermediaries to try to get both countries back into an accord limiting Iran’s nuclear programme, nearly three years after President Donald Trump pulled the U.S. out of the deal. What’s the issue? Trump pulled the U.S. out of the accord in 2018. Besides, he opted for a “maximum pressure” campaign by imposing sanctions and other tough actions. Iran responded by intensifying its enrichment of uranium and building of centrifuges, while maintaining its insistence that its nuclear development was for civilian and not military purposes. Iran’s moves increased pressure on major world powers over the Trump administration’s sanctions and raised tensions among U.S. allies and strategic partners in West Asia. About the Iran Nuclear Deal: Also known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). The JCPOA was the result of prolonged negotiations from 2013 and 2015 between Iran and P5+1 (China, France, Germany, Russia, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the European Union, or the EU). Under the deal, Tehran agreed to significantly cut its stores of centrifuges, enriched uranium and heavy-water, all key components for nuclear weapons.

6. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

In a major push towards deep technology and driving the country to become a digitally transformed

nation, Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog has launched AIM-PRIME(programme for Researchers on Innovations, Market-Readiness & Entrepreneurship), a programme to promote and support science-based deep-tech startups & ventures across India.

7. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

Nasa's InSight lander has recorded over 500 quakes to date on Mars since its touch down on the Red Planet in November 2018. The two recent quakes of magnitude 3.3 and 3.1 originated in a region called Cerberus Fossae. These findings support the idea that the planet is seismically active. About InSight Mission: InSight is part of NASA's Discovery Program. It will be the first mission to peer deep beneath the Martian surface, studying the planet's interior by measuring its heat output and listening for marsquakes, which are seismic events similar to earthquakes on Earth. It will use the seismic waves generated by marsquakes to develop a map of the planet's deep interior. Significance of the mission: The findings of Mars' formation will help better understand how other rocky planets, including Earth, were and are created. InSight would delve deep beneath the surface of Mars, detecting the fingerprints of the processes of terrestrial planet formation, as well as measuring the planet's "vital signs": Its "pulse" (seismology), "temperature" (heat flow probe), and "reflexes" (precision tracking).

8. Ans) (d)

Explanation: 17th BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting was held virtually. India remains committed to further building the momentum of regional cooperation under the BIMSTEC framework.

Key takeaway BIMSTEC Convention on Cooperation in Combating International Terrorism, Transnational Organized Crime and illicit Drug Trafficking has come into force in March 2021. Also, BIMSTEC Convention on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters has been finalized for signing at the fifth BIMSTEC Summit. These Conventions will provide a robust legal basis to further strengthen our cooperation in this sector. BIMSTEC Centre for Weather and Climate, being hosted in India, is fully functional with state of the art facilities to provide Disaster Early Warning. The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) It is a regional organization comprising seven Member States lying in the areas of the Bay of Bengal. This organization came into being in 1997 through the Bangkok Declaration. Member States: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Myanmar and Thailand.

9. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

Minister of State for Ports, Shipping & Waterways (I/C) Mansukh Mandaviya flagged off the Cruise service from Hazira Port of Surat to Diu via video conferencing.

10. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

The Doumeira Islands are situated northeast of Djibouti and east of Eritrea near the Bab el-Mandeb in the Red Sea.