



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 09-08-2021

EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (a)

- India's star javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra won a historic gold medal in men's javelin throw at the Tokyo 2020 Games on August 07, 2021.
- Neeraj Chopra threw 58m in his second attempt to claim the yellow medal.
- This is the first gold medal for India at the ongoing Tokyo Olympics 2020 and the 7th medal overall.
- Chopra is the first athlete of independent India to win a gold medal in the track and field discipline.
- He is also the only second Indian to win gold in Olympic, after Abhinav Bindra, who claimed gold in the 10-meter air rifle event at the 2008 Summer Olympics at Beijing.

2. Ans) (c)

- On 5TH AUGUST, 2021, Bhutan's India assisted Mangdechhu Hydroelectric Project was conferred with the Brunel Medal awarded by the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE), London.
- The award is given as a mark of excellence in civil engineering within the industry and was handed over by the Indian envoy to Bhutan Ruchira Kamboj to Chairman, Mangdechhu Hydroelectric Project Authority Lyonpo Loknath Sharma.
- One of the reasons the Mangdechhu project was awarded was because of its social and environmental credentials.
- Ruchira Kamboj said, "The project will reduce 2.4 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions each year. Bhutan and India in the past have collectively resolved to increase the hydropower energy capacity of Bhutan to 12000 MW".
- The Brunel Medal is historically given to major projects and organizations from across the world.
- 2020 edition of the prize went to the Mangdechhu Hydroelectric Project – collaboration between Indian and Bhutanese governments.
- The 720 MW Mangdechhu Hydroelectric Power Project was inaugurated by PM Modi during his August 2019 visit to the country. The project will produce 720MW of clean electricity for millions and provide an additional 44% of electrical power generation on the hydro generation capacity of Bhutan.

3. Ans) (a)

'Ashwagandha' (Withaniasomnifera), commonly known as 'Indian winter cherry', is a traditional

Indian herb that boosts energy, reduces stress and makes the immune system stronger. It is an easily accessible, over-the-counter nutritional supplement in the U.K. and has a proven safety profile.

4. Ans) (b)

Rights and entitlements Under the Right of Persons with Disability Act:

- Responsibility has been cast upon the appropriate governments to take effective measures to ensure that the persons with disabilities enjoy their rights equally with others.

Statement 1 is incorrect:

- Additional benefits such as reservation in higher education (not less than 5%), government jobs (not less than 4 %), reservation in allocation of land, poverty alleviation schemes (5% allotment) etc. have been provided for persons with benchmark disabilities and those with high support needs.

Statement 2 is correct:

- Every child with benchmark disability between the age group of 6 and 18 years shall have the right to free education.
- Government funded educational institutions as well as the government recognized institutions will have to provide inclusive education to the children with disabilities.
- For strengthening the Prime Minister's Accessible India Campaign, stress has been given to ensure accessibility in public buildings (both Government and private) in a prescribed time-frame.

5. Ans) (a)

A 15-meter-tall tree that belongs to the genus of the coffee family has recently been discovered from the Andaman Islands. The discovery is unique as the species is a big tree and yet had not been recorded as a new species. • The new species, *Pyrostrialaljii*, is also the first record of the genus *Pyrostria* in India. Plants belonging to genus *Pyrostria* are usually found in Madagascar but the recently discovered species is new to science. • *Pyrostrialaljii* has been assessed as 'Critically Endangered' based on the International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) Red List criteria. • While the genus *Pyrostria* is not found in India, there are several genera from the family Rubiaceae that are common in India. These plants, including cinchona, coffee, adina, hamelia, ixora, galium, gardenia, mussaenda, rubia, morinda, have high potential for economic value. • The team also discovered a new species of pokeweed named *Rivinaandamanensis*.

6. Ans) (b)

- Scientists at Los Alamos National Laboratory in the United States have developed the first 3D map

of the heliosphere using data from NASA's Interstellar Boundary Explorer.

- Interstellar Boundary Explorer is an earth-orbiting satellite that keeps an eye on the interactions happening between our solar system and interstellar space.
- The heliosphere is a protective bubble created by the solar wind, a stream of mostly protons, electrons, and alpha particles that extends from the Sun into interstellar space and protects the Earth from harmful interstellar radiation.
- Using the data, astronomers were able to map the edge of our heliosphere - the heliopause. The heliopause is the area where a fierce interaction between interstellar space radiation and the solar wind happens.
- The solar winds colliding with interstellar space radiation pushes outwards while interstellar space radiation pushes the solar wind inwards.
- Solar winds are a constant stream of magnetic fields and particles released by the sun.

7. Ans) (c)

- Almost two years after the NMC Act was passed, the National Medical Commission has released draft guidelines on fixing fees in private and deemed medical colleges across the country.
- Once these norms are passed, fees for 50% MBBS and postgraduate medical seats in these colleges will be regulated.

8. Ans (c)

Explanation • The Centre has decided to give about ₹100 each to children studying in Class 1 to Class 8 in government schools, who are beneficiaries of Mid Day Meal scheme. • The money comes from the cooking cost component of the scheme and will be given to children through direct benefit transfer as a one-time payment. • The Central Government will provide additional funds of about Rs 1200 crore to State Governments and UT Administrations for this purpose. • This is in addition to the govt's announcement of free food grains distribution (5 Kg per person per month) to nearly 80 Crore beneficiaries under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PM-GKAY).

9. Ans) (a)

Explanation: The Prime Minister recently released the eighth instalment of the financial benefit under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM KISAN) scheme. As part of this instalment, more than Rs 19,000 crore was transferred in the bank accounts of over 9.5 crore beneficiary farmer families.

10. Ans) (a)

A total of 19 companies have filed their application under the Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI) for IT Hardware which was notified in March, 2021. Status Of IT Hardware Market • The market for IT Hardware is dominated by 6-7 companies globally which account for about 70% of the world's market share. • Currently, 80% of the laptop and tablet demand in the country is met through imports valued at Rs 29,470 crore (\$4.21 billion) and at Rs 2,870 crore (\$ 0.41 billion) respectively. • Due to the current global scenario, the world of manufacturing is undergoing a significant shift. • Manufacturing companies across the globe are looking to diversify their manufacturing locations to reduce the risk involved in depending on a single market. • Thus, to reduce India's dependence on imports and to take advantage of this global shift in manufacturing, the PLI scheme for IT hardware was announced