



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 11-02-2021

EXPLANATION

1. Ans:C

Explanation:

Drought is generally considered as a deficiency in rainfall /precipitation over an extended period, usually a season or more, resulting in a water shortage causing adverse impacts on vegetation, animals, and/or people. There is no single, legally accepted definition of drought in India. Some states resort to their own definitions of drought. State Government is the final authority when it comes to declaring a region as drought affected. The Supreme Court of India in its verdict in the matter of Swaraj Abhiyan Vs Union of India stated that drought would certainly fall within the definition of “disaster” as defined under Section 2(d) of the Disaster Management (DM) Act, 2005.

2. Ans:A

Explanation:

Indian Navy’s largest war game – the biennial Theatre Level Operational Readiness Exercise (TROPEX 21) – which commenced in early January, is currently underway with participation of all operational units of Indian Navy including ships, submarines, aircraft as well as units of the Indian Army, Indian Air Force and Coast Guard. The exercise will culminate by third week of February. TROPEX is being progressed over distinct phases that also test the Navy’s transition from peacetime to hostilities. In the first phase, the Indian Navy had conducted coastal defence exercise ‘Sea Vigil ‘along the entire coastline and Island territories of India.

3. Ans:D

Explanation:

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the World Sustainable Development Summit 2021 through video conferencing on February 10, 2021. The theme of the Summit is ‘Redefining our common future: Safe and secure environment for all’. It is the 20th edition of The Energy and Resources Institute’s (TERI) flagship event. The Summit will bring together a wide number of governments, business leaders, academicians, climate scientists, youth, and civil society in the fight against climate change. Key partners of the Summit: India’s Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, and Ministry of Earth Sciences.

4. Ans:B

Explanation:

The United Arab Emirates' space probe entered the orbit of Mars on February 9, 2021. It is called Al-Amal, which means 'Hope' in Arabic.

5. Ans:C

Explanation:

The Centre has objected to a petition seeking to discontinue with the provision of inviting objection from public while applying for marriage registration under the Special Marriage Act (SMA). The government defended its move by saying that the intention behind the provision was to “keep adequate safeguards to the interest of various parties involved”.

What's the issue?

The petition has sought to quash section 6 and 7 of SMA, which mandates publication of the public notice, on the ground that it is unreasonable and arbitrary. The petitioner argues that the 30-day period offers an opportunity to kin of the couple to discourage an inter-caste or inter-religion marriage.

What is Special Marriage Act of 1954?

The SMA is a law which allows solemnization of marriages without going through any religious customs or rituals. People from different castes or religions or states get married under SMA in which marriage is solemnized by way of registration. The prime purpose of the Act was to address Inter-religious marriages and to establish marriage as a secular institution bereft of all religious formalities, which required registration alone. The SMA prescribes an elaborate procedure to get the marriage registered. It includes:

One of the parties to the marriage has to give a notice of the intended marriage to the marriage officer of the district where at least one of the parties to the marriage has resided for at least 30 days immediately prior to the date on which such notice is given. Such notice is then entered in the marriage notice book and the marriage officer publishes a notice of marriage at some conspicuous place in his office. The notice of marriage published by the marriage officer includes details of the parties like names, date of birth, age, occupation, parents' names and details, address, pin code, identity information, phone number etc. Anybody can then raise objections to the marriage on various grounds provided under the Act. If no objection is raised within the 30 day period, then marriage can be solemnized. If objections are raised, then the marriage officer has to inquire into the objections after which he will decide whether or not to solemnize the marriage.

6. Ans:C

Explanation:

The Supreme Court has dismissed a PIL that sought imposition of President's rule in Uttar Pradesh for alleged breakdown of constitutional machinery and rising crime in the state.

What did the court say?

The court warned the petitioner-advocate of imposing cost on him and questioned him about the research of crime records of other states.

Background:

The petitioner alleged that unlawful and arbitrary killings including extrajudicial killings are being perpetrated by police in Uttar Pradesh.

He alleged that situation has arisen in the state in which the government of Uttar Pradesh cannot be allowed to carry on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

What is the President's Rule?

Article 356 of the Constitution of India gives the President of India the power to suspend state government and impose President's rule of any state in the country if "if he is satisfied that a situation has arisen in which the government of the state cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution". It is also known as 'State Emergency' or 'Constitutional Emergency'.

7. Ans:A

Explanation:

The Centre has refused to disclose the minutes of the Lokpal selection committee's meetings, and its decision has now been upheld by the Central Information Commission (CIC). The Centre has invoked the exemption clause in Section 8(1)(e) of the RTI Act in its defence. Highlights of the Lokpal Act of 2013:

The Act allows setting up of anti-corruption ombudsman called Lokpal at the Centre and Lokayukta at the State-level. The Lokpal will consist of a chairperson and a maximum of eight members. The Lokpal will cover all categories of public servants, including the Prime Minister. But the armed forces do not come under the ambit of Lokpal. The Act also incorporates provisions for attachment and confiscation of property acquired by corrupt means, even while the prosecution is pending. The States will have to institute Lokayukta within one year of the commencement of the Act. The Act also ensures that public servants who act as whistleblowers are protected.

Powers:

The Lokpal will have the power of superintendence and direction over any investigation agency including CBI for cases referred to them by the ombudsman. As per the Act, the Lokpal can summon or question any public servant if there exists a prima facie case against the person, even before an investigation agency (such as vigilance or CBI) has begun the probe. Any officer of the CBI investigating a case referred to it by the Lokpal, shall not be transferred without the approval of the Lokpal. An investigation must be completed within six months. However, the Lokpal or Lokayukta may allow extensions of six months at a time provided the reasons for the need of such extensions are given in writing. Special courts will be instituted to conduct trials on cases referred by Lokpal.

8. Ans:A

Explanation:

It is located in Arunachal Pradesh. Notified in November 1989 under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. The Sanctuary is a natural home to more than 236 species of orchids, as well as a wealthy diversity of mushrooms and other medicinal plants. It is the only one of its kind in the country, where these flowering plants grow wild.

9. Ans:C

Explanation:

Nai Roshni”, a scheme for Leadership Development of Minority Women is being implemented across India. Ministry: Ministry of Minority affairs Aim: To empower and instill confidence in women by providing knowledge, tools, and techniques for interacting with Government systems, banks, and other institutions at all levels. This includes empowerment of the trainee women so that they become independent and confident members of society. The scheme provides for six days training programme followed by handholding for one year. The training covers issues relating to women viz. The leadership of Women through participation in decision making, Educational Programmes for women, Health and Hygiene, Legal rights of women, Financial Literacy, Digital Literacy, Swachh Bharat, Life Skills, and Advocacy for Social and Behavioural change. The Scheme is being implemented through NGOs enrolled under the Nai Roshni Scheme.

10. Ans:D

Explanation:

Indian Prime Minister recently paid a visit to the historic martyr town of Dhekiajuli in Assam, to lay the foundation stone for two medical colleges and launch a road and highway project. Dhekiajuli is associated with the Quit India Movement of 1942. Dhekiajuli was home to possibly the youngest martyr of the Indian freedom struggle. On September 20, 1942, as part of the Quit India movement, processions of freedom fighters marched to various police stations across several towns in Assam. These squads, which were known as ‘Mrityu Bahini’, or death squads, had wide participation — including women and children — and set out to unfurl the tricolor atop police stations, seen as symbols of colonial power. The British administration came down heavily on them. In Dhekiajuli, at least 15 people were shot dead, three of them women, including the 12-year-old Tileswari Barua.