



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 13-07-2021

EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

Former civil servants have demanded an end to the misuse of the National Security Act terming it a draconian preventive detention law.

About the National Security Act (NSA):

The NSA is a preventive detention law. Preventive Detention involves the detainment (containment) of a person in order to keep him/her from committing future crimes and/or from escaping future prosecution.

Article 22 (3) (b) of the Constitution allows for preventive detention and restriction on personal liberty for reasons of state security and public order.

Article 22(4) states that:

No law providing for preventive detention shall authorise the detention of a person for a longer period than three months unless:

An Advisory Board reports sufficient cause for extended detention. The 44th Amendment Act of 1978 has reduced the period of detention without obtaining the opinion of an advisory board from three to two months. However, this provision has not yet been brought into force, hence, the original period of three months still continues.

2. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

The Union Cabinet has approved the Memorandum on Cooperation (MoC) between Competition Commission of India (CCI) and Japan Fair Trade Commission (JFTC). It will promote and strengthen cooperation in the matter of Competition Law and Policy and will enable CCI to emulate and learn from the experiences of its counterpart in Japan

About Competition Commission of India (CCI) It is a statutory body established in 2003 and became fully functional in 2009. It is responsible for enforcing The Competition Act, 2002 throughout India. The Act prohibits anti-competitive agreements, abuse of dominant position by enterprises. The Act regulates combinations (acquisition, acquiring of control and Merger and acquisition), which causes or likely to cause an appreciable adverse effect on competition within India. CCI consists of a Chairperson and 6 Members appointed by the Central Government. Eligibility: Person should be qualified to be a judge of a High Court, or, has special knowledge of, and professional experience of not less than fifteen years in international trade, economics, commerce, law, finance. It is the duty of the Commission to:

eliminate practices having adverse effect on competition

promote and sustain competition.

protect the interests of consumers.

ensure freedom of trade in the markets of India.

3. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

According to a recent survey, more than 55% did not receive Supplementary Nutrition under Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) in Jharkhand even once in the first six months of 2021.

Vulnerability of Jharkhand

As per National Family Health Survey-4 data, every second child in the state is stunted and underweight and every third child is affected by stunting and every 10th child is affected from severe wasting and around 70% children are anemic.

What is Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)?

It is centrally sponsored scheme launched in 1975.

Implemented by: Ministry of Women and Child Development.

It is an umbrella scheme under which Six Schemes operate.

What are the Objectives of ICDS?

- To improve the nutritional and health status of children in the age-group 0-6 years.
- To lay the foundation for proper psychological, physical and social development of the child.
- To reduce the incidence of mortality, morbidity, malnutrition and school dropout.
- To achieve effective coordination of policy and implementation amongst the various departments to promote child development.
- To enhance the capability of the mother to look after the normal health and nutritional needs of the child.
- To facilitate, educate and empower Adolescent Girls (AGs) so as to enable them to become self-reliant and aware citizens.

4. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

A webinar on 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat – Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' was organized by Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India.

What is the 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' programme?

The initiative 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' was announced by Indian Prime Minister on 31st October 2015 on the occasion of the 140th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. It is implemented under the overall guidance of Ministry of Education. The scheme was launched to celebrate the cultural

vibrancy of India while establishing a strong mechanism to inculcate nationalism and cultural awareness among the citizens of our nation. It aims to enhance interaction & promote mutual understanding between people of different states/UTs through the concept of state/UT pairing. Under it, rich culture, heritage, customs and traditions of paired states will be showcased in each other's states. This cultural exchange amongst states enables people to learn about the culture of different states and regions, promoting the spirit of national integration. Multiple initiatives have been taken up under the Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat program, some of which are:

Award-winning books and poetry, popular folk songs have been translated from one language to the language of the partner state.

- Culinary events have been organised to learn culinary practices of partner states
- Homestay for visitors coming from partner states
- Rajya Darshan for Tourists
- Accepting the traditional attire of other states and Union Territories
- Exchange of information like traditional agricultural practices with partner states
- The scheme thus bolsters sentimental bonds among the people of different states and builds the feeling of 'One Nation' among all the citizens of the country.

5. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

Akash is a medium-range mobile surface-to-air missile (SAM) system, being developed under India's Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP).

6. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

The Jammu and Kashmir Delimitation Commission has said that it will base its final report on the 2011 Census and will also take into account the topography, difficult terrain, means of communication and convenience available for the ongoing delimitation exercise.

Delimitation exercise in J&K- a timeline:

The first delimitation exercise, carving out 25 assembly constituencies in the then state, was carried out by a Delimitation Committee in 1951.

The first full-fledged Delimitation Commission was formed in 1981 and it submitted its recommendations in 1995 on the basis of 1981 Census. Since then, there has been no delimitation. In 2020, the Delimitation Commission was constituted to carry out the exercise on the basis of 2011 Census, with a mandate to add seven more seats to the Union Territory and grant reservations to SC and ST communities. Now, the total number of seats in Jammu and Kashmir will be raised to 90 from the previous 83. This is apart from 24 seats which have been reserved for areas of PoK and have to be kept vacant in the Assembly.

What is delimitation and why is it needed?

The Delimitation Commission for Jammu and Kashmir was constituted by the Centre on March 6 last year to redraw Lok Sabha and assembly constituencies of the union territory in accordance with the provisions of the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019, which bifurcated the state into union territories of J&K and Ladakh.

What is Delimitation?

Delimitation literally means the process of fixing limits or boundaries of territorial constituencies in a state that has a legislative body.

Who carries out the exercise?

Delimitation is undertaken by a highly powerful commission. They are formally known as Delimitation Commission or Boundary Commission. These bodies are so powerful that its orders have the force of law and they cannot be challenged before any court.

7. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Alarmed by cases of Zika virus in neighbouring Kerala, Karnataka has issued guidelines to prevent the spread of the disease in the state.

How does the Zika virus spread?

The Zika virus is predominantly transmitted by infected mosquitoes from the Aedes genus, mainly Aedes aegypti. The Aedes mosquitoes also spread dengue, chikungunya and yellow fever. They usually bite during the daytime, mostly during the early morning or later afternoon.

Apart from the mosquitoes, an infected person can also spread the virus. This virus can be transmitted from a pregnant woman to the fetus, through sexual contact, transfusion of blood and blood products, and organ transplantation.

The virus was first identified in Uganda in 1947 in monkeys. It was later identified in humans in 1952 in Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania.

What are the symptoms of the Zika virus?

While the symptoms of the Zika virus are mild, in case it gets worse, immediate medical attention is advised. Generally, the symptoms include fever, rash, conjunctivitis, muscle and joint pain, malaise, or headache. It lasts for about two to seven days. Most infected people do not develop any symptoms.

What is the treatment?

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), the Zika virus has no treatment or vaccine. WHO advises the consumption of a lot of fluids along with pain and fever medicines for a speedy recovery.

8. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

A WHO pre-qualification, or Emergency Use Listing (EUL), is necessary for a vaccine company to supply vaccines to global facilities such as COVAX or international procurement. So far, eight vaccines have got an EUL from the WHO. WHO will also take a decision on including Bharat Biotech's Covaxin in its list shortly.

About WHO's Emergency Use List (EUL):

The WHO Emergency Use Listing Procedure (EUL) is a risk-based procedure for assessing and listing unlicensed vaccines, therapeutics and in vitro diagnostics with the ultimate aim of expediting the availability of these products to people affected by a public health emergency.

To be eligible, the following criteria must be met:

The disease for which the product is intended is serious or immediately life threatening, has the potential of causing an outbreak, epidemic or pandemic and it is reasonable to consider the product for an EUL assessment, e.g., there are no licensed products for the indication or for a critical subpopulation (e.g., children).

Existing products have not been successful in eradicating the disease or preventing outbreaks (in the case of vaccines and medicines). The product is manufactured in compliance with current Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) in the case of medicines and vaccines and under a functional Quality Management System (QMS) in the case of IVDs. The applicant undertakes to complete the development of the product (validation and verification of the product in the case of IVDs) and apply for WHO prequalification once the product is licensed.

9. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

WhatsApp recently told Delhi High Court it will not compel users to opt for new privacy policy till data protection bill comes into force.

What's the issue?

The court is hearing the appeals of Facebook and its firm WhatsApp against the single-judge order refusing to stop the competition regulator Competition Commission of India (CCI)'s order directing a probe into WhatsApp's new privacy policy.

Background:

WhatsApp has drawn massive criticism from users globally, including India, over concerns that data was being shared with its parent company, Facebook.

WhatsApp, on its part, has maintained that messages on the platform are end-to-end encrypted and that neither WhatsApp nor Facebook can see the private messages on WhatsApp's platform.

Personal Data Protection Bill:

The Bill, under consideration, seeks to regulate the use of an individual's data by the government and

private companies. While entities will have to maintain security safeguards to protect personal data, they will also have to fulfill a set of data protection obligations and transparency and accountability measures. The Bill seeks to give users a set of rights over their personal data and means to exercise those rights. The Bill seeks to create an independent and powerful regulator known as the Data Protection Authority (DPA). The DPA will monitor and regulate data processing activities to ensure their compliance with the regime.

Why was a Bill brought for personal data protection?

In August 2017, the Supreme Court held that privacy is a fundamental right, flowing from the right to life and personal liberty under Article 21 of the Constitution. The Court also observed that privacy of personal data and facts is an essential aspect of the right to privacy. In July 2017, a Committee of Experts, chaired by Justice B. N. Srikrishna, was set up to examine various issues related to data protection in India. The Committee submitted its report, along with a Draft Personal Data Protection Bill, 2018 to the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology in July 2018.

10. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

The National Research Centre on Yak (NRCY) at Dirang in West Kameng district, Arunachal Pradesh, has tied up with the National Insurance Company Ltd. for insuring their livestock. The insurance policy would shield the yak owners against the risks posed by weather calamities, diseases, in-transit mishaps, surgical operations and strikes or riots. According to the policy, the owners would have to get their yaks ear-tagged and provide a proper description in order to get their animals insured.

About Himalayan Yaks:

Yak is accustomed to very cold temperatures and can up to minus 40 degrees. Two other prominent nomadic communities engaged in yak rearing are Changpas and Dokpas in Ladakh, Sikkim and Himachal Pradesh. Currently considered to be Vulnerable by the IUCN. The number of yaks across the country declined by almost 24.7% between 2012 and 2019. Yak population in India is found in Union Territories of Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, West Bengal and Uttarakhand.