



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 15-05-2021

EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Social media posts appealing for adoption of children orphaned during COVID-19 are illegal, warn experts. Activists warn that such posts are illegal under Section 80 and 81 of the Juvenile Justice (JJ) Act, 2015, which prohibit offering or receiving children outside the processes laid down under the Act as well as their sale and purchase. Such acts are punishable with three to five years in jail or ₹1 lakh in fine. What is the procedure to be followed with children who have been orphaned? If someone has information about a child in need of care, then they must contact one of the four agencies: Childline 1098, or the district Child Welfare Committee (CWC), District Child Protection Officer (DCPO) or the helpline of the State Commission for Protection of Child Rights. Following this, the CWC will assess the child and place him or her in the immediate care of a Specialised Adoption Agency. When there is a child without a family, the State becomes the guardian. Other childcare options available: Adoption is only one of the options, it is not the only option. Such children will have uncles or aunts who can look after them. Children may desire contact with their own family and to remain within the same heritage. In such circumstances it is very important to guard the rights of the children involved.

Need of the hour:

This is the time to focus on kinship care. The Ministry of Women and Child Development and all concerned State departments should immediately roll out a kinship care programme and make it part of foster care provisions under the JJ Act.

About JJ Act: Aim: To Comprehensively address children in conflict with law and children in need of care and protection. It mandates setting up Juvenile Justice Boards and Child Welfare Committees in every district. Both must have at least one-woman member each. Also, the Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) was granted the status of a statutory body to enable it to perform its function more effectively. The Act included several new offences committed against children (like, illegal adoptions, use of child by militant groups, offences against disabled children, etc) which are not adequately covered under any other law. All Child Care Institutions, whether run by State Government or by voluntary or non-governmental organisations are to be mandatorily registered under the Act within 6 months from the date of commencement of the Act.

2. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

The Cabinet has approved the proposal of Department of Heavy Industry for implementation of the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme 'National Programme on Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC) Battery Storage' for achieving manufacturing capacity of Fifty (50) GigaWatt Hour (GWh) of ACC and 5 GWh of "Niche" ACC.

About the scheme:

It is a ₹18,100 crore production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme for building Tesla-style giga factories to manufacture batteries. The plan is to set up 50 gigawatt hour (GWh) manufacturing capacity for advanced chemistry cell batteries by attracting investments totaling ₹45,000 crore. As part of the scheme, each selected ACC battery storage manufacturer would have to commit to set up an ACC manufacturing facility of minimum 5GWh capacity and ensure a minimum 60% domestic value addition at the project level within five years. What are Advanced Chemistry Cells (ACC)? ACCs are the new generation of advanced storage technologies that can store electric energy either as electrochemical or as chemical energy and convert it back to electric energy as and when required. Significance of the scheme:

All the demand of the ACCs is currently being met through imports in India. The National Programme on Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC) Battery Storage will reduce import dependence. It will also support the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative. ACC battery Storage manufacturers will be selected through a transparent competitive bidding process.

3. 'Ans) (a)

Explanation:

NITI Aayog and Mastercard have released a report titled 'Connected Commerce: Creating a Roadmap for a Digitally Inclusive Bharat'. The report identifies challenges in accelerating digital financial inclusion in India and provides recommendations for making digital services accessible to its 1.3 billion citizens.

Challenges in accelerating digital financial inclusion:

- 1) Digital Exclusions.
- 2) Unfamiliarity With DBT.
- 3) Breeding of Corruption.
- 4) Inadequate Rural Banking.
- 5) Unsuccessful Banking Correspondent Model.
- 6) Accountability Issue.

Key recommendations in the report include:

Strengthening the payment infrastructure to promote a level playing field for NBFCs and banks.

Digitizing registration and compliance processes and diversifying credit sources to enable growth opportunities for MSMEs. Building information sharing systems, including a 'fraud repository', and ensuring that online digital commerce platforms carry warnings to alert consumers to the risk of frauds.

Enabling agricultural NBFCs to access low-cost capital and deploy a 'phygital' (physical + digital) model

for achieving better long-term digital outcomes. Digitizing land records will also provide a major boost to the sector. To make city transit seamlessly accessible to all with minimal crowding and queues, leveraging existing smartphones and contactless cards, and aim for an inclusive, interoperable, and fully open system such as that of the London 'Tube'.

4. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

The Wildlife Institute of India recently launched a "Monkey Census" in Haryana, as a part of the "Wildlife Census of Haryana-2021".

5. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

NASA has partnered with aerospace startup Axiom Space to launch the first private astronaut mission to a space station. The agreement was signed between the two on May 10, 2021. They have signed an order to launch four people to the International Space Station (ISS) as early as January 2022.

6. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

The Indian Space Research Organisation's Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) in Thiruvananthapuram, said it has developed three different types of ventilators and an oxygen concentrator at a time when a shortage of these critical medical equipment resulted in deaths of many Covid-19 patients across the country.

7. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

The navies of India and Indonesia carried out a military drill in the Southern Arabian sea with a focus on further improving their interoperability.

8. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

India was the largest recipient of remittances in 2020, as per the report, "Migration and Development Brief" released by the World Bank on May 12, 2021. India has been the largest recipient of remittances since 2008. However, the remittance received by India in 2020 was over USD83 billion, which is a drop of 0.2 percent from 2019 (USD83.3 billion).

9. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

Dr Shakuntala Haraksingh Thilsted, a global nutrition expert of Indian descent has won the prestigious 2021 World Food Prize for her groundbreaking research in developing holistic, nutrition-sensitive approaches to aquaculture and food systems.

About the World Food Prize:

The World Food Prize is the foremost international honor recognizing the achievements of individuals who have advanced human development by improving the quality, quantity or availability of food in the world. Fields Covered: Any field involved in the world food supply including plant, animal and soil science; food science and technology; nutrition, rural development, etc. Eligibility: It is open for any individual without regard to race, religion, nationality or political beliefs. Cash Prize: \$2,50,000.

It is presented by the World Food Prize Foundation which has over 80 companies, individuals, etc. as donors. Norman E. Borlaug, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970 for his work in global agriculture, conceived the Prize. He is also known as the Father of the Green Revolution. The World Food Prize was created in 1986 with sponsorship by General Foods Corporation. It is also known as the “Nobel Prize for Food and Agriculture”. M.S. Swaminathan, the father of India’s green revolution, was the first recipient of this award in 1987.

10. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

The Environment Appraisal Committee (EAC) – Infrastructure I of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has flagged serious concerns about NITI Aayog’s ambitious project for Great Nicobar Island. Key takeaways The committee has, however, removed the first hurdle faced by the project. It has “recommended” it “for grant of terms of reference (TOR)” for Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) studies, which in the first instance will include baseline studies over three months. The proposal includes an international container transshipment terminal, a greenfield international airport, a power plant and a township complex spread over 166 sq. km. (mainly pristine coastal systems and tropical forests), and is estimated to cost ₹75,000 crore. Important value additions Galathea Bay Galathea Bay is the site of the port and the centrepiece of the NITI Aayog proposal. It is an iconic nesting site in India of the enigmatic Giant Leatherback, the world’s largest marine turtle. A number of species are restricted to just the Galathea region. These include the critically endangered Nicobar shrew, the Great Nicobar crane, the Nicobar frog, the Nicobar cat snake, a new skink (*Lipinia* sp), a new lizard (*Dibamus* sp,) and a snake of the *Lycodon* species that is yet to be described.