



# EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

## DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 16-07-2021

### EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

The scheme was recently launched by the RBI. Under the scheme, retail investors will be allowed to open retail direct gilt accounts (RDG) directly with RBI.

How it operates/works?

A dedicated online portal will provide registered users access to primary issuance of government securities and to Negotiated Dealing System-Order Matching system (NDS-OM). (NDS-OM refers to RBI's screen-based electronic order matching system for trading in government securities in the secondary market).

There will be no charge on account opening and its management.

Objectives of the scheme:

To improve the accessibility of government securities.

Significance of the scheme:

The scheme is a one-stop solution to facilitate investment in government securities (G-secs) by individual investors.

Types of investments available for the users:

Government of India Treasury Bills. Government of India dated securities. Sovereign Gold Bonds (SGB).

State Development Loans (SDLs). Things you should know:

What are gilt accounts?

Who are retail investors? What are G-secs?

What is a Gilt Account?

A Gilt Account can be compared with a bank account, except that the account is debited or credited with treasury bills or government securities instead of money. In other words, it's an account for holding government securities.

Who is a retail investor?

A retail investor is someone who buys and sells equity shares, commodity contracts, mutual funds, or exchange traded funds (ETFs) through traditional or online brokerage firms or other types of investment accounts.

2. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

Bhutan has become the first country to adopt India's Unified Payment Interface (UPI) standards for its quick response (QR) code. It is also the second country after Singapore to have BHIM-UPI acceptance at merchant locations. Bhutan will also become the only country to both issue and accept RuPay cards as well as accept BHIM-UPI.

What is BHIM?

Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM) is India's digital payment application (app) that works through UPI, a system that powers multiple bank accounts into a single mobile application.

Developed by National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). Allows real time fund transfer.

Launched in December, 2016.

What is UPI?

Unified Payments Interface (UPI) is an instant real-time payment system, allowing users to transfer money on a real-time basis, across multiple bank accounts without revealing details of one's bank account to the other party.

The BHIM app has three levels of authentication:

For one, the app binds with a device's ID and mobile number. Second, a user needs to sync whichever bank account (UPI or non-UPI enabled) in order to conduct the transaction. Third, when a user sets up the app they are asked to create a pin which is needed to log into the app. The UPI pin, which a user creates with their bank account is needed to go through with the transaction.

3. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

Every year on July 11, the world observes World Population Day. The theme for World Population Day 2021 is "Rights and Choices are the Answer: Whether baby boom or bust, the solution to shifting fertility rates lies in prioritising all people's reproductive health and rights."

4. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has recently secured trademark registrations in three countries namely Bhutan, UAE and Mexico which is a big stride towards protecting the identity of brand Khadi globally.

5. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

The Indian Navy received the 10th anti-submarine warfare aircraft P-8I from the US-based aerospace company.

6. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

NTPC Renewable Energy Ltd has received the go-ahead from the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) to set up a 4750 MW renewable energy park at Rann of Kutch in Khavada, Gujarat. NTPC REL, NTPC's subsidiary was incorporated in October 2020 to accelerate the Renewable Energy business of NTPC. This will be India's largest solar park to be built. NTPC REL has plans to generate green hydrogen on a commercial scale from this park.

Other initiatives of NTPC

It aims to build 60 GW Renewable Energy Capacity by 2032. Currently, it has an installed capacity of 66 GW across 70 power projects with an additional 18 GW under construction.

It has also commissioned India's largest Floating Solar of 10 MW (ac) on the reservoir of Simhadri Thermal Power Plant, Andhra Pradesh. 100 MW Floating Solar Project on the reservoir of Ramagundam Thermal Power Plant, Telangana is in the advanced stage of implementation.

7. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

NTPC recently signed a MoU with UT of Ladakh and Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC) to set up India's first Green Hydrogen Mobility project. Leh will be India's first city to implement a green hydrogen based mobility project with zero emission. NTPC has planned to ply 5 hydrogen buses in the beginning NTPC's first solar installations in Leh in form of solar trees and a solar carport were also inaugurated

What is Green Hydrogen?

The sources and processes by which hydrogen is derived, are categorised by colour tabs. Hydrogen produced from fossil fuels is called grey hydrogen; this constitutes the bulk of the hydrogen produced today. Hydrogen generated from fossil fuels with carbon capture and storage options is called blue hydrogen; Hydrogen generated entirely from renewable power sources is called green hydrogen. Electricity generated from renewable energy is used to split water into hydrogen and oxygen.

Green hydrogen has specific advantages

Environment Friendly Potential to Decarbonise various sectors such as iron and steel, chemicals, and transportation (advantage over battery based energy) Renewable energy that cannot be stored or used by the grid can be channelled to produce hydrogen. Unlike Batteries, there is no dependence on Rare Minerals as the source material for green hydrogen is easily available Green energy helps reduce import dependency on fossil fuels Green hydrogen energy is vital for India to meet its Nationally Determined Contributions and ensure regional and national energy security, access and availability.

8. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

NTPC recently signed a MoU with UT of Ladakh and Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC) to set up India's first Green Hydrogen Mobility project. Leh will be India's first city to implement a green hydrogen based mobility project with zero emission. NTPC has planned to ply 5 hydrogen buses in the beginning NTPC's first solar installations in Leh in form of solar trees and a solar carport were also inaugurated

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9. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Industrialist N.S. Srinivasa Murthy based in Bengaluru has been appointed as Honorary Consul General of Vietnam for Karnataka. He is the first honorary consul general of Vietnam from India and the 19th across the world.

Who are Honorary Consuls?

Together with diplomatic missions, an honorary consul promotes economic and cultural relations. They are private individuals who take care of their tasks on a part-time basis without remuneration. Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)'s approval is essential before the formal appointment. Honorary consuls do not accept passport applications nor do they handle matters pertaining to visas or residence permits. Honorary consuls cannot serve as attorneys in judicial proceedings or as legal advisers.

honorary

10. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

Inaugurated recently in the Chakrata town of Dehradun, Uttarakhand. The garden will be housing nearly 50 species of lichens, ferns and fungi (collectively known as Cryptogamae). This site is chosen because of its low pollution levels and moist conditions which are conducive for the growth of these species.

What are cryptograms?

Plant kingdom can be divided into two sub-kingdoms viz. Cryptogams and phanerogams. Cryptogams consist of seedless plants and plant-like organisms whereas phanerogams consist of seed-bearing plants. Phanerogams are further divided into two classes i.e. gymnosperms and angiosperms. The word "Cryptogamae" implies 'hidden reproduction', referring to the fact that they do not produce any

reproductive structure, seed, or flower. A cryptogam is a plant that reproduces with the help of spores.