



# EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

## DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 19-02-2021

### EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

National Air Quality Index (AQI) transforms complex air quality data of eight pollutants into a single number (index value), nomenclature and colour.

National Air Quality Index (AQI) was launched on 17 October 2014 to disseminate information on air quality in an easily understandable form for the general public. The measurement of air quality is based on eight pollutants, namely,

- Particulate Matter (size less than 10  $\mu\text{m}$ ) or (PM10),
- Particulate Matter (size less than 2.5  $\mu\text{m}$ ) or (PM2.5),
- Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>),
- Sulphur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>),
- Carbon Monoxide (CO),
- Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>),
- Ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>), and
- Lead (Pb)

For which short-term (up to 24-hourly averaging period) National Ambient Air Quality Standards are prescribed. It may be noted that ambient air quality standards are specified separately in India for around 12 pollutants including the 8 that constitute the Air Quality Index (other four are – Nickel, Arsenic, Benzo (a) Pyrene, and Benzene)

AQI has six categories of air quality. These are: Good, Satisfactory, Moderately Polluted, Poor, Very Poor and Severe.

2. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

The Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (also known as the Quad or Asian NATO) is an informal strategic forum between the United States, Japan, Australia and India that is maintained by semi-regular summits, information exchanges and military drills between member countries.

The forum was initiated as a dialogue in August 2007 by then Prime Minister Shinzo Abe of Japan on “seas of freedom and prosperity”.

Australia left the group in 2008, which led to hibernation of group, which was revived again during the 2017 ASEAN Summits where all four former members re-joined in negotiations.

3. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

Sinjar Mountains are a 100-kilometre-long mountain range that runs east to west, rising above the surrounding alluvial steppe plains in north-western Iraq. The western and lower segment of these mountains lies in Syria. These mountains are regarded as sacred by the Yazidis.

4. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

A team of scientists, doctors and photographers in Kerala have launched a mobile application named “Snakepedia”, that will present all relevant information on snakes, to help the public as well as doctors in treating snake bites.

5. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the signing of the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA) between India and Mauritius. The India-Mauritius CECPA is the first trade agreement to be signed by India with an African country.

6. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Recently 'toolkit' has been in headlines after Greta Thunberg tweeted about it. Toolkit is a document that can be called a key to digital era protests. It provides a road map to protest directions and informs what needs to be done.

7. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

PM Narendra Modi has recently launched the ‘Mahabahu-Brahmaputra’ initiative in Assam. It aims to provide seamless connectivity to Eastern Parts of the country.

8. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

- The Prime Minister recently addressed the event organized to commemorate 75 years of Shri Ram Chandra Mission.
- Shri Ram Chandra Mission (SRCM) is a non-profit organization and a spiritual movement originating in India.
- It teaches the practice of “Sahaj Marg” or “Heartfulness Meditation”.
- It was registered in 1945 by Ram Chandra of Shahjahanpur, Uttar Pradesh.
- Current headquarter: Hyderabad, Telangana
- Sahaj Marg (The Natural Path) is a form of Raja Yoga.
- It is a meditation system involving meditation, cleaning, and prayer.

9. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

- E-Chhawani portal and mobile app was launched recently.
- Ministry: Ministry of Defence
- Objective: To provide online civic services to over 20 lakh residents of 62 Cantonment Boards across India.
- Through the portal, the residents of cantonment areas will be able to avail basic services like renewal of leases, application for birth & death certificates, water & sewerage connections, etc.
- Developed by: eGov Foundation, Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), Directorate General Defence Estates (DGDE) and National Informatics Centre (NIC).

10. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

- Dr. Kiran Bedi was recently removed as Puducherry Lieutenant Governor.
- Telangana Governor Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan has been given additional charge as Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry.
- Article 153: There shall be a Governor for each State.
- One person can be appointed as Governor for two or more States.
- The governor acts in 'Dual Capacity' as the Constitutional head of the state and as the representative.
- He acts as a bridge between union and state governments.
- Article 157 and Article 158: Eligibility requirements. A governor must:
  - o Be a citizen of India.
  - o Be at least 35 years of age.
  - o Not be a member of the either house of the parliament or house of the state legislature.
  - o Not hold any office of profit.
- Term of office : 5 years
- It can be terminated earlier by:
  - o Dismissal by the President on the advice of the council of ministers.
  - o Dismissal by the President whose acts are upheld by courts as unconstitutional and malafide.
  - o Resignation by the governor.