



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 19-07-2021

EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

PRASHAD projects were recently inaugurated in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. The inaugurated projects include a Tourist Facilitation Centre and operation of Cruise Boat from Assi Ghat to RajGhat.

What is PRASHAD scheme?

It is also called as the 'National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive' (PRASHAD). It is a Central Sector Scheme fully financed by the Government of India. Launched by the Ministry of Tourism in the year 2014-15. Objective: Integrated development of identified pilgrimage and heritage destinations. It includes infrastructure development such as entry points (Road, Rail and Water Transport), last mile connectivity, basic tourism facilities.

2. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

Lok Sabha Secretariat has issued notices to three MPs, after their parties petitioned Speaker Om Birla, seeking their disqualification under the Anti-Defection Law.

They have been asked to give their comments within 15 days of receipt of letters.

Anti-defection law:

In 1985 the Tenth Schedule, popularly known as the anti-defection law, was added to the Constitution by the 52nd Amendment Act.

The purpose of the Amendment was to bring stability to governments by deterring MPs and MLAs from changing their political parties on whose ticket they were elected. The penalty for shifting political loyalties is the loss of parliamentary membership and a bar on becoming a minister.

When can a member be disqualified?

If a member of a house belonging to a political party:

Voluntarily gives up the membership of his political party, or Votes, or does not vote in the legislature, contrary to the directions of his political party. However, if the member has taken prior permission, or is condoned by the party within 15 days from such voting or abstention, the member shall not be disqualified. If an independent candidate joins a political party after the election. If a nominated member joins a party six months after he becomes a member of the legislature.

However, Legislators may change their party without the risk of disqualification in certain circumstances.

Exceptions:

The law allows a party to merge with or into another party provided that at least two-thirds of its legislators are in favour of the merger. On being elected as the presiding officer of the House, if a member, voluntarily gives up the membership of his party or rejoins it after he ceases to hold that office, he won't be disqualified.

3. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

The Union Government has approved continuation of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary for further five years to 2026. The entire cost of the scheme will be Rs 9000 crore out of which the Centre will contribute Rs 5357 crore including Rs 50 crore for the implementation of the Gram Nyayalayas Scheme as a part of the National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms.

What are Gram Nyayalayas?

Gram Nyayalayas or village courts are established under the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008 for speedy and easy access to the justice system in the rural areas of India. The Act came into force from 2nd October 2009.

Jurisdiction:

A Gram Nyayalaya has jurisdiction over an area specified by a notification by the State Government in consultation with the respective High Court. The Court can function as a mobile court at any place within the jurisdiction of such Gram Nyayalaya, after giving wide publicity to that regard. They have both civil and criminal jurisdiction over the offences. Gram Nyayalayas has been given power to accept certain evidences which would otherwise not be acceptable under Indian Evidence Act.

Composition:

The Gram Nyayalayas are presided over by a Nyayadhikari, who will have the same power, enjoy same salary and benefits of a Judicial Magistrate of First Class. Such Nyayadhikari are to be appointed by the State Government in consultation with the respective High Court.

4. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

BHIM UPI, the Indian government's digital payment app, was launched in Bhutan. Bhutan becomes the first country, in India's immediate neighbourhood, to use the BHIM app for mobile-based payments and "to adopt UPI standards for its QR deployment".

5. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

India's first grain dispensing ATM has been installed at Farrukhnagar in Gurugram district of Haryana

under a pilot project, with the objective to make ration dispersal hassle and complaint free for citizens. The machine is called Automated, Multi Commodity, Grain Dispensing Machine. These Grain ATMS are being installed under the 'World Food Programme' of 'United Nation'.

6. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

Indian Prime Minister recently addressed World Youth Skill Day Programme. Key notes from the address Skill development of the new generation is a national need and is the foundation of Aatmnirbhar Bharat More than 1.25 crore youth have been trained under 'Pradhanmantri Kaushal Vikas Yojna' India providing smart and skilled man-power solutions to the world should be at the core of our strategy of skilling our youth Mission of skilling, re-skilling and up-skilling the youth should go on relentlessly Skill India Mission is fulfilling visionary dream of Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar by skilling weaker sections. Skill Development Programmes of India:

Skills Strengthening for Industrial Value Enhancement (STRIVE) -To improve the performance of ITIs. To improve the relevance and efficiency of skills training provided through Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and apprenticeships. Skills Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood (SANKALP)- District-level skilling ecosystem through convergence and coordination. Scheme for Higher Education Youth in Apprenticeship and Skills (SHREYAS) -To provide industry apprenticeship opportunities to the general graduates exiting in April 2019 through the National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS).

7. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

The Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED), comes under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

Involvements of the TRIFED:

Village and Digital Connect Initiative:

To ensure that existing schemes and initiatives reach the tribals, TRIFED's regional officials across the country have been visiting identified villages with a significant tribal population.

Schemes for Ensuring Fair Prices to Tribals:

Schemes such as Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) Through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Development of Value Chain for MFP provide MSP to gatherers of forest produces.

The schemes ensure sustainability of the resource base by addressing the problems that tribals face such as perishable nature of the produce, lack of holding capacity, lack of marketing infrastructure, exploitation by middlemen, etc.

8. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

India is concerned because of the ongoing crisis in Afghanistan. After the exit of US and NATO forces, Taliban is capturing many parts of the nation.

India is worried because:

It may have no role to play in that country, and in the worst case scenario, not even a diplomatic presence That would be a reversal of nearly 20 years of rebuilding a relationship that goes back centuries.

The Taliban's possible triumph also threatens \$3 billion worth of Indian investment in various projects — dams, roads, trade infrastructure.

India's assistance to Afghanistan:

No part of Afghanistan today is untouched by the 400-plus projects that India has undertaken in all 34 of Afghanistan's provinces. The 2011 India-Afghanistan Strategic Partnership Agreement recommitted Indian assistance to help rebuild Afghanistan's infrastructure and institutions; education and technical assistance for capacity-building in many areas. SALMA DAM: The 42MW Salma Dam in Herat province. The hydropower and irrigation project, completed against many odds and inaugurated in 2016, is known as the Afghan-India Friendship Dam. ZARANJ-DELARAM HIGHWAY: The other high-profile project was the 218-km Zaranj-Delaram highway built by the Border Roads Organisation. Zaranj is located close to Afghanistan's border with Iran. The \$150-million highway goes along the Khash Rud river to Delaram to the northeast of Zaranj. PARLIAMENT: The Afghan Parliament in Kabul was built by India at \$90 million. It was opened in 2015; Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the building. STOR PALACE: In 2016, Afghan President Ashraf Ghani and Prime Minister Modi inaugurated the restored Stor Palace in Kabul, originally built in the late 19th century, and which was the setting for the 1919 Rawalpindi Agreement by which Afghanistan became an independent country. India pledged \$1 million for another Aga Khan heritage project, the restoration of the Bala Hissar Fort south of Kabul, whose origins go back to the 6th century. Bala Hissar went on to become a significant Mughal fort, parts of it were rebuilt by Jahangir, and it was used as a residence by Shah Jahan. Despite the denial of an overland route by Pakistan, India-Afghanistan trade has grown with the establishment in 2017 of an air freight corridor. In 2019-20, bilateral trade crossed \$1.3 billion.

9. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

It was inaugurated recently in Rudraksh, Varanasi It has been constructed with Japanese assistance.

The objective of the project is to provide opportunities for social and cultural interactions between people.

10. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

The Amazon forests in South America, which are the largest tropical forests in the world, have started

emitting carbon dioxide (CO₂) instead of absorbing carbon emissions The Amazon basin Covering over 6 million square kilometres, it is nearly twice the size of India. The Amazon rainforests cover about 80 per cent of the basin Also, it is home to nearly a fifth of the world's land species and about 30 million people including hundreds of indigenous groups and several isolated tribes. The basin produces about 20% of the world's flow of freshwater into the oceans

What changes are being witnessed in recent times? Over the last few years, the forest has been under multiple threat Forest fires have doubled since 2013. One reason that they happen is when farmers burn their land to clear it for the next crop. In 2019, fires in the Amazon were visible from space. Deforestation in the Brazilian Amazon, which comprises about two-thirds of the area of the rainforest, started in the 1970s and 1980s when large-scale forest conversion for cattle ranching and soy cultivation began State policies that encourage economic development, such as railway and road expansion projects have led to “unintentional deforestation” in the Amazon and Central America. Amazon is therefore teetering on the edge of functional destruction