



# EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

## DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 26-06-2021

### EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

Recently, Shyam Sundar Jyani, a Rajasthan-based climate activist, has won the prestigious United Nations' Land for Life Award for his environment conservation concept, Familial Forestry. Familial Forestry means transferring the care of the tree and environment in the family so that a tree becomes a part of the family's consciousness. Every two years, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) organizes the Land for Life Award. The Award recognizes excellence and innovation in efforts towards land in balance. The Award was launched in 2011 at the UNCCD Conference of Parties (COP)10 in the Republic of Korea as part of the Changwon Initiative. The Changwon Initiative intends to complement activities being undertaken in line with The Strategy (for 2008-18) and in accordance with COP 10 decisions.

2. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Recently, the delimitation exercise has started in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K). The completion of the delimitation exercise will mark the political process in the Union Territory (UT) that has been under Centre's rule since June 2018. After the abrogation of its special status under Article 370, on 5th August, 2019, a special delimitation commission was constituted in March, 2020 to carve out Assembly and Parliament seats in the UT.

What is Delimitation?

It is the act of fixing or redrawing the boundaries of territorial constituencies in a country or a province having a legislative body, as per the Election Commission. The delimitation exercise is carried out by an independent high-powered panel known as the Delimitation Commission whose orders have the force of law and cannot be questioned by any court.

Aim:

To have equal representation to equal segments of the population in order to ensure a fair division of geographical areas.

Constitutional Basis for Delimitation

Article 82: The Parliament enacts a Delimitation Act after every Census. Article 170: States also get divided into territorial constituencies as per Delimitation Act after every Census. Delimitation Commission:

The Delimitation Commission is appointed by the President of India. It works in collaboration with the Election Commission of India.

Composition:

- Retired Supreme Court judge
- Chief Election Commissioner
- Respective State Election Commissioners.

3. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

The Central Government has asked the States Governments to buy electronic weighing machines for ration shops from electronic Point of Sale devices (ePoS) savings. About National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 Objective: To provide for food and nutritional security in the human life cycle approach, by ensuring access to adequate quantities of quality food at affordable prices to people to live a life with dignity. Coverage: 75% of the rural population and upto 50% of the urban population for receiving subsidized foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS).

Eligibility:

Priority Households to be covered under TPDS, according to guidelines by the State government. Households covered under existing Antyodaya Anna Yojana.

Provisions:

5 Kgs of foodgrains per person per month at Rs. 3/2/1 per Kg for rice/wheat/coarse grains. The existing AAY household will continue to receive 35 Kgs of foodgrains per household per month. Meal and maternity benefit of not less than Rs. 6,000 to pregnant women and lactating mothers during pregnancy and six months after the child birth. Meals to children upto 14 years of age. Food security allowance to beneficiaries in case of non-supply of entitled foodgrains or meals. Setting up of grievance redressal mechanisms at the district and state level.

4. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

Addressing India and the world on the International Yoga Day, Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled the mYoga app. The app will be accessible around the world and will deliver the benefits of Yoga to millions via audio and video training modules in different languages.

5. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

A survey by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and the National Institute of Virology has picked up samples with the possible presence of antibodies against the Nipah virus in some bat species

from a cave in Mahabaleshwar, a popular hill station in Maharashtra. The survey was aimed at studying the prevalence of the Nipah virus (NiV) – one of the top-10 global priority list pathogens identified by the World Health Organization (WHO) – in bats of India.

Nipah Virus outbreaks in India:

India has experienced four NiV outbreaks, with the case fatality rate between 65 percent and 100 percent. The most recent outbreak started in Kerala in 2018. Southern Asian countries and some Indian states have been identified as potential hotspots for the disease

What's the Concern now?

Nipah is considered dangerous as there is no medicine or vaccines and the death rate among those affected is high. While the Case Fatality Rate (CFR) among COVID-19 affected patients is between 1-2%, that for Nipah infections is in the range of 65-100%

About the Nipah virus:

It is a zoonotic virus, meaning that it can spread between animals and people. The organism which causes Nipah Virus encephalitis is an RNA or Ribonucleic acid virus of the family Paramyxoviridae, genus Henipavirus, and is closely related to Hendra virus. Fruit bats, also called flying foxes, are the animal reservoir for NiV in nature. Symptoms: Infection with NiV is associated with encephalitis (swelling of the brain) and can cause mild to severe illness and even death.

6. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

More than 40 countries led by Canada have voiced grave concerns at the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) about China's actions in Xinjiang, Hong Kong and Tibet.

What were the demands?

Beijing must allow UN rights chief Michelle Bachelet and other independent observers "immediate, meaningful and unfettered access" to Xinjiang, and end the "arbitrary detention" of Uighurs and other Muslim minorities.

What's the issue?

Credible reports indicate that over a million people have been arbitrarily detained in Xinjiang and that there is widespread surveillance disproportionately targeting Uighurs and members of other minorities and restrictions on fundamental freedoms and Uighur culture.

China's response:

Despite mounting evidence, China denies mistreating the Uyghurs, and goes on to insist it is simply running "vocational training" centres designed to counter extremism.

7. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation committee has recommended that the Great Barrier Reef should be added to a list of “in danger” World Heritage Sites.

This is because of its dramatic coral decline.

What’s the issue now?

However, Australia has opposed this move, which is part of an ongoing dispute between Unesco and the Australian government over the status of the iconic site. After Unesco first debated its “in danger” status in 2017, Canberra committed more than A\$3 billion (£1.bn; \$2.2bn) to improving the reef’s health. However, several bleaching events on the reef in the past five years have caused widespread loss of coral. Scientists say the main reason is rising sea temperatures as a result of global warming caused by the burning of fossil fuels.

Australia’s carbon emissions:

Australia’s reliance on coal-fired power makes it one of the world’s largest carbon emitters per capita, but its conservative government has steadfastly backed the country’s fossil fuel industries, arguing tougher action on emissions would cost jobs.

What are “in danger” World Heritage Sites?

The List of World Heritage in danger is maintained in accordance with Article 11 (4) of the 1972 World Heritage Convention.

Objective: The list is designed to inform the international community of conditions which threaten the very characteristics for which a property was inscribed on the World Heritage List, and to encourage corrective action.

Criteria:

A World Heritage property can be inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger by the World Heritage Committee when it finds that the condition of the property corresponds to at least one of the criteria listed.

8. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

World’s first genetically modified (GM) rubber sapling was recently planted at the Rubber Board’s Sarutari research farm on the outskirts of Guwahati in Assam. It was developed at the Kerala-based Rubber Research Institute of India (RRII). With additional copies of the gene MnSOD (manganese-containing superoxide dismutase) inserted in it, the GM rubber is expected to tide over the severe cold conditions during winter, which is a major factor affecting the growth of rubber saplings. MnSOD gene used in the GM rubber was taken from the rubber plant itself.

9. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

According to a Union Home Ministry manual, migrants belonging to six non-Muslim minority communities from Afghanistan, Pakistan and Bangladesh, while applying for long-term visas (LTVs), can also produce National Population Register (NPR) enrolment slips as proof of the duration of their stay in India. The NPR number is part of an illustrative list of more than 10 documents that could be provided to apply for an LTV, which is a precursor to acquiring Indian citizenship either by naturalisation or registration under Section 5 and 6 of the Citizenship Act, 1955, for the six Non-Muslim communities. These communities are: Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, Parsis, Christians and Buddhists. The special provision of LTVs for Hindus and Sikhs from Pakistan and Afghanistan was first made in 2011. It was also asserted that the awareness drive is not related to the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019 (CAA), which is intended to benefit undocumented migrants from the six groups who entered India before the 2014 cut-off date. The CAA is yet to be implemented. About NPR The NPR was first compiled in 2010 simultaneously with the decadal Census exercise and later updated in 2015. It already has a database of 119 crore residents. The NPR is a register of usual residents linked with location particulars down to the village level. It is updated periodically “to incorporate the changes due to birth, death and migration”. The next phase of the NPR, expected to include contentious questions on date and place of birth of father and mother, last place of residence and mother tongue, was to be simultaneously updated with the 2021 House Listing and Housing Census that has been indefinitely postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

10. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani has virtually launched the ‘Agricultural Diversification Scheme-2021’ on 22 June 2021, with the aim of making agriculture sustainable and profitable in the tribal areas of the state. The scheme will benefit more than 1.26 lakh vanbandhu- farmers from 14 tribal districts in Gujarat.