



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 26-03-2021

EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Decorative jaapis (field hats), hand-woven gamosas and bell-metal xorais are making frequent appearances in Assam due to upcoming Assembly elections. Important value additions

Jaapi: It is a conical hat made of bamboo and covered with dried tokou (a palm tree found in rainforests of Upper Assam) leaves. Today, the bulk of Assam's jaapis are made by artisans based in a cluster of villages in Nalbari district. Gamosa: It has wide-ranging uses. It can be used at home as a towel (uka gamosa) or in public functions (phulam/floral gamosa) to felicitate dignitaries or celebrities. Xorai: It is made of bell-metal. It essentially is a tray with a stand at the bottom, with or without a cover. It can be found in every Assamese household.

2. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

The Union Cabinet was apprised on the progress under National Health Mission (NHM) during FY 2019-20. NHM has envisaged new Initiatives in 2019-20: Social Awareness and Actions to Neutralize Pneumonia Successfully (SAANS): To accelerate action to reduce deaths due to childhood pneumonia. Surakshit Matritva Aashwasan (SUMAN): To provide assured, dignified, respectful and quality healthcare at no cost and zero tolerance for denial of services and all existing Schemes for maternal and neonatal health have been brought under one umbrella. Midwifery Services: To create a cadre of Nurse Practitioners in Midwifery who are skilled in accordance to competencies prescribed by the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) and are knowledgeable and capable of providing compassionate women-centered, reproductive, maternal and new-born health care services. School Health and Wellness Ambassadors: has been launched under the AB-HWCs Programme in partnership with Ministry of Education to promote health and well-being through an active lifestyle amongst school children.

3. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

The European Union, USA, Britain, and Canada imposed sanctions on Chinese officials and entities, for human rights abuses against Uighurs and other Muslim minorities in Xinjiang province. The sanctions from EU, UK and Canada include travel bans and freezing of assets. It is significant that the Western

powers moved together. This is the first time the EU has imposed sanctions on China since an arms embargo after the 1989 Tiananmen Square crackdown. That embargo is still in place. EU sanctions show a hardening of stance against its largest trading partner. Also China has consistently denied all reports of atrocities against Uighurs, maintaining it is only “deradicalizing” elements of its population in the interests of security. Xinjiang has a large number of Uighurs, Muslims of Turkic descent. Over the past few decades, more and more Han Chinese have settled in Xinjinag, which saw violent clashes between them and the Uighurs.

4. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

India has been ranked 40 among 53 global economies in the International Intellectual Property (IP) Index 2021. The annual IP Index 2021 was released by the US Chamber of Commerce Global Innovation Policy Centre (GIPC).

5. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Attorney General of India K.K. Venugopal has denied consent to the initiation of contempt proceedings against Congress MP Rahul Gandhi on the basis of a plea that he scandalised the judiciary in an interview. The Attorney General said no specific mentions were made about the Supreme Court or its judges. The Contempt of Courts Act 1971 defines civil and criminal contempt, and lays down the powers and procedures by which courts can penalise contempt, as well as the penalties that can be given for the offence of contempt. Contempt of court is the offense of being disobedient to or disrespectful toward a court of law and its officers in the form of behavior that opposes or defies the authority, justice and dignity of the court. Why is the consent of the Attorney General required to initiate contempt proceedings? The objective behind requiring the consent of the Attorney General before taking cognizance of a complaint is to save the time of the court.

This is necessary because judicial time is squandered if frivolous petitions are made and the court is the first forum for bringing them in. The AG’s consent is meant to be a safeguard against frivolous petitions, as it is deemed that the AG, as an officer of the court, will independently ascertain whether the complaint is indeed valid. Under what circumstances is the AG’s consent not needed? The AG’s consent is mandatory when a private citizen wants to initiate a case of contempt of court against a person. However, when the court itself initiates a contempt of court case the AG’s consent is not required. This is because the court is exercising its inherent powers under the Constitution to punish for contempt and such Constitutional powers cannot be restricted because the AG declined to grant consent.

6. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

Chief Justice of India Sharad A. Bobde has recommended Justice N.V. Ramana, the senior-most judge of the Supreme Court, as the next top judge. Justice Ramana is now set to take over as the 48th Chief Justice of India from April 24. Appointment of CJI: The Chief Justice of India is traditionally appointed by the outgoing Chief Justice of India on the day of his (or her) retirement. By convention, the outgoing Chief Justice of India selects the most senior then-sitting Supreme Court judge. Seniority at the apex court is determined not by age, but by: The date a judge was appointed to the Supreme Court. If two judges are elevated to the Supreme Court on the same day: The one who was sworn in first as a judge would trump another. If both were sworn in as judges on the same day, the one with more years of high court service would 'win' in the seniority stakes. An appointment from the bench would 'trump' in seniority an appointee from the bar. Is it a part of the Constitution? The Constitution of India does not have any provision for criteria and procedure for appointing the CJI. Article 124(1) of the Indian Constitution says there "shall be a Supreme Court of India consisting of a Chief Justice of India". The closest mention is in Article 126, which deals with the appointment of an acting CJI. In the absence of a constitutional provision, the procedure relies on custom and convention.

7. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

A parliamentary panel has submitted its report on 'The Consumer Protection (E-Commerce) Rules, 2020'.

Key recommendations:

The government should offer a more clear-cut definition of what constitutes 'unfair' trade practice.

The government should spell out a practical legal remedy to tackle the issue. Fix a cap on delivery charges levied by e-commerce firms. Provide for penal provisions for violation of rules related to misinformation. The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution should issue broad guidelines for the fixation of delivery charges charged by the marketplace entities along with a cap on the highest limits of the delivery charges in peak hours of service. The Ministry should also clearly define 'drip pricing'— wherein the final cost of the product goes up due to additional charges, and provide for protecting consumers against this by including penal provisions for violation.

8. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Through the amendment to Finance Bill 2021, the government has clarified that offshore e-commerce platforms don't have to pay 2 per cent equalisation levy if they have permanent establishment or they pay any income tax here. However, foreign firms who are not paying any tax will have to pay. Who has to pay

the digital tax? The digital tax introduced in April 2020, applies only to non-resident companies with annual revenues in excess of Rs 2 crore, and covers online sales of goods and services to Indians. The “Equalization Levy” in India:

It is a tax aimed at foreign digital companies. It has been in place since 2016. The new amendment, effective from April 1, 2020, expands the equalization levy from online advertising to nearly all online commerce activities done in India by businesses that do not have taxable presence in India through applicability of 2% on its revenues. Specifically, it is levied on consideration receivable by the e-commerce operator for supply or services or facilitation of supply or service to – Person resident in India, Non-resident under specified circumstances such as through sale of data collected from a person resident in India, and Person who buys goods or services through an IP address located in India.

9. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

GAFAs tax— named after Google, Apple, Facebook, Amazon—is a proposed digital tax to be levied on large technology and internet companies. France has decided to introduce the tax (3% tax on revenues from digital activities).

10. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

Under this program Convergence Energy Services Limited (CESL), a wholly owned subsidiary of Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), will distribute high quality LED bulbs, at an affordable cost of 10 rupees per bulb in rural areas. Implementation: 7 watt and 12-watt LED bulbs with 3 years warranty will be given to rural consumers against submission of working Incandescent bulbs. Each household will get up to 5 LEDs. Participating rural households will also have metres installed in their houses to account for usage. Financing Mechanism: The programme will be financed entirely through carbon credits and will be the first such programme in India. The revenue earned from carbon credits will contribute Rs. 60 per LED bulb piece, with the balance Rs. 10 to be paid by the rural consumer.