



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 11-08-2020

EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

In a significant development towards ascertaining the reasons behind the Air India Express crash at Kozhikode, investigators have found the “black boxes” of the ill-fated Boeing 737-800 aircraft. The black boxes are actually two orange metallic boxes containing the recorders. The black boxes date back to the early 1950s, when, following plane crashes, investigators were unable to arrive a conclusive cause for the accidents and deemed it necessary to install the said recorders on aircraft. Most aircraft are required to be equipped with two black boxes — the cockpit voice recorder (CVR) and the flight data recorder (FDR) — that record the information about a flight and help reconstruct the events leading to an aircraft accident. The CVR records radio transmissions and other sounds in the cockpit such as conversations between the pilots and engine noises. The flight data recorder records more than 80 different types of information such as altitude, airspeed, flight heading, vertical acceleration, pitch, roll, autopilot status etc.

2. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Union Finance Minister inaugurated the National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) Online Dashboard. The online dashboard is envisaged as a one stop solution for all stakeholders looking for information on infrastructure projects in New India. NIP is a first-of-its-kind initiative to provide world-class infrastructure across the country and improve the quality of life for all citizens. The dashboard is being hosted on the India Investment Grid (IIG) (www.indiainvestmentgrid.gov.in).

India Investment Grid (IIG) is an interactive and dynamic online platform that showcases updated & real-time investment opportunities in the country. Developed and managed by Invest India, the National Investment Promotion and Facilitation Agency, IIG serves as the gateway to investments in India.

3. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

A webinar on the occasion of the World Biofuel day was organized today by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, with the theme “Biofuels towards Atmanirbhar Bharat”. World Biofuel Day is observed every year on 10th of August. It is being observed by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas since 2015. Objective of the day is to create awareness about the importance of non-fossil fuels as an

alternative to conventional fossil fuels and highlight the various efforts made by Government of India in the biofuel sector. This day also honours the research experiments by Sir Rudolf Diesel who ran an engine with peanut oil in the year 1893. His research experiment had predicted that vegetable oil is going to replace fossil fuels in the next century to fuel different mechanical engines.

4. Ans(b)

Explanation:

On the eve of World Elephant Day, Union Environment Minister released a Compendium on Best practices of Human-Elephant Conflict Management in India. World Elephant Day is annually celebrated on August 12. The day aims to create awareness on elephant conservation, and to share knowledge and positive solutions for the better protection and management of wild and captive elephants. World Elephant Day was co-founded on August 12, 2012, by Canadian Patricia Sims and the Elephant Reintroduction Foundation of Thailand, an initiative of HM Queen Sirikit of Thailand.

During the event, the Union Environment Ministry also launched beta version of a portal on Human-Elephants Conflict. The National Portal on human elephant conflict called “Surakhsya” is for collection of real time information and also for managing the conflicts on a real time basis. At present the beta version of the portal is being launched for data testing before the pan India roll out for adoption by the states, which is likely to be done before year end. Asian elephants are listed as “Endangered” on the IUCN Red List of threatened species. Indian Elephant has also been listed in the Appendix I of the Convention of the Migratory species in the recently concluded Conference of Parties of CMS 13 at Gandhi Nagar, Gujarat in 2020. Elephant is the Natural Heritage Animal of India.

5. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Thousands of prominent Afghans approved the release of about 400 contentious militant prisoners. The resolution was passed at the end of a three-day ‘Loya Jirga.’ A loya jirga is a special type of jirga, or legal assembly, in Pashtunwali, the traditional code of laws of the Pashtun people. It is mainly organized for choosing a new head of state in case of sudden death, adopting a new constitution, or to settle national or regional issue such as war. In Afghanistan, loya jirgas have been reportedly organized since at least the early 18th century when the Hotaki and Durrani dynasties rose to power.

6. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has revised the Priority sector lending (PSL) guidelines. The changes include broadening the scope of PSL to include start-ups, increasing the limits for renewable energy, including solar power and compressed biogas plants and increasing the targets for lending to small and

marginal farmers and weaker sections under the PSL. To address the regional disparities in the flow of priority sector credit, an incentive framework has been put in place for banks. While higher weight will be assigned for incremental priority sector credit in the identified districts where credit flow is comparatively lower, a lower weight would be assigned to incremental priority sector credit in identified districts where the credit flow is comparatively higher. Banks are required to assign 40% of adjusted net bank credit or credit equivalent amount of off-balance sheet exposure, whichever is higher, to priority sector, including agriculture and micro-enterprises.

7. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG)

Article 148 provides for an independent office of the CAG. It is the supreme audit institution of India.

Articles 149-151 (Duties & Powers, Form of Accounts of the Union and the States and Audit Reports),

Article 279 (calculation of net proceeds, etc.) and Third Schedule (Oath or Affirmation) and Sixth Schedule (Administration of Tribal Areas in the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram).

Guardian of the public purse and controls the entire financial system of the country at both the levels—the Centre and the state.

The accountability of the executive (i.e. Council of Ministers) to the Parliament in the sphere of financial administration is secured through audit reports of the CAG.

The administrative expenses of the office of the CAG, including all salaries, allowances and pensions of persons serving in that office are charged upon the Consolidated Fund of India (thus are not subject to the vote of Parliament).

8. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

Seychelles became the first country in the world to launch sovereign Blue Bonds.

It is a debt instrument issued by governments, development banks etc to raise capital from investors to finance marine and ocean-based projects. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

It will help in expansion of marine protected areas, improved governance of priority fisheries and the development of the Seychelles' blue economy.

The blue bond is inspired by the green bond concept.

9. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

Causes of Quit India Movement

The immediate cause for the movement was the failure of Cripps mission.

The British assumption of unconditional support from India to British in World War II was not taken well by the Indian National Congress.

Support to Quit India Movement

Muslim League, the Communist Party of India and the Hindu Mahasabha did not support the movement. The Indian bureaucracy also did not support the movement.

The League was not in favour of the British leaving India without partitioning the country first.

The Communist party supported the British since they were allied with the Soviet Union.

The Hindu Mahasabha openly opposed the call for the Quit India Movement and boycotted it officially under the apprehension that the movement would create internal disorder and will endanger internal security during the war.

10. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

‘eSanjeevani’ and ‘eSanjeevaniOPD’ are the two telemedicine service platforms of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), telemedicine is the delivery of health care services, by using Information Technology (IT) for diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disease and injuries, research and evaluation, etc.

‘eSanjeevani’ is developed by the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) Mohali. C-DAC is the premier R&D organization of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) for carrying out R&D in IT, Electronics and associated areas.