



# EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

## DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 15-10-2020

### EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Union Minister for AYUSH inaugurated the Regional Raw Drug Repository (RRDR) for ASU&H medicine (Southern Plateau Region) at National Institute of Siddha. Ministry of AYUSH, through the National Medicinal Plants Board, initiated establishment of National Raw Drug Repository and Regional Raw Drug Repositories. NMPB have identified National Institute of Siddha as the lead Institute with the Regional Research Institute of Unani Medicine, Chennai and the Siddha Central Research Institute, Chennai as the Collaborating Institutes. This RRDR would play a stellar role in collection, documentation, and authentication of raw drugs collected from the agro-climatic region, that is, the Southern Plateau Region.

2. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Agnibaaz Division organized Exercise SurakshaKavach, a Joint Anti-Terrorist Exercise for both Indian Army and Maharashtra Police at Lullanagar Pune. The aim of the exercise was to harmonize the drills and procedures of both Army and Police for activating anti-terrorist Quick Reaction Teams (QRTs) to counter any terrorist actions in Pune. The exercise involved participation of Quick Reaction Teams, Dog Squads and Bomb Disposal Teams of Army as well as Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) and Quick Reaction Team of Maharashtra Police.

3. Ans) (c)

Explanation

Aquaponics is a system that combines hydroponics, soil-less agriculture, and aquaculture within a closed system (not open system). There are three biological components in the aquaponics process: fish, plants, and bacteria (for cycling of nutrients- ammonia to nitrate conversion). Hydroponics is a method of growing plants in a water-based, nutrient-rich solution. Hydroponics does not use soil, instead, the root system is supported using an inert medium such as clay pellets. The basic premise behind hydroponics is to allow the plant's roots to come in direct contact with the nutrient solution, while also having access to oxygen, which is essential for proper growth.

4. Ans) (c)

### Explanation

AMRUT (Atal mission for rejuvenation and urban transformation) Mission was launched to develop 500 Indian cities by providing better facilities and civic amenities. It envisages capacity building, reform implementation, water supply, sewerage and septage management, storm water drainage, urban transport and development of green spaces and parks. It is a central sponsored scheme whereby Centre and states both contribute finances. AMRUT has made states equal partners in planning and implementation of projects by approval of SAAP once a year by MoHUA and states have to give project sanctions and approval at their end, therefore actualisation of cooperative federalism. Hence, statement 2 is not correct. It was launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs in 2017.

### 5. Ans) (c)

#### Explanation

Recently the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment launched a 24/7 toll-free helpline called KIRAN to provide support to people facing anxiety, stress, depression, suicidal thoughts and other mental health concerns. Manodarpan Initiative is an initiative of the Ministry of Education under Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan. It is aimed to provide psychosocial support to students, family members and teachers for their mental health and well-being during the times of Covid-19.

### 6. Ans) (b)

#### Explanation

Common Leopard (*Pantherapardus*) are found in sub-Saharan Africa, in small parts of Western and Central Asia, the Indian subcontinent and Southeast and East Asia. The Indian leopard (*Pantherapardusfusca*) is a leopard widely distributed on the Indian subcontinent. Habitat loss and fragmentation, poaching for the illegal trade of skins and body parts, and persecution due to conflict situations

Conservation Status:

IUCN Red List: Vulnerable

CITES: Appendix I

Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I

### 7. Ans) (c)

#### Explanation

Due to the 'opposition' effect, Mars will look much brighter and bigger than usual in October 2020. Opposition, in astronomy, is the circumstance in which two celestial bodies appear in opposite directions in the sky.

Examples: The Moon, when full, is said to be in opposition to the Sun; the Earth is then approximately

between them. A superior planet (one with an orbit farther from the Sun than Earth's) is in opposition when Earth passes between it and the Sun. The opposition of a planet is a good time to observe it, because the planet is then typically at its nearest point to the Earth for a given year and because it is close, the planet appears brighter in the sky. The planets Venus and Mercury, whose orbits are smaller than Earth's, can never be in opposition to the Sun. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

8. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

International Day of Rural Women is being celebrated on 15 October, 2020. The International Day of Rural Women was created in 1995 by Civil society organizations at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing and was declared an official UN Day in 2007 by the UN General Assembly. From agriculture to food security, nutrition, land and natural resource management, domestic care and work, rural women are at the forefront. The theme for this International Day of Rural Women is "Building rural women's resilience in the wake of COVID-19," to create awareness of these women's struggles, their needs, and their critical and key role in our society.

9. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

A new wheat variety MACS-6478 is helping farmers in a village in Maharashtra to double their yield. The wheat variety was developed by Scientists from Agharkar Research Institute, an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology. The farmers of the village in Koregaon tehsil of Satara district in Maharashtra are now getting a yield of 45 to 60 quintal per hectare with the new variety as against earlier average yield ranging 25 to 30 quintal per hectare. The newly developed common wheat or bread wheat, also called high yielding Aestivum, matures in 110 days and is resistant to most races of leaf and stem rust.

10. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

The Union Cabinet has approved World Bank supported Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States -STARS project. The Project seeks to support States in developing, implementing and evaluating interventions with direct linkages to improved education outcomes. The total project cost is 5,718 crore rupees with the financial support of World Bank amounting to 500 million US dollar. STARS project would be implemented as a new Centrally Sponsored Scheme under Department of School Education and Literacy. It will cover six States, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala and Odisha.