



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 18-11-2020

EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

The 7th round of Foreign Office Consultations between India and Kazakhstan was held. During the consultations, the two sides reviewed the entire gamut of bilateral cooperation within the framework of their Strategic Partnership. The consultations covered political, economic and commercial, energy, defence, space, consular and cultural matters. An MoU on “Indian Grant Assistance for Implementation of High Impact Community Development Projects in Kazakhstan” was signed.

2. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga and his Australian counterpart Scott Morrison have signed a landmark defence deal in a bid to counter China’s growing influence in the South China Sea and over the Pacific island nations. Hence option (d) is correct.

3. Explanation:

Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), a joint venture of PSUs under the Ministry of Power and Department of New & Renewable Energy (DNRE), Goa, have signed a MOU to implement India’s first Convergence Project in the State. Under the MoU, EESL and DNRE will carry-out the feasibility studies and subsequent implementation of decentralized solar energy projects. EESL shall implement the solar energy projects including establishment of 100 MW of decentralized ground mounted Solar Power projects on government lands to be used for agricultural pumping, replacing approximately 6,300 agricultural pumps with BEE star rated energy efficient pumps and distribute approximately 16 Lakh LED bulbs for rural domestic households. The projects will accelerate the usage of renewable energy sources, especially for agricultural and rural power consumption in the State.

4. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

The second flight test of Quick Reaction Surface to Air Missile System (QRSAM) was successfully conducted by DRDO from the Integrated Test Range, Chandipur, off the coast of Odisha. The first in the series test of QRSAM took place on 13th of this month. The second flight test was carried out against the

high performance Jet Unmanned Aerial Target called Banshee, which simulates an aircraft. The system is capable of detecting and tracking targets on the move and engaging targets with short halts. It is designed to give air defence coverage for strike columns of the Indian Army, Propelled by a single stage solid propellant rocket motor, the sophisticated missile used all indigenous subsystems. The missile is canisterised for transportation and launch using a mobile launcher which is capable of carrying six canisterised missiles. first launch test on 13th November proved the Radar and Missile capabilities with direct hit while today's test demonstrated the warhead performance on proximity detection.

5. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

The five-nation grouping BRICS has adopted a new counter-terrorism strategy to effectively deal with terrorism. The objective of BRICS counter-terrorism cooperation is to complement and strengthen the existing bilateral and multilateral ties among the BRICS countries, and to make a meaningful contribution to the global efforts of preventing and combating the threat of terrorism. BRICS is the acronym coined to associate five major emerging national economies: Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa. Mekong Ganga Cooperation: It comprises six member countries, namely India, Thailand, Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam. Shanghai Cooperation: It comprises of 8 Member States, namely China, India, Kazakhstan Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation is an inter-governmental forum for 21 member economies in the Pacific Rim that promotes free trade throughout the Asia-Pacific region. It comprises of Australia · Brunei · Canada · Chile · Hong Kong · Indonesia · Japan · Malaysia · Mexico · New Zealand · Papua New Guinea · Peru · People's Republic of China · Philippines · Republic of China (Taiwan).

6. Ans) (d)

Explanation

Article 32 of the Constitution (Right to Constitutional Remedies) is a fundamental right, which states that individuals have the right to approach the Supreme Court (SC) seeking enforcement of other fundamental rights recognised by the Constitution. The SC has power to issue directions or orders or writs for the enforcement of any of the fundamental rights. The writs issued may include habeas corpus, mandamus, prohibition, certiorari and quo-warranto. Article 226 of the Constitution empowers a high court to issue writs including habeas corpus, mandamus, certiorari, prohibition and quo warranto for the enforcement of the fundamental rights of the citizens and for any other purpose. The phrase 'for any other purpose' refers to the enforcement of an ordinary legal right. This implies that the writ jurisdiction of the high court is wider than that of the SC. This is because the SC can issue writs only for the enforcement of fundamental rights and not for any other purpose, that is, it does not extend to a case where the breach of an ordinary legal right is alleged. The high court can issue writs to any person, authority and government not only

within its territorial jurisdiction but also outside its territorial jurisdiction if the cause of action arises within its territorial jurisdiction.

7. Ans) (b)

Explanation

Ethiopia is a country on the Horn of Africa. The capital is Addis Ababa (“New Flower”), located almost at the centre of the country. Ethiopia is bounded by Eritrea to the north, Djibouti to the northeast, Somalia to the east, Kenya to the south, and South Sudan and Sudan to the west. Abiy Ahmed, after becoming Ethiopia’s Prime Minister in April 2018, reached out to the political opposition, ushered democratic reforms, lifted curbs on the media and made peace with Eritrea - moves that won him the Nobel Peace Prize in 2019. Abiy has declared war on the country’s Tigray region, which is ruled by the powerful Tigray People’s Liberation Front (TPLF), in response to its attack on a federal military base in Tigray. Eritrea is a sworn enemy of the TPLF, which shares a long border with the Tigray region.

8. Ans) (a)

Explanation

Inflation refers to the rise in the prices of most goods and services of daily or common use, such as food, clothing, housing, recreation, transport, consumer staples, etc. It measures the average price change in a basket of commodities and services over time. It is indicative of the decrease in the purchasing power of a unit of a country’s currency. Decrease in the purchasing power, due to inflation, could lead to a deceleration in economic growth. However, a moderate level of inflation is required in the economy to ensure that production is promoted. Therefore, mild inflation is seen as “greasing the wheels of commerce”.

9. Ans) (a)

Explanation

Recently, the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) launched a Vulture Action Plan 2020-25 for the conservation of vultures in the country. Some of the objectives of the Action Plan for Vulture Conservation 2020-2025. To ensure minimum use of Diclofenac. To Prevent the poisoning of the principal food of vultures, the cattle carcasses, with veterinary NSAIDs, by ensuring that sale of veterinary NSAIDs is regulated and is disbursed only on prescription and by ensuring that treatment of livestock is done only by qualified veterinarians. Between the 1990s and 2007, numbers of three presently critically-endangered species, the Oriental white-backed, long-billed and slender-billed vultures decreased massively with 99% of the species having been wiped out. The number of red-headed vultures, also critically-endangered now, declined by 91% while the Egyptian vultures by 80%.

Indian Griffon Vulture (*Gyps Fulvus*), Himalayan Griffon (*Gyps Himalayensis*), Cinereous Vulture (*Aegypius Monachus*) and Bearded Vulture or Lammergeier (*Gypaetus Barbatus*) are Near Threatened.

10. Ans) (d)

Explanation

According to the 2018 report on “vital statistics of India based on the Civil Registration System”, Arunachal Pradesh recorded the best sex ratio at birth in the country while Manipur recorded the worst sex ratio at birth. The report was published by the Registrar General of India. Sex ratio at birth is number of females born per thousand males. It is an important indicator to map the gender gap of a population.