



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 19-08-2020

EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (a)

Explanation :

The Madhya Pradesh government's recent decision to reserve all government jobs for "children of the state" raises questions relating to the fundamental right to equality.

Article 16 of the Constitution, which guarantees equal treatment under law in matters of public employment, prohibits the state from discriminating on grounds of place of birth or residence.

Article 16(2) states that "no citizen shall, on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, descent, place of birth, residence or any of them, be ineligible for, or discriminated against in respect or, any employment or office under the State".

However, Article 16(3) of the Constitution provides an exception by saying that Parliament may make a law "prescribing" a requirement of residence for jobs in a particular state. This power vests solely in the Parliament, not state legislatures.

The Supreme Court has ruled against reservation based on place of birth or residence.

In 1984, ruling in *Dr Pradeep Jain v Union of India*, the court expressed an opinion that such policies would be unconstitutional but did not expressly rule on it as the case was on different aspects of the right to equality.

2. Ans) (c)

Explanation :

Sri Lankan government has granted approval to abolish the 19th amendment to the constitution and replace it with the 20th amendment.

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa had made the abolition of 19th amendment as the main election plank during the presidential and parliamentary elections.

The amendment brought by previous government had put a two-term limit on Presidency and curtailed the executive powers of President and transferred it to parliament and independent commissions.

The Rajapaksa family had alleged that the amendment was brought specifically to target the family.

Mahinda Rajapaksa could not contest the last November Presidential elections because of term limit and his younger brother Gotabaya became the candidate.

The Rajapaksas secured a two-third majority in parliament during general elections held this month, thus paving way for constitutional amendments.

3. Ans) (a)

Explanation :

National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) and Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-National Aerospace Laboratories (CSIR-NAL) have joined hands to establish an Innovation-cum-Incubation Centre with external private funding to promote start-ups in the field of Aerospace technologies.

Under this program start-ups in the area of Aerospace engineering would be incubated, mentored and supported for product and prototype development and their validation.

National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL), is India's first largest aerospace firm. It was established by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) at Delhi in 1959 and its headquarters was later moved to Bangalore in 1960.

4. Ans) (a)

Explanation :

A MoU to provide certified good quality seeds to jute farmers in the year 2021-22 was signed between Jute Corporation of India and National Seeds Corporation.

As an outcome of the MoU, Jute Corporation of India will distribute 10 thousand Quintals of certified jute seeds of JRO-204 variety in the 2021-22 crop year.

Certified seeds from National Seeds Corporation will be purchased by Jute Corporation of India for this first ever commercial distribution operation.

Five to six lakh farm families will be benefited and the spurious seed market will be reduced drastically.

The increase in productivity will enhance the income of the farmers and will go a long way in reaching the target of doubling the farmers' income by 2022.

5. Ans) (c)

Explanation :

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla today attended the inaugural ceremony of the Fifth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament (5WCSP).

The two day Conference is being organized jointly by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), Geneva and the Parliament of Austria with the support of the United Nations (UN).

This is the first time that an international Parliamentary Conference of such a magnitude is being organised in Virtual mode.

The theme of the Conference is Parliamentary leadership for more effective multilateralism that delivers peace and sustainable development for the people and planet.

6. Ans) (a)

Explanation :

Prime Minister Narendra Modi greeted people on the Prakash Purab Utsav of the holy book Guru Granth Sahib. The first Prakash Purab Utsav marked the installation of Guru Granth Sahib in Harmandir Sahib, also known as the Golden temple, in 1604.

Guru Granth Sahib is the central religious scripture of Sikhs. It is regarded by Sikhs as the final, sovereign and eternal living Guru following the lineage of the ten human gurus of the religion.

The Adi Granth, its first rendition, was compiled by the fifth Guru, Guru Arjan (1563–1606).

Guru Gobind Singh, the tenth Sikh Guru, did not add any of his own hymns; however, he added all 115 hymns of Guru Tegh Bahadur, the ninth Sikh Guru, to the Adi Granth and affirmed the text as his successor. This second rendition became known as Guru Granth Sahib and is sometimes also referred to as Adi Granth.

7. Ans) (a)

Explanation

Digital Quality of Life (DQL) Index is released by SurfShark, an online privacy solutions provider. The index studies five fundamental pillars that define the digital quality of life namely, internet affordability, internet quality, electronic infrastructure, electronic security and electronic government. It is global research on the quality of digital wellbeing in 85 countries. According to it, India ranks among the lowest (57th position) in the world in terms of Internet quality. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.

8. Ans) (d)

Explanation

‘Swadeshi Microprocessor Challenge- Innovate Solutions for Aatmanirbhar Bharat seeks to invite innovators, startups and students to use (not make) microprocessors, developed by IIT Madras and C-DAC, to generate various technology products.

IIT Madras and Center for Development of Advance Computing (C-DAC) have developed two microprocessors named SHAKTI (32 bit) and VEGA (64 bit) respectively using Open Source Architecture under the aegis of Microprocessor Development Programme of MeitY.

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has announced ‘Swadeshi Microprocessor Challenge’ to provide further impetus to the Start-up ecosystem, innovation and research in the country.

9. Ans) (b)

Explanation

National Disaster Management Plan (NDMP) provides a framework and direction to the government agencies for all phases of the disaster management cycle. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

The primary aim of the plan is to make India disaster resilient and drastically lessen the damage caused during and in the aftermath of disasters, natural and man-made. The National Disaster Management Plan (NDMP) was first released in 2016. The plan was updated in 2016, 2018 and 2019.

The NDMP 2019 incorporates Prime Minister's ten point agenda for Disaster Risk Reduction.

With the National Disaster Management Plan (2016) India has aligned its National plan with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, to which India is a signatory.

10. Ans) (c)

Explanation

Electromagnetic Interference (EMI)

EMI is an electromagnetic emission that causes a disturbance in another piece of electrical equipment.

Any device that has an electronic circuit can be susceptible to EMI.

It compromises the performance of electrical equipment by obstructing and degrading data, sometimes even losing data completely. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

EMI can be attributed to a wide span of the electromagnetic spectrum including radio and microwave frequencies. In 1933, the International Special Committee on Radio Interference (CISPR) was created to address emerging concerns over EMI.