



# EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

## DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 23-07-2020

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### EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (a)

Explanation :

Union Ministry of Youth Affairs signed a Statement of Intent with YuWaah to work in partnership to promote volunteerism among the youth of India as well as to help them transition from education and learning to productive work, skilling and being active citizens. UNICEF had launched Generation Unlimited India (YuWaah) in November 2019. It is a multi-stakeholder alliance which aims to facilitate youth to gain relevant skills for productive lives and the future of work. The target age group of YuWaah includes adolescent girls and boys. Its key mission is to promote among youth foundational skills, life skills and flexible learning and identifying and scaling impactful delivery models. YuWaah intends to create platforms to guide youth to market opportunities (career guidance, mentorship, internships, apprenticeships) and facilitate integration of career guidance in school education

2. Ans) (c)

Explanation :

The early-stage human trial data of a COVID-19 vaccine developed by AstraZeneca and Oxford University has shown positive result. It is safe and induces immune response, with mild side effects in some participants. The vaccine - called ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 - is made from a genetically engineered virus that causes the common cold in chimpanzees. The recent study showed 90 percent of involved people developed neutralising antibodies and T-cells that can fight coronavirus after one dose. When someone is infected with the Covid-19 virus, it spreads in the body easily because of the spikes on its surface, known as the 'spike protein', which allow the virus to penetrate cells and, thereafter, multiply. The vaccine developed by Oxford and AstraZeneca, which belongs to a category called non-replicating viral vector vaccines, tries to build the body's immunity against this spike protein. The idea is to create antibodies to fight this spiked surface so that the virus does not even have the chance to penetrate the cells.

3. Ans) (b)

Explanation :

Ministry of Defence signed a Contract with Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML) for procurement of 1,512 Mine Plough (MP) for Tank T-90 S/SK at cost of Rs. 557 crore. The contract has Buy and Make

(Indian) categorisation with a minimum of 50% indigenous content in make portion of the contract. These mine ploughs will be fitted on T-90 Tanks of Indian Armoured Corps which will facilitate individual mobility to Tanks while negotiating mine field. The induction of these 1,512 mine ploughs is planned to be completed by 2027. Mobility of Tank Fleet will enhance manifold, which in turn would extend the reach of Armoured Formation deep into enemy territory without becoming mine causality. It will also boost the 'Make in India' initiative of the Government.

4. Ans) (b)

Explanation :

Recently, the Mohali police arrested alleged match-fixer Ravinder Dandiwal, who has been linked to two betting scandals exposed. He has been charged with cheating under Section 420 of the IPC. Match-fixing is not an independent offence in India and there are no laws covering it. Investigating authorities mostly try to book the accused for cheating under Section 420 in The Indian Penal Code which deals with "Cheating and dishonestly inducing delivery of property". In the past, alleged match-fixers were punished by the BCCI under its anti-corruption rules and not by law enforcement (these punishments, too, were later reduced or overturned by courts).

5. Ans) (a)

Explanation :

Indian Naval ships conducted a Passage Exercise (PASSEX) with the U.S. Navy's USS Nimitz carrier strike group near the Andaman and Nicobar islands as it is transiting the Indian Ocean. The maritime drill, PASSEX, aims at further enhancing interoperability between Navies of both the countries. The Nimitz Carrier Strike Group is on its way to be deployed in the Gulf region from the South China Sea. With regular large-scale exercises deferred due to the COVID-19 pandemic, The Indian Navy had conducted similar PASSEXs with Japanese and French Navy in the recent past. The exercise comes amid a high alert by the Navy in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) due to the stand-off with China along the border in Ladakh. The Navy is keeping a close watch on the movement in the IOR of Chinese naval ships, whose presence has gone up considerably over the years in the name of anti-piracy patrols. In 2017, China opened its first overseas military base in Djibouti in the Horn of Africa.

6. Ans) (c)

Explanation

The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World is an annual flagship report jointly prepared by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Food Programme (WFP) and the World Health Organization (WHO) to inform on progress towards ending hunger,

achieving food security and improving nutrition and to provide in-depth analysis on key challenges for achieving this goal in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

International Labour Organization (ILO) is not involved in the preparation of 'The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World' report.

The report targets a wide audience, including policy-makers, international organizations, academic institutions and the general public.

According to the recent report, hunger and malnutrition is increasing around the world. In this scenario, achieving the Sustainable Development Goal (2) of 'Zero Hunger' by 2030 will be very difficult.

7. Ans) (a)

Explanation

Sero-surveillance seeks to assess the prevalence of disease in a population by detecting the presence of specific antibodies against the virus.

It can also be conducted to check if a person has developed immunity to certain diseases.

It indicates past infections (and which triggered an immune response), and is not used to detect active infections.

Tested Immunoglobulin G Using ELISA: The Sera (a part of blood) of samples were tested for IgG antibodies and Covid-19 infection using Covid Kavach ELISA kits approved by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).

IgG (Immunoglobulin G) is a type of antibody which develops in most Covid-19 patients (infections) at around two weeks after infection and remains in the blood even after recovery.

ELISA (Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay) is a test that detects and measures antibodies in blood.

8. Ans) (c)

Explanation

Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT)

Originally developed as an insecticide, it became infamous for its environmental impacts.

A worldwide ban on agricultural use was formalized under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants.

However, its limited use in disease vector control continues, because of its effectiveness in reducing malarial infections.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) recommends DDT as one of the efficient Indoor Residual Spraying (IRS) chemicals to curb mosquito menace and it is widely used by Southern African countries like South Africa, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Namibia, Mozambique and India. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

DDT is a colorless, tasteless, and almost odorless crystalline chemical compound.

It was first synthesized in 1874 by the Austrian chemist Othmar Zeidler.

Its insecticidal action was discovered by the Swiss chemist Paul Hermann Muller in 1939.

He was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1948 for his discovery of the high efficiency of DDT as a contact poison against several arthropods.

9. Ans) (a)

Explanation

Recently, the Ministry of Human Resources Development (MHRD) has launched the 'Manodarpan' initiative 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. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

The platform includes a national toll free helpline for students of schools, universities and colleges, which will be manned by a pool of experienced counsellors, psychologists and mental health professionals.

It also has a website, a national database of counsellors which will host an interactive online chat platform, advisories and tips through webinars and other resources.

10. Ans) (a)

Explanation

The Global Fund (with a total investment of \$2 billion) was created in 2002 to pool the world's resources & invest them strategically in programs to end Tuberculosis (TB), Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), and Malaria as epidemics.

It is a partnership of governments, civil society, technical agencies, the private sector and people affected by the diseases. India has set a precedent for other donors to contribute generously to the cause.

India has recently announced a contribution of \$22 million to the Global Fund for AIDS, TB, and Malaria. India has stepped an inch closer by enhancing the Global Fund efforts to strengthen health systems and save 16 million more lives across the globe. The Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria was created to raise, manage and invest the world's money in eliminating three of the deadliest infectious diseases the world has ever known. India shares a sustained partnership with the Global Fund since its formation, both as a recipient and as a donor.