



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 24-07-2020

EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (c)

Explanation :

National Broadcasting day was observed on July 23, 2020. On this day in 1927, the first ever radio broadcast in the country went on the air from the Bombay Station under a private company, the Indian Broadcasting Company. On 8th of June, 1936, the Indian State Broadcasting Service became All India Radio (AIR). Currently, AIR is one of the largest public broadcasting organisations in the world.

2. Ans) (d)

Explanation :

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the acquisition of Krishnapatnam Port Company Limited (KPCL) by Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Limited (SEZL). Krishnapatnam Port is a privately built and owned all weather, deep water port on the east coast of India, located in the Nellore District of Andhra Pradesh. KPCL is engaged as a developer and operator of the deep water port at Krishnapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. Adani Ports is an integrated port infrastructure services provider currently present across ten domestic ports in six maritime states of Gujarat, Goa, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Odisha.

3. Ans) (c)

Explanation :

The Centre told the Delhi High Court that all e-commerce entities, including Amazon, Flipkart and Snapdeal, have to ensure the mandatory declaration of country of origin of imported products sold on their respective sites. The Department of Consumer Affairs said the law relating to the issue was enacted under the Legal Metrology Act, 2009 and the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011. The enforcement of the provisions of the Act and Rules rests with the legal metrology officials of the State/UT governments.

4. Ans) (c)

Explanation :

The Union Health Ministry cautioned against the use of N-95 valved respirator/masks – which is basically the raised plastic disk that is embedded in the fibre – stating that it does not prevent the novel Coronavirus from spreading out of the mask. N95 masks are personal protective equipment that protects the wearer from airborne particles and from liquid contaminating the face. N95 masks are worn mostly by healthcare workers. N95 masks filter about 95 per cent of particles smaller than 300 nanometres (1 nm is a billionth part of a metre). SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes Covid-19, however, is in the size range of 65-125 nm.

The valve or the raised plastic gasket found in some N95 mask models basically filters the air inhaled by the person and blocks the entry of pathogens suspended in the air. The valves allow easier exhalation than traditional masks, prevent humidity, reduce heat and carbon dioxide build-up inside the mask. The valve is basically a 'one-way valve' that only protects the person wearing it and doesn't filter the

aerosols coming out. Hence, an asymptomatic carrier of the novel coronavirus can easily spread the infection to others when the valve releases the unfiltered exhaled air in the immediate surroundings.

5. Ans) (b)

Explanation :

The 12th edition of the Environment Performance Index (EPI 2020) – released by Yale University – ranked India at 168 out of the 180 countries analysed, behind all South Asian nations, except Afghanistan, with a score of 27.6. The index is based on 32 performance indicators across 11 categories—biodiversity & habitat, air quality, water and sanitation, etc—based on which countries are ranked on environmental health and ecosystem vitality. The 2020 rankings include for the first time a waste management metric and a pilot indicator on CO2 emissions from land cover change. Denmark is ranked first, followed by Luxembourg and Switzerland. Liberia is ranked last at 180. India is ranked 168 with a score of 27.6. India performed the worst regionally on all five key parameters for environmental health—sanitation, drinking water, air quality, heavy metals, and waste management.

6. Ans) (a)

Explanation :

Prime Minister Modi addressed the India Ideas Summit which was held from July 21-22, 2020. The theme for this year's Summit was 'Building a Better Future'. The Summit is being hosted by the US-India Business Council (USIBC), a Washington-based business advocacy group. USIBC was formed in 1975 as a business advocacy organization to encourage the private sectors of both India and United States to enhance investment flows. Former United States Department of State official Nisha Biswal serves as the current chairman of USIBC. She is assisted by a board of directors. In 2017, USIBC announced a collaborative initiative titled Women for Women Innovators, Social Leaders, & Entrepreneurs (WISE) to offer leadership, mentoring, and development opportunities for women entrepreneurs and innovators.

7. Ans) (b)

Explanation

Dibru-Saikhowa is a National Park as well as a Biosphere Reserve situated in the south bank of the river Brahmaputra in Assam.

The forest type of Dibru-Saikhowa comprises semi-evergreen forests, deciduous forests, littoral and swamp forests and patches of wet evergreen forests.

It is the largest swamp forest in north-eastern India (Sundarban is the largest in India).

Mammals found in the Park include Tiger, Elephant, Leopard, Jungle Cat, Bears, Small Indian Civet, Squirrels, Gangetic Dolphin, Hoolock Gibbon, etc.

It is an identified Important Bird Area (IBA), notified by the Birdlife International. It is most famous for the rare white-winged wood ducks as well as feral horses. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

Maguri Motapung wetland is a part of the Reserve

8. Ans) (c)

Explanation

Indian bullfrog is an invasive species that poses a threat to small endemic vertebrates of Andamans and Nicobar islands.

An invasive species is a species that is accidentally or artificially introduced into a biosphere where it is not normally found.

In the absence of a natural predator, as it generally happens, the invasive species thrive and causes economic and environmental damage due to the imbalance created by its introduction.

Its IUCN Red List Category status is Least Concern.

It is placed under Schedule IV (Animals not in danger of becoming extinct; hunting invokes penalties) of the Indian Wildlife Act 1972.

9. Ans) (b)

Explanation

Criticality is the normal operating condition of a reactor, in which nuclear fuel sustains a fission chain reaction. A reactor achieves criticality (and is said to be critical) when each fission event releases a sufficient number of neutrons to sustain an ongoing series of reactions.

Criticality is the first step towards power production. Heat is produced in the event, which is used to generate steam that spins a turbine to create electricity.

10. Ans) (a)

Explanation

According to the Agharkar Research Institute, the colour of Lonar lake water in Maharashtra's Buldhana district turned pink due to a large presence of the salt-loving 'Haloarchaea' microbes.

The increased salinity and pH facilitated the growth of halophilic microbes, mainly Haloarchaea.

Halophiles are a group of microorganisms that can grow and often thrive in areas of high salt (NaCl) concentration.

Haloarchaea is a bacteria culture which produces pink pigment and is found in water saturated with salt.