



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 29-09-2020

EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (c)

Explanation :

Indian Railway has rolled out User Depot Module (UDM) to completely digitize its supply chain. User Depot Module (UDM) developed by CRIS (Centre for Railway Information Systems) was rolled out digitally across all User Depots of Western Railway. This system will be implemented shortly across all Zones of Indian Railways. Railway's supply chain up to Stores Depots has already been digitized, however activities at user end are being done manually. Implementation of this system will bring in transformational changes from manual working to digital working with real time transactions and online information exchange among all stakeholders. This will ensure digitization of complete supply chain, including user depots. The system will facilitate economy, efficiency and transparency besides improved asset management. It will ensure improved service level and satisfaction to customers.

2. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

In a major step toward adopting alternative clean fuel for transportation, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has allowed use of H-CNG (18% mix of hydrogen) in CNG engines. The Ministry has been notifying various alternate fuels under Clean Fuels for transportation. The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has also developed specifications (IS 17314:2019) of Hydrogen enriched Compressed Natural Gas (H-CNG) for automotive purposes, as a fuel. A notification for amendments to the Central Motor Vehicles Rules 1989, for inclusion of H-CNG as an automotive fuel has been published dated 25th Sept 2020 by the Ministry. The Hydrogen Compressed Natural Gas (H-CNG) is a mixture of compressed natural gas and 4-9 per cent hydrogen by energy. It can be used as a fuel in internal combustion engine and also for home appliances.

3. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

The outbreak of scrub typhus, a bacterial disease, has claimed the lives of five people in Nagaland's Noklak district bordering Myanmar. More than 600 others tested positive for the disease but recovered following treatment. Scrub typhus, also known as bush typhus, is a disease caused by a bacteria called *Orientia tsutsugamushi*. Scrub typhus is spread to people through bites of infected chiggers (larval mites). The most common symptoms of scrub typhus include fever, headache, body aches, and sometimes rash.

People with severe illness may develop organ failure and bleeding, which can be fatal if left untreated. Most cases of scrub typhus occur in rural areas of Southeast Asia, Indonesia, China, Japan, India, and northern Australia. Scrub typhus should be treated with the antibiotic doxycycline. Doxycycline can be used in persons of any age. People who are treated early with doxycycline usually recover quickly.

4. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India recommended the creation of a multi-stakeholder body (MSB) by Department of Telecommunications (DoT) to ensure that Internet access providers adhere to the provisions of net neutrality. The MSB, which could include telecom service providers, Internet service providers, content providers, researchers, academic and technical community, civil society organisations, and the government, should be set up as a non-profit entity. The role of the MSB shall be to provide advice and support to DoT in the monitoring and enforcement of net neutrality principles. The MSB may also be required to investigate complaints regarding the violation of net neutrality. TRAI also suggested that the MSB help DoT in maintenance of a repository of reasonable traffic management practices. The net neutrality principles adopted by DoT were technology neutral and would apply equally to 5G technology, the telecom regulator clarified. TRAI had released its recommendations on net neutrality in November 2017 which barred discrimination in internet access based on content. The discrimination of content includes practices like blocking, degrading, slowing down or granting preferential speeds or treatment to any content. The government had accepted most of the recommendations of TRAI, and on July 31, 2018, issued principle directives on net neutrality.

5. Ans) (a)

Explanation :

The first ever observance of the International Day of Awareness on Food Loss and Waste Reduction is being celebrated on 29 September, 2020. It was designated in 2019 by the 74th United Nations General Assembly. Reducing food losses and waste is essential in a world where the number of people affected by hunger has been slowly on the rise since 2014, and tons and tons of edible food are lost and/or wasted every day. Globally, around 14 percent of food produced is lost between harvest and retail. Significant quantities are also wasted in retail and at the consumption level. Food loss and waste also puts unnecessary pressure on the natural resource base and on the environment, depleting the natural resource base and generating greenhouse gases. SDG Target 12.3 says "by 2030 halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer level, and reduce food losses along production and supply chains including post-harvest losses." To monitor SDG Target 12.3, FAO has created the Food Loss Index (FLI). The focus of the indicator is on percentages of food removed from the supply chain. The FLI monitors changes in these percentages over time, relative to a base period currently set at 2015, in order to track

progress against SDG Target 12.3.

6. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

Google dedicated a doodle to Zohra Segal, one of the country's first female actors to truly achieve recognition on the international stage. Zohra Sehgal (1912 – 2014) was an Indian actress, dancer, and choreographer. Considered the doyenne of Indian theatre, she acted with the Indian People's Theatre Association (IPTA) and Prithviraj Kapoor's Prithvi Theatre for 14 years. Sehgal appeared in several British films, television shows, and Bollywood productions in a career that spanned over six decades.

Awards received: Sangeet Natak Akademi Award; Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship;

Kalidas Samman; Padma Shri; Padma Bhushan; and Padma Vibhushan

7. Ans) (d)

Explanation

Recently, territorial dispute between Armenia and Azerbaijan over the Nagorno-Karabakh region has re-erupted with heavy clashes. Armenia and Azerbaijan are part of Transcaucasia or South Caucasia (geographical region in the vicinity of the southern Caucasus Mountains on the border of Eastern Europe and Western Asia consisting of Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan).

8. Ans) (c)

Explanation

Red Sandalwood, also commonly known as Red sanders (*Pterocarpus santalinus*), is endemic to South India. They are found in the Tropical Dry Deciduous forest of the Palakonda and Seshachalam hill ranges of Andhra Pradesh and also found in Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. Red Sanders usually grow in the rocky, degraded and fallow lands with Red Soil and hot and dry climate. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has put it under the category of near threatened from earlier endangered species in the Red List. It is known for its rich hue and therapeutic properties, is high in demand across Asia, particularly in China and Japan, for cosmetics and medicinal products, wood-works and musical instruments. India's sandalwood trees are facing a serious threat due to Sandalwood Spike Disease (SSD).

9. Ans) (d)

Explanation

In 1928, Lala Lajpat Rai had led a procession to protest against the arrival of the Simon Commission. The police resorted to a brutal lathi charge, in which Lala Lajpat Rai was severely injured and later succumbed to his injuries. To take revenge for the death of Lala Lajpat Rai, Bhagat Singh and his associates plotted the assassination of James A. Scott, the Superintendent of Police. However, the

revolutionaries mistakenly killed J.P. Saunders. The incident is famously known as Lahore Conspiracy case (1929). Bhagat Singh and B.K. Dutt threw a bomb on 8 April, 1929 in the Central Legislative Assembly, in response to the formulation of Defence of India Act. The aim, as their leaflet explained, was not to kill but to make the deaf hear, and to remind the foreign government of its callous exploitation. Both Bhagat Singh and B.K. Dutt surrendered thereafter and faced trial so they could further promote their cause. They were awarded life imprisonment for this incident.

10. Ans) (c)

Explanation

Mercosur Bloc was established in 1991 by the Treaty of Asunción, which was later amended and updated by the 1994 Treaty of Ouro Preto. Its full members are Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay. Venezuela's membership was suspended in 2016.