



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 10-03-2021

EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Recently, Dholavira: A Harappan City' has been submitted for nomination of World Heritage Site in 2019-2020. Nomination dossiers of 'Santiniketan, India' and 'Sacred Ensemble of Hoysalas' have been submitted to UNESCO for the year 2021-22 cycle. At present, India has 38 World Heritage Properties. Besides, India has 42 sites listed under Tentative List which is a pre-requisite condition for inscription as World Heritage Site.

What is a World Heritage site?

A World Heritage site is classified as a natural or man-made area or a structure that is of international importance, and a space which requires special protection. These sites are officially recognised by the UN and the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation, also known as UNESCO. UNESCO believes that the sites classified as World Heritage are important for humanity, and they hold cultural and physical significance.

Facts:

The list is maintained by the international World Heritage Programme administered by the UNESCO World Heritage Committee, composed of 21 UNESCO member states which are elected by the General Assembly. Each World Heritage Site remains part of the legal territory of the state wherein the site is located and UNESCO considers it in the interest of the international community to preserve each site. To be selected, a World Heritage Site must be an already classified landmark, unique in some respect as a geographically and historically identifiable place having special cultural or physical significance.

2. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

The Supreme Court has decided to examine whether the Indira Sawhney verdict of 1992 needs a relook.

What's the issue?

In 1992, the Supreme Court fixed reservation for the marginalised and the poor in government jobs and educational institutions at 50%, except in "extraordinary circumstances". However, over the years, several States, such as Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu, have crossed the Rubicon and

passed laws which allow reservation shooting over 60%. Recently, a five-judge Bench set up to hear the challenge to the Maratha quota law, decided not to confine the question of reservation spilling over the 50% limit to just Maharashtra. The Bench expanded the ambit of the case by making other States party and inviting them to make their stand clear on the question of whether reservation should continue to remain within the 50% boundary or not. Why 50%?

The Other Backward Classes, as identified by the Mandal Commission, make up about 52% of India's population according to the 1931 Census, the last enumeration of castes in the country. The court, however, did not deal with the question of population while ruling that although reservation was fine, it must be capped.

3. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

The Banks Board Bureau (BBB) may be entrusted with the job to select MDs and DMDs of a proposed ₹1-lakh crore development financial institution (DFI) being set up to accelerate infrastructure financing.

About the proposed DFI:

The infrastructure financier, to be called the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development, is to anchor the ambitious National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP).

About BBB:

It was set up in February 2016 as an autonomous body— based on the recommendations of the RBI-appointed Nayak Committee.

It was part of the Indradhanush Plan. It will make recommendations for appointment of whole-time directors as well as non-executive chairpersons of Public Sector Banks (PSBs) and state-owned financial institutions. The Ministry of Finance takes the final decision on the appointments in consultation with the Prime Minister's Office.

Composition:

Banks Board Bureau comprises the Chairman, three ex-officio members i.e Secretary, Department of Public Enterprises, Secretary of the Department of Financial Services and Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, and five expert members, two of which are from the private sector.

4. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

A local court in Surat acquitted 122 persons arrested under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act for participating in a meeting organised in December 2001 as members of Students' Islamic Movement of India (SIMI), a banned outfit.

After their acquittal, some of the accused, and also activists from the minority community, demanded that they be compensated for being “illegally framed by the police” without any evidence against them. About the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act:

Passed in 1967, the law aims at effective prevention of unlawful activities associations in India. The Act assigns absolute power to the central government, by way of which if the Centre deems an activity as unlawful then it may, by way of an Official Gazette, declare it so. It has death penalty and life imprisonment as highest punishments.

Key points:

Under UAPA, both Indian and foreign nationals can be charged. It will be applicable to the offenders in the same manner, even if crime is committed on a foreign land, outside India. Under the UAPA, the investigating agency can file a charge sheet in maximum 180 days after the arrests and the duration can be extended further after intimating the court.

As per amendments of 2019:

The Act empowers the Director General of National Investigation Agency (NIA) to grant approval of seizure or attachment of property when the case is investigated by the said agency. The Act empowers the officers of the NIA, of the rank of Inspector or above, to investigate cases of terrorism in addition to those conducted by the DSP or ACP or above rank officer in the state. It also has the provision of designating an individual as a terrorist. Prior to this amendment, only organizations could be designated as terrorist organizations.

5. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

The Food Waste Index Report 2021 was released by the Nairobi-based United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on March 04, 2021. The report has been produced jointly by the UNEP and WRAP, with the aim to encourage countries to cut the food waste to half by 2030.

6. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

The Maitri Setu bridge has been built on the Feni river, which lies between Indian boundary in Tripura and Bangladesh.

7. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

A MoU was signed between the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and Central Silk Board. It is about a convergence model for the implementation of Agroforestry in the silk sector under the Sub-Mission on Agroforestry (SMAF) Scheme. Objective: Augmentation of sericulture

host plants (Mulberry, Asan, Arjuna, Som, Soalu, Kesseru, BadaKesseru, Phanat) to be cultivated both as block plantations and border plantations on farmlands. The Central Silk Board (CSB) It is a Statutory Body. Established: 1948 Ministry: Ministry of Textiles Headquarter: Bengaluru

8. Ans) (b)

Explanation :

A Saudi-led military coalition mounted air strikes on Yemen's capital Sana'a. Saudi had intercepted 10 drones launched by Houthis before the strikes. Sana'a is the largest city in Yemen. Constitutionally, Sana'a is the capital of Yemen. In the aftermath of the Houthi occupation, the capital moved to Aden – the former capital of South Yemen. Aden is located next to the Sarawat Mountains of Jabal An-Nabi Shu'ayb and Jabal Tiyal, considered to be the highest mountains in the country and amongst the highest in the region. Sana'a is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It has a distinctive architectural character, most notably expressed in its multi-storey buildings decorated with geometric patterns.

9. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

Foundation stone for the conservation works of Singorgarh Fort was laid down in Madhya Pradesh by the President of India. He also inaugurated the newly carved Jabalpur Circle of Archaeological Survey of India. Singorgarh Fort Location: Madhya Pradesh. It is a hill-fort of Gondwana Kingdom Gond ruler Sangram shah conquered the Singorgarh fort from Chandel rulers in early 16th century. It is presently in a ruined condition.

10. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

National Committee has been formed to commemorate 75 years of India's independence The committee is called Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav. 5 pillars have been decided for the celebration of the 75 years. 5 Pillars: Freedom Struggle, Ideas at 75, Achievements at 75, Actions at 75 and Resolve at 75. Members of the National Committee: Governors, Union Ministers, Chief Ministers, political leaders, scientists, officials, media personalities, spiritual Leaders and eminent persons from other walks of life.