



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 12-06-2021

EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

These schemes were announced by Haryana Government on the occasion of World Environment Day.

What is the Pran Vayu Devta Pension Scheme (PVDPS)?

It is an initiative to honour all those trees which are of the age of 75 years and above and have served humanity throughout their life by producing oxygen, reducing pollution, providing shade and so on. Such trees will be identified throughout the state and these will be looked after by involving local people in this scheme. For maintenance of trees older than 75 years, a “pension amount” of Rs 2,500 would be given per year in the name of PVDPS. This ‘tree pension’ shall continue to increase every year, on lines similar to the Old Age Samman Pension Scheme in the state. The pension shall be given by the Urban Local Bodies department for the upkeep of the trees, installing plates, grilles etc.

What is an Oxy Van (Oxygen Forest)?

Oxy Van are identified pieces of land, on which as many as 3 crore trees would be planted. The Oxy Vans will occupy 10 per cent of the 8 lakh hectares of land across Haryana. These van will house different varieties of plants and trees.

2. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

The monsoon session of Parliament is expected to begin on schedule in July. The last session of Parliament was curtailed and ended sine die on March 25 and under the Constitutional norms, the next session has to be held within six months. This period ends on September 14.

Background:

Three sessions have been curtailed since the pandemic began in March last year. First of these was the Budget session of 2020. The winter session last year was also cut short. Last year, the monsoon session, which usually starts in July, began in September.

What the Constitution says?

Article 85 requires that there should not be a gap of more than six months between two sessions of Parliament. Please note, the Constitution does not specify when or for how many days Parliament should meet. The power to convene a session of Parliament rests with the government. The decision is taken by the Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs. The decision of the Committee is formalised by the President, in whose name MPs are summoned to meet for a session.

Why is a Parliamentary Session important?

Law-making is dependent on when Parliament meets. Also, a thorough scrutiny of the government's functioning and deliberation on national issues can only take place when the two Houses are in session. Predictability in the functioning of Parliament is key to a well-functioning democracy.

3. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

El Salvador has become the first country in the world to grant legal tender status to bitcoin.

4. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

The 31st edition of India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol (Indo-Thai CORPAT) kicked off on June 09, 2021 in the Andaman Sea. The three day coordinated patrol between the Indian Navy and the Royal Thai Navy is being conducted from 09 to 11 June 2021.

5. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

SpaceX launched another Falcon 9 rocket from Cape Canaveral, this one boosting the SiriusXM-8 radio satellite into orbit to relay entertainment programming to receivers in cars, boats, homes and offices.

6. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

China's nuclear fusion reactor that's also known as the 'artificial sun' has now set a new world record after it successfully ran at the temperature of 216 million degrees Fahrenheit or 120 million degrees Celsius for 100 seconds.

7. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) [SBM (G)] Phase-II is making steady progress amidst Covid-19 with 1249 villages declared ODF(Open Defecation Free) Plus.

GOBAR-DHAN (Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources) Scheme launched by the Ministry of Jal Shakti in 2018. The scheme aims to augment income of farmers by converting biodegradable waste into compressed biogas (CBG).

8. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

Various decisions were announced by RBI while unveiling Bimonthly Monetary Policy Policy Rate Unchanged: The Policy rate was unchanged at 4% for the sixth time in a row and reverse repo rate at 3.35% Growth Prospects downsized: India's GDP growth rate projection was slashed to 9.5% due to uncertainties caused by second wave of COVID-19 Liquidity Boost: Rs. 15,000-crore liquidity window to be launched by banks for contact intensive sectors like Hotel and tourism. Also, fresh Rs 16000-crore liquidity line to Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) for on-lending/ refinancing through novel models and structures. Upper limit for MSMEs revised: The maximum limit for borrowers is enhanced from Rs. 25 crore to Rs. 50 crore for MSMEs, small businesses and business loans to individuals. Monetary Policy Committee Urjit Patel committee in 2014 recommended the establishment of the Monetary Policy Committee. It is a statutory and institutionalized framework under the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, for maintaining price stability, while keeping in mind the objective of growth. Composition: Six members (including the Chairman) – three officials of the RBI and three external members nominated by the Government of India. The Governor of RBI is ex-officio Chairman of the committee Functions: The MPC determines the policy interest rate (repo rate) required to achieve the inflation target (presently 4%). Decisions are taken by majority with the RBI Governor having the casting vote in case of a tie.

9. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

A record number of fake online pharmacies have been shut down under Operation Pangea XIV targeting the sale of counterfeit and illicit medicines and medical products. The operation coordinated by INTERPOL involved police, customs and health regulatory authorities from 92 countries. It resulted in 113,020 web links including websites and online marketplaces being closed down or removed, the highest number since the first Operation Pangea in 2008.

10. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

Recently, the Defence Minister released an E-booklet titled '20 Reforms in 2020' highlighting the major reforms undertaken by the Ministry of Defence (MoD) in 2020. Structural Reforms: The post of Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) was created to increase efficiency & coordination among the Armed Forces and reduce duplication, while Department of Military affairs (DMA) was established to ensure improved civil-military integration. Boost to Indigenisation: To promote 'Make in India' in the defence sector, a list of 101 defence items for which there would be an embargo on the import was notified in August 2020, while Defence Acquisition Procedure 2020 was unveiled in September 2020. The increased partnership with the private sector has led to a substantial rise in defence exports.

Funding: There was a 10% budget increase in 2020-21 over the previous year. **Promoting Innovation:** To promote innovation by young minds, five Young Scientists Laboratories of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) were launched in 2020. **Digitising Tribunals:** The Armed Forces Tribunal began digital hearing for the first time in August 2020. **Strategic Connectivity:** World's longest Atal tunnel above 10,000 feet, at Rohtang on the Leh-Manali Highway was inaugurated. **Women Participation:** Ten streams of Indian Army were opened for giving Permanent Commission to Short Service Commission (SSC) Women officers. All Sainik Schools were thrown open for girl students from academic session 2020-21. **NCC:** Expanding the reach of the National Cadet Corps (NCC) to remote locations was a major announcement.