



# EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

## DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 17-06-2021

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### EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

At 5.793m (19,005ft) above the sea level, Umling La is one of the highest motorable roads in the world. Located in the Ladakh region of Jammu and Kashmir. The 54 km long road passing through Umling La Pass connected the villages of Chisumle and Demchok and took six years to be built by BRO under Project Himank.

2. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

The NSG is a counter-terrorism unit that formally came into existence in 1986 by an act of Parliament- 'National Security Guard Act, 1986'. It operates under the Ministry of Home Affairs and is a task-oriented force. It is considered a federal contingency force that has been given the specific task of handling all forms of terrorism in India. NSG personnel are also called Black Cats because of their black uniform and black cat insignia on their uniform.

3. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Union Home Ministry order inviting citizenship applications faces Supreme Court challenge. A recent petition filed in the Supreme Court said the government order "utterly discriminates and deprives a class of persons namely, the Muslims".

Background:

The Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019 seeks to amend the Citizenship Act, 1955. The Citizenship Act, 1955 provides various ways in which citizenship may be acquired. It provides for citizenship by birth, descent, registration, naturalisation and by incorporation of the territory into India.

About CAA:

The objective of the CAA is to grant Indian citizenship to persecuted minorities — Hindu, Sikh, Jain, Buddhist, Parsi and Christian — from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan. Those from these communities who had come to India till December 31, 2014, facing religious persecution in their respective countries, will not be treated as illegal immigrants but given Indian citizenship. The Act provides that the central government may cancel the registration of OCIs on certain grounds.

Exceptions:

The Act does not apply to tribal areas of Tripura, Mizoram, Assam and Meghalaya because of being included in the 6th Schedule of the Constitution. Also areas that fall under the Inner Limit notified under the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation, 1873, will also be outside the Act's purview.

4. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

A 15 metre tall tree that belongs to genus of the coffee family has recently been discovered in Andaman Islands. The new species *Pyrostria laljii*, is also the first record of the genus *Pyrostria* in India. Trees belonging to these species are usually found in Madagascar. The tree is distinguished by a long stem with a whitish coating on the trunk and oblong-obovate leaves with a cuneate base and was first reported from Wandoor forest in South Andaman. Other places where tree could be located are: Jarawa reserve forest, Chidia Tapu forest. *Pyrostria laljii*: Critically endangered as per IUCN status.

5. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

Slogan 2021 – Give blood and keep the world beating.

6. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

The 47th G7 Summit was held in Carbis Bay, Cornwall on 11-13 June 2021. Prime Minister Boris Johnson will use the UK's G7 Presidency to unite leading democracies to help the world fight, and then build back better from coronavirus and create a greener, more prosperous future.

7. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

The UN general assembly approved the nomination of Costa Rican economist Rebecaca Grynspan to head the UN agency promoting trade and development, the first woman and Central American to lead the Geneva-based organization.

8. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

European Space Agency (ESA) announced that it has selected EnVision as its next orbiter that will visit Venus sometime in the 2030s. Once launched on an Ariane 6 rocket, the spacecraft will take about 15 months to reach Venus and will take 16 more months to achieve orbit circularisation. The spacecraft will carry a range of instruments to study the planet's atmosphere and surface, monitor trace gases in the atmosphere and analyse its surface composition. A radar provided by NASA will help to image and map

the surface. Core of the ESA's mission will be to find out how Earth and Venus evolved so differently from each other considering that they are roughly of the same size and composition. Recently, NASA has selected two missions – DAVINCI+ and VERITAS to the planet Venus.

9. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

In order to encourage crop diversification, the Central Government has hiked the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Paddy, Pulses and Oilseeds. The MSP is the rate at which the government purchases crops from farmers. It is based on a calculation of at least one-and-a-half times the cost of production incurred by the farmers.

Crops under MSP

The Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) recommends MSPs for 22 mandated crops and fair and remunerative price (FRP) for sugarcane. CACP is an attached office of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. The mandated crops include 14 crops of the kharif season, 6 rabi crops and 2 other commercial crops.

The MSPs of toria and de-husked coconut are fixed on the basis of the MSPs of rapeseed/mustard and copra, respectively.

How does CACP fix MSP?

It takes into account:

- Supply and demand situation for the commodity
- Market price trends (domestic and global)
- Implications for consumers (inflation)
- Environment (soil and water use)
- Terms of trade between agriculture and non-agriculture sectors.

10. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

The Union Health Minister addressed the 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on prevention of HIV/AIDS. The Resolution 75/260 of UNGA deals with the Implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the political declarations on HIV/AIDS.

Key points of address

India's unique HIV prevention model is centered around the concept of 'Social Contracting' through which the 'Targeted Interventions Program' is implemented. The HIV & AIDS Prevention and Control Act, 2017, provides a legal and enabling framework to safeguard the human rights of infected and affected populations. India is providing free anti-retro-viral treatment to close to 1.4 million people.

Other initiatives

Project Sunrise: Launched by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (2016) to tackle the rising HIV prevalence in north-eastern states The Red Ribbon: Wearing a ribbon is a way to raise awareness on and during the run up to World AIDS Day. 90-90-90: 90% of those who are HIV positive in India know their status, 90% of those who know their status are on treatment and 90% of those who are on treatment experience effective viral load suppression. Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM): It is designed to accelerate the end of AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria as epidemics.