



# EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

## DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 20-04-2021

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### EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

Recently, The United Nations Population Fund's (UNFPA) Flagship State of World Population Report 2021 titled 'My Body is My Own' was launched. This is the first time a United Nations report has focused on bodily autonomy. What is bodily autonomy? The report defined 'Bodily autonomy' as the power and agency to make choices about your body without fear of violence or having someone else decide for you. Highlights of the report: Nearly half the women from 57 developing countries do not have the right to make decisions regarding their bodies, including using contraception, seeking healthcare or even on their sexuality. In countries where data is available, only 55% of women are fully empowered to make choices over healthcare, contraception and the ability to say yes or no to sex. Only 75% of countries legally ensure full and equal access to contraception. Women around the world are denied the fundamental right of bodily autonomy with the COVID-19 pandemic further exacerbating this situation. Facts about India in the Report: In India, according to NFHS-4 (2015-2016), only about 12% of currently married women (15-49 years of age) independently make decisions about their own healthcare. For a quarter of women (23%), it is the spouse that mainly takes decisions about healthcare. Information provided to women about use of contraception is also limited.

2. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

The Union government has offered to decide in three months the Supreme Court Collegium recommendations for appointment of judges in the High Courts pending with it for over half a year.

Does the Constitution of India specify any deadline for the appointment of judges?

No. The Memorandum of Procedure guides the government and the judiciary through the appointment process. The procedure does not insist on a deadline but only loosely says the process should be completed within a reasonable time.

Collegium System:

It is the system of appointment and transfer of judges that has evolved through judgments of the SC, and not by an Act of Parliament or by a provision of the Constitution. The SC collegium is headed by the CJI and comprises four other senior most judges of the court. A HC collegium is led by its Chief Justice and four other senior most judges of that court.

### Related Constitutional Provisions:

Article 124(2) of the Indian Constitution provides that the Judges of the Supreme Court are appointed by the President after consultation with such a number of the Judges of the Supreme Court and of the High Courts in the States as the President may deem necessary for the purpose. Article 217 of the Indian Constitution states that the Judge of a High Court shall be appointed by the President consultation with the Chief Justice of India, the Governor of the State, and, in the case of appointment of a Judge other than the Chief Justice, the Chief Justice of the High Court.

### 3. Ans) (c)

#### Explanation:

Union Home Ministry has clarified that the Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) will not be required to register for a fresh OCI card every time a new passport is issued in their name.

#### Background:

At present, the OCI card is required to be reissued each time a new passport is issued up to 20 years of age and once after completing 50 “in view of biological changes in the face of the applicant”.

#### As per the latest changes:

A person who has got registration as OCI cardholder prior to attaining the age of 20 years will have to get the OCI card reissued only once when a new passport is issued after his/her completing 20 years of age, so as to capture his/her facial features on attaining adulthood.

If a person has obtained registration as OCI cardholder after attaining the age of 20 years, there will be no requirement of reissue of the OCI card.

#### Exceptions:

Anyone who is applying for OCI card should hold a valid Passport of another country. Individuals who do not have citizenship of any other country are not eligible to gain an OCI status. Individuals whose parents or grandparents hold citizenship of Pakistan and Bangladesh are not eligible to apply.

There are certain restrictions placed on OCI card holders: Do not have right to vote. Do not have right to any public service/government jobs Cannot hold offices of – Prime Minister, President, Vice -President, Judge of Supreme Court and High Court, member of Parliament or Member of state legislative assembly or council. Cannot own agricultural property.

### 4. Ans) (c)

#### Explanation:

The Aahaar Kranti Mission is in line with the United Nations declaration of the year 2021 as the International Year of Fruits and Vegetables. Furthermore, UN sustainable goal #3 emphasizes human well-being.

5. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

Italy has launched its first ever mega food park project in India, comprising of food processing facilities, in a bid to further strengthen ties between the two nations. The pilot project named “The Mega Food Park” was launched virtually on April 17, 2021 at Fanidhar Mega Food Park, in Gujarat.

6. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

Special forces of India and Kyrgyzstan began a two-week military exercise in Bishkek with a focus on counter-terror drills.

7. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

The first meeting of the National Startup Advisory Council (NSAC) was held recently.

What is the NSAC? Constituted by the ‘Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT). Its role is to advise the Government on measures needed to build a strong ecosystem for nurturing innovation and startups in the country to drive sustainable economic growth and generate large scale employment opportunities.

Functions of NSAC:

Suggest measures to foster a culture of innovation amongst citizens and students. Promote innovation in all sectors of economy across the country, including semi-urban and rural areas. Support creative and innovative ideas through incubation and research and development to transform them into valuable products.

Structure of NSAC: The National Startup Advisory Council will be chaired by the Minister for Commerce & Industry. The Council will consist of the non-official members, to be nominated by the Central Government. The nominees of the concerned Ministries/Departments/Organisations, not below the rank of Joint Secretary to the Government of India, will be ex-officio members of the Council.

8. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Poshan Gyan was launched recently. It is a national digital repository on health and nutrition. Launched by: NITI Aayog, in partnership with Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Centre for Social and Behaviour Change, Ashoka University. The Poshan Gyan repository is conceptualized as a resource. It shall enable search of communication materials on 14 thematic areas of health and nutrition across diverse languages, media types, target audiences and sources Content for the repository was sourced from the Ministries of Health and Family Welfare and Women and Child Development and developmental

organizations It introduces a unique crowdsourcing feature that allows anyone to submit communication material for inclusion on the website, followed by a review by a designated committee.

9. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

The Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India launched the “MANAS” App to promote wellbeing across age groups. It was jointly executed by NIMHANS Bengaluru, AFMC Pune and C-DAC Bengaluru. MANAS which stands for Mental Health and Normalcy Augmentation System was endorsed as a national program by the Prime Minister’s Science, Technology, and Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC). It is a comprehensive, scalable, and national digital wellbeing platform. It is an app developed to augment mental well-being of Indian citizens. It integrates the health and wellness efforts of various government ministries, scientifically validated indigenous tools with gamified interfaces developed/researched by various national bodies and research institutions.

10. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

Established as a grouping of four nations — India, Thailand, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka — through the Bangkok Declaration of 1997 to promote rapid economic development, BIMSTEC was expanded later to include three more countries — Myanmar, Nepal and Bhutan. New Delhi chose to treat it as a more practical instrument for regional cooperation over a faltering SAARC. The shared goal now is to head towards “a Peaceful, Prosperous and Sustainable Bay of Bengal Region”.