



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 20-01-2021

EXPLANATION

1. Ans: c

Explanation: Prime Minister Narendra Modi is appointed the new chairman of the trust which manages the world-famous Somnath Temple at Prabhas Patan town in Gujarat's Gir-Somnath district, becoming the second PM to hold the post after Morarji Desai.

Somnath, literally translated as the Lord of Moon (Soma) houses the first of the 12 Jyotirlingas or the symbolic representation of Lord Shiva. This highly famed pilgrim destination is located at the Viraval Port or PrabhasPattan in Saurashtra, Gujrat. The temple's positioning is quite unique. The temple is positioned in such a way that not a single piece of land is visible from the Somnath seashore until Antarctica.

In AD 1026, Mahmud of Ghazni first looted the temple, and then came Afzal Khan, the commander of Ala-ud-din Khilji and later Aurangzeb. It is said that the temple was looted and destroyed as many as seventeen times. The Iron man of India, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was instrumental in the construction of the present temple. Renowned temple architect Prabhaschandar designed it and the first President of India Dr. Rajendra Prasad installed the Jyotirling in the new temple on May 11, 1951.

The present temple is built in the Chalukya style of temple architecture or "Kailash Mahameru Prasad" style and reflects the skill of the Sompura Salats, one of Gujarat's master masons.

2. Ans: b

Explanation: IMD was established in 1875. It is an agency of the Ministry of Earth Sciences of the Government of India. It is the principal agency responsible for meteorological observations, weather forecasting and seismology. IMD is also one of the six Regional Specialised Meteorological Centres of the World Meteorological Organisation. It has the responsibility for forecasting, naming and distribution of warnings for tropical cyclones in the Northern Indian Ocean region, including the Malacca Straits, the Bay of Bengal, the Arabian Sea and the Persian Gulf.

3. Ans: d

Explanation: Mil Rail or Military wing of the Railways is an extension of Traffic Directorate of Ministry of Railways, headed by Executive Director (ED) level officer. Its office is situated at Army Headquarters-- Sena Bhawan.

Mil Rail is responsible for overall coordination, strategic planning and execution of Railway Logistics Support to the Indian Defence Forces during peace as well as emergency situations.

Mil Rail works in close coordination with Ministry of Defence for Railway operations pertaining to their requirements. A separate control room manages all these Railway operations which are headed by a Chief Controller.

4. Ans: c

Explanation: The dedicated control centre is for the SSA's work is being done under project NETRA, called Network for space object Tracking and Analysis. The SSA launched by ISRO would monitor low Earth orbit- LEO. SSA Control Centre is set up in ISTRAC campus in Peenya, Bengaluru.

5. Ans: c

Explanation: Sindhudesh is a demand for a separate homeland for Sindhis' proposed by Sindhi nationalist parties for the creation of a Sindhi state. Sindhudesh will either be autonomous within Pakistan or independent from it.

On the 117th birth anniversary of G.M. Syed , placards of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other world leaders were raised by the protestors' at a pro-freedom rally in Pakistan's Sindh to seek their intervention for the freedom of Sindudesh.

6. Ans: c

Explanation: The idea of setting up a bad bank to resolve the growing problem of non-performing assets (NPAs), or loans on which borrowers have defaulted, is back on the table.

Technically, a bad bank is an asset reconstruction company (ARC) or an asset management company that takes over the bad loans of commercial banks, manages them and finally recovers the money over a period of time. The bad bank is not involved in lending and taking deposits, but helps commercial banks clean up their balance sheets and resolve bad loans. The takeover of bad loans is normally below the book value of the loan and the bad bank tries to recover as much as possible subsequently.

7. Ans: a

Explanation: The REPLACE action package provides a strategic approach to eliminating industrially-produced trans-fat from national food supplies, with the goal of global elimination by 2023 according to WHO.

Increased intake of trans fat (>1% of total energy intake) is associated with increased risk of coronary heart disease mortality and events. Trans fat intake is responsible for approximately 500,000 premature deaths from coronary heart disease each year around the world.

The package comprises an overarching technical document that provides a rationale and framework for this integrated approach to trans-fat elimination, along with six modules and additional web resources to facilitate implementation.

8. Ans: c

Explanation: The United Kingdom has invited India, Australia and South Korea to attend the G7 summit that is scheduled to be held in June as “guest countries”.

What is G7?

The G7, originally G8, was set up in 1975 as an informal forum bringing together the leaders of the world’s leading industrial nations.

The summit gathers leaders from the European Union (EU) and the following countries: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States.

The major purpose of the G-7 is to discuss and deliberate on international economic issues. It sometimes acts in concert to help resolve other global problems, with a special focus on economic issues.

9. Ans: c

Explanation: Karnataka Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for the ‘New Anubhava Mantapa’ in Basavakalyan.

It is the place where 12th century poet-philosopher Basaveshwara lived for most of his life.

The ₹500 crore project would be completed within two years.

The project would highlight the teachings of Basaveshwara.

Basavakalyan is an important pilgrim centre for Lingayats.

The New Anubhava Mantapa, will be a six-floor structure in the midst of the 7.5 acre plot and represent various principles of Basaveshwara’s philosophy.

It will showcase the 12th Century Anubhava Mantapa (often referred to as the “first Parliament of the world”) established by him in Basavakalyan, where philosophers and social reformers held debates.

The building will adopt the Kalyana Chalukya style of architecture.

10. Ans: d

Explanation: It is a bilateral Air exercise held between Indian Air Force and French Air and Space Force (Armée de l’Air et de l’Espace). The latest edition will be held at Air Force Station Jodhpur.

The main objective of the exercise is to provide operational exposure and share best practices. From the French Air and Space Force, Rafale Fighter Jets, Multi-role Tanker Transport and around 175 personnel will participate in the exercise. From the Indian Air Force, Su-30 MKI, Mirage 2000 and IL-78 flight refuelling aircraft are to participate in the exercise.

Defence Exercises

The regular defence exercises held between India and France are as follows:

Exercise Shakti is held between the Armies of India and France

Exercise Varuna is held between Indian Navy and French Naval Forces

Exercise Garuda is held between the Air Forces of the two countries.