



# EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

## DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 20-07-2021

### EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

The Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) has decided to move an adjournment motion in the Lok Sabha against the government on the three controversial farm laws, over which it walked out of the NDA government.

The motion requires the signatures of 50 MPs to be admitted.

Background:

The laws — the “Farmers’ Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2020, the “Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement of Price Assurance and Farm Services Act, 2020 and the “Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act, 2020” were cleared by Parliament last year and have seen sustained protests from farmers groups at the doorstep of Delhi. While the Central government has held several rounds of talks, these have been unsuccessful at breaking the logjam, as the government has firmly refused to take back the Acts.

About Adjournment Motion:

Adjournment motion is introduced only in the Lok Sabha to draw the attention of the House to a definite matter of urgent public importance. It involves an element of censure against the government, therefore Rajya Sabha is not permitted to make use of this device. It is regarded as an extraordinary device as it interrupts the normal business of the House. It needs the support of 50 members to be admitted. The discussion on this motion should last for not less than two hours and thirty minutes.

2. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

Government Issues two Gazette Notifications for Jurisdiction of Krishna & Godavari River Management Boards. The notifications provide the required authority and power to the two Boards in terms of administration, regulation, operation and maintenance of listed projects in Godavari and Krishna rivers in the two States.

Background:

The Constitution of the Godavari and Krishna River Management Boards and the constitution of an Apex Council for the supervision of the functioning of these Boards, is laid down in the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act 2014 (APRA). The two River Management Boards were constituted by the central government under the provisions of this act.

Inter-State River Water Disputes:

Article 262 of the Constitution provides for the adjudication of inter-state water disputes. Under this, Parliament may by law provide for the adjudication of any dispute or complaint with respect to the use, distribution and control of waters of any inter-state river and river valley. Parliament may also provide that neither the Supreme Court nor any other court is to exercise jurisdiction in respect of any such dispute or complaint.

3. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

The government has announced new flights under the UDAN scheme to connect small cities with the metros. The flights utilise less used airports in the country and seeks to offer affordable flights to the people of the country.

Background:

The Centre plans to operationalise 100 unserved and underserved airports and start at least 1,000 air routes under a regional connectivity scheme called UDAN scheme (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik).

About UDAN Scheme:

The scheme is aimed at enhancing connectivity to remote and regional areas of the country and making air travel affordable. It is a key component of Centre's National Civil Aviation Policy led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and launched in June 2016. Under the scheme, nearly half of the seats in Udan flights are offered at subsidised fares, and the participating carriers are provided a certain amount of viability gap funding (VGF) – an amount shared between the Centre and the concerned states. The scheme will be jointly funded by the central government and state governments. The scheme will run for 10 years and can be extended thereafter.

UDAN 4.0:

The 4th round of UDAN was launched in December 2019 with a special focus on North-Eastern Regions, Hilly States, and Islands. The airports that had already been developed by Airports Authority of India (AAI) are given higher priority for the award of VGF (Viability Gap Funding) under the Scheme. Under UDAN 4, the operation of helicopters and seaplanes is also been incorporated.

4. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

The Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) successfully conducted the third long-duration hot test on the liquid propellant Vikas engine that would launch the ambitious Gaganyaan programme.

5. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

China is constructing world's first onshore commercial modular small reactor 'Linglong One' at the

Changjiang Nuclear Power Plant in the Hainan Province. The multipurpose small modular reactor (SMR) 'Linglong One', (also called the ACP100), is the first SMR to get green signal by the International Atomic Energy Agency in 2016.

6. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

In order to facilitate farmers to get 'right information at right time' in their desired language, a digital platform 'Kisan Sarathi' was recently launched. Launched by: Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

What are the features of the platform?

It shall empower farmers with technological interventions to reach farmers in remote areas. The farmers can interact and avail personalised advisories on agriculture and allied areas directly from the respective scientists of Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVKs). It will be highly valuable not only in addressing the location specific information needs of the farmers but also in Agricultural Extension, Education and Research activities of ICAR. About The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) recently celebrated its 93rd Foundation Day. It is an autonomous organisation under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India. The Council is the apex body for coordinating, guiding and managing research and education in agriculture including horticulture, fisheries and animal sciences in the entire country. With 101 ICAR institutes and 71 Agricultural universities spread across the country this is one of the largest national agricultural systems in the world.

7. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

Recently, the Union Minister of Textiles held an in-depth review of initiatives undertaken by the Ministry of Textiles for giving a boost to the textiles sector. Textiles & garments industry is labour intensive sector that employs 45 million people in India. It is second only to the agriculture sector in terms of employment. Significance of the Textiles Sector It contributes 2.3% to Indian GDP, 7% of Industrial Output, 12% to the export earnings of India and employs more than 21% of total employment. India is the 6th largest producer of Technical Textiles with 6% Global Share, largest producer of cotton & jute in the world. Technical textiles are functional fabrics that have applications in industries such as automobiles, civil engineering and construction, India is also the second largest producer of silk in the world and 95% of the world's hand woven fabric comes from India.

What are Major Initiatives by India in textile sector?

Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS): For technology upgradation of the textiles industry (2015) Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP): To assist small and medium entrepreneurs in

the textile industry to clusterize investments in textile parks by providing financial support for world class infrastructure in the parks. SAMARTH (Scheme For Capacity Building In Textile Sector): To address the shortage of skilled workers. North East Region Textile Promotion Scheme (NERTPS): This is a scheme for promoting textiles industry in the NER by providing infrastructure, capacity building and marketing support to all segments of the textile industry. Power-Tex India: It comprises new research and development in power loom textiles, new markets, branding, subsidies and welfare schemes for the workers. Silk Samagra Scheme: It focuses on improving the quality and productivity of domestic silk thereby reducing the country's dependence on imported silk. Jute ICARE: This pilot project launched in 2015 is aimed at addressing the difficulties faced by the jute cultivators by providing them certified seeds at subsidized rates, and by popularizing several newly developed retting technologies under water limiting conditions. National Technical Textile Mission: It aims to position the country as a global leader in technical textiles and increase the use of technical textiles in the domestic market. It aims to take the domestic market size to USD 40 billion to USD 50 billion by 2024.

8. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

China recently introduced its long-awaited emissions trading system. It is a system that would create the world's largest carbon market and double the share of global emissions covered under such programs.

What are the features of the carbon trading scheme?

The carbon market will help the country lower greenhouse-gas emissions. It will help China achieve its goal of reaching peak emissions before 2030 and carbon neutrality, or net zero emissions, by 2060. The program will initially involve such 2,225 companies in the power sector which are responsible for a seventh of global carbon emissions from fossil-fuel combustion Under the trading program, emitters such as power plants and factories are given a fixed amount of carbon they are allowed to release a year. They can in turn buy or sell those allowances. That pushes emitters to think of controlling and reducing emissions in terms of a market. Over the next three to five years, the market is set to expand to seven additional high-emissions industries: petrochemicals, chemicals, building materials, iron and steel, nonferrous metals, paper, and domestic aviation. Rather than be subject to the absolute caps on emissions in other trading programs, Chinese companies will start off with allowances that use benchmarks based on previous years' performances which can be traded by negotiation or auction.

9. Ans) (d)

Explanation:

Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) had recently organised a conference on "Aatmairbhar Bharat – Self Reliance for Renewable Energy Manufacturing". How India emerged as a world leader in the Energy Transition? India had one of the fastest rates of growth of Renewable Energy capacity in the world. It had pledged in COP-21 in Paris that by 2030; 40% of its power generation capacity will be from non-fossil fuel sources. It has set a target of 450 GW of Renewable Energy capacity by 2030. It had achieved

universal access by connecting every village and every hamlet under Deen Dayal Upadhyay Gram Jyoti Yojana Scheme and connecting every household under Saubhagya Scheme. It was the fastest and the largest expansion of access in the world.

India has already touched 200 GW of demand even when the effects of COVID-19 were still there. India will also emerge as a leader in Green Hydrogen and Green Ammonia. Deen Dayal Upadhyay Gram Jyoti Yojana Scheme:

The erstwhile Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) scheme for village electrification and providing electricity distribution infrastructure in the rural areas has been subsumed in the DDUGJY scheme.

10. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

The Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court has granted an interim stay on the operation of an office memorandum issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. The memorandum provided a procedure for the grant of post facto clearance to projects that have come up without environmental clearance under the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) notification, 2006.

What's the issue?

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) notification, 2006 mandated prior clearance, and there was no provision for the grant of post facto clearance under the EIA notification. The memorandum provided a backdoor entry to violators. By way of the memorandum, violators of the EIA notification could obtain clearance and regularise violations. The ex-post facto clearance is also alien to the environmental jurisprudence. It was also against the principles of natural justice, and the right of the people to participate in environmental decision-making. It was also violative of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

About EIA:

The EIA was an important tool to ensure the optimal use of natural resources for sustainable development. Its purpose was to identify, examine, assess and evaluate the likely and probable impact of a proposed project on the environment. Under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, India notified its first EIA norms in 1994, setting in place a legal framework for regulating activities that access, utilise, and affect (pollute) natural resources. Every development project has been required to go through the EIA process for obtaining prior environmental clearance ever since. The 1994 EIA notification was replaced with a modified draft in 2006.