



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 23-06-2021

EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

The government has announced the phased implementation of mandatory hallmarking of gold jewellery with effect from June 16.

Applicability:

In the first phase, gold hallmarking will be available in only in 256 districts and jewellers having annual turnover above Rs 40 lakh will come under its purview.

What is hallmarking of gold?

Hallmarking is the “accurate determination and official recording of the proportionate content of precious metal in precious metal articles.” So, it is like a “guarantee of purity or fineness” of precious metal articles. The Bureau of Indian Standard (BIS) operates gold and silver hallmarking scheme in India.

Metals covered under the purview of hallmarking:

Gold jewellery and gold artefacts. Silver jewellery and silver artefacts.

Exceptions:

Export and re-import of jewellery as per Trade Policy of Government of India — Jewellery for international exhibitions, jewellery for government-approved B2B domestic exhibitions. Watches, fountain pens and special types of jewellery such as Kundan, Polki and Jadau.

What was the need of making hallmarking mandatory?

India is the biggest consumer of gold. However, the level of hallmarked jewellery is very low in the country- only 30% of Indian gold jewellery is hallmarked. Main reason behind this is non-availability of sufficient assaying and hallmarking centres (A&HC). The mandatory hallmarking will protect the public against lower caratage and ensure consumers do not get cheated while buying gold ornaments. It will also help to get the purity as marked on the ornaments. It will bring in transparency and assure the consumers of quality.

2. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

The European Space Agency (ESA) is planning to launch the world’s first wooden satellite, dubbed as WISA Woodsat, into orbit by the end of the year 2021. The basic goal of this experiment is to discover whether a substance like wood can withstand the vacuum, heat, cold, and radiation of space. The wooden satellite is being designed by Finnish company Arctic Astronautics, after being proposed by its co-

founder, Jari Makinen.

3. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP)- Sydney, Australia releases Global Peace Index.

4. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

The National Geographic magazine has recognised the 'Southern Ocean' as the world's fifth ocean, hoping others will soon follow suit.

5. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

The Ministry of Home Affairs has operationalised the national Helpline 155260 and Reporting Platform for preventing financial loss due to cyber fraud.

Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre

The scheme to set up I4C was approved in October 2018. It deals with all types of cybercrimes in a comprehensive and coordinated manner.

It has seven components:

- National Cyber Crime Threat Analytics Unit
- National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal
- National Cyber Crime Training Centre
- Cyber Crime Ecosystem Management Unit
- National Cyber Crime Research and Innovation Centre
- National Cyber Crime Forensic Laboratory Ecosystem
- Platform for Joint Cyber Crime Investigation Team.

6. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

The Ministry of Culture (MoC) and Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for 'Cooperation in Development of National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) at Lothal, Gujarat'

About Lothal

It is one of the prominent cities of the Ancient Indus Valley Civilization dating back to 2400 BC. The cities to decide that will you theory of the Sabarmati in Gujarat close to the Gulf of Khambhat A Dockyard has been found here where boats and ships came in from the sea and through the river.

7. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

According to the World Competitiveness Yearbook (WCY), India maintained 43rd rank on the annual World Competitiveness Index. The World Competitiveness Index is a comprehensive annual report on the competitiveness of countries. Compiled by: Institute for Management Development (IMD). It examined the impact of COVID-19 on economies around the world this year. It measures the prosperity and competitiveness of countries by examining four factors (334 competitiveness criteria):

- Economic performance
- Government efficiency
- Business efficiency
- Infrastructure

Key analysis by the report

Many Countries succeeded in transitioning to a remote work routine while also allowing remote learning. Addressing unemployment has been fundamental.

Rankings

Top countries: Switzerland (1st), Sweden (2nd), Denmark (3rd), the Netherlands (4th). The top-performing Asian economies: Singapore (5th), Hong Kong (7th), Taiwan (8th) and China (16th).

8. Ans) (c)

Explanation:

The Ministry of Culture on 18th June had organised a programme to observe the Flag Satyagraha in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh.

What is Flag Satyagraha?

The Flag Satyagraha movement by the freedom fighters shook the British government and it infused a new life into the freedom movement. Also called the Jhanda Satyagraha, it was held in Jabalpur and Nagpur in 1923. The news of flag hoisting in Jabalpur spread like fire in the country and after flags were hoisted at several places across the country.

Significance:

It is a campaign of peaceful civil disobedience that focused on exercising the right and freedom to hoist the nationalist flag and challenge the legitimacy of the British Rule in India through the defiance of laws prohibiting the hoisting of nationalist flags and restricting civil freedoms.

Outcomes:

The arrest of nationalist protestors demanding the right to hoist the flag caused an outcry across India especially as Gandhi had recently been arrested.

Nationalist leaders such as Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Jinnah, Chakravarti Rajagopalachari, Dr.

Rajendra Prasad and Vinoba Bhave organised the revolt and thousands of people from different regions traveled to Nagpur and other parts of the Central Provinces to participate in civil disobedience.

In the end, the British negotiated an agreement with Patel and other Congress leaders permitting the protestors to conduct their march unhindered and obtaining the release of all those arrested.

9. Ans) (a)

Explanation:

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has filed an election petition in the Calcutta High Court challenging the Assembly election result of Nandigram constituency, where she had contested and lost.

What's the issue?

She has sought that Suvendu Adhikari's election be declared void on grounds of corrupt practice and discrepancies in the counting procedure conducted by the Returning Officer.

What is an election petition?

Post results, an election petition is the only legal remedy available to a voter or a candidate who believes there has been malpractice in an election. An election petition submitted to the High Court of the state in which the constituency is located. Such a petition has to be filed within 45 days from the date of the poll results; nothing is entertained by courts after that. Although the Representative of the People Act of 1951 suggests that the High Court should try to conclude the trial within six months, it usually drags on for much longer, even years. Under Section 100 of the RP Act, an election petition can be filed on the grounds that: Section 123 of the RP Act has a detailed list of what amounts to corrupt practice, including bribery, use of force or coercion, appeal to vote or refrain from voting on grounds of religion, race, community, and language. Improper acceptance of the nomination of the winning candidate or improper rejection of a nomination.

Malpractice in the counting process, which includes improper reception, refusal or rejection of any vote, or the reception of any vote which is void. Non-compliance with the provisions of the Constitution or the RP Act or any rules or orders made under the RP Act.

10. Ans) (b)

Explanation:

The new report, titled Children and Digital Dumpsites, was recently released by the WHO.

Key findings:

More than 18 million children and adolescents working at e-waste dumpsites in low- and middle-income countries are potentially at the risk of severe health hazards. They face risk due to discarded electronic devices or e-waste being dumped from high-income countries.

What are the Concerns?

e-waste contains over 1,000 precious metals and other substances like gold, copper, mercury and

polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. The processing is done in low-income countries, which do not have proper safeguarding regulation and which makes the process even more dangerous. Children are especially preferred at these dumpsites because of their small and dexterous hands. Several women, including expectant mothers, also work there. Processing e-waste exposes them as well as their children to these toxins, which can lead to premature births and stillbirth. The hazardous impact of working at such sites is also experienced by families and communities that reside in the vicinity of these e-waste dumpsites.