



# EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

## DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 27-07-2020

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### EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (c)

Explanation :

Recently, HIL (India) Limited supplied 20 Metric tonne of DDT to South Africa for their Malaria control program. HIL (India) Limited is a PSU under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers. It is the sole manufacturer of DDT globally. The company was incorporated in the year 1954 to manufacture and supply DDT to Government of India's Ministry of Health for malaria control programme. The Company is also exporting the product to many African countries. Spraying of insecticides inside the human habitants i.e. Indoor Residual Spraying (IRS) has proven to be effective mosquito control tool. World Health Organisation (WHO) recommends DDT as one of the efficient IRS chemical to curb malaria mosquito menace. Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT) is a colorless, tasteless, and almost odorless crystalline chemical compound.

2. Ans) (c)

Explanation :

Researchers have found that the spike protein of SARS-CoV-2 changes its form after it attaches itself to a human cell, folding in on itself and assuming a rigid hairpin shape. The researchers believe the knowledge can help in vaccine development. It is a protein that protrudes from the surface of a coronavirus, like the spikes of a crown or corona — hence the name 'coronavirus'. In the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus, it is the spike protein that initiates the process of infection in a human cell. It attaches itself to a human enzyme, called the ACE2 receptor, before going on to enter the cell and make multiple copies of itself.

3. Ans) (b)

Explanation :

Southern Naval Command commissioned a 3 MW Solar Power Plant at Indian Naval Academy, Ezhimala on 22 July 2020. The solar plant is the largest in the Indian Navy and has an estimated life of 25 years. The project has been executed by Kerala State Electronics Development Corporation Ltd (KELTRON). The Solar Power Plant project will help Naval Station Ezhimala in reducing the carbon foot print. This is in line with the Govt of India initiative of 'National Solar Mission' to achieve 100GW of solar power by 2022.

4. Ans) (a)

Explanation :

100th birth anniversary of Rosalind Franklin, a leading virologist of her time was observed recently. Rosalind Franklin (1920 – 1958) was an English chemist and X-ray crystallographer whose work was central to the understanding of the molecular structures of DNA, RNA, viruses, coal, and graphite. She is best known for her work on the X-ray diffraction images of DNA, particularly Photo 51, which led to the discovery of the DNA double helix for which James Watson, Francis Crick and Maurice Wilkins shared the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1962. She would have ideally been awarded a Nobel Prize in Chemistry, but the Nobel Committee generally did not make posthumous nominations. Photo 51 is an X-ray diffraction image of a paracrystalline gel composed of DNA fiber taken by Raymond Gosling, working under the supervision of Rosalind Franklin in May 1952. The image was tagged "photo 51" because it was the 51st diffraction photograph that Franklin and Gosling had taken. It was critical evidence in identifying the structure of DNA.

5. Ans) (a)

Explanation :

In a significant development, the Trump administration has relaxed standards for exporting drones to friendly countries. Under the new policy, drones that fly at speeds below 800 km per hour are no longer subject to the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR). The move will increase the US' national security by improving capabilities of its partners and increase economic security by opening the expanding drones market to the US industry.

The Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) is an informal political understanding among states that seek to limit the proliferation of missiles and missile technology. The regime was formed in 1987 by the G-7 industrialized countries. There are currently 35 countries that are members (Partners) of the MTCR. India became its member in 2016. While there is no formal linkage, the activities of the MTCR are consistent with the UN's non-proliferation and export control efforts. The MTCR is not a treaty and does not impose any legally binding obligations on Partners (members). Rather, it is an informal political understanding. The MTCR has formal secretariat. France serves as the Regime's Point of Contact (POC) which receives and distributes all Regime documents.

6. Ans) (b)

Explanation :

The Department of Science and Technology (DST) has launched the India-Russia Joint Technology Assessment and Accelerated Commercialization Programme. The programme has been launched by DST in partnership with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and Foundation for Assistance to Small Innovative Enterprises (FASIE) of the Russian Federation. On

behalf of DST, FICCI will implement the program in India. The programme will connect Indian, and Russian Science & Technology (S&T) led SMEs and Start-ups for joint R&D for technology development and for cross-country technology adaptation. The programme will run through two annual cycles with up to five projects to be funded under each cycle. Projects are being sought on leading S&T focus areas. Over a period of two years, the DST will fund up to INR 15 Crores to ten Indian SMEs/Start-ups and FASIE will provide similar funding to the Russian projects.

7. Ans) (d)

Explanation

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) launched the Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC) Scheme in 2012. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.

The objective of the scheme was to provide support for creation of world class infrastructure for attracting investments in the Electronics Systems Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) sector.

The scheme provided grant assistance for setting up of both Greenfield and Brownfield EMCs across the country.

8. Ans) (b)

Explanation

The Reserve Bank of India released the Financial Stability Report (FSR) recently. FSR is a biannual publication. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.

The FSRs are periodic exercises for reviewing the nature, magnitude and implications of risks that may have a bearing on the macroeconomic environment, financial institutions, markets and infrastructure.

These reports also assess the resilience of the financial sector through stress tests. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

Stress tests are used to gauge how certain unfavorable economic scenarios, such as a deep recession or financial crisis will affect a company, industry specific portfolio. Stress tests are usually computer-generated simulation models that test hypothetical scenarios.

9. Ans) (b)

Explanation

The Anti-Defection Law was passed in 1985 through the 52nd amendment to the Constitution. It provides for disqualification of elected members to the legislature, on the grounds of defection.

Following are the grounds for disqualification for an elected member, if:

He/she voluntarily gives up his membership of such political party. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

He/she votes or abstains from voting in such House contrary to any direction issued by his political party without obtaining prior permission of such party and such act has not been condoned by the party within 15 days.

10. Ans) (c)

Explanation

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) has undertaken e-Panchayat Mission Mode Project (e-Panchayat MMP) with a view to introduce and strengthen e-Governance in Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) across the country.

Under e-Panchayat MMP, Panchayat Enterprise Suite (PES) which comprises 11 Core Common Applications has been deployed that address nearly the entire spectrum of Panchayats' functioning viz. from internal core functions such as Planning, Monitoring, Budgeting, Accounting, Social Audit etc. to citizen service delivery operations like issue of certificates, licenses etc. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

'AuditOnline' is an application developed as a part of Panchayat Enterprise Suite (PES) under e-panchayat Mission Mode Project (MMP) initiated by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR).