



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 30-12-2020

EXPLANATION

1. Ans (c)

Explanation:

The Scheme was launched on World Tourism Day i.e. 27th September; 2017. This project is a key initiative of Ministry of Tourism in close collaboration with Ministry of Culture and Archeological Survey of India (ASI), to develop the heritage sites / monuments and making them tourist-friendly to enhance the tourism potential and their cultural importance in a planned and phased manner. The project plans to entrust heritage sites/monuments and other tourist sites to private sector companies, public sector companies and individuals for the development of tourist amenities. The project aims to develop synergy among all partners.

Who are Monument Mitras?

Successful bidders selected for adopting heritage sites / monuments by the Oversight and Vision Committee shall be called as Monument Mitras. The basic and advanced amenities of the tourist destinations would be provided by them. They would also look after the operations and the maintenance of the amenities. The 'Monument Mitras' would associate pride with their CSR activities.

2. Ans:B

Explanation:

Bangladesh has started moving Rohingya refugees to a controversial flood-prone Bhasan Char island in the Bay of Bengal despite opposition from rights activists. The island was formed from a build-up of silt in the Bay of Bengal only 20 years ago, and concerns have been consistently raised about Bhasan Char's exposure to extreme weather and distance from the mainland in emergencies since Bangladesh first raised the idea in 2015.

3. Ans:C

Explanation:

The Blue Flag Programme for beaches and marinas is run by the international, non-governmental, non-profit organisation FEE (the Foundation for Environmental Education). It started in France in 1985 and has been implemented in Europe since 1987, and in areas outside Europe since 2001, when South Africa joined. It is an 'eco-tourism model' and marks out beaches as providing tourists and beachgoers clean and hygienic bathing water, facilities/amenities, a safe and healthy environment, and sustainable development of the area. India had secured the International Blue Flag Certification for 8 beaches on 6th October 2020, when an International Jury comprising of member organizations UNEP, UNWTO, UNESCO, IUCN, ILS, FEE etc. announced the award at Copenhagen, Denmark. The beaches where the International Blue Flags were hoisted are: Kappad (Kerala), Shivrajpur (Gujarat), Ghoghla (Diu), Kasarkod and Padubidri (Karnataka), Rushikonda (Andhra Pradesh), Golden (Odisha) and Radhanagar (Andaman & Nicobar Islands).

Spain tops the list with more than 560 such beaches; Greece and France follow. India is now in the league of 50 "BLUE FLAG" countries.

4. Ans:D

Explanation:

PM inaugurates India's first-ever driverless train operations on Delhi Metro's Magenta Line. These trains are mostly remotely controlled from the command rooms of the DMRC known as Operations Control Centre (OCC), from where teams of engineers track and monitor in real time train movement across the DMRC network.

5. Ans:A

Explanation:

The bill seeks to convert the State-run madrasas into general educational institutes from the next fiscal. The Bill proposed to convert the madrasas into upper primary, high and higher secondary schools with no change of status and pay, allowances and service conditions of the teaching and the non-teaching staff.

6. Ans:A

Explanation:

Indian Space startup, Skyroot Aerospace has successfully test fired a solid propulsion rocket engine, named Kalam-5. With this, it has become the first private company of India to successfully design, develop and test a full solid-fueled rocket stage.

7. Ans:c

Explanation:

The Policy formulated in 2018 targets 5% blending of biodiesel in diesel by 2030. The policy encourages setting up of supply chain mechanisms for biodiesel production from non-edible oilseeds, used cooking oil and short-gestation crops. These crops can be easily cultivated in various states on land that is barren or not fit for edible crops, thus leading to efficient land usage and boosting farm incomes.

A total of Rs 1 lakh crore worth of biofuel will be purchased by OMCs every year in the near future for blending. This money will be ploughed back to the rural economy, thus doubling farmers' incomes. Biodiesel procured by OMCs for blending high speed diesel has increased from 11.9 million litres in 2015-16 to 105.5 million litres last year.

India currently consumes only one-third of the global average consumption of energy. Also, India imports about 84% of our oil and 56% of our gas for domestic use. The aim is to achieve 10% ethanol blending in petrol by 2022 and 20% blending by 2030 — something that will cut down carbon emissions in vehicles.

8. Ans:A

Explanation:

Botanists have discovered a new species of wild sun rose from the Eastern Ghats in India. The new species, named *Portulaca laljii* was discovered from Prakasam district of Andhra Pradesh. It has unique features such as a tuberous root, no hair in its leaf axils, a reddish pink flower, prolate-shaped fruits, and copper brown seeds without lustre. The flowers are very attractive and bloom for months from June to February. The plant bears beautiful, tiny pink flowers for eight months. It is because of the succulent nature of tuberous roots that the plant can survive on rocky crevices.

9. Ans:B

Explanation:

NCMC is an automatic fare collection system. It will turn smartphones into an inter-operable transport card that commuters can use eventually to pay for Metro, bus and suburban railways services. This card runs on RuPay card. The stored value on card supports offline transaction across all travel needs with minimal financial risk to involved stakeholders. Ministry of housing & urban affairs brought to the fore

the National Common Mobility Card (NCCM) to enable seamless travel by different metros and other transport systems across the country besides retail shopping and purchases. This is dubbed as 'One Nation One Card', the inter-operable transport card would allow the holders to pay for their bus travel, toll taxes, parking charges, retail shopping and even withdraw money. The idea was floated by the Nandan Nilekani committee set up by the Reserve Bank of India.

10. Ans:A

Explanation:

Prime Minister Modi inaugurated the New Bhaupur- New Khurja section of Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor (EDFC) via video conferencing and dedicated it to the nation. He also inaugurated its Operation Control Centre (OCC) at Uttar Pradesh's Prayagraj.