



EXCEL CIVILS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date: 07-08-2020

EXPLANATION

1. Ans) (d)

Explanation :

Farmers in South 24 Parganas district in West Bengal are betting on the pokkali variety of rice from Kerala to tide over a crisis-like situation created by severe seawater incursion into paddy fields in vast areas of the Sundarbans after cyclone Amphan hit West Bengal on May 20. The pokkali variety, known for its saltwater resistance, flourishes in the paddy fields of coastal Alappuzha, Ernakulam and Thrissur districts of Kerala. The uniqueness of the rice has brought it the Geographical Indication (GI) tag and is the subject of continuing research. Vyttila-11 is the latest variety of Pokkali Rice to come out of Kerala Agricultural University's field station in Vyttila. Vyttila-11 promises better yield of about 5 tonnes per hectare than the previous varieties, and is crossed with the Jyoti variety of rice popular in Kerala.

2. Ans) (a)

Explanation :

The Government of India launched the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) for the country's promising junior athletes, with an aim to groom these young talents for medal glory at the 2024 and 2028 Olympics. The Sports Authority of India's (SAI) 'Mission Olympic Cell' (MOC) has shortlisted 258 athletes in 12 sporting disciplines for TOPS Junior, including the 85 selected before the lockdown, who will be part of the 'Developmental Group'. The selected athletes will receive a monthly 'Out Of Pocket' allowance of Rs 25,000. Of the 12 disciplines, 70 athletes have been shortlisted in shooting, 16 in athletics, 34 in archery, 27 in badminton, four in cycling, seven in table tennis, 14 in swimming, 11 in judo, 36 in boxing, 16 in weightlifting, five in rowing and 18 in wrestling. Monthly stipend of Rs. 50,000/- to each athlete is also provided under TOPS.

3. Ans) (a)

Explanation :

Vice President of India paid tribute to freedom fighter and the designer of India's national flag, Pingali Venkayya on his birth anniversary. Pingali Venkayya (1876 – 1963) was an Indian freedom fighter and the designer of the flag on which the Indian national flag was based. Venkayya's version was first designed for the Indian National Congress and subsequently modified in 1947. Pingali Venkayya was a polymath with interests in geology, education, agriculture and languages. He was born at Bhatlapenumarru, near Machilipatnam, in Andhra Pradesh.

4. Ans) (c)

Explanation :

The country's first Kisan Special Parcel Train or Kisan Rail will start from August 7, 2020 to provide seamless supply of perishable produce. The train will transport material between Maharashtra's Devlali and Bihar's Danapur Railway station. It will covering a distance of 1,519 kilometres in around 32 hours. The Kisan Rail will carry fruits and vegetables and will make stoppages at several stations and pick-up and deliver them. This will help in bringing perishable agricultural products like vegetables, fruits to the market in a short period of time. The Kisan Rail train with frozen containers is expected to build a seamless national cold supply chain for perishables, inclusive of fish, meat and milk. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had announced to start 'Kisan Rail' in the current year's Budget, for providing a seamless supply chain of perishable produce.

5. Ans) (c)

Explanation :

National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) is organizing a first of its kind, online patriotic film festival. The festival is a part of Independence Day Celebrations by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. The festival will run from august 7th till the 21st. The festival will showcase high quality Independence Day themed patriotic films daily at the website www.cinemasofindia.com free of cost. Critically acclaimed films from various Indian languages including Hindi, Marathi, Telugu, Tamil, Bengali, Gujarati and Malayalam will be showcased in the festival.

6. Ans) (a)

Explanation :

National Handloom Day is being organised on August 7 by the Ministry of Textiles. 7th August was chosen as the National Handloom Day to commemorate the Swadeshi Movement which was launched on the same date in the year 1905. The objective is to generate awareness about the Handloom Industry among the public and its contribution to socio-economic development.

7. Ans) (c)

Explanation

Provisions of Indian Constitution related to Cooperatives:

The Constitution (97th Amendment) Act, 2011 added a new Part IXB right after Part IXA (Municipals) regarding the cooperatives working in India. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

The word “cooperatives” was added after “unions and associations” in Article 19(1)(c) under Part III

of the Constitution. This enables all the citizens to form cooperatives by giving it the status of fundamental right of citizens.

A new Article 43B was added in the Directive Principles of State Policy (Part IV) regarding the “promotion of cooperative societies”.

8. Ans) (a)

Explanation

Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) was started by the FAO to safeguard and support the world's agricultural heritage systems.

GIAHS are outstanding landscapes of aesthetic beauty that combine agricultural biodiversity, resilient ecosystems and a valuable cultural heritage.

The Kuttanad below-sea level farming system has been recognised by the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) as a Globally Important Agricultural Heritage System (GIAHS). Hence, statement 2 is correct.

It is unique as it practices rice cultivation below sea level.

There are three recognised GIAHS sites in India.

Pampore Saffron Heritage of Kashmir.

Koraput Traditional Agriculture of Odisha.

Kuttanad Below Sea Level Farming System of Kerala.

9. Ans) (b)

Explanation

Bru or Reang is a community indigenous to Northeast India, living mostly in Tripura, Mizoram and Assam. In Tripura, they are recognised as a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group.

In Mizoram (lushai hills), they have been targeted by groups that do not consider them indigenous to the state. In 1997, following ethnic clashes, nearly 37,000 Brus fled Mamit, Kolasib and Lunglei districts of Mizoram and were accommodated in relief camps in Tripura.

10. Ans) (d)

Explanation

According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD) rainfall in the “second half of the monsoon” is likely to be 104% of the Long Period Average (LPA).

This falls within the “normal” range of rainfall.

Long Period Average (LPA): It is the average rainfall recorded during the months from June to September, calculated during the 50-year period, and is kept as a benchmark while forecasting the quantitative rainfall for the monsoon season every year..