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ACADEMY

CURRENT AFFAIRS QUIZ

MCQs on important news of the day from Hindu & Indian Express.

APRIL 2021

April C.A. Quiz compilation

1. "Sankalp se Siddhi" - Village and Digital Connect Drive is an initiative of:

A. TRIFED

B. NITI Aayog

C. Greenpeace

D. None of the above

Correct Answer: A

Explanation: TRIFED under Ministry of Tribal Affairs has now launched "Sankalp se Siddhi" - Village and Digital Connect Drive.

It is a 100 day drive which was stared from April 1, 2021.

The drive will entail 150 teams visiting ten villages each of which 10 in each region from TRIFED and State Implementation Agencies, visiting ten villages each.

The main aim of this drive is to activate the Van Dhan Vikas Kendras in these villages.

The visiting teams will also identify locations and shortlist potential Van Dhan Vikas Kendras for clustering as TRIFOOD, and Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries- SFURTI units as larger enterprises.

TRIFOOD aims to enhance the income of tribals through better utilization of and value addition to the Minor Forest Produce collected by the tribal forest gatherers.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

2. With reference to the forest fires, consider the following statements:

1. As of 2019, about 21.67% of the country's geographical area is identified as forest, according to the India State of Forest Report 2019 (ISFR).

2. Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh are the two states that witness the most frequent forest fires annually.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A.1 only

B. 2 only

C. Both 1 and 2

D. Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: Uttarakhand has witnessed over 1,000 incidents of forest fire over the last six months, including 45 in the last 24 hours alone, and has reached out to the Centre for helicopters and personnel from the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF).

Since the start of 2021, there has been a series of forest fires in Himachal Pradesh, Nagaland-Manipur border, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, and Gujarat, including in wildlife sanctuaries.

April-May is the season when forest fires take place in various parts of the country.

But forest fires have been more frequent than usual in Uttarakhand and have also taken place during winter; dry soil caused by a weak monsoon is being seen as one of the causes.

Forest fires can be caused by a number of natural causes, but officials say many major fires in India are triggered mainly by human activities.

As of 2019, about 21.67% (7,12,249 sq km) of the country's geographical area is identified as forest, according to the India State of Forest Report 2019 (ISFR) released by the Forest Survey of India (FSI), Dehradun. Tree cover makes up another 2.89% (95, 027 sq km).

Based on previous fire incidents and recorded events, forests of the Northeast and central India regions are the most vulnerable areas to forest fires, the FSI has said. Forests in Assam, Mizoram and Tripura have been identified as 'extremely prone' to forest fire.

Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh are the two states that witness the most frequent forest fires annually.

Hence both statements are correct.

3. With reference to the Ingenuity, consider the following statements:

1. Ingenuity is a small robotic helicopter located on Mars since February 18, 2021.

2. It is intended to make the first powered atmospheric flight on a planet beyond Earth.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A.1 only

B.2 only

C. Both 1 and 2

D. Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: In another major success for the US space agency NASA, its Mars helicopter Ingenuity has been dropped on the surface of the Red Planet ahead of its historic first flight scheduled for April 11.

Ingenuity is a small robotic helicopter located on Mars since February 18, 2021 that is intended to make the first powered atmospheric flight on a planet beyond Earth.

Part of NASA's Mars 2020 mission, the small coaxial, drone rotorcraft will serve as a technology demonstrator for the potential use of flying probes on other worlds, with the potential to scout locations of interest and support the future planning of driving routes for Mars rovers.

Ingenuity, now on the Martian surface, was attached to the underside of the Perseverance rover.

Hence both statements are correct.

4. Global Gender Gap Report 2021 is published by:

A. World Economic Forum

B. World Bank

C.UNESCO

D. None of the above

Correct Answer: A

Explanation: India has fallen 28 places in the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Report 2021, and is now one of the worst performers in South Asia, trailing behind neighbours Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka and Myanmar.

India is now ranked 140 among 156 countries.

South Asia incidentally is one of the worst performing regions, followed only by the Middle East and northern Africa.

many countries have fared worse in this year's rankings compared to last year's, on account of economic performance.

On its current trajectory, it will now take 135.6 years to close the gender gap worldwide.

The gender gap in political empowerment remains the largest: women represent only 26.1 per cent of some 35,500 parliament seats and just 22.6 per cent of over 3,400 ministers worldwide, according to the report.

In 81 countries, there has never been a woman head of state, as of January 15, 2021.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

5. Chenab Railway bridge, often mentioned in news, is located in:

A. Ladakh

B. Punjab

C. Himachal Pradesh

D. Jammu & Kashmir

Correct Answer: D

Explanation: The Prime Minister has lauded the completion of Arch closure of the Chenab Bridge, World's highest Railway Bridge in Jammu & Kashmir by Indian Railways.

The length of the Chenab bridge will be 1,315 metres with 17 spans, of which the span of the main arch across Chenab river will be 467m.

The bridge is part of an ambitious 272-km rail link project and is being constructed by the Northern Railway at an estimated cost of ₹28,000 crore.

The bridge will be able to withstand earthquakes with a magnitude of up to eight and high-intensity blasts.

The bridge, which will include a 14-metre dual carriageway and a 1.2-metre-wide central verge, will have a design speed of around 100 kilometres per hour with a lifespan of 120 years.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

6. With reference to the INS Viraat, consider the following statements:

1. INS Viraat was a Centaur-class aircraft carrier of the Indian Navy

2. The ship was completed and commissioned in 1959 as the Royal Navy's HMS Hermes, and decommissioned in 1984.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A.1 only

B.2 only

C. Both 1 and 2

D. Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: INS Viraat, the Navy's decommissioned aircraft carrier, has become the "private property" of a ship-breaker who has already torn down 40% of its body, chiefly for scrap, the Supreme Court told a private company, that wants to turn the vessel into a maritime museum-cum-adventure centre.

On February 10, the court had ordered a stay on the process of dismantling the ship.

The carrier was bought by the Gujarat-based Shree Ram Group, a ship-breaking firm, in a bid. The 67-year-old iconic warship was towed to the breaking yard after over three decades' service in the Navy.

INS Viraat was a Centaur-class aircraft carrier of the Indian Navy.

INS Viraat was the flagship of the Indian Navy before INS Vikramaditya was commissioned in 2013.

The ship was completed and commissioned in 1959 as the Royal Navy's HMS Hermes, and decommissioned in 1984. It was sold to India in 1987. INS Viraat was commissioned into the Indian Navy in 1987 served till 2016 when it was decommissioned.

Hence both statements are correct.

7. Consider the following statements:

1. Exercise Varuna is an Indo-French naval exercise.
2. All the QUAD members will also participate in Varuna exercise.
3. Varuna exercise will be conducted in the Indian Ocean Region.

Which of the statements given above is/are not correct?

A.1 and 2 only

B.2 only

C.2 and 3 only

D.1 and 3 only

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: Recently, Indian Navy Ships INS Satpura and INS Kiltan along with P8I Long Range Maritime Patrol Aircraft are participating, for the first time in multilateral maritime exercise La Pérouse, being conducted in the Eastern Indian Ocean Region from 5th to 7th April 2021.

The first edition of La Pérouse joint exercise, initiated by France in 2019, included ships from Australia, Japan and the US.

India's participation in 2021 completed the QUAD force representation in the French led La Pérouse.

Post conduct of La Perouse, the Indo-French Naval exercise "Varuna" is scheduled in the Western Indian Ocean, wherein UAE too shall be participating. Hence, statement 1 and 3 are correct but statement 2 is not correct.

8. Consider the following regarding World Economic Outlook

1. It is an annual publication issued by International Monetary Fund (IMF)

2. It presents IMF staff economists' analyses of global economic developments during the near and medium term

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

A. 1 Only
B. 2 Only
C. Both 1 and 2
D. Neither 1 or 2

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: A Survey by the IMF staff usually published twice a year. Thus statement 1 is incorrect. It presents IMF staff economists' analyses of global economic developments during the near and medium-term. Thus statement 2 is correct.

Chapters give an overview as well as more detailed analysis of the world economy; consider issues affecting industrial countries, developing countries, and economies in transition to market; and address topics of pressing current interest. Annexes, boxes, charts, and an extensive statistical appendix augment the text.

9. With reference to the "Sankalp se Siddhi"-Village and Digital Connect Drive, consider the following statements:

1. It is launched by the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED).
2. It aims to activate the Van Dhan Vikas Kendras (VDVKs) in the villages.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A.1 only

B.2 only

C. Both 1 and 2

D. Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: The Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED), under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, has launched "Sankalp se Siddhi" - Village and Digital Connect Drive. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

The main aim of this drive is to activate the Van Dhan Vikas Kendras (VDVKs) in the villages. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

The drive will entail 150 teams (10 in each region from TRIFED and State Implementation Agencies/Mentoring Agencies/Partners) visiting ten villages each.

Thus, 100 villages in each region and 1500 villages in the country will be covered.

The visiting teams will also identify locations and shortlist potential Van Dhan Vikas Kendras for clustering as TRIFOOD, and SFURTI units as larger enterprises.

10. With reference to the Muon g–2 experiment, consider the following statements:

1. It measured a quantity relating to the muon, following up a previous experiment at Brookhaven National Laboratory, under the US Department of Energy.

2. The rate at which the muon wobbles is described by the g-factor, the quantity that was measured.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A.1 only

B.2 only

C. Both 1 and 2

D. Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

- Newly published results of an international experiment hint at the possibility of new physics governing the laws of nature.
- The results of the experiment, which studied a subatomic particle called the muon, do not match the predictions of the Standard Model, on which all particle physics is based, and instead reconfirm a discrepancy that had been detected in an experiment 20 years previously.
- The experiment, called Muon g–2 (g minus two), was conducted at the US Department of Energy's Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory (Fermilab).
- The Standard Model is a rigorous theory that predicts the behaviour of the building blocks of the universe.
- It lays out the rules for six types of quarks, six leptons, the Higgs boson, three fundamental forces, and how the subatomic particles behave under the influence of electromagnetic forces.
- The muon is one of the leptons. It is similar to the electron, but 200 times larger, and much more unstable, surviving for a fraction of a second.

Muon g–2 experiment

- It measured a quantity relating to the muon, following up a previous experiment at Brookhaven National Laboratory, under the US Department of Energy.
- Concluded in 2001, the Brookhaven experiment came up with results that did not identically match predictions by the Standard Model.
- The Muon g–2 experiment measured this quantity with greater accuracy.
- It is called the g–factor, a measure that derives from the magnetic properties of the muon.
- The rate at which the muon wobbles is described by the g-factor, the quantity that was measured.
- This value is known to be close to 2, so scientists measure the deviation from 2. Hence the name g–2.

Hence both statements are correct.

11. What is B.1.617, recently seen in news?

A.A "double mutant" Coronavirus

B. Minisatellite

C. Ransomware

D. None of the above

Correct Answer: A

Explanation: The "double mutant" virus that scientists had flagged last month as having a bearing on the spread of the pandemic in India, has a formal scientific classification: B.1.617.

The variant is common in India and has a couple of defining mutations, E484Q and L425R, that enable it to become more infectious and evade antibodies.

Though these mutations have individually been found in several other coronavirus variants, the presence of both mutations together were first found in some coronavirus genomes from India.

Certain variants of the coronavirus, for instance, B.1.1.7 and B.1.351 — have been termed the "United Kingdom" and "South Africa" variant, respectively, because they have mutations associated with large spikes in these countries or reduce the efficacy of vaccines and are termed "variants of concern (VOC)".

So far, only three global VOCs have been identified: the U.K. variant, the South African and the Brazilian (P.1) lineage.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

12. With reference to the Copyright (Amendment) Rules, 2021, consider the following statements:

1. The amendments have harmonized the Copyright Rules with the provisions of Finance Act, 2017 whereby the Copyright Board has been merged with Appellate Board.

2. The time limit for the Central Government to respond to an application made before it for registration as a copyright society is extended to 180 days, so that the application can be more comprehensively examined.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A.1 only

B.2 only

C. Both 1 and 2

D. Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: The Government of India has notified Copyright (Amendment) Rules, 2021.

In India, the copyright regime is governed by the Copyright Act, 1957 and the Copyright Rules, 2013. The Copyright Rules, 2013 were last amended in the year 2016.

Objective of the amendments is to bring the existing rules in parity with other relevant legislations.

A new provision regarding publication of a copyrights journal has been incorporated, thereby eliminating the requirement of publication in the Official Gazette. The said journal would be available at the website of the Copyright Office.

In order to encourage accountability and transparency, new provisions have been introduced, to deal with the undistributed royalty amounts and use of electronic and traceable payment methods while collection and distribution of royalties.