Daily Current Affairs Quiz - 11 January, 2021

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1. Which of the following statements is/are correct with reference to the H-1B visas?

A. The US administration has once again amended the H-1B visa norms by changing the rules to give priority to higher wages and skills for selection of deserving candidates.

B. The old lottery system of work visa selection will not be followed now.

C. Both A & B

D. None of these

Explanation:

US President Donald Trump's administration has once again amended its H-1B visa regime to give priority to higher wages and skills instead of the prevailing lottery system for selection of candidates looking to work in the country. The new wage-based work visa regime will now give priority in selection of visas to applications of those employers where the "proffered wage equals or exceeds" the prevailing level in that area of employment. The old lottery system of work visa selection will not be followed now.

2. Which of the following statements is/are correct with reference to the supermassive black hole?

A. Every large galaxy in the universe has a supermassive black hole at its centre, whose mass is millions or billions of times that of the Sun.

B. The black hole at the centre of our galaxy- the Milky Way- is called Sagittarius A*, and is 26,000 light-years away from Earth.

C. Both A & B

D. None of these

Explanation:

Scientists have been left scratching their heads, as it appears a supermassive black hole at the centre of a far off galaxy seems to be missing. Every large galaxy in the universe has a supermassive black hole at its centre, whose mass is millions or billions of times that of the Sun. The black hole at the centre of our galaxy- the Milky Way- is called Sagittarius A*, and is 26,000 light-years away from Earth.

3. Which of the following statements is/are correct with reference to the bird flu?

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1

A. Mass slaughter of domestic poultry birds, such as chickens and ducks, to contain the spread of bird flu is called culling.

B. In India, culling is done in a radius one kilometre from the site of infection, which is called the 'infected zone'.

C. Both A & B

D. None of these

Explanation:

A drive to cull over 1.60 lakh poultry birds at five poultry farms commenced in Haryana's Panchkula district. Mass slaughter of domestic poultry birds, such as chickens and ducks, to contain the spread of bird flu is called culling. In India, culling is done in a radius one kilometre from the site of infection, which is called the 'infected zone'. This means all domestic birds present in commercial farms, backyard farms or live bird markets in the infected zone are culled.

4. Which of the following statements is/are correct with reference to the National Youth Parliament Festival?

A. The First National Youth Parliament Festival was organized in January-February, 2019.

B. In 1984 the Government of India declared this day as National Youth Day and since 1985 the event is celebrated in India every year.

C. Both A & B

D. None of these

Explanation:

The Festival is organised on 12th January on the occasion of the National Youth Day in order to encourage the youth in the age group of 18-25 years to engage with public issues and understand the common man's point of view. The First National Youth Parliament Festival was organized in January-February, 2019. In 1984 the Government of India declared this day as National Youth Day and since 1985 the event is celebrated in India every year.

- 5. Cherry Blossom Mao Festival is celebrated in
- A. Manipur
- B. Nagaland
- C. Sikkim
- D. Himachal Pradesh

2

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Explanation:

In Manipur, the Cherry Blossom Mao Festival was held at Senapati district marking the beginning of pink season in the district. The Mao area of Senapati district in Manipur is known for Cherry Blossom, a plant which is popularly known as Sakura in Japan. The Manipur government started organizing the festival every year from 2017 onward.

6. Which state government will provide khadi shirt, eri shawl and eri stole to Grade IV employees?

- A. Assam
- B. Bihar
- C. Odisha
- D. Kerala

Explanation:

Assam government will provide khadi shirt, eri shawl and eri stole to Grade IV employees in a phased manner, in a move to pay tributes to Mahatma Gandhi and his movement for Khadi. Eri silk comes from the caterpillar of Samia ricini, found in northeast India and some parts of China, Japan. The name "eri" is derived from the Assamese word "era", which means "castor", as the silkworm feeds on castor plants.

7. Which of the following statements is/are correct with reference to the Bagasara Prant?

A. The newly created Bagasara Prant would come into effect on 26th January, which includes Bagasara and Vadiya talukas in it.

B. Prants are traditional names for parts of historical regions, such as the original ten regions of Kathiawad on Saurashtra peninsula in Gujarat.

C. Both A & B

D. None of these

Explanation:

Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani has decided to create a new Bagasara Prant in Amreli district. This will take the state's revenue services nearer to the people and provide services faster. Since the districts with larger geographical areas cause inconvenience to the people, the state government has been reorganizing smaller districts and talukas for administrative convenience, faster development, reducing workload as well as saving the people's time. Now, the state government has taken up the reorganization of Prants.

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3

8. Which of the following statements is/are correct with reference to the Freight Business Development Portal?

A. The portal is designed to replace physical processes with online ones to minimise the need of human-to-human interaction.

B. Customers will get to know about discount schemes, diversion, rebooking, demurrage and wharfage waivers, stacking permissions through this portal.

C. Both A & B

D. None of these

Explanation:

The portal is designed to replace physical processes with online ones to minimise the need of human-to-human interaction. Several customers, while welcoming the move, said that it will help them use rail mode seamlessly. The personalised dashboard of freight business portal provides customers a view with their business in railways, outstanding indents, on-run consignments, status of various interactions and facility to apply for various services and raising concerns. Customers also get to know about discount schemes, diversion, rebooking, demurrage and wharfage waivers, stacking permissions.

- 9. Which of the following statements is/are correct with reference to the Ken-Betwa project?
- A. The Ken-Betwa River linking project will benefit the dry Bundelkhand area in Rajasthan.
- B. There are 31 river interlinking projects planned in the country.
- C. Both A & B

D. None of these

Explanation:

The Ken-Betwa River linking project will benefit the dry Bundelkhand area in MP and UP. Besides irrigating thousands of hectares, the scheme will provide drinking water to 62 lakh people. There are 31 river interlinking projects planned in the country, of which Ken-Betwa is the first that has reached an advanced level of planning.

10. Which of the following statements is/are correct with reference to the Golden Quadrilateral?

A. Indian Railway recently enhanced the maximum speed to 130 kmph for 1,280 km length out of 1,612 Km in Golden Quadrilateral - Golden Diagonal (GQ-GD) route.

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4

B. The speed enhancement covers the entire GQ-GD route over South Central Railway.

C. Both A & B

D. None of these

Explanation:

Indian Railway has started the New Year by achieving a landmark achievement by drastically enhancing the maximum speed to 130 kmph for 1,280 km length out of 1,612 Km in Golden Quadrilateral - Golden Diagonal (GQ-GD) route. This covers the entire GQ-GD route over South Central Railway, except Vijayawada - Duvvada section, where signalling up-gradation work is in progress. The enhanced speed limits could be achieved due to the systematic and planned strengthening of track & its infrastructure by removing bottlenecks in these sections on a fast pace.

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