

Answers

1) D

An oxygen concentrator is a medical device that concentrates oxygen from ambient air. Atmospheric air has about 78 per cent nitrogen and 21 per cent oxygen, with other gases making up the remaining 1 per cent. The oxygen concentrator takes in this air, filters it through a sieve, releases the nitrogen back into the air, and works on the remaining oxygen. According to a 2015 report by the WHO, concentrators are designed for continuous operation and can produce oxygen 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, for up to 5 years or more.

While it is not as pure as LMO (99%), experts say it is good enough for mild and moderate Covid-19 patients with oxygen saturation levels of 85% or above. It is, however, not advisable for ICU patients. Concentrators can be attached with multiple tubes to serve two patients at the same time, but experts don't recommend it since it carries risk of cross-infection.

Concentrators are portable and unlike LMO that needs to be stored and transported in cryogenic tankers, need no special temperature. And unlike cylinders that require refilling, concentrators only need a power source to draw in ambient air.

2) A

OPCW is an intergovernmental organisation and the implementing body for the Chemical Weapons Convention. This convention is in force since 1997 and 193 members.

Members: It has 193 members including India.

Headquarters: The Hague, Netherlands.

Significance: The OPCW was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2013.

Relations with UN: OPCW is not a United Nations (UN) organization. However, by the 2001 Relationship Agreement between the OPCW and the UN, the OPCW reports on its inspections and other activities to the UN through the office of the Secretary-General.

Relevance: India's Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) GC Murmu selected as an external auditor to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW). His term will be for 3 years, starting in 2021.

3) C

Around 30 Countries from across the oceans have joined the GloLitter Partnerships Project to tackle marine plastic litter.

GloLitter Partnerships Project was launched by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). The Government of Norway provided initial funding for the project.

Aim: The project aims to help the maritime transport and fishing sectors to adapt to a low-plastic future. To achieve this goal, this initiative will assist developing countries to apply best practices for prevention, reduction, and control of marine plastic litter from those sectors.

Participating Countries: 30 Countries will be participating in the project. India is one of the participating countries.

4) C

This zone is a seismically active area, so it falls into the highest Seismic Hazard Zone V.

The Kopili fault zone is a 300-km northwest-southeast trending fault. It is extending from the western part of Manipur to the tri-junction of Bhutan, Arunachal Pradesh and Assam.

The zone is associated with collisional tectonics because of the Indian Plate subducting beneath the Eurasian Plate. Subduction is a geological process in which one crustal plate is forced below the edge of another.

5) C

The Patents Act, 1970: The act has two key specific provisions that could be potentially invoked to regulate the pricing of the vaccine. The two provisions are:

Section 100: It gives the central government the power to authorise anyone (a pharma company) to use the invention for the purposes of the government. Basically, this provision enables the government to license patents of the vaccine to specific companies. This is done to speed up manufacturing and ensuring equitable pricing.

Section 92: It deals with compulsory licensing. It says that the government without the permission of the patent holder can provide license under the following situations:

- Circumstance of national emergency; or
- Circumstance of extreme urgency; or
- Case of public non-commercial use.

6) B

Trachoma is caused by a bacterial infection caused by the Chlamydia Trachomatis

7) C

Revaluation is a change in a price of a good or product, or especially of a currency, in which case it is specifically an official rise of the value of the currency in relation to a foreign currency in a fixed exchange rate system.

Currency depreciation is the loss of value of a country's currency with respect to one or more foreign reference currencies, typically in a floating exchange rate system in which no official currency value is maintained.

8) A

The TRIPS Agreement plays a critical role in facilitating trade in knowledge and creativity, in resolving trade disputes over intellectual property. The TRIPS Agreement has an additional important general objective: intellectual property protection should contribute to technical innovation and the transfer of technology. Both producers and users should benefit, and economic and social welfare should be enhanced, the TRIPS Agreement says.

TRIPS agreement has expanded international copyright rules to cover rental rights. Authors of computer programs and producers of sound recordings must have the right to prohibit the commercial rental of their works to the public. A similar exclusive right applies to films where commercial rental has led to widespread copying, affecting copyright-owners' potential earnings from their film

TRIPS is administered by WTO (World Trade Organization). WIPO is a UN agency

9) A

Nobel peace Prize for 2020 has been awarded to World Food Program (WFP)

As per "Trends in World Military Expenditure Report, 2020" by SIPRI, India has been 3rd largest spender in terms of military expenditure after US and China

10) C

Civil society is the non-state and non-market part of the public domain in which individuals get together voluntarily to create institutions and organizations

It consists of voluntary associations, organizations or institutions formed by groups of citizens. It includes political parties, media institutions, trade unions, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), religious organizations, and other kinds of collective entities. The main criteria for inclusion in civil society are that the organization should not be state-controlled, and it should not be a purely commercial profit-making entity.

11) A

It includes a target to increase forest area by 3% worldwide by 2030, signifying an increase of 120 million hectares, an area over twice the size of France.

The Strategic Plan features a set of six Global Forest Goals and 26 associated targets to be reached by 2030, which are voluntary and universal.

12) A

Project, launched by the Indian Army, aims to provide better training and educational facilities to disadvantaged Ladakhi students. Also, the projects aim to give them the opportunity to study in the best educational institutes.

The fire and Fury Corps of the Indian Army will implement the project. They will also have a partnership with Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) and National Integrity and Educational Development Organization (NIEDO), an NGO.

13) D

While in humans antibiotics are primarily used for treating patients, they are used as growth promoters in animals, often because they offer economic shortcuts that can replace hygienic practices. Globally, use of antibiotics in animals is expected to increase by 67% by 2030 from 2010 levels.

Antimicrobial resistance occurs naturally over time, usually through genetic changes. However, the misuse and overuse of antimicrobials is accelerating this process.

The Chennai Declaration is a document, prepared by representatives of various stakeholders and eminent experts in India, to tackle the challenge of anti-microbial resistance from an Indian perspective.

14) D

Global Food Policy Report is released by IFPRI (International Food Policy Research Institute)

- International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) is a non-profit international research center founded in 1976.
- Mandate: To provide research-based policy solutions that sustainably reduce poverty and end hunger and malnutrition
- Headquarters: Washington, USA.

15) C

In February 2020, RBI proposed to create an alternative umbrella organisation for retail payments. This is to prevent the monopoly of the National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI). Presently NPCI is taking care of all retail payments systems in India.

The RBI in its framework mentioned certain guidelines for capital New Umbrella Entities. These are,

Capital: The pan-India new umbrella entity (NUE) or entities will focus on retail payment systems with a minimum paid-up capital of Rs 500 crore.

However, the RBI will not permit any single promoter or group to hold more than 40% investment in the NUE. Also, the NUE should maintain a minimum net worth of Rs. 300 crore at all times.

16) A

The EatSmart Cities Challenge aims to motivate Smart Cities to develop a plan that supports a healthy, safe and sustainable food environment supported by institutional, physical, social, and economic infrastructure along with the application of 'smart' solutions to combat food related issues.

Shri Hardeep S Puri, MoS (I/C), Housing and Urban Affairs launched the EatSmart Cities Challenge and Transport 4 All Challenge at an online event recently.

The 'Eat Right India' movement initiated by FSSAI under the aegis of Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, has gone a long way in creating awareness amongst the people about eating safe, healthy and sustainably. The launch event of EatSmart Cities Challenge today was organized in association with Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) under the aegis of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

17) A

Equity means treating people based on their respective circumstances. So, every individual shall be helped as per their need and brought to the same level of development resulting in equality.

Under principles of equity, only those individuals are helped who require that help. This means people are treated fairly as per their conditions, but differently.

Everyone in the class will not be in the need of extra classes. So, only those students who are weak shall be given help. This ensures that only those students are given assistance who actually need it. Hence, this is a case of equity, not equality. Under equality, all students would be given extra classes.

18) D

Articles 31(f) of the TRIPS Agreement provides for a compulsory license. Under this, the government can issue a license to make use of a patent without the patent holder's consent.

But, this drug can be used only for the supply of the domestic market. So the government cannot export the patented product.

- For example, In 2012, India permitted generic production of Bayer Corporation's Nexavar. This drug was used for the treatment of Liver and Kidney cancer.

- Similarly, South Africa permitted the generic production of Anti-Retroviral Drugs used in HIV treatment.

19) D

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

It was established by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) resolution 1992/1, upon request of General Assembly (GA) resolution 46/152. It acts as the principal policymaking body of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice.

It offers Member States a forum for exchanging expertise, experience and information in order to develop national and international strategies, and to identify priorities for combating crime. It is the preparatory body to the United Nations Crime Congresses. India was elected by acclamation to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice for a three-year term beginning January 1, 2022.

UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

The UN Charter established ECOSOC in 1945 as one of the six main organs of the United Nations. It is at the heart of the United Nations system to advance the three dimensions of sustainable development – economic, social and environmental.

It is the central platform for fostering debate and innovative thinking, forging consensus on ways forward, and coordinating efforts to achieve internationally agreed goals. ECOSOC links a diverse family of UN entities dedicated to sustainable development, providing overall guidance and coordination.

20) D