UPSC Mentorship
A Unit of Mentorship India

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

27 June 2024

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GS II

1. Role of a Lok Sabha's Leader of Opposition

Source: Decccan Herald

Prelims:

Mains:

Context: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi is Leader of Opposition (LoP) in the 18th Lok Sabha, a position that lay vacant for 10 years because no party had numbers equalling a tenth of the strength of the House.

- The LoP is the parliamentary chairperson of the largest political party/ coalition in the Lok Sabha that is not in government.

The Position of Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha:

- **Statutory recognition:**
  - It was officially described in **the Salary and Allowances of Leaders of Opposition in Parliament Act 1977**.
  - The Act describes the Leader of Opposition as:
    - A member of the Council of States or the House of the People (as the case may be),
    - Who is the Leader in that House of the party (having the greatest numerical strength and recognised as such by the Chairman/ the Speaker) in opposition to the Government.
- **Numerical strength:** According to a conventional understanding, in order to get the post of Leader of Opposition **a party must have at least 10% of MPs** in the House.
- **Debate over numerical strength:**
  - According to the former Lok Sabha Secretary General PDT Achary, the law is clear that the Speaker is required to recognise the leader of the **numerically largest party** in opposition as the leader of opposition.
  - **There is no such rule**, which requires a party to have at least 10% of the members of the House for recognising someone as the Leader of the Opposition.
  - Before the BJP in 2014 and 2019, the Congress (having 415 members in Lok Sabha) in 1984 denied TDP (with 30 MPs) the post of Leader of Opposition, on the basis of the above mysterious rule.
- **Salary and sumptuary allowances:** S/he shall be entitled to receive a salary and allowances as are specified in the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act 1954.

Powers of the Leader of Opposition (LoP) in the House:

- **Order of precedence:** The LoP in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha come at No. 7, along with
  - Union Cabinet Ministers,
  - The National Security Advisor,
  - The Principal Secretary to the PM,
  - The Vice-Chairperson of the NITI Aayog,
  - Former PMs, and Chief Ministers.
- **Sitting position in the House:**
  - **The LoP sits in the front row** to the left of the Chair, and enjoys **certain privileges on ceremonial occasions** like escorting the Speaker-elect to the rostrum (Chair of the Speaker).

- The LoP is also entitled to a seat in the front row during the Address by the President to both Houses of Parliament.
- **The main duty of the LoP:**
  - It is to **serve as the voice of the opposition** in the House and is considered as **a shadow Prime Minister with a shadow Cabinet.**
  - This means, s/he is **ready to take over the administration** if the Government resigns or is defeated on the floor of the House.
  - Because the parliamentary system is based on "**mutual forbearance**" (acknowledging that we do not all have to agree on everything), the LoP is free to disagree while yet allowing the PM to rule.
  - **His/her proactive role** in facilitating smooth functioning of the business of the House is as important as that of the Government.
- **Practical role and responsibility:**
  - Most importantly, the LoP is the **opposition's representative in the high-powered committees** headed by the PM for appointment to key posts such as
    - The Director of CBI,
    - The Central Vigilance Commissioner and Chief Information Commissioner,
    - The Chairperson and Members of the National Human Rights Commission, and
    - The Lokpal.
  - S/he will also be a **member of crucial committees**, including Public Accounts, Public Undertakings, Estimates and several Joint Parliamentary Committees.

2.With dummy FIRs and pocket guides, police get ready to switch to new criminal laws

Source: Decccan Herald

Prelims:

Mains:

Context: Ahead of the implementation of the new criminal laws, at least 23 modifications have been made to the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network Systems (CCTNS).

Crime and Criminal Tracking Networks and Systems (CCTNS):

- CCTNS was conceptualized by the Ministry of Home Affairs under the **National e-governance plan** of India and is being implemented as a "Mission Mode Project (MMP)" since 2009.
- It is an ambitious project that aims to put in place a comprehensive and integrated system for enhancing the efficiency and **effectiveness of policing at the police station level throughout the country.**
- It **aimed to interlink all police stations** under a common application software for the purposes of investigation, data analytics, research, policymaking and providing Citizen Services such as reporting and tracking of complaints, requests for antecedent verifications by Police, etc.
- The records of crimes and criminals available at one police station will be **accessible to any other police office.**

Objectives

- Make the Police functioning **citizen-friendly and more transparent** by automating the functioning of Police Stations.
- Improve the delivery of **citizen-centric services** through effective usage of ICT.
- Provide the Investigating Officers of the Civil Police with **tools, technology and information to facilitate the investigation** of crimes and the detection of criminals.
- Improve police functioning in various other areas such as Law and Order, Traffic Management, etc.
- Facilitate **interaction and sharing of information among Police Stations**, Districts, State/UT Headquarters, and other Police Agencies.
- Assist senior Police Officers in **better management of the Police Force**.
- **Keep track of the progress of cases**, including in Courts.
- Reduce manual and redundant record-keeping.
- The project is being implemented with close collaboration between the States and the Union Government.
- **The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)** is the central nodal agency that would manage CCTNS.

Key Facts about National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB):

- It was established in 1986 to act as a **repository of information on crime and criminals**.
- It comes **under the Ministry of Home Affairs** (MHA), Government of India.
- It was set up based on the recommendations of the Tandon Committee, the National Police Commission (1977-1981), and the Task Force of the Home Ministry.
- It is responsible for **collecting and analysing crime data** as well as serving as a repository of such information to aid investigators in tracing crimes and criminals.
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- The **Central Finger Print Bureau under the NCRB** is a national repository of all fingerprints in the country.
- NCRB also **compiles and publishes National Crime Statistics**e. Crime in India, Accidental Deaths & Suicides, and also Prison Statistics.
- NCRB also **assists various States in capacity building** in the areas of Information Technology, CCTNS, Finger Prints, Network security, and Digital Forensics.

3. Ladakh Achieves Full Functional Literacy

Source: PIB

Prelims:

Mains:

Context: Recently, Ladakh has become the first administrative unit to achieve full functional literacy under the ULLAS-Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram (New India Literacy Program).

ULLAS-Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram:

- The Understanding Lifelong Learning for All in Society (ULLAS) is a **centrally sponsored scheme implemented from 2022-2027.**
- The scheme aligns with the recommendations of the **National Education Policy** (NEP) 2020.
- **Aim:** It aims to empower those **adults aged 15 years** and above from all backgrounds who could not get due schooling and mainstream them with society to be able to contribute more to the growth story of the country.
- The scheme **consists of five components**

- - Foundational Literacy and Numeracy,
  - Critical Life Skills,
  - Basic Education,
  - Vocational Skills, and
  - Continuing Education.
- The **ULLAS app** can be used for registration of learners and volunteers either through self-registration or by surveyors.
  - It will serve as a digital gateway for learners to engage in diverse learning resources through the **DIKSHA portal of NCERT.**

What is the DIKSHA portal?

- It is a national platform for school education, an **initiative of the National Council for Education Research and Training** (NCERT), Ministry of Education.
- It provides **e-content for schools** via an online portal and a mobile application.
- It was developed based on the core principles of **open architecture, open access, open licensing**, choice and autonomy.
- It is built on open-source technology that is made in India and for India, incorporating internet-scale technologies and allowing for a variety of use cases and solutions for teaching and learning.
- **Features**
  - The core building blocks of DIKSHA comprise majority of National Digital Education Architecture (NDEAR) building blocks, having enabled some successful use-cases of NDEAR such as energised textbooks, online courses, content authoring, content sourcing, interactive quizzes, question banks, chatbot, analytics and dashboard.
  - To aid teaching and learning for **Children With Special Needs**(CWSN), a large **number of audiobooks**, ISL (Indian Sign Language) Videos, and a Dictionary have been made available on DIKSHA for CWSN.

GS III

4. India's largest leopard safari opens at Bannerghatta

Source: The Hindu

Prelims:

Mains:

Context: South India's first and the country's largest leopard safari was recently inaugurated at the Bannerghatta Biological Park (BBP).

Bannerghatta Biological Park (BBP):

- It has been an integral **part of Bannerghatta National Park** and emerged as an independent establishment in 2002.
- In order to meet the growing demand for eco-recreation, eco-tourism, and conservation, an area of 545.00ha of forest from the National Park was set aside to constitute a biological park originally and later extended to 731.88ha.
- It is located about 22 kms **south of Bengaluru city, Karnataka**.
- It has **different units such as Zoo, Safari, Butterfly Park,** and **Rescue Centr**e (Conservation of Captive animals).
- It is the **first biological park in India**to have a **fenced, forested elephant sanctuary.**

Key Facts about Bannerghatta National Park:

- **Location**: It is located **near Bangalore, Karnataka**, in the hills of the **Anekal range.**
- It was declared a National Park in 1974.
- In 2006, **India's first butterfly enclosure**was inaugurated at the park.
- **River**: The **Suvarnamukhi stream**, the main source of water for the animals in the park, runs through the centre of the park.
- **Vegetation**: There are three types of vegetation that can be found: **Dry Deciduous Scrub** Forests, **Southern Tropical Dry Deciduous**Forests and **Southern Tropical Moist Mixed Forests**.
- **Flora**: Include Narcissus latifolia, Schleichera oleosa, **Sandalwood**, **Neem**, Tamarind, **Bamboo**, **Eucalyptus,etc.**
- **Fauna**: Prime habitat for several species, including the endangered Asian **Elephant**, Indian gaur, **Tiger**, Sambar deer, **Spotted deer, Leopard**, Wild dog, Wild pig, Sloth bear**, Common mongoose**, Pangolin, Slender loris, Black-naped hare, etc.

5. Indian Air Force to Purchase of 10 Indigenous TAPAS Drones to Enhance Surveillance Capabilities

Source: The Republic

Prelims:

Mains:

Context: The Indian Air Force (IAF) recently proposed to the central government the purchase of 10 TAPAS drones.

TAPAS UAV:

- The Tactical Airborne Platform for Aerial Surveillance Beyond Horizon-201, or Tapas BH-201, is a **medium-altitude, long-endurance (MALE) drone**.
- It was **previously referred to as Rustom-II.**
- It was developed indigenously by the Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE) of **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).**
- Designed to fulfil the **Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition, Tracking & Reconnaissance (ISTAR)** requirements of the tri-services, the Tapas UAV can effectively operate both day and night.

Features:

- It has an operating altitude of 30000 feet and an **endurance of 24 hours.**
- It also projects a **range of 250 km,** which can carry a variety of payloads up to a maximum of 350 kg with a wing span of 20.6 metres.
- Maximum speed: 225 kmph.
- It can be controlled remotely and also has the **ability to execute pre-programmed flight plans autonomously**with precision and flexibility.
- It is equipped with **enhanced aerodynamic configuration**, digital flight control, navigation system, communication intelligence, medium and long-range electro-optic payloads and synthetic aperture radar that will enable it to see through the clouds.

6. Massive 5 star clusters discovered from the era when Universe was infant

Source: The Republic

Prelims:

Mains:

Context: Astronomers recently discovered five young star clusters, and possibly the oldest star clusters ever, born from the time when the Universe was an infant.

Star Clusters:

- A Star cluster is either of two general types of **stellar assemblages held together by** the **mutual gravitational attraction** of its members, which are physically related through common origin.
- They are particularly useful to astronomers as they provide a way to study and model **stellar evolution and ages.**
- The two basic categories of stellar clusters are **open clusters**, also known as galactic clusters and **globular clusters.**

Open (Galactic) Clusters:

- Open clusters are so named due to the fact that the individual component stars are **easily resolved through a telescope**.
- They are sometimes called **galactic clusters** due to their location on the dusty spiral arms on the plane of spiral galaxies.
- Stars in an open cluster have a **common origin**: they formed from the same initial giant molecular cloud.
- Open clusters contain from a **dozen to many hundreds of stars**, usually in an unsymmetrical arrangement.

Globular Clusters:

- Globular clusters contain several **thousand to one million stars** in a spherical, gravitationally-bound system.
- Located mostly in the halo surrounding the galactic plane, they comprise the oldest stars in the galaxy.
- There is **little free dust or gas** found in globular clusters, so no new star formation is taking place in them.
- Stellar densities within the inner regions of a globular cluster are **very high compared with regions such as those around the Sun**.
- In addition, groups called associations, made up of a few dozen to hundreds of stars of similar type and common origin whose density in space is less than that of the surrounding field, are also recognized.

Editorial, Ideas and Opinions

7. Evaluating India's Progress in Harnessing Rooftop Solar Energy

Source: The Hindu,
Prelims:
Mains:
Context: Rooftop solar (RTS) holds significant promise for transforming India's energy sector by providing a sustainable, decentralized, and cost-effective way to address the nation's increasing electricity demand and promoting self-reliance among consumers.

In the fiscal year 2023-2024, India's installed RTS capacity surged by 2.99 GW, marking the highest annual growth to date. By March 31, 2024, the total installed RTS capacity reached 11.87 GW, according to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

To adequately meet the escalating energy needs, India must intensify its efforts to expand its RTS infrastructure.

Rooftop solar (RTS) programme

- **Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission: A Major Solar Initiative**
  - Launched in January 2010, the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission marked India's first significant effort to boost solar energy production.
  - Initially targeting 20 GW of solar energy (including RTS) in three phases (2010-2013, 2013-2017, 2017-2022), the goal was revised in 2015 to 100 GW by 2022, with a 40 GW RTS component.
- **Revised Targets and Achievements**
  - By December 2022, India achieved an installed RTS capacity of approximately 7.5 GW. Consequently, the 40 GW target deadline was extended to 2026.
- **Drivers of Growth in RTS Installations**
  - Over the years, improvements to the RTS installation numbers have been driven by favourable initiatives.
  - These include:
    - the Sustainable Partnership for RTS Acceleration in Bharat, SUPRABHA, and
    - the Sustainable Rooftop Implementation for Solar Transfiguration of India, SRISTI, schemes,
    - financial incentives, technological advances, awareness campaigns, and training programmes.
- **Untapped Potential and Future Goals**
  - Despite progress, India's overall RTS potential remains vast at approximately 796 GW.
  - Many States have yet to fully harness this potential.
  - To meet the ambitious targets of 500 GW of renewable energy capacity (including 280 GW of solar) by 2030, and net-zero goals by 2070, RTS needs to contribute about 100 GW by 2030.

Leading States in Rooftop Solar (RTS) Installations

- **Gujarat: A Model of Success**
  - Installed Capacity: 3,456 MW
  - Key Factors: Proactive government policies, efficient approval processes, numerous RTS installers, high consumer awareness
  - Notable Achievement: Modhera, India's first solar-powered village with 1,300 RTS systems of 1 kW each
- **Maharashtra: Strong Performance**
  - Installed Capacity: 2,072 MW
  - Key Factors: Robust solar policies, favorable regulatory environment
- **Rajasthan: High Potential**
  - Installed Capacity: 1,154 MW
  - Key Factors: Largest state by land area, high solar irradiance, streamlined approvals, financial incentives, public-private partnerships
- **Other Notable Performers**
  - Kerala: 675 MW
  - Tamil Nadu: 599 MW
  - Karnataka: 594 MW
- **States Lagging Behind**
  - Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand
  - Challenges: Bureaucratic hurdles, inadequate infrastructure, lack of public awareness
- **Conclusion**
  - While states like Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Rajasthan are making significant progress in RTS installations, others still face substantial challenges that need to be addressed to fully tap into their solar potential.

Pradhan Mantri Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana

- **Objective**
  - **Goal**: Equip 1 crore households with rooftop solar (RTS) systems, providing up to 300 units of free electricity per month
  - **Capacity Addition**: 20 GW from 2 kW systems per household
  - The scheme aims to revolutionize India's energy landscape by significantly boosting RTS capacity, ensuring energy equity, and fostering sustainable development.
  - It also aims to train professionals for installing, operating, and maintaining RTS systems, fostering a skilled workforce.
- **Target**: Rural and urban households, especially in regions with limited electricity access, high solar potential, and vulnerable communities.
  - It aims to ensure equitable distribution of benefits.

Financial Outlay

- **Total Budget**: Rs 75,021 crore
  - Central Financial Assistance: Rs 65,700 crore
  - Incentives for Distribution Companies: Rs 4,950 crore
  - Other Allocations: Incentives for local bodies, model solar villages, innovative projects, payment security mechanisms, capacity building, awareness, and outreach
- **Technology and Infrastructure**
  - Focus: Advanced solar technologies, energy storage solutions, smart grid infrastructure
  - Goal: Enhance efficiency, reliability, and resilience of RTS installations
- **Streamlined Processes**

| ○ Intention: Simplify approvals, permits, and regulatory clearances for RTS installations | ○ Outcome: Reduce administrative hurdles and promote ease of business |

Way forward

- **Awareness**
  - To encourage widespread adoption of RTS technologies, comprehensive awareness campaigns led by distribution companies and local bodies are essential.
  - These campaigns should include grassroots initiatives and door-to-door promotions targeting every administrative level—from wards to districts.
- **Ensure economic viability**
  - Economic viability is crucial for RTS adoption. Government subsidies help reduce costs, and expanding low-cost financing options from banks and non-bank financial companies (NBFCs) will further facilitate affordability.
  - Making RTS loans as accessible as typical vehicle loans will encourage more households to consider solar energy solutions.
- **Research and Development (R&D) in Solar Technology**
  - Emphasizing R&D in solar technology, energy storage solutions, and smart-grid infrastructure can reduce costs, enhance performance, and improve reliability of RTS systems.
  - Innovative technologies like drone and satellite imagery for shadow analysis, rooftop suitability assessments, and energy consumption patterns can optimize RTS system designs and support achieving adoption targets.
- **Investment in Training and Skill Development**
  - Initiatives like the 'Suryamitra' training programme, which has trained over 51,000 solar PV technicians since 2015, illustrate the importance of investing in training, vocational courses, and skill development.
  - Accelerating such programmes will help build a skilled workforce necessary for the RTS sector's growth and sustainability.
- **Update and review RTS policies**
  - To support the effective implementation of the 'Muft Bijli Yojana' and enhance RTS adoption, there is a need to update and review RTS policies.
  - This includes revising net-metering regulations, grid-integration standards, and building codes to address current challenges.

In Brief

8. Ukraine's F-16 Airfields Are Burning; Reports Say Russia Strikes Ukrainian Bases With Kalibr Cruise Missiles

Source: The Hindu,

Context: The Russian Black Sea Fleet (BSF) recently attacked Ukrainian infrastructure, using its sea-launched Kalibr cruise missiles.

Kalibr Missile:

- It is a family of **Russian cruise missiles** that can be launched from ships, submarines, containers, airplanes, or transport erector launchers.
- It has variants designed for **anti-ship, anti-submarine and land attack purposes**.
- They were developed and produced by Russia's Almaz-Antey corporation.
- **Features:**
    - Depending on the variant, the Kalibr missile **varies in mass and length**, ranging from 1,300 kg to 2,300 kg and from 6.2 m to 8.9 m, respectively.
    - It has a diameter of 0.533 m and can carry a warhead weighing between 400-500 kg of **high explosive or thermonuclear material.**
    - The missile utilizes a **multi-stage solid-fuel rocket engine**, with some versions incorporating a turbojet engine or a solid-fuel rocket.
    - These missiles use **inertial guidance with satellite navigation update**.
    - They can accelerate in the terminal stage to supersonic speed to avoid enemy defenses.
    - **Range**: It varies between 200 km and 2500 km, depending on the type.

9. Ex-HOPEX: India-Egypt Defence Cooperation Strengthens; IAF And Egyptian Air Force hold drill

Source: The Hindu,

Context: Recently, the Indian Air Force and Egyptian Air Force participated in the Exercise HOPEX 2024.

Exercise HOPEX:

- It is the **fourth joint exercise** of IAF (Indian Air Force) and EAF (Egyptian Air Force) which was held in Egypt from 21 to 26 June.

- The aim of this exercise is to **promote bilateral and regional cooperation**, which is a symbol of the long-standing relations between the two countries.
- The Indian Air Force's (IAF) Rafale fighter jets are currently in Egypt for Ex- HOPEX. The **C-17 Globemaster and IL-78 tankers** are also participating in the weeklong exercise.

India and Egypt relationship

- Diplomatic relations between India and Egypt began on 18 August 1947 at the ambassadorial level.
- Both countries have cooperated closely on multilateral forums as **founding members** of the **Non-Aligned Movement.**
- In the year 2022, India and Egypt celebrated the **75th anniversary of diplomatic relations**, which reflects the depth of the relationship.

10. Australia-India Collaboration Marks a New Era in Space Exploration

Source: The Hindu,

Context: Recently, the Australian government entered into an $18 million memorandum of understanding (MoU) with NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), the commercial arm of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) under the space MAITRI mission.

Space MAITRI Mission:
- Space MAITRI (**Mission for Australia-India's Technology, Research and Innovation**), represents a major step forward in the **strategic partnership** between the two nations in the space domain.
- It aims to foster **closer ties between commercial, institutional** and governmental space organizations from **India and Australia.**
- It focuses on **debris management and sustainability**, aligning with both nations' core values and objectives in promoting responsible space operations and mitigating the growing threat of space debris.
- Under this agreement, NewSpace India Limited will launch Australia's Space Machines Company's second **Optimus spacecraft** in **2026.**
  - The 450kg Optimus spacecraft, the largest Australian-designed and built spacecraft to date, will be launched on ISRO's **Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV).**

Key facts about NewSpace India Limited

- It is a **commercial arm** under **Department of Space**(DoS), Government of India.
- It was incorporated in March 2019 and was set up to take high technology space-related activities in India.
- Under the new space policy reforms announced by the Government of India in June 2020, NSIL is to undertake operational satellite missions on a "**demand-driven" model.**
- They are responsible to build, launch, own and operate the satellite and provide services to customers.
- It is headquartered **in Bengalur**

1- Who appoints the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha?
A) The President of India
B) The Prime Minister of India
C) The Speaker of the Lok Sabha
D) The Chief Justice of India

2-What is the minimum number of seats a party must have in the Lok Sabha to qualify its leader as the Leader of Opposition?

A) 10% of the total seats
B) 15% of the total seats
C) 20% of the total seats
D) 25% of the total seats

3- Which of the following is NOT a primary objective of the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network Systems (CCTNS)?

A) Facilitate collection, storage, retrieval, analysis, transfer, and sharing of data and information among police stations
B) Enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of policing through a nation-wide, IT-enabled system
C) Provide a comprehensive and integrated system for effective policing through e-Governance
D) Establish a separate judiciary network to expedite the legal process

4- What is the role of the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) in the implementation of the CCTNS project?

A) NCRB acts as the central repository for all crime and criminal data collected through CCTNS
B) NCRB directly handles all police station operations across India
C) NCRB provides legal representation for all criminal cases in courts

D) NCRB is responsible for the training of judicial officers on using the CCTNS system

5- Assertion (A): Ladakh has achieved full functional literacy.

Reason (R): The Union Territory of Ladakh implemented comprehensive educational reforms and community-based learning programs.

A) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
B) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
C) A is true, but R is false.
D) A is false, but R is true.

6- Match the following features of TAPAS Drones with their descriptions:

1. MALE Drones
2. Payload Capacity
3. Endurance
4. Applications

a) Capable of long-duration flights at medium altitudes
b) Surveillance, reconnaissance, and intelligence gathering
c) Ability to carry multiple types of sensors and equipment
d) Can remain airborne for over 24 hours

Options:

A) 1-a, 2-c, 3-d, 4-b
B) 1-b, 2-a, 3-c, 4-d
C) 1-d, 2-b, 3-a, 4-c
D) 1-c, 2-d, 3-b, 4-a

7- Which of the following is a primary advantage of implementing rooftop solar energy systems in urban areas?

A) Reduced dependency on fossil fuels
B) Increased land use for agriculture
C) Enhanced industrial water consumption
D) Increased urban heat island effect

8-Which of the following is a significant impact of the opening of India's largest leopard safari at Bannerghatta Biological Park?

A) Decrease in tourism revenue
B) Increased human-wildlife conflict
C) Enhanced conservation and awareness efforts
D) Reduction in leopard popularity

Solutions

1- Answer: C) The Speaker of the Lok Sabha

Explanation: The Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha is appointed by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha. The appointment is based on the criteria that the leader of the largest party in opposition, which has secured at least 10% of the total seats in the Lok Sabha, is chosen as the Leader of the

2- Answer: A) 10% of the total seats

Explanation: To qualify as the Leader of Opposition, the leader's party must have at least 10% of the total seats in the Lok Sabha. This ensures that the opposition has a significant presence in the Parliament.

3- Answer: D) Establish a separate judiciary network to expedite the legal process

Explanation: The primary objectives of CCTNS include facilitating the collection, storage, retrieval, analysis, transfer, and sharing of data among police stations; enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of policing; and providing an integrated system for effective policing through e-Governance. Establishing a separate judiciary network is not a part of CCTNS's objectives; CCTNS is focused on police data and processes, not the judiciary.

4- Answer: A) NCRB acts as the central repository for all crime and criminal data collected through CCTNS

Explanation: The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) is the central agency responsible for the implementation of CCTNS. It acts as the central repository for all crime and criminal data collected through the system. NCRB does not

handle police station operations, provide legal representation in courts, or train judicial officers; its role is primarily data-centric, focusing on crime records and information sharing among police departments.

5- Answer: A) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.

Explanation: Ladakh's achievement of full functional literacy is attributed to the implementation of comprehensive educational reforms and community-based learning programs. These initiatives have played a crucial role in improving literacy rates and ensuring that every individual in Ladakh is functionally literate.

6- Answer: A) 1-a, 2-c, 3-d, 4-b

Explanation:

1. **MALE Drones (Medium Altitude Long Endurance Drones)** - These are capable of long-duration flights at medium altitudes (a).
2. **Payload Capacity** - Refers to the ability to carry multiple types of sensors and equipment (c).
3. **Endurance** - Refers to the drone's capability to remain airborne for over 24 hours (d).
4. **Applications** - Include surveillance, reconnaissance, and intelligence gathering (b).

The TAPAS Drones are designed for medium-altitude, long-endurance missions, capable of carrying various payloads for extended periods, primarily used for surveillance and intelligence purposes.

7- Answer: A) Reduced dependency on fossil fuels

Explanation:

A) Reduced dependency on fossil fuels: One of the main advantages of rooftop solar energy systems is that they generate electricity from renewable sources, thereby reducing the dependency on fossil fuels, which are limited and polluting.

B) Increased land use for agriculture: This is not directly related to rooftop solar energy systems, as they are installed on existing structures and do not free up land for agriculture.

C) Enhanced industrial water consumption: Rooftop solar systems do not increase water consumption; in fact, they typically require minimal water for maintenance compared to conventional power plants.

D) Increased urban heat island effect: This is incorrect as rooftop solar panels can actually help reduce the urban heat island effect by providing shade and reducing the amount of heat absorbed by buildings.

By installing rooftop solar systems, urban areas can contribute to cleaner energy production, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and promote sustainable energy practices.

8-Answer: C) Enhanced conservation and awareness efforts

Explanation:

A) Decrease in tourism revenue: This is incorrect because the opening of a large and unique safari is likely to attract more tourists, thereby increasing tourism revenue.

B) Increased human-wildlife conflict: The safari is designed to reduce human-wildlife conflict by providing a controlled environment for wildlife viewing, thus this statement is incorrect.

C) Enhanced conservation and awareness efforts: The opening of India's largest leopard safari at Bannerghatta Biological Park significantly boosts conservation efforts by providing a safe habitat for leopards, helping to protect the species. It also raises public awareness about the importance of leopard conservation and the threats faced by these animals.

D) Reduction in leopard population: This is incorrect as the primary goal of the safari is to conserve and protect leopards, not reduce their population.

By providing a safe environment for leopards and educating the public, the safari plays a critical role in the conservation of this species and promotes greater awareness of wildlife conservation issues.

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Skill India
कौशल भारत - कुशल भारत

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

Digital India
Power To Empower

स्वच्छ भारत
एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर

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