

Prelims 2021 Current Flash Cards 28th Oct 2020

By IAS Toppers | 2020-10-28 00:00:00



28th October 2020
Daily Flash Cards
for
IAS Prelims 2021

Current Affairs

Question 1

Which draft has put in public domain for comments containing List of Essential Assistive Products?

Answer:

Draft National list of essential assistive products (NLEAP)

Detailed Answer:

Enrich Your Learning:

[Draft National list of essential assistive products \(NLEAP\)](#)

- The **Union health ministry** has released the draft National List of Essential Assistive Products (NLEAP).
- The Draft has been prepared by the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)**.
- The **list is aimed to provide assistive technologies (ATs) and devices for elderly, persons with disabilities (PwDs)**, patients with non-communicable diseases (NCDs) such as stroke, diabetes, congenital birth defect associated disabilities and people in humanitarian crisis and disasters.
- The ministry had invited suggestions and comments on the list from the stakeholders by October 10, 2020. It has been revised to 10th November 2020.
- A total of **383 assistive products (APs) have been included in the NLEAP** through a consultative process.
- The **Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids/Appliances (ADIP) Scheme** under MoSJE is providing ATs to the PwDs. The NLEAP will facilitate ADIP scheme to provide better products to those who need them.
- The **list of assistive products has been prepared on the lines of the Priority Assistive Products List of the World Health Organisation (WHO-APL)**.

Background

- As India already has a **National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM)**, hence during various Expert Group meetings by ICMR, it was agreed that the list may be termed as NLEAP.
- **In January 2020, a National Expert Committee (NEC) was constituted** under the leadership of Dr R K Srivastava, to assist in preparation of a list of assistive products.
- The NEC recommended creation of **4 sub-groups, each representing their specialties like public health, physical medicine & rehabilitation (PMR), geriatrics and engineering**. Each of the specialties had one leader with involvement of two more members.

What are assistive products?

- Assistive products refers to **any external product (including aids, devices, equipment, instruments or software)**, especially produced or generally available, the primary purpose of which is **to maintain or improve an individual's functioning and independence**, and thereby promote their well-being.
- These are also used **to prevent impairments and secondary health conditions**.
- Examples of assistive devices and technologies include **wheelchairs, prostheses, hearing aids, visual aids, and specialized computer software and hardware that increase mobility, hearing, vision, or communication capacities**.

Why in news?

- The NLEAP, put out for public comments, is riddled with mistakes.
- The drafting committee did not include a single person with disability or person from the disability sector.
- The draft get the definition of blindness, low vision and hearing impairment wrong.
- The document is also not accessible to the blind despite the June 15, 2019, deadline for web accessibility for all government websites and documents.
- It uses obsolete definitions instead of using the definitions in the **Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPWD) Act 2016** for blindness, low vision and hearing impairment.

Question 2

The 'Zionism' is the national ideology of which country?

Answer:

Israel

Detailed Answer:

Enrich Your Learning:

Zionism

- Zionism is **Israel's national ideology**.
- **Zionists believe Judaism is a nationality as well as a religion**, and that **Jews deserve their own state in their ancestral homeland, Israel**, in the same way the French people deserve France or the Chinese people should have China.
- **It's what brought Jews back to Israel in the first place**, and also at the heart of what concerns Arabs and Palestinians about the Israeli state.
- Jews often trace their nationhood back to the **biblical kingdoms of David and Solomon, circa 950 BC**.
- **Modern Zionism, building on the longstanding Jewish yearning for a "return to Zion," began in the 19th century** — right about the time that nationalism started to rise in Europe.
- A secular Austrian-Jewish journalist, **Theodor Herzl, was the first to turn rumblings of Jewish nationalism into an international movement around 1896**.
- He wrote essays and organized meetings that spurred mass Jewish emigration from Europe to what's now Israel/Palestine.
- Though **Zionists all agree that Israel should exist, they've long disagreed on what its government should look like**.
- **Arabs and Palestinians generally oppose Zionism**, as the explicitly Jewish character of the Israeli state means that Jews have privileges that others don't.

Question 3

Who launched the 'Every Woman Every Child movement' in 2010?

Answer:

Ban Ki-moon (former UN Secretary-General)

Detailed Answer:

Enrich Your Learning:

Every Woman Every Child movement

- **Launched by Ban Ki-moon**, former UN Secretary-General, during the United Nations Millennium Development Goals Summit in **September 2010**.
- **More than \$40 billion was pledged at the 2010 launch**, and **numerous partners** have made additional, and critical, financial, policy and service delivery commitments, but more help is needed.
- Every Woman Every Child is an **unprecedented global movement that mobilizes and intensifies international and national action by governments**, multi-laterals, the private sector and civil society **to address the major health challenges facing women, children and adolescents around the world**.
- The movement **puts into action the Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health**, which **presents a road-map to ending all preventable deaths of women, children and adolescents** within a generation and ensuring their well-being.
- The three overarching objectives of the Global Strategy are **Survive, Thrive and Transform**.
- Every Woman Every Child (EWEC) is currently hosted by H6 partners and members of the High Level Steering Group of EWEC, **United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)**.

Why Does This Matter?

- Every Woman Every Child **advocates for the health of women, children and adolescents everywhere**, and in so doing, works to improve the lives of all people.
- **Women, children and adolescents must be placed at the heart of sustainable development**.
- The health of women, children and adolescents **directly impacts our success in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, adopted by world leaders in September 2015.
- **Healthy women, children, and adolescents create healthy societies**—which, in turn, are the foundation upon which nations build successful economies and create prosperity for their people.

Question 4

Which technology includes the sub technologies like 'coal pyrolysis'?

Answer:

Coal to liquid technology (CtL)

Detailed Answer:

Enrich Your Learning:

Coal to liquid technology (CtL)

- **Coal can be made into liquid fuels**, such as gasoline diesel and jet fuel, quite readily.
- CtL as an **alternative fuel to diesel** is considered to be one of the technology options **to reduce petroleum consumption in on-road transportation**.

- The CtL technology includes **coal pyrolysis technology, direct coal liquefaction technology, and indirect coal liquefaction technology** (F-T synthesis).

Indirect coal liquification

- In indirect coal liquefaction, **coal is subjected to intense heat and pressure to create a synthesis gas comprised of hydrogen and carbon monoxide**. The synthetic gas is treated to **remove impurities and unwanted compounds such as mercury and sulfur**. This clean gas enters a second stage **Fischer-Tropsch process** which converts the synthesis gas into clean liquid fuels and other chemical products.
- Diesel fuel produced by Fischer-Tropsch synthesis — virtually sulfur-free with low aromatics and a high cetane value — is cleaner than conventional diesel
- Compared to the first two technologies, **indirect coal liquefaction technology features high conversion ratio and high adaptability of coal**.
- The biggest CTL plant in the world, built in by **Ningdong Energy-Chemical Industry Base in Ningxia, China**, went into production in December 2016. It is able to turn 20 Mt of coal into 4 Mt of oil annually.

Why in news?

- The government has put a **Rs 40,000 crore bet on new technologies to decarbonise India's vast reserves of Black Diamond (Coal)**.
- The reason is that India continues to draw flak from the climate activists and renewable chip away at demand from thermal power stations.
- In its latest initiative to find cleaner use for coal, **state-run behemoth Coal India and its subsidiaries are in the process of setting up five projects to make methanol, or methyl alcohol**, from coal using what is commonly known as **CTL (coal-to-liquid) technology**.

Question 5

Which puppetry art form has the largest and heaviest puppets of all traditional Indian puppetries?

Answer:

Bommalattam puppetry art

Detailed Answer:

Enrich Your Learning:

Bommalattam puppetry art

- **Puppets from Tamil Nadu**, known as Bommalattam **combine the techniques of both rod and string puppets**.
- They are **made of wood and the strings** for manipulation are **tied to an iron ring** which the puppeteer wears like a crown on his head.

- A few puppets have jointed arms and hands, which are manipulated by rods.
- The **Bommallattam puppets are the largest, heaviest and the most articulate of all traditional Indian marionettes.**
- A puppet may be as big as 4.5 feet in height weighing about ten kilograms.
- Bommallattam theatre has elaborate preliminaries which are divided into four parts - ***Vinayak Puja, Komali, Amanattam and Pusenkanattam.***