

Q1. Which of the following statements is/are correct with respect to the "Indian Institutes of Information Technology Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2020"?

1. It declares five newly established Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIITs) as institutions of national importance.
2. All the IIITs will be run and owned by the central government.

Choose the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: A

Explanation:

In News- Recently, Rajya Sabha passed the Indian Institutes of Information Technology Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2020. It has been already passed by Lok Sabha earlier this year.

Statement 1 is correct: The Bill seeks to declare five IIITs set up under the PPP model in Surat, Bhopal, Bhagalpur, Agartala, and Raichur as institutions of national importance. Currently, these institutes are registered as Societies under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 and do not have the power to grant degrees or diplomas. On being declared institutions of national importance, the five institutes will be granted the power to grant degrees.

Statement 2 is not correct: There are 25 IIITs in the country out of which 5 are purely run by the central government and 15 operate under public-private partnership (PPP) model. These 5 IIITs along with 15 other IIITs, which are also built on public-private partnership (PPP) mode will now be able to use the nomenclature of Bachelor of Technology (BTech) or Master of Technology (MTech) or PhD degree.

Q2. Which of the following statements is/are correct with respect to the "ABHYAS - High-speed Expendable Aerial Target"?

1. It is an air vehicle that can be used as a target for evaluation of various Missile systems.

2. It is designed and developed by the Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE) of ISRO.

Choose the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: A

Explanation:

In News- India successfully conducted the flight test of ABHYAS - High-speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT) vehicles from a test range in Odisha.

Statement 1 is correct: The air vehicle is launched using twin underslung booster. This can be used as a target for evaluation of various Missile systems. It is powered by a small gas turbine engine and has MEMS-based Inertial Navigation System for navigation along with the Flight Control Computer for guidance and control. The vehicle is programmed for fully autonomous flight.

Statement 2 is not correct: ABHYAS has been designed and developed by the Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE) of the DRDO, not of ISRO.

Q3. Which of the following statements is/are correct with respect to the YuWaah platform?

1. It will help in the upskilling of young people and providing entrepreneurship classes by industry experts.
2. It is launched by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports along with United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

Choose the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

In News- Government has launched YuWaah a multi-stakeholder platform to make young people career ready.

Option C is correct: Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports and United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) have signed a “Statement of Intent” on 20.07.2020 to establish YuWaah, Generation Unlimited (GenU), a global multi-stakeholder platform in India. As per the Statement of Intent, the objectives of this project are:

- Support young people by providing entrepreneurship classes (online and offline) with successful entrepreneurs and experts, towards establishing entrepreneurial mindset among young people.
- Upskilling of young people on 21st century skills, life skills, digital skills through online and offline channels and support them through self-learning, for their productive lives and the future of work.
- Create linkages with aspirational economic opportunities to connect young people with employment opportunities, including building pathways to connect them with jobs or self-employment. For this, innovative solutions and technology platforms will be engaged to take maximize the scale and reach.
- Providing career guidance support to young people through career portal as well as through job-readiness and self-exploration sessions to make young people career-ready.

Q4. Consider the following statements:

1. Medicanes are extra-tropical hurricanes observed over the Mediterranean Sea.
2. They occur in warmer regions as compared to tropical cyclones.
3. They are usually formed during the summer season twice a year.
4. They are larger in diameter.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (b) 1 only
- (c) 1, 3 and 4 only
- (d) 2, 3 and 4

Answer: B

In News- Recently, Researchers have warned that extra-tropical storms in the Mediterranean Sea, known as ‘Medicanes’ or ‘Mediterranean Hurricanes’, could become more frequent due to human-induced climate change.

Statement 1 is correct, rest are not correct: Medicanes are extra-tropical hurricanes observed over the Mediterranean Sea. Medicanes occur more in colder waters than tropical cyclones, hurricanes and typhoons. Hence, the cores of these storms are also cold, as

compared to the warm cores of tropical cyclones. Warmer cores tend to carry more moisture (hence rainfall), are bigger in size and have swifter winds. The medicanes are usually formed during winter season. They occur once or twice a year. They are also smaller in diameter.

Q5. Which of the following states is the first to establish the medical device park named 'MedSpark'?

- (a) Tamil Nadu
- (b) Maharashtra
- (c) Telangana
- (d) Kerala

Answer: D

In News- Kerala is set to lay the foundation stone for MedSpark, one of the first medical device parks in the country, in Thiruvananthapuram.

Option D is correct: Kerala has managed to bag one of the four medical device parks proposed to be set up by the government. The other three have reportedly gone to Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, leaving Karnataka as the only southern state not to have been favoured. As part of the atma nirbharta policy of the Union government, these parks will provide a full range of services to the medical devices industry, including R&D support, testing and evaluation.