

25th September, 2020

TEST YOURSELF

Daily Current Affairs MCQs

Q1. With reference to the recently released Science & Technology Indicators (STI) report for 2019-20, consider the following statements:

1. India's performance has improved in the field of science & technology innovation with having a fifty per cent increase in the patent claims.
2. According to WIPO, China is the top performer under its patent claims second to the US.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) None of the above

Answer: B

Explanation:

In News- The latest Science & Technology Indicators (STI) report for 2019-20 has been released by the Department of Science and Technology (DST).

Statement 1 is not correct: According to the latest Science & Technology Indicators (STI) report for 2019-20, India performs very dismally in the field of science & technology innovation. Between 2005-06 and 2017-18, a total of 5,10,000 patent applications were filed in India. However, nearly three-quarters were filed by foreign entities or individuals. In other words, in these 13 years, just 24% of patent claims came from Indians. A patent is an exclusive right granted for an invention, which is a product or a process that provides, in general, a new way of doing something, or offers a new technical solution to a problem.

Statement 2 is correct: According to the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), India stands at the 7th position on the number of patents filed. China tops the list, followed by the USA and Japan.

Q2. Which of the following statements is/are correct with respect to the Artemis Program?

1. Under the programme, NASA will land the first woman and next man on the Moon by 2024.
2. Artemis was the twin sister of Apollo and goddess of the Moon in Greek mythology.

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: B

Explanation:

In News- Recently, The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) published a detailed plan for its Artemis lunar exploration programme

Both the statements are correct: In 2011, NASA began the ARTEMIS (Acceleration, Reconnection, Turbulence, and Electrodynamics of the Moon's Interaction with the Sun) mission using a pair of repurposed spacecraft and in 2012 the Gravity Recovery and Interior Laboratory (GRAIL) spacecraft studied the Moon's gravity. The mission is named after the Greek goddess of the Moon and the twin sister of the god Apollo. The last time NASA sent humans to the Moon was in 1972, during the Apollo lunar mission. The program is divided into three parts:

- Artemis I is most likely to be launched 2021 and involves an uncrewed flight to test the Space Launch System (SLS) and Orion spacecraft.
- Artemis II will be the first crewed flight test and is targeted for 2023.
- Artemis III will land astronauts on the Moon's the South Pole in 2024.

With the Artemis program, NASA will land the first woman and next man on the Moon by 2024

Q3. 'Uighurs', a Muslim minority community recently in the news, are related to which of the following regions?

- (a) Xinjiang
- (b) Rakhine
- (c) Jerusalem
- (d) Wuhan

Answer: A

Explanation:

In News- According to research by an Australian think tank, China is running hundreds of detention centres in northwest Xinjiang across a network that is much bigger than previously thought.

Option A is correct: The Uighurs are a Muslim minority community concentrated in China's northwestern Xinjiang province. They speak a language close to Turkish and are culturally and ethnically closer to Central Asia than the rest of China. They live in Xinjiang, the largest and most western of China's administrative regions. Xinjiang has long had a rebellious and autonomous streak, with the indigenous ethnic Uighurs clashing with the authorities. There was a spike in demonstrations and demands for independence in the early 1990s as the collapse of the Soviet Union gave birth to new nations, but these were rapidly crushed.

Q4. Consider the following statements:

1. CICA is an inter-governmental forum aimed at enhancing cooperation and stability in the Asia region.
2. It was established under the proposed initiative of President Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan.
3. India is not a member of this forum.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

In News- Recently, the Foreign Ministers' meetings of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) and the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia (CICA) took place in a virtual manner.

Statement 1 & 2 are correct: It is an inter-governmental forum for enhancing cooperation towards promoting peace, security and stability in Asia. The idea of convening the CICA was first proposed by the First President of the Republic of Kazakhstan on 5th October 1992, at the

47th Session of the United Nations General Assembly. The First Ministerial Meeting of CICA took place in September 1999.

Statement 3 is not correct: India is its member since its inception. It consists of 27 member nations from Asia including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Egypt, India etc. Japan, Indonesia, USA etc. are some of its Observer Nations.

Q5. With reference to the Atomic Energy Commission, consider the following statements:

1. It is under the direct charge of the President.
2. It was established to organize research in atomic science in the country.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

In News- Recently, Nuclear scientist and former Atomic Energy Commission chief Sekhar Basu die of COVID-19.

Option B is correct: The Atomic Energy Commission is the governing body of the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), Government of India. The DAE is under the direct charge of the Prime Minister. The functions of the Atomic Energy Commission are: (i) to organize research in atomic science in the country (ii) to train atomic scientists in the country (iii) to promote nuclear research in commission's own laboratories in India (iv) to undertake to the prospect of atomic minerals in India and to extract such minerals for use on an industrial scale.