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Q. What is India’s rank in the Arton Capital Passport Index 2021?

A) 61  
B) 85  
C) 48  
D) 74

Answer: A

MOST IMPORTANT LATEST INDEX & RANKING IN NEWS

Arton Capital Passport Index 2021

- Top: Germany
- INDIA: 61

Henley Passport Index 2021

- Top: Japan (191 destinations)
- 2nd: Singapore (190)
- 3rd: South Korea, Germany (189)
- INDIA: 85th
- Bottom: Afghanistan

Released by Henley & Partners, based on the exclusive data from the International Air Transport Association (IATA)

Human Freedom Index 2020

- Published By: Cato Institute and
- Fraser Institute in Canada.
- Top: New Zealand
- 2nd: Switzerland
- 3rd: Hong Kong
- INDIA: 111
- Last: Syrian

**Human Development Index 2020**

- Released By: UNDP
- Top: Norway
- INDIA: 131

**Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) 2021**

- 4th: Sweden
- 5th: United Kingdom
- 6th: Denmark
- 10th: INDIA
- Bottom: US 61st rank

**Urban Governance Index (UGI)-2020**

- Released By: Praja Foundation
- Top: Odisha
- 2nd: Maharashtra
- 3rd: Chhattisgarh

**100 BFSI Firms in India**

- Report By: Wizikey
- Top: HDFC Bank
- 2nd: ICICI Bank
- 3rd: State Bank of India SBI

**Fortune India 500 Ranking 2020**

- 1st: Reliance Industries
- 2nd: Indian Oil Corporation
- 3rd: Oil and Natural Gas Corporation

**India’s Top Police Station for 2020**
- Top: Nongpok Sekmai Police Station, Manipur

**Kotak Wealth-Hurun Wealthy Women List 2020**
- Top: Roshni Nadar Malhotra
- 2nd: Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw
- 3rd: Leena Gandhi Tewari

**Urban Governance Index UGI)-2020**
- Released By: Praja Foundation
- Top: Odisha
- 2nd: Maharashtra
- 3rd: Chhattisgarh

**Global Terrorism Index 2020**
- Top: Afghanistan
- 2nd: Iraq
- 3rd: Nigeria
- INDIA: 8th

Q. Which country topped in the Arton Capital Passport Index 2021?
A) Sweden
B) Norway
C) Germany
D) Australia

**Answer:** C

**About GERMANY**
- Capital: Berlin
Currency: Euro
Presidential: Frank-Walter Steinmeier
Chancellor: Angela Merkel

Q. When is the Indian Army Day observed?

A) 11 January
B) 12 January
C) 13 January
D) 15 January

Answer: D

The Army Day in India is celebrated on 15 January every year, to salute the valiant soldiers who sacrificed their lives to protect the country and its citizens.

2021 marks the 73rd Indian Army Day

INDIAN ARMY IN NEWS

- Indian Army inks $20 mn contract to buy SWITCH drones
- In India, the Armed Forces Veterans Day is observed each year on 14 January
- Indian Army successfully testfires Anti-Ship version of BrahMos missile
- Indian Army chief MM Naravane made honorary General of Nepal Army
- Indian Army launches its own WhatsApp-like messaging application ‘SAI’
- Indian Army and Maharashtra govt organised a anti-terror exercise “Suraksha Kavach”
- Lt Gen Harpal Singh appointed new Engineer-in-Chief of Indian Army
- Indian Army launches cycling expedition in Gujarat & Rajasthan
- Indian Army celebrates 74th Infantry Day in J&K on 27 October 2020
- India Pavilion at Army 2020 forum inaugurated in Russia
- Indian Army Successfully Testfires Anti-Ship version of BrahMos supersonic cruise missile from Andaman and Nicobar Islands

About INDIAN ARMY

- Founded: 1 April 1895
• Headquarters : New Delhi
• Motto(s) : Service Before Self
• Army Day : 15 January
• KM Cariappa : first Indian commander-in-chief
• Commander-in-Chief : President Ram Nath Kovind
• Chief of Defence Staff (CDS): General Bipin Rawat
• First Army chief : Sir Robert Lockhart
• 29th Chief of the Army Staff : Manoj Mukund Naravane
• Vice Chief of the Army Staff : S K Saini

Q. In 2021, the Indian Army is observing which edition of the Army day of India?
A) 76
B) 75
C) 73
D) 71

Answer : C

RAISING DAY IN NEWS

• 15 January : Army Day
• 73rd Raising Day 2021
• 10 March : CISF Raising Day
• 51st Raising Day 2020
• 9 April : CRPF Valour Day
• 55th Anniversary 2020
• 26 July : Kargil Vijay Diwas
• 21st Anniversary 2020

• 27 July : Raising Day of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)
• 82nd Raising Day 2020
• 8 October : Air Force Day
• 88th Anniversary 2020
• 24 October : ITBP Raising Day
• 59th Raising Day 2020
• 01 December : BSF Raising Day
• 56th Raising Day 2020

Q. Who has been appointed the head of the working group on digital lending formed by RBI?
A) R. Gandhi
B) Harun R. Khan
C) Anand Sinha
D) Jayant Kumar Dash

Answer: D

- RBI sets up panel to suggest measures for promoting digital lending
- The working group, chaired by RBI Executive Director Jayant Kumar Dash

RESERVE BANK OF INDIA (RBI)

- Founded: 1 April 1935
- RBI Nationalised: 1 January 1949
- HQ: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- 1st Governor: Sir Osborne Smith
- 1st Indian Governor: CD Deshmukh
- 25th Governor: Shaktikanta Das

RBI Deputy Governor (4)

1. Mukesh Kumar Jain
2. B P Kanungo
3. Michael D Patra
4. M Rajeshwar Rao

Four Subsidiaries of RBI:

1. Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (DICGC)
2. Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Private Limited (BRBNMPL)
3. Reserve Bank Information Technology Private Limited (ReBIT)
4. Indian Financial Technology and Allied Services (IFTAS)

RBI IN NEWS 2020

- RBI slaps Rs 2 crore fine on Deutsche Bank for non-compliance
- RBI has cancelled the licence of Maharashtra-based Vasantdada Nagari Sahakari Bank
- RBI sets up College of Supervisors chaired by N S Viswanathan
- RBI introduces Legal Entity Identifier for NEFT, RTGS transactions above Rs 50 crore
- RBI introduces the RBI-Digital Payments Index. This RBI-Digital Payments Index (DPI) has 5 broad parameters
- RBI cancels the Licence of the Subhadra Local Area Bank, Kolhapur Maharashtra
- RBI imposes Rs 50 lakh fine on Urban Co-operative Bank in Kerala
- RBI to set up Automated Banknote Processing Centre in Jaipur
- RBI cancels licence of Maharashtra-based Karad Janata Sahakari Bank
- RBI has banned the Manta Urban Cooperative Bank in Jalna district of Maharashtra for six months
- RBI bars payment system operators from launching any new QR codes, two interoperable QR codes — UPI QR and Bharat QR.
- RBI creates Reserve Bank Innovation Hub to boost financial inclusion
- RBI puts Lakshmi Vilas Bank under moratorium
- RBI imposes Rs 1 crore penalty on Punjab National Bank, for violating the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.
- RBI to evaluate impact of ‘RBI Kehta Hai’ campaign in 14 languages
- RBI imposes monetary penalty of Rs 22 lakh on DCB Bank for rule violations
- RBI raises banks’ aggregate exposure limit to entities with turnover up to Rs 50 crore to Rs 7.5 crore. Earlier this limit was Rs 5 crore. for small businesses
- IndusInd Bank becomes first bank to go live on RBI’s ‘Account Aggregator Framework’
- RBI signs $400 mn currency swap with Sri Lanka
- RBI to launch “Positive Pay System” for Cheque Truncation System
- RBI publishes “Technology Vision for Cyber Security” for UCBs
- RBI ceased Banking operations of Aditya Birla Idea Payments Bank
- RBI announces ‘positive pay’ feature to help avert cheque frauds
- RBI enhances withdrawal limit for PMC’ depositors to Rs 1 Lakh
- RBI launches “Payments Infrastructure Development Fund”
- RBI cancels licence of The CKP Co-operative Bank Ltd, Mumbai
- RBI announces Rs 50,000 crore Special Liquidity Facility for Mutual Funds
- RBI cancels the licence of Mapusa Urban Co-operative Bank of Goa
- RBI approved- additional special liquidity facility of Rs 5000 cr each for NHB & NABARD
- RBI- extended loan of Rs 15,000 crore to the EXIM Bank
RBI forms six-member working group to regulate digital lending frauds

Q. Sadyr Japarov has been elected as the President of which country?

A) Kyrgyzstan
B) Kazakhstan
C) Kuwait
D) Saudi Arabia

Answer: A

- Sadyr Japarov wins Kyrgyzstan’s Presidential Election with Landslide Votes

About Kyrgyzstan

- Capital: Bishkek
- Currency: Som

LIST OF NEWLY ELECTED PRESIDENT IN NEWS

- Sadyr Japarov: Kyrgyzstan
- Faustin-Archange Touadera: Central African Republic
- Joe Biden: 46th President of the USA
- John Pombe Magufuli: President of Tanzania
- Alassane Ouattara: Ivory Coast
- Duarte Pacheco: Portugal
- Alexander Lukashenko: Belarus
- Irfaan Ali: Guyana
- Luis Rodolfo Abinader: Dominican Republic
- Chan Santokhi: Suriname
- Andrzej Duda: Poland
- Lazarus Chakwera: Malawi
- Tsai Ing-wen: Taiwan
- Katerina Sakellaropoulou: Greece
- Zoran Milanovic: Croatia
- Umaro Sissoco Embalo: Guinea Bissau
- Ashraf Ghani: Afghanistan

Q. Tesla Inc. has registered its first fully-owned subsidiary in which city of India?

A) Hyderabad
B) Mumbai
C) Bengaluru
D) New Delhi

Answer : C

- *Elon Musk-owned Tesla Inc. sets up first India entity in Bengaluru*
- *Elon Musk-owned electric vehicle (EV) company Tesla has registered a fully-owned subsidiary in Bengaluru*
- *The company will be called ‘Tesla India Motors and Energy Private Limited’*
- *The total paid up capital of the company is Rs 1,00,000 and authorised share capital is Rs 15 lakh*

About TESLA

- Founded : 2003
- Founders : Disputed, see text
- Headquarters : Palo Alto, California, US
- CEO : Elon Musk

Q. What is the projected growth rate of Indian economy for 2020-21 as per the Fitch Ratings?

A) -8.1%
B) -9.4%
C) -9.1%
D) -7.8%

Answer : B

- *Fitch Ratings Projects GDP of India at -9.4% in FY21 & 11% in FY22*

About FITCH RATINGS

- Founded : 1914
- Founder : John Knowles Fitch
- Headquarters : New York, U.S.
- CEO : Paul Taylor
• Fitch Ratings Inc. is an American credit rating agency

Q. Name the President of the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) who has resigned from the post recently?
A) Dushyant A. Dave
B) G. Mahalingam
C) Arun P. Sathe
D) Madhabi Puri Buch

Answer : A

• Dushyant Dave Resigns as SC Bar Association (SCBA) President

Q. Indian Army has recently inked USD 20 million deal with ideaForge to buy which of these UAVs?
A) DIODE
B) EFFECT
C) PLATE
D) SWITCH

Answer : D

• The Indian Army has recently signed a contract with Mumbai-based drone manufacturing company, ideaForge, to procure high-altitude variant of SWITCH unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs).

• The total cost of the deal is approximately USD 20 million

Q. Heritage Conservation Committee has cleared approved the construction of new Parliament building. Who was the chairman of the Heritage Conservation Committee?
A) T L Alamelu
B) Kamran Rizvi
C) S Sadagopan
D) Bibek Debroy

Answer : B

Q. Which country India has signed an MoU for Scientific and Technical Cooperation?

A) Saudi Arabia
B) Norway
C) Australia
D) UAE

Answer : D

UAE IN NEWS

- 20th IORA Council of Ministers Meeting Held in UAE
- Govt of India gave nod to IPL 2020 in UAE
- World Future Energy Summit 2020 Begins in Abu Dhabi
- Trump announces historic peace deal between UAE & Israel to establish full diplomatic relations
- UAE becomes first Arab country to produce nuclear energy
- Piyush Goyal Co-chairs 8th Meeting of the India-UAE High Level Joint Task Force on Investments
- India’s External Affairs Minister and Foreign Minister of UAE Co-Chairs 13th India-UAE Joint Commission Meeting
- United Arab Emirates launches “Hope” mission to “Mars”
- UAE’s DMCC launches “Agriota E-Marketplace”
- Arab Gulf’s first coal-based power plant being developed in Dubai
- 2020 Asia Cup Cricket Tournament Shifted from Pakistan to Dubai

About United Arab Emirates (UAE)

Capital : Abu Dhabi
Currency : Dirham
President : Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan
Q. Which organization has received Kayakalp Award for the 3rd time?
A) AIIMS Bhubaneswar  
B) All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Delhi  
C) KEM Hospital Research Center (KEMHRC), Pune  
D) Bhopal Memorial Hospital & Research Center, Bhopal
Answer : A

AIIMS Bhubaneswar has received the best central government hospital under Category B of the Kayakalp Awards for cleanliness for the third consecutive time.

Q. Which state celebrates the Magh Bihu festival Recently?
A) Odisha  
B) Karnataka  
C) Assam  
D) Gujarat
Answer : C

Magh Bihu, Bhogali Bihu or Maghar Domahi is a harvest festival celebrated in Assam and marks the end of the harvesting season in the region.

ASSAM IN NEWS

- ADB has approved a $231 million loan to develop the Lower Kopili Hydroelectric Power facility in Assam.
- 8th North East Festival to be held in Guwahati on Dec 19-20.
- Assam set to get its 6th national park in Dima Hasao.
- Assam Celebrates Lachit Divas on 24 November, mark the birth anniversary of Lachit Borphukan.
- Assam’s Tezpur Litchi gets GI tag.
- SBI starts “Mahila Atmanirbharshil Aachani” (Women Self-Reliance programme) in Assam.
- Assam Launches Orunodoi Scheme to financially empower women.
- Former Assam Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi passes away
- Assam Musician Bibhuranjan Choudhury passes away
- India’s longest river ropeway inaugurated in Assam
- Kati Bihu festival celebrated across Assam
- Assam’s only woman CM Syeda Anwara Taimur passes away
- Assam CM launches ‘Kritagyata’ for online pension submission and tracking
- Assam Govt launched “Mukhyamantrir Grammya Paribahan Achoni Yojana”
- Assam CM Sarbananda Sonowal lays foundation stone of Indo-Israeli Centre of Excellence for Vegetables Protected Cultivation at Khetri near Guwahati
- Assamese folk singer Archana Mahanta has passed away
- Assam government to upgrade Dehing Patkai wildlife sanctuary to national park

Q. Who will be the Chief Guest at India’s Republic Day Parade 2021?

A) Sheikh Hasina
B) Chandrikapersad Santokhi
C) Boris Johnson
D) None of the Above

Answer: D

✓ The Ministry of External Affairs announced that there will be no foreign leader as the chief guest at this year’s Republic Day celebrations due to COVID-19 pandemic. Earlier there were reports that Suriname’s Indian-Origin President Chandrikapersad Santokhi will be the Chief Guest, after UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson cancelled his India visit due to the worsening Covid-19 situation in the United Kingdom

Q. How many times has India invited a foreign military contingent to take part in its Republic Day Parade?

A) Four
B) Five
C) Six
D) Three
The Bangladesh Armed Forces contingent will be participating in India’s Republic Day Parade 2021. This is only the third time in India’s history that any foreign military contingent has been invited to participate in the National Parade at Rajpath.

Q. Who is the only US President to be impeached twice?

A) Bill Clinton
B) Richard Nixon
C) Andrew Johnson
D) Donald Trump

Answer : D

US President Donald Trump on January 13, 2021 became the first US President to be impeached twice by the House of Representatives. The House voted to charge him for inciting the mob violence at the US Capitol building on January 6.

Q. Who has been nominated as the administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) by US President-elect Joe Biden?

A) Samantha Power
B) John Barsa
C) Mark Green
D) Gayle E. Smith

Answer : A

US President-elect Joe Biden announced he has nominated former US Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power as administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

USAID IN NEWS

- U.S. Congress passes ‘Malala Yousafzai Scholarship Act’ for Pakistani women
- The bill requires the USAID to award at least 50% of scholarships
Mastercard & USAID Partners to launch “Project Kirana”
USAID & Ministry of New and Renewable Energy partners for clean energy development
USAID announces $2.9 million aid to India to fight Covid19
Reliance Foundation has launched the “W-GDP Women Connect Challenge” across India in association with USAID
Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) Partners with USAID for “Healthy and Energy Efficient Buildings” Initiative

United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- Founded: 1961
- Headquarteres: Washington DC

Q. Government of India has decided to sale what per cent of its stake in the Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL) through an offer for sale (OFS), which could fetch over Rs 2,600 crore for the exchequer?
A) 15%
B) 20%
A) 10%
D) 25%
Answer: C

Government of India will sell up to 10 per cent stake in Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL) through an offer for sale (OFS), which could fetch over Rs 2,600 crore for the exchequer. The floor price of offer has been fixed at Rs 64 per share.
The government had last sold 5 per cent stake in the state-owned steel maker in December 2014.

Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)
- Founded: 19 January 1954
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- New Chairman: Soma Mondal
Q. Which Medical Institution was awarded the second prize under the Kayakalp Awards scheme in category ‘Group A’ Central government health facilities?

A) ICMR Bhopal Memorial Hospital & Research Center (BMHRC), Bhopal  
B) Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research (JIPMER) Puducherry  
C) ICMR National Institute of Research in Tribal Health (NIRTH), Jabalpur  
D) ICMR National AIDS Research Institute (NARI), Pune  

Answer : B  
- Jipmer has been awarded the second prize under the ‘Kayakalp’ award scheme for the year 2019–20.

Q. Which social sector scheme has completed five years of its operation on January 2021?

A) Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana  
B) Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana  
C) Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana  
D) Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana  

Answer : A  
- Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) has completed five years of its operation on 13th January 2021.  
- PMFBY was launched on January 13, 2016 with an aim to provide a comprehensive risk solution at the lowest uniform premium across the country for farmers  
- The government has disbursed claims worth Rs 90,000 crore in the last five years

Static GK Based Current Affairs MCQs 15th January 2021

Q. Where is the headquarters of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) located?

A) New York  
B) Vienna
Q. Which is the world’s highest battlefield?
A) Gettysburg Battlefield
B) Siachin Glacier
C) Richmond Battlefield
D) Tollense valley
Answer: B

Q. Chandoli National Park is situated in which state?
A) Himachal Pradesh
B) Bihar
C) Maharashtra
D) Haryana
Answer: C

Q. Which is the largest cave temple in India?
A) Amarnath Cave Temple
B) Varaha Cave Temples
C) Udayagiri And Khandagiri Caves
D) Kailash Temple, Ellora
Answer: D

Q. Lawalong Wildlife Sanctuary is located in _________
A) Sikkim
B) Jharkhand
C) Kerala
D) Goa
Answer: B

Q. In which state of India is Kakatiya Thermal Power Station located?
A) Maharashtra
B) Bihar
C) Assam
D) Telangana
Answer: D

Q. The Indira Priyadarshini Stadium is situated in which state?
A) Haryana
B) Odisha
C) Chhattisgarh
D) Andhra Pradesh
Answer: D

Q. In which state is the Dachigam National Park located?
A) Ladakh
B) Jammu & Kashmir.
Q. In which state is Lengpui Airport located?

A) Goa  
B) Maharashtra  
C) Mizoram  
D) Manipur

Answer: C

Q. What is the currency of Netherlands?

A) Euro  
B) Peso  
C) Franc  
D) Dinar

Answer: A

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