Q. Who has been re-elected as chairman of the House Foreign Subcommittee on Asia, Pacific, Central Asia and Non-proliferation?

A. Vinod Khosla
B. Nikki Haley
C. Ajit Pai
D. Ami Bera

Answers - D

Re-Elected in NEWS

- **Nguyen Phu Trong** re-elected as Chief of ruling Communist Party of Vietnam for 3rd term
- **Faustin-Archange Touadera** re-elected as President of Central African Republic
- **India & France** re-elected as President and Co-President of International Solar Alliance (ISA)
- **Nilesh Shah** re-elected as Chairman of AMFI
- **Harivansh** Re-elected Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha

Q. Lieutenant General Chandi Prasad Mohanty is the next vice-chief of Army Staff. Whose place will he take?

A. Lt General SK Saini
B. Lt Gen Shantanu Dayal
C. Lt General A.S. Bhinder
D. Lt General Paramjit

Answers - A

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
- Headquarteres : 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 : Chandi Prasad Mohanty

Q. Economic Survey 2020-21 has projected GDP growth for the next financial year at what percent?
A. 15
B. 11
C. 20
D. 22

Answers – B

Highlights of Economic Survey 2020-21

Theme of the Economic Survey 2020-21 – #SavingLives&Livelihoods #VshapedRecovery

- As per the advance estimates by NSO, India’s GDP is estimated to grow by (-) 7.7% in FY21 – a robust sequential growth of 23.9% in H2: FY21 over H1: FY21
- India’s real GDP to record a 11.0% growth in FY2021-22 and nominal GDP to grow by 15.4% – the highest since independence.
- During the pandemic, Agriculture remained the silver lining while contact-based services, manufacturing, construction were hit hardest, and recovering steadily. Agriculture set to cushion the shock of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Indian economy in FY21 with a growth of 3.4%.
- Moody's has assigned a sovereign rating of Baa3 to India while S&P has assigned a BBB( -) rating to India, both of which are the lowest investment grade rating awarded by the agencies.
- India ranked 48th in Global Innovation Index 2020, ranking first in Central and South Asia, and third amongst lower middle-income group economies.
- Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) – the ambitious program launched by Government of India in 2018 to provide healthcare access to the most vulnerable sections demonstrates strong positive effects on healthcare outcomes in a short time. The health outcomes of the States that adopted Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) improved when compared to the States that did not adopt the scheme.
- Access to the ‘bare necessities’ has improved across all States in the country in 2018 as compared to 2012. It is highest in States such as Kerala, Punjab, Haryana and Gujarat while lowest in Odisha, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Tripura. (bare necessities means- Just sufficient resources, with nothing to spare.)
- India’s forex reserves at an all-time high of US$ 586.1 billion as on January 08, 2021, covering about 18 months worth of imports.
- Supported by resilient software service exports, India is expected to witness a current account surplus during the current financial year after a gap of 17 years. India to Have a Current Account Surplus of 2 Per Cent of GDP in FY21.

International Solar Alliance (ISA) launched two new initiatives – ‘World Solar Bank’ and ‘One Sun One World One Grid Initiative’ – poised to bring about solar energy revolution globally.

India’s Agricultural (and Allied Activities) sector has shown its resilience amid the adversities of COVID-19 induced lockdowns with a growth of 3.4% at constant prices during 2020-21 (first advance estimate).

A strong V-shaped recovery of economic activity further confirmed by IIP data.

AatmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyan with a stimulus package worth 15% of India’s GDP announced.

India’s rank in the Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) Index for 2019 has moved upwards to the 63rd position in 2020 from 77th in 2018 as per the Doing Business Report (DBR).

Government has announced a Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme in the 10 key sectors under the aegis of AatmaNirbhar Bharat for enhancing India’s manufacturing capabilities and exports.

Life expectancy at birth improved from 69.4 years in 2018 to 69.7 years in 2019.

World’s largest COVID-19 vaccination drive commenced on 16th January, 2021 using two indigenously manufactured vaccines- Covishield (by Serum Institute of India, Pune) and Covaxin (Bharat Biotech International Ltd, Hyderabad).

India’s pandemic response, focused on saving lives and livelihoods, restricted the COVID-19 spread by 37 lakh cases and saved more than 1 lakh lives.

The new farm laws, which are being widely opposed by farmer groups, will be beneficial for small and marginal farmers and herald Indian agriculture in a new free-market era.

Q. Who has released the Marine Mega Fauna Stranding Guidelines & National Marine Turtle Action Plan?

A. Pralhad Joshi
B. Prakash Javadekar
C. Gajendra Singh Shekhawat
D. Nitin Gadkar

Answers - B
About Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

- Founded: 1985
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change: Prakash Javadekar.

Q. Where was India's 1st indigenous metro racks deployed, in January 2021?

A. Chennai, Tamil Nadu
B. Kochi, Kerala
C. Kolkata, West Bengal
D. Mumbai, Maharashtra

Answer- D

Maharashtra In News 2021

- Maharashtra tops 2nd India Justice Report for delivering justice to people
- **Journalist Day** Observed in Maharashtra on January 6
- Maharashtra’s new bill on sexual crimes under ‘Shakti act’ to have death penalty
- Maharashtra CM announces, Rs 25 crore to be provided for development of Dajipur Sanctuary in 1st phase
- Maharashtra govt all set to launch 'MahaSharad' platform
- Maharashtra declares Kanhargaon wildlife sanctuary its 50th Wildlife Sanctuary
- Maharashtra’s Ranjitsinh Disale becomes first Indian to win 2020 Global Teacher Prize
- Maharashtra Cyber becomes India’s first agency to acquire ‘Crawler’ from the Interpol; will aid in police’s crackdown against offenders of child pornography
- Maharashtra’s first ‘child-friendly police station’ has been inaugurated in pune
- **Lonar Lake** in Maharashtra selected under ‘Ramsar site’
- RBI cancels licence of Maharashtra-based Karad Janata Sahakari Bank
- **Asia’s first solar power-enabled** Textile Mill to be unveiled in Parbhani district of Maharashtra
- Maharashtra Governor, Bhagat Singh Koshyari has released the book ‘Majhi Bhint’ (My Wall) authored by Rajendra Darda
- **Usha Mangeskar** Honored with Gan Samragni Lata Mangeshkar award for 2020-21 by Maharashtra Govt
 Maharahstra launches largest plasma therapy trial “Project Platina”

ADB and India inks USD 177 million loan for Maharashtra

Maharashtra Govt launches ‘My Family, My Responsibility’ campaign

Maharashtra partners with Google to deploy learning tools for online education

Maharashtra government launches “Maha” Job portal

Maharashtra Govt introduced “Maha Parwana” plan to boost investment

Flood warning system “iFLOWS” launched in Mumbai Maharashtra

About Maharashtra:

- Chief Minister- Uddhav Thackeray
- Governor- Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- Capital City- Mumbai
- State Animal- Indian giant squirrel
- State Bird- Yellow-footed green pigeon
- State Tree- Mangifera indica
- State Flower- Pride of India

Q. Which organisation recently (in Jan 2021) listed 2020 as the “worst year on record” in its “World Tourism Barometer”?

A. World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC)
B. World Trade Organisation (WTO)
C. International Air Transport Association (IATA)
D. UN World Tourism Organization (UN-WTO)

Answer- D

Q. Recently (in Jan 2021), RBI cancelled the licence of Shivam Sahakari Bank Ltd, a co-operative bank in Maharashtra. Which section under the Banking Regulation(BR) Act, 1949 deals with accepting and repaying deposits by a bank?

A. Section 22(3) (a)
B. Section 5(b)
C. Section 51-A
Q. Who was recently appointed as the MD & CEO of SBI Cards and Payment Services Ltd?

A. Ashwini Kumar Tewari  
B. V. G. Kannan  
C. Rama Mohan Rao Amara  
D. Pallav Mohapatra

Answer - C

 ➢ **Ashwini Kumar Tewari** had resigned from the post of MD and CEO

**About SBI Card**

- SBI Card Headquarters: Gurugram, Haryana.  
- MD & CEO: Rama Mohan Rao

Q. What was India’s rank in the ‘COVID Performance Index: Deconstructing Pandemic Responses’ report released by Lowy Institute?

A. 10  
B. 21  
C. 86  
D. 74

Answer - C

**COVID Performance Index Results:**

- **Top Countries:**
  - New Zealand topped the rankings closely followed by Vietnam, Taiwan, Thailand and Cyprus.
Bottom Countries:

- Brazil stood at the bottom of the index. The USA was the fifth-worst performing country, it stood at 94 out of 98 countries.

South Asian Countries:

- Sri Lanka was the best performing nation in South Asia, ranking 10, while the Maldives was at 25, Pakistan at 69, Nepal at 70, and Bangladesh at 84.

Performance of India:

- India ranked 86th in the Covid-19 Performance Index out of 98 countries.
- At 24.3, India’s average was lower than the region it belongs to — Asia-Pacific — which scored 58.2 and ranked best in the region-wise evaluation.

Q. BCCI has decided to cancel the Ranji Trophy 2020-21 season, for the first time in the games history. The championship was first held in which season?

A) 1923-24
B) 1934-35
C) 1968-67
D) 1988-89

Answer: B
About Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)

- Founded: 1928
- Headquarters: Wankhede Stadium
- 1st President: R E Grant Govan
- 39th President: Saurav Ganguly
- Vice President: Rajeev Shukla
- Secretary: Jay Shah
- Men's coach: Ravi Shastri
- Women's coach: Woorkeri Raman

Q. India's first Gender Park has been set up in which city?

A) Noida  
B) Kanpur  
C) Dehradun  
D) Kozhikode

Answer: D

PARK IN NEWS 2021

- India’s First ‘Gender Park’ In Kerala’s Kozhikode
- Naveen Patnaik Inaugurates India’s First ‘Fire Park’ In Bhubaneswar
- India’s First Pollinator Park Opens In Uttarakhand
- Nitin Gadkari Announces Multi-Model Logistics Park In Assam’s Silchar
- Mega Leather Park In Kanpur
- Nehru Zoological Park Hyderabad Gets ISO Certifications
- PM Modi Inaugurates World’s Largest Renewable Energy Park In Gujarat
- Narendra Singh Tomar Virtually Inaugurates Phagwara Mega Food Park in Kapurthala district of Punjab
- India’s First ‘Tyre Park’ To Come Up In West Bengal

Q. Which organisation recently set up an ‘Innovation Sandbox’ web portal?

A. National Stock Exchange (NSE)
B. Life Insurance Corporation (LIC)
C. Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
D. Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE)

**Answer- 4)**

Q. Recently which country has received the GI tag for Basmati Rice?

A. India
B. Pakistan
C. Bhutan
D. Nepal

**Answer – B**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Most Important Latest GI Tag in NEWS 2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gucci Mushroom Jammu &amp; Kashmir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sohrai and Kohbar Art Jharkhand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khola chili Goa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chak-Hao, Black rice Manipur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gorakhpur terracotta Uttar Pradesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kovilpatti Kadai Mittai Tamil Nadu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kashmir saffron Jammu &amp; Kashmir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thanjavur Netti and Arumbavur Wood carving Tamil Nadu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sohrai Khovar Painting Jharkhand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telia Rumal Telangana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shahi Lichi &amp; Zardalu Mango Bihar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moira bananas, Harmal Chillies, Khaje Goa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dalle Khursani Sikkim</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Who has inaugurated heritage tours of the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation headquarters in Mumbai?

A. Uddhav Thackeray
B. Bhagat Singh Koshyari
C. Rajnath Singh
D. Prahlad Singh Patel

Answer - A

Q. Russia approved the extension of the New START treaty. In the word START, R stands for what?
A. Response
B. Reduction
C. Removal
D. Registration

Answer: B

Q. What is the rank of India in the Asia-Pacific Personalised Health Index?
A) 25
B) 10
C) 17
D) 12

Answer: B

Recent India’s Ranking & Index in NEWS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Index</th>
<th>Index released by</th>
<th>India’s Rank</th>
<th>1st Rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>US Air Quality Index</td>
<td>The United States Environmental Protection Agency</td>
<td>2nd – New Delhi</td>
<td>1st – Lahore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3rd – Kathmandu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortune 500 list of Indian firms</td>
<td>Fortune</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Rank 1:</strong> Reliance Industries Ltd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QS Asia University Rankings 2021</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QS Quacquarelli Symonds, global higher education think-tank</td>
<td>IIT Bombay (Rank 47),</td>
<td>IIT Madras (Rank 56)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IIT Delhi (Rank 50),</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Rank 1: National University of Singapore (NUS), Singapore        | Rank 2: IOC                           |
| Rank 2: Tsinghua University, China (Mainland)                    | Rank 3: ONGC                          |
| Rank 3: Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore        | Rank 4: SBI                           |
| Rank 4: Sweden                                                   | Rank 5: BPCL                           |
| Rank 5: UK                                                       |                                        |
| Rank 6: Denmark                                                  |                                        |

| Global Terrorism Index 2020                                      |                                        |                                        |
| 8th                                                               | Afghanistan                            |

| Best performing police station in the country 2020                |                                        |                                        |
| Ministry of Home Affairs                                        | Nongpok Sekmai - Manipur               |

<p>| Climate change Index 2020 (Updated-8Dec)                        |                                        |                                        |
| Germany                                                          | None of the countries were in top three ranks. |
|                                                                  | Rank 4: Sweden                         |
|                                                                  | Rank 5: UK                             |
|                                                                  | Rank 6: Denmark                        |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Most powerful woman Index</th>
<th>Forbes</th>
<th>Sitharaman is ranked 41st</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st – Angela Merkel</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd – Christine Lagarde</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd – Kamala Harris</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Human Development Index 2020</th>
<th>United Nations Development Program (UNDP)</th>
<th>131st</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st - Norway</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd – Ireland</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd – Switzerland</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Highest-paid celebrities</th>
<th>Forbes</th>
<th>Kylie Jenner -590 million dollars</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rank 2 - Kanye West, USD 170 million</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Human Freedom Index 2020 (Updated-17th Dec)</th>
<th>American think tank Cato Institute and Fraser Institute in Canada.</th>
<th>111th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand, Switzerland and Hong Kong top 3.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Banking, Financial Services and Insurance (BFSI) Index 2020</th>
<th>Wizikey</th>
<th>1st – HDFC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2nd Rank: ICICI Bank</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Rank: State Bank of India (SBI)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Who among these has been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Ayushman Bharat?

A) RS Sharma
B) Ramesh Chand
Nation celebrates Ayushman Bharat Diwas on 30th April
Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH): Shripad Yesso Naik.
J&K Becomes First State To Issue Highest Number Of Golden Cards Under Ayushman Bharat Scheme

Banking Awareness MCQs (Daily one)

Q. What is the money called whose value is not derived from any intrinsic value or any guarantee that it can be converted into a valuable commodity (like gold)?
A. Commodity Money
B. Token Money
C. Commercial Bank Money
D. Fiat Money
Answer - D

Static GK Based Current Affairs MCQs

Q. Which Indian city comes along the flow of Devika river?
A. Udhampur, J&K
B. Delhi
C. Patna, Bihar
D. Trichy, Tamil Nadu
Answer- A.

Q. Sarhul festival is a tribal festival celebrated in___________.
A) Jharkhand
B) Rajasthan
C) Mizoram
D) West Bengal
Answer- A
Q. Who is the current “Union Education Minister”? 
A) Kiren Rijiju  
B) Prahalad Singh Patel  
C) Piyush Goyal  
D) Ramesh Pokhriyal  
Answer - D

Q. When was the Competition Commission of India (CCI) established? 
A. 2000  
B. 1989  
C. 1991  
D. 2003  
E. 2014  
Answer - D.

Q. Where is the headquarters of SBI Cards and Payment Services Ltd located? 
A. Mumbai, Maharashtra  
B. Delhi  
C. Gurgaon, Haryana  
D. Chennai, Tamil Nadu  
Answer - C.

Q. Which is Asia’s 1st Stock Exchange? 
A. Calcutta Stock Exchange  
B. National Stock Exchange  
C. National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange  
D. Bombay Stock Exchange  
Answer - D.

Q. Where is the headquarters of United Nations World Tourism Organization (UN-WTO) located? 
A. London, UK  
B. Paris, France  
C. Manchester, UK  
D. Madrid, Spain  
Answer - D.

Q. When was the first official Green Bond released? 
A. 2001  
B. 2010  
C. 2009  
D. 2007  
Answer - C.

Q. Who holds the record of being the youngest player in ICC? 
A. Hasan Raza  
B. Sachin Tendulkar  
C. Wasim Akram
You May Also Check:

- Banking Awareness
- Computer Awareness
- Insurance Awareness
- Daily The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary
- Latest Job Notification
- Exam Syllabus and Exam Pattern
- Exam Analysis
- Premium Practice Sets
- Previous Years Papers
- Important Study Materials