Q. Who has assumed the charge of the spokesperson of Ministry of External Affairs?

A) Anurag Srivastava  
B) S Jaishankar  
C) Arindam Bagchi  
D) Santosh Verma

Answer: C

- IFS Arindam Bagchi has assumed the charge of the spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs.
- He will succeed IFS Anurag Srivastava for the post.

About Ministry of External Affairs:

- Founded: 2 September 1946
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Annual budget: ₹18,000 crore (US$2.5 billion)
- Employees: 11,403
- Officeholders: V. Muraleedharan (Minister of State), S. Jaishankar (Minister)
- Awards: National Film Award for Best Non-Feature Film, National Film Award for Best Promotional Film

Q. Who launched the ‘Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain’ campaign?

A) Ram Nath Kovind  
B) Venkaiah Naidu  
C) Prakash Javedkar  
D) Narendra Modi

Answer: D

- PM Modi launches ‘Catch the Rain’ campaign to be funded by MGNREGA
- The campaign will run from 22nd March to 30th November, 2021.
About MGNREGA:

- Launch year: 2006
- Sector: Rural Employment
- Launched by (prime minister): Manmohan Singh
- Ministry: Ministry of Rural Development
- Passed: 22/06/2005
- Introduced by: Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, Minister of Rural Development

Latest Schemes in News:

- Centre launches ‘Gram Ujala Scheme’ to offer LED bulbs at Rs 10/piece in rural areas
- Government announces “All India Tourist Vehicles Authorization and Permit Rules, 2021” to be effective from April 01
- HDFC Bank launches ‘SmartUp Unnati’ for Women Entrepreneurs
- Jammu and Kashmir launches Super-75 Scholarship Scheme for meritorious girls from poor families
- ”Gharoki Pechan, Chelik Naam” Scheme launched in Nainital
- Health Minister Harch Vardhan launches Mission Indradhanush 3.0

Q. Who has been conferred with the FIAF award?

A) Sonu Sood  
B) Amitabh Bachchan  
C) Shah Rukh Khan  
D) Aamir Khan

Answer: B

- Amitabh Bachchan has been conferred with the International Federation of Film Archives (FIAF) award for his contribution in the preservation of India’s Film heritage.
- The award was conferred by Christopher Nolan and Martin Scorsese.
- He has become the 1st Indian to receive this honor.
About FIAF:

- Founded: 17 June 1938, Paris, France
- Headquarters location: Brussels, Belgium

About Amitabh Bachchan

- Born: 11 October 1942 (age 78 years)
- Height: 1.83 m
- Spouse: Jaya Bachchan
- Upcoming movies: Ponniyin Selvan, Chehre

Q. Who won the All England Badminton Championship Men’s title?

A) Lee Zii Jia  
B) Kidambi Srikanth  
C) S Gopalakrishnan  
D) Sharath Kamal

Answer: A

- Lee Zii Jia of Malaysia has won the All England Badminton Championship Men’s Title.
- The 22-year old shutler defeated Viktor Axelsen of Denmark in the summit clash.

About Lee Zii Jia

- Coaches: Indra Wijaya, Misbun Sidek, Hendrawan Trending
- Born: 29 March 1998 (age 22 years), Kedah, Malaysia
- Height: 1.86 m
- Weight: 78 kg
- Current ranking: 10 (9 March 2021)
- Medals: Badminton at the 2019 Southeast Asian Games – Men’s team

Winners List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>✓ Men’s singles</th>
<th>Lee Zii Jia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓ Women’s singles</td>
<td>Nozomi Okuhara</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Men’s doubles | Hiroyuki Endo  
| Yuta Watanabe  

Women’s doubles | Mayu Matsumoto  
| Wakana Nagahara  

Mixed doubles | Yuta Watanabe  
| Arisa Higashino  

Q. Lee Zii Jia (Malaysia) defeated which player to claim the All England Badminton Championships 2021 Badminton title?

A) Anders Antonsen  
B) Kento Momota  
C) Viktor Axelsen  
D) Chen Long  

Answer: C

- In men’s single, Malaysia’s Lee Zii Jia defeated Denmark’s Viktor Axelsen, 30-29, 20-22, 21-9 in the summit clash.

Q. Which player has won the All England Badminton Championships 2021 women’s single title?

A) Carolina Marin  
B) Pornpawee Chochuwong  
C) Akane Yamaguchi  
D) Nozomi Okuhara  

Answer: D

- In badminton, Japan’s Nozomi Okuhara won the women’s single title after she defeated Thailand’s Pornpawee Chochuwong 21-12, 21-16 in the finals to win All England Badminton Championships 2021.

About Nozomi Okuhara:

- Born: 13 March 1995 (age 26 years), Omachi, Nagano, Japan  
- Height: 1.56 m
- Nationality: Japanese
- Weight: 51 kg
- Current ranking: 4 (17 March 2020)

Q. Who has been elected as the new General Secretary of RSS?

A) Suresh Joshi  
B) Dattatreya Hosabale  
C) Mohan Bhagwat  
D) Narayan Singh

Answer: B

- Dattatreya Hosabale has been elected as the new General Secretary of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangha (RSS) for three years.
- He has replaced Suresh ‘Bhaiyyaji’ Joshi.

About Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangha (RSS):

- Founder: K. B. Hedgewar
- Founded: 27 September 1925, Nagpur
- Leader: Mohan Bhagwat
- Headquarters: Nagpur
- Formation: 27 September 1925 (95 years ago)
- Membership: 5–6 million; 56,859 branches/shakhas

Q. ICC has banned 2 cricketers of ____ for 8 years for corruption.

A) India  
B) UAE  
C) USA  
D) RSA

Answer: B

- International Cricket Council (ICC) has banned 2 cricketers of United Arab Emirates for 8 years for corruption.
Mohamed Naveed and Shaiman Anwar have been banned from all formats of cricket after they were found guilty of attempted match fixing during the qualifying tournaments of 2019 T20 World Cup.

**About International Cricket Council (ICC):**

- Deputy Chairman: Imran Khwaja
- Chairperson: Greg Barclay
- CEO: Manu Sawhney
- Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates
- Founded: 15 June 1909

**About United Arab Emirates (UAE):**

- Capital: Abu Dhabi
- Currency: United Arab Emirates dirham
- President: Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan
- Population: 97.7 lakhs

**Q. Which state has won the ‘Most Film Friendly State Award’ at the 67th National Film Awards for the year 2019?**

A) Assam  
B) Maharashtra  
C) Uttarakhand  
D) Sikkim

**Answer: D**

- Most Film Friendly State Award – **Sikkim**

**About Sikkim:**

- Governor: Ganga Prasad
- Chief Minister: Prem Singh Tamang (SKM)
- Capital: Gangtok
Q. The Gram Ujala Scheme has been launched by government to offer LED bulbs at Rs 10 in rural areas. The scheme will cover how many states in the first phase?

A) 5  
B) 7  
C) 3  
D) 10

Answer: A

- The Government of India has launched an ambitious scheme called “Gram Ujala” under which high quality energy efficient LED bulbs will be given for just Rs 10 per piece in rural areas.
- In the first phase, 15 million LED bulbs will be distributed across certain villages of 5 states.
- These include: Arrah (Bihar), Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh), Vijaywada (Andhra Pradesh), Nagpur (Maharashtra), and western Gujarat.

Q. What is the rank of India in the ‘Global House Price Index Q4 2020’ released by Knight Frank for the last quarter of 2020 ending December 2020?

A) 48  
B) 50  
C) 42  
D) 56

Answer: D

- India has slipped by 13 spots, to rank at 56th place in the ‘Global House Price Index Q4 2020’ released by property consultant Knight Frank.
- The country reported a decline of 3.6 percent year-on-year (YoY) in home prices, to finish last in the fourth and last quarter ending December 2020.

Q. Which country scored top rank in the Knight Frank’s ‘Global House Price Index Q4 2020’ for having maximum increase in the home prices?
A) Russia  
B) New Zealand  
C) Australia  
D) Turkey

**Answer: D**

- Turkey was the leading country in the global ranking with home prices up by 30.3 percent year-on-year.
- New Zealand stood second (18.6 percent year-on-year) followed by Slovakia at 16.0 percent year-on-year.

**About Turkey:**

- Speaker: Mustafa Şentop
- Capital: Ankara
- Currency: Turkish lira
- President: Recep Tayyip Erdoğan

**Q. The World Meteorological Day is marked annually on which day?**

A) 22 March  
B) 23 March  
C) 21 March  
D) 20 March

**Answer: B**

- The World Meteorological Day is celebrated every year on 23 March to commemorate the date of the establishment of the World Meteorological Organization in 23 March 1950
- The Theme for 2021 is ‘The ocean, our climate and weather’.

**Q. Who has been felicitated with the Gandhi Peace Prize for the years 2020?**

A) A. T. Ariyaratne  
B) Sulabh International
C) Yohei Sasakawa

D) Sheikh Mujibur Rahman

Answer: D

- Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman of Bangladesh – for inspiring the liberation of Bangladesh, laying the foundation for the close and fraternal relations between India and Bangladesh, and promoting peace and non-violence in the Indian subcontinent.

Gandhi Peace Prize for 2019 and 2020 announced

- The Gandhi Peace Prize for the years 2019 and 2020 has been conferred on the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Winner</th>
<th>Contribution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>(Late) His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said Al Said of Oman</td>
<td>strengthening relations between India and Oman, and his efforts to promote peace and non-violence in the Gulf region.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman of Bangladesh</td>
<td>inspiring the liberation of Bangladesh, laying the foundation for the close and fraternal relations between India and Bangladesh, and promoting peace and non-violence in the Indian subcontinent.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Who has been conferred with the Gandhi Peace Prize for the years 2019?

A) Ekal Abhiyan Trust
B) Qaboos bin Said Al Said
C) Desmond Tutu
D) Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan

Answer: B
Q. Which is the first state in India to adopt Ethanol Production Promotion Policy, 2021?

A) Delhi
B) Bihar
C) Maharashtra
D) Rajasthan

Answer: B

- Bihar has become the first state of the country to have its own ethanol policy called Ethanol Production Promotion Policy, 2021.

Recently Bihar in News:

- Bihar becomes first state to have Ethanol Promotion Policy
- Former Bihar-Jharkhand Governor & Jurist M Rama Jois, passes away at 88
- Bihar CM Nitish Kumar inaugurates state’s first Bird Festival ‘Kalrav’ at Nagi-Nakti bird sanctuary

About Bihar:

- Governor: Phagu Chauhan
- Capital: Patna
- Chief minister: Nitish Kumar
- Fruit: Mango (Mangifera indica)

Q. G V Ramakrishna, who has passed away recently was the former Chief of which organisation?

A) SEBI
B) RBI
C) NABARD
D) IRDAI

Answer: A

- G V Ramakrishna, the former chairperson of India’s market regulator, Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi), has passed away. He was 91.
About Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI):

- Founded: 12 April 1992
- Sector: Securities market
- Jurisdiction: India
- Headquarters: Mumbai
- Agency executive: Ajay Tyagi (Chairperson)
- Type: Statutory corporation

Q. The Ministry of Sports has decided to extend the Khelo India scheme for a further period of 5 years, till 2025-26. How much amount has been allocated to the scheme for the same period?

A) Rs. 6650 crore  
B) Rs. 7550 crore  
C) Rs. 8750 crore  
D) Rs. 5850 crore

Answer: C

The Minister of State for Youth Affairs & Sports Shri Kiren Rijiju has announced that the Sports Ministry has decided to extend the Khelo India scheme for a period of five years, from 2021-22 to 2025-26.

An amount of Rs. 8750 crore has been estimated as financial implication of the new Khelo India Scheme (2021-22 to 2025-26) by the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC).

About Khelo India scheme:

- First event: 2018
- Last event: 2020
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Purpose: Grassroot talent hunt
- Occur every: Annual
- Abbreviation: KIYG
Q. What was the profession of Sagar Sarhadi, who has passed away recently?

A) Painter  
B) Journalist  
C) Filmmaker  
D) Tabla Maestro  

Answer: C

- Noted writer and filmmaker Sagar Sarhadi, known for films like “Kabhi Kabhie”, “Silsila”, and “Bazaar”, has passed away due to age related issues. He was 87.

Q. Name the winner of best actress award at the National Film Awards for 2019?

A) Kangana Ranaut  
B) Vidya Balan  
C) Raveena Tandon  
D) Rani Mukherjee  

Answer: A

- Best Actress: Kangana Ranaut for Panga (Hindi) and Manikarnika: The Queen of Jhansi (Hindi)

The list of Award winners are as follows:

- **Most Film Friendly State Award** – Sikkim
- **Award for Best Book on Cinema** – A Gandhian Affair: India’s Curious Portrayal of Love in Cinema, by Sanjay Suri
- **Special Mention** – Cinema Paharana Manus (Marathi) by Ashok Rane and Kannada Cinema: Jagathika Cinema Vikasa-Prerane Prabhava (Kannada) by PR Ramadasa Naidu
- **Award for Best Film Critic** – Sohini Chattopadhay (English)

**Feature Film Awards**

- Best Feature Film: **Marakkar: Lion of the Arabian Sea** (Malayalam)
- Best Actor (shared): **Manoj Bajpayee** for Bhonsle (Hindi), and Dhanush for Asuran (Tamil)
- Best Actress: **Kangana Ranaut** for Panga (Hindi) and Manikarnika: The Queen of Jhansi (Hindi)
- Best Supporting Actress: Pallavi Joshi for The Tashkent Files (Hindi)
- Best Supporting Actor: Vijay Sethupathi for Super Deluxe (Tamil)
- Best Director: Sanjay Puran Singh Chauhan for Bahattar Hoorain (Hindi)
- Best Debut Film of a Director: Mathukutty Xavier for Helen (Malayalam)
- Best Child Artist: Naga Vishal for KD (Tamil)
- Best Action Direction: Avane Srimannarayana (Kannada), Vikram Mor
- Best Choreography: Maharishi (Telugu), Raju Sundaram
- Best Special Effects: Marakkar: Lion of the Arabian Sea (Malayalam), Siddharth Priyadarshan
- Special Jury Award: Oththa Seruppu Size 7 (Tamil), Radhakrishnan Parthiban
- Best Lyrics: Prabha Varma for Kolaambi (Malayalam)
- Best Music Direction: D. Imman for Viswasam (Tamil)
- Best Background Music: Prabuddha Banerjee for Jyeshtoputro (Bengali)
- Best Make-up Artist: Ranjith for Helen (Malayalam)
- Best Costumes: Sujith Sudhakaran and V. Sai for Marakkar: Lion of the Arabian Sea (Malayalam)
- Best Production Design: Anandi Gopal (Marathi), Sunil Nigwekar and Nilesh Wagh
- Best Audiography (Location Sound Recordist): Iewduh (Khasi), Debajit Gayan
- Best Audiography (Re-recordist of the final mixed track): Oththa Seruppu Size 7 (Tamil), Resul Pookutty
- Best Screenplay (Original): Jyeshtoputro (Bengali), Kaushik Ganguly
- Best Screenplay (Adapted): Gumnaami (Bengali), Srijit Mukherji
- Best Screenplay (Dialogue Writer): The Tashkent Files (Hindi), Vivek Ranjan Agnihotri
- Best Cinematography: Jallikattu (Malayalam), Gireesh Gangadharan
- Best Editing: Jersey (Telugu), Navin Nooli
- Best Children’s Film: Kastoori (Hindi)
- Best Film on Environment Conservation: Water Burial (Monpa)
- Best Film on Social Issues: Anandi Gopal (Marathi)
- Best Film on National Integration: Tajmahal (Marathi)
- Best Popular Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment: Maharishi (Telugu)
- Best Female Playback Singer: Savani Ravindra for Bardo (Marathi)
- Best Male Playback Singer: B Praak for Kesari (Hindi)

**Non-Feature Films Awards**

- Best Non-Feature Film: An Engineered Dream (Hindi)
- Best Debut Non-Feature Film of a Director: Raj Pritam More for Khisa (Marathi)
- Best Ethnographic Film: Charan-Atva The Essence of Being a Nomad (Gujarati)
- Best Biographical Film: Elephants Do Remember (English)
Best Arts and Culture Film: Shrikshetra-Ru-Sahijata (Odia)
Best Promotional Film: The Shower (Hindi)
Best Environment Film: The Stork Saviours (Hindi)
Best Film on Social Issues: Holy Rights (Hindi) and Ladli (Hindi)
Best Direction: Sudhanshu Saria for Knock Knock Knock (English/ Bengali)
Best Film on Family Values: Oru Paathira Swapnam Pole (Malayalam)
Best Short Fiction Film: Custody (Hindi/ English)
Special Jury Award: Small Scale Societies (English)
Best Animation Film: Radha (Musical)
Best Investigative Film: Jakkal (Marathi)
Best Exploration Film: Wild Karnataka (English)
Best Educational Film: Apples and Oranges (English)
Best Voice-over/ Narration: Sir David Attenborough for wild Karnataka (English)
Best Music Direction: Bishakhjyoti for Kranti Darshi Guruji – Ahead of Times (Hindi)
Best Editing: Arjun Gourisaria for Shut Up Sona (Hindi/ English)
Best Audiography: Radha (Musical), Allwin Rego and Sanjay Maurya
Best On-Location Sound Recordist: Rahas (Hindi), Saptarshi Sarkar
Best Cinematography: Savita Singh for Sonsi (Hindi)

Best Feature Film in each of the language specified in the Schedule VIII of the Constitution

Best Hindi Film: Chhichhore
Best Assamese Film: Ronuwa – Who Never Surrender
Best Kannada Film: Akshi
Best Malayalam Film: Kalla Nottam
Best Paniya Film: Kenjira
Best Telugu Film: Jersey
Best Tamil Film: Asuran
Best Mishing Film: Anu Ruwad
Best Khasi Film: Iewduh
Best Chattisgarhi Film: Bhulan the Maze
Best Haryanvi Film: Chhoriyan Chhoron Se Kam Nahi Hoti
Best Tulu Film: Pingara
Best Odia Film: Kalira Atita and Sala Budhar Badla (shared)
Best Manipuri Film: Eigi Kona
Best Marathi Film: Bardo
Best Konkani Film: Kaajro
• Best Punjabi Film: Rab Da Radio 2
• Best Bengali Film: Gumnaami
• Special Mentions: Biriyani (Malayalam), Jonaki Porua (Assamese), Lata Bhagwan Kare (Marathi) and Picasso (Marathi)

**STATIC GK BASED CURRENT AFFAIRS MCQ**

Q. What is the currency of Turkey?
A) Shekel
B) Rial
C) Pound
D) Lira

**Answer: D**

Q. The UNESCO World Heritage site, Manas Wildlife Sanctuary is located in Assam. The sanctuary shares its boundary with which country?
A) Bangladesh
B) Nepal
C) Bhutan
D) Myanmar

**Answer: C**

Q. Yashaswini Deswal is an Indian sportswomen associated with which event?
A) Shooting
B) Wrestling
C) Tennis
D) Athletics

**Answer: A**

Q. In which state is the Greenfield International Stadium located?
A) Gujarat
B) Kerala
C) Chhattisgarh
D) Bihar

**Answer: B**

Q. Which of these dams is situated on the river Bhagirathi?
A) Bhakra Nangal Dam
B) Hirakud dam
C) Tehri Dam
D) Nagarjuna Sagar Dam

Answer: C

Q. What is the capital of Bolivia?
A) Quito
B) Buenos Aires
C) Sucre
D) Caracas

Answer: C

Q. The Kurnool city of Andhra Pradesh cited along the banks of which river?
A) Tungabhadra
B) Brahmputra
C) Krishna
D) Sabarmati

Answer: A

Q. The bilateral air exercise Garuda is undertaken by the Indian Air Force with which country?
A) Russia
B) Germany
C) United States
D) France

Answer: D

Q. Dhauli Ganga Dam is located in which of the following state?
A) Uttar Pradesh
B) Uttarakhand
C) Telangana
D) Odisha

Answer: B

Q. Jaitak Fort is located in which state of India?
A) West Bengal
B) Himachal Pradesh
C) Rajasthan
D) Kerala

Answer: B