Q. Which state's Chief Minister has asked officials to prepare for a lockdown as people continue to violate COVID-19 protocols?

A) Maharashtra  
B) Delhi  
C) Punjab  
D) Kerala  

Answer: A

Maharashtra in News 2021:

- Veteran singer Asha Bhosle selected for Maharashtra Bhushan award, state’s highest honour  
- Maharashtra Government inks MoU with Flipkart to promote wooden toys, local artifacts, handicrafts  
- Maharashtra tops 2nd India Justice Report for delivering justice to people  
- RBI cancels the licence of Maharashtra-based Vasantdada Nagari Sahakari Bank  
- Journalist Day Observed in Maharashtra on January 6  
- Former Maharashtra Minister Vilas Patil Undalkar passes away at 82

About Maharashtra:

- Capital: Mumbai  
- Governor: Bhagat Singh Koshyari  
- Chief minister: Uddhav Thackeray

Q. India sent 1,00,000 doses of Covaxin to which South American country on March 29th?

A) Peru  
B) Uruguay  
C) Colombia  
D) Paraguay  

Answer: D

- Paraguay on March 29, 2021 received a shipment consisting of 1,00,000 doses of India’s indigenously developed Covaxin vaccine.  
- Under its vaccine Maitri initiative, India has been supplying coronavirus vaccines to countries around the world. So far, India has provided vaccines to 75 countries.
About Paraguay:
- Capital: Asunción
- President: Mario Abdo Benítez
- Currency: Paraguayan guaraní

About India:
- Capital: New Delhi
- President: Ram Nath Kovind
- Native languages: 447 languages
- Population: 136.64 crores

Q. Which nation's Foreign Minister has resigned after criticism over vaccine shortage?

A) France  
B) Brazil  
C) Canada  
D) Paraguay

Answer: B

Brazil in News 2021:
- Sixth India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) Women’s Forum
- ISRO Launches Brazil’s Amazonia-1 and 18 Co-Passenger Smallsats onboard PSLV-C51
- Carolina Araujo of Brazil Wins 2020 Ramanujan Prize for Young Mathematicians

About Brazil:
- President: Jair Bolsonaro
- Capital: Brasilia
- Currency: Brazilian real
- Population: 21.1 crores

Q. Which nation has agreed to revamp strategic energy cooperation with India?

A) France  
B) Germany  
C) UK  
D) US

Answer: D
India and the United States agreed to revamp the strategic energy partnership on March 29, 2021 to reflect the new priorities of PM Narendra Modi and US President Joe Biden with a focus on promoting clean energy with low-carbon pathways and accelerating green energy cooperation.

About United States (US):
- States: California, Texas, Florida, Georgia, Alaska, Hawaii
- Capital: Washington, D.C.
- President: Joe Biden
- Official languages: None at the federal level
- Population: 32.82 crores

Recently Agreement In News March 2021:
- India & Bangladesh inks 5 MoU to Boost Cooperation
- Sri Lanka inks 3 year USD 1.5 billion currency swap deal with China
- Italy signs International Solar Alliance amended Framework Agreement with India
- USAID & DFC jointly announce $41 million financing for renewable energy in India
- China and Russia Inks MoU to jointly build Lunar Space Station
- India inks pact with Philippines for sale of ‘defence equipment’ including BrahMos

Q. Which nation will withdraw its troops from Ethiopia's Tigray region, as per Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali?

A) Sudan  
B) Somalia  
C) Kenya  
D) Eritrea

Answer:D

About Ethiopian:
- Capital: Addis Ababa
- Currency: Ethiopian birr
- President: Sahle-Work Zewde
- Population: 11.21 crores
- Official language: Amharic

About Eritrea:
- Capital: Asmara
Recognised national languages: Tigrinya; Beja; Tigre; Kunama; Saho; Bilèn; Nara; Afar
Official languages: None (see working languages)
Other languages: Italian;
Working languages: Tigrinya; English; Arabic;
President: Isaias Afwerki

Q. India held talks on disarmament, non-proliferation and export control with which nation on March 30th?

A) US  
B) Russia  
C) Australia  
D) France

Answer: C

- The sixth round of the India-Australia Dialogue on Disarmament, Non-Proliferation and Export Control was held virtually on March 30, 2021.
- During the talks, the two sides discussed contemporary issues of mutual interest.

Australia in News 2021:

- Australia plans to build world’s first platypus sanctuary to promote breeding and rehabilitation
- Manpreet Vohra Appointed as High Commissioner of India To Australia
- Senior Officials of India, Australia and France hold trilateral dialogue with focus on Indo-Pacific
- Novak Djokovic and Naomi Osaka wins Australian Open 2021 Tennis Championship
- PM Modi Address the Valedictory Function of India-Australia circular Economy Hackathon (I-ACE)
- Former pacer Merv Hughes inducted into Australian Cricket Hall of Fame

About Australia:

- Capital: Canberra
- Official languages: None at the federal level
- Population: 2.54 crores

Q. As per S&P Global Ratings, what is the projected growth rate of India for the fiscal year 2021-22?

A) 11%  
B) 10%
The S&P Global Ratings has revised India’s GDP growth forecast for financial year 2021-22 (FY22) to 11%.

Q. How many MoUs have been signed between India and Bangladesh recently during the visit of PM Modi to the foreign nation to attend golden jubilee celebrations of Bangladesh’s independence in 1971?

A) 12  
B) 9  
C) 7  
D) 5

Answer: D

- India and Bangladesh have signed five Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) to further boost bilateral cooperation.
- The signing of the MoUs took place on 27 March 2021, between Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her Indian counterpart Narendra Modi in Dhaka.

About Bangladesh:
- Capital: Dhaka
- Regional languages: Chittagonian • Rangpuri • Sylheti
- Currency: Bangladeshi taka
- Demonym(s): Bangladeshi
- Population: 16.3 crores

Q. Giga Mesh is a wireless product launched by Women-led startup Astrome, that can provide reliable low-cost internet services with fibre like bandwidth to suburban and rural areas. The startup is based in which city?

A) Pune  
B) Hyderabad  
C) Bengaluru  
D) Chennai

Answer: C

- Bengaluru-based women-led startup, Astrome, has developed an innovative wireless product called Giga Mesh, that can provide reliable low-cost internet services to suburban and rural areas.
Bengaluru in News:

- India’s first centralised AC railway terminal in Bengaluru to function soon
- Bengaluru & Shimla adjudged best cities among 111 cities in Ease of Living Index 2020
- National Horticulture Fair 2021 begins in Bengaluru
- Chiefs of Air Staff (CAS) Conclave Organised at Bengaluru

Q. Which bank has been declared as the ‘India’s Best Bank for SMEs’ at the Asiamoney Best Bank Awards 2021?

A) HDFC Bank  
B) ICICI Bank  
C) Punjab National Bank  
D) State Bank of India

Answer: A

- HDFC Bank has emerged as the ‘India’s Best Bank for SMEs’ at the Asiamoney Best Bank Awards 2021.
- **SMEs**: Small and medium-sized enterprises

About HDFC Bank:

- CEO: Sashidhar Jagdishan
- Headquarters: Mumbai
- Founded: August 1994, India
- Revenue: 1.47 lakh crores INR (US$21 billion)
- Subsidiaries: HDFC securities, Next Gen Publishing
- Parent organization: Housing Development Finance Corporation
- **Slogan**: We Understand Your World

Q. The ‘Maharaja Chhatrasal Convention Centre’ has recently been inaugurated in which of these UNESCO World Heritage locations?

A) Sanchi  
B) Khajuraho  
C) Konark  
D) Hampi

Answer: B

- The Minister of State for Tourism and Culture (Independent Charge) Shri Prahlad Singh Patel, and the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan
jointly inaugurated the ‘Maharaja Chhatrasal Convention Centre at Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh on 26 March 2021.

About Khajuraho:
- Heritage designation: World Heritage Site
- Local time: Wednesday, 6:24 am
- Location: Chhatarpur, Madhya Pradesh, India
- Inscription: 1986 (10th session)
- UNESCO World Heritage Site inscription: 1986

About United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization UNESCO:
- Headquarters: Paris, France
- Founded: 16 November 1945, London, United Kingdom
- Head: Director-General; Audrey Azoulay
- Formation: 16 November 1945; 75 years ago
- Founders: France, United States, China, Turkey, Brazil, Mexico
- Parent organization: United Nations

Q. Which team has won the maximum medals top finish at top place in medal table in the 2021 ISSF World Cup New Delhi?

A) China  
B) USA  
C) India  
D) South Korea

Answer: C

➢ India finished at the top of the medals table at the 2021 ISSF World Cup New Delhi, held from 18 to 29 March 2021 at the Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Range in New Delhi.
➢ India secured 30 medals which included 15 gold, 9 silver and 6 bronze.

About International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF):  
- Headquarters location: Munich, Germany  
- President: Vladimir Lisin  
- Founded: 1907  
- Sport: Shooting  
- Membership: 150 regions
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Gold Medal Winners

1. Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar – Men's 50 metre rifle three positions
2. Saurabh Chaudhary, Shahzar Rizvi and Abhishek Verma – Men's 10 metre air pistol team event
3. Swapnil Kusale, Chain Singh and Neeraj Kumar – Men’s 50 metre rifle three positions team event
4. Gurjoat Khangura, Angad Vir Singh Bajwa and Mairaj Ahmad Khan – Men’s Skeet team event
5. Kynan Chenai, Prithviraj Toidaiman, Lakshay – Men’s Trap team event
6. Chinki Yadav – Women’s 25 metre pistol
7. Yashaswini Singh Deswal – Women’s 10 metre air pistol
8. Yashaswini Singh Deswal, Manu Bhaker, Shri Nivetha Paramanantham – Women’s 10 metre air pistol team
9. Rahi Sarnobat, Manu Bhaker, Chinki Yadav – Women’s 25 metre pistol event
10. Rajeshwari Kumar, Shreyasi Singh, Manisha Keer – Women’s Trap event
11. Saurabh Chaudhary/Manu Bhaker – 10 metre air pistol Mixed Team event
12. Divyansh Singh Panwar/Elavenil Valarivan – 10 metre air rifle Mixed Team
13. Tejaswini/Vijayveer Sidhu – 25 metre rapid fire pistol Mixed Team
14. Sanjeev Rajput/Tejaswini Sawant – 50 metre rifle three positions Mixed Team
15. Angad Vir Singh Bajwa/Ganemat Sekhon – Trap Mixed Team

Silver Medal Winners

1. Vijayveer Sidhu – Men’s 25 metre rapid fire pistol
2. Saurabh Chaudhary – Men's 10 metre air pistol
3. Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar, Deepak Kumar, Pankaj Kumar – Men’s 10 metre air rifle team event
4. Vijayveer Sindhu, Adarsh Singh, Gurpreet Singh – Men’s 25 metre rapid fire pistol team event
5. Rahi Sarnobat – Women’s 25 metre pistol
6. Manu Bhaker – Women’s 10 metre air pistol
7. Anjum Moudgil, Shreya Saksena, Gaayathri Nithyanandam – Women’s 50 metre rifle three positions team event
8. Parinaaz Dhaliwal, Kartiki Singh Shaktawat, Ganemat Sekhon – Women’s Skeet team event
9. Abhidnya Ashok Patil/Gurpreet Singh – 25 metre rapid fire pistol Mixed Team

Bronze Medal Winners
1. Divyansh Singh Panwar – Men’s 10 metre air rifle
2. Abhishek Verma – Men’s 10 metre air pistol
3. Manu Bhaker – Women’s 25 metre pistol
4. Ganemat Sekhon – Skeet
5. Abhishek Verma/Yashaswini Singh Deswal – 10 metre air pistol Mixed Team
6. Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar/Sunidhi Chauhan – 50 metre rifle three positions Mixed Team

Q. The first-ever Indo-Korean Friendship Park has been inaugurated at which place in India?

A) Rashtrapati Bhavan  C) Connaught Place
B) Red Fort  D) Delhi Cantonment

Answer: D

- India’s First Indo-Korean Friendship Park was jointly inaugurated at Delhi Cantonment by Hon’ble Raksha Mantri, Shri Rajnath Singh, and Hon’ble Minister of National Defence, Republic of Korea Mr Suh Wook on 26 March 2021.

Q. Smt Soma Mondal has been appointed as the new Chairman of the Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE) for two years beginning the fiscal FY22. She is the current Chairman of which PSU?

A) ONGC  C) HPCL
B) SAIL  D) IOCL

Answer: B

- The Chairman of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), Soma Mondal has been elected as the new Chairman of Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE).
- Mondal has been elected for a term of two years (2021-23), with effect from April, 01, 2021.

✓ Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)
✓ Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE).
✓ Public sector undertakings in India (PSU)

About Steel Authority of India (SAIL):
CEO: Soma Mondal
Headquarters: New Delhi
Founded: 19 January 1954
Owner: Government of India (64.9%)
Number of employees: 68,742
Subsidiaries: Bhil

Recently Appointment in News 2021:

- SAIL Chairman Soma Mondal Elected as Chairman of SCOPE
- Saurbah Garg, Sanjeev Kumar and Atish Chandra appointed Chief of UIDAI, AAI and FCI Respectively
- Indian-American Doctor Vivek Murthy appointed as US Surgeon General
- Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan appointed as Chairman of ‘Stop TB Partnership Board’
- Samia Suluhu Hassan sworn in as Tanzania’s first woman President
- Kuldip Singh appointed as Chief of Central Reserve Police Force
- M A Ganapathy appointed as Chief of National Security Guard
- Ajay Mathur takes over as Director General of International Solar Alliance (ISA)
- Pallav Mohapatra appointed as MD & CEO of ARCIL
- Union Minister Anurag Thakur becomes first serving MP to get promoted as Captain in Territorial Army

Q. K.C. Chakrabarty, who has passed away recently was associated with working at which apex organisation?

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

Answer: A

Q. Dr Harsh Vardhan addressed the 2021 annual summit of NATHEALTH through a video conference. The event was which edition of the Summit?

A) 9th  
B) 5th  
C) 7th  
D) 11th

Answer: C
The Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Dr Harsh Vardhan, addressed the 7th annual summit of NATHEALTH through a video conference. The 2-day virtual summit was held on 25 and 26 March 2021. The theme of the Summit was ‘Indian Health system expansion in post-COVID era’

About Harsh Vardhan:
- Born: 13 December 1954 (age 66 years), Delhi
- Full name: Harshvardhan Goel
- Spouse: Nutan Goel
- Party: Bharatiya Janata Party
- Office: Member of the Lok Sabha since 2014
- Education: Ganesh Shankar Vidyarthi Memorial Medical College

Q. The Coronation Bridge is built in which state?
A) Kerala
B) Assam
C) Tamil Nadu
D) West Bengal
Answer: D

Q. The Tiroda Thermal Power Plant is situated in which state of India?
A) Odisha
B) Maharashtra
C) Telangana
D) Gujarat
Answer: B

Q. World Bee Day is marked every year on which day?
A) May 20
B) March 31
C) June 12
D) August 19
Answer: A

Q. Where is the headquarter of North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) located?
A) Copenhagen, Denmark
B) Jakarta, Indonesia
C) Dubai, United Arab Emirates
D) Brussels, Belgium
Answer: D
Q. Sammi is a traditional dance form originating from which state of the country?
A) Karnataka
B) Maharashtra
C) Punjab
D) Gujarat
**Answer: C**

Q. Where is the headquarter of United Nations Conference on Trade & Development (UNCTAD) based?
A) Geneva
B) London
C) Paris
D) New York
**Answer: A**

Q. Ujjain is a city in Madhya Pradesh. The city lies along the banks of which river?
A) Narmada
B) Chambal
C) Shipra
D) Indravati
**Answer: C**

Q. The Dantiwada Dam is a mud and masonry dam on the West Banas River in which state?
A) Goa
B) Tamil Nadu
C) Maharashtra
D) Gujarat
**Answer: D**

Q. World Tuberculosis Day is observed on which day annually?
A) 19 September
B) 24 March
C) 14 November
D) 29 June
**Answer: B**

Q. Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) is a financial institution located in which place?
A) Washington D.C, United States
B) Metro Manila, Philippines
C) London, United Kingdom
D) Moscow, Russia
**Answer: A**