Q. Which bank has launched the digital and contactless banking platform ‘Merchant Stack’ for retail merchants?

A) Kotak Mahindra Bank  
B) Axis Bank  
C) HDFC Bank  
D) ICICI Bank

Answer: D

- The ICICI Bank has announced the launch of a digital and contactless banking platform especially for retail merchants.
- The service, called ‘Merchant Stack’, is targeted at the over 2 crore retail merchants in the country, covering grocers, super markets, large retail store chains, online businesses and large e-commerce firms.

About ICICI Bank:

- CEO: Sandeep Bakhshi
- Headquarters: Mumbai
- Founder: Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India
- Founded: June 1994, Vadodara
- Number of employees: 84,922
- Subsidiaries: ICICI Lombard, ICICI Prudential Life Insurance
- ICICI Bank Tagline: “Hum hai na, Khayal Apka”

Points to Remember:

1) Which bank has launched the digital banking platform Merchant Stack for retail merchants?

2) Name of the digital banking platform launched by ICICI Bank for retail merchants?
Q. The first-ever 3D printed house of India has recently been inaugurated by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman at which place?

A) IIT Delhi  
B) IIT-Madras  
C) IIT Bengaluru  
D) IIT Kanpur

Answer: B

About Indian Institute of Technology (IIT-Madras):

- **Motto:** सिद्धिव्रृत्ति कर्मजा (Sanskrit)
- **Motto in English:** Success is born out of action
- **Type:** Public technical university
- **Established:** 1959
- **Chairman:** Pawan Kumar Goenka
- **Director:** Bhaskar Ramamurthi
- **Campus:** Urban 620 acres (2.5 km²)
- **Nickname:** IITians, IITMians

About Nirmala Sitharaman:

- **Born:** 18 August 1959 (age 61 years), Madurai
- **Spouse:** Parakala Prabhakar (m. 1986)
- **Party:** Bharatiya Janata Party
- **Education:** Seethalakshmi Ramaswami College (1977–1980), Jawaharlal Nehru University
- **Children:** Parakala Vangmayi
- **Parents:** Narayanan Sitaraman, Savitri

Q. Michael Collins, who has passed away recently, was a well known ________

A) Astronaut  
B) Politician  
C) Cricket Player  
D) Filmamker
Answer: A

- The American astronaut, Michael Collins, who was the command module pilot for the Apollo 11 mission to the moon, has passed away, after losing his battle to cancer.

Recently Obituaries in News:

- Former Attorney General, Soli Sorabjee Passes Away at 91
- Veteran TV Journalist Rohit Sardana Passes Away Following Covid-19 Infection
- Noted Odia and English Author Manoj Das Passes Away at 87
- Renowned Gujarati poet and folk singer Dadudan Gadhvi Passes Away at 80
- SC Judge Justice Mohan M Shantanagoudar Passes Away at 62
- Former Chief of SSB ‘Arun Chaudhary’ Passes Away of Covid at 66
- Doyen of Indian Classical Music Pandit Rajan Mishra Passes Away at 70
- Former Maruti Suzuki MD Jagdish Khattar Passes Away at 79
- Veteran Indian Nuclear Scientist Krishnamurthy Santhanam Passes away
- M Narasimham “The Father of Banking Reforms” Passes Away at 94
- Veteran Gujarati and Hindi Film Actor Amit Mistry Passes Away of cardiac arrest at 47
- Music Composer Shravan Rathod of “Nadeem-Shravan” Fame Passes Away of COVID-19 at 66
- Sabri Brothers Fame Renowned Qawwali Singer Farid Sabri Passes Away at 58
- Padma awardee winning Indian Islamic Scholar Maulana Wahiduddin passes away of Covid at 97
- Eminent Bengali poet Shankha Ghosh passes away at 89 due to Covid-19
- Veteran actor Kishore Nandlaskar passes away at 81 due to Covid-19
- Chad President Idriss Deby passes away at 68 after clashes with rebels
- Former RBI Governor Maidavolu Narasimham passes away at 94
- Former US Vice President Walter Mondale Passes Away at 93
- Well-Known Kannada, Writer, Lexicographer, G Venkatasubbaiah, passes away at 107
- BJP Leader & Former Union Minister Bachi Singh Rawat Passes Away at 71
- National Award-winning filmmaker Sumitra Bhave passes away at 78
Adobe co-founder and PDF developer Charles Geschke passes away at 81
Vinay Agrawal, First CEO of Angel Broking, passes away at 57
Former Footballer Ahmed Hussain Passes Away at 89
Veteran Tamil actor and comedian Vivek passes away at 59
Renowned Radiologist Dr. Kakarla Subba Rao Passes Away at 96
Former CBI Chief Ranjit Sinha passes away at 68
Hockey player Balbir Singh Junior passes away at 88
Padma Shri winning renowned Avadh Historian Dr Yogesh Praveen passes away

Q. Which bank has emerged as the top arranger of corporate bond deals in 2020-21 (FY21)?

A) Axis Bank  C) HDFC Bank
B) ICICI Bank  D) Kotak Mahindra Bank

Answer: C

- HDFC Bank has emerged as the top arranger of corporate bond deals in 2020-21 (FY21).
- Axis Bank came in second, while ICICI Bank third.

About HDFC Bank:

- CEO: Sashidhar Jagdishan
- Headquarters: Mumbai
- Number of employees: 1,16,971
- Total assets: 15.81 lakh crores INR (US$220 billion, 2020)
- Subsidiaries: HDFC securities, Next Gen Publishing
- Parent organization: Housing Development Finance Corporation

Latest HDFC Bank in News:

- HDFC Bank top arranger of corporate bond deals in FY21
- RBI Approves Appointing Atanu Chakraborty as Part-time Chairman of HDFC Bank
HDFC Bank Adjudged “India’s Best SME Bank” By Asiamoney
HDFC Bank launches ‘SmartUp Unnati’ for Women Entrepreneurs

Q. Name the Indian cricket player who has been appointed as the brand ambassador of Japanese Sportswear brand ASICS?

A) Jasprit Bumrah          C) Shikhar Dhawan
B) Ravindra Jadeja        D) Rishabh Pant

**Answer: B**

- The leading all-rounder of the Indian cricket team, Ravindra Jadeja, has been appointed by the Japanese Sportswear brand ASICS, as its brand ambassador in India.

**About Ravindra Jadeja:**
- Born: 6 December 1988 (age 32 years), Jamnagar
- Test debut (cap 275): 13 December 2012 v England
- ODI debut (cap 177): 8 February 2009 v Sri Lanka
- Last Test: 7 January 2021 v Australia
- T20I debut (cap 22): 10 February 2009 v Sri Lanka
- Last ODI: 2 December 2020 v Australia

**Japanese Sportswear brand ASICS:**
- Founder: Kihachiro Onitsuka
- Founded: 21 July 1977, Kobe, Hyogo, Japan
- Headquarters: Chuo Ward, Kobe, Hyogo, Japan
- CEO: Motoi Oyama
- Revenue: 38,666 crores JPY
- Subsidiaries: Haglöfs, ASICS America Corporation

**Recently Appointment in News:**
- Amitabh Chaudhry Re-appointed as MD & CEO of Axis Bank for 3 Years
• Japanese Sportswear Brand ASICS Ropes in Cricketer Ravindra Jadeja as Brand Ambassador in India
• Expenditure Secretary T V Somanathan Replaces Ajay Bhushan Pandey as Finance Secretary
• Amit Banerjee Appointed as new CMD of BEML Limited
• SEBI Appoints Arun Raste as MD and CEO of NCDEX for 5 years
• Justice Nuthalapati Venkata Ramana takes oath as 48th Chief Justice of India
• Comptroller and Auditor General “GC Murmu” Elected as External Auditor by OPCW for 3 Years
• Accenture Chief Rekha Menon takes over as first woman Chairperson of NASSCOM
• RBI Approves Appointing Atanu Chakraborty as Part-time Chairman of HDFC Bank
• RBI approves re-appointment of Murali Natrajan as MD and CEO of DCB Bank
• NCAER appoints Poonam Gupta as new Director General
• Punjab Government Ropes in Sonu Sood as Brand Ambassador for #Covid19 vaccination drive
• Election Commissioner Sushil Chandra named as next Chief Election Commissioner
• Ouhoumoudou Mahamadou sworn in as new Prime Minister of Niger
• Vjosa Osmani elected as new President of Kosovo
• Vietnam National Assembly Votes Pham Minh Chinh as new Prime Minister and Nguyen Xuan Phuc as new President
• Government Appoints S Ramann as new Chairman & Managing Director of SIDBI
• Carl Bildt appointed WHO Special Envoy for ACT-Accelerator
• Vivo Ropes in Virat Kohli as Brand Ambassador
• Cabinet Appoints Tarun Bajaj as new Revenue Secretary; Ajay Seth as Economic Affairs Secretary
• Justice N V Ramana to assume charge as next Chief Justice of India w.e.f April 24
• Digit Insurance ropes in Virat Kohli as Brand Ambassador
• Cabinet Appoints Mallika Srinivasan as Chief of PESB
• Former RBI Governor Urjit Patel Names as Additional Director of Britannia
• Subhash Kumar takes additional charge as CMD of ONGC
• Mukhmeet S. Bhatia takes over as Director General of ESIC
Q. Who has been appointed as the new Finance Secretary in place of Ajay Bhushan Pandey?

A) Anil Kumar Gharai
B) Gurdeep Singh
C) Ravi Arora
D) T V Somanathan

Answer: D

- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of T V Somanathan as the new Finance Secretary.

About Ajay Bhushan Pandey:

- Born: 2 February 1961 (age 60 years), Bihar
- Appointed by: Appointments Committee of the Cabinet
- Education: University of Minnesota, Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur

Q. The International Jazz Day is celebrated every year on which day?

A) 29 April
B) 28 April
C) 30 April
D) Last Friday of April

Answer: C

- The International Jazz Day is celebrated on 30 April every year to highlight the importance of jazz and its diplomatic role of uniting people in all corners of the globe.
- This Day was declared by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in 2011.
- The 2021 celebration marks 10th Anniversary of International Jazz Day.
- The day was created on the idea of jazz pianist and UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador Herbie Hancock.

Q. What is the rank of India in the Chandler Good Government Index (CGGI) 2021?

A) 36
B) 51
C) 49

Answer: C

- India has been placed at 49th position among 104 nations in the Chandler Good Government Index (CGGI) 2021.

**India Ranks 49th in Chandler Good Government Index 2021, Finland Tops**

- India has been placed at 49th position among 104 nations in the Chandler Good Government Index (CGGI) 2021.
- Finland has topped the CGGI Index 2021.
- Venezuela is the last ranked country at 104

**Chandler Good Government Index (CGGI) 2021**

Top: Finland

INDIA : 49

Bottom: Venezuela

Released By: Chandler Institute Governance, Singapore

**CGGI index focuses on seven pillars, which are:**

1. leadership and foresight;
2. robust laws and policies;
3. strong institutions;
4. financial stewardship;
5. attractive marketplace;
6. global influence and reputation;
7. helping people rise

Q. DRDO recently conducted a successful maiden test firing of the 5th generation Python-5 missile. The state of the art missile is which type of missile?

A) Air-to-Air Missile  
B) Surface-to-Air Missile  
C) Air-to-Surface Missile  
D) Surface-to-Surface Missile
Answer:A

- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully test fired the 5th generation Python-5 Air-to-Air Missile (AAM) from Tejas aircraft, at Goa.

**About Defence Research and Development Organisation:**

- Founded: 1958
- Jurisdiction: India
- Headquarters: DRDO Bhavan, New Delhi
- Annual budget: ₹11,375.50 crore (US$1.6 billion)
- Subsidiary: Gas Turbine Research Establishment
- Aircraft designed: Avatar, DRDO Lakshya, DRDO Nishant

**DRDO Conducts Maiden Trial of Python-5 Air to Air Missile Using LCA Tejas**

- On April 27, 2021, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully test fired the 5th generation Python-5 Air-to-Air Missile (AAM) from Tejas aircraft, at Goa.

- This adds the Python-5 Air-to-Air Missile (AAM) in the air-to-air weapons package of India’s indigenously developed Light Combat Aircraft, Tejas.

- The trials also aimed to validate enhanced capability of already integrated Derby Beyond Visual Range (BVR) AAM on Tejas.

- Python-5 air-to-air missile (AAM) has been manufactured by Rafael Advanced Defense Systems of Israel and is one of the most sophisticated guided missiles in the world.

**Latest DRDO in News:**

- DRDO Conducts Maiden Trial of Python-5 Air to Air Missile Using LCA Tejas
- DRDO develops Supplemental Oxygen Delivery System for Indian Army & Mild Covid-19 Patients
- DRDO successfully flight test SFDR technology
- Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh inaugurates DRDO Skill Development Centre for Fire Safety Training at Pilkhuwa in Uttar Pradesh
• DRDO Conducts Two Successful Launches of VL-SRSAM Missile System
• DRDO Carries successful user trials of indigenously-developed Anti-Tank Guided Missile Systems ‘Helina’ and ‘Dhruvastra’
• DRDO Conducts Successful Maiden Test Launch of Surface-to-Air Akash-NG Missile

Q. Which country has launched a robot prototype named as ‘NEO-01’ to clear space debris?

A) Russia
B) Japan
C) the United States
D) China

Answer: D

➢ The Chinese government has launched a robot prototype named as ‘NEO-01’, in the Earth’s low orbit on April 27, 2021 on its Long March 6 rocket.

About China:

➢ Capital: Beijing
➢ Official script: Simplified Chinese
➢ President: Xi Jinping
➢ Population: 139.77 crores
➢ Currency: Renminbi
➢ Gross domestic product: 14.34 lakh crores USD

China Launches Robot Prototype ‘NEO-01’ Clear Space Debris

• The **Chinese** government has launched a **robot prototype** named as ‘NEO-01’, in the Earth’s low orbit on April 27, 2021 on its Long March 6 rocket.
• The **30kg robot prototype** has been developed by Shenzhen-based space mining start-up ‘Origin Space’.
• **Main Purpose:** to observe small celestial bodies in deep space and to experiment with **space debris removal** techniques.
• NEO-01 will use **large net** to capture debris left behind by other spacecraft and then burn it using its electric propulsion system.
Latest China in News 2021:

- China Launches Robot Prototype ‘NEO-01’ Clear Space Debris
- Sri Lanka inks 3 year USD 1.5 billion currency swap deal with China
- India, Pakistan and China to participate in multination anti-terror exercise “Pabbi-Anti-Terror 2021”

**STATIC GK BASED CURREMT AFFAIRS MCQ**

Q. Who is the chairman of SEBI?

A) A)Sunil Arora  
B) G.V. Ramakrishna  
C) Ajay Tyagi  
D) Manoj Vajpayi

**Answer:** C

Q. At which place is Charanka Solar Park located ?

A) Sikkim  
B) Gujarat  
C) Andhra Pradesh  
D) Mizoram

**Answer:** B

Q. Shivraj Singh Chouhan is the serving chief minister of which Indian state?

A) Madhya Pradesh  
B) Himachal Pradesh  
C) Gujarat  
D) Uttrakhand

**Answer:** A

Q. The World Press Freedom Day is observed on which day of the year?

A) September 10
B) April 30
C) May 3
D) June 25

Answer: C

Q. In which state is the “Neermahal water festival” celebrated?
A) Tripura  
B) Haryana  
C) Uttarakhand  
D) Punjab

Answer: A

Q. In which state is the “Devta Lake” located?
A) Madhya Pradesh  
B) Uttarakhand  
C) Assam

Answer: A

D) Kerala

Answer: B

Q. The current Governor of Andhra Pradesh is ____________.
A) Tamilisai Soundararajan  
B) Satyadeo Narain Arya  
C) Najma Heptulla  
D) Biswabhusan Harichandan

Answer: D

Q. What is the capital and currency of Libya?
A) Tripoli & Dinar  
B) Riga & Euro  
C) Hamilton & Kip  
D) Nairobi & Euro

Answer: A