



## **Current Affairs Questions for CGL Tier 1, IBPS RRB, IBPS** Clerk, IBPS PO, LIC AAO, LIC Assistant, RBI Assistant, RBI Grade-B, SBI Clerk and SBI PO Exams

D. Evan Osnos

March GA Quiz 3		
Directions: Study the follow	ing questions carefully and an	swers the questions given below:
•	ate of India's Environment re ealth and economic impacts.	port, the pandemic will leave
A. 175 million	B. 275 million	C. 375 million
D. 475 million	E. None of these	
2. Who among the followin	g has addressed virtual 5th A	sia Economic Dialogue (AED) 2021?
A. Salman Khurshid	B. K. Subrahmanyam	C. Sanjay Subrahmanyam
D. Harsh Vardhan Shringla	E. None of these	
3. On 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2021, which an outlay of INR 11,148.89	crore?	presented State Budget for the year 2021-22 with
A. Manipur	B. Sikkim	C. Assam
D. Tripura	E. None of these	
4. Who among the followin	g has presented a budget of F	Rs 97,106 crore for 2021-22 based on HEIGHT?
A. Raman Singh	B. T. S. Singh Deo	C. Ashok Gehlot
D. Bhupesh Baghel	E. None of these	
5. Civil Accounts Day was o	bserved on which of the follo	wing dates?
A. March 1	B. March 2	C. March 3
D. March 4	E. None of these	
6. Who among the following American President, Joe Bio		"Joe Biden: American Dreamer" a biography of
A. Peter Osnos	B. Jeffrey Toobin	C. Peter Hessler



E. None of these

A. Abdul Karim	B. Noor Inayat Khan	C. Ali Fazal
D. Shrabani Basu	E. None of these	
8. Who among the following 1st March 2021?	ng took over as Principal Di	rector General of Press Information Bureau on
A. Vikrant Massey	B. Ali Fazal	C. Jaideep Bhatnagar
D. Pankaj Tripathi	E. None of these	
9. Mukesh Ambani become 2021. Who among the follow	•	Elon Musk tops the list: Hurun Global Rich List
A. Elon Musk	B. Jeff Bezos	C. Jack Ma
D. Bill Gates	E. None of these	
10. Which company has par	tnered with PayPal to enable	international payments for merchants?
A. PayPal	B. PayU	C. Cashfree
D. Paytm	E. None of these	rtkeeda
		Bank (APGVB) have become India's 1st RRBs to Tideo-Know Your Customer (KYC) facility?
A. Tamil Nadu Grameena Ba	nk	
B. Kerala Grameena Bank		
C. Karnataka Grameena Banl	k	
D. Telangana Grameena Ban	k	
E. None of these		
12. Which bank is planning State Bank of India (SBI) and		billion) credit guarantee scheme along with the
A. New Development Bank	B. Soft Bank	C. World Bank
D. Asian Development Bank	E. None of these	

7. Who among the following is author of the book "The Mystery of the Parsee Lawyer"?



	•	EBI) has eased public issue norms for large entities, f its stake in through a mega initial
A. SBI Life Insurance	B. Life Insurance Corpo	ration C. United India Insurance
D. New India Assurance	E. None of these	
		fell by in 2020, primarily due to the economic activities, according to the International
A. 4.8%	B. 6.8%	C. 5.8%
D. 3.8%	E. None of these	
15. As per the recent study	y, one in four people will l	have hearing problems by which year?
A. 2035	B. 2040	C. 2045
D. 2050	E. None of these	
16. Saras Aajeevika Mela among the following has in A. Harsimrat Kaur Badal D. Rajnath Singh	naugurated the event?	bring rural women SHGs under One Platform. Who  C. Narendra Singh Tomar
	nity workers, self-help gro	Scientific Advisor has launched oups and municipal and sanitary workers engaged in ustainably.
A. Swachhta Mitra Fellows	hip	B. Swachhta Saarthi Fellowship
C. Swachhta Sahaj Fellowsł	nip	D. Swachhta Samgam Fellowship
E. None of these		
18. Which of the followir 2021?	ng ministries has launche	ed the field assessment of Swachh Survekshan (SS)
A. Ministry of Home Affairs	B. Ministry of External	Affairs
C. Ministry of Housing and	Urban Affairs	
D. Ministry of Power	E. None of these	



- 19. Which firm has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) along with the National Stock Exchange of India Limited (NSE), The Multi Commodity Exchange of India Limited (MCX), India INX International Exchange (IFSC) Ltd (India INX), National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL)?
- A. Central Depository Services
- B. Multi Commodity Exchange
- C. National Spot Exchange
- D. Securities and Exchange Board of India
- E. None of these
- 20. Which Railway Zone has introduced the Mobile Train Radio Communication (MTRC) system which will play an important role in preventing train accidents through effective communication?
- A. Central Railway zone
- B. Eastern Railway zone
- C. Western Railway zone
- D. South Central Railway zone
- E. None of these





#### **Correct answer:**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
С	Е	Ε	D	Α	D	D	С	Α	Α	D	С	В	С	D	С	В	С	Α	С

#### **Explanation:**

#### 1. Hints to Remember

Who: The pandemic

What: will leave 375 million children with long-lasting health and economic impacts: CSE's 2021 State

of India's Environment report

When: published on 25th February 2021

"The defining event of the year that has gone by has been the Covid-19 pandemic, something which the world is still struggling to come to terms with. The time has now come to investigate what the pandemic is going to leave behind for us in the longer term — a lost generation, scarred by ill-health, malnourishment, acute poverty and a debilitating break in educational accomplishments. This is what the State of India's Environment (2021) Annual reports and brings to life," said Sunita Narain, director general, Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) and editor, Down To Earth, while releasing the annual publication here today.

The SoE – as the State of India's Environment report is referred to – is an annual publication of Down To Earth magazine, brought out in association with CSE. The 2021 edition, a 442-page compendium of news, views and analysis, was jointly released here today at an online event by over 60 environmental thinkers and activists, journalists and academics from across India (see a full list below). (Read more)

#### 2. Hints to Remember

Who: S Jaishankar

What: to address Asia Economic Dialogue 2021

When: published on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and his counterparts from Japan, Australia, Maldives, Mauritius and Bhutan will address this year's Asia Economic Dialogue (AED) which will be co-chaired by the Pune International Centre (PIC).

During a virtual press conference on Monday, India's former Ambassador to China, Pakistan and Bhutan, Gautam Bambawale informed about the same.(Read more)

### 3. Hints to Remember

Who: Mizoram CM Zoramthanga

What: presents budget for next financial year



When: published on 1st March 2021

Mizoram Chief Minister Zoramthanga, who also holds the portfolio of Finance Minister today presented the budget for next financial year.

The budget presented with an outlay of 11,148.89 crore rupees, is a zero-deficit budget and has not imposed any new taxes.

While presenting the budget proposals in the State Assembly, Chief Minister Zoramthanga called for striving hard for self-reliance given the difficult economic situation emerged out of the COVID-19 pandemic.

He said, the State Government would try to use the global calamity as a catalyst to strive harder in achieving self-sufficiency and venturing for more scopes of revenue collection. He also asserted that measures to boost the Tax and Non-Tax revenue will be taken up.(Read more)

#### 4. Hints to Remember

Who: Chhattisgarh CM Bhupesh Baghel

What: presented HEIGHT State Budget worth Rs 97,106cr for FY22

When: published on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

On March 1, 2021, the Chief Minister (CM) of Chhattisgarh Bhupesh Baghel, who also holds the Finance portfolio, presented a budget of Rs 97,106 crore for 2021-22 based on HEIGHT.

Expansion of term HEIGHT,

H stands for holistic development,

E stands for education (equal opportunity for all),

I stands for infrastructure, G for governance,

H stands for health and

T stands for transformation.

The state budget has made 38% provision for the social sector, 39% for the economic sector and 23% for the general service sector.

No new taxes are proposed in this budget.

#### 5. Hints to Remember

Who: 45th Civil Accounts Day

What: celebrated on 01 March 2021

The Indian Civil Accounts Service (ICAS) observes the "Civil Accounts Day" every year on March 01, 2021, since its inception in 1976. The year 2021 marks the 45th Civil Accounts Day celebrations. ICAS is one of the Civil Services of India, under the Department of Expenditure, Union Ministry of Finance.



Initially, the ICAS was carved out from the Indian Audit & Accounts Service (IA & AS), through the promulgation of an Ordinance amending the C & AG's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Amendment Act, 1976.

Later, the Departmentalisation of Union Accounts (Transfer of Personnel) Act, 1976 was enacted and came into force on 01 March 1976, following which the ICAS celebrates March 1 every year as the "Civil Accounts Day".

ICAS helps in the delivery of financial management services for the Government of India, such as payment services, supports the tax collection system, performs government-wide accounting, financial reporting functions, preparation of budget estimates and carries out Internal Audit in civil ministries of the Union Government.

#### 6. Hints to Remember

Who: Evan Osnos's

What: New Book "Joe Biden: American Dreamer" a Biography of Joe Biden

When: published on 28th February 2021

National Book Award Winner Evan Osnos has authored a new Book "Joe Biden: American Dreamer" a biography of American President, Joe Biden that features both the personal and public life of Joe Biden. The book is published by Bloomsbury Publishing.

The author portrays President Joseph R. Biden Jr. as a man who has sustained a 50-year political career and became the President and a man who is marked with deep personal losses.

The book captures the characters and features of the presidential election.

The book features the revealing conversation between Joe Biden and others, including former President Barack Obama, Cory Booker, Amy Klobuchar, Pete Buttigieg, progressive activists, advisers, opponents, and his family members.

#### 7. Hints to remember

Who: Author Shrabani Basu's New Book "The Mystery of the Parsee Lawyer"

What: to be Released

When: published on 28th February 2021

Arthur Conan Doyle, the British creator of the world-famous fictional detective Sherlock Holmes, was drawn to investigate just one real-life crime during his lifetime and it involved a British Indian man wrongly accused of a series of mysterious crimes in an English village in the early 20th century.

The story of that Indian-origin barrister, George Edalji, has now been dug up in detail and brought to life in a new book by London-based historian-author Shrabani Basu, who chanced upon the mystery and pursued it through archival records and letters over the years.

The result is 'The Mystery of the Parsee Lawyer: Arthur Conan Doyle, George Edalji and the case of the foreigner in the English village', which is released in the UK next week and in India on March 10. (Read more)



#### 8. Hints to Remember

Who: Shri Jaideep Bhatnagar

What: takes over as Principal Director General, Press Information Bureau

When: published on 1st March 2021

Shri Jaideep Bhatnagar has taken over today as Principal Director General, Press Information Bureau.

Shri Bhatnagar is an Officer of the Indian Information Service, Batch of 1986. He has earlier served in Doordarshan News and as Head of the Commercial, Sales and Marketing Division of Doordarshan.

He has also served as Prasar Bharati Special Correspondent West Asia covering twenty countries. He later went on to head the News Services Division of All India Radio.

He has also served at Indian Institute of Mass Communication, in the capacity of Registrar.

Prior to his current charge as head of the organization, Shri Bhatnagar has worked in PIB for six years in different capacities.(Read more)

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#### 9. Hints to Remember

Who: Musk

What: tops Hurun Global Rich List; with \$83bn, Ambani is 8th richest

When: published on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

Reliance Industries chairman Mukesh Ambani has been ranked eighth on the Hurun Global Rich List 2021.

Ambani's total wealth swelled to \$83 billion over the past one year, the report said.

Last week, Ambani retook top spot as Asia's wealthiest person after China's Zhong Shanshan lost \$22 billion, according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index.

The Hurun list showed that the world added 412 billionaires — eight a week — over the last year to take the total number of billionaires to a record 3,228.

Elon Musk added a record \$151 billion to become the richest man in the world for the first time, with \$197 billion. Amazon founder Jeff Bezos, last year's richest, was second with \$189 billion despite adding \$49 billion. Bernard Arnault of LVMH (\$114 billion), Bill Gates (\$110 billion) and Mark Zuckerberg (\$101 billion) are at the third, fourth and fifth riches people in the world, respectively.

At 1,058, China has the largest number of billionaires in the world, compared with the United States with 696.(Read more)



#### 10. Hints to Remember

Who: Indian fintech firm Cashfree

What: partners with PayPal to enable international payments

When: published on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

India-based payments and banking tech startup Cashfree announced that it has partnered with PayPal to enable international payments for merchants.

As part of the tie-up, businesses using Cashfree's payment gateway will be able to add PayPal's Express Checkout option to their order pages and accept payments from the global fintech major's users.

Under the deal, businesses could also show the prices of their products in over 28 currencies, with payments being automatically credited to their accounts in rupees. (Read more)

#### 11. Hints to Remember

Who: TGB & APGVB

What: become 1st RRBs in India to Launch Video-KYC Facility

When: published on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

The Telangana Grameena Bank (TGB) and Andhra Pradesh Grameena Vikas Bank (APGVB) have launched Digital Savings Account opening, for new customers, through a video-KYC (know your customer) process.

The two regional rural banks were selected by State Bank of India to implement the pilot project of the video-KYC, which eventually is to be offered at all 14 RRBs sponsored by SBI.

SBI Chairman Dinesh Kumar Khara, who virtually launched the facility on Monday, appreciated the efforts of RRBs and application service provider C-Edge Technologies in implementing video-KYC feature. The RRBs possessed the skill sets and were nimble-footed with an ability to adopt new technologies. Launch of such facilities was a reflection of their progressive thinking. He complimented chairmen of the RRBs and expressed confidence that the banks will change the complexion of rural economy and make the parent bank proud.(Read more)

#### 12. Hints to Remember

Who: World Bank

What: plans \$100-mn Guarantee Scheme for Solar Rooftop Projects

When: published on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

The World Bank plans to introduce a \$100-million credit guarantee scheme to boost India's rooftop solar programme, which has not gained enough traction.



The scheme will allow micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) to avail concessional debt financing for setting up rooftop solar units, said two people aware of the development requesting anonymity.

The World Bank scheme, along with State Bank of India (SBI) and the MSME ministry to accelerate adoption of rooftop solar units, will help MSMEs access credit of around \$1 billion. The arrangement will be beneficial for the firms that often do not meet the lending criteria of banks and other financial institutions, with their financial woes been exacerbated by the covid-19 pandemic.(Read more)

#### 13. Hints to Remember

Who: SEBI

What: eases listing rules for large IPOs, LIC to be biggest beneficiary of relaxation

When: published on 18th February 2021

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has eased public issue norms for large entities, making it easier for the government to sell a part of its stake in Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) through a mega initial public offering (IPO).

The government's plan to sell the stake in the country's largest insurer has been marked by complications given the sheer size of the state-run company. To put things in perspective, just a 10 percent share sale to the public is pegged to be at least Rs 1 lakh crore, which will be tough for the market to absorb.

The move by SEBI on Wednesday to ease the minimum offer and public holding norms will allow the government more time to abide by rules. As per the new norms now, for any company with a post-issue market capital of above Rs 1 lakh crore, the IPO size will have to be Rs 10,000 crore plus 5 percent of the incremental market capitalisation amount. (Read more)

#### 14. Hints to Remember

Who: Global CO2

What: emissions continue upward trend despite pandemic

When: published on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

Global energy-related carbon dioxide emissions fell by 5.8% in 2020, primarily due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on travel and economic activities, according to the International Energy Agency (IEA). However, after hitting a low in April, global emissions rebounded strongly and rose above 2019 levels in December.

"In absolute terms, the decline in emissions of almost 2 billion tonnes of CO2 is without precedent in human history - broadly speaking, this is the equivalent of removing all of the European Union's emissions from the global total," the IEA said.

Demand for fossil fuels was hardest hit in 2020 - especially oil, which fell by 8.6%, and coal, which dropped by 4%. Oil's annual decline was its largest ever, accounting for more than half of the drop in global emissions. Global emissions from oil use plummeted by more than 1.1 billion tonnes CO2, down



from around 11.4 billion tonnes in 2019. The drop in road transport activity accounted for 50% of the decline in global oil demand, and the slump in the aviation sector for around 35%. (Read more)

#### 15. Hints to Remember

Who: One in four people

What: will have hearing problems by 2050: WHO's 1st Report on Hearing

When: published on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

One in four of the world's population will suffer from hearing problems by 2050, the World Health Organization warned Tuesday, calling for extra investment in prevention and treatment.

The first-ever global report on hearing said that the causes of many of the problems -- such as infections, diseases, birth defects, noise exposure and lifestyle choices -- could be prevented.

The report proposed a package of measures, which it calculated would cost \$1.33 per person per year.

Against that, it set the figure of nearly a trillion US dollars lost every year because the issue was not being properly addressed.

"Failure to act will be costly in terms of the health and well-being of those affected, and the financial losses arising from their exclusion from communication, education and employment," said the report.(Read more)

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### 16. Hints to Remember

Who: Saras Aajeevika Mela,

What: bringing rural women SHGs under one platform, opens at Noida Haat

When: published on 27th February 2021

The Saras Aajeevika Mela 2021 is underway at Noida Haat. The fair was inaugurated by Union Minister Narendra Singh Tomar yesterday. It will continue till 14th March. The fair remains open from 11 AM to 8 PM daily. More than 300 rural self-help groups and craftsman from 27 states are participating in the Mela which is being by the Ministry of Rural Development.

Addressing the gathering, Mr Tomar said that the Ministry of Rural Development is working to include more women in Self Help Groups (SHGs). He said these SHGs played a vital role in increasing family income and improving quality of life.(Read more)

#### 17. Hints to Remember

Who: Government

What: Launches Swachhta Saarthi Fellowship For Students, Community Workers

When: published on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021



The Union Government's Office of the Principal Scientific Advisor has launched Swachhta Saarthi Fellowship for the students, community workers, self-help groups and municipal and sanitary workers engaged in tackling the waste management scientifically and sustainably. The fellowship is an initiative to empower young innovators in community work of waste management, awareness campaigns, waste surveys, studies as Swachhta Saarthis and implement actions to reduce waste for a greener planet. Up to 500 fellows will be recognised under the fellowship. The last date for applying to the fellowship is March 19, 2021.

The fellowship has been launched under the Government's "Waste to Wealth" Mission. The Waste to Wealth Mission is one of the nine national missions of the Prime Minister's Science, Technology, and Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC).

The role of young students from schools and colleges, and citizens working in the community through Self Help Groups (SHGs), or in independent capacity, is key in sensitizing the communities towards waste management and offering innovative solutions for conversion of waste to value. This fellowship is aimed to empower interested students and citizens to continuously engage in their attempts to reduce waste in cities and rural areas, read an official statement. (Read more)

#### 18. Hints to Remember

Who: MoHUA

What: Launches Field Assessment of Swachh Survekshan 2021

When: published on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

Mr. Durga Shanker Mishra, Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Housing Affairs (MoHUA) launched the field assessment of Swachh Survekshan (SS) 2021, the sixth edition of the annual cleanliness survey conducted by the Government of India, at a web event in New Delhi today. SS was introduced by MoHUA in 2016 as a competitive framework to encourage cities to improve the status of urban sanitation while encouraging large scale citizen participation.

Speaking at the webinar, Mr. Mishra said, "SS has led to a spirit of healthy competition among cities and towns of India. The journey that started in 2016 with only 73 cities with million plus population has grown manifold, with 434 cities in 2017, 4,203 cities in 2018, 4,237 cities in 2019 and 4,242 cities in SS 2020, including 62 Cantonment Boards. Cities have been regularly filling in their data, updating their progress in the MIS along with running several citizen centric campaigns in preparation of SS 2021. Today, we are happy to formally kick off the survey as more than 2,000 assessors get ready to go on the field to assess the performance of cities".

Every year, the on-field assessments for SS takes place between January 4-31. However, the same had been delayed by two months due to the COVID-19 pandemic and will now be conducted between 1-28 March 2021. The Swachh Survekshan framework is redesigned innovatively every year, to ensure that the process becomes more robust. Keeping in mind the Ministry's efforts towards ensuring sustainability of the sanitation value chain, the SS 2021 indicators focus on parameters pertaining to wastewater treatment and reuse along with faecal sludge. Similarly, the crucial issues of legacy waste management and remediation of landfills have also been brought to the fore in this edition of Survekshan.(Read more)

#### 19. Hints to Remember



Who: CDSL

What: signs MoU to set-up Market Infrastructure Institutions at GIFT City

When: published on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

The Central Depository Services (India) Limited (CDSL) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) along with the National Stock Exchange of India Limited (NSE), The Multi Commodity Exchange of India Limited (MCX), India INX International Exchange (IFSC) Ltd (India INX), National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL).

The MoU has been signed for setting up Market Infrastructure Institutions comprising of International Bullion Exchange, Clearing Corporation and Depository at Gujarat International Finance Tec-City Trade (GIFT) City.

This is in line with the Government of India objective to make India a price setter in bullion through GIFT International Finance Service Centre (IFSC) and following the International Financial Services Centres Authority (Bullion Exchange) Regulations, 2020 and other applicable laws. (Read more)

#### 20. Hints to Remember

Who: Mumbai local train: Indian Railways

What: install MTRC system, commuters to get real-time updates

When: published on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

Indian Railways' Western Railway zone has introduced the Mobile Train Radio Communication(MTRC) system which will play an important role in preventing train accidents through effective communication.

The Mobile Train Radio Communication system is an effective and technologically advanced communication system which facilitates an instant and constant interaction of train crew with the Control Centre and the Station Master. (Read more)





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