

PRACTICE **MOCK**





BAZOOKA

MONTHLY CURRENT AFFAIRS MAGAZINE

MAY-2021 COVERAGE



CONTENTS

CONTENTS.....	2
NATIONAL AFFAIRS.....	3
STATES AFFAIRS.....	5
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.....	6
REPORTS & INDICES.....	9
GOVERNMENT SCHEMES & PROGRAMMES.....	10
ECONOMY & BUSINESS.....	11
FINANCE & BANKING.....	13
AWARDS & RECOGNITION.....	17
PERSON IN NEWS.....	18
OBITUARIES.....	21
IMPORTANT DAYS.....	23
SPORTS.....	24

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

- 1. Ministry of Labour & Employment** has notified **Section 142 of Social Security Code, 2020** covering applicability of Aadhar.
 - It will enable the Ministry to collect Aadhar details for the database of beneficiaries under various social security schemes.
 - Under this, **National Data Base for unorganized workers (NDUW)** will be framed, which is at an advanced stage of development by National Informatics Centre.
 - It is aimed at collection of data for unorganized workers.
- 2. Ministry of Civil Aviation** has granted conditional exemption to conduct **Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS)** experimental flights of drones from **Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Rules, 2021 to 20**
 - Preliminary permission grant is envisioned to assist supplementary framework of subsequent UAV rules pertaining to BVLOS drone operations.
 - **BVLOS Experiment Assessment and Monitoring Committee** has also been constituted
 - **Indian Armed forces** have launched operation '**CO-JEET**' to aid anti-COVID-19 efforts like strengthening medical infrastructure and oxygen supply chains, as well as take measures to ensure mental wellbeing of people.
- 3. Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras** has developed a blockchain-based healthcare information system for mobile phone applications.
 - '**BlockTrack**' is said to be a blockchain-based secure medical data and information exchange system for a mobile phone-based application.
 - The system has been developed with the support of Infosys.
- 4. The Drugs Controller General of India** recently approved an oral drug to treat COVID-19 called the 2-DG.
 - The 2-DG was developed by the **Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO)** for Emergency Use. 2-DG is 2-Deoxy – D – Glucose.
 - It was developed in collaboration with Dr Reddy's Laboratories.
 - The drug ensures faster recovery of hospitalized patients and will reduce supplemental oxygen dependence during clinical trials.

**RRB Clerk
Prelims**

Compare Your Performance with that of the Topper

Take a **FREE** Mock Test



5. **Ayush Ministry** has launched a massive nationwide campaign to distribute its poly herbal ayurvedic drugs **AYUSH 64** and **Kabasura Kudineer** for COVID-19 patients, who are at their home.
- AYUSH-64 is an Ayurvedic formulation developed by Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) and Kabasura Kudineer is a classical Siddha formulation.
6. **Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)** has rolled out mobile app titled as '**CBSE Dost for Life**' for psycho social wellness of students and parents.
- It has been designed for **students of classes 9 to 12** and will be available from 10th May
 - It will also provide students **information on academics, tips on mental health and well-being, corona and rap songs**
7. **Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA)** has signed MoU with **Microsoft** on **Joint initiative for Digital Transformation of Tribal Schools** like Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) and Ashram Schools
- Microsoft will make **AI curriculum** available to tribal students in both **English and Hindi** at all EMRS schools to skill educators and students in next-generation technologies
8. **DRDO** has developed an antibody detection-based kit, the DIPAS-VDx COVID 19 IgG Antibody Microwell ELISA or **DIPCOVAN**.
- The kit can be used for sero-surveillance for detecting the presence of Covid antibodies amongst the population.
 - **DIPCOVAN** was developed indigenously by DRDO scientists and has been tested on over 1,000 patient samples at various Covid hospitals in **Delhi**.
9. Union Minister of Rural Development, **Narendra Singh Tomar** has launched **National Mobile Monitoring Software (NMMS) app** and Area officer monitoring App.
10. **E-Committee of Supreme Court** has released manual for its **free e-Courts Services Mobile App in 14 languages**.
- SC's app is available in **English, Hindi, Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Kannada, Khasi, Malayalam, Marathi, Nepali, Odia, Punjabi, Tamil and Telugu**.
11. After almost 70 years, **Cheetahs** will be reintroduced in India in **November 2021**
- 10 African cheetahs, including 5 females will be introduced in **Kuno National Park (KNP) in Madhya Pradesh** from South Africa

- **National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)** is releasing Rs 14 crore for the relocation project.

SBI PO Prelims

Compare Your Performance with that of the Topper

Take a **FREE** Mock Test



STATES AFFAIRS

12. DMK leader **M.K. Stalin (68 years)** takes oath as the **Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu** at Raj Bhavan.
 - His oath has been administered by TN Governor **Banwarilal**
13. **Indian Army** has launched **first green solar energy plant in Sikkim** to harness renewable energy
 - It will use **vanadium-based battery technology**, and has been built at an altitude of **16000 ft.** in northern part of Sikkim and has a capacity of 56 KVA
14. NR Congress Chief **N Rengasamy (70 years)** will be sworn in as the **Chief Minister of Union Territory of Puducherry**.
 - His oath was administered by Puducherry's Lieutenant Governor **Tamilisai Soundararajan**
15. **Himanta Biswa Sarma** has been named as the next **Chief Minister of Assam**
 - He will replace incumbent **Sarbananda Sonowal**
16. **Himachal Pradesh Govt** has been building '**Forest Ponds**' to check the depletion of the groundwater and to harvest the rainwater.
 - It has been started in 10 forest divisions in Himachal Pradesh: **Hamirpur, Bilaspur, Jogindernagar, Parvati, Nachan, Rajgarh, Nurpur, Nalagarg, Dalhousie, and Theog**
 - It will be initiated under the **Parvat Dhara Scheme** that was launched for rejuvenation of the water resources and recharging aquifers through Forest Department with Rs. 20 crores cost
17. **Puducherry** has become '**Har Ghar Jal**' Union Territory by ensuring that every rural home gets a household tap connection.
 - **Puducherry** is the fourth state or UT after Goa, Telangana and Andaman and the Nicobar Islands to provide assured tap water supply to every rural home under **Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)**.
18. Punjab Chief Minister **Amarinder Singh** has declared **Malerkotla** as the **23rd district of Punjab** on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr, after long-pending demand of the people.

19. Manipur CM, **N Biren Singh** has launched mobile app titled as '**MOMA Market**' for home delivery of fresh vegetables, for day to day consumption amid COVID-19
- It has been introduced by **Manipur Organic Mission Agency (MOMA), Dept of Horticulture and Soil Conservation, Manipur**
20. Bihar's Chief Minister **Nitish Kumar** has launched an innovative mobile application called '**Home Isolation Tracking (HIT) COVID**' to keep an eye on the condition of COVID-19 patients recovering at their residence
21. Haryana CM **Manohar Lal Khattar** has launched Haryana govt's integrated program for Covid-19 titled as '**Sanjeevni Pariyojna**'.
22. **Maharashtra govt** has unveiled '**Mission Oxygen Self-Reliance**' scheme to meet the state's oxygen needs.
23. Madhya Pradesh CM **Shivraj Singh Chouhan** has launched a scheme '**Ankur**' under which citizens will be awarded for planting trees during monsoon.
- Participants who will join the initiative will be given **Pranvayu Award** to ensure public participation in programme.

RRB PO
Prelims

Get Your All India Rank

Take a FREE Mock Test



1
2 1 3

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

24. World's longest pedestrian suspension bridge, **Arouca Bridge 516** and was officially inaugurated in northern Portugal.
- The steel and concrete suspension bridge is a **1,693 ft (516 m) long** and 175 m (574 ft) above the Paiva River.
25. **First-ever India-France-Australia Trilateral Foreign Ministerial Dialogue** has been held in London, UK, on the sidelines of G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting.
- Meeting was attended by External Affairs Minister, S. Jaishankar, France's Minister for Europe, Jean-Yves Le Drian and Australia's Senator Marise Payne.
 - France, India and Australia trilateral meet were launched in September 2020 at Foreign Secretaries' levels
 - G7: **Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, UK, US**

26. US will support World Trade Organisation (WTO) initiative to waive Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) protection for COVID-19 vaccines
- TRIPS is Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights is an international legal agreement between all the member nations of WTO
 - It establishes minimum standards for the regulation by national govt of different forms of intellectual property (IP)
 - TRIPS is administered by the WTO.
27. **First BRICS Employment Working Group (EWG) Meeting** has been held virtually under the **chairmanship of India**, which has assumed BRICS Presidency in 2021
- **Main issues during the meeting:** Promoting Social Security Agreements, Formalization of labour markets, Participation of women in labour force, etc
28. **Remnants of China's biggest rocket Long March 5B landed in Indian Ocean** with the bulk of its components destroyed upon re-entry into Earth's atmosphere
29. Former U.S. Senator, **Bill Nelson (78 years)** has been sworn in as the **14th administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)**
30. **China** has successfully achieved the feat of landing its first Mars Rover '**Zhu Rong**' on the red planet, becoming the only second nation to do so.
- Till now, only **United States** have successfully landed its rover on Mars.
31. **Iran** has unveiled a new supercomputer '**Simorgh**', which is 100 times more powerful than previous supercomputer of the country
32. Elon Musk-owned **SpaceX** has tied-up with **Google Cloud** to offer high-speed satellite internet to customers across the world.
- Under this, SpaceX will set up Starlink ground stations within Google's data centres, that connect to Starlink satellites to enable high-speed broadband internet through Google Cloud.
33. **Google** has launched its global licensing programme '**News Showcase**' in India amid mounting pressure from media houses urging technology platforms to pay a fair price and share a part of the advertising revenue for featuring articles
- It is a part of **Google's \$1-billion investment** to support quality journalism.

**SBI Clerk
Prelims**

Get to Know Your Weak Areas
Take a **FREE** Mock Test



34. **China** has successfully launched a new ocean-monitoring satellite titled as '**Haiyang-2D (HY-2D)**' into orbit on Long March-4B rocket, from **Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre, China**
35. **World's largest iceberg 'A-76'** has broken off from Antarctica last week.
- It split off the western side of Ronne Ice Shelf in Antarctica's Weddell Sea
 - It is **thrice the size of Delhi** with surface area of 4,320 square km, making it the biggest berg currently afloat in the world
 - It was first spotted by **British Antarctic Survey**
36. **NASA** is planning to search for water, other resources on the moon by its first mobile robot named as **VIPER** in **2023**, as a part of NASA's Artemis program
- **Volatiles Investigating Polar Exploration Rover (VIPER)** will collect data that would help NASA map resources at the lunar South Pole that could one day be harvested for long-term human exploration at the Moon.
 - **VIPER will carry 4 instruments:** TRIDENT hammer drill, MSolo instrument, NIRVSS and NSS.
37. UK Prime Minister **Boris Johnson** has announced **United Kingdom** will work along with **WHO** and other nations to develop an advanced international pathogen surveillance network to identify COVID-19 variants and emerging diseases
- **Global Pandemic Radar** is the network that will ensure early detection of new variants and emerging pathogens, so vaccines and treatments needed to stop them can be rapidly developed.
 - It is expected to **become fully operational before the end of 2021**.
38. **Fiaame Naomi Mata'afa (64 years)** has been sworn-in as **first female Prime Minister of Samoa**
39. **India** has been working towards developing a mobile tech platform '**UNITE AWARE**' that helps increase situational awareness and provides terrain-related information to peacekeepers
- It has been developing the platform in partnership with the **UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations** and **Department of Operational Support**
40. **World Health Organization (WHO)** and **Swiss Confederation** has signed MoU to launch **1st WHO BioHub Facility** as part of WHO BioHub System, which was announced in November 2020.
- It will enhance the rapid sharing of viruses and other pathogens between laboratories and partners globally.

- It will serve as a center for the safe receipt, sequencing, storage and preparation of biological materials for distribution to other laboratories.

SBI PO
Prelims

Compare Your Performance with that of the Topper

Take a **FREE** Mock Test



41. **Bashar al-Assad (55 years)** has been re-elected as the **President of Syria** for the fourth consecutive term in a landslide victory by winning 95.1% of the total votes cast.

REPORTS & INDICES

42. The UN has released its Global Forest Goals Report 2021. The Report has been prepared by the **Department of Economic and Social Affairs** of the UN.
- According to the report, the Covid-19 pandemic has **aggravated the challenges faced by countries in managing their forests.**
 - It provides an initial overview of the progress of Goals and targets contained within the **United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2030.**
 - According to the report, almost **25% global population** rely on forest.
43. **World Bank** has released **Migration and Development Brief report** in which India has been declared as the largest recipient of remittances in 2020 with over **\$83 billion**, which is a drop of 0.2% from 2019 (USD83.3 billion)
- India has been the largest recipient of remittances since **2008**
 - India is followed by **China, Mexico, Philippines and Egypt**
 - Globally, the remittance flow was \$540 billion in 2020, which is 1.9% lower as compared to that of 2019, when it was \$548 billion
44. **NITI Aayog** and **Mastercard** has released report titled as '**Connected Commerce: Creating a Roadmap for a Digitally Inclusive Bharat**'. **Highlights of the report:**
- Identifies challenges in accelerating digital financial inclusion and provides recommendations for making digital services accessible to its 1.3 billion citizens.
 - Strengthening payment infrastructure
 - Enabling agricultural NBFCs to access low-cost capital and deploy a '**phygital**' (**physical + digital**) model.

45. **India** has moved up to third spot in the **57th Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index (RECAI)** released by **EY (Ernst & Young)**.
- Installed solar capacity in India grew nearly 12% to 39GW in financial year 2020-21 and is expected to grow significantly with generation from solar PV forecast to exceed coal before 2040
 - **United States** topped the index, followed by **China, India, United Kingdom** and **France**.
46. **FICCI** has published its quarterly "**Business Confidence Survey**". According to it, Business confidence of Indian companies has come down to its lowest in three quarters in May. In last survey, confidence was at decadal high.
- Business Confidence Index (BCI) declined due to decline in optimism levels of participating companies with respect to current conditions.
 - BCI stands at 51.5 in latest survey, after hitting 74.2 in previous survey round.
 - However, index is still higher than 2020 (42.9) when nationwide lockdown was imposed.

**RRB Clerk
Prelims**

Compare Your Performance with that of the Topper
Take a **FREE** Mock Test



GOVERNMENT SCHEMES & PROGRAMMES

47. Govt has issued guidelines for '**Production Linked Incentive Scheme for the Food Processing Industry**' (**PLISFPI**). Govt has also launched an online portal for the PLISFPI.
- Govt has approved new Central Sector Scheme namely PLISFPI for implementation during **2021-22 to 2026-27** with an outlay of **Rs 10,900 crore**.
 - It aims to support creation of global food manufacturing champions and support Indian brands of food products in the international markets.
48. The **Ministry of Youth Affairs**, the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**, the **UNICEF** and its partner organisation YuWaah has launched a pan-India campaign called **#YoungWarrior**.
- The aim of the campaign is to engage young people across the country to address the ongoing **COVID-19** crisis.
49. **Power Ministry** has decided to set up '**National Mission on the use of Biomass in coal based thermal power plants**'.
- It will address the issue of air pollution due to farm stubble-burning and will reduce carbon footprints.

- It will also support the energy transition in India and its targets to move towards cleaner energy sources.
- It is being envisaged that the Mission will have a Steering Committee and will also contribute to **National Clean Air Programme**.

50. **Tribal Co-operative Marketing Federation of India (TRIFED)** has partnered with **NITI Aayog** to implement **Van Dhan Yojana scheme**

- They will work together to prepare the follow-up-plan for its implementation in each of the 39 Tribal Aspirational Districts
- These districts are from **Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, MP, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Odisha, Telangana and Tripura**
- **Special focus** will be given to areas with **tribal more than 50%**

RRB Clerk
Prelims

Compare Your Performance with that of the Topper

Take a **FREE** Mock Test



ECONOMY & BUSINESS

51. **SIDBI** has launched two loan products at a concessional rate for ramping up supply of products used in the fight against the COVID-19 for **MSMEs**.

- These products will help augment supply of oxygen cylinders, oxygen concentrators, oximeters, and essential drugs by MSMEs. These loan products are
- **SHWAS** – SIDBI assistance to Healthcare sector in War Against the Second wave of COVID19
- **AROG** – SIDBI Assistance to MSMEs for Recovery and Organic Growth during COVID19

52. **Tribal Co-operative Marketing Federation of India (TRIFED)** has signed MoU with **The LINK Fund** for a collaborative project titled 'Sustainable Livelihoods For Tribal Households in India'. The MoU will facilitate:

- **Tribal Development and Employment Generation**
- Sustainable livelihoods and value addition, produce and crafts diversification, skill training
- The LINK Fund is a **Geneva, Switzerland** based philanthropic operational foundation.

53. **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs** has given its approval for strategic disinvestment along with transfer of management control of **IDBI Bank Ltd**.

- The extent of shareholding to be divested by Govt and LIC shall be decided at the time of structuring of transaction in consultation with RBI
- Govt and LIC together own more than 94% of equity of **IDBI Bank (GoI 45.48%, LIC 49.24%)**
- **LIC is currently the promoter of IDBI Bank with Management Control and GoI is the co-promote**

54. **World Economic Situation and Prospects as of mid-2021** has projected India to grow at **10.1% in 2022**, becoming the fastest growing major economy in the world

- As per the prospects, India will register a 7.5% growth rate in calendar year 2021, after an estimated contraction of 6.8% in 2020.
- Global economy showed a contraction of **3.6% in 2020** and will expand by **5.4% in 2021**

55. **Mahratta Chamber of Commerce, Industry, and Agriculture (MCCIA)** in collaboration with **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)** has launched **India's first agro-export facilitation centre** in Pune.

- It will work as a one-stop-centre for the exporters in the agricultural sector boosting agricultural exports from the region, as per global standards
- It will guide prospective exporters on relevant aspects of '**farm-to-fork**' chain of agro-exports through experts

56. **B V R Subrahmanyam** has been appointed as the **Commerce Secretary in the Union Commerce Ministry**.

- He will also serve as the **Officer on Special Duty (OSD) in the Commerce Ministry**.
- He will succeed Commerce Secretary **Anup Wadhawan** on his retirement in June 2021.

57. **Tata Sons** has acquired majority stake of **64%** in popular online grocer **BigBasket** through its subsidiary, **Tata Digital Limited**.

- The acquisition will help the conglomerate take on the likes of Amazon, Walmart's Flipkart, Reliance's JioMart and Softbank-backed Grofers.
- Tata's acquisition of BigBasket could be a part of the conglomerate's bigger plan to launch a 'super app' that will serve as a holistic platform for all its consumer businesses.

FINANCE & BANKING

58. **RBI** has joined group of Central Banks and Supervisors '**Network for Greening the Financial System (NGFS)**' as a Member.
- **NGFS:** Network of central banks and financial supervisors that are willing to share best practices and contribute to environment, climate risk management, mobilizing mainstream finance
 - NGFS was launched at Paris One Planet Summit on December 12, 2017.
 - NGFS HQs: **Paris, France**
59. **RBI** has imposed monetary penalty of **Rs 3 crores** on ICICI Bank for non-compliance with certain RBI directions in the matter of shifting of securities from one category to another
- As per RBI, penalty has been imposed for contravention of certain in Master Circular of 2015 on '**Prudential Norms for Classification, Valuation and Operation of Investment Portfolio by Banks**'
 - RBI has imposed this penalty in exercise of powers under provisions of the **Banking Regulation Act, 1949**.
60. **RBI** has opened an on-tap liquidity window of **Rs 50,000 crores** to boost provision of immediate liquidity for ramping up Covid-related healthcare infrastructure and services in the country.
- It will have tenors of up to **3 years** at **repo rate (4%)** till **March 31, 2022**
 - Under this, banks can provide fresh lending support to wide range of entities including vaccine manufacturers, priority medical devices, treatment, etc.
 - It will continue to be classified under priority sector
61. **RBI** Governor **Shaktikanta Das** has announced a **special long-term repo operation (SLTRO)** for small finance banks, amid the second wave of COVID-19 in India
- **RBI** will conduct the **special operation of Rs 10,000 crore** at repo rate.
 - It will remain open till **October 31, 2021**.
 - To provide further support to small business units, micro and small industries, and other unorganized sector entities
62. **Central Govt** in consultation with **RBI** has decided to issue **Sovereign Gold Bonds for 2021-22**
- It will be issued in 6 tranches from **17th May to September 2021**
 - It will be sold through **Scheduled Commercial banks (except SFBs and Payment Banks), Stock Holding Corporation, designated post offices** and **recognized stock exchanges**
 - **Minimum permissible investment:** 1-gram gold
63. The **RBI** has set up the second **Regulatory Review Authority (RRA 2.0)**, initially for a period of one year from **May 1, 2021**.
- It will be headed by SBI Managing Director **S Janakiraman**.
 - The group will assist the regulatory review authority by identifying areas, regulations, guidelines, returns which can be rationalized and submit reports. periodically to RRA containing the recommendations

- RBI Deputy Governor M Rajeshwar Rao was appointed as the Regulations Review Authority.
64. RBI has excluded **Lakshmi Vilas Bank** from the 2nd Schedule of the **Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934** with effect from **November 27, 2020**.
- The move was taken after the crisis-ridden Lakshmi Vilas Bank was merged with **DBS Bank India Ltd (DBIL)** on 27 November 2020.
 - Bank which is mentioned in the Second Schedule of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Act is known as '**Scheduled Commercial Bank**'.



SBI PO Prelims | Compare Your Performance with that of the Topper
Take a **FREE** Mock Test

The banner features a light blue background with a geometric pattern. On the left, the text 'SBI PO Prelims' is written in blue. In the center, the text 'Compare Your Performance with that of the Topper' is written in dark blue, followed by 'Take a FREE Mock Test' where 'FREE' is in red. On the right, there is an illustration of three people standing on a podium with steps numbered 1, 2, and 3.

65. **Jose J. Kattoor** has been appointed as the **Executive Director (ED) of RBI** with effect from May 4, 2021.
66. **HDFC Bank** in partnership with **Common Services Centres (CSCs)** has launched an artificial intelligence chatbot named as '**Eva**'
- 'Eva' will work on the CSC's Digital Seva Portal to educate and support **Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs)** about the banks' products and services in quick and easy manner before providing banking services to rural customers
67. **RBI** has granted an authorization to **Bajaj Finance** for issuance and operation of **semi-closed Prepaid Payment Instruments with perpetual validity**
- This means, Bajaj Finance is all set to join Paytm and Amazon in prepaid payment segment
68. SEBI has proposed to rationalize the definition of '**promoter group**' and move to the concept of '**person in control**' as well as lower the minimum lock-in periods for promoters and other shareholders after an IPO.
- The regulator has proposed to do away with the current definition of promoter group as the deletion would rationalize the disclosure burden and bring it in line with the post listing disclosure requirement.
 - **Three years period** has been proposed for such a shift

69. The RBI has cancelled the license of the **United Co-operative Bank Ltd**, Bagnan in West Bengal as the bank does not have adequate capital and earning prospects.
- The bank has failed to comply with the requirements of section 22 (3) (a), 22 (3) (b), 22 (3) (c), 22 (3) (d) and 22 (3) (e) read with section 56 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.
 - The Registrar of the bank has been requested to issue an order for winding up the bank and appoint a liquidator for the bank.
70. **Airtel Payments Bank** has rolled out digital platform titled as '**DigiGold**' for making investments in gold by its customers.
- It is launched in partnership with **SafeGold**, a provider of digital gold.
71. **Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology (IDRBT)** is building Digital Financial Infrastructure named as **National Digital Financial Infrastructure (NADI)**.
- NADI will provide a roadmap and framework for future digital financial services growth
 - It will consist of modern network infrastructure including 5G/Edge Cloud with software defined networking for connecting to the data centre infrastructure.
 - **IDRBT** is an arm of **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**
72. **IDBI Bank** has announced the launch of its fully digitised, end-to-end, Loan Processing System (LPS) for its MSME and Agri products.
- This system seamlessly integrates with data fintech, bureau validations, document storage/retrieval, account opening/management, customer notifications, and portfolio management capabilities along with embodied policy/knock off parameters.
73. Now Money in various **online wallets (Amazon pay, Ola money, Mobikwik, PhonePe, Delhi Metro Card etc.)** can be withdrawn using an ATM or Point of Sale Terminal
- RBI has permitted cash withdrawal of Rs. 2,000 per transaction with maximum limit of Rs. 10,000 per month.
74. The **RBI** has approved the transfer of **Rs. 99,122 crore** as surplus to the govt for the accounting period of nine months ended **March 31**.
- RBI also decided to maintain the **Contingency Risk Buffer** at 5.50%.
 - The decision was taken at the 589th meeting of the Central Board of RBI.
75. **India** is the **2nd largest insurance-technology market** in **Asia-Pacific region** as per **S&P Global Market Intelligence report**

- India accounts for **35% (\$1.28 billion)** of the **total venture capital (\$3.66 billion)** attracted by insurtech-focused sector in the Asia Pacific region
- China was the largest **insurance-technology market** (43% of the total investment)



SSC CGL Tier I **Get Your All India Rank**
Take a **FREE** Mock Test

76. **RBI** has increased the max amount outstanding in respect of **full-KYC PPIs (KYC-compliant PPIs)** from Rs. 1 lakh to **Rs. 2 lakhs**.
- Apart from this, RBI has instructed PPI issuers to give the holders of full-KYC PPIs interoperability through authorized networks in the form of cards and UPI for PPIs in the form of electronic wallets.
77. **HyperVerge** has partnered with **SBI** to provide convenient digital banking services to the customers of SBI with one of its flagship products, **Video Banking solution**.
- Under this, **SBI customers** can instantly open savings account using Video Banking process, during COVID, with minimal ID documents
78. **Finance Ministry** has notified rules for **increased FDI in the insurance sector**.
- **Insurance Amendment Bill 2021** has increase the foreign direct investment (FDI) limit in the insurance sector to **74% from 49%**.
 - Parliament passed the Bill 2021 on March 22.
79. **Rajesh Bansal** has been appointed as the **Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH)** by the RBIH Board
80. **Minister of Corporate Affairs (MCA)** has launched **1st phase of MCA21 Version 3.0 (V3.0)** comprising of revamped website, new email services for MCA Officers and 2 new modules, named **e-Book and e-Consultation**
81. **ICICI Bank** has partnered with **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** to link the UPI network with its digital wallet named as '**Pockets**'
- The facility will do away with the current practice of **linking UPI IDs with savings bank account** in a safe and secure manner

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

82. According to a report by **Brand Finance Insurance 100 2021** state-owned **LIC** has emerged as the third strongest and the tenth most valuable insurance brand globally.
- As per the report, the total value of the world's top 100 most valuable insurance brands declined by 6% from \$462.4 billion in 2020 to \$433.0 billion in 2021.
 - However, **LIC's brand value increased by almost 7%** to \$8.65 billion
 - Brand Finance is a **London-based** brand valuation consultancy
83. Investigative journalist and media executive, **Maria Ressa (57 years)** of the Philippines has been named as the winner of **2021 UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize**
- She was chosen because of her more than 3-decade dedication as a journalist, including her work as **CNN's lead investigative reporter (Asia)** and news chief of ABS-CBN
84. Indian descent, **Shakuntala Haraksingh Thilsted** has won **2021 World Food Prize** for her groundbreaking research in developing holistic, nutrition-sensitive approaches to aquaculture and food systems.
- She is a global nutrition expert.
 - Her **research on small native fish species in Bangladesh** led to the development of nutrition-sensitive approaches to aquatic food systems at all levels
 - **World Food Prize** is presented by **World Food Prize Foundation**
85. **Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank** has been conferred with the **International Invincible Gold Medal for 2021** for his extraordinary commitment and outstanding service to humanity through his writings, social and illustrious public life at a two-day virtual session
86. Cambridge University chemists **Shankar Balasubramanian** and **David Klenerman** has been declared the winners of the **2020 Millennium Technology Prize** for their development of revolutionary sequencing techniques.
- Balasubramanian is an India-born British professor of medicinal chemistry

SSC CGL Tier I | Compare Your Performance with that of the Topper
Take a **FREE** Mock Test 

87. **Emmy Award-nominated** Indian choreographer **Suresh Mukund** has won **10th Annual 'World Choreography Award 2020'** (Choreo Awards or Oscars of Dance)

- He is the first Indian to win the Choreo Awards.
 - He won the award in 'TV Reality Show/Competition' category, for his work on hit American TV reality show '**World of Dance**'.
88. Private Secretary to Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik, **V Karthikeyan Pandian** named as a recipient of the prestigious **FIH (International Hockey Federation) President's Award**.
- He was instrumental in successfully organizing the men's Hockey World Cup and other international hockey events in Bhubaneswar
 - Odisha has come up with campaigns '**Odisha by Morning, Hockey by Evening**'
89. **D Nageshwar Reddy** has won **Rudolf V Schindler** Award, which is given by **American Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ASGE)**
- He is the first Indian to receive this award.
90. **Bharat Ratna Professor C.N.R. Rao** has been conferred with **International Eni Award 2020** for research into renewable energy sources and energy storage.
- He has been working on hydrogen energy, metal oxides, carbon nanotubes, and other materials and two-dimensional systems.
 - **International Eni Award 2020:** It is also known as Energy Frontiers award and Nobel Prize in Energy Research.
91. Indian economist and Nobel Laureate **Amartya Kumar Sen (87 years)** has been conferred with '**2021 Princess of Asturias Award**' by Spain in the social sciences category
- He was selected from **41 candidates from 20 nation** for his research on famines and theory of human development, welfare economics.
 - **Princess of Asturias Awards:** It is awarded every year and comprises a cash prize of **50,000 Euros** along with **Joan Miro sculpture** representing the award, a diploma, an insignia.

**RRB Clerk
Prelims**

Compare Your Performance with that of the Topper
Take a **FREE** Mock Test



PERSON IN NEWS

92. **Vaishali S Hiwase** became the first woman officer to be appointed as officer commanding in the **Border Roads Organisation**.
- She will be responsible for providing connectivity through an **Indo-China** border road.
93. Mahindra Group Chairman **Anand Mahindra** has rolled out a project titled as '**Oxygen on Wheels**' to ease the transportation of oxygen from plants to hospitals and homes, following acute oxygen shortage
94. RBI's executive director **T Rabi Sankar** has been named as the **4th Deputy Governor of RBI**
- He will succeed **B P Kanungo**, who retired on April 2
95. Chief Justice of India (CJI) **N.V. Ramana** has launched a new feature in the Supreme Court's official website titled as '**Indicative Notes**'.
- This feature is aimed at providing concise summaries of landmark judgments in an easy-to-understand format.
96. Bollywood actress **Kalki Koechlin** is making her debut as an author, with her first book titled as '**Elephant In The Womb**'.
97. Sherpa guide **Kami Rita** scaled **Mount Everest** for the 25th time breaking his own record.
- He and 11 other Sherpa guides are the first group of climbers to reach the summit in 2021 and were fixing the ropes on the icy route so that hundreds of other climbers can scale the peak later this month.
 - He first scaled Everest in **1994** and has been making the trip nearly every year since then
98. **Padmakumar M Nair** has been appointed as the **CEO of the proposed National Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd (NARCL)**
- He is currently serving as the **Chief General Manager of Stressed Assets Resolution Group at SBI**
 - **About NARCL:**
 - i. Proposed bad bank for taking over stressed assets in the budget 2021-22 to consolidate and take over existing stressed assets of lenders and undertake their resolution.
 - ii. 15% of the agreed value will be in cash, rest in govt security receipts.
99. **New Zealand** Prime Minister **Jacinda Ardern** has topped '**World's 50 Greatest Leaders**' list for **2021**, which is released by Fortune Magazine
- She is followed by **mRNA pioneers, Paypal CEO Daniel H Schulman** and **NBA Rescuers**
 - **Adar Poonawalla** (CEO of Serum Institute of India) is the only Indian among the top 10 names at list. He is placed at 10th rank

100. **Sir David Attenborough (95 years)** has been named as '**People's Advocate for Climate Change**' of **UN Climate Change Conference (COP26)**
- **COP26** is scheduled to be held in **Glasgow in November 2021** under the Chairmanship of UK
 - He is a renowned English broadcaster and natural historian
101. Mexico's **Andrea Meza (26 years)** has won **2020 Miss Universe beauty pageant** in Florida, United States.
102. Book titled as '**India and Asian Geopolitics: The Past, Present**' has been released.
- It has been authored by Indian diplomat **Shivshankar Menon** (former National Security Adviser of India under Manmohan Singh)
103. **Subodh Kumar Jaiswal** (IPS officer of 1985 batch Maharashtra cadre) has been appointed as the **Director of Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)** for two years.
- He is currently serving as the **Director General of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)**
 - He succeeded **Rishi Kumar Shukla**, who retired in February 2021

RRB PO Prelims **Get Your All India Rank** Take a **FREE** Mock Test 

104. **Anvee Bhutani** has been elected as the **President of Oxford University Student Union (OUSU)** in a by-election.
- She won by **655 votes** after 11 stages of counting in a close contest with **Yannis Baur**, social secretary of the OU LGBTQ+ society, who got 649 votes.
105. **French** fashion tycoon **Bernard Arnault** has become the **world's richest person** with an estimated net worth of \$186.3 billion
- His net worth is \$300 million above Amazon's Jeff Bezos now, whose net worth is \$186 billion, and Tesla's Elon Musk's worth is \$147.3 billion.
 - He is the chairman and chief executive of LVMH (Louis Vuitton Moët Hennessy).
106. **Andy Jassy** will take over the post of **Amazon's CEO** on **July 5, 2021**.
- The move has been taken after **Jeff Bezos** formally announced to step down as Amazon CEO at the company's annual shareholder meeting.

- Andy Jassy was **Amazon's cloud-computing head**
- Jeff Bezos will serve as executive chairman of Amazon's board

107. Former Narcotics Commissioner of India, **Jagjit Pavadia** has been elected as the **President of International Narcotics Control Board (INCB)**

- She is a retired officer of Indian Revenue Service (Customs) and is the 1st Indian to be appointed as the Chief of INCB.
- She has served as **Narcotics Commissioner of India, Central Bureau of Narcotics** from 2006-2012.
- She has been a member of INCB since 2015
- Headquarters of INCB: **Vienna, Austria.**

SBI PO Prelims

Compare Your Performance with that of the Topper

Take a FREE Mock Test



OBITUARIES

108. The **former attorney general** of India **Soli J Sorabjee (91)** passed away. Sorabjee was awarded **Padma Vibhushan** in **2002** for his defence of the freedom of expression and the protection of human rights.

- He was known for his contribution to the field of constitutional law.
- He had also helped India win in the **International Court of Justice** against **Pakistan** in the **Atlantique downing case** of 1999.

109. Sitar maestro **Pandit Debu Chaudhuri (85 years)** passed away due to COVID-19 related complications in New Delhi's Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital

- He was known as Legend of Sitar and belonged to the Senia or Gharana style of music.
- He had been awarded **Padma Bhushan** and the **Padma Shri.**

110. Eminent **sculptor, architect**, and Rajya Sabha member **Raghunath Mohapatra (78 years)** passed away due to COVID-19 at AIIMS, Bhubaneswar.

- He was nominated by the Ministry of External Affairs as a **Member of Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) in 2000**
- **Award:** Padma Shri in 1975, Padma Bhushan in 2001 and Padma Vibhushan in 2013.

111. The veteran **music Composer Vanraj Bhatia (93-years)** has passed away after a brief illness.

- He was the best-known composer of **Western classical music in India**,
 - Mr. Bhatia won the **National Film Award** for Best Music Direction for the television film **Tamas** (1988), the **Sangeet Natak Akademi Award** for Creative and Experimental Music
112. India **Mathematician Mudumbai Seshachalu Narasimhan (88 years)** passed away.
- He is known, along with **C. S. Seshadri**, for their proof of the Narasimhan–Seshadri theorem and elected as Fellows of the Royal Society.
113. Renowned **cardiologist** and former national president of Indian Medical Association, **KK Aggarwal (62 years)** passed away battling with Covid in Delhi
114. Renowned **environmentalist Sundarlal Bahuguna** passed away due to Covid-19 in **Rishikesh**. He was 94.
- The Garhwali environmentalist and **Chipko movement** leader were undergoing treatment at **AIIMS, Rishikesh**.
 - For years, Bahuguna has been fighting for the preservation of forests in the **Himalayas**
115. India's boxing coach **Om Prakash Bhardwaj (79 years)** passed away due to age-related ailments in New Delhi.
- He was awarded **Dronacharya Award** (India's highest award in the field of sports and athletics) in 1985.
116. Former Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission of India, **Srikumar Banerjee (75 years)** passed away due to a heart attack in Mumbai.
- He retired as **Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission** and Secretary of the Department of Atomic Energy in 2012.
117. Eminent Indian **activist, journalist, Gandhian** and freedom fighter **HS Doreswamy (103 years)** passed away due to massive cardiac arrest in Bengaluru
- He was very actively involved in several Indian freedom movement like **Vinoba Bhave's Bhoodan movement, Quit India movement, Mysuru Chalo movement**.

**SBI Clerk
Prelims**

Get to Know Your Weak Areas
Take a **FREE** Mock Test



IMPORTANT DAYS

118. **International Labour Day** or **International Workers' Day** or **May Day** is being observed today (**1st May**) across the world.
119. **World Press Freedom Day** is being observed every year on **3rd May** globally to discuss journalistic ethics and to celebrate journalists who gave their lives in the pursuit of truth.
- The day also celebrates anniversary of **Declaration of Windhoek**
 - Theme 2021: **Information as a Public Good**
 - **2021 Global Conference** is hosted by **UNESCO** and **Govt of Namibia**.
120. **World Red Cross Day** or Red Crescent Day is observed on **8th May** by the Red Cross society across all the countries.
- The theme of World Red Cross Day 2021 is **'Together we are unstoppable'!**
121. **National Technology Day** is observed on **May 11** every year to highlight the achievements of engineers and scientists in the field of technology and science.
- It was first celebrated on **May 11, 1999**.
 - The day is chosen as on this day in 1997, India successfully test-fired **Operation Shakti missile** at the Pokhran Test Range in Rajasthan
122. **International Nurses Day** is observed every year on **May 12** to mark the contributions and hard work of nursing staff around the world.
- This day also marks the **birth anniversary of nursing pioneer Florence Nightingale**, who was born on 12th May, 1820
 - International Nurses Day was first observed in **1965** by the **International Council of Nurses (ICN)**
 - International Nurses Day Theme 2021: **'Nurses: A Voice to Lead – A vision for future healthcare'**.
123. **International Day of Families** is observed on **15 May** every year to reflect the importance that the international community attaches to families.
- UN General Assembly proclaimed this day in **1993**.
 - Theme 2021: **'Families and New Technologies'**.
124. **International Day of Light (IDL)** is observed every year on **16 May** to mark the anniversary of the 1st successful operation of laser in 1960 by physicist and engineer, **Theodore Maiman**.

125. **International Tea Day** is observed every year on **May 21** annually to raise awareness of the deep cultural and economic significance of tea around the world and promote its importance in fighting hunger and poverty.

- The day is recognized by **UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**

126. The **International Day for Biological Diversity** is celebrated on **22nd May** every year.

- International Day for Biological Diversity is observed to raise and create awareness about **biodiversity issues**.
- The theme of the day this year (2021) is **"We're part of the solution #ForNature."**

127. **World Thyroid Day** is observed every year on **May 25** to promote awareness and understanding of thyroid health and the advances made in treating thyroid diseases.

- The Day was established in **2008** by the **European Thyroid Association** and the **American Thyroid Association**.

128. **World Hunger Day** is observed every year on **28 May** to create awareness about the people living in chronic hunger worldwide and celebrate sustainable solutions to hunger and poverty and make people inspire to be a part of the solution.

- The day was introduced in **2011** by **The Hunger Project**
- **Hunger Project:** US based organization committed to the sustainable end of world hunger.
- 2021 campaign title: **#Access Ends Hunger**.

129. **World No Tobacco Day (WNTD)** is observed globally on **31 May** every year to inform the public on the dangers of using tobacco and to discourage the use of tobacco in any form

- Theme of the 2021 WNTD: **Commit to quit**
- WNTD was created by the member states of **World Health Organization (WHO)** in **1987**



SPORTS

130. **Mercedes** racer **Lewis Hamilton (Great Britain)** won the **2021 Portuguese Grand Prix**, which was held at the **Algarve International Circuit in Portugal**.

- This was the second victory of the season for Hamilton and 96th career victory.

131. **Mark Selby** became the **World Snooker Champion for the fourth time** after defeating fellow mate Shaun Murphy by **18-15 victory** at Crucible Theatre, Sheffield, England.

132. Indian wrestler **Seema Bisla** has secured a **Tokyo Olympics berth** in women's 50kg after reaching the finals of the **World Olympic Qualifier** at Sofia in Bulgaria

133. **Naomi Osaka (Japan)** has been named as '**Sportswoman of the Year**' at **2021 Laureus World Sports Awards**

- Apart from her, **Rafael Nadal (Spain)** won the **2021 Laureus Sportsman of the Year** title.

134. **Mercedes's** racer **Lewis Hamilton (Great Britain)** has won **2021 Spanish Grand Prix**

- This victory is the fifth successive Spanish Grand Prix title of Lewis Hamilton and 3rd win of this season.
- This was also 98th victory of his career.

135. **Polish** teenager tennis player **Iga Swiatek (19 years)** has won the Women's Singles title of Italian Open.

- She defeated **Czech Karolina Pliskova** by 6-0, 6-0 with what is known as a '**double bagel**' **score** in the summit clash in Rome that lasted just 46 minutes.

136. **Rafael Nadal (Spain)** as won **10th Italian Open**, after defeating world number-1 **Novak Djokovic (Serbia)** by 7-5, 1-6, 6-3

- He also equalled Djokovic's record of 36 ATP Masters 1000 titles

137. The **2022 FIFA under-17 Women's World Cup** will be held in India from **October 11 to 30, 2022**.

- India was set to host the 2021 **U-17 Women's World Cup** before it was canceled due to the **Covid-19 pandemic**.

138. **Red Bull's** racer **Max Verstappen (Netherlands)** has won the **2021 Monaco Grand Prix**, to lead the world championship for the first time in his career

139. Indian **boxer Pooja Rani** won another gold-medal at **Asian Elite Boxing Championships** after defeating **Mavluda Movlonova (Uzbekistan)** in the **women's 75kg final** by 5-0 in Dubai.

- She has also qualified for the Tokyo Olympics