**1. Which country has assumed the chairship of BRICS for the year 2021?**

**A) India 🗹**

B) China

C) Brazil

D) Russia

* For the year 2021, the chairmanship of BRICS is vested with India. India has commenced its chairship with the inauguration of 3–day–long Sherpas' meeting. The meeting was chaired by Secretary (CPV & OIA) of Ministry of External Affairs. During the meet, India introduced to the member countries its themes and priorities for the year 2021.

**2. From which date, the 2nd phase of COVID vaccination is set to commence in India?**

**A)** **2021 March 01 🗹**

B) 2021 March 15

C) 2021 April 01

D) 2021 June 01

* The Government of India has given a nod for 2nd round of vaccination for the COVID–19 disease and it is set to commence from March 1st 2021. This phase of vaccination is targeted at people above the age of 60 years and those above 45 years old. The beneficiaries can get themselves vaccinated in any govt hospital free of cost as well as at private clinics.

**3. The first ‘India Protein Day’ is celebrated on which year?**

A) 2019

**B) 2020 🗹**

C) 2021

D) 1990

* A national–level public health initiative, ‘Right to Protein’ has launched India’s first ‘Protein Day’ on February 27, 2020. The day is observed to raise awareness about the nutritional benefits of protein. This year, the theme of the day is selected as "Powering with Plant Protein".

**4. Which organisation publishes the “State of School Feeding Worldwide” Report?**

A) FAO

B) IUCN

**C) UN – WFP 🗹**

D) WTO

* The “State of School Feeding Worldwide” is published by the United Nations – World Food Programme (WFP). It was first published in the year 2013 and the most report has been published for the year 2020. This report provides a detailed analysis on the implementation and coverage of school based nutritional programmes.

**5. As per the new Information Technology Rules, digital platforms will have to provide required information within how many hours?**

A) 12 hours

B) 24 hours

C) 48 hours

**D) 72 hours 🗹**

* The Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules 2021 has been framed recently, which was released by the Electronics and IT Ministry. Under the rules, platforms such as WhatsApp will have to provide information on identity verification to the authorised agencies within 72 hours.
* The originator of unlawful messages would be zeroed on and the platforms will have to set up grievance redressal mechanism.

**6.** **Which Union Ministry has launched the City Innovation Exchange (CiX) platform?**

A) Ministry of Home Affairs

**B) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs 🗹**

C) Ministry of Electronics and IT

D) Ministry of Education

* Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has recently launched the City Innovation Exchange (CiX) platform. The platform aims to bring together academia, businesses, and the government to design innovative solutions for the challenges of the cities. The platform has over 400 start–ups, 100 smart cities, more than 150 challenge statements and over 215 solutions when it was launched.

**7. As per the recent forecast by the Moody’s investor service, what would be GDP growth rate of India in 2021–22?**

A) 7.5 percent

B) 9.5 percent

**C) 13.5 percent 🗹**

D) 15 percent

* Global rating agency Moody’s revised India's 2021–22 GDP growth forecast to 13.5 per cent. The country’s growth will moderate to 6.2 per cent in the following year.
* Moody’s also retained India’s sovereign rating at Baa3, the lowest investment grade, with a negative outlook. Indian ratings agency ICRA announced that India's real GDP will grow 10.5 per cent in FY22.

**8. Ministry of Jal Shakti has selected how many sites under Phase 4 of the Swachh Iconic Places (SIP) initiative?**

A) 8

**B) 12 🗹**

C) 15

D) 16

* The Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS), Ministry of Jal Shakti has announced that it has selected 12 iconic sites under Phase 4 of the Swachh Iconic Places (SIP) initiative.
* SIP is an initiative of Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen (SBM–G), which aims to improve the sanitation and cleanliness standards at and around the sites. Ministry of Jal Shakti coordinates with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Culture and the State/UT governments.

**9. What is the name of the messaging platform to be used by the Indian Army shortly?**

**A) Secure Application for Internet 🗹**

B) Safe Messaging Service

C) Secure Instant Messaging

D) Safe Communication Network

* As per the recent statement of the Indian Army chief General MMNaravane, the Indian Army is set to start using a messaging platform called SAI (Secure Application for Internet), for internal communications.
* The application, which was developed by Colonel Sai Shankar, is undergoing the process of obtaining cybersecurity clearance and data testing. After getting clearance, the platform will be used from April 1, this year.

**10. In which place, ASI has discovered the first epigraphical reference to the death of Krishnadevaraya Nayaka?**

A) Agra

B) Mathura

**C) Tumkur 🗹**

D) Krishnagiri

* Recently, members of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) have discovered the first epigraphical to the death of Krishnadevaraya Nayaka. Krishnadevaraya Nayaka was the emperor of Vijayanagara empire and ruled the kingdom from 1509–1529 AD.
* The epigraphical reference was found near Gopalakrishna temple at Honnenahalli of Tumkur district in Karnataka.