

1. What is the theme of the 'International Volunteer Day' in 2021?

- A) Volunteer now for our common future ☒
 B) World needs Volunteers
 C) Volunteering during Pandemic
 D) Welcoming Volunteers



- ✓ Every year, International Volunteer Day is observed on December 5 to encourage the role of volunteers at national and international level for achieving sustainable development goals (SDGs). This day recognises the contribution of volunteers across the globe. UNGA signified 2001 as International Year of Volunteers. The theme of this year's 'International Volunteer Day' is 'Volunteer now for our common future'.

2. When is the 'World Soil Day' observed every year?

- A) December 3
 B) December 5 ☒
 C) December 7
 D) December 9



- ✓ World Soil Day is celebrated every year on December 5, to highlight people's attention to the importance of soil and its sustainable management. This year's campaign is based on the theme of "Halt soil salinization, boost soil productivity". It aims to raise awareness about the importance of maintaining healthy ecosystems and human well-being. The international observance was recommended by the International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS) in 2002.

3. 'Ciprian Foias Prize' is associated with which field?

- A) Space Science
 B) Mathematics ☒
 C) Virology
 D) Business



- ✓ Eminent Indian-American mathematician Nikhil Srivastava, has been jointly selected for the inaugural \$5,000 Ciprian Foias Prize. He was awarded for his contribution in Operator Theory by the American Mathematical Society (AMS). Along with Professor Srivastava, who teaches at the University of California, Berkeley, two other awardees are Adam Marcus and Daniel Spielman.

4. Which city played host to the first-ever 'India-Russia '2+2' dialogue'?

- A) Moscow
 B) New Delhi ☒
 C) Ahmadabad
 D) St Petersburg



- ✓ The first '2+2' ministerial dialogue scheduled to take place in Delhi. It will be held at the level of the foreign and defence ministers, will cover "political and defence issues of mutual interest". Until now, India held 2+2 format of meetings with member nations of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad) – the US, Japan and Australia.
 ✓ Earlier, the 21st India Russia Annual Summit between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin was held at Hyderabad House in New Delhi on December 6, 2021.

5. Ajaz Patel, who recently clinched 10 wickets in an innings, is a cricketer from which country?

- A) England
 B) New Zealand ☒
 C) Bangladesh
 D) South Africa



- ✓ New Zealand's left-arm spinner Ajaz Patel became only the third bowler in the 144-year-old history of Test cricket to take all 10 wickets in an innings. He achieved this feat on the second day of the second match against India. England's Jim Laker and India's Anil Kumble had achieved this significant feat in Test cricket. The 33-year-old player is playing in his 11th Test.

6. 'HAECHE-II', which was seen in the news recently, is an operation undertaken by which institution?

- A) Central Bureau of Investigation
 B) INTERPOL ☒
 C) Federal Bureau of Investigation
 D) International Monetary Fund



- ✓ Under a recent operation undertaken by the INTERPOL codenamed 'HAECHE-II', enforcement agencies in more than 20 countries have arrested over 1,000 individuals and seized about \$27 million of illicit funds. The programme is a part of a crackdown on cyber-enabled financial crime. India also participated in the global operation.
 ✓ The exercise targeted specific types of online fraud, such as romance scams, investment fraud and money laundering linked to illegal online gambling.

7. Which Indian cricketer recently became the third highest wicket-taker in Tests?

- A) Ravindra Jadeja
 B) R Ashwin ☒
 C) Ishant Sharma
 D) Mohammad Shami



- ✓ R Ashwin recently became the India's third-highest wicket-taker in Test cricket. The 35-year-old clinched his 418th wicket in the first Test against New Zealand, surpassing another Indian off-spinner Harbhajan Singh. Only Anil Kumble (619) and Kapil Dev (434) have more wickets than Ashwin, as of now.

8. Petr Fiala has been appointed as the Prime Minister of which country?

- A) Australia
 B) Italy
 C) Greece
 D) Czech Republic ☒



- ✓ Petr Fiala – the leader of the Civic Democratic of Czech Republic, has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of the country. His appointment comes after a 5-party coalition secured a majority of 108 votes in the 200-seat parliament. Petr Fiala previously served as the country's Minister of Education, Youth and Sports from 2012 to 2013 and has been leader of the Civic Democratic Party since 2014.

9. Al Raisi, has been elected as the President of which international organization?

- A) United Nations
 B) International Monetary Fund
 C) INTERPOL ☒
 D) UNICEF



- ✓ Al Raisi – the Inspector General of the United Arab Emirates' Interior ministry has been elected as the President of Interpol, following three rounds of voting. He received 68.9 percent of votes cast by member countries. The International Criminal Police Organization, commonly known as the Interpol, facilitates worldwide police cooperation and

crime control. It is headquartered in Lyon, France.

10. Ramkumar Ramanathan, who recently won his maiden Challenger level singles title, is associated with which sports?

- A) Tennis ☒
- B) Table-Tennis
- C) Badminton
- D) Archery



- ✓ Indian tennis player Ramkumar Ramanathan won his maiden Challenger level singles title, in the final clash of the ATP80 Manama event. The 27-year-old Ramkumar, seeded sixth and ranked 222 in the world, beat his Russian rival 6-1 6-4 in 68 minutes. The Indian player had lost six Challenger finals in his career before.