



## CURRENT AFFAIRS FIRST TEST

**DATE OF TEST: 17/01/2022**

**The test is based on SSC CGL Tier-I General Awareness  
And  
For GFC Students only**

### **KEY WITH EXPLANATION**

1. Pierre Cardin, who recently passed away, was a famous Designer of which country?  
[A] United States  
[B] France  
[C] Germany  
[D] Italy

**Correct Answer: B [France]**

**Notes:**

The famous French designer Pierre Cardin, who created an iconic brand in his name, recently passed away at the age of 98. He licensed thousands of products in his name and they were sold across over several outlets worldwide. Beyond his designer clothes, he also licensed products like Perfumes, Makeup, Porcelain, Chocolates among others.

2. Who has been nominated to the board of the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation (GAVI) from India?  
[A] Rajiv Kumar  
[B] NarendraModi  
[C] Harsh Vardhan  
[D] Amitabh Kant

**Correct Answer: C [Harsh Vardhan]**

**Notes:**

Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare Harsh Vardhan has been nominated by the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation (GAVI) as a member on the GAVI Board. The Minister is to succeed Mr. MyintHtwe of Myanmar and will represent the South East Area Regional Office (SEARO)/ Western Pacific Regional Office (WPRO) constituency from 1st January 2021 until 31st December 2023.

3. National Pension System (NPS) is managed by which organisation?  
[A] IRDAI  
[B] PFRDA  
[C] Finance Ministry  
[D] RBI

**Correct Answer: B [PFRDA]**

**Notes:**

The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) has announced that subscribers can now use online mode also to exit from the National Pension System (NPS). The National Pension System (NPS) was implemented with effect from the 1st January, 2004. It was extended to all citizens of the country from 2009 on a voluntary basis. PFRDA regulates the National pension system (NPS) as well as the pension sector.

4. Which High Court recently ruled that advertisement of any article using the name of any God as illegal?  
[A] Madras High Court  
[B] Bombay High Court  
[C] Gujarat High Court  
[D] Guwahati High Court

**Correct Answer:** B [Bombay High Court]

**Notes:**

The Aurangabad bench of the Bombay High Court has declared that advertisement of any article using the name of any God and claiming that it has supernatural qualities, is illegal. This practice falls under the Maharashtra Prevention and Eradication of Human Sacrifice and other Inhuman, Evil and Aghori Practices and Black Magic Act. A petition was filed to prevent advertisements that promote the sale of articles like Hanuman Chalisa Yantra.

5. Which Indian organisation is to raise Rs 1 lakh crore through asset monetization?  
[A] PFC  
[B] NHAI  
[C] Power Grid  
[D] NHPC

**Correct Answer:** B [NHAI]

**Notes:**

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is set to raise Rs 1 lakh crore through asset monetisation. As per the Road Transport Minister NitinGadkari, NHAI would monetise highways under the toll-operate-transfer (TOT) mode in the next five years, for the process.

6. 'Prarambh', which was making news recently, is a summit related to which scheme?  
[A] Khelo India  
[B] Start-Up India  
[C] Ayushman Bharat  
[D] PM AwasYojana

**Correct Answer:** B [Start-Up India]

**Notes:**

Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, is to organise 'Prarambh' – Startup India International Summit, on 15 and 16 January 2021 in a virtual format. The summit is expected to bring together top policy makers, academia, industry, start-ups and innovators from around the world.

7. When will India's New Foreign Trade Policy come into effect?  
[A] February 1, 2021  
[B] March 1, 2021  
[C] April 1, 2021  
[D] September 1, 2021

**Correct Answer:** C [April 1, 2021]

**Notes:**

The new Foreign Trade Policy of India, is set to take effect from 1st April 2021. The policy will be in effect for 5 years from 2021 to 2026. It aims to make India a leader in international trade. It is also known that the District Export Hubs initiative will form an important component of the new Foreign Trade Policy.

8. Which company has manufactured India's first driverless metro cars?  
[A] HAL  
[B] BMEL  
[C] DRDO  
[D] Alstrom

**Correct Answer:** B [BMEL]

**Notes:**

India's first state of the art driverless metro cars have been manufactured by BMEL Limited. It has been manufactured at its manufacturing facility at Bangalore and was unveiled by the Union Defence Minister. The unit is made up of stainless-steel body that has a carrying capacity of 2280 passengers. BMEL has obtained orders for manufacture of 576 such cars for Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA)'s MRS1 project.

9. What is the term "Bojjannakonda" that is seen in news recently?

- [A] Buddhist heritage site
- [B] Crude oil well
- [C] Kannada Literary work
- [D] Type of weapon used in 1857 revolt

**Correct Answer:** A [Buddhist heritage site]

**Notes:**

"Bojjannakonda" is a Buddhist rock-cut cave situated near a village Sankaram near Vishakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh. The sites are said to date between 4th and 9th Century A.D, when Buddhism is the majority religion of Sankaram village. Recently, annual BouddhaMela was celebrated in the Buddhist heritage site, which is generally celebrated a day after Sankranti festival.

10. The Central Soil and Materials Research Station (CSMRS), which was making news, functions under which Ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Home Affairs
- [B] Ministry of Jal Shakti
- [C] Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
- [D] Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

**Correct Answer:** B [Ministry of Jal Shakti]

**Notes:**

The Central Soil and Materials Research Station (CSMRS) is an attached office of the Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Jal Shakti ministry. Based at New Delhi, it deals with investigations and research in Geotechnical engineering, construction materials and river valley projects. It helps in development of water resources sector in the country, through Central Water Commission. Minister of State Jal Shakti conducted a Review Meeting of CSMRS recently.

11. 'ChintanBaithak' is the Brainstorming Conference cum Review Meeting of which Union Ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Communication
- [B] Ministry of Culture
- [C] Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
- [D] Ministry of Tourism

**Correct Answer:** C [Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways]

**Notes:**

Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways has organised a three-day Ports Review Meeting named 'ChintanBaithak' at Kutch, Gujarat. Chairpersons of Major Ports and Officials of the Ministry will participate in the brainstorming conference. The resulting ideas from the meeting will be used to finalise the Maritime Vision-2030. Improving Port performance, infrastructure and Ease of Doing Business are focus areas.

12. 'Ooceraejoshii', is an Ant species recently discovered in which state?

- [A] Telangana
- [B] Kerala
- [C] Andhra Pradesh
- [D] Karnataka

**Correct Answer:** B [Kerala]

**Notes:**

Two new species of a rare ant genus have been recently discovered in Kerala and Tamil Nadu by a team of scientists from Punjabi University. One of the two species which was discovered found in the Periyar Tiger Reserve of Kerala has been named *Ooceraea Joshii*, to honour the veteran biologist 'Amitabh Joshi'.

13. The Sensex of India has crossed which milestone mark recently?  
[A] 30,000  
[B] 40,000  
[C] 50,000  
[D] 75,000

**Correct Answer:** C [50,000]

**Notes:**

The domestic capital market, denoted by SENSEX has touched a new height of 50,000 mark for the first time ever. The Sensex was launched in 1986 as the country's first equity index. The index commenced operations with 124 points. It reached 1000 points in 1990 and has grown at a compounded annual growth rate of 15.9% to reach 50,000 points in 2021.

14. Which organisation releases the 'World Economic Situation and Prospects 2021'?  
[A] World Bank  
[B] International Monetary Fund  
[C] United Nations  
[D] Asian Development Bank

**Correct Answer:** C [United Nations]

**Notes:**

The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) released the World Economic Situation and Prospects 2021. As per the report, India's economy is projected to grow at 7.3 per cent in 2021 while it is estimated to contract by 9.6 per cent in 2020. According to the UN, the reasons for the contraction are the lockdown and the fallen domestic consumption.

15. 'Build Back Better recovery plan', which was seen in the news, is associated with the Head of which country?  
[A] New Zealand  
[B] United States  
[C] Japan  
[D] China

**Correct Answer:** B [United States]

**Notes:**

The United States President Joe Biden signed an executive order, which would impose rules on government procurement practices. Dubbed as the 'Buy American' order, it aims to strengthen domestic manufacturing and ensure better access to small and midsize businesses. This is a part of the 'Build Back Better recovery plan' proposed by Joe Biden.

**FEBRUARY:**

16. What is the expansion of BNI, mentioned in the Economic Survey 2020-21?  
[A] Broad Necessities Index  
[B] Bare Necessities Index  
[C] Base Necessities Indicator  
[D] Base National Indicators

**Correct Answer:** B [Bare Necessities Index]

**Notes:**

The Economic Survey for 2020-21 has mentioned "Bare Necessities Index" (BNI), to describe the inequalities in access to bare necessities like drinking water, sanitation and housing conditions between urban and rural India. The index lists 26 indicators on five dimensions namely water, sanitation, housing,

micro-environment, and other facilities. It also classifies the regions in three levels of access to bare necessities namely high, medium, low.

17. Vaccination against which disease was conducted recently as a National Vaccination Day?
- [A] Hepatitis
  - [B] Polio
  - [C] Pneumonia
  - [D] BCG

**Correct Answer:** B [Polio]

**Notes:**

On the Polio National Immunization Day scheduled on January 31, 2021, around 89 lakh children were given polio drops under National Polio Immunisation drive across the country. President Ram Nath Kovind launched the first round of Pulse Polio Programme 2021. Over seven lakh booths were set up for implementing the drive. A house-to-house surveillance will also be provided to vaccinate the remaining children.

18. What is the outlay of the “Deep Ocean Mission” announced recently in the Union Budget?
- [A] Rs 1000 crore
  - [B] Rs 2000 crore
  - [C] Rs 4000 crore
  - [D] Rs 7500 crore

**Correct Answer:** C [Rs 4000 crore]

**Notes:**

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced in her Budget speech that a “Deep Ocean Mission” will be launched. A budget outlay of more than Rs 4,000 crore has been announced over five years. This programme will undertake deep ocean survey exploration. It also includes projects to conserve deep-sea biodiversity.

19. India’s first Amputee clinic has been recently launched in which city/UT?
- [A] Chandigarh
  - [B] Hyderabad
  - [C] Varanasi
  - [D] Ahmedabad

**Correct Answer:** A [Chandigarh]

**Notes:**

The Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education & Research, Chandigarh has launched the first Amputee clinic of India. The ‘PGI Amputee Clinic’ aims to provide social, mental and physical support to its patients. It also aims to provide complete amputation patient care and provide medical care and rehabilitation of amputees who cannot afford the cost.

20. The Supreme Court has directed which Mutual Fund company to distribute Rs 9122 crores to its unitholders?
- [A] Baroda Mutual Fund
  - [B] BNP Paribas Mutual Fund
  - [C] Franklin Templeton Mutual Fund
  - [D] Aditya Birla Sun Life Mutual Fund

**Correct Answer:** C [Franklin Templeton Mutual Fund]

**Notes:**

The Supreme Court has directed Franklin Templeton Mutual Fund to distribute Rs 9,122 crore to unitholders of the six schemes that were shut by the company in April 2020.

SBI Mutual Fund has been directed to carry out the process of disbursement. Franklin Templeton has been mandated to distribute the said money within twenty days from the date of order.

21. SEBI has banned the Chairperson and promoters of which company from the Securities Market?
- [A] Reliance
  - [B] Future Retail
  - [C] DHFL
  - [D] Lakshmi Vilas Bank

**Correct Answer:** B [Future Retail]

**Notes:**

Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has banned the Future Retail's Chairman Kishore Biyani and other promoters from the securities market for one year. They have been charged for indulging in insider trading in the shares of the company. SEBI has also imposed a fine of Rs 1 Crore each on the promoters and ordered them to pay back Rs 17.78 crore with interest.

22. Which institution announced a scheme which enables retail participation in Government Securities market?
- [A] SEBI
  - [B] RBI
  - [C] IRDAI
  - [D] NITI Aayog

**Correct Answer:** B [RBI]

**Notes:**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced that it will provide access to retail investors to participate in the Government Securities market. The retail investors shall have the facility to open a gilt securities account with the RBI. The RBI also announced to set up a 24x7 helpline for digital payment services. It directed all bank branches to participate in CTS clearing.

23. India held its first High Level Dialogue on Trade and Investment with which association?
- [A] European Union
  - [B] BRICS
  - [C] ASEAN
  - [D] BIMSTEC

**Correct Answer:** A [European Union]

**Notes:**

India held its first High Level Dialogue on Trade and Investment with the European Union. The dialogue was co-chaired by the Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal. During the 15th India-EU Leader's Summit held in July 2020, the leaders from both the sides committed to establish this dialogue. It aims to provide ministerial-level guidance for promoting the bilateral trade and investment relations.

24. Which Indian documentary film won the audience award at the Sundance Film Festival 2021?
- [A] Writing with Fire
  - [B] The Pink Cloud
  - [C] I was a simple Man
  - [D] The Changing same

**Correct Answer:** A [Writing with Fire]

**Notes:**

An Indian documentary film titled "Writing with Fire", won the audience award in the World Cinema Documentary category at the Sundance Film Festival 2021. The film narrates the rise of India's only

newspaper run by Dalit women, the 'KhabarLahariya'. The festival is presented by US-based Sundance non-profit institute, which has been recognising independent artists across the world.

25. Which payment major announced that it would add cryptocurrency to its network?
- [A] Pay Pal
  - [B] Mastercard
  - [C] VISA
  - [D] Maestro

**Correct Answer:** B [Mastercard]

**Notes:**

Global payment major Mastercard has announced that it will support some select cryptocurrency directly on its network. It highlighted that it will give preference to 'stable coins' or cryptocurrencies that are linked to fiat currencies like the dollar. It also laid down four conditions for stable coins to be accepted including consumer protection, compliance among others.