



For a Bright Future

প্রগতিশীল প্রতিযোগিতামূলক

Proactive Academy

of Competitive Examinations (PACE)

**CURRENT AFFAIRS
SECOND TEST**

Test Code: PACE CAT-2

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The test is based on SSC CGL Tier-I General Awareness

And

For GFC Students only

KEY WITH EXPLANATION

1. Where is the headquarters of the Fino Payment Bank located?

- [A] Mumbai
- [B] Ahmedabad
- [C] Cochin
- [D] Chennai

Correct Answer: A [Mumbai]

Notes:

Mumbai-headquartered Fino Payment bank has been included in the category of a scheduled commercial bank, by the Reserve Bank of India. The country's central bank said that it has included Fino Payments Bank in the Second Schedule of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934. With this, the payment bank will have more exposure in treasury and participation in liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) window.

2. The 'Technology and Innovation Report 2021' has been released by which organisation?

- [A] FAO
- [B] UNCTAD
- [C] WTO
- [D] IMF

Correct Answer: B [UNCTAD]

Notes:

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has recently released a report titled 'Technology and Innovation Report 2021'. The UNCTAD Technology and Innovation Report 2021 examines whether modern technologies widen the existing inequalities and create more inequalities. The report shows that with a present USD 350 billion market, the technologies could grow to USD 3.2 trillion by 2025.

3. Which company has made first ever PC using plastic waste in ocean?

- [A] HP
- [B] Dell
- [C] Intel
- [D] Sony

Correct Answer: A [HP]

Notes:

The leading computer manufacturer HP, has made its first ever personal computer using plastic found in oceans. The company's Pavilion 13, Pavilion 14, and Pavilion 15 series of laptops have been manufactured using ocean plastic wastes materials. The company estimates that nearly 92,000 plastic bottles are pulled out of the oceans to manufacture these computers

4. Which Commission is going to introduce a Digital Green Pass?

- [A] UNESCO
- [B] European Commission
- [C] PAHO
- [D] OHSC

Correct Answer: B [European Commission]

Notes:

The European Commission is to introduce a Digital Green Pass on March 17, when a summit focusing on travel and mobility will take place. The Digital Green Pass will have information related to vaccination, test results and statements of recovery. The objective of this initiative is to enable safe opening of Europe and ensure safe movement in the European Union or abroad.

5. 'MaitriSetu' bridge has been constructed over which river?

- [A] Feni
- [B] Ganga
- [C] Brahmaputra
- [D] Kosi

Correct Answer: A [Feni]

Notes:

The 'MaitriSetu' is a 1.9 km long bridge that has been constructed over the river Feni in the state of Tripura. This bridge connects India and Bangladesh. The bridge has been constructed by National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd at a project cost of Rs. 133 Crores.

6. Which body recommends the selection of heads of public sector banks and financial institutions?

- [A] Department of Financial Services
- [B] Department of Economic Affairs
- [C] Banks Board Bureau
- [D] Department of Personnel and Training

Correct Answer: C [Banks Board Bureau]

Notes:

Banks Board Bureau, which started operating from 1 April 2016, recommends selection of heads of public sector banks and financial institutions. Recently, a set of 14 general managers and chief general managers have been appointed as executive directors (ED) in 10 public sector banks. The Banks Board Bureau (BBB) had recommended names of 13 candidates, in September last year.

7. Which country has launched “AsterX” – a military exercise in space?

- [A] USA
- [B] Russia
- [C] France
- [D] Australia

Correct Answer: C [France]

Notes:

France has launched its first military exercise in space named “AsterX”. This exercise is intended to evaluate the country’s ability to defend its space assets and other defense equipment from an attack. This is the first of its kind in Europe and has been code named in memory of the first French satellite.

8. Which Union Ministry is set to unveil the draft e-Commerce Policy?

- [A] Ministry of Electronics and IT
- [B] Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- [C] Ministry of Heavy Industries
- [D] Ministry of Home Affairs

Correct Answer: B [Ministry of Commerce and Industry]

Notes:

The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry is set to unveil the draft e-Commerce Policy. The policy is expected to lay down the principles for data usage in industrial development. It also aims to put in place protective measures to prevent misuse and access of data by unauthorised persons.

9. Who is the first cricketer to score 3,000 runs in T-20 International matches?

- [A] MithaliRaj
- [B] ViratKohli
- [C] Rohit Sharma
- [D] SmritiMandhana

Correct Answer: B [Virat Kohli]

Notes:

India men’s cricket team captain ViratKohli has become the first-ever batsman to score 3,000 runs in T-20 International. ViratKohli achieved the milestone during the second T20-International against England at Ahmedabad. Virat has achieved the feat from 87 T20 international matches. He is followed by New Zealand’s Martin Guptill at second place and Rohit Sharma in 3rd place.

10. The newly formed Indian Oil Corporation- Phinergy JV is to replace lithium with which metal, to make batteries for electric vehicles?

- [A] Silver
- [B] Copper
- [C] Aluminium
- [D] Mercury

Correct Answer: C [Aluminium]

Notes:

State-owned Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) and Israeli battery developer Phinergy formed a joint venture to manufacture ultra-lightweight metal-air batteries for electric vehicles (EVs). The joint venture will replace lithium with aluminium to make batteries that will charge faster and work for a longer time. The first customers of the company are Maruti Suzuki and Ashok Leyland. IOC had acquired a minority stake in Phinergy Ltd last year.

11. Which state shares a 510-kilometer border with Myanmar?

- [A] Assam
- [B] Mizoram
- [C] Manipur
- [D] Meghalaya

Correct Answer: B [Mizoram]

Notes:

Mizoram shares a 510-kilometer border with Myanmar. The Chief Minister of Mizoram Zoramthanga asked the Centre to grant political asylum to “political refugees” from Myanmar. Earlier, the Home Ministry had directed that State governments have no powers to grant refugee status to any foreigner and India is not a signatory to the United Nations Refugee Convention of 1951 and its 1967 Protocol.

12. Which Union Ministry is set to launch Poshan Abhiyan for the Elderly?

- [A] Ministry of Women and Child Development
- [B] Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- [C] Ministry of Health and Family welfare
- [D] Ministry of Rural Development

Correct Answer: B [Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment]

Notes:

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment announced that it aims to launch a Poshan Abhiyan for the Elderly. The Gram Panchayats and Urban Municipalities are the implementing agencies of the Scheme. It will provide nutrition support to the elders, who are not staying in the Old Age Homes and are victims of severe malnutrition.

13. When is the UN “International Day for the Right to the Truth concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims” observed every year?

- [A] March 1
- [B] March 24
- [C] April 1
- [D] April 10

Correct Answer: B [March 24]

Notes:

Every year, 24th March is observed as the “International Day for the Right to the Truth concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims” by the United Nations. This day aims to honour the victims of human rights violations and promote the importance of the right to truth and justice.

14. Which state has recommended a judicial inquiry against central agencies including the Enforcement Directorate?

- [A] Punjab
- [B] Kerala
- [C] Chhattisgarh
- [D] Telangana

Correct Answer: B [Kerala]

Notes:

The Left front government in Kerala has decided to recommend a judicial inquiry against the central agencies, including the Enforcement Directorate. Earlier, the Crime Branch registered an FIR against some ED officials for derailing the probe in the gold smuggling and dollar cases. The state has decided to appoint Justice (Retd) KV Mohan to head the commission.

15. Which armed force has decided to employ retired combat dogs as ‘therapy dogs’?

- [A] Indian Navy
- [B] Indian Army
- [C] Indo Tibetan Border Police
- [D] Indian Coast Guard

Correct Answer: C [Indo Tibetan Border Police]

Notes:

The Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) has decided to utilise the services of retired combat canines / dogs as ‘therapy dogs’. They would help early recovery of personnel undergoing medical treatment. Also, they are to be used in treatment of the soldier’s specially abled children. This is the first time in India, that retired canine elements are being used to serve the soldiers.

16. What is the name of the web portal launched by Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ for NCET web portal?

- [A] MyNEP2020
- [B] EduTech Portal
- [C] NCET Hamara Portal
- [D] CBSE AVISHKAR

Correct Answer: A [MyNEP2020]

Notes:

The Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ has recently launched a portal named “MyNEP2020” of National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) web portal. This portal would be functional from 1st April to 15th May 2021. This portal seeks suggestions from various stake holders for the draft “National Professional Standards for Teachers” (NPST) and “National Mission for Mentoring Program membership” (NMM).

17. ‘CACTus and CIISCO’ are the software launched by the Department of Science and Technology, associated with which field?

- [A] Solar Mission
- [B] Sustainable Agriculture
- [C] Himalayan Ecosystem
- [D] Water Mission

Correct Answer: A [Solar Mission]

Notes:

The Department of Science and Technology announced that Scientists have developed a new technique to track the huge bubbles of gas, which are ejected from the Sun. This new technique will be used in India's first solar mission Aditya-L1. A software named Computer Aided CME Tracking Software (CACTus) and CMEs Identification in Inner Solar Corona (CIISCO) algorithm have been developed.

18. Who has been appointed as the Mission Director of Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)?

- [A] Amit Khare
- [B] Chintan Vaishnav
- [C] Amitabh Khant
- [D] Rajiv Kumar

Correct Answer: B [Chintan Vaishnav]

Notes:

Dr Chintan Vaishnav has been appointed as the Mission director of Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), the flagship initiative under NITI Aayog. He will take over from Ramanathan Ramanan, who has been leading AIM as its first mission director since June 2017. Chintan Vaishnav is a socio-technologist who is currently serving at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), US.

19. Which model of the Reserve Bank of India has been modified to better capture how fiscal and monetary policy interacts with real-economy elements?

- [A] Repo Rate model
- [B] Reverse Repo model
- [C] MCLR Model
- [D] Inflation forecasting model

Correct Answer: D [Inflation forecasting model]

Notes:

The Reserve Bank of India has revised and modified its inflation-forecasting model. This has been done to better capture the relationship between monetary policy and real economic elements. Fiscal-monetary dynamics, fuel pricing, exchange-rate fluctuations etc have been incorporated in the revised model to adjust inflation. This is termed as the Quarterly Projection Model 2.0.

20. What does "C" in NEGVAC stand for?

- [A] Commission
- [B] Constitution
- [C] Corporation
- [D] COVID 19

Correct Answer: D [COVID 19]

Notes:

The National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19 (NEGVAC) was constituted by the Government of India for vaccine procurement, inventory management, vaccine selection, vaccine delivery and tracking mechanism. Recently, the expert group recommended that Covid vaccines manufactured in foreign countries and granted emergency approval by authorities of US, Europe, the UK, Japan or those listed with WHO Emergency Use Listing may be given emergency use approval in India.

21. Which company has delivered the first lot of light bulletproof vehicles to the Indian Air Force, in collaboration with Lockheed Martin?

- [A] BEL
- [B] DRDO
- [C] Ashok Leyland
- [D] Tata Motors

Correct Answer: C [Ashok Leyland]

Notes:

Ashok Leyland, which is a flagship firm of the Hinduja group, has delivered the first lot of light bulletproof vehicles to the Indian Air Force. These vehicles have been designed and developed in collaboration with Lockheed Martin, which is a US based aerospace and defence Technology Company.

22. The Union health ministry advised which position to be used by the Covid patients for better breathing?

- [A] Prone position
- [B] Supine position
- [C] Fetal position
- [D] Recovery position

Correct Answer: A [Prone position]

Notes:

The Union health ministry of India advised 'proning for self-care' for coronavirus patients, as it is considered extremely beneficial for the patients in home isolation with breathing difficulty. Proning is the process of turning a patient with safe motions, from their back onto their abdomen so that the individual is lying face down. This position improves breathing comfort and oxygenation. It is useful when the patient feels difficulty in breathing and the SpO₂ decreases below 94.

23. Which financial services company has launched the 'ConQR' - QR code embedded credit card, along with BOB Financial?

- [A] VISA
- [B] Mastercard
- [C] Rupay
- [D] Maestro

Correct Answer: B [Mastercard]

Notes:

BOB Financial, the credit card arm of Bank of Baroda and Mastercard have jointly launched small business-focussed QR code embedded credit card. Named 'ConQR', it enables cardholders/ SMEs to accept cashless payments using their cards. Small businesses can use QR to make payments as well as receive payments with affordable and simple process.

24. What is the name of community service centre, which is a web-based interface for data related to India's first solar space mission?

- [A] Surya Kiran Support Cell
- [B] Aditya-L1 Support Cell
- [C] Sun Network
- [D] Big Data Centre

Correct Answer: B [Aditya-L1 Support Cell]

Notes:

A dedicated community service centre named Aditya-L1 Support Cell (ALISC) has been set up by Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES). This service centre would bring all data pertaining to the India's first solar space mission onto a single web-based interface. It has been set up in ARIES transit campus at Haldwani – Uttarakhand.

25. Indo-German project 'Pyrasol', which was seen in the news recently, is associated with which field?

[A] Reduce Carbon Emission

[B] Urban Waste Management

[C] Eradication of Malaria

[D] Improve Nutrition in women

Correct Answer: B [Urban Waste Management]

Notes:

Indo-German project 'Pyrasol' was launched to transform urban organic waste into biochar and energy in smart cities. It was awarded to CSIR-CLRI by the Indo-German Science & Technology Centre. It aims for joint processing of Fibrous Organic Waste (FOW) and Sewage Sludge (SS) of Indian smart cities into Biochar. The foundation stone of the Integrated Solar Dryer and Pyrolysis pilot was recently laid at CSIR-CLRI, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

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