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# Current Affairs Questions for CGL Tier 1, IBPS PO Pre, IBPS Clerk, IBPS PO, LIC AAO, RBI Assistant, SBI PO Pre and SBI Clerk Exams

## October GA Quiz 16

Directions: Study the following questions carefully and answers the questions given below:

1. According to report released by the Reserve Bank of India, digital payments increased at a compounded annual growth rate of \_\_\_\_\_ from FY2015-16 to FY19-20.

- A. 41.6%                      B. 36.5%                      C. 55.1%  
D. 72.3%                      E. None of these

2. Which of the following companies has signed Statement of Intent (SOI) with NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission to promote innovation in schools?

- A. BizMania                      B. DGI India                      C. UXReactor  
D. CGI India                      E. None of these

3. Who among the following is going to head the committee constituted by AICTE to formulate the professional Engineers Bill?

- A. P K Sinha                      B. D P Singh                      C. M S Ananth  
D. Anil D. Sahasrabudhe                      E. None of these

4. Which of the following countries has topped Arton Capital's world's most powerful passports index 2020?

- A. Japan                      B. China                      C. Australia  
D. New Zealand                      E. None of these

5. The Competition Commission of India has approved the acquisition of 50% equity share capital of CG Power by which company?

- A. Adani Green Energy Ten Limited                      B. JSW Energy  
C. Torrent Power                      D. Tube Investments of India Limited  
E. None of these

6. 'Suraksha Kavach' is the joint anti-terrorist exercise between Indian army and which state's police?

- A. Tamil Nadu                      B. Gujarat                      C. Maharashtra  
D. West Bengal                      E. None of these

7. Padma Shri Shobha Naidu who passed away recently, was associated with which type of dance form?

- A. Kuchipudi                      B. Bharatanatyam                      C. Kathak  
D. Manipuri                      E. None of these

8. Pernod Ricard India Foundation and WWF India have recently announced a partnership to secure the future of wild elephants in which state?

- A. Kerala                      B. Karnataka                      C. Assam  
D. Manipur                      E. None of these



**9. Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) has received what amount from global investment firm KKR, which has picked up 1.28 per cent stake in its retail arm?**

- A. Rs 6,550 crore                      B. Rs 4,550 crore                      C. Rs 7,550 crore  
D. Rs 5,550 crore                      E. None of these

**10. Which of the following states/UTs has started 'Red Light On Gaadi Off' campaign to cut down on air pollution?**

- A. Maharashtra                      B. Delhi                      C. Chandigarh  
D. Uttar Pradesh                      E. None of these

**11. Which state cabinet has approved the Dr BR Ambedkar SC Post Matric Scholarship Scheme, which will be effective from 2021-22?**

- A. Rajasthan                      B. Haryana                      C. Punjab  
D. Gujarat                      E. None of these

**12. Vedanta Group-backed Hindustan Zinc has recently clarified that the company has signed a non-binding memorandum of understanding (MoU) with \_\_\_\_\_ for setting up zinc smelter plant.**

- A. Rajasthan government                      B. Punjab government                      C. Jharkhand government  
D. Gujarat government                      E. None of these

**13. K Shanmugam is the Chief Secretary of which state who has got 3 month extension?**

- A. Maharashtra                      B. Karnataka                      C. Tamil Nadu  
D. Andhra Pradesh                      E. None of these

**14. The 2020 World Students Day was observed on which of the following dates?**

- A. 12th October                      B. 13th October                      C. 14th October  
D. 15th October                      E. None of these

**15. Global Handwashing Day 2020 was observed on which of the following dates?**

- A. October 11                      B. October 12                      C. October 13  
D. October 14                      E. None of these

**16. International Day of Rural Women 2020 was observed on which of the following dates?**

- A. October 15                      B. October 16                      C. October 11  
D. October 14                      E. None of these

**17. Jnanpith award winner Akkitham Achuthan Namboothiri passed away, was a/an \_\_\_\_\_ .**

- A. Actor                      B. Poet                      C. Sports Person  
D. Economist                      E. None of these

**18. John Richard Reid passed away recently, was former cricket all-rounder of which of the following countries?**

- A. Australia                      B. South Africa                      C. New Zealand  
D. West Indies                      E. None of these



**19. Sooronbai Jeenbekov has recently announced his resignation from the post of President of which country?**

A. Maldives

B. Kyrgyzstan

C. Sudan

D. Cuba

E. None of these

**20. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) extended the tenure which person as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of NTPC limited?**

A. Gurdeep Singh

B. Shashi Shanker

C. Sanjiv Puri

D. Gautam Adani

E. None of these



**Correct answer:**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
C	D	C	D	D	C	A	C	D	B	C	D	C	D	E	A	B	C	B	A

**Explanation:**

**1. Hints to Remember**

**Who:** Digital payments soar

**What:** manifold in 5 years to FY20: RBI

**When:** published on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Concerted efforts by the Reserve Bank to move to a non/less-cash economy by pushing digital payments have begun to pay rich dividends as the volume of such payments has jumped manifold in the past five years, the latest data from the central bank showed.

Between 2015-16 and 2019-20, digital payments have grown at a compounded annual growth rate of 55.1 per cent - from 593.61 crore in the year to March 2016 to 3,434.56 crore in the year to March 2020.

In absolute terms, value has grown from Rs 920.38 lakh crore to Rs 1,623.05 lakh crore during this period, clipping at an annual compounded rate of 15.2 per cent. ([Read more](#))

**2. Hints to Remember**

**Who:** Atal Innovation Mission

**What:** collaborates with CGI to promote Innovation across schools

**When:** published on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog, has signed a Statement of Intent (SOI) with CGI India in order to further rev up the innovation across the schools.

As part of continuous support to AIM's one of its kind Atal Tinkering Lab initiative, AIM and CGI India which is one among the largest IT and business consulting services firms has collaborated for creating a successful and innovative workforce from the ATL schools.

AIM is the flagship programme of the Government of India that promotes a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship across country. Its ATLs are accessed by over 2.5 million school kids in India. ATL is a dedicated innovation workspace set-up at schools where students get access to do-it-yourself (DIY) kits and learn to tinker and create innovative solutions using the latest technologies.

As part of the SOI, CGI has agreed to adopt 100 schools with ATLs across Bangalore, Chennai, Hyderabad and Mumbai to promote and train students. CGI volunteers will coach and mentor students at the ATLs to enhance technical literacy and provide immersive learning experiences to the students through hands-on experience using STEM tools. ([Read more](#))



### 3. Hints to Remember

**Who:** AICTE

**What:** constitutes panel for engineers Bill

**When:** published on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal has informed K. Somaprasad, MP, that the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has constituted a committee for preparing the Professional Engineers Bill.

The committee will function under the chairmanship of M.S. Ananth, former director, IIT Madras, he said in a letter sent to the MP who had raised the matter in Rajya Sabha during a special mention demanding a professional regulatory mechanism in engineering field.

Mr. Somaprasad had pointed out that though there were 10,396 engineering institutes in India approved by the AICTE at present, only few were imparting quality education. ([Read more](#))

### 4. Hints to Remember

**Who:** New Zealand passport

**What:** is now the most powerful in the world; India secures 58th position

**When:** published on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2020

New Zealand passport is now the most powerful in the world as per the recent global rankings. Reportedly, the passport index lists the power of passports in terms of real-time, visa restrictions, factoring in legislative changes, and entry requirements.

Earlier, New Zealand shared the top position with Japan. However, it has now claimed the position solely, and has secured a definitive top spot. In fact, a New Zealand passport can now get you visa-free access to more than 120 countries.

The second spot is shared by passports of Japan, along with Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Ireland, Luxembourg, South Korea, and Australia. The third spot is shared by Sweden, France, Spain, Belgium, Italy, and Finland. Meanwhile, India secured 58th position on the list, and shares the position with Algeria, Jordan, Benin, and Gabon. ([Read more](#))

### 5. Hints to Remember

**Who:** CCI

**What:** approves acquisition of shares in CG Power by Tube Investments

**When:** published on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020



The Competition Commission of India (CCI) approves acquisition of shares in CG Power and Industrial Solutions Limited by Tube Investments of India Limited.

The proposed combination envisages acquisition of more than 50% of the equity share capital of CG Power and Industrial Solutions Limited (CG Power) by Tube Investments of India Limited (TIIL).

TIIL is a listed entity and forms part of the Murugappa group. It has three business verticals viz. engineering, metal formed products and bicycles. It is engaged in the manufacture of a wide range of products for automotive, railway, construction, mining and agriculture industries.[\(Read more\)](#)

## 6. Hints to Remember

**Who:** Agnibaaz Division

**What:** organized a joint exercise for both Indian Army and Maharashtra Police at Lullanagar Pune

**When:** published on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Agnibaaz Division organized a joint exercise for both Indian Army and Maharashtra Police at Lullanagar Pune recently (09 Oct 2020).

The aim of the exercise was to harmonize the drills and procedures of both Army and Police for activating anti-terrorist Quick Reaction Teams (QRTs) to counter any terrorist actions in Pune.

The exercise involved participation of Quick Reaction Teams, Dog Squads and Bomb Disposal Teams of Army as well as Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) and Quick Reaction Team of Maharashtra Police.

A simulated exercise scenario was built up regarding the presence of terrorist in family accommodations at Lullanagar, based on which Quick Reaction Teams of Army initially established the outer cordon.[\(Read more\)](#)

## 7. Hints to Remember

**Who:** Padma Shri awardee and renowned Kuchipudi exponent Shobha Naidu

**What:** passes away at 64

**When:** published on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Renowned Kuchipudi dancer, Dr Shobha Naidu (64), passed away at a private hospital after prolonged illness in the early hours of Wednesday, her family members said.

Her husband Arjun Rao, a retired IAS officer, said she had been suffering from a neurological problem for a long time. She was admitted to the hospital a few days ago, when her condition worsened. She breathed her last at around 1.30 am.





Born in 1956 at Anakapalle in Andhra Pradesh's Visakhapatnam district, Shobha Naidu had been one of the prominent exponents of Kuchipudi dance in the country. A disciple of Kuchipudi maestro Vempati Chinna Satyam, she had started giving stage performance at a very young age. [\(Read more\)](#)

## 8. Hints to Remember

**Who:** Pernod Ricard India Foundation, WWF India

**What:** partner to secure future of wild elephants in Assam

**When:** published on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Pernod Ricard India Foundation and WWF India on Tuesday announced a partnership to secure the future of wild elephants in Assam.

"Pernod Ricard India Foundation and WWF India aim to conserve the Asian elephant through effective human-elephant conflict management in Assam.

"The project will work across 150 villages in Kamrup, Sonitpur, Biswanath, and Nagaon districts and train community members on effective situation management by developing a toolkit and forming anti-depredation squads, which would help them protect their property, crops, and lives," a joint statement said.

## 9. Hints to Remember

**Who:** Reliance's retail arm

**What:** receives Rs 5,550 crore from KKR for 1.28% stake sale

**When:** published on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) on Thursday said it has received Rs 5,550 crore from global investment firm KKR, which has picked up 1.28 per cent stake in its retail arm. Earlier, on September 23, RIL had announced that KKR will make the investment in its subsidiary Reliance Retail Ventures Ltd (RRVL) to buy 1.28 per cent equity stake.

"Reliance Retail Ventures Limited, a subsidiary of the company, today received the subscription amount of Rs 5,550 crore from Alyssum Asia Holdings II Pte. Ltd. (a unit of KKR) and allotted 81,348,479 equity shares to KKR," Reliance Industries said in a regulatory filing. [\(Read more\)](#)

## 10. Hints to Remember

**Who:** Kejriwal

**What:** launches 'Red Light On Gaadi Off' campaign to cut down on air pollution





**When:** published on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal on Thursday launched a new anti-pollution campaign under which people will be encouraged to switch engines of their vehicles off while waiting at traffic signals.

On Thursday, the pollution levels in the city remained in the “very poor” category. “It has been seen that we often do not switch off our vehicle engines while waiting at traffic signals. That is called idling. The ‘Red Light On, Gaadi Off’ campaign will aim to bring a behavioural change in that regard. It will help reduce air pollution,” said Kejriwal in a video press briefing.

He added, “Around 10 million vehicles are registered in Delhi. Even if one million of them actively follow the campaign, experts suggest that it can reduce PM10 emissions by 1.5 tonnes a year and PM2.5 emissions by 0.4 tonnes a year.”([Read more](#))

## 11. Hints to Remember

**Who:** Punjab

**What:** to launch SC scholarship scheme

**When:** published on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020

The Council of Ministers today approved the Dr BR Ambedkar SC Post Matric Scholarship Scheme, which will be effective from 2021-22. It will be formally launched on October 17.

The scheme will come as a relief to nearly 2 lakh SC students pursuing post matric education in government and private educational institutions.

Apart from ensuring 25 per cent admissions in all educational institutions, the income criteria for both parents for a student has been enhanced from Rs 2.50 lakh to Rs 4 lakh. A recommendation in this regard was made by a committee comprising ministers Charanjit Channi, Sadhu Singh Dharamsot, Dr Raj Kumar Verka and Chairman of the Technical Education Board Mohinder Kaypee. ([Read more](#))

## 12. Hints to Remember

**Who:** Hindustan Zinc

**What:** confirms signing of MoU with Gujarat Govt to set up zinc smelter plant; stock gains 3%

**When:** published on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Vedanta Group-backed Hindustan Zinc on Friday clarified that the company has signed a non-binding memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Gujarat government for setting up zinc smelter plant. At around 2.42 pm, the company's stock was trading at Rs212.40 per piece up 2.53% on Sensex.

Clarification was sought from the company over an article that appeared in the Indian Express on October 14, 2020, titled "Zinc producer signs MoU with Gujarat govt to set up plant in Tapi."



Hindustan Zinc clarified today saying, we would like to inform that the company has signed a non-binding memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the government of Gujarat to set-up state-of-the-art Zinc smelter plant with zero liquid discharge in Gujarat.[\(Read more\)](#)

### 13. Hints to Remember

**Who:** Tamil Nadu chief secretary K Shanmugam

**What:** gets 3 month extension

**When:** published on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020

The Centre on Wednesday approved the extension of service for three months to Tamil Nadu Chief Secretary K Shanmugam in view of the COVID-19 situation.

He was scheduled to retire on October 31 but now his term has been extended till January 31, 2021. This is the second extension for Shanmugam who was to retire from service on July 31 this year. He assumed the office of Chief Secretary on July 1, 2019.

The Tamil Nadu government had written to the Centre seeking extension of service for Shanmugam on August 13.[\(Read more\)](#)

### 14. Hints to Remember

**Who:** 2020 World Students Day

**What:** was observed on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020

World Students Day is celebrated every year on October 15. The day marks the birth anniversary of former President of India Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, popularly known as the 'Missile Man of India'.

Dr APJ Abdul Kalam was born on October 15, 1931, at Rameswaram in Tamil Nadu. He served as the 11th President of India from 2002 to 2007. He was not just an aerospace scientist but also a teacher, who worked with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

Kalam was known as 'People's President'. Dr Kalam has inspired millions of people with the philosophy of 'simple living and high thinking.' Thus to honour India's most loved President World Students' Day is celebrated every year.[\(Read more\)](#)

### 15. Hints to Remember

**Who:** Global Handwashing Day 2020

**What:** was observed on October 15



Every year on 15 October Global Handwashing Day is observed. The day is dedicated to increasing awareness and understanding about the importance of handwashing with soap as an effective and affordable way to prevent diseases and save lives. With the COVID-19 pandemic looming large, observing Global Handwashing Day has never been more important. According to the [globalhandwashing.org](http://globalhandwashing.org) the COVID-19 pandemic provides a blunt reminder that one of the best ways to stop the spread of the virus is hand hygiene.

This year's theme, Hand Hygiene for All, highlights the fact that to beat the virus and ensure better health outcomes beyond the pandemic, handwashing with soap is a priority. [\(Read more\)](#)

## 16. Hints to Remember

**Who:** International Day of Rural Women 2020

**What:** was observed on October 15

International day for Rural Women is celebrated globally on October 15 every year to recognise the services of women living in rural areas.

This year the theme for this International Day of Rural Women is "Building rural women's resilience in the wake of COVID-19," to create awareness of these women's struggles, their needs, and their critical and key role in our society. Women and girls are disadvantaged in this pandemic, a problem aggravated in rural areas. Rural women, with a crucial role in agriculture, food security and nutrition, already face struggles in their daily lives. [\(Read more\)](#)

## 17. Hints to Remember

**Who:** Malayalam poet, Jnanpith award winner Akkitham

**What:** dies at 94

**When:** published on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Renowned Malayalam poet and Jnanpith award winner Akkitham Achuthan Namboothiri, who is said to have heralded modernism in Malayalam poetry, died at a private hospital here on Thursday.

He was 94.

A widower, the Mahakavi (great poet), as he was known, leaves two sons and four daughters. Hospital sources said he was admitted for age related ailments a couple of days ago and the end came at 8.10 am. Popularly known as Akkitham, his "Irupatham Noottandinte Ithihasam" (Epic of the 20th Century) is considered as one of the first truly modernist poems in Malayalam literature. A popular verse-"Velicham dukhamanunni, thamasallo sukhapradam", which is roughly translated as "light brings sorrow, my child, darkness is bliss" is like a proverb for Keralites. [\(Read more\)](#)



## 18. Hints to Remember

**Who:** Former New Zealand all-rounder John R Reid

**What:** passes away at 92

**When:** published on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020

John Richard Reid, former New Zealand great and their oldest surviving Test player, has died at the age of 92 in Auckland.

Reid was an exceptional all-rounder, who not only displayed aggression in the batting and bowling aspects of the game, but also impressed with his incredible skills in the field.

He was thought of as a strong rugby player in his youth, but a severe bout of rheumatic fever forced him out of the sport in his teens. [\(Read more\)](#)

## 19. Hints to Remember

**Who:** Kyrgyzstan's President

**What:** Resigns Amid Turmoil Following Disputed Election

**When:** published on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020

The president of the Central Asian nation of Kyrgyzstan resigned Thursday, after 10 days of unrest sparked by disputed parliamentary elections.

As protesters closed in on his residence, Sooronbay Jeenbekov abruptly stepped down, saying nothing was dearer to him than the life of each of his compatriots. [\(Read more\)](#)

## 20. Hints to Remember`

**Who:** Gurdeep Singh, CMD of NTPC

**What:** Gets Extension on His Term Till July 2025

**When:** published on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has extended the tenure of state run NTPC Ltd chairman and managing director, Gurdeep Singh till 31 July 2025, making him one of the longest serving chief at India's largest power generation utility, said two people aware of the development.

This comes in the backdrop of NTPC's pivot towards green energy. The state-run conventional power generation firm is rewriting its playbook, given that India's energy landscape is rapidly evolving. With an installed capacity of 62.91 gigawatts (GW), the NTPC group has 70 power stations across the country.



Singh, a mechanical engineer by training had first assumed the charge of utility's chairman and managing director in February 2016. He has earlier worked at NTPC and also across the power sector in firms such as CLP, CESC, IDFC, Powergen and AES. [\(Read more\)](#)





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