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# THE HINDU EDITORIAL ANALYSIS

- VOCAB
- GRAMMAR
- SPOKEN ENGLISH

9 JUNE 2021 | 7:30 AM

we should  
not learn

THERE ARE  
**NO SHORTCUTS.**  
① WORK HARD, ✓  
② BE PATIENT, ✓  
③ CONSISTENT AND  
**NEVER GIVE UP.**

# TOPICS WE WOULD COVER

- Discussion of articles ✓
- Vocabulary related to the articles
- Check your progress ✓
- **WEDNESDAY SPECIAL-**  
**GRAMMAR AND**  
**ROOTWORDS** ✓

1) genomic (adj)–genetic ✓

2) inter alia (adv)– along with ✓

Covid — variants ✓  
 $V_1 \text{ --- } V_2 \text{ --- } V_3$   
 Changing pattern.

Tone ?  
Informative  
Critical

# ARTICLE 1

## Bring genomic sequencing into the pandemic fight

Emerging variants, with (1) /evidence of higher transmissibility (2)/and immune escape, (3)/demands re-strategised responses(4)

If there is one tool in the COVID-19 pandemic response, which India has been slow in adoption and has used sub-optimally, it is genomic sequencing. An effective (1)/COVID-19 pandemic response(2)/ requires inter alia, keeping (3)/ track of emerging variants (4) (total 10 till now including variants of interest and concern) and then conducting further studies about their transmissibility, immune escape and potential to cause severe disease.

Plural Sub

Singular Subject

in an arrangement of det. Trail

\* S<sub>1</sub> with S<sub>2</sub> Verb Phrase



Tone — retain  
alters.



# Bring genomic sequencing into the pandemic fight

Emerging variants, with evidence of higher transmissibility and immune escape, demand re-strategised responses



CHANDRAKANT LAHARIYA

If there is one tool in the COVID-19 pandemic response, which India has been slow in adoption and has used sub-optimally, it is genomic sequencing. An effective COVID-19 pandemic response requires, *inter alia*, keeping track of emerging variants (total 10 till now including variants of interest and concern) and then conducting further studies about their transmissibility, immune escape and potential to cause severe disease. Therefore, genomic sequencing becomes one of the first steps in this important process. When the success of the United States and the United Kingdom in containing the virus is discussed, a lot of credit is being given to the increasing vaccination coverage; however, it is often forgotten that alongside, these countries have scaled up genomic sequencing, tracked the emerging variants and used that evidence for timely actions. India seems to be faltering on both expanding vaccination coverage and genomic sequencing. Unfortunately, there is not enough attention to scale up genomic sequencing, which as per the original plan was supposed to cover 5% of confirmed COVID-19 cases (<https://bit.ly/3x76vVC>).

Though the procedural steps such as setting up the Indian SARS-CoV2 Genomic Consortia, or INSA-COG (<https://bit.ly/3uWpf8Y>) have been taken, the sequencing has remained at a very low level of a few thousand cases only. It is no surprise that we understand the Delta variant (B.1.617.2, the original lineage B.1.617 was first reported

from Maharashtra, India in October 2020) far less than the Alpha variant (B.1.1.7, first reported from Kent, England in September 2020) reported just a month before Delta. The challenge of insufficient genomic sequencing is further compounded by the pace at which data is being shared, especially when the emergence of strains is so vital in tracking and responding to a pandemic. Reportedly, the Indian government took two weeks, from early March – when research scientists submitted information on new variants – to issue a public announcement on the variants on March 24, 2021 (<https://reut.rs/3cnhLW0>).

## The Delta strain

Amidst this, the release of findings of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-Institute of Genomics; Integrative Biology and National Centre for Disease Control and Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research study; tracking variants of SARS CoV-2 in Delhi; on a pre-print server (yet to be peer reviewed) is a welcome change and provides new insights (<https://bit.ly/3z9jd8j>).

Based upon the analysis of nearly 3,600 genomic sequence samples from November 2020 to April 2021, the authors have reported that by April 2021, the Delta variant became the most circulating variant in Delhi and was found in nearly 60% of the samples analysed; is 50% more transmissible than the Alpha variant (which already had 70% higher transmissibility over the ancestral virus); is likely to be associated with high viral load, as reflected by the declining Ct value (for RT-PCR) over the study period and resulted in a higher proportion of breakthrough infection (people already vaccinated getting infected). Based upon these findings, the authors attribute the Delta variant respon-



sible for the pandemic wave (which was fourth for the city state) in Delhi in April-May 2021. However, the authors did not find any difference in severity of disease or case fatality rate due to the Delta variant and suggested the need for further studies.

This is the first detailed study of SARS CoV-2 genomic sequencing data from any Indian State and provides very useful insight on the behaviour and impact of Delta variants. Around the same time, Public Health England (PHE) reported that the Delta variant has become the most common circulating strain in the U.K., replacing Alpha. The early data from the PHE has interpreted that the Delta variant may be responsible for more severe disease and higher rate of hospitalisation compared to all previous variants. A week before this data, on May 27, the PHE reported that the effectiveness of a single dose of vaccine (amongst symptomatic patients) was lower against the Delta strain. On June 3, medical journal *The Lancet* published research findings from laboratory studies which examined the neutralising capacity of antibodies from individuals vaccinated with two doses of Pfizer-BioNTech, which was nearly 5.8 fold lower against Delta variants and 2.6 fold less against the Alpha variant, when compared with the ancestor virus (<https://bit.ly/2RzisV7>).

Our scientific knowledge and

understanding about emerging strains is going to be the key to deploy public health interventions (vaccines included) to fight the pandemic. The emerging variants – with early evidence of higher transmissibility, immune escape and breakthrough infections – demand continuous re-thinking and re-strategising of the pandemic response by every country. Scientific research would make a difference only if it results in informed policy decisions. There are a few steps Indian policy makers should consider as urgent.

## The steps ahead

First, India needs to scale up genomic sequencing, across all States. There should be sufficient and representative samples collected for genomic sequencing to track district-level trends in circulating variants. More genomic sequencing is needed from large urban agglomerations. A national-level analysis of collated genomic sequencing data should be done on a regular basis and findings shared publicly.

Second, the Indian government needs to invest and support more scientific and operational research on vaccine effectiveness. The data should be analysed on a regular basis and should include various stratifiers such as age, gender and comorbid conditions, etc.

Third, there are early indications of immune escape and reduced vaccine effectiveness against the Delta variant (especially after one shot). India, till the end of May, has administered at least one dose of vaccines to 43% of people older than 60 years and 37% of those older than 45 years. Does it mean the focus of vaccination should be to achieve saturation coverage of the high risk population, with both shots, than one shot to everyone? Does it mandate a need for a reduced gap between

two doses of Covishield for anyone older than 45 years? Should vaccination of those 18-44 years be put on hold till vaccine supply is assured or should it be done only in districts where the Delta strain is predominant? These are the questions which experts need to deliberate and come up with the answers.

The data from genomic sequencing has both policy and operational implications. The State and district officials should engage the epidemiologists in coming up with practical and operational implications and strategies. As Indian States plan to open up after COVID-19 restrictions, the settings with predominantly the Delta variant in circulation (which has higher transmissibility) should aim for far stricter adherence to COVID appropriate behaviour, in public places.

## Use evidence for actions

Continuation of many unproven and ineffective therapies in COVID-19 treatment guidelines is proof that India is not quick in adopting evidence to the practice. There is a need for rapidly expanding genomic sequencing, sharing related data in a timely and transparent manner, and understanding of the impact of new variants on transmissibility, severity and vaccine effectiveness. The only assured way to fight the pandemic is to use scientific evidence to decide policies, modify strategies and take corrective actions. As India prepares for the third wave, increasing genomic sequencing and use of scientific evidence for decision making are not a choice but an absolute essential.

*Dr. Chandrakant Lahariya, a medical epidemiologist, is a public policy and health systems expert and co-author of 'Till We Win: India's Fight Against The COVID-19 Pandemic'*

3) integration (noun) – combination

4) storm over (phrase) – to attack or capture something

5) Insular (adj) – narrow minded

superlative degree, only, any, some, every little etc

used before the antecedent.

in general  
Living - who Non living which

## ARTICLE 2

### State (interplay) <sup>interference</sup> <sup>interplay - way in which two things affect each other</sup> Lakshadweep's <sup>group of islands forming a chain kind of structure</sup> future <sup>isolation</sup>

The archipelago's integration into the mainstream should not lead to emotional alienation and physical damage

The Lakshadweep Administration, (1)/<sup>which</sup> that is now facing a storm over (2)/ its draft rules introduced (3)/ by its Administrator, has now provided a fresh rationale for its proposals (4), shifting from public policy to public purpose ignoring public interest, whereas the strategic issue is the interplay of ecological fragility, insular cultural geography and strategic location. There are two competing visions for its future. NITI Aayog, in 2019, identified water villas and land-based tourism projects as the development issue faced by the islands, suggested zoning based on land acquisition and focused on sustainable development ignoring the fragile environment and culture.



1) **Rakesh** who asked for a few example, is an active student

Living - who.

2) It is **only** Rakesh who can answer this question

that

# State interventions, Lakshadweep's future

The archipelago's integration into the mainstream should not lead to emotional alienation and physical damage



MUKUL SANWAL

The Lakshadweep Administration, which is now facing a storm over its draft rules introduced by its Administrator, has now provided a fresh rationale for its proposals, shifting from public policy to public purpose ignoring public interest, whereas the strategic issue is the interplay of ecological fragility, insular cultural geography and strategic location. There are two competing visions for its future. NITI Aayog, in 2019, identified water villas and land-based tourism projects as the development issue faced by the islands, suggested zoning based on land acquisition and focused on sustainable development ignoring the fragile environment and culture. The Integrated Island Management Plan prepared under the guidance of the Supreme Court and National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management, in 2016, had rejected 'home stays' in view of the strict social customs and strong resistance of the vast majority. It stipulated that development programmes be implemented in consultation with the elected local self-government bodies adhering to scientifically determined plans (<https://bit.ly/3v4sdrO> and <https://bit.ly/2T5q81I>).

**Questionable public purpose**  
The rationale, or thinking, of the appointed Administrator of the

Union Territory, planning for flight loads of tourists, through four controversial proposals – the Lakshadweep Development Authority Regulation, Prevention of Anti-Social Activities Regulation, Lakshadweep Panchayat Regulation and Lakshadweep Animal Preservation Regulation – as “regulations of peace, progress and good government”, has apparently not even been able to convince the Union Home Minister. For the local people, and across the political spectrum, these changes are arbitrary, authoritarian and will destroy the way of life. The Administrator's fresh response is reliance on the power of government or ‘public purpose’ for acquiring private land, unnecessarily opening the door to conflict and the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court in the case of *Dev Sharan vs State of Uttar Pradesh*, in 2011, pointed out that, “Any attempt by the State to acquire land by promoting a public purpose to benefit a particular group of people or to serve any particular interest at the cost of the interest of a large section of people especially of the common people defeats the very concept of public purpose...”

The proposals have been challenged before the High Court of Kerala, which had, in 2019, in a separate case, recognised the special status given to the inhabitants for protecting their ethnic culture and traditions, and to maintain the serene atmosphere in these islands without unnecessary interference by mainlanders.

Lakshadweep is unique. It is an egalitarian coconut tree owning society, with little economic in-



MUSTAFAH K.K.

equality, a very high level of both literacy and unemployment. The Muslim community is designated as Scheduled Tribes. The land area is fully covered with coconut trees, the main agricultural crop, and fisheries is the main economic activity employing a quarter of the working population. Electricity generation is mainly through diesel generators and is expensive and solar electricity has limitations as it requires a large land area. They need employment in the mainland.

## Review tourism strategy

The Lakshadweep Administration has framed the development issue as the development of the islands on the lines of the Maldives, whereas the fact is that it is adopting a very different strategy without any real consultation.

In the Maldives, tourism since the 1970s is centred on water villas in uninhabited islands, ensuring that very few coconut trees are cut with limited home stays introduced in 2015, and few cultural and other conflicts. Second, a ‘one island, one resort’ policy has kept pressure on reefs low due to a wide distribution of the tourist population. Third, the business

model is about giving coral reefs economic significance where rich and healthy reefs are essential for private capital's economic returns. Fourth, tourists come because of the natural beauty and the sheer amount of marine life; resort owners commit to conserve the reefs and divers at the resorts are quick to report illegal activities. Fifth, regulation is limited to ban on reef fishing and collection of corals, having no centrality to land acquisition.

In Lakshadweep, the separation of resorts from villages, including for drinking water, sewage disposal and electricity, gives priority to the fragile ecosystem, socio-economic conditions and well-being of the inhabitants. Groundwater occurs as a thin lens floating over the seawater and is tapped by open wells replenished by the monsoon; all the inhabited islands have a scarcity of drinking water supply. The conventional method of sewage treatment is not feasible because of the coral sandy strata and high water table. The existing water balance is already under stress and inhabited villages cannot accommodate tourism. Why the Ministry of Environment is quiet about this is not clear.

## Political insensitivity

Meanwhile, public interest is being re-defined, shifting the debate from private tourism to urbanisation, both inappropriate for inhabited islands. Despite inhabited islands being defined as ‘cities’ in the Census, they do not need to be developed as ‘smart cities’ with a focus on infrastructure requiring large-scale construction and land acquisition. The irony is that the

Administration has anticipated public opposition and, despite there being no case of murder, robbery or local involvement in smuggling, the new draft legislation seeks preventive detention for ‘anti-social activities’, and covers “cruel person” and “depredator of environment”.

The relation between state and society is being arbitrarily changed, despite the constitutional protection. The powers of the panchayats have been withdrawn on grounds of corruption, an unusual step. The two-child policy for those seeking election to panchayats does not exist in other Union Territories or States. A ban on beef has been instituted, contrary to the practice in Northeast India. Liquor is being permitted for tourists in inhabited islands.

## Innovation needed

Lakshadweep is a uni-district Union Territory with a top-heavy administrative system of more than half-a-dozen All-India Service officers essentially creating work for themselves.

Interventions should be limited to setting boundary conditions for both resorts and development institutions, with income from taxing resorts given to the inhabitants. Active state intervention should be limited to generation of electricity in partnership with public sector units, and water, sewage and health as well as education, technology-enabled employment in call centres and future employment in the mainland.

Mukul Sanwal is a former Indian Administrative Service officer who has been to Lakshadweep in the 1970s



6) procure (verb) — to get possession

7) salutary (adj) — beneficial

# ARTICLE 3

## A necessary reversion

return to the original form  
(*status quo ante*)

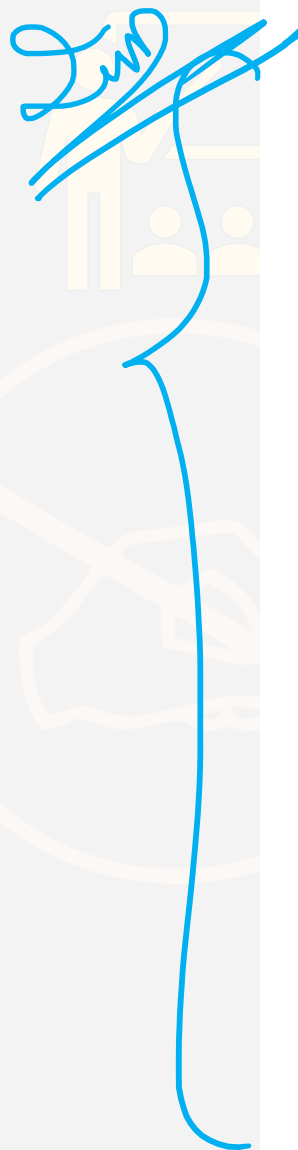
Q4

The changes in (1)/vaccine policy should help (2)/ to improve India's (3)/response to the pandemic(4)

Rule help, make, see, watch etc. — takes Bare Infinitive (V<sub>1</sub>) in active voice.

The Centre has announced a much-needed course correction in India's vaccination policy with Prime Minister Narendra Modi taking the podium to announce that the month-old decision to leave States to procure vaccines on their own for their 18-44 population would be ending in two weeks. States were allowed (1)/ procuring 25% of the vaccines manufactured (2)/ and the Centre 50%, a policy that the (3)/ Supreme Court termed "irrational and arbitrary"(4). The Court's comments have had a salutary effect. From June 21, the Centre will be procuring 75% and States will no longer have to pay vaccine companies for the same. Vaccines will continue to be free for all those who choose to get their shot at government centres.

→ allowed = prefers Infinitive after it.



## A necessary reversion

The changes in vaccine policy should help improve India's response to the pandemic

The Centre has announced a much-needed course correction in India's vaccination policy with Prime Minister Narendra Modi taking the podium to announce that the month-old decision to leave States to procure vaccines on their own for their 18-44 population would be ending in two weeks. States were allowed to procure 25% of the vaccines manufactured and the Centre 50%, a policy that the Supreme Court termed "irrational and arbitrary". The Court's comments have had a salutary effect. From June 21, the Centre will be procuring 75% and States will no longer have to pay vaccine companies for the same. Vaccines will continue to be free for all those who choose to get their shot at government centres. The 25% vaccines that were allotted to private hospitals will continue too, though the service charges that they charge will be capped at ₹150. This ceiling price on vaccines in hospitals will bring predictability and be hugely beneficial to citizens. The Centre, which controlled all supply of vaccines and had negotiated prices and orders with Bharat Biotech and the Serum Institute saw itself desperately short of supply right in the middle of India's deadly second wave. The hospital emergencies worsened the Centre's panic and so it chose a path that no country had undertaken, of devolving the responsibility of buying vaccines to

States. Health has traditionally been within the purview of States, and it stands to reason that they would invariably have to deal with the challenges that vaccination throws up. This includes vaccine hesitancy, the problem of transportation, the availability of trained personnel and the existing capacity at health-care sites. Faced with the intensity of the second wave, States demanded more vaccines and autonomy in deciding how to administer them. What resulted were frequent public spats, with the Centre blaming States for inefficiently using available stocks and yet demanding more.

Though there are substantial numbers of senior citizens yet to be vaccinated, particularly with a second dose, it is clear that the foreseeable demand will be in the sub-45 category. The Government appears more confident of getting a steady stream of supply from Bharat Biotech and the Serum Institute and, in a bold move, has ordered 30 crore doses of an untested vaccine from the Hyderabad-based Biological E. Assuming that a third wave is not in the vicinity, these changes in total could be the beginning of a smoother, more efficient vaccine roll-out. Mr. Modi's announcement was preceded by a truculent defence of himself and his government and passing on blame to a variety of actors, including governments before 2014, for India's very real shortcomings on vaccination. However, the path to positive change is often meandering, and surviving the pandemic and being wiser from mistakes must be the spirit in which these policy changes are adopted.



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## **COMPLETE PRELIMS TARGET BATCH**

***Starts June 23, 2021***

***✓ 10:30 AM To ✓ 12:30 PM***

**LIVE CLASS**

*Time*



**Bilingual**

Check your  
progress





# CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Sy  
And  
heard (S)  
(A)

1) The Minister may have exceeded the powers conferred on him by Parliament.

**Meaning:** bestow on (verb)

**Synonyms:** present with/to, grant to

**Antonyms:** withhold / restrain

1:00

2) The treatment was efficacious in some cases.

**Meaning:** effective (adj)

**Synonyms:** successful, effectual

**Antonyms:** inefficacious / vague

# CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

And

3) His complacency and reprehensible laxity.

~~Meaning:~~ deplorable (adj)

~~Synonyms:~~ disgraceful discreditable Someone

~~Antonyms:~~ creditable / applaudable.

Speak ill of

1:00

4) The memory of the conversation still vexed him.

~~Meaning:~~ annoy (verb)

~~Synonyms:~~ irritate, infuriate

~~Antonyms:~~ mollify

— appease / humour /



# WEDNESDAY SPECIAL- ROOTWORDS



- 1) Kleptocracy.
- 2) Anarchy
- 3) Bureaucracy.
- 4) Aristocracy
- 5) Monarchy

Public comment

# WORD OF THE DAY

CRACY

Power

Government

1) Olig = (few)

→ Oligocracy = Govt. by a selected few.

2) Ger = old age

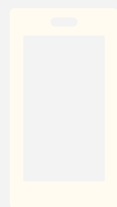
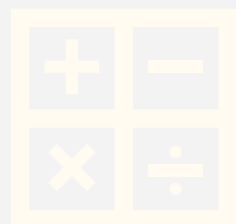
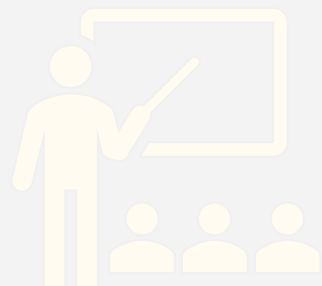
→ Gerontocracy

Govt/Rule by old people.

3) Merit = Deserving wisdom knowledge.

→ Meritocracy

Govt by the chosen ones based on performance.



# HOMework

# Most active students



**Binamra Biswas** 10 hours ago

Task of the day..

1st ✓



Article - 1 ::

Ans. - Despite the need for more data, based on the existing evidence and out of an abundance of caution, we should anticipate that there could be a potential third wave.



Article - 2 ::

Ans. - Perhaps idealism is the most realistic approach at this time, because non-violence is the solution most grounded in reality. As we have seen in the past 70 years, violence has not worked and submission to domination has been intolerable. Non-violence, it would seem, is the only alternative. This is the only strategy that can assure Israelis their securities and Palestinians their state.



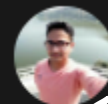
Article - 3 ::

Tone - Analytical.



Article - 4 ::

Tone - Informative.



**Iomesh Rastogi** 12 hours ago

tones of the articles...

3- Analytical

4- informative



**Iomesh Rastogi** 12 hours ago

article 1 - answer

By following the DOTS we conclude that the average number of new infections arising from one infected individual. this number fluctuates over the period of epidemic. to conquer it government has planned a seroprevalence study in June.



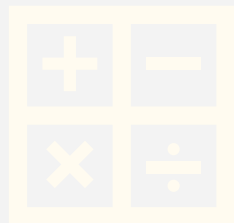
**Iomesh Rastogi** 12 hours ago

Article 2 - answer

first both countries have to understand that they are victims of same fear, prejudice and intolerance. they have to recognise their humanity and feel the same sense of horror, disgust and sorrow that every Palestinians and Israelis feel. both nations share same boat so the clashes on culture and religious traditions are intolerable.



Most  
active  
students



Swapnil NK 17 hours ago (edited)

Article: "Cease the Conflict and build the peace"

Q: What is the only strategy that can assure Israelis their security and Palestinians their state?

Ans: Saying no to violence and a peaceful negotiation can assure Israelis their security and Palestinians their state

Article: Fair Wind

Tone: informative + laudatory

Article: School Ranks

Tone: ~~Analytical~~

X Analytical  
Informative }



Prabhat Kumar 16 hours ago

Q1. What makes us anticipate that there could be a potential third wave?

ANS: - Despite the need for more data, based on the existing evidence and out of an abundance of caution, we should anticipate that there could be a potential third wave.

Article: School ranks :-

TONE: Analytical

Article: Fair wind

TONE: Informative



# UPCOMING ONLINE BATCHES



## JUNE 2021

02 June 2021

08:00 AM to 10:00 AM

**ENGLISH  
FOUNDATION  
COURSE**

03:00 PM to 05:00 PM

**REASONING  
FOUNDATION  
COURSE**

01:00 PM to 03:00 PM

**MATHS  
COMPLETE  
COURSE**

**BILINGUAL**

02 June 2021

10:30 AM to 12:30 PM

**LIVE PREMIUM  
SILVER CARD  
(CGL & CHSL)**

05:30 PM to 07:30 PM

**LIVE PREMIUM  
GREEN CARD  
(BANK-PO & CLERK)**

10:30 AM to 12:30 PM

**UP POLICE  
SI 2021  
(ONLINE LIVE CLASS)**

**BILINGUAL**

09 June 2021

01:00 PM to 03:00 PM

**LIVE PREMIUM  
SILVER CARD  
(CGL & CHSL)**

08:00 AM to 10:00 AM

**LIVE PREMIUM  
GREEN CARD  
(BANK-PO & CLERK)**

**BILINGUAL**

16 June 2021

05:30 PM to 07:30 PM

**LIVE PREMIUM  
SILVER CARD  
(CGL & CHSL)**

03:00 PM to 05:00 PM

**LIVE PREMIUM  
GREEN CARD  
(BANK-PO & CLERK)**

03:00 PM to 05:00 PM

**UP POLICE  
SI 2021  
(ONLINE LIVE CLASS)**

**BILINGUAL**

23 June 2021

08:00 AM to 10:00 AM

**LIVE PREMIUM  
SILVER CARD  
(CGL & CHSL)**

01:00 PM to 03:00 PM

**LIVE PREMIUM  
GREEN CARD  
(BANK-PO & CLERK)**

**BILINGUAL**

30 June 2021

03:00 PM to 05:00 PM

**LIVE PREMIUM  
SILVER CARD  
(CGL & CHSL)**

10:30 AM to 12:30 PM

**LIVE PREMIUM  
GREEN CARD  
(BANK-PO & CLERK)**

07:30 PM to 09:30 PM

**LIVE PREMIUM  
GREEN CARD  
(BANK-PO & CLERK)**

**BILINGUAL**

07:30 PM to 09:30 PM

**LIVE PREMIUM  
GREEN CARD  
(IBPS PO & CLERK)**

**ENGLISH MEDIUM**

07:30 PM to 09:30 PM

**LIVE PREMIUM  
SILVER CARD  
(CGL & CHSL)**

**ENGLISH MEDIUM**



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