

Asia Power index, 2021

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In news– Sydney-based Lowy Institute has released Asia Power index, 2021 recently.

About the index-

- It is an index that **measures resources and influence to rank the relative power of states in the Indo-Pacific, published by the Lowy Institute annually from 2018.**
- The Index ranks 26 countries and territories.
- The index evaluates international power in Asia through 128 indicators across the **following eight thematic measures:**
 - Resources:
 1. Economic capability (17.5%)
 2. Military capability (17.5%)
 3. Resilience (10%)
 4. Future resources (10%)
 - Influence:
 1. Economic relationships (15%)
 2. Defense networks (10%)
 3. Diplomatic influence (10%)
 4. Cultural influence (10%)
- As per the index the **Covid pandemic has driven down** the power of Asian giants like **China and India** in the Indo-Pacific region and has weakened their capacity to shape the external environment.
- It said that **the US managed to expand its power through better diplomacy** and retained its position as the most influential nation in the region.
- **India is the fourth most powerful country in** the region after the US, Japan and China.
- It said that India saw a loss of ranking in critical

parameters like diplomatic influence and economic relationships in the last one year.

- **India also lagged in economic diplomacy, dropping** one place to finish eighth behind Thailand in the economic relationships measure.
- **Japan and India, the two with the most potential to contribute to a regional multipolar order,** lost more ground in 2021 than China.
- Overall, the **USA topped six of the Index's eight measures in 2021,** up from four last year.