

Weekly One-Liner

1-7 Dec 2019



Weekly One Liner Updates
1-7th December 2019
Important Days

1. World Aids Day is being celebrated every year on -- **1st December**.

Note:

- The day raise public awareness about Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS).
- This year, the theme is "Communities Make the Difference".
- The Union Government has developed a seven-year National Strategic Plan from 2017 to 2024 to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal of ending AIDS as a public health threat by 2030.

2. The **Border Security Force (BSF)** celebrated its **55th formation day** on ___ **1st December 2019**.

Note:

- The ceremony was attended by Union Minister of State Affairs Nityanand Rai at BSF headquarters in New Delhi.
- India's Border Security Force (First Line of Defence of Indian Territories) was formed on 1st December 1965, after the Indo-Pak and India-China wars.
- With 186 battalions and over 2.57 lakhs military personnel, the BSF is the largest border security unit in the world.

3. Nagaland state celebrated its 57th formation day on ___ **1st December 2019**.

Note:

- On 1st December 1963, Nagaland became the 16th state of India.
- The Hornbill Festival (Festival of Festivals) is a celebration held every year from 1 to 10 December, in Nagaland, Northeast India.
- The festival organised by Nagaland Government is an annual tourism promotional event to showcase the state's traditional and rich cultural heritage in all its ethnicity, diversity and grandeur.

4. The **International Day** for the Abolition of Slavery organized every year on_ --- **2nd December**.

Note:

- The Day was first celebrated in 1986.
- International days are occasions to educate the public on issues of concern, to mobilize political will and resources to address global problems and to celebrate and reinforce the achievements of humanity.

5. **National Pollution Control Day (NPCD)** is observed every year on --- **2nd December (India)**.

Note:

- The main **objective is to make people aware**, spread awareness in the industries that cause various pollution like water, air, soil, noise and affect the environment and obviously health.
- Several hundred people were killed, and scores of people were maimed for life when the Methyl Isocyanate gas was leaked from the pesticide plant of Union Carbide

6. **International Day of Persons with Disabilities** is observed every year on --- **3rd of December**.

Note:

- The theme for this year is 'Promoting the Participation of Persons with Disabilities and their leadership: Taking Action on the 2030 Development Agenda.
- International Day of Persons with Disabilities is an international observance promoted by the United Nations (UN) since 1992.

7. The **Indian Navy day** is being observed every year on -- 4th December

Note:

- Admiral Karambir Singh is the current Chief of the Naval Staff.
- The Navy day is celebrated to honour the courageous attack on the Karachi harbour during the Indo-Pakistan war (on 4th December 1971) by the Indian Naval Missile boats as well as to reverence all the martyrs of that war.
- The Chhatrapati Shivaji Bhosle (Maratha Emperor) of the 17th century is considered as "Father of the Indian Navy".
- The Indian Navy is commanded by the President of India as Commander-in-Chief. It is the marine branch of the Indian Armed Forces

8. World Soil Day is being observed every year on --- **5th December**.

Note:

- The theme for 2019 World Soil Day is 'Stop Soil Erosion, Save our Future'.

9. The **International Volunteer Day (IVD)** being observed every year on -- **5th December**.

Note:

- The theme of IVD 2019 is 'Volunteer for an inclusive future'
- Volunteering provides opportunities for people, particularly those often excluded, to concretely impact their own lives and play a constructive role in their communities by volunteering their time and skills.

10. The **Armed Forces Flag Day** (Flag Day of India) is being observed annually in India on -- **7th December**.

Note:

- The objective of the day honours the martyrs as well as men and women in uniform, who valiantly fight on our borders to safeguard the country's honour.
- Over the years, it has become a tradition to commemorate this day as an honour to the soldiers, sailors and airmen of India.

New Appointments

1. Who took charge as the new Controller General of Accounts (CGA) --- **Soma Roy Burman**.

Note:

- Soma Roy Burman (1986-batch Indian Civil Accounts Service officer) is the 24th CGA and the 7th woman to hold this coveted position.
- She took over from J P S Chawla.
- CGA works under the Ministry of Finance, Government of India.

2. Who has been appointed as the **first chairman** of the **steering committee** of the **Code for Responsible Lending (CRL)** in micro-credit --- **H R Khan**.

Note:

- The CRL is a self-regulatory step for the micro-credit industry making diverse entities like banks, NBFC-MFIs and NBFCs adhere to standards of customer protection.
- CRL was launched in September by MFIN and Sa-Dhan (RBI-recognised association of MFIs) along with Finance Industry Development Council, an association of NBFCs.

3. Congress leader has been elected as the Speaker of **Maharashtra Legislative Assembly** -- **Nana Patole**.

Note:

- Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) candidate **Kisan Kathore** withdrew his nomination.
- Maharashtra BJP legislature party leader Devendra Fadnavis was named Leader of Opposition in the state Assembly.

4. Who took charge as the **first female President** of the European Commission (EC) _ **Ursula von der Leyen**.

Note:

- Von der Leyen served in the federal government of Germany (from 2005 to 2019) as the longest-serving member of Angela Merkel's cabinet.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has congratulated Ursula von der Leyen.
- Ms Leyen invited Prime Minister Modi to visit Brussels for the next India-EU Summit.

5. The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has unanimously elected new President__ **Masatsugu Asakawa**.

Note:

- Currently, he is the Special Advisor to Japan's Prime Minister and Minister of Finance.
- Masatsugu Asakawa will succeed Takehiko Nakao.
- Mr. Asakawa will assume office as ADB's 10th President on 17th January 2020.

6. **India's Sub Lieutenant** has created history to become the first woman pilot of the Indian Navy _ **Shivangi**.

Note:

- Shivangi was inducted into the Indian Navy under the Short Service Commission Pilot entry scheme.
- She was commissioned into the Navy in June 2018.

7. Who has been appointed as the **Director-General of Ordnance Factories** (DGOF) and chairman of the **Ordnance Factory Board** (OFB) __ **Shri Hari Mohan**.

Note:

- He has made significant contributions in improving the production of Armoured Fighting Vehicles like Ajeya Tanks, MBT Arjun, Bridge Layer and Trawls Tanks.
- He has also made a significant contribution to the modernisation of steel plants of the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) during his tenure in Ministry of Steel & Mines.

8. Indian American business executive promoted as Alphabet Inc. CEO (chief executive officer) __ **Sundar Pichai**.

Note:

- Sundar Pichai will replace Larry Page.
- Earlier, Google co-founders Larry Page and Sergey Brin have announced that they are stepping down from the leadership role of the parent company Alphabet.
- Alphabet and Google no longer need two CEOs and a President and Sundar Pichai will be the CEO of both Google and Alphabet.

9. Who has been elected as **new President** of Mauritius by parliament -- **Pritivirajsing Roopun**

Note:

- He was the former arts and culture minister of Mauritius.
- The motion for his election as new President was presented by Prime Minister, Home Affairs and External Communications, Minister of Defence, Minister for Rodrigues, Outer Islands and Territorial Integrity.

10. **Senior diplomat** has been concurrently accredited as the next **Ambassador of India** to the Republic of Costa Rica -- **Upender Singh Rawat**.

Note:

- Presently Mr Rawat is Ambassador of India to the Republic of Panama.
- Shri Anjani Kumar (IFS:2003) has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Mali.

Important News – India

1. The **Union Government** has launched the **Intensified Mission Indradhanush** (IMI) 2.0 across the country.

Note:

- The government's flagship scheme is aimed at immunizing children under the age of 2 years and pregnant women against eight vaccine-preventable diseases.
- The Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) covers vaccines for diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis, tuberculosis, measles, meningitis and Hepatitis B.
- Vaccines for Japanese encephalitis and Hemophilus influenzae are also being provided in selected areas.
- The IMI 2.0 aims to achieve targets of full immunization coverage in 272 districts spread over 27 States between December 2019 and March 2020.

2. Who has become the **first country** to make the entire process for pilgrims going on Haj completely digital – **India**.

Note:

- This came after the minister signed the bilateral agreement for the pilgrimage with the Saudi Haj Minister in Jeddah.
- The Hajj is an annual Islamic pilgrimage to Mecca, Saudi Arabia, the holiest city for Muslims.

3. India-Sri Lanka joint exercise “MITRA SHAKTI” (7th edition) begins at Aundh Military Station __ **Pune**.

Note:

- It aims to build and promote positive relations between armies of both the countries focusing subunit level training on counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism operations in the urban and rural environment.
- It is conducted annually as part of military diplomacy and interaction between armies of two nations.

4. English author Tony Joseph has won the 12th ‘Shakti Bhatt First Book Prize’ for his book, --- **Early Indians: The Story of Our Ancestors and Where We Came From**.

Note:

- The book tells the tale of the **people of South Asia** through research in six disciplines, including path-breaking new DNA evidence.
 - The award was instituted in 2008 and it carries a cash prize of Rs 2 lakh along with a trophy.
 - Last year, the prize was awarded to Sujatha Gidla for her *Ants Among Elephants: An Untouchable Family And The Making Of Modern India*.
5. Who has revamped mobile number portability (MNP) rules, making the entire process faster and simpler___ **Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)**.
- Note:**
- The TRAI has prescribed three working days timeline for port out requests within a service area.
 - Similarly, the timeline of five working days has been prescribed for requests for port out from one circle to another.
 - The validity of the Unique Porting Code (UPC) has also been brought down to four days instead of a fortnight earlier.
6. The Union Government has launched the 4th round of Regional Connectivity Scheme --- **UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik)**.
- Note:**
- The focus in this round will be North East Region, Hilly States, Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh and Islands.
 - The Civil Aviation Ministry aims to operationalize one thousand routes and more than 100 airports in the next five years.
7. Vice President **M Venkaiah Naidu** has launched the -- **Bharatiya Poshan Anthem**.
- Note:**
- The anthem has been conceptualised by the Ministry of Women and Child Development.
 - It has been written by noted lyricist Prasoon Joshi and sung by Shankar Mahadevan.
8. India and Sweden signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for India-Sweden Healthcare Innovation Centre in --- **New Delhi**.
- Note:**
- The objective of the innovation Centre is to develop an ecosystem of open innovation to which start-ups and the healthcare delivery stakeholders can use to collaborate and address current and future challenges in the healthcare sector.
 - 22 new AIIMS soon to become fully operational, and 157 new Medical Colleges are at the development stage.
9. The **Mumbai Central station of Railways** was conferred with the 'Eat Right Station' certification with **four stars** rating by the ___**Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)**.
- Note:**
- The Mumbai Central Railway Station is the country's first "Eat Right Station."
 - The focus of the movement is on improving the health and well-being of people by ensuring they eat healthily.
 - 'Eat Right India' movement is built on two broad pillars of 'Eat Healthy' and 'Eat Safe'.
10. India's **first maritime museum** coming up at ___**Lothal, Gujarat**.
- Note:**
- Government of India (GoI) & Portugal has decided to cooperate in the setting up of an India's 1st National Maritime Heritage Museum at Lothal in Gujarat.
 - The objective of the museum to boost the underwater or marine archaeology.
11. India gifted a '**Made in India**' Patrol Vessel to the **Maldives National Defence Force (MNDF)**___**KAAMIYAAB**.
- Note:**
- It will be net security provider in the region amid China's increasing forays in the Indian Ocean Region.
 - Meanwhile, 2500 LED streetlights donated by India were installed in Male recently.
 - These streetlights save 80% energy and will result in cost savings of approx. 8.35 lakh MVR per year for Male city.
12. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has set-up a **Space Technology Incubation Centre (S-TIC)** at the National Institute of Technology (NIT) -- **Tiruchirappalli**.
- Note:**
- The centre will work with ISRO on the technical problems at hand related to the future Space programmes and shall provide solutions.

- This S-TIC will cater to the southern region of India, including Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamilnadu, Telangana, the Union Territories of Lakshadweep and Puducherry.

13. A 3-day annual national conference of DGPs and IGP held in -- Pune.

Note:

- The conference is to be held at two venues - Indian Institute of Science, Education and Research in Baner and the Centre for Police Research in Pashan.

14. The Union Minister Piyush Goyal has inaugurated the 3rd edition of National Public Procurement Conclave in __New Delhi.

Note:

- The two-day conclave has been organized by Government e-Marketplace (GeM) in association with Confederation of Indian Industry.
- GeM rests on the three pillars of openness, fairness and inclusiveness and is a symbol of a truly transparent e-marketplace.

15. India's first Ganga centralized aqua lab at Wildlife Institute of India (WII) __Dehradun, Uttarakhand.

Note:

- The aqua labs will be set up under the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG).
- Tributaries of river Ganga such as Gomti, Betwa, Kosi will be scientifically studied and their biological components will be preserved in the lab.

16. India-China joint training exercise has begun at Umroi, Meghalaya ---HAND-IN-HAND 2019.

Note:

- The aim of the exercise is to practice joint planning and conduct of counter-terrorist operations in semi-urban terrain
- The theme of the exercise is 'counter-terrorism under United Nations mandate'.
- It is a 14-day-long training exercise and will see the participation of around 260 military personals

17. Election Commission Set to implement 'Political Parties Registration Tracking Management System' from -- January 2020.

Note:

- The Election Commission of India has decided to implement the "Political Parties Registration Tracking Management System" (PPRTMS) to help the applicants, applying for party registration, to track the progress of his/her application.
- The new guidelines will be effective from 1 January 2020.

Important News – State

1. Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio has inaugurated the Multi-Media Exhibition at World War II museum --- Kisama.

Note:

- For the first time in the history of Hornbill festival, Bureau of Outreach & Communication, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting is organising a Multi-Media Exhibition commemorating the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

2. A three-day Bharatnatyam dance festival with live Carnatic music ensemble held at Chhayanaud auditorium __Rongarpon.

Note:

- It has been Organized by Kolpotoru, artistes Shudha Srimoyee Das, Shammy Akter and Zuairiyah Mouli will be presenting their solo recitals respectively on December 2, 3 and 4.
- Musicians are coming all the way from Bangalore, India for this festival.
- These dancers have performed in various dance festivals in Bangladesh, India and abroad.

3. The Union government and Asian Development Bank (ADB) have signed the 206-million-dollar loan agreement to develop water supply and sewerage infrastructure in 5 cities of --- Tamil Nadu.

Note:

- The project will target four cities namely Ambur, Tiruchirappalli, Tiruppur, Vellore, and Madurai for developing sewage collection and treatment and drainage systems.
- It will also strengthen the capacities of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) for improved service delivery.

- The project will improve the lives of the urban people in the State by providing universal access to water supply and sanitation.
4. Meghalaya Chief Minister **Conrad K Sangma** has inaugurated the first-ever **North East Food Show** at ___ **Polo Grounds, Shillong**.
Note:
- The food show will provide a strong platform and network to different stakeholders.
 - There are different technologies and products relating to the food industry which people are not aware of, and the show will serve as the bridge to connect with one another.
 - It will also be an opportunity for these majors to source products not available anywhere else and to introduce their products to the region
5. Union Minister **Harsimrat Kaur Badal** has inaugurated **Avantee mega Food Park** in -- **Dewas, Madhya Pradesh**.
Note:
- This first food park of central India is spread over 51 acres and has been constructed at a cost of about 150 crore rupees.
 - About 5 thousand local people will get employment from this Mega Food Park.
 - Processing of soyabean, gram, wheat and other grains and vegetables will be done in the park. Warehouses will also be opened in Indore, Ujjain, Dhar and Agar in the next phases.
6. Chief Minister of Odisha **Naveen Patnaik** has launched **e-learning mobile app** for school students ___ **Madhu**.
Note:
- It is an e-learning mobile phone application which will help school students to understand their subjects in a better and most efficient way.
 - Through this app, the students will be able to access the video explanation of the topics they were taught in their classroom.
 - The app is named after 'Utkal Gourab' Madhusudan Das, developed by Ganjam district administration.
7. The Startup **India Global Venture Capital Summit-2019** (2nd edition) held in ___ **Goa**.
Note:
- The theme for Startup India Global Venture Capital Summit 2019 'India Opportunity: Investing in tomorrow together'.
 - The event will be organized by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), in partnership with Government of Goa.
 - The key objectives of the Summit are to show India's opportunity in the sectors of E-Mobility, FinTech, MedTech, Enterprise Software, EdTech, Genomics and Lifesciences.

Important News – World

1. Minister of State for Human Resource Development Mr Sanjay Dhotre has inaugurated the India Pavilion at International Book Fair in ___ **Guadalajara, Mexico**.
Note:
- This fair is the biggest book fair in the Spanish-speaking world.
 - India is the 'Guest of Honour Country' in this book fair and it becomes the first Asian country to participate as 'Guest of Honour' in the Fair.
2. **UN Climate Change Conference** (known as COP25) held in the Spanish capital ___ **Madrid**.
Note:
- COP 25 is an important conference as countries prepare to move from the pre-2020 period under the Kyoto Protocol to the post-2020 period under the Paris Agreement.
 - India's approach will be guided by principles and provisions of UNFCCC and Paris Agreement particularly the principles of Equity and Common But Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capability (CBDR-RC).
 - India has been leading the world in its pursuit of enhanced solar energy capacity through International Solar Alliance (ISA).
3. The leaders of the **North Atlantic Treaty Organization** (NATO) mark the 70th birthday of the organization in --- **London**.
Note:
- The summit includes receptions at Buckingham Palace and Downing Street plus a working session at a golf resort in outer London.

- The twenty -nine members alliance is the world's biggest military alliance.
- 4. Saudi Arabia has taken over the G20 Presidency from --- **Japan**.
Note:
 - It is the first Arab nation to assume the G20 presidency.
 - The Saudi G20 presidency is committed to continuing the work from Osaka and promoting multilateral consensus."
 - The G20 presidency (Saudi Arabia has taken over from Japan) will host world leaders for a global summit in its capital on 21-22 November in 2020.
- 8. The **Global Migration Film Festival (GMFF)** was organized in -- **Dhaka**.
Note:
 - The day-long festival screened 15 films on the theme of migration and its various aspects.
 - The short films and documentaries shown during the festival were selected through a global competition for which 600 entries were received.
 - The GMFF started in 2016 and this year it is being organized across many cities in the world between 28 November to 18 December.

Honor & Awards

1. Former Finance Minister of India was bestowed with the Economic Times (ET) Lifetime Achievement Award for Public Service 2019 __ **Arun Jaitley**.
Note:
 - The award was received by Arun Jaitley's spouse Sangeeta Jaitley.
2. Bollywood actress has been awarded the Danny Kaye Humanitarian Award from UNICEF at the Snowflake Ball in New York __ **Priyanka Chopra**.
Note:
 - Fashion designer Diane von Furstenberg (UNICEF's first Goodwill Ambassador) handed over the award to the actor.
 - Priyanka Chopra has been associated with UNICEF for the past 15 years as a Goodwill Ambassador.
3. Bollywood actor fitness and wellness application has been awarded Google Play's Best Apps of 2019 in the 'Personal Growth' category __ **Shilpa Shetty App**.
Note:
 - Google has announced the winners of Google Play's Best of 2019 awards selecting the best across apps, games, ebooks, movies, and audiobooks of the year.
 - Best App of 2019 - Ablo
 - Best Game of 2019 - Call of Duty: Mobile
 - Google Play User's Choice 2019 Awards
 - App: Video Editor - Glitch Video Effects
 - Game: Call of Duty: Mobile
 - Movie: Marvel Studios' Avengers Endgame
 - Ebook: Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark
4. Tennis legend set to become the first living person in Switzerland to have a coin minted in his honour -- **Roger Federer**.
Note:
 - Swiss mint has announced that it would honour Roger Federer by releasing 20 Swiss francs (USD 20.06) silver commemorative coin in January 2020.
 - This would be for the first time in its history of Swiss mint that it is dedicating a Swiss commemorative coin to a living person.
 - This year's commemorative Swiss coins included the 50th anniversary of the moon landings, the Furka Pass and the roe deer.
5. Andaman and Nicobar Islands police station ranks first in the best police station in Country __ **Aberdeen Police station**.
Note:
 - Balasinor police station in Gujarat secured the second rank while and Ajk Burhanpur in Madhya Pradesh got the 3rd position.

- The ranking of police stations came after Prime Minister Narendra Modi while addressing the DGPs conference in 2015 in Kutch of Gujarat, had directed that parameters should be laid down for grading police stations and assessing their performance based on feedback.
6. Who will be the Plogging Ambassador of India on 50th Fit India Plogging Run __ **Ripu Daman Bevli**.

Note:

- The minister also launched the nation-wide Plogging Ambassador Mission under which, Indians who have been running and cleaning their cities, towns or districts, will be nominated as Plogging Ambassadors of their region.
- Fit India Plogging Run was launched on October 2 which is a unique way of picking up garbage while jogging and was added to the Fit India Movement as a unique way of combining cleanliness and fitness.

Sports News

1. Who clinched gold medals at the senior national wrestling championships in Jalandhar __ **Gurpreet Singh & Sunil Kumar**.

Note:

- Gurpreet defeated Sajjan Bhanwal by a 3-1 margin, in the 77-kilogram category.
- Sunil also managed an easy win over Punjab's Prabhal. The Railway's grappler used all his experience to crush the Punjab wrestler 5-1 in the 87 kg final.

2. Star wrestlers registered convincing wins in the finals to claim gold medals at the Senior Wrestling National Championships in Jalandhar __ **Vinesh Phogat & Sakshi Malik**.

Note:

- Phogat beat Haryana's Anju 7-3 in the 55kg category.
- Olympic bronze medallist Malik defeated Radhika (Haryana) 4-2 in the 62kg category.
- In the 68kg category, Haryana wrestler Anita Sheoran stunned Commonwealth Games bronze medallist Divya Kakran.

3. Who will lead defending champions India in next year's **Under-19 ICC Cricket World Cup** (13th edition) to be held in South Africa __ **Priyam Garg**.

Note:

- India (defending champions) are placed in Group 'A' with first-time qualifier Japan, New Zealand and Sri Lanka.
- Sixteen teams will be taking part in the tournament, split into four groups of four.
- The top two teams from each group will qualify for the Super League stage, with the bottom two teams in each group progressing to the Plate League.

4. President of Nepal **Bidya Devi Bhandari** declared **13th South Asian Games open** in a glittering ceremony at in -- **Kathmandu, Nepal**.

Note:

- Over 2700 athletes from seven South Asian Countries participated in the march past.
- For 10 days biggest sporting event of South Asia, 2715 athletes (India - 487 athletes) compete for 1119 medals including 319 Gold in 26 game categories.
- The closing ceremony will be held on 10th December.

5. Who won the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy 2019-20 --- **Karnataka**.

Note:

- Karnataka lifted the Syed Mushtaq Trophy 2019-20 (Cricket) after a thrilling one-run win over Tamil Nadu in the final.
- This is the second consecutive title win for Karnataka.
- Karnataka rode on skipper Manish Pandey's 60 runs (45-ball) to post a total of 180/5 in 20 overs.

6. Who has become the **fastest cricketer** to score 7,000 Test runs -- **Steve Smith**.

Note:

- Australian Steve Smith had gone past legendary Don Bradman's 73-year-old record to become the fastest batsman to score 7000 runs in just 126 innings.
- He has a mountain to climb to reach Ricky Ponting, who amassed 13,378 runs in his 168 Tests.
- India's Virinder Sehwag is the third fastest in 134 innings.

7. British racing driver has won the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix held in Abu Dhabi UAE --- **Lewis Hamilton**.

Note:

- He has claimed his 84th career victory and 11th in 21 races of this year.

- Max Verstappen of Red Bull finished 2nd in the race while Ferrari's Charles Leclerc finished 3rd in the race.
 - The 2019 Abu Dhabi Grand Prix (formally known as the Formula 1 Etihad Airways Abu Dhabi Grand Prix 2019) was a Formula One motor race held at the Yas Marina Circuit in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.
8. The cricket team has been awarded the **Christopher Martin-Jenkins Spirit** of Cricket award ____ **New Zealand**.
- Note:**
- The team has been awarded for its exemplary show of sportsmanship during the final match of the ICC World Cup at Lord's in July 2019, which it lost under controversial circumstances.
 - Martin-Jenkins was the former MCC president and BBC Test Match Special commentator.
9. Who regained the top spot in the **International Cricket Council's** (ICC) Test rankings in batting ____ **Virat Kohli**.
- Note:**
- Kohli, who had struck a fine 136 in the day-night Kolkata Test against Bangladesh last week, reached 928 points.
 - Australian Steve Smith (923 points) slipped a rung in the latest list issued in Dubai.
 - Among the bowlers, Jasprit Bumrah is the highest-placed Indian at the fifth position.
 - West Indies captain Jason Holder has consolidated his position at the top of the all-rounders' list.

Banking & Financial Awareness

1. Rating Agency **S&P** (Standard & Poor's) has reaffirmed the **Sovereign Credit Rating** of India at BBB with outlook as ____ **stable**.
- Note:**
- India's economy continues to achieve impressive long-term growth rates despite a recent deceleration.
 - India will maintain its sound net external position and fiscal deficit will remain elevated but broadly in line with their forecast.
 - In the report, S&P has maintained a stable outlook for India on the basis of their expectation that over the next two years the growth will remain strong.
2. Neo-banking platform successfully added three more accolades to its bouquet at the India FinTech Awards (IFTA) 2019 --- **Razorpay**.
- Note:**
- The company won awards for the 'Most Innovative Payment Start-up' and 'Most Innovative Fintech Product' for its neo-banking product, RazorpayX.
 - The CEO and Co-founder, Harshil Mathur was also honoured at the event as the 'Fintech Leader of the Year'.
3. Who has launched the 'my: health Woman Suraksha' policy ____ **HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company**.
- Note:**
- My: health Woman Suraksha policy is specially designed to cover women against numerous illnesses and contingencies they may face during their lifetime thereby providing financial aid in case of medical contingencies.
 - This policy will cover various types of cancers and related surgeries, pregnancy and neonatal (newborn baby) complications and assaults and burns.
4. Who launched a credit card in partnership with HDFC Bank exclusively for members of its Best Price Modern Wholesale "B2B Cash & Carry" stores - **Walmart**.
- Note:**
- The card is being supported by Diners Club International which has acceptance of its own membership card in 185 countries.
 - Simultaneously, the card was launched at 26 other Best Price Modern Wholesale Store locations across the country.
5. The **Reserve Bank of India** (RBI) is mulling to **amend regulatory guidelines** for primary ____ **Urban Co-operative Banks**
- Note:**

- According to RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das, the guidelines would primarily relate to exposure norms for single and group/interconnected borrowers, promotion of financial inclusion and priority sector lending.
- These measures are expected to strengthen the resilience and sustainability of UCBs and protect the interest of depositors.
- RBI has also decided to bring UCBs with assets of 500 crore rupees and above under the Central Repository of Information on Large Credits - CRILC reporting framework.

6. The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** released guidelines for Licensing of **Small Finance Banks** in the Private Sector ___ 'on tap'.

Note:

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released guidelines for 'on tap' Licensing of Small Finance Banks in the Private Sector. Now payments banks willing to convert themselves into small finance banks (SFBs) can apply for such a licence only after 5 years of operations.
- The licensing window will be open on-tap. In the guideline, the RBI has double the minimum capital for setting up an SFB to Rs. 200 crores.

7. India's foreign exchange reserves have crossed the – **USD 450 billion**.

Note:

- The foreign exchange reserves have increased due to strong inflows which enabled the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to buy dollars from the market.
- The country's foreign exchange reserves were at \$451.7 billion on December 3, 2019, which is an increase of \$38.8 billion over end-March 2019.

8. Online trucking platform has partnered with private lenders IDFC Bank and Yes Bank to provide FASTags to truck owners free of cost ___ **BlackBuck**.

Note:

- Truck owners can order FASTags on BlackBuck's Boss App, a digital services platform exclusively for truck fleet owners, and it will be delivered at their doorstep free of cost until December 31, 2019.
- The FASTags on BlackBuck Boss app are provided in partnership with IDFC Bank and Yes Bank. The initiative is expected to help over 3 million trucks in India become FASTag compliant.

9. The Reserve Bank of India has announced that all bank customers will be able to transfer funds through NEFT around the clock on all days from ___ **16th December 2019**.

Note:

- The RBI had in August announced that all NEFT transfer facility would be made available 24x7 for customers by December. The first settlement would take place after 00:30 hours on December 16, 2019.

10. Who has signed a MoU with Bank of Baroda for the purpose of creating awareness among investors and other stakeholders__ **Investor Education & Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA)**.

Note:

- The two entities are to collaborate for educating the masses about the dangers of fraudulent investment offers and Ponzi schemes.

11. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced its fifth bi-monthly monetary policy review of the current financial year -- 2019-20.

Note:

- The RBI keep the policy repo rate under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) unchanged at 5.15%.
- Consequently, the reverse repo rate under the LAF remains unchanged at 4.90%.
- The marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate at 5.40%.

Current Policy Rates:

Policy Repo Rate	5.15%
------------------	-------

Reverse Repo Rate	4.90 %
Marginal Standing Facility Rate	5.40%
Bank Rate	5.40%

Obituaries

- Former **Hollywood actress** passed away at **Cedars-Sinai Medical Center** in Los Angeles__ **Shelley Morrison**.

Note:

- Morrison played Rosario Salazar, a maid from El Salvador, in the original run of 'Will & Grace' from 1999 to 2006, becoming part of a cast that won a Screen Actors Guild award for best ensemble in a comedy series.

- Former England **fast bowler** passed away after a short illness __ **Bob Willis**.

Note:

- Bob Willis took 325 wickets in 90 Tests and 80 wickets in 64 ODIs in his career.
- He also captained England in 18 Tests and 29 ODIs.

- The first female writer for 'Star Trek' passed away __ **DC Fontana**.

Note:

- The writer penned numerous stories for the original Star Trek' TV series and developed one of its signature characters, Spock.
- She wrote 1967's 'Journey to Babel', which introduced Spock's father Sarek and mother, Amanda.

Gradeup Green Card

Includes

- 200 + Full-length Mocks
- 5+ Defence Exams Covered
- Tests Available in English & Hindi
- Performance Analysis & All India Rank
- Previous Year Question Papers in Mock Format
- Available on Mobile & Desktop

