

Weekly One Liners

22nd - 30th November 2019



Weekly One Liner Updates 22-30th November 2019

Dear readers,

Weekly One Liner Updates is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the **fourth week** (22-30th) of **November 2019**. This file is important for, **Banking, SSC, Railway & Insurance** exams.

Banking & Financial Awareness

1. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has superseded the board as it "intends to shortly" initiate the process of insolvency___
Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Limited (DHFL)
Note:
 - In January, a web portal accused the DHFL promoters of committing financial frauds by creating shell companies.
 - A total of 32 Indian and foreign banks lent Rs 97,000 crore to DHFL Group companies with many borrower companies having the same addresses, directors, and auditors.
 - DHFL is the fourth-largest Indian housing finance company based on loans outstanding as of March.
2. **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** has doubled the **minimum investment limit** for clients of Portfolio Management Services to ___**Rs 50 lakh**.
Note:
 - Currently, the minimum ticket size for investing in PMS is Rs 25 lakh.
 - The market regulator also increased the net worth requirement for PMS to Rs 5 crore from Rs 2 crore earlier, giving the existing portfolio managers 36 months to meet the enhanced requirement.
 - The regulator has set a deadline of 31 days for listed companies to disclose to the stock exchanges with respect to default.
3. The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** constituted a three-member panel to advise the Administrator of ___**Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Limited (DHFL)**
Note:
 - IDFC First Bank's Non-Executive Chairman Rajiv Lall, ICICI Prudential Life Insurance's Managing Director and Chief Executive N S Kannan and Mutual Funds' Association AMFI's Chief Executive N S Venkatesh would be part of the panel.
 - Earlier, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) superseded DHFL's board and placed the company under an administrator in the wake of governance issues and severe liquidity crisis which had led to a string of defaults.
4. The **Union Cabinet** has extended the term of the **15th Finance Commission** by ___**11 months**.
Note:
 - This will suggest formulae for tax devolution for the 2020-21 fiscal year.
 - It will give recommendations for devolution of taxes and other fiscal matters for five fiscal years, commencing 1 April 2020.
 - The commission's chairman is N. K. Singh, and Full-time members being Ajay Narayan Jha, Ashok Lahiri and Anoop Singh.
5. Fitch group firm India Ratings and Research has projected India's GDP Growth rate for FY20 (2019-20) at___5.6%.
Note:
 - The new projection suggests that second quarter of 2019-20 GDP growth is likely to be 4.7%.
 - Fitch Ratings Inc. is one of the big three credit rating agencies (other two -Moody's and Standard & Poor's).
6. Who has become the first company to touch a market capitalization (m-cap) of Rs 10 lakh crore ___**Reliance Industries Limited (RIL)**.
Note:
 - Its shares jumped to touch a record high of Rs 1,581 per piece.

- A month ago, Reliance Industries became the first Indian company to cross a market capitalisation of Rs 9 lakh crore.
- 7. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has raised concerns over increasing bad loans from the ____ **Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana**.
Note:
 - According to RBI, the percentage of MUDRA loans were at 2.52% in 2017-18 (now raised to 2.89% in 2018-19)
 - It also says that the number of loans being sanctioned under the scheme has increased greatly.
 - According to RBI, out of 182 million MUDRA loans sanctioned, 3.63 million accounts have defaulted.
- 8. The **Reserve Bank of India** (RBI) has imposed a monetary penalty on Corporation Bank for non-compliance with certain provisions of directions ____ **Rs. 1.50 crore**.
Note:
 - This action is based on the deficiencies in regulatory compliance and is not intended to pronounce upon the validity of any transaction or agreement entered into by the bank with its customers.

Obituaries

1. Veteran actor & Shabana Azmi's mother passed away in Mumbai due to age-related illness ____ **Shaukat Kaifi**
Note:
 - Kaifi's husband was the celebrated Urdu poet and film lyricist, Kaifi Azmi.
 - Shaukat Kaifi and Kaifi Azmi were leading lights of the Indian People's Theatre Association (IPTA) and the Progressive Writers Association (IWA), which were the cultural platforms of the Communist Party of India.
2. Former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister & **Bharatiya Janata Party** (BJP) leader passed away ____ **Kailash Joshi**.
Note:
 - Mr. Joshi was called as the 'saint of politics', served as the Madhya Pradesh 9th chief minister (from June 1977 to January 1978).
 - He was MLA for eight terms and served as a member of both the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha.
3. Former West Bengal Minister passed away at a private hospital in Chennai ____ **Kshiti Goswami**.
Note:
 - Goswami was PWD Minister in Jyoti Basu and Buddhadev Bhattacharjee's cabinet in the Left Front Government in the State.
 - He was also the state secretary of the RSP for a few years since 2012.
4. Tamil television and film actor passed away in a private hospital in Chennai ____ **Bala Singh**.
Note:
 - Bala Singh was known for playing villainous roles with much aplomb.
 - He played notable characters in Kamal Haasan's Indian, Ullaasam, Simmarasi, Dheena, Virumaandi, Saamy, Kannathil Muthamittal, Pudhupettai and many more films.
 - Bala was last seen in the serial Aathira as Rajarajan in the year 2016
5. Cartoonist passed away due to cardiac arrest in Noida ____ **Sudhir Dar**.
Note:
 - Sudhir Dar began his career with The Statesman (in 1961), after which he moved to the Hindustan Times.
 - Dar's cartoons were often political in nature, often taking direct shots at the bureaucracy and the general corruption in Indian politics
6. Former Indian Navy Chief Admiral passed away in New Delhi ____ **Sushil Kumar**.
Note:
 - Sushil Kumar was Navy Chief from 1998-2001.
 - He authored a book named "A Prime Minister to Remember- Memories of a Military Chief" which highlighted the key defence-related decisions taken by late former Prime Minister of India Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

- Kumar had credited Vajpayee for turning the strategic tactical loss into a massive victory
7. Australian writer and broadcaster passed away at home in Cambridge ____ **Clive James**.
Note:
 ➤ Clive James moved to England in 1961 and rose to prominence as a literary critic and TV columnist.
 ➤ He went on to deliver wry commentary on international programming in such shows as Clive James On Television.
8. Puducherry Lieutenant Governor **Kiran Bedi** has inaugurated the 47th All India Police Science Congress (AIPSC) in ____ Lucknow.
Note:
 ➤ Union Home Minister Amit Shah will be the chief guest at the valedictory function tomorrow evening.
 ➤ During 6 sessions of the event, police officers, academicians, researchers, judicial and scientific experts will present their papers.
9. Lokpal Chairman Justice (retired) **Pinaki Chandra Ghose** has launched the new logo and motto for the apex anti-corruption ombudsman ____ **Ma Gridhah Kasyasvidhanam**.
Note:
 ➤ Earlier, an open competition was conducted, inviting entries for the logo and the motto.
 ➤ A total of 2,236 entries for the logo and 4,705 entries for the motto were received.
 ➤ A logo designed by Prashant Mishra, a resident of Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh, was finally selected.
10. world-renowned rock climber fell to his death while climbing a sheer rock face in northern Mexico ____ **Brad Gobright**.
Note:
 ➤ Witnesses said the men had finished climbing the 900-meter (2,300-foot) summit and were rappelling back down when the accident occurred.
 ➤ US national Gobright (31-years) and fellow American Aidan Jacobson (26-years) were climbing a route known as the Shining Path in the northern state of Nuevo Leon.
11. Japan Former Prime Minister passed away ____ **Yasuhiro Nakasone**.
Note:
 ➤ Nakasone also broke an unwritten rule on limiting the annual defence budget to 1% of Gross National Product.
 ➤ In 1983, he became the first Japanese Premier to officially visit South Korea, mending fences with a country that Japan had brutally colonized from 1910 to 1945.

Important Days

1. The **International Day for the Elimination of Violence** against Women is being observed every year on ____ **25th November**.
Note:
 ➤ The theme for this year is “**Orange the World: Generation Equality Stands Against Rape**”.
 ➤ The colour orange in the theme symbolizes a better future without the pervasive human rights violation that affects 1 in 3 women and girls all over the globe.
2. Who has celebrated its **71st Raising Day** all over the country ____ **The National Cadet Corps (NCC)**.
Note:
 ➤ The NCC day which is observed every year on the fourth Sunday of November was celebrated with pomp and gaiety.
 ➤ National Cadet Corps is a Tri-Services Organization, comprising the Army, Navy and Air Wing.
3. **Constitution Day (Samvidhan Divas)** is being celebrated across the country ____ **26th November**.
Note:
 ➤ The day mark the adopting of the Indian Constitution by the Constituent Assembly on this day in 1949 (came into force on 26th January in 1950).
 ➤ The Chairman of the drafting committee ‘B. R. Ambedkar’ is widely considered to be the chief architect of the Indian Constitution.
4. The **National Milk Day (NMD)** is being observed every year on ____ **26th November**.
Note:

- The idea of observing National Milk Day was first mooted by Indian Dairy Association (IDA) in 2014 on the lines of World Milk Day that is observed on 1st June every year under the aegis of UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).
 - Dr. Kurien he was conferred with many accolades such as Ramon Magsaysay Award, Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan, Krishi Ratna, World Food Prize, Padma Vibhushan, etc.
5. International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People is being observed on __ **29th November**.
- Note:**
- In 1977, the General Assembly called for the annual observance of 29 November as the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People.
 - On that day, in 1947, the Assembly adopted the resolution on the partition of Palestine.
6. The Day of Remembrance for all Victims of Chemical Warfare being observed on ____ **30 November**.
- Note:**
- This commemoration provides an opportunity to pay tribute to the victims of chemical warfare, as well as to reaffirm the commitment of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) to the elimination of the threat of chemical weapons.

New Appointments

1. **Mahinda Rajapaksa** has been sworn in as the new **Prime minister** of -- **Sri Lanka**.
- Note:**
- Mr. Rajapaksa was sworn in by **President Gotabaya Rajapaksa** (his younger brother).
 - Mr Mahinda Rajapaksa served as two-term President from 2005 to 2015 and was barred from contesting Presidential elections because of the two-term limit.
2. Media mogul has resigned as Chairman of the Zee Entertainment Enterprises' board __ **Subhash Chandra**.
- Note:**
- Mr. Chandra will continue as a non-executive director, which he founded in 1992.
 - Subhash Chandra resigns to comply with a rule mandating that Chairman can't be related to MD & CEO.
 - Zee board appoints six independent directors; all the appointments will have to be approved by the shareholders.
3. Shiv Sena president took oath as the chief minister (18th) of Maharashtra state __ **Uddhav Thackeray**.
- Note:**
- Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari administered the oath ceremony at Shivaji Park in Mumbai.
 - Mr. Thackeray is the third Shiv Sena leader to hold the post after Manohar Joshi (1995–1999) and Narayan Rane (1 Feb- 17 Oct 1999).

Important News – India

1. **Census 2021**(16th) will be conducted in **two phases** (House-listing & Housing Census) during ____ **April to September 2020**.
- Note:**
- The Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) has recommended an amount of Rs. 8754.23 crore for conducting Census 2021 in 16 languages.
 - The reference date for the census will be 1 March 2021.
 - It will be 1st October 2020 for Snow-bound Jammu and Kashmir, some areas of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand.
2. Union Agriculture Minister **Narendra Singh Tomar** has inaugurated an **Agro-based Exhibition** 'Agro-Vision-2019' in -- **Nagpur**.
- Note:**
- Agro-Vision exhibition comprises of National Agri-Exhibition Workshop for farmers and seminars.
 - Small entrepreneurs who are engaged in the production of Agricultural machinery and components will be displaying their products at the stalls.
3. India's Gram Panchayats will be connected with internet, broadband by March 2020 __ **Two lakhs**

Note:

- The union Govt. has set a target to provide internet and broadband connectivity to two lakh Gram Panchayats by March 2019.
- BharatNet project is being implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband and internet connectivity to all 2,50,000 Gram Panchayats in the country.

4. The **Film Bazaar** has been inaugurated by the **Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar** on the sidelines of the golden jubilee edition of the **International Film Festival of India**.

Note:

- It has been organised by the **National Film Development Corporation**.
- The Film Bazaar encourages creative and financial collaboration between the South Asian and International film communities.
- Over the years, films such as Lunch Box, Margarita with A Straw, Chauthi Koot, Qissa, Miss Lovely, Dum Lagake Haisha and Thithi have been through one or more programmes of the Bazaar.

5. The **Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd (GRSE)** has delivered 'ICGS Amrit Kaur', third in the series of five fast patrol vessels (FPV) to **Indian Coast Guard**.

Note:

- ICGS Priyadarshini and ICGS Annie Besant are the first two FPV in the series which has already been delivered to ICGS.
- The last two FPVs namely ICGS Kamla Devi and ICGS Kanaklata Barua will be commissioned shortly, after successful sea trials.

6. The three-day Global Bio-India Summit 2019 held at Aerocity **New Delhi**.

Note:

- It will be one of the largest biotechnology stakeholder conglomerates held in India for the first time.
- It will bring academia, innovators, researchers, start-ups, medium and large companies together on the same platform.

7. As per Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2019 awards, top-ranked state in the list is **Tamil Nadu**.

Note:

- Top-ranked district is Peddapalli (Telangana)

8. The Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) will operate and manage luxury train, Golden Chariot from **March 2020**.

Note:

- The Golden Chariot Train (commenced operations in 2008) travels through one of the famous tourist and picturesque destinations of Karnataka, and Hamp (UNESCO world heritage site).
- It has 18 coaches with 44 guest rooms having a capacity for 84 guests.
- The train promises to offer world-class comfort, state-of-the-art amenities and enhanced and unforgettable experience to passengers.

9. The two days **Conference of Governors and Lieutenant Governors (50th)** held in **New Delhi**.

Note:

- The Conference discussed important thematic issues in various sessions.
- It includes tribal issues, reforms in agriculture, Jal Jeevan Mission, new education policy for higher education and governance for ease of living.

10. The **2019 NuGen Mobility Summit** held at **Manesar, Haryana**.

Note:

- The Theme of 2019 is "Smart & Green Mobility".
- The objective of the summit is to share new ideas, learnings, global experiences, innovations and future technologies trends for the faster adoption, assimilation and development of advanced Automotive Technologies for a smarter and greener future.

11. Union Minister for **Jal Shakti Gajendra Singh Shekhawat** has released a short documentary film on Water Conservation named **SHIKHAR SE PUKAR**.

Note:

- The film has been made to promote 'Jalshakti Abhiyan' and is based on the Journey of an IAS Officer Ravindra Kumar.
- Mr Ravindra Kumar climbed Everest this year to attract the attention of people from the top of the Everest on the serious issue of Water Conservation and stopping Water Pollution.

- It also picturizes the difficulties and challenges in climbing the highest peak in the world.
12. The world's **biggest Islamic Congregation** 'Aalimi Tablighi Ijtimā' held at ___ **Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh**.
Note:
 ➤ More than one million people from 54 countries are expected to attend the congregation which will continue till 25th November.
 ➤ It is a forum for delivering some important religious-spiritual messages to Muslims around the world.
 ➤ The first Alami Tablighi Ijtimā took place in Bhopal in 1944 and only 14 people attended it then.
13. Nitin Gadkari has released a booklet titled 'Convergence of National Highway improvement/construction with water conservation and groundwater recharge' at ___ **Agro Vision-2019, Nagpur**.
Note:
 ➤ The agriculture exhibition, Agro Vision show (4-Day) highlight the scope where the Indian agricultural sector can achieve new height of success.
 ➤ The theme of the 11th Agrovision has been aptly chosen as "Smart Technologies for Sustainable Development"
14. Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** has inaugurated the **two-day Air Force Commanders' Conference** in ___ **New Delhi**.
Note:
 ➤ Top commanders of the Indian Air Force (IAF) is participating in it.
 ➤ They will discuss the operational, maintenance and administrative matters related to Air Force.
15. The **US State Department** cleared the sale of **sophisticated naval guns** worth **USD 1 billion** to ___ **India**.
Note:
 ➤ The MK-45 guns will enhance India's naval capabilities, particularly in the Arabian Sea.
 ➤ The Gun System will provide the capability to conduct anti-surface warfare and anti-air defence missions while enhancing interoperability with the U.S. and other allied forces.
16. **Oxford Dictionaries** has named 2019 Word of the Year ___ **climate emergency**.
Note:
 ➤ It also included 'climate action', 'climate denial', 'eco-anxiety', 'extinction' and 'flight shame'.
 ➤ The word is selected because it shows the increase in usage since 2018.
 ➤ Climate emergency defines as "a situation in which urgent action is required to reduce or halt climate change."
17. **Hardeep Singh Puri** has launched **Credit-linked Subsidy Services Awas Portal (CLAP)** in ___ **New Delhi**.
Note:
 ➤ The portal provides a transparent and robust real-time web-based monitoring system for credit-linked Subsidy Services (CLSS) beneficiaries.
 ➤ Using the portal, a beneficiary can track his application status in real-time.
 ➤ The initiative would also benefit other stakeholders to work in synergy to release subsidy to beneficiaries on time.
18. The Indian Railways has decided to introduce an automatic train protection system in its entire network of ___ **68,000 km route**.
Note:
 ➤ As a pilot project, the system would be implemented on 650 route km of the golden quadrilateral corridor connecting the four metros - Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata.
19. Who has launched India's most sophisticated Earth observation satellite Cartosat-3 and 13 US nanosatellites from Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh ___ **ISRO**.
Note:
 ➤ The launch enhanced India's ability in high-resolution imaging and also reinforce India as a global launch destination for small satellites using its workhorse rocket Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle.
 ➤ According to ISRO, the 1,625 kg Cartosat-3 is an advanced agile satellite to obtain panchromatic and multispectral imagery with an operational life of five years.
20. Minister of State for Defence **Shripad Naik** has inaugurated a two-day seminar "DEFCON INDIA 2019" in ___ **New Delhi**.
Note:
 ➤ The theme of 'DEFCON INDIA 2019' is 'Communications: A Decisive Catalyst for Jointness'.
 ➤ The seminar is devoted to the seminal theme of leveraging communications for achieving jointness between the three services.
21. The Indian Navy will host military drill in March ___ **Milan 2020**.
Note:
 ➤ MILAN stands for 'Multilateral Naval Exercise'.

- 41 nations from South Asia, Southeast Asia, Africa and Europe that share defence cooperation with India have been invited for the drill.
22. The Indian Railways has set up the Institute of Financial Management (IRIFM) ____ **Secunderabad, Telangana.**
Note:
 ➤ The institute was formally inaugurated by Vinod Kumar Yadav (Chairman, Railway Board.
 ➤ The new entity (IRIFM) will impart professional training in the management of railway finances).
 ➤ Rail Vikas Nigam Limited conceived and constructed the project, on a 14-acre campus at a cost of Rs 85 crore.
23. Former Australian cricket umpire Simon Taufel released his book titled ____ **Finding The Gaps.**
Note:
 ➤ Simon Taufel (retired in 2012) is a five-time ICC Umpire of the Year (between 2004 and 2008) and part of ICC's Elite Panel of Umpires.
 ➤ The Australian stood in his first One-Day International in 1999, and his first Test in 2000.
24. A book titled "Hemant Karkare -A Daughter's Memoir" by his daughter ____ **Jui Karkare Navare.**
Note:
 ➤ The book portrays former Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) chief Hemant Karkare's life as a father to Jui Karkare Navare.
 ➤ The book has been published by The Write Place.
 ➤ 18 security personnel lost their lives in the 26/11 terror attacks (11th anniversary).
25. The Centre for **Water Resources Development and Management** (CWRDM), operating under the **Government of Kerala** has launched the ____ **Water 4 Change.**
Note:
 ➤ Under the project, six prominent institutions from the Netherlands will perform long-term research and field-level action on urban water management systems along with Indian scientists.
 ➤ The project will bring solutions for water problems in the cities of Kozhikode, Shimla, Bhuj and Bhopal.
 ➤ The CWRDM was established by the Government of Kerala to cater to the needs of research and development in water management of the state.
26. Mr. 'Nishank' also launched three books which are a collection of stories for Children namely ____ **Kumbh, Garam Pahad and Dilli ki Bulbul (Sindhi edition).**
Note:
 ➤ Books has been authored by a popular writer of children's books and travelogues Dr Anita Bhatnagar Jain (IAS-1985 batch).
 ➤ The three books are a collection of stories for children and have brought out environmental issues and topics like socio-cultural unity & cultural heritage in a very simple and interesting manner.
27. Union Minister **Piyush Goyal** has inaugurated the 2019 Global Exhibition on Services (5th edition) in ____ **Bengaluru, Karnataka.**
Note:
 ➤ The inaugural function was also attended by Chief Minister of Karnataka B. S. Yediyurappa.
 ➤ GES is an annual event established by the Department of Commerce, Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry in association with Services Export Promotion Council (SEPC) and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
28. Who has been awarded honorary fellowship by **Royal Aeronautical Society** (RAeS) of United Kingdom (UK) ____ **G Satheesh Reddy.**
Note:
 ➤ He is the first Indian recipient of the prestigious award in more than 100 years.
 ➤ It is one of the world's highest distinctions for aerospace achievement awarded for only most exceptional contributions to the aerospace profession.
 ➤ It is considered as equivalent to Nobel Prize in the aerospace domain.
29. The sixth Dornier aircraft squadron has been commissioned at Naval Air Enclave- Porbandar on Gujarat coast ____ **Indian Naval Air Squadron 314.**
Note:
 ➤ This squadron will operate the Dornier aircraft, a multi-role SRMR aircraft, with twin turboprop engine manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautical Limited, Kanpur.
30. The NBFC arm of Aditya Birla Capital, became the first company to list its commercial papers on the stock exchanges ____ **Aditya Birla Finance Ltd (ABFL).**
Note:

- The value date of the commercial paper is November 28 and maturity date on February 7, 2020.
31. Union Government has extended the date for making FASTag mandatory for toll payments on National Highways to **15th December 2019**.
- Note:**
- National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has equipped all Fee Plazas with Electronic Toll Collection System and to ease in availability of FASTag.
 - It has also launched MyFASTag APP whereby all information regarding FASTag can be obtained.
32. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced a 400 million-dollar Line of Credit of to **Sri Lanka**.
- Note:**
- India gives priority to its relations with Sri Lanka under its Neighbourhood First' Policy.
33. Hallmarking for Gold jewellery and artefacts will be mandatory from **15th January 2021**.
- Note:**
- More than 26 thousand jewellers have taken the Bureau of Indian Standards, BIS (Hallmarking) registration till now.
 - If anyone is found violating the set rules after 15th January 2021, they may attract a fine of minimum one lakh rupees or five times the value of the items or a jail term of one year.

Important News – State

1. The state Govt. has released the new Land Policy 2019 **Assam**.
- Note:**
- The Land Policy has been prepared by the Revenue and Disaster Management Department after 30 years. (last prepared in 1989).
 - According to Mr. Sonowal, the state government has given a lot of emphasis in preparing the Policy to safeguard the interest of the indigenous people.
2. The **Centre and Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has signed an agreement to extend **91 million US dollar** loan to modernize the **Vijayanagara Channel Irrigation Systems**.
- Note:**
- It prepares river basin management plans in the Krishna river basin.
 - It will help improve irrigation water use efficiency and contribute to improving sustainable water security in Karnataka.
 - The investment programme will help Karnataka's water agencies better draw up and roll out effective river basin management plans.
3. A three-day **Global Buddhist Congregation** has begun at Nagsenvan in **Aurangabad, Maharashtra**.
- Note:**
- Tibetan spiritual leader Dalai Lama has delivered two lectures in the Congregation.
 - Buddhist monks and followers of the religion from across the globe arrived here to attend this Congregation
4. Jitendra Singh inaugurates 'Destination North East' Festival in **Varanasi**.
- Note:**
- All 8 North-East states have been presented at the event along with their handicrafts, handloom, organic products and cultural troupes.
 - The visitors will have live experiences of the artisans and artists from the NE states working on their looms and crafts, performing their songs and dances in the open stage during the day.
5. The state Government will start Arundhati gold scheme by January 2020 for the registered newly married couples **Assam government**.
- Note:**
- Under the scheme, an amount of 30 thousand rupees will be given to the bride to purchase gold.
 - According to Assam Finance minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, the scheme is aimed to promote marriage registrations and prevent under-age marriages in the state.
 - The annual income of the bride and her father should not be more than **5 lakh rupees per year** to get the benefit.
6. The **state Government** has decided to ban the **manufacture, sale and storage** of one-time-use **plastic items** from 1st of January 2019 **Kerala**.
- Note:**

- Plastic carry bags, plastic sheets, cooling films, plastic plates, cups, thermocol and Styrofoam-based items and others will be covered under the ban.
 - A fine of 10,000 rupees will be slapped on manufacturers, wholesalers and small traders who defy the ban.
 - If the ban is violated for the second time, the fine will be 25,000 rupees.
7. Manipur Chief Minister **N. Biren Singh** has inaugurated the week-long **Manipur Sangai Festival 2019** at ___ **Hapta Kangjeibung, Imphal**.
- Note:**
- During the festival, cultural programmes, traditional games, folk dance and classical music will be performed by different communities of the State as well as from other States.
 - The festival will conclude on the 30th of this month.
8. Uttar Pradesh Health & Family Welfare Minister **Jai Pratap Singh** has launched a massive **immunisation campaign** against the ___ **filariasis or Filaria**.
- Note:**
- Under this campaign, more than 65 thousand teams of health workers will distribute medicines to around 6.5 crore people till 10 December.
 - This year, state's 19 districts have been divided in double drug and triple-drug categories in which they will be provided DEC tablet, Albendazole and ivermectin.
9. The state Govt. has announced a relief package **3,795 crore rupees** for farmers who **suffered crop** loss due to unseasonal rains ___ **Gujarat**.
- Note:**
- The relief package will help more than 56 lakh farmers across the state.
 - According to Deputy Chief Minister Nitin Patel, total package (1,641 crore rupees) will be given through a budgetary provision and 2,145 crores under the State Disaster Response Fund.
 - Farmers will get assistance in the range of 4,000 rupees to 13,000 rupees
10. The state Govt has announced that sports persons of the state will get **5% reservation** in government jobs ___ **Madhya Pradesh**.
- Note:**
- The Minister also announced that children from all CBSE, government and private schools would be involved in the Under 16 state-level Olympics.
 - At present, the competition is being organized for children above 16 years of age.
 - It includes 10 sports (hockey, basketball, football, volleyball, kabaddi, kho-kho, athletics, wrestling, badminton and table tennis).
11. Odisha Chief Minister **Naveen Patnaik** has inaugurated the 8th **National Tribal Craft Mela** at State Tribal Museum Complex in ___ **Bhubaneswar**.
- Note:**
- As a part of Odisha Government's '5Ts' initiative, 45 Supplementary Readers prepared in 21 Tribal languages were released simultaneously by CM Patnaik.
 - The objective of the National Tribal Craft Mela is to preserve, promote and popularize traditional tribal art and crafts.
12. Etawah Lion Safari opened for public without the lion segment ___ **Uttar Pradesh**.
- Note:**
- The Safari has been inaugurated by the Uttar Pradesh Forest Minister Dara Singh Chauhan.
 - It is spread in 350 hectares of land and has been developed as an educative tourist destination for children as well as youths
 - It is one of the biggest safari parks in Asia, spread over an area of 350 hectares (860 acres).
 - The Etawah lion safari is the first in India to have a lion breeding centre set up with an aim to develop a research facility on Asiatic lions.
13. The **Uttar Pradesh government** will set up state's **first vulture conservation** and breeding centre in **farenda area** of ___ **Maharajganj district**.
- Note:**
- The new centre will be set up on the lines of Jatayu Conservation Centre at Pinjore in Haryana (first in the country).
 - It would be set up in association with Bombay Natural History Society, a wildlife research organization.
14. The state is set to have **Guru Ghasidas National Park** in Kotiya district as its fourth 'tiger reserve' ___ **Chhattisgarh**.

Note:

- This decision was taken in **11th meeting of Chhattisgarh State** Wildlife Board chaired by Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel.
- At present there are three tiger reserves in state:
- Achanakmar Tiger Reserve in Bilaspur.
- Udanti-Sitanadi Tiger Reserve in Gariaband,
- Indravati Tiger Reserve in Bijapur district.

15. The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has approved the 2nd tranche of USD 150 million for ____ **West Bengal**.

Note:

- The board of ADB approved a loan of USD 300 million to continue a comprehensive series of fiscal reforms in West Bengal to revive the financial health of public sector enterprises.

16. State Government has prohibited manufacture and sale of gutkha, **pan masala** or any others chewing material in the state ____ **Assam**.

Note:

- According to Food Safety commissioner, manufacture, storage, sale, display and transportation of any products containing tobacco or nicotine are banned in the state for one year.

17. Shipping Ministry gave approval for the development of Loktak Inland Waterways improvement project in ____ **Manipur**.

Note:

- The estimated cost of the project is over 25 crore rupees.
- The Loktak Lake is the largest fresh-water lake in Northeast located at Moirang in Manipur.

Important News – World

1. The researchers of the University of Gothenburg in Sweden have developed a potential ____ **Diarrhea vaccine**.

Note:

- Science journal, The Lancet, reports that it has been proved safe and effective in an early-stage clinical trial in Bangladesh.
- The report said that 80 to 100 per cent of the children aged two to five years and 50 to 80 per cent of infants aged six to eleven months, selected for the study responded to all key immunity generating components of the vaccine.

2. There is no vaccine yet for use for children and vaccine development for Diarrhea is a World Health Organization Bangladesh's State minister of cultural affairs **KM Khalid** has inaugurated the **Ocean Dance Festival 2019** in Cox Bazar of ____ **Bangladesh**.

Note:

- **Ocean Dance Festival** is the largest international dance festival of Bangladesh in which more than 200 dancers, choreographers and scholars from 15 countries are participating.
- The theme of this year's festival is 'Bridging the distance' or Durotter Shetubandhan.
- The festival is being organised by the Nrityajog which is the Bangladesh wing of World Dance Alliance (WDA).

3. Maldives' former president has been found guilty of money laundering and sentenced to five years in prison__ **Abdulla Yameen**.

Note:

- The five-judge bench of the criminal court unanimously concurred that Yameen is guilty on the charge of laundering state funds for personal gain.
- He was accused of over 1 million dollars deposit in his bank account by a company that was used to channel resort acquisition fees.

4. Pakistan's Supreme Court granted a six-month conditional extension to Army chief ____ **General Qamar Javed Bajwa**.

Note:

- Current Chief of Army Staff of the Pakistan Army Mr. Bajwa (since 29 November 2016) continue as the Army chief for another six months.
- The Chief of Army Staff is appointed by the Prime Minister of Pakistan and final confirmation by the President of Pakistan.

5. India will set up 12 hi-tech parks at a cost of USD 193 million in ____ **Bangladesh**.

Note:

- According to High Commissioner of India to Bangladesh Riva Ganguly Das, these hi-tech parks will provide training to 30,000 youth of Bangladesh as skilled IT professionals.

Honor & Awards

1. Swedish teen activist has been awarded the International Children's Peace Prize 2019__ **Greta Thunberg**.

Note:

- She has been awarded for her work in the struggle against climate change which has resonated with schoolchildren across the world.
- Cameroonian peace activist Divina Maloum (15-years) also received the International Children's Peace Prize, awarded for her "peaceful struggle" against the Boko Haram jihadist group.

2. Who has occupied the top spot in Fortune's Businessperson of the Year 2019 list __ **Satya Nadella**.

Note:

- The list also includes Ajay Banga (Mastercard CEO) and Jayshree Ullal (Arista head).
- Fortune's annual Businessperson of the Year list features 20 business leaders "who tackled audacious goals, overcame impossible odds, found creative solutions".

3. **Manoj Bajpayee** has bagged the **Best Performance by an Actor Award** at the Asia Pacific Screen Awards for his role in ____ **Bhonsle**.

Note:

- The Hindi feature 'Bhonsle' narrates the story of a police constable (Bajpayee), who tries to fight the struggles of migrants and their battles with the local politicians.
- The movie was directed by Devashish Makhija.
- Ridham Janve won the Young Cinema Award for his directorial debut film The Gold-Laden Sheep and the Sacred Mountain.

4. Former **Hockey player turned bodybuilder** has been crowned Mr Universe 2019 ____ **Chitahresh Natesan**.

Note:

- India secured the second position in the team championship category at the same event.
- Chitahresh Natesan (5 ft 7 inches tall) has become the first Indian to win Mr Universe (Pro) 2019 in the 90kg category.

5. Bangladesh's **Floating school project** (in South Kanarchor) wins the Aga Khan Architecture Award ____ **The Arcadia Education Project**.

Note:

- The project involved the construction of a school in an area which is underwater during the monsoon months.
- The architect (Saif Ul Haque) designed this school which remains on the ground during the dry season and floats on water when the area is submerged in water during monsoon.
- The school also serves as a shelter, a daycare centre and a vocational training centre for the local people

6. Young activist was awarded the prestigious 2019 International Children's Peace Prize along with Cameroon peace campaigner Divina Maloum __ **Greta Thunberg**.

Note:

- Greta Thunberg had initiated 'Fridays for Future' campaign against climate change along with the school children across the world.
- Maloum campaigns for the rights and education of Cameroon children preyed upon by extremist groups.
- The International Children's Peace Prize is awarded annually to a child who has made a significant contribution to advocating children's rights and improving the situation of vulnerable children.

7. Who has been named as **Billboard's 2019 Woman** of the Year__ **Singer Billie Eilish**.

Note:

- Billie Eilish is the youngest artist ever to be named Billboard's Woman of the Year.
- Pop star Taylor Swift will be honoured at Billboard's event, receiving the inaugural Woman of the Decade award.
- Eilish gets her crown during the Billboard Women in Music event on 12th December this year

8. Odia women weightlifter will receive the 27th Ekalabya Award for 2019__ **Jhilli Dalabehera**.

Note:

- Jhilli Dalabehera has brought laurels for both the State and the country in several national and international events.
- She has won two gold, three silver and a bronze medal in different International weightlifting events.

9. Noted writer has been awarded the 28th Bihari Puraskar for 2018 for her novel 'Swapnapash'__ **Manisha Kulshreshtha**.

Note:

- The award is presented annually to writers of Rajasthani origin by the KK Birla Foundation for their outstanding work in Hindi or Rajasthani published in the past 10 years.
- The award named after famous Hindi poet Bihari (Bihari Lal Chaurbe), and carries a cash prize of Rs 2.5 lakh, a citation, and a plaque.

10. Indian journalist is one of several recipients of the 2019 International Press Freedom Awards__ Neha Dixit.

Note:

- Ms. Dixit is a Delhi-based journalist who reports on politics, social justice and gender in South Asia.
- The award is presented by the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ), a non-profit organization whose aim is to enable journalists to work without the fear of reprisal.

11. French film has won the coveted **Golden Peacock Award** at the 50th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa__

Particles**Note:**

- Particles is a 2019 French-Swiss co-produced drama film directed by Blaise Harrison and produced by Estelle Fialon.
- The Golden Peacock Award carries a cash prize of Rs 40 lakhs to be shared equally between the Director and the Producer, Trophy and the citation.
- The IFFI 2019 'Best Director Award' was conferred to Lijo Jose Pellissery for his Malayalam film 'Jallikattu'.
- The Best Director award carries a Silver Peacock trophy, a citation and a cash prize worth Rs 15 lakh.

12. Noted Malayalam poet has been declared the recipient of the 55th Jnanpith Award for the year 2019__ **Akkitham**

Achuthan Namboodiri.**Note:**

- His work includes Irupatham Noottandinte Ithihasam, or the legend of the 20th century, which is considered to have brought modernism into Malayalam poetry.
- Akkitham is the 6th Malayalam writer to be conferred this award.
- Akkitham Achuthan Namboodiri is the recipient of the Padma Shri (in 2017), Kerala Sahitya Academy Award (in 1971), the Sahitya Academy Award (in 1973), and the Vayalar Award (in 2012).

Sports News

1. Who has clinched **6th Davis Cup title** for Spain __ Rafael Nadal.

Note:

- Nadal (33-year) defeated Shapovalov 6-3, 7-6 (9-7) to clinch Spain's 2-0 win against Canada.
- It was the Spanish team's first Davis Cup title since 2011 and their sixth Davis Cup title overall.
- In 2019, Nadal won the French Open and the US Open, made the Australian Open final and reached the Wimbledon semi-final.

2. India's **Lakshya Sen** has won the Scottish Open men's singles title in __ **Glasgow**.

Note:

- Lakshya Sen defeated Ygor Coelho 18-21, 21-18, 21-19 to seal his fourth title in three months.
- Within a month, Lakshya won his first BWF Super 100 title at the Dutch Open, with the second one coming soon after, at the SaarLorLux Open in Germany

3. India concluded its campaign at the **Under-15 Asian Championships** with__ **28 medals (13 gold, 14 silver and a bronze)**.

Note:

- For the first time, India finished on top of the team rankings in freestyle category with 225 points as all 10 wrestlers finished on the podium.
- Kazakhstan finished second while Japan was third.

4. Who clinched double trap titles, winning gold at the 63rd National Shotgun Shooting Championship in New Delhi __ **Sangram Dahiya and Varsha Varman**.

Note:

- In the men's category, Sangram shot 142 out of 150 targets to clinch the gold medal.
- Former world champion Ankur Mittal has won Silver and Prithvi Singh Chahal bronze.

5. Who won the World Athlete of the Year awards __ **Eliud Kipchoge & Dalilah Muhammad**.

Note:

- Kipchoge claimed the prize in Monaco after making history last month when he ran the marathon distance of 42.195 kilometres (26.219 miles) in 1hr 59min 40.2sec.
 - American Muhammad won her award after a magnificent year that saw her set a world record of 52.20 seconds at the US Trials in Iowa in July breaking a record that had stood since 2003.
 - The winners were chosen following a vote shared 50% by World Athletics, 25% by athletes, coaches and journalists and 25% by the general public.
6. Who won the bid to host **2023 Men's Hockey World Cup** __ **India**.
Note:
- Kalinga Hockey Stadium in Bhubaneswar and Biju Patnaik Hockey Stadium Stadium in Rourkela to be the venues for the tournament.
 - Bhubaneswar has hosted some big international sporting events, including the 2017 Asian Athletics Championships, 2017 FIH Hockey World League Final, FIH Men's Series Finals in 2019.
7. Who claimed the gold in compound mixed pair event at the **21st Asian Archery Championships**, in Bangkok__ **Abhishek Verma & Jyothi Surekha Vennam**
Note:
- The Indians defeated Chinese Taipei opponents Yi-Hsuan Chen and Chieh-Luh Chen 158-151 in the final clash.
 - India picked up seven medals including one gold, two silver and four bronze meddles in the event.
 - The Indian archers participated in the tournament as neutral athletes under the World Archery flag due to the suspension of the national federation Archery Association of India (AAI).
8. Who won gold medal in the women's individual recurve event of the 21st Asian Championships in Bangkok__ **Deepika Kumari**.
Note:
- Deepika defeated Ankita 6-0 in the one-sided final.
 - Earlier, the duo had secured an individual Olympic quota for the country by storming into the semi-finals of the event.
9. Sports Ministry has constituted a **13-member expert committee** to review the Draft National Sports Code__ **Justice Mukundakam Sharma**.
Note:
- Former sports persons Gagan Narang, Bhaichung Bhutia, Anju Bobby George and national badminton coach Pulella Gopichand are part of the panel.
 - The panel has been formed to suggest measures to make the Sports Code acceptable to all the stakeholders.
 - It will try to strike a balance between the autonomy of National Sports Federations vis-a-vis need for transparency and autonomy.

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