

# Weekly One-Liners

8-14 December 2019



## Weekly One Liner Updates 8-14th December 2019

### Important Days

1. **International Anti-Corruption Day (IACD)** is being observed annually on \_\_\_ **9th December**.

**Note:**

- This year International Anti-Corruption Day theme is "United Against Corruption".
- Every year USD 1 trillion is paid in bribes while an estimated USD 2.6 trillion are stolen annually through corruption.
- The UN General Assembly (UNGA) had designated 9th December as International Anti-Corruption Day by passing resolution 58/4 of October 31, 2003.

2. The **United Nations General Assembly** established as the International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of this Crime \_\_\_ **9th December**.

**Note:**

- This year marks the 70th anniversary of the Convention.
- The purpose of the day is to raise awareness of the Genocide Convention and its role in combating and preventing the crime of genocide, as defined in the Convention, and to commemorate and honour its victims

3. The **World Human Rights Day** is celebrated annually across the world on \_\_\_ **10 December**.

**Note:**

- The theme for 2019 Human Rights Day is 'Youth Standing Up for Human Rights'.
- This year "Stand Up for Human rights," aim to celebrate the potential of youth as constructive agents of change, amplify their voices, and engage a broad range of global audiences in the promotion and protection of rights.

4. **International Mountain Day** is being observed every year on \_\_\_ **11th December**.

**Note:**

- The theme for IMD-2019 is "Mountains Matter for Youth".
- As per the United Nations, mountains are home to 15% of the world's population and a quarter of the world's animals and plants.

5. International **Universal Health Coverage Day** is being celebrated globally on \_\_\_ **12th December**.

**Note:**

- The Objective of the day is to raise awareness of the need for strong & resilient health systems and universal health coverage with multi-stakeholder partners
- The theme for the 2019 UHC Day is "Keep the promise".

6. International Day of Neutrality is a **United Nations** observance held every year on \_\_\_ **12th December**.

**Note:**

- In international law, a neutral country is a sovereign state that abstains from all participation in a war between other states and maintains an attitude of impartiality toward the belligerents.
- It was officially declared by a UN General Assembly resolution adopted in February 2017 and first observed on December 12 of the same year.

7. **Nation pays tributes** to martyrs of 2001 Parliament terror attacks \_\_\_ **13th December**.

**Note:**

- On this day (13 December 2001), two persons from the Parliament Security Service of the Rajya Sabha, five Delhi Police Personnel and a woman constable of the Central Reserve Police Force, laid down their lives while preventing the entry of terrorists inside the Parliament House Building.

8. The **National energy conservation day** is celebrated every year on \_\_\_ **14th December**.

**Note:**

- The objective of the day to aware people about the importance of energy as well as saving or conserving more energy by using less energy.
- The Energy Conservation Act in India was executed by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) in the year 2001.

### New Appointments

1. Who has been appointed as the Chairman of the **National Stock Exchange (NSE)** \_\_\_ **Girish Chandra Chaturvedi**.

**Note:**

- The appointment comes within weeks of him joining the NSE board as a public interest director.
- Mr. Girish also serves as non-executive chairman of ICICI Bank.
- The National Stock Exchange of India Limited (NSE) (established in 1992) is the leading stock exchange of India, located in Mumbai.

2. Finland's ruling Social Democrats elected as the prime minister (youngest head of govt in the country's history) \_\_ **Sanna Marin (34-years)**.

**Note:**

- Marin will become the world's youngest sitting prime minister.
- The prime minister is Finland's head of government and is formally appointed by the president.

3. The **News Broadcasters Federation** (NBF) has elected President of its governing board\_\_ **Arnab Goswami**.

**Note:**

- The NBF is the body of over 78 news channels (14 languages) of India, representing broadcasters from 25 states.
- The new self-regulatory organization in order to bring in transparent self-regulation on content will be announced by the end of January 2020.

4. Who has been appointed as the next **High Commissioner of India** to the Republic of Ghana\_\_ **C. Sugandh Rajaram**.

**Note:**

- He will replace Birender Singh Yadav.
- Presently, Sugandh Rajaram is the Consul General, Consulate General of India to Southern Germany.

5. Who has been appointed as the chairman of the country's largest commercial enterprise **Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.** (IOCL) \_\_ **Shrikant Madhav Vaidya**.

**Note:**

- Mr. Vaidya will replace Sanjiv Singh who retires as Chairman of the company at the end of June next year.
- Mr. Vaidya is at present the director of Refineries at the IOCL.
- Mr. Vaidya will be first screened by anti-corruption bodies CVC and CBI before his candidature is put before the Cabinet Committee on Appointments headed by Prime Minister for approval.

**Important News – India**

1. Human Library event held in \_\_ **Mysuru**.

**Note:**

- In Karnataka, Human Library, a concept which seeks to replace books with humans, will be held in the City of Palaces, Mysuru.
- The notion of Human Library was initially launched in the year 2000 and currently exists in more than 85 countries, known as The Human Library Organization.

2. The ISRO has launched its radar imaging earth observation satellite, RISAT-2BR1 and nine foreign satellites through Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C48) from \_\_ **Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh**.

**Note:**

- PSLV-C48 (50th mission of PSLV) carried nine customer satellites of Israel (1), Italy(1), Japan (1) and USA(6) as co-passengers.
- RISAT-2BR1 is a radar imaging earth observation satellite weighing about 628 kg, mission life of 5 years.
- These international satellites launched under a commercial arrangement with New Space India Limited.

3. **Union Government** has allowed girls' education in all \_\_ **Sainik School (phased manner)**.

**Note:**

- These 5 schools are Kalikiri (Andhra Pradesh), Kodagu (Karnataka), Ghorakhal (Uttarakhand), Chandrapur (Maharashtra) and Bijapur (Karnataka).
- The co-educational policy adopted on a pilot-basis at Sainik School in Mizoram and now is being implemented across the country.

4. The Citizenship (Amendment) Bill (CAB) passed by the \_\_ **Rajya Sabha**.

**Note:**

- As many as 125 lawmakers voted in the favour of the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill and 99 against it.
  - Now, The Citizenship (Amendment) Bill will go to the President for his assent.
  - Earlier, the citizenship bill passed by the Lok Sabha with a majority of 311 votes against 80.
5. 6th Indian Ocean Dialogue, Delhi Dialogue XI started in \_\_\_\_ **New Delhi**.
- Note:**
- External Affairs Ministry is hosting the 6th Indian Ocean Dialogue and Delhi Dialogue XI at the Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra in New Delhi.
  - For the first time, these two dialogues held consecutively and on similar Indo-Pacific themes.
  - The theme of 6th Indian Ocean Dialogue is "Indo-Pacific: Re-imagining the Indian Ocean through an Expanded Geography".
6. Who has secured its position as the **most valuable listed** company in history \_\_ **Saudi Aramco**.
- Note:**
- The world's biggest contributor to the climate crisis had been valued at more than Apple and Facebook – previously the world's most valuable and fifth-most valuable companies respectively – combined.
  - It is also twice the size of Amazon and Google's parent company, and bigger than the next five listed oil companies put together.
7. The **Archeological Survey of India (ASI)** has identified **138 monuments** in the country as \_\_\_\_ **must-see**.
- Note:**
- Those interested can see the complete list on the "must-see" portal, 'asimustsee.nic.in' of the ASI.
  - The "Must See" list features a number of outstanding Indian monuments and archaeological sites, under the protection of the ASI, including some UNESCO World Heritage Sites as well.
  - There are 38 World Heritage Sites in India (out of which 22 cultural sites) including monuments and caves are under ASI protection.
8. **Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation** Chairman Ehsan Elahi has inaugurated the trial run on \_\_\_\_ **Dhaka-Gangtok & Dhaka-Darjeeling bus routes**.
- Note:**
- Two buses with about 35 passengers including officials of the Road Transport department left Dhaka in the evening.
  - Darjeeling via Siliguri is around 450km and Gangtok about 500km away from Dhaka.
  - Currently, buses operate on five cross-border routes between Bangladesh and India -- Dhaka-Kolkata-Dhaka, Dhaka-Agartala-Dhaka, Dhaka-Sylhet-Shillong-Guwahati-Dhaka, Agartala-Dhaka-Kolkata-Agartala and Dhaka-Khulna-Kolkata-Dhaka.
9. The **bilateral military** exercise between **India and Russia** held in Pune and Goa \_\_ **INDRA 2019**.
- Note:**
- This military exercise is being held under the aegis of the United Nations (UN) aimed at combating terrorism and insurgency.
  - The objective of this exercise is to enhance the coordination of the two armies in maintaining peace and security under the aegis of the United Nations.
10. **Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)** works for setting up a **third rocket launchpad** in the small coastal hamlet of Kulasekharapattinam in \_\_\_\_ **Thuthukudi, Tamil Nadu**.
- Note:**
- The District Administration has appointed a Special Tehsildar along with eight more Tahsildars to speed up the process of land acquisition for the centre.
  - At present, the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has two launch pads at Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh.
11. Food regulator and **Nasscom Foundation** have signed an MoU to develop a technology platform to prevent food wastage and encouraging food donation by developing an app for the purpose \_\_\_\_ **Food Safety and Standards Authority of India**.
- Note:**
- They will develop a common 24x7 helpline number and a mobile application 'Food Donation in India' to donate food to the needy.
  - It will help in facilitating the registration of surplus food distribution organisations.
12. **Maldives government** has signed a contract with a joint venture of **Indian companies** for preparation of project report and development of \_\_\_\_ **Addu**.
- Note:**



- The contract was signed by L&T engineering limited & Lea associates south Asia for the Addu Road and Reclamation Project.
- The scope of the project includes land reclamation, construction of roads and stormwater drainage system in Addu.

### Important News – State

1. President **Ram Nath Kovind** laid the foundation stone to the memorial being built in memory of the \_\_\_\_ **Paika rebellion**.  
**Note:**
  - Paika rebellion is a 200-year-old armed revolt in 1817 against the British East India Company in Odisha.
  - The memorial is seen as an epitome of Odisha's valour and will serve as an inspiration for the youth.
  - The Paika Rebellion memorial which will come up in 10 acres of land will be a source of inspiration for the youths and generations to come
2. Who has formed a squad to **tackle human-wildlife conflicts** in the state \_\_\_\_ **Assam**.  
**Note:**
  - The squad would be stationed at 15 major human-wildlife conflict districts in order to mitigate the problem and to ensure the safety of both humans and wildlife.
  - Currently, The squads will be equipped with 150 numbers of 12 bore pump action guns, 15,000 rounds of rubber bullets and other essential items.
3. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister **YS Jagan Mohan Reddy** has launched a scheme at his camp office at Tadepalli \_\_\_\_ **YSR Law Nestham Scheme**.  
**Note:**
  - Under this scheme, a stipend of Rs 5,000 has been credited in the accounts of beneficiary junior lawyers with the click of a button.
  - Lawyers thanked the Chief Minister for granting Rs 100 crore to Lawyers' Welfare Fund and for giving a stipend of Rs 5,000 to junior lawyers.
4. The Punjab Cabinet headed by Captain **Amarinder Singh** gave in-principle approval to amend the \_\_\_\_ **Punjab Village Common Land (Regulation) Rules, 1964**,  
**Note:**
  - It will create land banks in rural areas to boost industrial development in the city.
  - The Cabinet cleared the proposal to provide special provision for transfer of Shamlat Lands for development of industrial infrastructure projects, to be implemented by Industry Department and Punjab Small Industries & Export Corporation.
5. Haryana Chief Minister **Manohar Lal Khattar** has inaugurated Gurgaon's ambitious \_\_\_\_ **Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC)**.  
**Note:**
  - The ICCC has been designed to serve as the nodal point for all online data related to the Smart City applications, including CCTV-based public safety and adaptive traffic management system, smart parking system, water supply management system, pollution monitoring, property tax management system and asset management system.
  - It has been developed as the nerve centre to provide multifaceted online smart services to people.
6. Manipur Chief Minister **N. Biren Singh** has inaugurated **Imphal to Dimapur** direct flight service at \_\_\_\_ **Imphal Airport**.  
**Note:**
  - The flight service which is being operated by **Alliance Air** would be operational **thrice a week**.
  - This better connectivity would **build deeper connections** among the people of the two states.
7. Union Minister **Harsimrat Kaur Badal** has inaugurated Avantee mega Food Park in \_\_\_\_ **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**.
  - Around **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.
8. Who has inaugurated 2nd **Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS) All India Sports Competition** at TT Nagar Stadium, Bhopal \_\_\_\_ **Kamal Nath**.  
**Note:**

- **Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs)** scheme is one of the flagship interventions of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs introduced in 1997-98 to ensure tribal students get access to quality education in the remote tribal areas.
  - Tribal Folk artists from Madhya Pradesh and other states will perform cultural programmes during the event.
  - As many as 4500 players of 284 Eklavya Schools of 20 states will exhibit their skills in 16 sports disciplines during the competition.
9. Who reclaimed his world heavyweight crown \_\_\_**Anthony Joshua**.
- Note:**
- Joshua produced a **masterclass performance** to regain his IBF, WBA and WBO titles in emphatic fashion at Ad Diriyah in Saudi Arabia.
  - Dominating from the outset, Joshua won by margins of 118-110 on two scorecards with the third judge making it 119-109.
10. A three-day National Tribal Dance Festival will be held in \_\_\_**Raipur, Chhattisgarh**.
- Note:**
- Nearly 1,400 artists belonging to 151 art troupes from 23 states and guest artists from six countries including Sri Lanka, Belarus, Uganda and Bangladesh will participate in this tribal folk cultural programme.
11. The **Inner Line Permit (ILP)** regime has been extended to \_\_\_**Manipur**.
- Note:**
- Manipur is the fourth state after Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Mizoram where the ILP regime has been made applicable.
  - To visit the ILP-regime states, outsiders, including people from other states of the country, need to take permission.
  - Inner Line Permit (ILP) is an official travel document issued by the Government of India to allow inward travel of an Indian citizen into a protected area for a limited period.
12. The Puducherry government unveiled a \_\_\_**start-up policy**.
- Note:**
- The objective of the policy to create a corpus fund of Rs. 10 crores to support the setting up of start-up incubators and to develop co-working spaces.
  - A startup (or start-up) is a company or project initiated by an entrepreneur to seek, effectively develop, and validate a scalable business model.
13. The state Government has approved the creation of fast-track courts in the state to curb crimes against women and children \_\_\_**Andhra Pradesh**.
- Note:**
- It is proposed to complete the case along with the punishment within 21 days of the registration of the FIR.
  - This decision was taken in the cabinet meeting held on under the chairmanship of Chief Minister YS Jaganmohan Reddy.
14. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister **Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy** has inaugurated the Virtual Police Station at \_\_\_**Andhra University**.
- Note:**
- The Virtual Police Station (as a pilot project) has been set up on the suggestion of Andhra University's Vice-Chancellor to make it easy for students to report their grievances.
  - The initiative is expected to help bridge the gap between students and the police department.

### Important News – World

1. Who has been selected as the **world's leading Sports tourism Destination** at the 26th edition of the World Travel Awards (WTA) held in Muscat \_\_\_**Abu Dhabi**.
- Note:**
- This is the seventh time in a row that Abu Dhabi has been selected for this coveted award.
  - Abu Dhabi shined as a premium destination once again for **sports tourism in 2019** after hosting some of the world's top sporting events, such as the **FIFA Club World Cup 2017 and 2018**, the first edition of the UAE Tour, the **Special Olympics World Games 2019**, the AFC Asian Cup 2019, the **UFC 242 showdown** and the Brazil vs South Korea international friendly match.
2. A **joint military exercise** between the ground forces of the **UAE and the United States** commenced in **al-Hamra region (UAE)** \_\_\_**Iron Union 12**.

**Note:**

- Spanning a few weeks, 'Iron Union 12' will see the two sides take part in joint military cooperation to enhance combat and tactical capabilities.
- The joint military exercises of the UAE Armed Forces with fraternal and friendly countries takes place in a manner consistent with latest developments and reflects the UAE Armed Forces' determination to stand firmly against all threats and challenges facing the region

3. The Incredible India Road Show held in \_\_ **Singapore**.**Note:**

- The roadshow by Indian delegation will provide a platform to the stakeholders of India's tourism industry to interact with their Singaporean counterparts.
- Indian delegation comprises 25 tour operators and destination management companies along with representations from the state governments of Punjab and Madhya Pradesh.

4. **Driverless vehicles** are being tested on 5G technology in the \_\_ **United Arab Emirates**.**Note:**

- The Director-General of the UAE's TRA (Telecommunications Regulatory Authority) said they will expand 5G network to important sectors such as transport, health and education.
- According to industry reports, 5G-enabled driverless vehicles will be able to have more efficient and quick communication with each other and traffic infrastructure, which will help to minimize traffic jams and bottlenecks.
- 5G technology can also enable these vehicles to identify traffic conditions and potential dangers quickly.

5. The 2019 **Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI)** has been presented at the ongoing COP25 climate summit in \_\_ **Madrid, Spain**.**Note:**

- For the first time, India has emerged among the top 10 countries with higher climate performance.
- India has been ranked at 9th spot in the index for its Climate Policy performance among 57 countries and the European Union.
- However, the first three places of the ranking remain unoccupied, Sweden (4th) and Denmark (5th).

6. World's **1st fully electric commercial** aircraft takes an inaugural test flight in \_\_ **Canada**.**Note:**

- The world's first fully **electric commercial aircraft** took its inaugural test flight, in Vancouver, Canada.
- The technology would mean significant cost savings for airlines, not to mention zero emissions.
- The range is enough to start the revolution, adding that batteries and electric motors will eventually be developed to power longer flights.

7. The fourth edition of **International Seminar cum Exhibition** on Naval Weapon Systems 'NAVARMS-19' started in \_\_ **New Delhi**.**Note:**

- The two-day event will provide an opportunity for the exchange of ideas, create awareness and identify emerging prospects for Indian/International defence industry in the domain of Naval Weapon Systems.
- The theme of this day is to "Make in India - Fight Category: Opportunities and Imperatives".

8. Who won the General Elections in the UK \_\_ **Boris Johnson**.**Note:**

- The ruling Conservative party led by **Prime Minister** Boris Johnson is all set to win an overall majority in the snap elections.
- Conservative Party gets 365 out of 650 seats in the lower House of Commons.
- In the United Kingdom, 15 Indian-origin politicians have entered the House of Commons in the historic general election.

9. Who will be the country partner at the **17th edition of BioAsia2020** scheduled to be held in Hyderabad, Telangana \_\_ **Switzerland**.**Note:**

- The theme of the summit will be "Today For Tomorrow".
- Switzerland is making innovations in the world of medical healthcare and that many pharmaceutical companies have emerged as the centre of Switzerland.

**Honor & Awards**

1. Who has been crowned **Miss Universe 2019** in a glitzy ceremony held in Atlanta\_\_\_ **Zozibini Tunzi**.

**Note:**

- Madison Anderson (Miss Universe Puerto Rico) was the runner-up in this contest.
- Sofía Aragón (Miss Universe Mexico) is the second runner up.
- Miss Universe is an annual international beauty pageant that is run by the Miss Universe Organization

2. Who has been selected for the **Moortidevi Award** for the year 2019 for his work '**Asti Aur Bhavati**'\_\_ **Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari**.

**Note:**

- 'ASTI AUR BHAVTI' is an autobiographical journey of Dr Tiwari which captures the historical, philosophical and cultural aspects at different temporal settings thus igniting life in subjects like changing values and changes in societal and cultural landscapes.
- Dr. Tiwari has published over eight poetry collections, three travelogues, one diary and several critical essays.
- The award consists of a Saraswati Statue, a Citation Plaque and Cash Award of Rupees Four lacs.

3. Who has been conferred with "**Lifetime Achievement Award**" by the Consumer Electronics and Appliances Manufacturers Association \_\_ **Gulu Mirchandani**.

**Note:**

- He has been awarded for his extensive contribution to the consumer electronics industry.
- Consumer Electronics and Appliances Manufacturers Association (CEAMA) is an all-India organisation in the consumer electronics and durables sector.

4. **Swedish climate** crisis activist has been named **Time Magazine's youngest** ever Person of the Year\_\_ **Greta Thunberg**.

**Note:**

- **Greta Thunberg** is known for her blunt addresses to world leaders.
- She is the youngest individual ever named **Time Person of the Year**.
- Earlier this year, **Thunberg** had been nominated for a **Nobel peace prize 2019**, recognized for her mobilization of students in her "**Fridays for Future**" weekly school strikes.

5. Climate activist has won the Time Person of the Year 2019 -- **Greta Thunberg**.

**Note:**

- Swedish climate crisis activist Greta Thunberg has been named Time Magazine's youngest ever Person of the Year.
- Greta Thunberg is known for her blunt addresses to world leaders.
- She is the youngest individual ever named Time Person of the Year.
- Times Person of the Year (called Man of the Year or Woman of the Year until 1999) is an annual issue of the United States news magazine Time.

6. Odisha won award of Jaga Mission (Odisha Livable Habitat Mission (OLHM) executed for the benefit of millions of urban-poor people living in slums \_\_**World Habitat Award**

**Note:**

- The Jaga is a society under Housing and Urban Development Department (HUDD), Government of Odisha.
- The OLHM-JAGA aims at transforming the slums into livable habitats and under which 52,682 urban poor families living in the slums have been granted land rights certificate.

7. Who has been appointed as its new brand ambassador of PUMA for three -years \_\_**Sunil Chhetri**.

**Note:**

- With this deal, Chhetri has joined the brand's roster of global players like Antoine Griezmann, Romelu Lukaku, Luis Suarez and Sergio Aguero among others.
- Sunil Chhetri is the captain of the Indian national football team and Bengaluru Football Club.
- Sunil Chhetri was also conferred with the Arjuna award in 2011 and Padma Shri in 2019.

8. Who has been appointed as brand ambassador for its flagship Pepsi brand in India\_\_ **Salman Khan**.

**Note:**

- The commercial will be launched in 2020 and will take up the "SWAG" themed campaign which was launched in the summer of 2019.
- Previously Salman Khan was the brand ambassador of Pepsico's rival company Coca-Cola's popular ThumsUp and also as the brand ambassador of Parle Agro-backed soft drink Appy Fizz.
- Previously, He also endorsed PepsiCo's Mountain Dew drink.

9. Bollywood actor has been appointed as the Brand Ambassador of National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) \_\_ **Suniel Shetty**.

**Note:**

- The appointment took place in the presence of Kiren Rijiju, Minister of State (MoS) for Youth Affairs and Sports.



- The National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) is the national organisation responsible for promoting, coordinating, and monitoring the doping control program in sports in all its forms in India.
10. An **application developed by Blue Sky Analytics** won the **Copernicus Masters award**, under the **social entrepreneurship** category \_\_ **Zuri app**.  
**Note:**
- The award has been given by the Earth observation program managed by the European Commission in partnership with the European Space Agency (ESA).
  - The startup is working in utilizing satellite data to solve environmental problems and using its AI (artificial intelligence)- based tool to measure and monitor farm fires and stubble burning across India.
11. Who has been ranked **34th by Forbes** in 'The World's 100 Most Powerful Women' \_\_ **Nirmala Sitharaman**.  
**Note:**
- Roshni Nadar Malhotra (HCL Corporation CEO and Executive Director) and Kiran Mazumdar Shaw (Biocon Founder) are two other Indians who also featured in the top 100 list.
12. Indian cricketer has been named as the **Brand Ambassador of La Liga** in India \_\_ **Rohit Sharma**.  
**Note:**
- With this, star cricketer Rohit Sharma has become the first non-footballer in the world to be named one of La Liga's global ambassadors.
  - La Liga is the top professional football division of the Spanish football league system.
  - A brand ambassador is a person who is hired by an organization or company to represent a brand in a positive light and by doing so help to increase brand awareness and sales.

### Sports News

1. **Danish player** announced her retirement **from tennis** after Australian Open 2020\_\_ **Caroline Wozniacki**.  
**Note:**
  - The Dane (29-years) won her only Grand Slam singles title in Melbourne last year in her third major final.
2. Bangladesh Prime Minister **Sheikh Hasina** has inaugurated a **Premier League at Mirpur's Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium** \_\_ **Bangabandhu Bangladesh Premier League**.  
**Note:**
  - This is a special edition of Bangladesh Premier League **Twenty20 cricket tournament** (BBPL) named after Bangabandhu **Sheikh Mujibur Rahman** to celebrate his 100th birth anniversary.
  - A total of 7 teams are participating in the BBPL event, play 46 matches including the 4 playoff matches
  - This is the first time that the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) is organizing the Premier League matches without involving any franchise.
3. Russia has been handed a **four-year ban from all major sporting** events by the \_\_ **World Anti-Doping Agency (Wada)**.  
**Note:**
  - Wada's executive committee made the unanimous decision to impose the ban on Russia in a meeting in Lausanne, Switzerland.
  - It comes after Russia's Anti-Doping Agency (Rusada) was declared non-compliant for manipulating laboratory data handed over to investigators in January 2019.
4. Veteran opener has become the **first player in Indian cricket** to feature in 150 Ranji matches\_\_ **Wasim Jaffer**.  
**Note:**
  - Overall, Jaffer has played 253 first-class games, scoring 19,147 runs at an average of 51.19.
  - He has scored 57 hundred and 88 fifties with 314 being his highest score.
  - Jaffer is followed by batsman Devendra Bundela (145 matches) and Amol Muzumdar (136 matches).
5. The **2019 South Asian Games**, (officially, XIII South Asian Games) was held in \_\_ **Nepal**.  
**Note:**
  - Thousands of sports lovers witnessed gala closing ceremony held at historic Dasaratha Rangshala in Kathmandu.
  - India finished the 13th edition of the tournament way ahead of other teams in the tally with 312 medals (174 Gold, 93 Silver, 45 Bronze).
  - Seven countries (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka) competed in the competition having 27 games.
6. Who has won the **FIDE Open category** of the London Chess Classic held in London \_\_ **R. Praggnanandhaa**.  
**Note:**

- He won the tournament with a tally of 7.5 points out of nine rounds.
  - R. Praggnanandhaa finished joint first with Anton Smirnov of Australia both scoring 7.5 points.
  - The London Chess Classic is a chess festival held at the Olympia Conference Centre, West Kensington, London.
7. Union Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju has announced a cash reward for the 174 gold medalists of the South Asian Games held in \_\_\_\_ **Nepal**
- 174 gold medalists - 1.5 lakh rupees each
  - 93 Silver medalist – 1.0 lakh rupees each.
  - 45 bronze medalist -- 50,000 rupees each.
- Note:**
- The Union government will have a structured cash reward policy for medallists in South Asian Games, like other multi-sporting events like the Olympics, Asian Games and Commonwealth Games.
8. Former **Indian Cricketer** has become the **first woman referee** in the Men's ODI in Sharjah Cricket Stadium\_\_ **Gandikota Sarva Lakshmi**.
- Note:**
- The match is between the UAE and the United States of America (USA).
  - Lakshmi was appointed as the first woman in the ICC (International Cricket Council) International Panel of Match Referees in May 2019.
  - Gandikota Sarva Lakshmi has overseen three women's ODI matches, 16 men's T20 Internationals and seven women's T20 Internationals.
9. India's women's **hockey team captain** has been awarded the Sportsperson of the Year Award 2019 \_\_ **Rani Rampal**
- Note:**
- In the male category, Asian Games gold medalist shooter Saurabh Chaudhary won the Sportsperson of the Year Award 2019.
  - The awards ceremony was held at the FICCI Federation House, in New Delhi.
10. Who unveiled a new **world ranking system for 2020** in Lausanne, Switzerland\_\_ **International Hockey Federation (FIH)**.
- Note:**
- It will come into effect from the first of next month.
  - For a better reflection of current performances, the new ranking will be match-based instead of tournament-based calculation.
  - The new model removes much of the subjectivity surrounding continental weighing by creating a system which is fair to all.

### Banking & Financial Awareness

1. Country's largest lender has announced the reduction in its **marginal cost of fund-based lending rate (MCLR)** by 10 basis points across all one-year products\_\_ **State Bank of India (SBI)**.
- Note:**
- This is the eighth consecutive cut in MCLR by the lender this fiscal.
  - The new one-year MCLR has been cut to 7.90 per cent from 8 per cent.
2. **National Stock Exchange (NSE)** has launched interest rate options on ten-year \_\_ **Government bonds**.
- Note:**
- The exchange recorded a turnover of 5,926 contracts on the first day of its launch.
  - Interest rate options will provide institutional investors with the ability to manage risk through a non-linear product.
  - Interest rate options are based on the underlying ten-year government bonds, which are 7.26% 2029 bond and 6.45% 2029 bond.
3. India is providing **USD 500 million line** of credit (LoC) to \_\_ **Bangladesh**.
- Note:**
- Purpose of financing defence-related procurement in Bangladesh.

- Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) entered into an agreement with Bangladesh's Armed Forces Division for Government of India-supported line of credit (LoC).
  - The agreement under the LoC is effective for a period of 10 years from the date of signing of the agreement.
4. Who has been appointed as an **Additional Director** on the Board of Dhanlaxmi Bank \_\_\_ **V Viswanathan**.
- Note:**
- Viswanathan retired as Chief General Manager of State Bank of Hyderabad in 2017.
  - Dhanlaxmi Bank Ltd is an old private sector bank headquartered in Thrissur City, Kerala, India.
5. India's retail inflation in November rose to \_\_\_ 5.54%.
- Note:**
- Food price inflation (Rural and urban) climbed 10.01% in November.
  - During the month, inflation in vegetables shot up to 35.99 per cent, as against 26.10 per cent in October.
  - Inflation based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) was 4.62 per cent in October (2.33% in November 2018)
6. Global rating agency Moody's Investors Service ("Moody's") has lowered its 2019 GDP growth forecast for India \_\_\_ 5.6%.
- Note:**
- GDP is the final value of the goods and services produced within the geographic boundaries of a country during a specified period of time (normally a year).
  - 'GDP growth rate is an important indicator of the economic performance of a country.
  - GDP For 2019-20 – 5.6%
  - GDP For 2020-21 – 6.6%
  - GDP For 2021-22 – 6.7%
7. Who has signed a term loan agreement for Rs. 5,000 crore with State Bank of India (SBI)\_\_\_ **National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC)**.
- Note:**
- The loan facility has been extended at an interest rate linked to 3-Month MCLR of the bank and has a door to door tenure of 15 years.
  - The loan will be utilized to part finance the capital expenditure of NTPC.
8. The US and China have announced phase one trade agreement to roil the\_\_\_ **global economy**.
- Note:**
- The phase one of the deal requires structural reforms and other changes to China's economic and trade regime in the areas of intellectual property, technology transfer, agriculture, financial services, and currency and foreign exchange.
  - The deal says if China breaks any part of the agreement, the Trump administration has the ability to re-implement tariffs.
  - US negotiators are offering to significantly reduce existing tariffs on Chinese imports worth about 360 billion dollars.

### Obituaries

1. Who passed away at his home in Wendell, **North Carolina** in the US\_\_\_**George J. Laurer**.
- Note:**
- Mr. Laurer was an electrical engineer with IBM in North Carolina's Research Triangle Park in the early 1970s when he spearheaded the development of the UPC (Universal Product Code), or bar code.
  - The now-ubiquitous marking, composed of unique black bars and a 12-digit number, allowed retailers to identify products and their prices as they are scanned, usually at checkout.
2. Former Odisha Minister passed away at his residence in Bhubaneswar\_\_ **Bhagabat Prasad Mohanty**.
- Note:**
- Mohanty was elected to the state Assembly in 1971 as Praja Socialist Party (PSP) candidate and in 1985 and 1995 as a Congress nominee, said sources.

- He had served as the Higher Education Minister of the state.

3. The Chairman of **Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)** passed away\_\_ **Braj Bihari Kumar**.

**Note:**

- Mr' Kumar was appointed as the chairman of the ICSSR in May 2017.
- Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) was established in the year 1969 by the Government of India to promote research in social sciences in the country.

4. The former chairman of the **US Federal Reserve** passed away in New York\_\_ **Paul Volcker**.

**Note:**

- Paul Volcker is popularly known for his battles against inflation in the late 1970s and early 1980s,
- He was appointed as the chief of the US Federal Reserve in 1979.

5. Renowned Telugu actor & writer passed away in Chennai\_\_ **Gollapudi Maruti Rao**.

**Note:**

- Mr. Maruti Rao was a multi-faceted personality as he was a journalist, playwright, writer, actor and television personality.
- Some of his memorable films as an actor include 'Intlo Ramayya, Veedhilo Krishnayya', 'Challenge', 'Samsaram oka Chadarangam', 'Aditya 369' and 'Leader'.
- Mr. Rao was born in 1939 in Vizianagaram in Madras Presidency, in present-day Andhra Pradesh.

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