





Weekly One Liner Updates 1-14th March 2019

Dear readers.

Weekly One Liner Updates is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the **two weeks** (1-14th) of **March 2019**. This file is important for, **SSC & Railways** exams.

Important News - India

1. The Union Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Thawar Chand Gehlot has launched the 2nd Edition of Indian Sign Language (ISL) Dictionary in ____New Delhi.

Note:

- ➤ The Dictionary includes **six thousand** words under the categories of academic, legal, medical, technical and everyday terms.
- The dictionary is intended to serve as a resource for ISL teachers, ISL learners, teachers of the hearing impaired, interpreters, parents of hearing-impaired children and researchers.
- > The first edition of the dictionary with three thousand words was launched in March 2018.
- 2. Union Minister **Rajnath Singh** has inaugurated the new premises of the regional unit of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in ___Hyderabad.

Note:

- ➤ The new office cum residential complex has been constructed at Khanamet area of Madhapur in Hyderabad.
- > The NIA Hyderabad office has the jurisdictions in the states of Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.
- 3. Who successfully test fired indigenously developed Quick Reach Surface-to-Air Missiles (QRSAMs) from ITR Chandipur off the Odisha Coast__ **DRDO**.

Note:

- ➤ QRSAM is a missile developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) in association with Bharat Electronics Limited and Bharat Dynamics Limited for the Indian Army.
- 4. Who signed an agreement with Adobe to enhance creativity in Atal Tinkering Labs (ATL) Schools_NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission.

Note:

- > Adobe will help in developing creative skills and spreading digital literacy across all Atal Tinkering Labs in India.
- Adobe shall be adopting 100 schools under Atal Tinkering Labs (ATL) initiative.
- ATLs are being established in more than 5,000 schools in India where students of class 6th to class 12th acquire problem solving and innovation skills, developing innovative solutions.
- 5. The Union minister Prakash Javadekar has launched 'Scheme for Higher Education Youth in Apprenticeship and Skills' (SHREYAS) to provide apprenticeship opportunities to fresh graduates of _____2019.

Note:

- The scheme aims to cover 50 lakh students by 2022.
- Courses will be available to the students from Academic year April-May 2019.
- The SHREYAS Scheme is a programme basket comprising the initiatives of three central ministries (the HRD, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, and the Ministry of Labour and Employment).
- **6.** The union cabinet has approved the setting up of a Centre for Disability Sports in ____Gwalior.

Note:

- It will develop a sense of belonging in Divyangjan to facilitate their integration in society.
- The centre will have a Governing Body comprising a maximum of 12 members, some of them experts from "National Level Sports Federations apart from experts in para games".
- At present, no specialized sports training facilities for Divyangian are available in the Country.
- 7. Inland Waterways Authority of India and Indian Oil Sign MoU on Fuel Needs for _____National Waterways.

Note:

The MoU includes jointly developing infrastructure for fuels, lubricating oil, LPG, Natural Gas and any other related fuel and gas for meeting the requirement of National Waterways.



- ➤ IWAI and IOCL have agreed to conduct techno-economic feasibility studies for preparation of detailed land requirement, storage facilities and other supporting infrastructure with details of the cost.
- **8.** AYUSH Minister Shripad Yesso Naik laid the foundation stone of National Institute of Unani Medicine (NIUM) at **Ghaziabad.**

- ➤ It will be developed on a 10-acre area, costing about 300 crore rupees.
- Once 200-bedded hospital established, it will be one of the largest institutes of Unani Medicine in North India.
- The institute is an extension of the existing NIUM at Bengaluru.
- 9. National workshop on Preparedness, Mitigation and Management of Heat Wave -2019 held in ____ Nagpur.

Note:

- The objective of the workshop to sensitizing States to the need of preparing and implementing specific Heat Action Plans in line with NDMA's national guidelines on Heat Wave.
- > The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has indicated the probability of above-normal summer temperatures this year.
- **10.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the two-day Construction Technology India-2019 Expo-cum-Conference in ____New Delhi.

Note:

- > The Construction Technology India Conference will provide avenues for stakeholders to open up new areas for collaboration and facilitate conversion of ideas into market-ready products.
- > The conference will also identify innovative and globally established technologies for use in the Indian context.
- 11. Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley has released a book in New Delhi_ Mann Ki Baat A Social Revolution on Radio' Note:
 - The Book is a compendium encompassing 50 editions of the 'Mann Ki Baat' by Prime Minister Narendra Modi over All India Radio.
- **12.** Coal minister Goyal dedicates 1,000 MW NTPL power project to nation____ **Tamil Nadu.**

Note:

- Coal Minister Piyush Goyal dedicated to the nation a 1,000-megawatt (MW) thermal power project of Neyveli Tamil Nadu Power Ltd (NTPL) and a 150-MW solar power projects of NLC India Ltd (NLCIL) in Tamil Nadu.
- The 1,000-MW coal-fired thermal power project of NTPL is a joint venture between NLCIL and TANGEDCO (equity participation of 89:11).
- **13.** IRCTC has launched its own digital payment aggregator called **___IRCTC iPay.**

Note:

- > IRCTC iPay will provide payment options like credit card, debit card, unified payment interface and international card.
- This will help reduce the gap between IRCTC and banks which will eventually lead to a substantial reduction in payment failures.
- > The back-end support will be provided by Delhi based MMAD communications (IRCTC's technology partner).
- **14.** Who has launched Young Scientist Programme "Yuva VIgyani Karyakram", for the School Children to be studying in the ninth standard__Indian Space Research Organization.

Note:

- ➤ ISRO Scientists will impart basic knowledge on Space Technology, Space Science and Space Applications to the young ones with the intent of arousing their interest in the emerging areas of Space activities.
- Two weeks "Catch them young" residential training programme will be held during summer holidays to select 3 students from each State and Union Territory, covering CBSE, ICSE and State syllabus.
- **15.** Tech giant Google unveiled a new free app to help children in primary school learn to read in Hindi and English **_Bolo**.

Note:

- > The free app uses Google's speech recognition and text-to-speech technology.
- The app features an animated character 'Diya', who encourages children to read stories aloud and helps if the child is unable to pronounce a word.
- **16.** The Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Puri has launched ______ 'e-Dharti app' & e-Dharti GeoPortal.

Note:

In 'e-Dharti app', all the three modules- Conversion, Substitution and Mutation related to properties have been made online.



- e-Dharti GeoPortal, through which the lessee of the property will be able to see the basic details of property along with map showing its location.
- ➤ The payment system in Land and Development Office, L&DO has also been completely digitized.
- This application will not only benefit public but the Government also in getting to know the actual status of its vacant properties, whether there is any encroachment on the property.
- **17.** Information and Broadcasting Secretary Amit Khare has released Reference Annuals India 2019 and Bharat 2019 in ____New Delhi.

- > The reference annuals are the flagship publication in English and Hindi brought out by Publications Division.
- These publications have been the source of information not only for youth but also for those who desire to know more details about Indian Economy, Agriculture, Science and Technology and developments in other fields.
- This publication is also referred by foreign journalists and readers who want in-depth knowledge about India.
- 18. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved the investment sanction for construction of 624 Megawatt Kiru Hydro Electric Project in ____Jammu & Kashmir.

 Note:
 - The CCEA also approved the investment for Khurja Super Thermal Power Plant (1320 Mega Watt) at Bulandshahar in Uttar Pradesh and Buxar thermal Power Project (1320 Mega Watt) in Bihar.
- **19.** The **National Green Tribunal** (NGT) has slapped a fine of **Rs 500 crore** on German global auto giant for damaging the environment using "cheat device" in its diesel cars in India ____Volkswagen.

 Note:
 - A bench headed by NGT Chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel directed the German global auto giant to deposit the amount within two months.
 - ➤ The tribunal enhanced the compensation amount of Rs. 171.34 crore, which was recommended by an NGT-appointed committee, as a means of "creating deterrence".
- **20**. India's 17th Lok Sabha elections will begin from ___**11th April 2019**.

Note:

- Legislative Assembly elections in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Odisha and Sikkim will be held simultaneously with the general elections.
- ➤ The Model Code of Conduct has come into force in the entire country with the announcement of the polls.
- Ninety crore electorates of 29 states and 7 Union territories will elect 543 Lok Sabha members in seven phases from 11th April to 19th May 2019.
- **21.** The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi attended the **50th Raising Day celebrations** of Central Industrial Security Forces (CISF) in _____Ghaziabad.

Note:

- The CISF provides security cover to 300 industrial units, government infrastructure projects and facilities and establishments located all over India.
- The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) was set up under an Act of the Parliament of India on 10 March 1969 with a strength of 2,800.
- CISF was subsequently made an armed force of the Republic of India by another Act of Parliament passed on 15 June 1983.
- > It is directly under the Union Ministry of Home Affairs and its headquarters are at New Delhi.
- 22. Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off the 'Noida City Centre-Noida Electronic City section' of the Delhi Metro's Blue Line.

Note:

- The Noida City Centre and **Noida Electronic City** (fully elevated section) consists of six stations Sector 34, Sector 52, Sector 61, Sector 59, Sector 62 and Noida Electronic City.
- The metro stretch will benefit the people of Noida a great deal as well as connect the satellite city to Delhi.
- **23.** The traditional and handmade product from Idukki district of Kerala received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag from the Central Government ____The Marayoor Jaggery.

- The Marayoor jaggery finally managed to get the GI Tag after two years of continuous efforts by the Agricultural Department of the state.
- The GI tag will provide more windows of opportunity to the traditional sugarcane farmers in Marayoor.
- 24. The International Food and Hospitality fair 'AAHAR' (34th edition) begins in ____New Delhi.



- The five-day fair will feature a wide range of food products, machinery, hospitality and Decoration and Confectionery items from over 560 participants from India and abroad.
- Around 20 countries, including US, Russia, China, UK, Germany, Italy and Singapore will participate in the fair.
- The fair will showcase new trends in food and beverage, hospitality, culinary technology, retail and new innovations.
- 25. According to a newly released Kantar IMRB ICUBE report, Internet user base in India has exceeded ____500 million mark.

Note:

- > The number of internet users is estimated to be 566 million as of December 2018 (annual growth -18%).
- The report finds 493 million Indians (total user base-87%) are defined as regular users, having accessed the internet in the last 30 days.
- Around 293 million active internet users reside in urban India, while there are 200 million active users in rural India
- 26. Who has decided to ground Boeing 737 Max 8 aircraft with immediate effect___ Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

Note:

- The decision comes in the wake of Ethiopian Airlines crash (killed all 157 people) in Addis Ababa.
- > The planes will be grounded until appropriate modifications and safety measures are undertaken to ensure their safe operations.
- > Spice Jet has around 12 Boeing 737 Max 8 planes, Jet Airways (5) in its fleet in the country.
- ➤ The Boeing 737 MAX is an American narrow-body aircraft series designed and produced by Boeing Commercial Airplanes as the fourth generation of the Boeing 737.

States News

 West Bengal Government has inaugurated a web portal to provide real-time data on state-run and aided schools_Banglar Shiksha.

Note:

- The portal 'banglarshiksha.gov.in' will be up and running in two months times.
- According to school education department, the portal will store real-time data of 1.5 crore students, 5 lakh teachers and 1 lakh schools.
- 2. Who inaugurated the first phase of the 6.5 km-long Ahmedabad Metro train service_Narendra Modi.

Note:

- ➤ PM Modi also laid the foundation stone of the 28.28 kilometres second phase of Ahmedabad Metro project and travel some distance on the phase-I stretch.
- Total completion cost of Phase-II metro is estimated at Rs. 5,384.17 crore.
- Ahmedabad Metro is an under the construction mass-transit rail system for the cities of Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar in Gujarat, India.
- 3. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated a factory to manufacture AK 203 rifles at __Amethi.

Note:

- These Rifles will help the security forces to tackle terrorists and Naxals.
- ➤ The rifles will progressively replace the Army's in-service INSAS and AK-47 rifles.
- Around 7.5 lakh units of the latest version of AK-47 will be manufactured in the new unit.
- **4.** The state Government has appointed 'Lokpal' in all universities except agricultural universities to resolve student grievances _ **Maharashtra**.

Note:

- The appointment of the students' ombudsman would be made in the next two to three months.
- Maharashtra would be the first state in the country to have such a Lokpal for universities.
- The Lokpal will be a person related to the university and someone not below the rank of the retired district judge or a retired vice-chancellor.
- 5. Piyush Goyal & Fadnavis launches second phase of Monorail in ___ Mumbai



- With this, the entire 19.54 kilometres route (first phase-8.26 kilometre) of the country being implemented by the Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA), is now functional.
- Mumbai Monorail is the first monorail in India since the Kundala Valley Railway and Patiala State Monorail Trainways were closed in the 1920s.
- ➤ The project is implemented by the Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA).
- **6.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Mandhan Yojana at **__Gandhinagar**.

- The national pension scheme for workers and labourers of unorganized sector was announced in the Interim Budget in February this year.
- ➤ Under the scheme, a monthly pension of Rs. 3,000 per month is provided to workers in the unorganised sector over 60 years of age.
- 7. The Centre has banned the Jamat-e-Islami Jammu and Kashmir (JIJK) for __five years.

Note:

- The Jamaat is in close touch with terror outfits and is supporting extremism and terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir and elsewhere.
- ➤ The notification comes barely a few days after the Jammu and Kashmir Police arrested around 100 cadres of the group in the state.
- The Jamaat-e-Islami Jammu and Kashmir (JIJK) is a cadre-based religious -political organisation in Jammu and Kashmir (J & K), distinct from the Jamaat-e-Islami Hind.
- **8.** Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar has launched 'Mukhyamantri Parivar Samman Nidhi' scheme in **___Chandigarh.**

Note:

- Farmers of the state who cultivate on land with areas up to 5 acres and the families with an income of less than Rs. 15,000 per month.
- The scheme would provide a sum of Rs. 6,000 yearly, each family must nominate a member who will be provided with this amount.
- The scheme involves two categories of beneficiaries-in the age group of (18 to 40 years) and (40 to 60 years).
- 9. Maharashtra state cabinet chaired by Devendra Fadnavis approved the 29-kilometre metro line for__ **Thane.**

Note:

- > It will feature 22 stations along a 29 kilometres route, connected to lines 4 and 5 of the Mumbai Metro.
- > The project will take four years to be completed and will be built at a cost of nearly 13,095 crore rupees.
- The metro will start from the New Thane metro station in the old city area and will connect to Wadala-Kasarvadavli Metro at two places, namely the New Thane station and Dongripada.
- **10.** India signed a loan agreement with the World Bank for 96 Million US dollars for additional financing of ____Uttarakhand Disaster Recovery Project.

Note:

- The World Bank has been supporting the State Government since 2014 to restore housing and rural connectivity and to build the resilience of communities.
- The Project has completed more than two thousand permanent houses and 23 public buildings and restored over one thousand 300 kilometers of roads and 16 bridges so far
- **11.** The union Textiles Minister Smriti Irani inaugurated the refurbished Handloom Haat in___ **New Delhi.**

Note:

- The main objective of the Haat is to provide infrastructure support to handloom agencies to augment their sales of handloom products and to showcase the exquisite variety of products produced all over the country.
- **12.** The state Government has initiated the 'Jalamrutha' initiative which is a water conservation scheme ____**Karnataka**.

Note:

- The objective of the initiative to create awareness among the people of the state about the invaluable nature of water and the need to conserve it at any cost.
- > The state of Karnataka has announced the year 2019 as 'Jalavarsha (year of water)'.
- **13.** Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat laid the foundation stone for the ___Dehradun-Mussoorie ropeway project.

- > The Doon-Mussoorie ropeway would be among the five longest ropeway projects of the world.
- The ropeway project (cost Rs. 300-crore rupees) is expected to be completed in three years.



- A French Company 'Poma' will provide the technical support to the ropeway which will be built on the public private partnership (PPP) mode.
- **14.** State Government has announced 'Notun Disha' for assessing the academic level of students in classes III-VIII and then improving their current level **__ Tripura.**

- > Training will be provided by NGOs and educational institutions to 800 teachers.
- ➤ The duration of the project is 1 month. Rs. 28 crores have been allocated to the project.
- **15.** The Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has launched (through video conferencing) the **Integrated Command and Control Centers** in ___New Delhi.

Note:

- Integrated Command is under the Mission at Gangtok and Namchi in Sikkim, Pasighat and Itanagar in Arunachal Pradesh and Agartala in Tripura
- ➤ The Smart City Command and Control Centres use digital technology to integrate different service networks.
- **16.** India's first oil museum will come up in ____Guwahati, Assam.

Note:

- ➤ It will be named KB Malaviya National Oil Museum. KB Malaviya is called the father of India's hydrocardon industry.
- Assam was the first state where oil was discovered and produced for the first time in the country.
- > All major oil and gas companies ONGC, OIL, HPCL, BPCL, EIL will jointly work for the museum.
- **17.** The state Government has decided to include the ancient tribal language 'Gondi', in tribal districts of the state__ Madhya Pradesh.

Note:

- > The state Government has decided to include Gondi in the primary education curriculum of the state's tribal-dominated districts.
- **18.** Uttarakhand CM has launched free milk scheme for anganwadi children of the states___ **Mukhyamantri Anchal Amrit Yojana.**

Note:

- ➤ Under the Amrit Yojana, 2.5 lakh children (at 20,000 Anganwadi kendras) will be given 100 ml milk twice a week for free in the state.
- Flavoured, sweet, skimmed milk powder will be made available to the 20,000 Anganwadi Kendra across the state.
- **19.** West Bengal Government has announced to grant 1 lakh to graduates of the state's 214 polytechnics and Industrial Training Institutes (ITI), to set up small businesses ___ Yuvashree Arpan.

Note:

- The CM also introduced the scheme, Yuvashree Arpan, in Howrah district.
- 20. The State Government has issued an ordinance raising reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBC) to___27% (present 14%).

Note:

- > The ordinance was sent to Madhya Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel for her assent on.
- ➤ Now, MP is possibly the only state in the country to have 27% quota for OBCs.
- **21.** The bank sanctioned loans worth Rs 689 crore to over 1,600 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) ___ Punjab National Bank (PNB).

Note:

- ➤ It has sanctioned it through the 'psbloansin59minutes.com' portal as part of its effort to promote such industries.
- Under the Mudra Yojana, the bank has offered loan to over 2.69 lakh small entrepreneurs till February 14, 2019.
- MSMEs through this portal can avail loans of up to Rs 1 crore in 59 minutes or less than an hour.
- ➤ In November 2018, Prime Minister Modi announced the launch of the 59 minutes loan portal to enable easy access to credit for MSMEs.
- **22.** The North-Eastern states has approved the proposed liquor **prohibition bill, 2019** in the state__ **Mizoram**.

- The bill would be introduced in the state Assembly during the Budget session.
- There was total prohibition in Mizoram from 1997 till January 2015 with the Mizoram Liquor Total Prohibition Act in force in the state.
- Earlier, Lal Thanhawla government allowed opening of wine shops in the state from March 2015.



23. Who has found a place in the Limca Book of National Records and Asia Book of Records for completing a power substation in seven months___ **Megha Engineering Infrastructure Limited (MEIL).**

Note:

- NP Kunta sub-station was taken up to connect Ultra Mega Solar Power Plant built in Ananthapur with Power Grid, to facilitate the supply of 1500 MW of electricity.
- Earlier, MEIL made its way into Limca Book for completing Pattiseema Lift Irrigation project in Andhra Pradesh in record time.
- **24.** The Delhi government's **Dialogue and Development Commission** (DDC) has set up a **17-member high-level committee** to "reform higher education" ____**Jasmine Shah**.

Note:

- Dialogue and Development Commission (DDC) is the think-tank that advises the government on key issues.
- > The committee will recommend goals, metrics, policies, and actionable plans for reforming Delhi's higher education system within a year".
- **25.** The **4th IoT India Congress** will be held in August 2019____**Bengaluru**.

Note:

- Event which will see **digital technology** leaders converge to discuss and explore business opportunities in mainstreaming Internet of Things (IoT).
- The **IoT India Congress 2019** will include tracks on segments such as healthcare, manufacturing, telecom, smart cities, energy, retail, cybersecurity, skills and development, **IoT Standards**, legal and regulatory, and agriculture.
- **26.** Formula One director Charlie Whiting passed away in Australia **__Charlie Whiting.**

Note:

Formula One race director Charlie Whiting (66-years) has died from a pulmonary embolism three days before the season-opening Australian Grand Prix.

Important News - World

1. India and Bangladesh are conducting Joint military exercise at Tangail in Bangladesh___Sampriti 2019.

Note:

- The objective of the exercise to strengthen and broaden the aspects of inter-operability and co-operation between the Armies of both countries.
- > The exercise will involve tactical-level operations in a counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism environment under the UN mandate.
- 2. India ranked in the overall "Inclusive Internet Index 2019" (3i) ___ 47th.

Note:

- The index has been prepared by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) for Facebook.
- > Sweden topped the index which was followed by Singapore and the US.
- > The index was expanded to include 100 countries which will represent 94% of the world's population and 96% of global GDP.
- 3. North Korea-United States Hanoi Summit 2019 held in ___Hanoi, Vietnam.

Note:

- > The talk has ended with no agreement after the US refused North Korean demand to lift all international sanctions.
- This was the second meeting between North Korean Chairman Kim Jong-un and U.S. President Donald Trump following the first meeting in June 2018 in Singapore.
- **4.** Home Minister Rajnath Singh has inaugurated the project BOLD-QIT (Border Electronically Dominated QRT Interception Technique) under CIBMS on India-Bangladesh border in ___**Dhubri, Assam.**

Note:

- ➤ Border Security Force (BSF) is responsible for the safeguarding of 4,096 Km long International Border with Bangladesh.
- The implementation of this project will not only help BSF to curb all types of cross border crimes but also provide respite to the troops from round the clock human surveillance.
- 5. Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu embarked on a two-nation tour to ____Paraguay and Costa Rica.

Note:

The Vice President will be accompanied by a high-level delegation including KJ Alphons(Minister of State for Tourism), Members of Parliament and senior government officials



- ➤ This is the first high-level visit from India to two Latin American countries.
- **6.** Russian President Vladimir Putin has officially suspended the country's participation in a key Cold War-era nuclear armscontrol treaty with ___United States.

- Mr. Putin signed a decree regarding the suspension of Russia's participation in the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces, INF treaty between the USSR and the US in 1987.
- The move was taken following a violation of the United States of its obligations under the treaty.
- Earlier, Both Countries have accused one another of breaching the INF treaty.
- 7. Who is getting rid of the ability to unlock mobile phones with Voice Match and the 'Ok Google' command ___Google.

Note:

- ➤ Google has decided to limit this unlock feature to only launch the Assistant interface on the lock screen instead of unlocking the Android device based on voice match.
- ➤ A few devices have already lost the functionality with the Google app's 9.27.
- 8. Who has become the 124th member of the International Criminal Court (ICC) _ Malaysia.

Note:

- The ICC is the world's only permanent war crimes court and aims to prosecute the worst abuses when national courts are unable or unwilling.
- The International Criminal Court (ICC) is an intergovernmental organization and international tribunal that sits in The Hague in the Netherlands, establishment in 2002.
- 9. The third edition of the bilateral joint exercise between India and Oman will begin at Jabel Al Akhdar Mountains in Oman ___Al Nagah 2019.

Note:

- In the exercise, both the armies will exchange expertise and experience in tactics, weapon handling and firing.
- The **objective of this exercise** is to enhance interoperability in counter terrorist operations in semi urban mountainous terrain.
- ➤ India-Oman bilateral security ties have continued to develop since the beginning of India-Oman Joint Military Cooperation meetings in 2006.
- 10. The inaugural India-Japan Space Dialogue was held in ___New Delhi.

Note:

- The dialogue brought together **Ministries** and **agencies** related to outer space in the two countries and provided an opportunity for information exchange on the respective space policies.
- **11.** Who put out the list of 390 anti-cancer non-scheduled medicines with Maximum Retail Price reduction up to 87 per cent_National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority.

Note:

- Medicine manufacturers and hospitals have been directed to convey the revised rates.
- As many as 390 brands out of the 426 brands reported by manufacturers, showed downward price movement.
- **12.** An Airlines had grounded its Boeing 737 MAX 8 fleet after a crash that killed 157 people on board including eight crew____ **Ethiopian Airlines.**
 - The crash occurred around the town of Bishoftu (60-kilometre south-east of the Addis Ababa) shortly after take-off from the Bole International Airport, Ethiopia.
 - The Boeing 737 Max-8 was carrying passengers from 33 countries.
- **13.** The World Health Organization (WHO) has released a Global Influenza Strategy for 2019-2030 to protect all people from the threat of **influenza**.

Note:

- The objective of the strategy is to prevent seasonal influenza, control the spread of influenza from animals to humans, and prepare for the next influenza pandemic.'
- Vaccination is especially important for people at higher risk of serious influenza complications and for health care workers.
- **14.** PM Modi & Sheikh Hasina jointly unveil (through video conference) e-plaques for development projects in **Bangladesh.**

Note:

Both leaders unveiled e-plaques for supply of buses and trucks, inauguration of 36 community clinics, 11 water treatment plants, and extension of National Knowledge Network to Bangladesh.



- The National Knowledge Network will connect scholars and research institutes in Bangladesh, to India and the world.
- This is his sixth video conference with Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.
- **15.** Under the new visa agreement, **Maldivian** businessmen and tourists can stay in India without a visa for ____**90 days**. **Note:**
 - > The main aim behind the move is to boost people-to-people ties between the two countries.
 - A visa is a conditional authorization granted by a country to a foreigner, allowing them to enter, remain within, or to leave that country.
- **16.** India and the U.S. have agreed to build American nuclear power plants in India ____ Six. Note:
 - ➤ This in a joint statement issued at the conclusion of the 9th round of India-U.S. Strategic Security Dialogue, cochaired by Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale and Andrea Thompson, the U.S. Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security, on March 13.

Honor & Awards

1. Who has created a Guinness world record in a single line bicycle parade to mark the 50 years of the paramilitary force_Central Industrial Security Force (CISF).

Note:

- Personnel of the central force rode a total of one thousand 327 bicycles non-stop with uniform distance between bicycles in a single line at the Yamuna Expressway in Noida.
- ➤ The bicycle parade covered 3.2 km distance non-stop.
- Earlier, this record was held by Hubballi bicycle club of India which had one thousand 235 bicycles in single chain.
- DRDO Chairman has won the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) as the co-winner of the 2019
 Missile Systems Award __Satheesh Reddy.

Note:

- American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) has chosen 'Satheesh Reddy' (DRDO Chairman and Secretary of India's Department of Defence R&D) as the co-winner of the 2019 Missile Systems Award.
- The other co-winner is Rondell J. Wilson who is a former Principal Engineering Fellow of Raytheon Missile Systems.
- > Satheesh Reddy is the first person to be honoured with this award outside the USA in 40 years.
- 3. American reality television personality has been named the youngest-ever, self-made billionaire by Forbes magazine ___Kylie Jenner.

Note:

- Facebook's Zuckerberg was 23 when he hit the big B mark.
- > According to Forbes magazine, Jenner's Kylie Cosmetics is worth at least USD 900 million, and she owns it all.
- She has starred in the E! reality television series Keeping Up with the Kardashians since 2007 and is the founder and owner of cosmetic company Kylie Cosmetics.
- **4.** Who has won the International Sustainability Award 'Green Era Award for Sustainability' (second time) in Lisbon, Portugal___ **TVS Motor Company.**

Note:

- > The company also won the 'Quality and Business Excellence Award' in acknowledgment of its endeavour to create new benchmarks in product quality.
- > TVS Motor Company bagged the award because of its sincere commitment towards being a responsible manufacturer.
- > The awards are based on the conclusion of the research team of Other ways Management & Consulting, France.
- **5.** Who awarded cleanest city in Swachh Survekshan 2019 awards___Indore.

- The second and third positions in the category were grabbed by Ambikapur (Chhattisgarh) and Mysore (Karnataka).
- The New Delhi Municipal Council area was given the 'Cleanest Small City' award, Uttarakhand's Gauchar was adjudged the 'Best Ganga Town' in the central government survey.
- > The 'Cleanest Big City' award has been bagged by Ahmedabad, while Raipur is the 'Fastest Moving Big City'.



- Ujjain has been the adjudged the 'Cleanest Medium City' and Mathura-Vrindavan bagged the tag of the 'Fastest Moving Medium Cities'.
- Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh) has been declared as the cleanest capital.
- **6.** As per the Airport Council International (ACI) World, Airport has been awarded for the best airport by size and region in the 'Over 40 Million' passenger category___ Mumbai International Airport Ltd (MIAL).

- ➤ The award was in recognition of excellence in customer experience in the Asia-Pacific region.
- ➤ This is the highest possible reward for any airport operator covering more than half of the world's 8.3 billion passengers.
- The award ceremony will be held in Bali, Indonesia.
- 7. President Ram Nath Kovind presented the Nari Shakti Puraskar 2018 in _____New Delhi.

Note

- Nari Shakti Puraskar is the highest civilian honour for women in India.
- ➤ This year, 44 awardees have been selected for these Puraskar.
- This year, the Nari Shakti Puraskar has also been awarded to a One Stop Centre and to a state which has shown exceptional progress in improving child sex ratio at birth under the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme.
- **8.** Japanese architect has won the Pritzker Prize 2019__Arata Isozaki.

Note:

- ➤ He is the 46th Pritzker laureate and the 8th Japanese architect to receive the honour.
- > The Pritzker Prize (prize -USD 100,000) is regarded as architecture's equivalent to the Nobel Prize.
- The Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles and the Palau Saint Jordi indoor sporting arena in Barcelona are among more than 100 of his major projects.
- ➤ The award is funded by the Pritzker family and sponsored by the Hyatt Foundation.
- **9.** Indian Air Force Wing Commander will be the first recipient of the 'Bhagwan Mahavir Ahimsa Puraskar'__ Abhinandan Varthaman.

Note:

- The award is instituted by the Akhil Bharatiya Digambar Jain Mahasamiti.
- 27th February, Mr. Varthaman shot down a Pakistan Air Force F-16 with an R-73 air-to-air missile in a dogfight
- The award will be presented to Varthaman on 17th April 2019, carries a cash prize of Rs 2.51 lakh, a memento and a citation.
- **10.** BBC journalist won the 'Chameli Devi Jain Award-2018' for an Outstanding Woman Journalist for the year 2018_**Priyanka Dubey.**

Note:

- ➤ She was chosen for her multi-faceted, investigative and interrogative reportage.
- ➤ Priyanka Dubey works as a bilingual correspondent with the BBC at its Delhi bureau.
- > The Chameli Devi Jain Award named after the freedom fighter, Chameli Devi Jain who held demonstrations against the foreign goods on the call of Gandhi and got arrested.
- 11. Japanese woman has been honored as the world's oldest living person (116-years) by Guinness World Records_ Kane Tanaka

Note:

- > The global authority on records officially recognised Kane Tanaka in a ceremony.
- The previous oldest living person was another Japanese woman, Chiyo Miyako (117-years) who passed away in July 2018.
- **12. Indian gymnast** has been selected as Barbie role model, as the company celebrates its 60th anniversary___**Dipa Karmakar**.

Note:

- ➤ Karmakar has been chosen along with 19 other successful women (from 17 countries), included in the collection of Barbie dolls inspired by real-life heroes.
- ➤ She was part of the 'Shero' program launched in 2015 by the company.

Banking & Financial Awareness

1. As per Moody's Investors Service, Indian economy is expected to grow in calendar years 2019 and 2020___ 7.3 per cent.

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- Moody's growth estimates are based on the calendar year.
- Moody's Investors Service was established in 1909, headquarters in New York, USA.
- Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC: was founded in 1860, headquarters in New York, USA, subsidiary of S&P Global.
- 2. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has signed a Bilateral Swap Arrangement (BSA) with ___ Bank of Japan.

Note:

- ➤ This BSA provides for India to access 75 billion in US dollars whereas the earlier BSA had provided for USD 50 billion.
- With this, India can access the agreed amount of USD 75 billion for its domestic currency, for the purpose of maintaining an appropriate level of balance of payments or short-term liquidity
- 3. Who has been appointed as non-executive, Chairman of IDBI Bank _____Hemant Bhargava.

Note:

- Currently, Mr. Bhargava is the Chairman (in-charge) and Managing Director of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC).
- ➤ The life insurer is the majority shareholder in **IDBI Bank** with a 51% stake.
- In June 2018, Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) had made an exception when it allowed LIC to hold 51 percent in IDBI Bank.
- **4.** A bank has tied up with Germany's KfW Development Bank for funding of USD 113 million to refinance solar projects______ Bank of Baroda.

Note:

- The tie-up is part of an Indo-German Solar Energy Partnership signed in 2015.
- The KfW is a German state-owned development bank, based in Frankfurt.
- 5. According to Finance Ministry release, The GST collection in the month of February at ____97 thousand 247 crore rupees.

Note:

- The total number of GSTR 3B returns filed for the month of January up to 28th February is over 73 lakhs.
- ➤ The Government has settled 19,470 crore rupees to CGST and 15,747 crores to SGST from IGST as regular settlement.
- ➤ The total revenue earned by Central Government and the State Governments after regular settlement in the month of February 2019 is over 37 thousand crore rupees for CGST and around 40 thousand crore rupees for the SGST.
- **6.** Tamil Nadu government bestowed the Best Bank Award to the___ **Indian Bank**.

Note:

- ➤ The award was based on the criteria that the bank met the needs of women's self-help groups (SHGs).
- Chief Minister of the state K Palaniswami handed over the award to the executive director of the bank M K Bhattacharya in a function held in Salem.
- 7. Who has been conferred with the 'Non-Life Insurer of The Year Award 2019' by the Assocham for its excellence and contribution to the non-life insurance sector__ Bharti AXA General Insurance.

- ▶ Bharti AXA General Insurance is a joint venture between Bharti Enterprises (51% stake) and French insurance giant AXA (49%- stake).
- This award recognizes efficacy, excellence and contribution in the insurance industry annually.
- 8. The bank has signed a bancassurance deal with private life insurer HDFC Life Insurance Company_ United Bank of India. Note:
 - United Bank's customers will be able to take advantage of HDFC Life's expertise in life insurance products, distribution and customer service.



- ➤ United Bank has a strong presence in rural and semi-urban areas, with over 2,000 branches and offices, while HDFC Life is India's largest non-bank-promoted private life insurer.
- **9.** The World Bank will provide **250 Million USD** for the **National Rural Economic Transformation Project** (NRETP) to boost Rural incomes across___**13 States**.

- The loan will help women in rural households develop viable enterprises for farm and non-farm products.
- 10. The union Government has announced a new 12-edged polygon (dodecagon) shape coin of ___Rs 20.

Note:

- According to the Finance Ministry, the new Rs 20 coin will be made in **copper** (65%), **zinc** (15%) and **nickel** (20%) for the outer ring.
- While the inner ring (center piece) will be **75% copper**, **20% zinc** and 5% nickel.
- ➤ It will be 27mm (milli meters) and weigh 8.54 grams.
- ➤ The Lion Capitol symbol of **Ashoka Pillar** with the legend "**Satyamev Jayate**" below it will be inscribed on its front side.
- The words "Bharat" in Hindi and "INDIA" in English will be there on the right and left-hand side of the symbol respectively.
- **11.** Who has been awarded the coveted 'Golden Peacock Innovative Product Award 2019' for their contextual micro insurance product 'Ola Ride Insurance' **ACKO General Insurance**.

Note:

- The award was presented to Mr. Biresh Giri at an event in Dubai.
- > Acko introduced the revolutionary Ola Ride Insurance 'a first of its kind in the Indian market' in March 2018.
- The Awards are bestowed annually and are designed to encourage total improvement in each sector of our business.
- **12.** Who has extended a Rs 4,100 crore loan for Visakhapatnam (VIZAG) Metro Rail project___ **Korea Exim Bank.**

Note:

- > The state government had earlier sent a proposal in this regard to the Central government, which in turn forwarded it to Korea Exim Bank.
- ➤ The Bank deputed a team to Amaravati to hold talks with the state government.
- Vizag Metro is a planned rapid transit system in the Indian city of Visakhapatanam, Andhra Pradesh.
- **13.** Who has raised Rs 660.80 crore by issuing shares to employees under Employee Share Purchase Scheme (ESPS)_Bank of India (Bol).

Note:

- ➤ The bank issued 6,25,52,188 shares of Rs 10 each to eligible employees.
- ➤ It offered a discount of 24.28% on the applicable price to the employees and about 94.70% of the total employees participated in the scheme.
- ➤ These shares are issued with a lock-in period of one year.
- **14.** As per the latest report by the World Gold Council (WGC), India ranks in gold holding__11th.

Note:

- Currently India is holding pegged at 607 tonnes,
- ➤ The **International Monetary Fund** (IMF) is included and is third on the list with total gold reserves of 2,814 tonnes.
- ➤ The list is topped by the U.S., which claims of gold reserves of 8,133.5 tonnes, followed by Germany with 3,369.7 tonnes.
- > Italy and France complete the top five list with reserves of a little over 2,400 tonnes each.
- **15.** Who has become the third listed entity to achieve a market cap of **Rs 6 lakh crore** after Reliance Industries and TCS ____ **HDFC Bank.**



- > On 13th March 2019, shares of the country's largest private bank gained 2.6% to hit an all-time high of Rs 2,226.
- This resulted in the market capitalisation of the bank reaching nearly Rs 6.1 lakh crore for the first time, which makes it more valuable than all the listed public sector banks put together.
- **16.** Who has launched doorstep banking service for senior citizens over 70 years of age and differently-abled customers_**State Bank of India (SBI).**

- ➤ Eligible customers can avail this service at a nominal fee of ₹100 per transaction for financial transactions and ₹60 for non-financial transactions.
- According to a statement, doorstep banking services are available to KYC- compliant account holders, with a valid mobile number registered with the bank and residing within 5 kilometres radius from their home branch.
- **17.** Who has decided to link interest rates on savings bank account to an external benchmark from May 1, 2019__ **State Bank of India.**

Note:

- With this SBI becomes the first Indian bank to link both deposit rate and lending rate to an external benchmark.
- **18.** Who has launched Crèche Child Daycare facility within its Mumbai Corporate Office premises____ **Bank of Baroda**.

Note:

- ➤ Bank of Baroda has launched Crèche Child Daycare facility within its Mumbai Corporate Office premises.
- The public sector bank said it will bear 60% of costs for each child, the rest to be borne by parent.
- **19.** Markets regulator withdrew the 20% limit on investments by Foreign Portfolio Investors in corporate bonds of an entity____ Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi).

Note:

The restriction is being withdrawn in accordance with a circular issued by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

Obituaries

1. Russian physicist and Nobel Prize laureate passed away __ Zhores Alferov.

Note:

- ➤ In 2000, Alferov received the Nobel Prize in Physics together with US scientists Jack Kilby and Herbert Kroemer, for developing semiconductor heterostructures used in high-speed-and optoelectronics.
- > He was elected a corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences in 1972, and a full member in 1979.
- 2. Former Deputy Prime Minister of Nepal passed away in Kathmandu____Bharat Mohan Adhikari.

Note:

- Mr Adhikari was very popular among the common people for introducing "Aafno Gaun Aafai Banau", development programme aimed at developing villages across the country by giving them the authority to select local projects on their own.
- 3. American actor passed away in California, U.S___ Luke Perry.

Note:

- ➤ He became a teen idol for playing Dylan McKay on the TV series Beverly Hills, 90210 from 1990 to 1995, and again from 1998 to 2000.
- > From 2017 until his death, Perry starred as Frederick "Fred" Andrews, Archie's father, on the CW series Riverdale.
- 4. Former Union Minister passes away in Mangaluru after prolonged illness_ V. Dhananjay Kumar.

Note:

- Mr. Kumar (four-time Lok Sabha member) worked in all of Karnataka's three main parties, including the Congress, BJP and Janata Dal (Secular).
- ➤ His journey in the electoral politics began from 1983 when he first became an MLA from BJP.
- **5.** Veteran Hindi Newsreader passed away following a prolonged illness ____Vinod Kashyap.



- ➤ She served All India Radio for about 30 years.
- ➤ The veteran newsreader started her career in Radio as a drama artist.
- 6. America's finest and most remarkable cyclists passed away in USA __Kelly Catlin.

- Catlin helped a dominant US team to three consecutive world titles in the pursuit between 2016 and 2018.
- ➤ She also won a silver medal in the team pursuit at the 2016 Olympics in Rio.
- Pursuit team is a track cycling event like the individual pursuit, except that two teams, each of up to four riders, compete, starting on opposite sides of the velodrome.

Important Days

Zero Discrimination Day is an annual day celebrated by the UN and other international organisations on __1st March.
 Note:

- > The objective of the day to promote equality before the law and in practice throughout all the member countries of the UN.
- Campaigners in India have used the occasion to speak out against laws that make discrimination against the LGBTI community more likely, especially Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code which criminalises homosexuality.
- 2. The World Wildlife Day has been observed across the world on ____3rd March.

Note:

- The day raise awareness of the world's wild fauna and flora.
- The theme of World Wildlife Day 2019 is "Life Below Water: For people and planet".
- 3. 'Mahashivratri' festival is being celebrated across the country with religious fervor and gaiety__4th March.

Note:

- Maha Shivratri is the most auspicious festival of devotees of 'Lord Shiva'.
- Thousands of devotees celebrate the festival by fasting and offering special prayers in the various temple.
- 'Maha Shivaratri' is an annual festival dedicated to the Hindu god Shiva and is particularly important in the Shaivism tradition of Hinduism.
- 4. International Women's Day (IWD) is being celebrated every year on ___8th March.

Note:

- It is a day when women are recognized for their achievements without regard to divisions, whether national, ethnic, linguistic, cultural, economic or political.
- The UN Women's theme for 2019 is "Think Equal, Build Smart, Innovate for Change".
- Women's Day was first observed on 28th February 1909 in New York, USA.
- 5. Govt. to celebrate 'Poshan Pakhwada' across the Country from____8th to 22nd March 2019.

Note:

- The Minister for Women & Child Development has been celebrating the first anniversary of POSHAN Abhiyaan (from 8th-22nd March 2019).
- During the Poshan Pakhwada it is also planned to organise workshop on Agri-Nutrition on 15th March 2019.
- The Ministry of Women & Child Development is the nodal ministry for coordinating activities during the month.
- **6.** National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) has celebrated its _____**34th Inception Day.**

Note:

- National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) formed in 1986 mandated to empower the Indian Police with Information Technology.
- Bureau is implementing & monitoring agency for implementation of Crime & Criminal Tracking Network System (CCTNS), a Mission Mode Project under the National e-Governance Plan of Government of India.
- 7. World Kidney Day is being observed annually on the ___14th March(2nd Thursday).

Note:

- ➤ The theme for this year is 'Kidney Health for Everyone Everywhere'.
- > The day is observed to create awareness on the importance of the kidneys and reducing the frequency and impact of kidney disease.

New Appointments



1. Former Finance Secretary has joined as a member of the 15th Finance Commission___ Ajay Narayan Jha.

Note

- > Iha has been posted in place of Shaktikanta Das, resigned after being appointed the RBI Governor.
- Mr. Jha was retired as a Finance Secretary to the central government
- 2. Former Finance Secretary has been appointed as non-executive chairman of Bank of Baroda (BoB) ___ Hasmukh Adhia.

Note:

- > The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved his appointment as the part-time non-official director as well as non-executive chairman on the board of Bank of Baroda.
- Earlier, Mr. Adhia served as the Finance Secretary.
- 3. Who appointed as India's ambassador to Vietnam_ Pranay Kumar Verma.

Note:

- Currently, Mr. Verma working as the Joint Secretary at Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).
- An ambassador is usually accredited to another sovereign state as the resident representative of their own government appointed for a special and often temporary diplomatic assignment.
- 4. Who has been appointed as the Chairman of the National Commission for Backward Classes_ Bhagwan Lal Sahni.

Note:

- ➤ Kaushalendra Singh Patel, Sudha Yadav and Achary Talloju have been appointed as members of the commission.
- ➤ The National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) was given constitutional status by Parliament in 2018, after repealing the National Commission for Backward Classes Act, 1993.
- **5.** Who has been appointed Director of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), the country's premier multi-disciplinary nuclear research facility for a period of three years ___ Ajit Kumar Mohanty.

Note:

- ► He is at present Director, Physics Group in BARC and Director, Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics.
- The BARC is India's premier nuclear research facility based in Mumbai.
- ➤ It is a multi-disciplinary research centre with extensive infrastructure for advanced research and development covering the entire spectrum of nuclear science, engineering and related areas.
- 6. Who has been appointed the ambassador of India to Saudi Arabia_ Dr. Ausaf Sayeed.

Note:

- > He will succeed Ahmad Javed, who had been serving as envoy to Saudi Arabia (since December 2015).
- An ambassador is usually accredited to another sovereign state as the resident representative of their own government appointed for a special and often temporary diplomatic assignment.
- 7. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has appointed Indian-American television personality and food expert as Goodwill Ambassador_ Padma Lakshmi.

Note:

- > The newest Goodwill Ambassador, supporting the agency's fight against inequality and discrimination around the world.
- 8. Governor of Mizoram has resigned from his post___ Kummanam Rajasekharan.

Note:

- Mr. Rajasekharan began his political career as an activist of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh and Sangh Parivar in the state of Kerala in 1970.
- **9.** Who appointed the new prime minister of Palestinian ____ **Dr. Mohammad Shtayyeh.**

Note:

- Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas has chosen Dr. Mohammad Shtayyeh (60-years) as the new prime minister of Palestinian.
- Mr. Shtayyeh is an economist with a PhD from the University of Sussex in England.
- **10.** Who has been appointed as the Chancellor of Central University of Gujarat for a term of five years **Hasmukh Adhia**.



- ➤ SA Bari is the current vice chancellor of Central University of Gujarat.
- > In 2009, Gujarat Central University was set up though an Act of Parliament in Gandhinagar, Gujarat,
- The university includes 16 schools, 14 academic departments, and 2 others special centres.
- **11.** Who has been appointed principal advisor to MRTCs in J&K___ **E Sreedharan**.

- The governor administration has approved setting up of two MRTCs Jammu Mass Rapid Transit Corporation and the Srinagar Mass Rapid Transit Corporation for the two capital cities.
- Sreedharan is a retired IES (IRSE) officer and is popularly known as the "Metro Man".
- **12.** Who has been named 'Rakesh Makhija' as its new Non-Executive (Part-Time) Chairman for a period of three years___ **Axis Bank.**

Note:

- Mr. Makhija (Chairman of SKF India) will take over from Sanjiv Mishra (current Axis Bank Chairman), when his term comes to an end on 17th July 2019.
- ➤ He has been an Independent Director on the board of Axis since October 2015.
- The appointment is subject to the approval of the Reserve Bank of India and the bank's shareholders.
- **13.** Who sworn in as Mizoram's first Lokayukta chairman ____**C** Lalsawta.

Note:

- Mizoram Governor Jagdish Mukhi administered the oath of office to Mr. C Lalsawta (Retired IAS officer) as the first Chairman of the newly-constituted Lokayukta at Raj Bhavan in Aizawl.
- ➤ Mr. Lalsawta (1981-batch Bihar cadre IAS officer) was the Principal Secretary of the Finance department in the State from 2008 to 2011.
- The Lokayukta (also Lok Ayukta) is an anti-corruption ombudsman organization in the Indian states.
- **14.** The Union government has appointed the Chairman of Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) ___MR Kumar.

Note:

► He will succeed MD Hemant Bhargava who had been named interim chairman after VK Sharma's retirement on December 31, 2018.

Sports News

1. Indian Boxer has won a gold medals while five others claimed silver medals in the Makran Cup in Chabahar, Iran_____ **Deepak Singh.**

Note:

- Deepak (49-kilogram) defeated Jaafar Naseri in the finals.
- ➤ Silver medal winners were P Lalitha Prasad (52kg), Manish Kaushik (60kg), Duryodhan Singh Negi (69kg), Sanjeet (91kg) and Satish Kumar (91kg).
- > Rohit Tokas (64kg) and Manjeet Singh Panghal (75kg) lost in the semi-finals to sign off with bronze medals.
- 2. West Indies player has become the first batsman ever to smash 500 or more sixes in International cricket__ Chris Gayle.

Note:

- In the 4th ODI against England in Grenada, Gayle scored 162 runs.
- His innings contained a staggering 14 sixes and powered the Windies to their highest-ever ODI score of 389.
- **3.** Who has won the 10-kilometre race of Nepal's Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Open Marathon and Run for Fun held in Kathmandu___ **Shashank Shekhar.**

Note:

- > Shekhar is the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) Contingent at Embassy of India in Kathmandu.
- COAS Open Marathon and Run for Fun is an annual event organised by the Nepal Army.
- **4.** India's star wrestler has won a gold medal in 65-kilograms freestyle in Bulgaria_Bajrang Punia.

- > This was Punia's 10th medal in as many international tournaments since the 2017 World Championships in Paris.
- Earlier, Pooja Dhanda claimed gold in women's 59 kg while Sarita Mor won a silver in the same weight category.
- ➤ In the men's freestyle events, Sandeep Tomar claimed silver in 61kg.
- **5.** Swiss great has claimed the 100th ATP title of his career in the Dubai Tennis Championships ____Roger Federer.



- Federer (20-time grand slam champion) is the second man, after American Jimmy Connors to claim 100 titles (record of 109).
- > Tsitsipas saw the end of an eight-match winning streak as he arrived in the Gulf with the Marseille title from last weekend.
- Martina Navratilova holds the record having won 167 women's singles crowns during her career.
- **6.** The Yonex All England Championships 2019 begins in **___England**.

Note:

- Only the top 32 in the Badminton World Federation (BWF) rankings qualify for the tournament.
- ➤ It has a total purse of USD 1,000,000.
- 7. Who has been named as the Captain of the Indian hockey team to play in the upcoming 28th Sultan Azlan Shah Cup_Manpreet Singh.

Note:

- Surender Kumar will be the Vice-Captain of the team.
- The Sultan Azlan Shah Cup is an annual international men's field hockey tournament will be held in Ipoh, Malaysia from 23rd March 2019.
- **8.** Who has won the gold medal in 56kg-category at the 38th GeeBee Boxing Tournament in Helsinki, Finland_ **Kavinder Singh Bisht.**

Note:

- While three-time Asian medalist Shiva Thapa (60kg category) and three others claimed silver medals.
- Sumit Sangwan, former youth world champion Sachin Siwach and Naveen Kumar got bronze in their categories.
- 9. Who has become the 61st Grandmaster of India after crossing 2,500 points during the Noisiel Open 2019 ___ P. Iniyan. Note:
 - ➤ Iniyan also won the silver medal in this tournament by increasing 18 points and has a rating of 2,513.
 - Grandmaster (GM) is a title awarded to chess players by the world chess organization FIDE.
- **10.** Who re-appointed as coach of Spanish football club Real Madrid till 2022 ___ **Zinedine Zidane.**

Note:

- Former French football player 'Zinedine Zidane' has been re-appointed as the coach of Spanish football club Real Madrid (highest-earning football club) till 2022.
- He replaces Santiago Solari, who was sacked after less than five months in charge.
- > Real Madrid was the highest-earning football club in the world (annual revenue of € 750.9 million) in 2018.
- **11.** Mumbai sailor bagged the bronze medal in the Laser Standard race for men in the Laser Asian Sailing Championship in Singapore_ **Upamanyu Dutta.**

Note:

- Earlier, Upamanyu won the Euromed Championship in Malta.
- Nethra Kumanan (from Chennai) achieved a creditable 4th position in the Laser Radial event for women.
- **12.** The 2019 SAFF (South Asian Football Federation) Women's Championship (5th edition) was held in ___Biratnagar, Nepal.

Note:

- The current SAFF members are Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.
- Pakistan Withdraws Participation in 2019 SAFF Women's Championship.
- **13.** Special Olympics World Games 2019 begins at **__Abu Dhabi,UAE**.

- More than 2,500 women will fly the flag for their nation, with almost half of them performing in athletics competitions. Saudi Arabia will send female athletes for the first time, with 14 women participating.
- > Hosts UAE will field its largest-ever squad of athletes at a World Games, followed by India and the United States.

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