

# Weekly One-liner

8th to 14th April 2019



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

**Dear readers,**

Weekly One Liner Updates is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the second **week** (8-14th) of **April** 2019. This file is important for, **Banking interviews** and all **upcoming Banking & Insurance** exams.

### **Banking & Financial Awareness**

1. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has come out with guidelines for banks to set up new currency chests, which include a minimum area for the strong room\_\_ **1,500 square feet**.

**Note:**

- The new chests should have a processing capacity of **6.6 lakh pieces** of banknotes per day.
- It added that for those situated in the hilly/ inaccessible places, capacity should be **2.1 lakh pieces** of banknotes per day.
- Earlier, RBI appointed committee had recommended that the apex bank should encourage banks to open large currency chests with modern facilities and Chest Balance Limit (CBL) of at least Rs 1,000 crore.
- Currency chests are branches of selected banks authorized by the RBI to stock rupee notes and coins.

2. Chennai-based bank is set to merge with **India bulls Housing Finance** in a share-swap deal\_\_ **Lakshmi Vilas Bank**.

**Note:**

- It reflects the trend of consolidation in the financial services sector.
- The boards of both entities approved the merger proposal.
- The shareholders of Lakshmi Vilas Bank (LVB) will get 14 shares of India bulls Housing Finance (IBHF) for every 100 equity shares held in the bank.

3. Who has inked a term-loan agreement with Canara Bank to raise Rs 2,000 crore \_\_\_\_ **National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC)**.

**Note:**

- This loan has a **door to door tenure** of 15 years and will be utilized to part finance the capital expenditure of the NTPC.
- NTPC (National Thermal Power Corporation Limited) Limited is an Indian Public Sector Undertaking, engaged in the business of generation of electricity and allied activities.

4. According to The International Monetary Fund (IMF) report, India's economy projected to grow in 2019\_\_ **7.3%**.

**Note:**

- The **International Monetary Fund** (IMF) is an international organization headquartered in **Washington, D.C.**, consisting of **189 countries** working to foster global monetary cooperation.
- In 2018, India's growth rate was **7.1%** as against China's 6.6 per cent.
- All the estimates are **0.2 percentage** points less than its previous assessment in January.

5. Who has re-priced **home loans** up to **Rs 30 lakh** by 10 basis points\_\_ **State Bank of India (SBI)**.

**Note:**

- Accordingly, the interest rate on housing loans of such size will now be in the range of 8.6 to 8.9 per cent.
- The bank has also lowered its lending rates by a nominal five basis points across all tenors.
- The reduction in lending rate by the bank follows a 50 basis points cut in repo rate by the RBI in the course of two monetary policy reviews held in February and April this year.

6. Who will take over as MD and CEO of Indian Overseas Bank from 1st July 2019\_\_ **Karnam Sekar**.

**Note:**

- R A Sankara Narayanan (former MD and CEO of Vijaya Bank) will move to Canara Bank in the same position.

- R K Yaduvanshi (executive director at Dena Bank) will move as executive director of Punjab National Bank.
  - Nageshwara Rao (executive director at Vijaya Bank) will move to Syndicate Bank as officer on special duty and full-time director.
7. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a penalty of Rs 1 lakh for violation of norms regarding shifting of its branch\_\_\_ **UP Postal Primary Co-operative Bank**.
- Note:**
- The Rs 1 lakh penalty has been imposed on the co-operative bank "for violation of RBI Instructions/Guidelines for shifting of its branch without obtaining prior approval from RBI".
8. Who has announced the launch of **Chat Banking services** for customers via **WhatsApp**, marking a **global first** in the Islamic banking sector\_\_\_ **Emirates Islamic Bank**.
- Note:**
- The bank's customers will now able to conduct daily banking activities via WhatsApp in a seamless and hassle-free manner.
  - The Chat Banking solution, supported by Infobip, further enhances Emirates Islamic's suite of digital banking channels and allows customers to use features such as checking account balances and temporarily blocking or unblocking of an existing card.
9. The **union Government** has retained the interest rate for **General Provident Fund (GPF)**, Contributory Provident Fund and other related schemes for the **first quarter of current** financial year\_\_\_**8%**.
- Note:**
- The **interest rate** on these funds was at 8% in the **January-March quarter of 2018-19** and government kept it unchanged for April to June for 2019-20.
  - The interest rate will be applicable on provident funds of central government employees, railways and defence forces.
  - Last month, the government had retained interest rates on small savings, including National Savings Certificate and PPF for the first quarter of current fiscal.
10. According to the RBI reports, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) injected total liquidity in the market in 2018-19\_\_ **Rs 2.98 lakh crore**.
- Note:**
- According to the **First Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Statement for 2019-20**, the systemic liquidity moved into deficit during February 7-March 31 from a daily net average surplus of Rs 27,928 crore during February 1-6, 2019, reflecting the build-up of Centre's cash balances.
  - Simultaneously, total durable liquidity injected by the RBI through OMOs aggregated Rs 2,98,500 crore for 2018-19.
11. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has given **Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)** 12 years to reduce its stake by 10 percent in \_\_\_**IDBI Bank**.
- Note:**
- RBI has stipulated that after 12 years LIC has to reduce stake in IDBI Bank by 10 percent to 40 percent.
  - LIC has 51 percent controlling stake in the bank, making the insurer the lender's majority shareholder.
  - The government is the other major investor in IDBI Bank owning 46.46 per cent while the rest is with the public.
12. **PAISALO Digital Limited** signed the **first co-origination loan** agreement with \_\_\_**State Bank of India (SBI)**.
- Note:**
- Introducing a platform for the last mile customer, the loan ticket is designed at **Rs 10,000** to 2 lakh.
  - The company expects to disburse 200,000 loan applications in FY20.
  - PAISALO Digital Limited is a systemically important non-deposit taking NBFC registered with the Reserve Bank of India and has been in operations since 1992.
13. Who has partnered with credit profiler CreditVidya to improve the lender's customer experience\_\_\_ **RBL Bank**.
- Note:**

- With this partnership, the bank will be able to gain significant insights into its customer base.
- This will allow it to improve user experience and build customized offerings for over 15 lakh customers.
- CreditVidya leverages alternative data, artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning for credit scoring in order to facilitate institutional credit for the underserved.

14. As per Forbes World's Best Bank survey, who has been identified as number 1 bank by customers in India\_\_\_ **HDFC Bank.**

**Note:**

- HDFC Bank emerged as India's No 1 bank. ICICI Bank was at number 2 and SBI was surprisingly ranked 11th in the list.
- At third rank was DBS, followed by Kotak Mahindra Bank and IDFC Bank taking the fourth and fifth spot.
- Customers were asked to rate banks on overall recommendation and satisfaction, as well as 5 key attributes or 'sub-dimensions' namely trusts, terms & conditions, customer services, digital services and financial advice.

15. Google has partnered with bullion refiner to allow Google Pay users to buy and sell gold through the app\_\_ **MMTC-PAMP India.**

**Note:**

- Through this partnership with India's only LBMA accredited gold refinery, Google Pay users will be able to buy 99.99% 24-karat gold, Google said in a statement.
- Google Pay users can purchase gold for any value and that will be stored on behalf of the user, by MMTC-PAMP, in secure vaults.
- The users can buy and sell this gold any time at the latest price, refreshed every few minutes, as displayed on Google Pay app.

16. Who partnered with **Google Cloud** to build industry-specific cloud solutions\_\_ **Tata Consultancy Services.**

**Note:**

- TCS' solutions on **Google Cloud Platform** (GCP) will help enterprises build secure, cloud-native analytics platforms that enable high levels of personalization, and are cost-effective, easy to maintain, and future ready.
- In addition, **TCS is a primary partner of Google Anthos**, a modern platform that simplifies building, running and managing services both on-premises and in the cloud.

## Obituaries

1. 2002 Medicine Nobel Prize Winner passed away in Singapore\_\_\_ **Sydney Brenner.**

**Note:**

- He discovered fundamental steps in how cells use **DNA** to make the proteins that enable life.
- Brenner helped **decipher** the genetic code and jointly won the **2002 Nobel Prize** in Physiology or Medicine.
- Brenner born in South Africa Brenner was an alumnus of **Oxford University**.

2. Bollywood actor passed away in Mumbai \_\_\_**Shri Navtej Hundal.**

**Note:**

- Mr. Hundal had been a part of films like Khalnayak (1993), Tere Mere Sapne (1996) and The Whisperers (2009).
- The actor was last seen in Vicky Kaushal starrer 'Uri: The Surgical Strike' which released in January this year.
- He played the role of the Home Minister in the movie.

3. Former South Africa Women all-rounder passed away in a motor-car accident in Stilfontein in South Africa\_\_\_ **Elriesa Theunissen-Fourie.**

**Note:**

- She represented South Africa in three One-Day Internationals and one T20I in 2013.
- The medium pacer was even part of South Africa's 2013 World Cup squad.

4. Former Kerala Finance Minister passes away at a private hospital\_\_\_ **K M Mani.**

**Note:**

- He is credited with the record of presenting the State Budget **13 times** as Finance Minister.

- Mr. Mani (Chairman of the Kerala Congress (M) party) had been an MLA of Pala assembly constituency for nearly five decades.
  - Kerala Congress(M) is a key ally of the Congress-led UDF in the state.
5. BJP MLA killed in a **massive Maoist** attack at Dantewada district in Chhattisgarh\_\_ **Bhima Mandavi**.
- Note:**
- Maoists blasted an IED (Improvised explosive device) and then opened indiscriminate fire on a carcade of MLA near Kuakonda area.
  - The MLA was returning after an election campaigning.
6. Serbia-born actor passed away at the age of 87 years \_\_ **Nadja Regin**.
- Note:**
- She best known for starring in Bond films 'From Russia With Love' and 'Goldfinger'.
  - Regin also worked for the small screen and her TV roles included shows such as The Avengers, Danger Man, The Saint and Dixon of Dock Green.
  - The actor appeared in several British TV programmes in the 1960s and also appeared in the 1964 New Zealand film Runaway.

### Important Days

1. President Ram Nath Kovind paid homage to the martyrs of police at **National Police Memorial** in \_\_ **New Delhi**.
- Note:**
- It was **54th Valour Day of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)**.
  - Mr. Kovind also presented Gallantry medals to six Jawans posthumously.
  - The President also launched the App - **Veer Parivar** for assistance to next of kin of Martyrs of CRPF personnel.
2. The **World Homoeopathy Day 2019** is being observed across the world on\_\_ **10th April**.
- Note:**
- The day commemorate the birth anniversary (264th) of the founder of Homoeopathy (Dr Christian Fredrich Samuel Hahnemann).
  - On this occasion, The Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy (CCRH) has organized a two-day convention at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre in New Delhi.
  - Homeopathy as system of medicine (second most widely used system) was developed by Dr. Samuel Hahnemann in Germany in 1796.
3. Ram Navami is being celebrated with religious fervour and enthusiasm in different parts of the country\_\_ **13th April**.
- Note:**
- The festival marks the birth of Lord Rama, the seventh incarnation of Lord Vishnu.
  - President Ram Nath Kovind and Prime Minister Narendra Modi have greeted people on the occasion.
4. The festival of harvest is being celebrated with traditional enthusiasm in the northern part of the country\_\_ **Baisakhi**.
- Note:**
- Baisakhi is celebrated with much fanfare in Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh.
  - People are taking a dip at the holy sarovars, canals and rivers before joining the Mela celebrations. Traditional folk dances are performed on this day.

### New Appointments

1. AIFF President has become the **first Indian** to be elected as member of **FIFA Executive Council**\_\_ **Praful Patel**.
- Note:**
- All India Football Federation (AIFF) president Praful Patel (62-years) has become the first Indian to be elected as a member of the FIFA Executive Council for four years (2019 to 2023).
  - Mr Patel was one of the eight candidates vying for the spot in the election which was held during the 29th Asian Football Confederations Congress in Kuala Lumpur.
2. Who sworn in as the Chief Justice of Bombay High Court \_\_ **Justice Pradeep Nandrajog**.
- Note:**



- He was administered the oath by Maharashtra Governor C Vidyasagar Rao at the Raj Bhavan in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
  - Justice Nandrajog was serving as the Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court since March 2017, following his transfer from the Delhi High Court.
3. Who has been elected as the new president of **International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) India**\_\_ **Vikramjit Singh Sahney**.
- Note:**
- He is the Chairman of SUN Group.
  - ICC India is one of the most active chapters of the ICC, the world's apex business organization.
  - The ICC network speaks, directly and indirectly, for thousands of individual corporations and industrial and trade associations in over 140 countries.
4. One of the power brands of Emami Limited '**Navratna**' has appointed Bollywood heart throb & actor as Brand Ambassador \_\_\_\_**Varun Dhawan**.
- Note:**
- Shah Rukh Khan, Amitabh Bachchan, Govinda, Chiranjeevi, Shilpa Shetty and Jr NTR are also served as Brand Ambassadors of Navaratna Brand.
  - Harsha V Agarwal is the Director of Emami Limited.
  - The Navratna collection consists of Navratna Xtra Thanda Oil, Navratna Oil, Navratna Smart Cool, Navratna Cool and Navratna Almond Cool Oil.
5. Who has been appointed as the first Chief Justice of Andhra Pradesh High Court\_\_ **Justice Vikram Nath**.
- Note:**
- The new high court for Andhra Pradesh was created on January 1 this year, following the bifurcation of a combined high court for AP and Telangana, which had been operating from Hyderabad since June 2, 2014, when the two Telugu states got separated.
6. Who has won the Israeli national election, securing a record fifth term in office\_\_ **Benjamin Netanyahu**.
- Note:**
- With 97% of the votes counted, neither of the candidates' parties had captured a ruling majority, but Netanyahu was clearly in a strong position to form a coalition government with other right-wing factions that have backed him.
7. Who has been appointed as the **Chairman cum Managing Director** (CMD) of National Buildings Construction Corporation (NBCC)\_\_\_\_ **Shiv Das Meena**.
- Note:**
- Shiv Das Meena, an Indian Administrative Service officer of Tamil Nadu cadre of 1989-Batch, will succeed Dr. Anoop Kumar Mittal. ]
  - NBCC (India) Limited (formerly National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited) is a blue-chip Government of India Navratna enterprise and a Central Public Sector undertaking which trades publicly in the market.
8. Who has been appointed as the first woman vice-chancellor of **Jamia Millia Islamia** for a period of five years \_\_ **Professor Najma Akhtar**.
- Note:**
- She is a gold medalist from **Aligarh Muslim University** (AMU) and **completed her PhD** (Education) from Kurukshetra University.
  - She held posts of faculty and Controller of Examinations and Admissions and Director, Academic Programmes at AMU.
  - She was the founder director of the State Institute of Educational Management and Training (SIEMAT), Uttar Pradesh, which was established for developing educational administrators for the country.
9. The government has appointed Senior bureaucrat as Secretary, Defence Finance, as part of a bureaucratic reshuffle\_\_ **Gargi Kaul**.

**Note:**

- She is a **1984-batch officer** of the Indian Audit and Accounts Service, is at present Financial Advisor (Defence Services), Ministry of Defence.

**Important News – India**

1. Who will expand the folklore around his Oscar-nominated film Pan's Labyrinth with a new novel titled Pan's Labyrinth: The Labyrinth of the Faun\_\_\_ **Guillermo del Toro**.

**Note:**

- The novel is co-written by the filmmaker and Cornelia Funke.
- The book will include stories that expand the folklore on which the original film was based on.

2. The Biannual Army Commanders' Conference begins in \_\_\_**New Delhi**.

**Note:**

- Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has delivered her opening address at the conference.
- During the conference, important issues that are likely to be discussed are the management of the extant security dynamics, mitigation of future security threats and enhancement of combat edge over potential adversaries.

3. The **first indigenous long-range artillery gun** has been inducted into the Indian Army \_\_\_**'Dhanush'**

**Note:**

- The Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) handed over the first batch of six Dhanush artillery guns to the Army.
- The 155 mm calibre artillery gun was manufactured by the Jabalpur-based Gun Carriage Factory.
- Dhanush is a 155 mm, 45-calibre towed artillery gun with a range of 36 km and has demonstrated a range of 38 km with specialized ammunition.
- It is an upgrade of the existing 155mm, 39 calibre Bofors FH 77 gun.

4. India is hosting a two-day convention to mark the 'World Homeopathy Day' at Dr Ambedkar International Centre in \_\_\_**New Delhi**.

**Note:**

- The day is observed to commemorate the birth anniversary of the founder of Homoeopathy, Dr. Christian Fredrich Samuel Hahnemann.
- AYUSH awards relating to Homoeopathy for Life Time Achievement, Best Teacher, Young Scientist and Best Research paper will be conferred on this occasion.

5. Who has slapped an interim penalty of Rs 100 crore on the Andhra Pradesh government for inaction to prevent illegal sand mining in the state\_\_\_ **National Green Tribunal (NGT)**.

**Note:**

- The tribunal directed the state government to deposit Rs 100 crore 'environment compensation' with the Central Pollution Control Board within a month.
- The tribunal's direction came on a plea filed by Andhra Pradesh resident Anumolu Gandhi, alleging illegal sand mining was causing damage to Krishna, Godavari rivers and their tributaries in the state.

6. Who will make the smart electric two-wheelers & connected devices \_\_\_**Revolt Intellicorp Pvt Ltd**.

**Note:**

- The e-motorcycle is supposed to be launched in June this year.
- As per some crucial specifications, the bike will be able to cover over 150 km on a single charge.

7. According to a report by the **United Nations Population Fund**, India's **population grew** at an average annual rate between 2010 and 2019\_\_\_**1.2%**.

**Note:**

- India's population in 2019 stood at 1.36 billion, growing from 942.2 million in 1994 and 541.5 million in 1969.
- China's population grew at an average annual rate of 0.5 per cent between 2010 and 2019, the report said.
- Six per cent of the country's population was of the age 65 and above.

8. As per the **Indian Steel Association**, India's steel demand is likely to grow by over in 2019 and 2020 \_\_\_**7%**.

**Note:**

- The Indian Steel Association has forecast India's steel demand to grow by 7.1% in the **calendar year 2019** and by 7.2% in the **calendar year 2020**.
- The **World Steel Association** had recently estimated steel demand in India to touch **103 million tonnes** in 2019, against 96 million tonnes logged in 2018 and 110 million tonnes in 2020.

9. Google has launched a new cloud platform \_\_ **Anthos**.

**Note:**

- Anthos is a completely software-based solution. Users can set it up on existing hardware, claimed Google.
- It allows users to run applications, unmodified, on existing on-premise hardware or on the public cloud and is based on the Cloud Services Platform that announced in 2018.

10. According to the Air Quality in India 2014-2019' report, most polluted city in the world \_\_ **Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh)**.

**Note:**

- Faridabad in Haryana has been ranked second and Varanasi, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Lok Sabha constituency, is ranked third on the WHO's list of 15 most polluted cities.
- WHO's report states that Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh is witnessing a rise in the number of people suffering from allergies and respiratory problems due to the huge amount of construction in the city.

### States News

1. India's first carbon-positive settlement village \_\_ **Phayeng**.

**Note:**

- Phayeng Village of Manipur has been tagged as India's first carbon-positive settlement.
- A village is given the carbon-positive tag if it sequesters more carbon than it emits, slowing the accumulation of greenhouse gases and mitigating the effects of climate change.
- Phayeng is a scheduled caste village of the Chakpa community in Imphal West district.

2. The **first ever railway station** in the Indian Railways to get an **ISO certification** (ISO-14001) from the **National Green Tribunal** (NGT) for "providing passenger amenities in a clean and green environment \_\_ **Guwahati Railway Station**.

**Note:**

- Guwahati Railway Station is ISO-14001, which is for Environment Management System as per international norms which were upgraded in 2015.
- In April 2017, Guwahati railway station became the first railway station to run entirely on solar power.

3. Delhi Deputy Chief Minister & Education Minister Manish Sisodia will pen the story of the changes in Delhi's education system in a book \_\_ **Shiksha: A Journey**.

**Note:**

- This book (launch in September 2019) was going to be a document about the "idea of India through education".
- The book, which will come out in both English and Hindi.
- It will recount this journey of "raising the bar of public education in the state and the challenges he overcame to improve the infrastructure and quality of schooling".

### Important News – World

1. Who has announced granting **long-term visas** for the top **100 start-ups** shaping the fourth industrial revolution \_\_ **UAE Govt**.

**Note:**

- The Forum witnessed for the **first time** bringing together **100 emerging companies** from the Arab region, which are working to shape the future of the Fourth Industrial Revolution.
- The UAE is a global incubator for emerging innovations. Our innovation-friendly legislative structure is essential for start-up companies

2. Military forces of India and Singapore got together to participate in a joint exercise in Babina Cantonment, Jhansi \_\_ **Bold Kurukshetra-2019**.

**Note:**

- The three-day exercise is being conducted to develop military technology, boost maritime security and bolster the nations' fight against terrorism.
- As per the agreement, the Singapore military would undergo training and participate in firing exercise with their India.

3. The World Economic Forum (WEF) in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) 2019 took place in \_\_ **Jordan**.

**Note:**

- The 17th WEF meeting in the region called for united efforts to address the most pressing challenges of the area.



- The forum assembled more than 1,000 government, business and civil society leaders from more than 50 countries.
  - The forum was themed on three major visions: generating job opportunities, empowering Arab women and promoting the most intriguing start-ups that have joined the region's industry over the past years.
4. The United Nations has described Cyclone as one of the deadliest storms on record in the southern hemisphere\_\_ **Cyclone Idai**.
- Note:**
- Zimbabwe updated the number of deaths to 344, while Mozambique has reported 602 deaths.
  - In Malawi, 59 people died in heavy rains before the onset of Idai.
5. India has launched a joint programme with a country that will work towards addressing a range of challenges around smart cities and clean technologies among others\_\_ **Sweden**.
- Note:**
- The programme was co-funded by the Indian Department of Science and Technology (DST) and Swedish agency Vinnova.
  - Under this collaboration, Sweden's Vinnova will provide funding to Swedish participants up to 2,500,000 Swedish Krona (around Rs 1.87 crore) as a grant.
6. The first-ever blackhole to be pictured has been named \_\_ **Powehi**.
- Note:**
- The name Powehi, meaning the embellished dark source of unending creation, was deliberated upon by astronomers and renowned Hawaiian language professor, Larry Kimura.
  - "Powehi", the name bestowed upon the first black hole pictured ever, is sourced from the Hawaiian word "Kumulipo", a primordial chant describing the creation of the universe.
7. Who will be the Guest of Honour country at the Abu Dhabi International Book Fair (ADIBF) 2019, to be held from 24th to 30th April 2019\_\_ **India**.
- Note:**
- The fair aims to highlight the UAE's rich heritage, showcasing its authenticity and modernity, as well as its cultural and literary output.
  - India's participation in the fair is expected to attract a significant increase in the number of visitors with various events and activities which will be held throughout the entire duration of ADIBF.
  - The Indian Pavilion will host Indian writers, authors and literary scholars who will serve as ambassadors for the literature and art of their country.

### Honor & Awards

1. Israel's soccer player broke the record after playing as a goalkeeper in an afternoon game with Israel's Ironi Or Yehuda soccer club \_\_ **Isaak Hayik**.
- Note:**
- The previous record was held by Robert Carmona of Uruguay, who in 2015 played a professional match with Uruguay's Pan de Azucar at the age of 53-years.
2. India's education technology startup has bagged a USD 25,000 tech prize along with two other winners from Tanzania and Egypt \_\_ **Dost Education**.
- Note:**
- Dost was awarded for its ability to empower parents to take charge of their child's early education by creating short, friendly audio content that is sent to them via their mobile phones.
  - The Next Billion EdTech Prize 2019 run by UK-based Varkey Foundation.
3. Namami Gange gets global recognition at the Global Water Summit in \_\_ **London**.
- Note:**
- 'Public Water Agency of the Year' award was presented to India's flagship programme National Mission for Clean Ganga or Namami Gange at Global Water Summit held in London, United Kingdom.
  - The **Global Water Intelligence** presented the award during the **Global Water Summit**.
  - The **Global Water Summit** is the primary business conference for the water industry worldwide.
  - The award **recognizes excellence across** the entire international water industry and rewards those initiatives in the water, wastewater, and desalination sectors which bring remarkable improvements in the lives of people.
4. The General Insurance Corporation (GIC) India chief awarded Freedom of the City of London\_\_ **Alice G. Vaidyan**.
- Note:**

- **Alice G. Vaidyan** was the first lady officer to assume the post of Chairman-cum-**Managing Director** of General Insurance Corporation of India.
  - She was the first lady officer to assume the post of Chairman-cum-Managing Director of **General Insurance Corporation of India**.
5. Russia awarded its highest state honour '**Order of St Andrew the Apostle**' for promoting the bilateral special and privileged strategic partnership\_\_ **Narendra Modi**.
- Note:**
- The award was extended on behalf of Russian President Vladimir Putin with whom Modi shares strong chemistry.
  - The Order of St Andrew the Apostle is awarded to prominent statesmen and public figures and representatives of science, culture, the arts and various industries for their exceptional services in promoting the prosperity, greatness and glory of Russia.
6. Telugu poet has been selected for the prestigious Saraswati Samman, 2018 for his collection of poetry titled Pakkaki Ottigilite \_\_\_\_ **K Siva Reddy**.
- Note:**
- The award, instituted by the KK Birla Foundation in 1991, is given annually for an outstanding literary work written in any Indian language and published during the last 10 years.
  - It is the highest recognition in the field of Indian literature and carries a cash purse of Rs 15 lakh, apart from a citation and a plaque.
7. Who has won the prestigious 'AIMA Managing India Award 2019 for outstanding PSU of the year\_\_ **Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)**.
- Note:**
- The award was presented by former President Pranab Mukherjee to Sanjiv Singh, Chairman, Indian Oil, at a glittering ceremony held here on Monday.
  - The AIMA awards, declared under 11 categories, were headed by Sanjiv Goenka, chairman, RP-Sanjiv Goenka Group, and shortlisted 11 eminent enterprises and personalities of the country for their contribution to nation-building.
8. Digital Sukoon founder was honored with the **Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Nobel Award** by International Human Rights Council at Hotel Sea Princess Juhu Mumbai\_\_ **Sudhanshu Kumar**.
- Note:**
- Digital Sukoon is a Mumbai based Digital solutions agency, which provides a comprehensive 360-degree solution to their clients for the promotional needs by creating innovative campaigns and optimum usage of technology tools.
9. **President Ramnath Kovind** declared the **4th edition of National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF India Rankings 2019)** in \_\_\_\_**New Delhi**.
- Note:**
- He also announced the **Atal Ranking of Institutions for Innovation Achievements (ARIIA) 2019**.
  - The NIRF rankings was released for a total of 9 categories - Overall, **Universities, Engineering, Colleges, Management, Pharmacy, Medical, Architecture, and Law**.

S. No	Categories	Names of Institution
1.	<b>Overall</b>	Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras
2.	<b>University</b>	Indian Institute of Science (IIS) Bangalore
3.	<b>Engineering</b>	Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras
4.	<b>College</b>	Miranda House, Delhi
5.	<b>Management</b>	Indian Institute of Management Bangalore
6.	<b>Pharmacy</b>	Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi
7.	<b>Law</b>	National Law School of India University, Bengaluru
8.	<b>Architecture</b>	Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kharagpur
9.	<b>Medical</b>	All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) New Delhi

## Sports News

1. Chinese player has won the Malaysian Open Badminton singles title in the men's final at Axiata Arena Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia \_\_\_\_ **Lin Dan**.  
**Note:**
  - He defeated countryman **Chen Long** 9-21, 21-7, 21-11.
  - In the women's singles final top seed **Tai Tzu Ying** (Taiwan) saw off Japanese **Akane Yamaguchi** 21-16, 21-19.
  - The 2019 Malaysia Open (9th) is a badminton tournament which takes place at Axiata Arena in Malaysia from 2 to 7 April 2019.
  - This tournament is organized by the Badminton Association of Malaysia with sanction from the BWF.
2. The **Indo-Tibetan Border Police** (ITBP) along with **Sky Running Association of India** organized the **National Sky Running Championship** at \_\_\_\_ **Auli, Uttarakhand**.  
**Note:**
  - This is the first time such championship was organised at a high altitude of up to 4000 metres.
  - Various athletes from ITBP, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Uttarakhand participated in the championship.
3. Royal Challengers Bangalore skipper overtook Suresh Raina to become the leading run-scorer in the Indian Premier League (IPL) \_\_ **Virat Kohli**.  
**Note:**
  - Kohli also became the 2nd fastest after Chris Gayle to reach 8000 T20 runs.
  - Till date, Virat Kohli and Suresh Raina are the only two players to score 5000 runs in the IPL.
  - Rohit Sharma (Mumbai Indians) is 3rd in the list of most runs in the IPL with 4600 runs.
4. Former **Australian field hockey player** has been appointment as the **men's national team chief coach** till the end of 2020\_\_ **Graham Reid**.  
**Note:**
  - Graham Reid was a member of the team that won the **silver medal** at the 1992 Summer Olympics in Barcelona, Spain.
  - He was ratified after Hockey India received necessary clearance from the **Sports Authority of India (SAI)**.
  - Mr. Graham Reid has worked as the coach of the Australia men's team and then as the assistant coach to Max Caldas with the Netherlands.
5. Asian champion shot putter has been banned for four years by the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) for flunking four dope tests in 2017\_\_ **Manpreet Kaur**.  
**Note:**
  - According to an order of the anti-doping disciplinary panel (ADDP) of the NADA, the period of suspension would begin from 20th July 2017.
  - She has the option of filing an appeal before the Anti-Doping Appeal Panel.
  - She had set the national record of 18.86m at Jinhua.
6. Indian captain was named the Leading Cricketer in the World and featured in Wisden's Five Cricketers of the Year \_\_ **Virat Kohli**.  
**Note:**
  - Kohli was also among Jos Buttler and Sam Curran to be listed in Wisden's Five Cricketers of the Year, a rare accolade which has been eluding him in his career until now.
  - Wisden Cricketers' Almanack (The Bible of Cricket) is a cricket reference book issued annually in the United Kingdom.
  - In 1998, an Australian edition of Wisden Cricketers' Almanack and in 2012, Indian edition was launched.
  - English Cricketer John Wisden established the Book in 1864.
7. Team India opener has been named as the Wisden Almanack's 'Leading Women's Cricketer of the Year' \_\_ **Smriti Mandhana**.  
**Note:**
  - Currently, she is the top-ranked player in women's ODI and third in T20Is.
  - In 2018, Mandhana scored 669 runs at an average of 66.90 in 12 ODIs and 622 runs at a strike-rate of 130.67 in 25 T20Is.

8. Chennai Super Kings' **medium pacer** has become the bowler with the most number of **dot balls** in an innings in the history of the **Indian Premier League (IPL)**\_\_\_ **Deepak Chahar**.

**Note:**

- Chahar staggering 20 dot balls and broke the record of 18 dot balls in an innings jointly held by Sunrisers Hyderabad spinner **Rashid Khan** and Kings XI Punjab medium pacer **Ankit Rajpoot**.

9. The recipient of the **New Zealand Prime Minister's Sir Edmund Hillary Fellowship** for 2019 in recognition of her "inspiring achievements" \_\_\_\_ **Deepa Malik**.

**Note:**

- The **first Indian woman** to earn a medal at the Paralympic Games, Deepa has won 58 national and 23 international medals.
- A recipient of the **Padma Shri** and Arjuna Award, she has entered the **Limca Book of World Records** four times.
- As a Sir Edmund Hillary Prime Minister's Fellow for New Zealand, Deepa will travel to New Zealand and meet with Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern, undertake a series of visits to Paralympic sporting organisations, and engage with Kiwi athletes, students and the media as well as New Zealand's significant Indian Diaspora community.

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