

Weekly One Liner

15th - 21st May 2019



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Important News – India

1. The Indian Navy's first full-fledged **Services Selection Board (SSB)** has been inaugurated by Navy Chief Admiral Sunil Lanba at ____ **Diamond Harbour near Kolkata**.
Note:
 - The SSB (Kolkata) spread over 27 acres located on the banks of Hooghly that was previously occupied by a Naval Coastal Battery.
 - The SSB (Kolkata) has the capacity to screen 5,000 officer-candidates annually.
 - This is the fifth SSB of the Indian Navy and will cater for a selection of both permanent and short service commission (SSC) officers.
 - The other boards are located at Bhopal, Bengaluru, Visakhapatnam and Coimbatore.
2. The 11th Joint Consular Committee meeting between India and Iran took place in ____ **New Delhi**.
Note:
 - Both sides discussed the early conclusion of Agreement on Mutual Legal Assistance on civil and commercial matters and extending the longer duration of e-Visa for each other nationals on reciprocity.
 - The meeting provided an opportunity to review the status of ongoing cooperation in consular and visa related issues and to discuss ways and means to further expand people to people contacts and promote friendly exchanges between India and Iran.
3. **Andhra Pradesh MedTech Zone (AMTZ)** has organized a one-day workshop on **Organ Bio Printing** at the Kalam Convention Center, AMTZ Campus in ____ **Visakhapatnam**.
Note:
 - The workshop aims to strengthen Indo-Australian Cooperation and achieve the development of the 3D printing industry in both countries.
 - The workshop explored 3D printing, an innovative technology that covers all medical disciplines and offers new opportunities in diagnostics and therapy.
4. The **military drill** was conducted to showcase **joint operations** capability of the armed forces ____ **Exercise Bull strike**.
Note:
 - During the exercise, the army personnel got the chance to display their prowess by undertaking company level airborne operation at Teressa island, Andaman Nicobar.
 - 170 troops from three services carried out para drop operations in a Combat Free Fall and Static Line mode.
5. The **Union government** has planned to introduce **artificial intelligence** system in the ____ **MCA 21 portal**.
Note:
 - MCA 21 is the electronic backbone for the dissemination of information to all stakeholders, including the regulator, corporates and investors.
 - All filings under the company's law are submitted to the ministry through this portal.
 - MCA 21 allows electronic filings of various documents under the Companies Act, 2013 and has fully automated all processes related to enforcement and compliance monitoring under the Act.
6. The Navies of India and Singapore are participating in the **annual maritime bilateral exercise** in the South China Sea ____ **'SIMBEX-19'**
Note:
 - Naval ships INS Kolkata and INS Shakti taking part in the bilateral naval exercise, along with long-range maritime patrol aircraft Poseidon-8I.
 - The Singapore side is being represented by RSN ships Steadfast and Valiant, maritime patrol aircraft Fokker-50 and F-16 fighter aircraft.
7. Who has achieved a significant milestone in enhancing its Anti-Air Warfare Capability with the maiden cooperative engagement firing of the Medium Range Surface to Air Missile (MRSAM) ____ **Indian Navy**.
Note:
 - The Indian Navy achieved a significant milestone in enhancing its Anti-Air Warfare Capability with the maiden cooperative engagement firing of the Medium Range Surface to Air Missile (MRSAM).
 - The firing was undertaken on the Western Seaboard by Indian Naval Ships Kochi and Chennai.

- In test, the missiles of both ships were controlled by one ship to intercept different aerial targets at extended ranges.

States News

1. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between **National Mission for Clean Ganga**, HCL Foundation and INTACH for taking up a project of Plantation of Rudraksha Trees in ____ **Uttarakhand**

Note:

- The project aims at planting 10 thousand Rudraksha trees in the catchment area of river Ganga in Uttarakhand in association with the local community and other stakeholders.
- It will also help in generating income for people residing in those areas.
- Namami Gange Mission aims at providing comprehensive and sustainable solutions for a cleaner ecosystem along the stretch of 97 towns and over 4 thousand 4 hundred villages on the Ganga stem.

2. On 16th May 1975, Who became a part of Indian state after the 36th Constitutional Amendment__ **Sikkim**.

Note:

- During the British rule in India, the kingdom of Sikkim enjoyed a sovereign status with British protectorate against the neighbouring countries Nepal and China.
- This 'subordinate alliance' with the British was carried on by the newly formed Indian government after 1947.

Important News – World

1. Developing countries have stressed on **working collectively** to strengthen the **World Trade Organization (WTO)** to promote development and inclusivity for the benefits of all members__ **Seventeen**.

Note:

- 13-point declaration was signed by these nations at the end of the two-day Ministerial meeting of developing countries in New Delhi.
- The countries include Egypt, Barbados, Jamaica, Malaysia, India, Indonesia and South Africa.

2. India has been unanimously chosen as co-chair of the **Consultative Group (CG)** of Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) for the fiscal year__ **2020**.

Note:

- The decision was taken during the meeting of GFDRR held in Geneva, Switzerland on the margins of the 6th Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction.
- It is a grant-funding mechanism, managed by the World Bank, that supports disaster risk management projects worldwide.

3. The Union Government has extended the ban on the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) for another ____ **five years**.

Note:

- LTTE was founded on 5th May 1976 by Velupillai Prabhakaran.
- Its aim was to secure an independent state of Tamil Eelam in the north and east in response to the state policies of successive Sri Lankan governments towards Tamils.

4. The three-day '**Taiwan Expo 2019**' held in ____ **New Delhi**.

Note:

- There are 10 theme pavilions at the expo focusing on green products, health care, agriculture, tourism, biotechnology and electrical equipment.
- 150 exhibitors are showcasing their products in 230 stalls.
- Around 30 thousand people are expected to visit the expo this year and potential business is likely to touch 150 million dollars.

5. US President Donald Trump has declared a national emergency to protect American computer networks from__ **foreign adversaries**.

Note:

- Mr. Trump signed an executive order which effectively bars US companies from using foreign telecoms believed to pose a security risk to the country.
- Several countries (including the US) have raised concerns that the company's products could be used by China for surveillance.

6. The Chinese Ministry of Education organized the 'Conference on Asian Civilizations Dialogue (CDAC)' in collaboration with _____ **UNESCO**.

Note:

- The theme of the event is Exchanges and Mutual Learning among Asian Civilizations and a Community with a Shared Future.
- The objective of the dialogue to bring together a number of internationally renowned experts to deliberate and discuss the major challenges facing the rapprochement and peaceful coexistence of Asian Civilizations in today's context.

7. Who has broadened its block of online encyclopedia Wikipedia to include all language editions___ **China**.

Note:

- According to a report by the Open Observatory of Network Interference (OONI), China has started blocking all language editions of Wikipedia last month.
- China's online censorship apparatus 'Great Firewall' blocks large number of foreign sites in the country, such as Google, Facebook and The New York Times.

8. Who has become the first country in Asia to legalize same-sex marriage___ **Tiwan**.

Note:

- Taiwan has approved a bill legalizing same-sex marriage, a landmark decision that makes the self-ruled island the first place in Asia to pass gay marriage legislation.
- The successful bill includes limited adoption rights for same-sex couples.

9. Israel proposes India to be the focus country in **Jerusalem Film Festival**, 2020 at____ **Cannes Film Festival**.

Note:

- Indian delegation met Ms Eti Cohen, Director of Film Department and Council, Israel who announced the recommendation.
- Israel also proposed the idea of making concept-based films in India, with a focus on regional and small budget films.
- India has been positioned prominently on the Pocket Guide of Marche Du Film, Cannes Film Market, which celebrates Indian cinema as the world's largest film industry.

Honor & Awards

1. IPS officer has been awarded the 2019 McCain Institute Award for Courage and Leadership___ **Chhaya Sharma**.

Note:

- Chhaya Sharma led the investigation team of the infamous Nirbhaya gang-rape and murder case.
- The award is given to those who show courage on behalf of human rights, humanitarian compassion, justice, freedom, and human dignity.
- The McCain Institute Award is given to those who show courage on behalf of human rights, humanitarian compassion, justice, freedom, and human dignity.

2. **Bollywood Actor** will be felicitated by the **Council of European Chambers of Commerce** (CEUCC) in India and European Union delegation as part of the **Europe Day** celebrations in Mumbai__ **Anil Kapoor**.

Note:

- Europe Day is celebrated every year on 9th May to mark the formation of the European Union (EU).
- The actor will be honoured for his decade-long support to promoting the cause of children's rights and his collaboration with the EU and Plan India in their girls' rights endeavours.

3. The second edition of the **United Nations Ocean Conference** will be held in June 2020 at ___ **Lisbon, Portugal**.

Note:

- United Nations Ocean Conference will support the sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources,
- The first edition was held in the United States in 2017.
- The theme of the 2020 conference will be- Scaling up ocean action based on science and innovation for the implementation of Goal 14: stocktaking, partnerships and solutions.

4. United Nations Office for **Disaster Risk Reduction** (UNDRR) has conferred **Sasakawa Award 2019** for Disaster Risk No Reduction to _____ **Dr Pramod Kumar Mishra**

Note

- The award was announced at the Award Ceremony during the ongoing 6th Session of Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GPDRR) 2019 at Geneva.
- A total grant of USD 50,000 is distributed among the winners which can be either organizations or individuals.
- The theme of the 2019 Sasakawa award was "Building Inclusive and Resilient Societies".

Sports News

1. Who has won the **Asia-Pacific Diamond Golf Cup 2019** by one shot at the Sobu Country Club__ **Yosuke Asaji**.

Note:

- Rahil Gangjee (India) finished tied 39th and Viraj Madappa ended tied 53rd in the finals.
- Diamond Cup Golf (founded in 1973) is an annual golf tournament on the Japan Golf Tour.

2. Who has become the first woman to be appointed to **ICC's international panel** of match referees__ **G.S. Lakshmi(India)**.

Note:

- Now, she will be eligible to officiate in international games with immediate effect.
- Earlier, Claire Polosak had become the first ever woman umpire to stand in a men's ODI,
- Lakshmi first officiated as a match referee in domestic women's cricket in 2008-09.
- She has overseen three women's ODI matches and three women's T20 International matches.

3. British racing driver has won the Spanish Grand Prix for a third consecutive year__ **Lewis Hamilton**.

Note:

- He overtakes Mercedes teammate Valtteri Bottas at the first turn in Barcelona.
- Red Bull's Max Verstappen clinched the 3rd spot and was voted as the F1 driver of the day.
- Hamilton's win at the Spanish Grand Prix brings his tally to 76 F1 victories in all.

4. **Croatian World Cupper** has been appointed Indian football team head coach for a two-year term__ **Igor Stimac**.

Note:

- The appointment was made by the All India Football Federation's Executive Committee.
- The national team has been without a coach since the departure of Stephen Constantine in January, following the creditable show at the AFC Asian Cup.
- Stimac was part of Croatia's 1998 World Cup squad that finished third in France, has over 18 years of coaching experience.

5. Veteran Nepali Sherpa scaled **Mount Everest** for the 23rd time__ **Kami Rita**.

Note:

- He broke his own record of the most successful ascents of the world's highest peak.
- The Sherpa climber first scaled the Mount Everest on 13th May 1994.
- He has already climbed most of the peaks above 8,000 m including K2, Cho-Oyu, Lhoste, and Annapurna among others.

6. Who has abandoned its bid to stage **Asian Cup Football** tournament 2023__ **South Korea**.

Note:

- The Korea Football Association (KFA) had pulled out to strategically focus on a joint bid with North Korea to host the Women's World Cup in the same year.
- The KFA announced the joint bid in March, but diplomatic contacts between Pyongyang and Seoul have since dwindled with North Korea-US nuclear talks deadlocked.
- The host will be designated on 4 June 2019, before the 69th FIFA Congress, in Paris, France.

7. Who has clinched the **Italian Open 2019 men's Tennis** title__ **Rafael Nadal**.

Note:

- This is Nadal's ninth Italian Open title and 81st title in his career.
- Nadal also broke a tie with Djokovic by claiming a record 34th ATP Masters 1000 crown.
- In Women's single, Czech's Karolina Pliskova registered two straight-set victories against Britain's Johanna Konta 6-3, 6-4 to claim the Italian Open title.

8. The **India Open International Boxing Tournament** (2nd edition) was held in__ **Guwahati, Assam**.

Note:

- 200 players from 16 countries taken place in the event.
- India will field a strong contingent of 38 men and 37 women in the tournament including Mary Kom in 51-kilogram category.

9. The **world body governing Badminton** (BFA) has launched two new formats of the game___ '**AirBadminton**' and '**Triples**'.

Note:

- AirBadminton will be outdoor sports (Traditional badminton- indoor game).
- In Triples format, the match will be played between a team of three players each with the presence of at least one female.
- Infrastructure won't be a hindrance for people interested in Airbadminton as it can be played in different environments like grass in parks, on sands in beaches and the streets and bylanes.

10. Germany's double Olympic biathlon champion **announced her retirement** after struggling with health issues__ **Laura Dahlmeier**.

Note:

- She has won seven world championship gold medals, and in 2018 in Pyeongchang.
- She became the first female biathlete to win both the sprint and the pursuit at the same Olympics.

Banking & Financial Awareness

1. **Reserve Bank of India** (RBI) has released a vision document for ensuring a safe, secure, convenient, quick and affordable___ **e-payment system**.

Note:

- The 'Payment and Settlement Systems in **India: Vision 2019 - 2021**', with its core theme of 'Empowering Exceptional E-payment Experience', envisages achieving "a highly digital and cash-lite society" through the goal posts of competition, cost-effectiveness, convenience and confidence (4Cs).
- The payment systems landscape will continue to change with further innovation and entry of more players which is expected to ensure the optimal cost to the customers and freer access to multiple payment system options.
- The document talks about creating customer awareness, setting up a **24X7 helpline** and self-regulatory organization for system operators and service providers, among others.

2. The Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) has launched the app to enable more participation and help mutual fund distributors process transactions faster __ **BSE StAR MF**.

Note:

- BSE StAR MF is the exchange's mutual fund platform which helps distributors purchase and redeems mutual fund units on behalf of their clients.
- The launch of the app would further provide the comfort of doing business to our 24,000 members.
- The 'BSE StAR MF' app can be downloaded from the Google Play Store. Once the app is downloaded, the sign up can be done by providing the member identification number

3. **Reserve Bank of India** has imposed a monetary penalty of **Rs 1 crore** on _____ **Nainital Bank**.

Note:

- Nainital Bank fails to fully automate the non-performing asset (NPA) identification process, despite specific directions issued in this regard.
- The Nainital Bank Limited (a subsidiary of Bank of Baroda) is a scheduled commercial bank founded in 1922 by Govind Ballabh Pant.

4. The **public sector Indian Bank** has registered a loss in the last quarter__ **189.77 crore rupees**.

Note:

- Its Chairperson and Managing Director Padmaja Chunduru unveiled the bank's annual financial results today in Chennai.
- The net profit has turned negative due to two corporate loans turning into NPAs for which no provisioning has been made earlier.
- The development is a one-off event and expressed confidence that the net profit would turn positive during the next quarter.

5. Indian digital wallet company Paytm has tied up with American card company Citibank to launch a credit card called _____ **Paytm First Card**.

Note:

- The card will offer minimum assured one per cent “universal unlimited cashback” on all transactions to customers along with no restrictions on earning categories.
- Paytm First Card will have an annual fee of Rs. 500, with the facility of a full waiver of annual fee on spends exceeding Rs 50,000 per year.
- It is the first card of its kind card launched in India by Citi as well as the first white-label credit card to offer unlimited one per cent cash-back.

6. HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company has announced to launch the _____ **Mosquito Disease Protection Policy**.

Note:

- This new policy will cover an individual against common mosquito-borne diseases like Dengue Fever, Malaria, Chikungunya, Japanese Encephalitis, Kala-azar, Lymphatic Filariasis and Zika Virus.
- These diseases also lead to hospitalization adding burden on expense or affecting the No Claim Bonus of any standard Health Insurance.

7. Merchant service and UPI payments app has roped in Bollywood actor Salman Khan as its brand ambassador _____ **BharatPe**.

Note:

- Mr. Khan will be focused towards educating merchants and users about UPI payments along with driving adoption of BharatPe app for all their business needs.
- The company is on an aggressive growth spree and will be launching a brand advertising campaign with Khan shortly.
- The new brand campaign with Khan will be focused towards educating merchants and users about UPI payments along with driving adoption of BharatPe app for all their business needs.

8. Who has launched a new initiative called 'HDFC Affordable Real Estate and Technology Program (HeART) to mentor, partner and invest in real estate technology companies _____ **HDFC Capital Advisors**.

Note:

- The HeART will support businesses which are innovating and building technology solutions to enhance the supply of affordable housing.
- As part of the HeART initiative, it will provide a platform to real estate technology companies with innovative products aimed at creating efficiencies and lowering costs in each part of the development cycle of a real estate project.

Obituaries

1. Former Prime Minister of **Australia** passed away _____ **Bob Hawke**.

Note:

- He was the longest-serving Prime Minister (Labor Party) served from 1983 to 1991.
- He is also accredited to create Australia's universal healthcare system 'Medicare'.

2. Former **Swimming Champion** passed away in road accident in Chennai _____ **MB Balakrishnan**.

Note:

- He won the 100m and 200m backstroke events at the South Asian Games.

3. Veteran **Telugu actor** passed away in Hyderabad _____ **Rallapalli Venkata Narasimha Rao**.

Note:

- He had also worked as a **staff artist** in the **Ministry of Information** and Broadcasting.
- **Ralapalli** acted in more than 800 films and was popular as a comedian and character artiste.
- He was a five-time winner of the prestigious Nandi award in undivided Andhra Pradesh.

4. Austrians former **Formula One driver** passed away _____ **Niki Lauda**.

Note:

- Three-time world champion Niki Lauda was hugely admired, respected and liked within F1.
- He won two titles for Ferrari and one for McLaren.

5. American architect who designed the Louvre's crystal pyramid passed away__ **I M Pei**.

Note:

- Pei's more than 50 projects included the Musee d'Art Moderne in Luxembourg (2006) and the 72-story Bank of China Tower in Hong Kong (1989).
- He was honoured with the American Institute of Architects' Gold Medal in 1979.
- The Grande Medaille d'Or from the Academie d'Architecture de France; and the Presidential Medal of Freedom in the USA.

Important Days

1. The International Day of Families is observed every year on ____ **15th May**.

Note:

- The day provide an opportunity to promote awareness of issues relating to families and to increase the knowledge of the social, economic and demographic processes affecting families
- The theme of this year is "Families and Climate Action: Focus on SDG13".

2. The **Government of India** (GoI) has declared **National Dengue Day** to mark the toll from the **deadly disease** 'Dengue' ____ **16th May**.

Note:

- The day has been taking in terms of lives and to reaffirm nationwide efforts to tackle the scourge by using both education and medical intervention.
- Dengue is a viral disease which includes symptoms such as high-grade fever 2 to 7 days and headache, vomiting, muscle and joint pains, and a characteristic skin rash.

3. The **World Telecommunication and Information Society Day** (WTISD) is observed every year on ____ **17th May**.

Note:

- The 2019 theme of WTISD is "Bridging the standardization gap".
- The WTISD raise awareness of the possibilities that the use of the Internet and other information and communication technologies (ICT) can bring to societies and economies, as well as of ways to bridge the digital divide.

4. **Anti-Terrorism Day** being observed on ____ **21st May**.

Note:

- On 21st May, the UAE is celebrating World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development to highlight its efforts in promoting tolerance and cultural diversity.

5. The **World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development** is observed on ____ **21st May**.

Note:

- The World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development", is an opportunity to help communities understand the value of cultural diversity and learn how to live together in harmony.
- The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed this holiday due to UNESCO's Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity in November 2001.
- This day was created as a result of the destruction of the Buddha statues of Bamiyan in Afghanistan in 2001.

New Appointments

1. Mr. Dinesh Pangtey has been appointed as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of ____ **LIC Mutual Fund**.

Note:

- He started his career as a direct recruit officer with LIC of India in 1984 and has risen through the ranks to this senior position.
- LIC Mutual Fund was established on 20th April 1989 by LIC of India.

2. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has appointed (former Deputy Governor of RBI) as Additional Director on the board of private sector lender YES Bank__ **R Gandhi**.

Note:

- Gandhi was RBI Deputy Governor during April 2014 and April 2017.
- The RBI has the powers conferred under sub-section (1) of Section 36AB of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 to appoint additional directors on the board of a bank if it feels it is in the interest of the banking company or its depositors.

3. Who has been appointed as the **first head of India's first tri-services Special Operations Division**__ **Major General AK Dhingra**.

Note:

- The Armed Forces Special Operations Division has been set up by the government to undertake joint operations by three services.
- It will have elements from the Army's Parachute Regiments SF, Marine Commandos (MARCOS) of the Navy and the Garud Commandos of the Indian Air Force.

4. Who has been appointed Chairperson of the News Broadcasting Standards Authority (NBSA)__ **Justice Arjan Kumar Sikri**.

Note:

- He succeeds Justice R.V. Raveendran who completes his term on 25th May 2019.
- The NBSA is a self-regulatory body that implements the Code of Ethics & Broadcasting Standards and Guidelines for its member news broadcasters.

5. Who has been appointed to the **Supreme Court of Fiji** as a judge of its non-resident panel __ **Justice Madan B Lokur**.

Note:

- **Justice Madan B Lokur** (Retired Indian Judge) has been appointed to the Supreme Court of Fiji as a judge of its non-resident panel.
- He will join the office from **August 15, 2019** and has been appointed for a term of 3 years.
- He retired as Supreme Court judge on 31 December 2018, after a term of more than 6 years.

6. Who has won the **2019 Australian** federal election__ **Scott Morrison**.

Note:

- According to the ABC's Election Calculator, the governing Coalition is on track to win at least 76 seats in the Australian Parliament, while the opposing Labor Party is set to win 65.
- Scott Morrison is Australia's fifth prime minister in almost nine years, owing to rapid successions of party leaders during the period.

7. Who has been re-elected as Indonesia's president__ **Joko Widodo**.

Note:

- Joko Widodo's challenger Subianto (67-years) has vowed to challenge any victory for Widodo, alleging widespread voter fraud, and warned that it could spark street protests across the country.
- The President of the Republic of Indonesia is the head of government of the Republic of Indonesia.
- The president leads the executive branch of the Indonesian government and is the commander-in-chief of the Indonesian National Armed Forces.

8. **Pakistan** has appointed career diplomat as the **High Commissioner** to India__ **Mueenul Haq**.

Note:

- Earlier, Mr Haq has served as chief of protocol at the Foreign Office.
- The post of High Commissioner to India fell vacant after Sohail Mehmood was appointed Pakistan's new foreign secretary.
- Prime Minister Imran Khan approved appointments of over two dozen ambassadors in various countries including India, China and Japan.

9. **Volodymyr Zelenskiy** (41-years) took oath as the country's new President__ **Ukraine**.

Note:

- Zelinskiy became Ukraine's youngest post-Soviet President after he scored a landslide election victory against incumbent Petro Poroshenko.
- Mr Zelensky a former television star, acted the part of the Ukrainian president in a popular comedy series. He scored a landslide victory in last month's presidential election.

10. Who has been appointed as the next **Managing Director** (MD) and **Chief Executive Officer** (CEO) of Ujjivan Small Finance Bank Limited ____ **Nitin Chugh**.

Note:

- Nitin Chugh will join the bank by August 2019 as President and will work closely with Samit Ghosh, existing MD and CEO to ensure a smooth transition.
- Ujjivan Small Finance Bank Limited is a bank licensed under Section 22 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 to carry out small finance bank business in India.
- Ujjivan Small Finance Bank received Scheduled Bank status from the Reserve Bank of India in August 2017.

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