

# Weekly One Liner

15<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> August 2019



**Weekly One Liner Updates**  
**15-21st August 2019**  
**Important Days**

1. The **World Humanitarian Day (WHD)** is observed annually across the world on \_\_\_\_ **19th August**.

**Note:**

- The day recognize the work of humanitarian personnel and those who have lost their lives working for humanitarian causes.
- The day provides an opportunity to celebrate the spirit that inspires humanitarian work around the globe.
- The world humanitarian day 2019 theme is 'Women Humanitarians'.

2. The **'World Photography Day'** being observed to inspire photographers across the planet \_\_\_\_ **19th August**.

**Note:**

- On this day, camera persons take stock of the different kind of photography that has come to the fore.
- On August 19 in 2010, World Photo Day hosted its first global online gallery.

3. **Sadbhavana Diwas** is being celebrated every year on \_\_\_\_ **20th August**.

**Note:**

- This year will be the 75th Birth Anniversary of Rajiv Gandhi.
- This day is observed to encourage the national integration, peace, affection and communal harmony among the Indian people of all religions.
- Mr. Rajiv Gandhi was born on 20th August 1944, in Bombay.

4. The **World Senior Citizen's Day** is celebrated every year on \_\_\_\_ **21st August**.

**Note:**

- The main purpose of the World Senior Citizen's Day is to raise awareness of the condition of older people and to support them throughout the ageing process.
- It was first proclaimed by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 14th December 1990.

5. The **International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism** is being observed on \_\_\_\_ **21st August**.

**Note:**

- The International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 2017.
- In 2017 alone, nearly three-quarters of all deaths caused by terrorism were in just five countries: Afghanistan, Iraq, Nigeria, Somalia and Syria
- The day is meant to allow victims of terrorism to have their needs supported and their rights upheld.

**New Appointments**

1. Former India cricketer and allrounder has been appointed as the coach of the Indian cricket team for second successive term \_\_\_\_ **Ravi Shastri**.

**Note:**

- Three-member Cricket Advisory Committee- Kapil Dev, Anshuman Gaekwad and Shantha Rangaswamy- made the announcement.
- Shastri's new tenure has been extended till T20 World Cup, to be held in 2021 in India.
- There were a total six candidates in the competition for the post and those were Robin Singh, Lalchand Rajput, Mike Hesson, Tom Moody, Phil Simmons, and Ravi Shastri.

2. Who has been appointed as the Director of National Institute of Health and Family Welfare \_\_\_\_ **Harshad Pandurang Thakur**.

**Note:**

- Harshad Pandurang Thakur is a Professor at Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai.
- The NIHF, an autonomous organisation under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, acts as an apex technical institute as well as a think tank for the promotion of health and family welfare programmes in the country.

3. Paytm promotes CFO Madhur Deora as **\_\_\_President of the company.**

**Note:**

- Prior to joining Paytm (in 2016), Mr. Deora has served as Managing Director (MD) in Citigroup's investment banking business in New York, London and Mumbai.
- Paytm have grown over 20x in the last 3 years by creating a payments-led lifestyle and financial services app in our country.
- Paytm was founded in August 2010 with an initial investment of USD 2 million by its founder Vijay Shekhar Sharma.

4. Congress leader and former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh has been elected unopposed to Rajya Sabha from **\_\_\_Rajasthan.**

**Note:**

- The election for a seat in Rajya Sabha from Rajasthan comes after demise of BJP's unit president Madan Lal Saini in June.
- With this Manmohan Singh has become the sole Congress candidate amongst 10 Rajya Sabha Members in Rajasthan.

5. Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan has approved an **extension of three years** in the tenure of Pakistani Army chief **\_\_\_General Qamar Javed Bajwa.**

**Note:**

- Qamar Bajwa was appointed the chief of the Pakistani Army in November 2016 by then Prime minister Nawaz Sharif.
- The decision has been taken in view of the regional security environment.
- The Chief of Army Staff is a military appointment and statutory office held by the four-star rank army general in the Pakistan Army.

6. Who has been appointed as the **MD and CEO of Idea-Vodafone** with immediate effect **\_\_\_ Ravinder Takkar.**

**Note:**

- He has replaced Balesh Sharma after his resignation as the chief executive officer of Vodafone Idea (VIL).
- Currently, Mr Takkar is a board member of Vodafone Idea and Indus Towers, where he is responsible for all Vodafone Group interests in India.

### Important News – India

1. In his sixth consecutive Independence Day speech, Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the nation from **\_\_\_ Red Fort.**

**Note:**

- PM Modi on I-day announced the appointment of a Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) who will be above the three Service Chiefs.
- The CDS will be a single-point military adviser to the government and synergise long term planning, procurements, training and logistics of the three Services.
- The CDS is also one of the 99 recommendations made by the Lt. General D.B. Shekatkar (retd.) Committee which submitted its report in December 2016.

2. Inter-State Council has been reconstituted with Prime Minister as **\_\_\_Chairman.**

**Note:**

- The Inter-State Council (mandated to investigate and advise on disputes between states) has been reconstituted with Prime Minister Narendra Modi as its chairman and six Union ministers and all chief ministers as members.
- Union ministers who will be members of the reconstituted council are Amit Shah (Home), Nirmala Sitharaman (Finance), Rajnath Singh (Defence), Narendra Singh Tomar (Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj).

3. A New mobile app launched to provide location, and crop and livestock-specific weather-based agro advisories to farmers in local languages **\_\_\_ Meghdoot.**

**Note:**

- Initially the service would be available for 150 districts in different parts of the country.
- The Ministries will provide forecast to farmers relating to temperature, rainfall, humidity, and wind speed and direction.

- It has been developed by experts from the India Meteorological Department and Indian Institute of Tropical meteorology and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.
4. Who has been collaboration with World Health Organization and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to expand its India Hypertension Control Initiative (IHCI) across the country\_\_ **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)**.
- Note:**
- This initiative was launched in November 2017, in which more than three lakh patients with high blood pressure enrolled in government health facilities in 25 selected districts in Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala, Telangana, and Maharashtra.
  - The expansion is expected to accelerate the implementation of quality hypertension treatment for over 15 crore population over the next four years.
5. President **Ram Nath Kovind** inaugurated the underground '**Bunker Museum**' at Raj Bhavan in \_\_ **Mumbai**.
- Note**
- 'Bunker Museum' has virtual reality booths to give insight to visitors about the 19th century when the bunker was created to fire cannons at approaching enemy ships.
  - The President also inaugurated the Presidential Guest House named Jal Kiran at Raj Bhavan which will serve as the accommodation for the President and the Prime Minister during their visits to Mumbai.
  - On the occasion, President Kovind also laid the foundation stone of reconstruction of Maharashtra Governor's Office-cum-Residence known as Jal Bhushan.
6. India has got its first **National Essential Diagnostics List** (NEDL) finalized by the \_\_ **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)**.
- Note:**
- The purpose of this list to bridge the current regulatory system's gap that does not cover all the medical devices and
  - in-vitro diagnostic device (IVD).
  - This will create stringent national pre-qualification specifications and processes that are necessary to ensure the availability of safe, effective, affordable tests of good quality as well as improving access to new diagnostics in resource-constrained settings.
7. Union HRD Minister **Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'** has inaugurated an international conference on teacher education in \_\_ **New Delhi**.
- Note:**
- The two-day event is being organized by the National Council of Teacher Education as part of silver jubilee celebration of its establishment in 1995.
  - According to Mr Nishank, India has traditionally been known for leadership in education and teacher preparation.
  - The Union Human Resource Development Ministry will launch the world's biggest project for teacher training on 22nd August to train over 42 lakhs schoolteachers across the country.
8. India's first Central Institute of Chemical Engineering & Technology (CICET) will be set up in \_\_ **Gujarat**.
- Note:**
- The CICET will come up either at Ahmedabad or Surat.
  - The Minister of State for Chemical and Fertilisers also announced setting up of another campus of the Central Institute of Plastic Engineering & Technology (CIPET) in Valsad at the cost of Rs 54 crore for the benefit of tribal students and the plastic industry.
9. Railway Board has asked all its **zonal offices** to enforce a strict plastic ban at **all stations** from\_\_ **2nd October 2019**.
- Note:**
- As per the circular, all zonal railway offices should enforce a ban on single-use plastic.
  - The staff should be encouraged to use inexpensive reusable plastic bags when possible and refuse plastic in most cases.
  - IRCTC should implement the return of plastic drinking water bottles and plastic bottle crushing units should be procured as fast as possible.
10. Wipro Limited has partnered with the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru for advanced applied research in autonomous systems, robotics and 5G space\_\_ '**WIRIN**'.
- Note:**
- For this purpose, the two organization have jointly set up the Wipro IISc Research and Innovation Network (WIRIN) as an industry-academia collaboration unit.
  - They will focus on the research and development of cutting-edge technologies in Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Visual Computing, Human-Computer Interaction (HCI) and Vehicle-to-everything communication (V2X).
11. **Railway Protection Force (RPF)** has launched a Special Drive with a Code Name - Operation \_\_ **Number Plate**.
- Note:**

- It has been launched to identify and verify all vehicles parked in Railway premises, circulating area, parking and even in the 'No Parking' areas for a longer duration.
- The unidentified vehicles are considered as a serious threat to the security and safety of passengers and other stakeholders of railways.
- 3943 Vehicles were found parked unattended/unclaimed for more than 05 days in the authorized parking lots of Railway stations.
- A fine of Rs. 59000/- have been recovered as the charges for unauthorized parking.

12. India's first Space Science Museum opened in \_\_\_ **Hyderabad**.

**Note:**

- It is a collaborative effort between the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) and the BM Birla Science Centre.
- The BM Birla Science Centre has given 9000 square feet of space in its Science Museum building.
- This museum exhibits scale models of Indian Launch vehicles GSLV Mark III, GSLV Mark II and PSLV, Chandrayaan-1, Mars Orbiter spacecraft, APPLE, Aryabhata, Bhaskara, Rohini RS-1 and a model of the International Space Station (ISS).

13. The Indian Navy would be hosting a multilateral naval exercise in Visakhapatnam in March 2020 \_\_\_ **MILAN**.

**Note:**

- The MILAN series of biennial exercises, which commenced in 1995 and conducted at Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC) until last year.
- Last year's edition was conducted for the first time on the mainland at the eastern naval command (ENC).

14. Union Minister of Civil Aviation Hardeep **Singh Puri** announced that the Hollongi Airport in Itanagar will be completed by \_\_\_ **31<sup>st</sup> March, 2022**.

**Note:**

- Mr Puri made the announcement while reviewing the status of Civil Aviation in Arunachal Pradesh through a video conference with Chief Secretary Naresh Kumar.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for the construction of the Greenfield Airport at Hollongi near Itanagar on 9th of February this year.

### Important News – State

1. National Tribal Festival 'Aadi Mahotsav' held in \_\_\_ **Leh-Ladakh**.

**Note:**

- Tribal Affairs Ministry and Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED) are jointly organizing a 9 - Day Aadi Mahotsav.
- The theme of this celebration is "A celebration of the spirit of Tribal Craft, Culture and Commerce".
- 9 day Adi mahotsav will showcase traditional art and handicrafts and cultural heritage of the country.

2. The state Government has launched the state's flagship program "Village Volunteers System" \_\_\_ **Andhra Pradesh**.

**Note:**

- The aim of this program is to provide government services at doorsteps of people.
- This was announced by the chief minister on the eve of independence-day celebration in Vijayawada.
- Each volunteer will be paid Rs 5,000 per month and the person has to

3. Manipur Chief Minister **N Biren Singh** has launched a scheme to improve the infrastructure of government schools in the state \_\_\_ **School Fagadaba**.

**Note:**

- The objective of the "School Fagadaba" Scheme is to ensure better infrastructure, quality education and overall improvement of government schools to make them model schools.
- In the first phase of the scheme, one school from each of the 60 Assembly constituencies in the state have been selected.
- Biometric devices would be installed in schools in ensuring regular attendance of teachers.

4. Maharashtra Transport Minister **Diwakar Raote** has launched a tracking system for \_\_\_ **MSRTC buses**.

**Note:**

- Currently, it is ready on the Mumbai-Nashik route for all Shivneri buses, the premium brand of MSRTC.
- The cost of the project, including the deployment of GPS machines, tracking software, and putting up screens to display information at bus stops, is 32 crore rupees.
- The mechanism will help the corporation to efficiently deploy services, inform passengers about delays, and provide the driver information about congestion on the route and suggest alternatives.



5. Odisha Chief Minister **Naveen Patnaik** announced initiative during Independence Day celebration in the state **Mo Sarkar**.  
**Note:**
  - The new initiative will commence from October 2 on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti.
  - Under the new initiative, the chief minister and other ministers will call common citizens to seek their feedback on the kind of response and service they received when they visited the government facilities.
  - The program, in its first phase, will be implemented for all police stations and district headquarters hospitals and will later take up all other departments by March 5, 2020.
6. Who has won the **“best innovation and initiative leadership award”** for its achievements in higher education in the World Education Summit-2019 **Rajasthan**.  
**Note:**
  - Minister of State for Higher Education Bhanwar Singh Bhati received the award at the summit.
  - Representatives of eight countries and 17 States of India attended the two-day summit.
  - The third higher education and human resource conclave would be organised in Rajasthan in November this year.
7. According to Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami, Vellore district will be trifurcated and two new districts, **Ranipet and Tirupattur**.  
**Note:**
  - Vellore will be the headquarters of these two new districts.
  - The Chief Minister also announced that a new taluk will be formed with K V Kuppam as its headquarters.
  - With the creation of two more districts, the total number of districts in Tamil Nadu mounts to 37.
8. Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated the first-ever CNG fuel station of the state in **Dibrugarh**.  
**Note:**
  - With the inauguration of this clean and green fuel station, it will reduce environmental pollution.
  - Mr. Sonowal has given much emphasis to make the state free from pollution.

### Important News – World

1. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is on a three-day visit to **UAE, France and Bahrain**.
2. The 5th meeting of **India-Nepal Joint Commission** held in **Kathmandu, Nepal**.  
**Note:**
  - Dr S. Jaishankar (India’s Minister for External Affairs) and Pradeep Kumar Gyawali (Nepal’s Minister of Foreign Affairs) co-chaired the meeting and lead their respective delegations.
  - The Joint Commission Meeting will review the overall state of bilateral relations and various areas of cooperation such as connectivity and economic partnership, trade and transit, power and water resources, culture, education and other matters of mutual interest.
  - India-Nepal Joint Commission was established in June 1987.
3. Chad President has declared a state of emergency in two eastern provinces after violent **Idriss Deby**.  
**Note:**
  - The state of emergency will run for three months in Sila and Ouaddai regions.
  - The Republic of Chad is a landlocked country in north-central Africa.
  - It is bordered by Libya to the north, Sudan to the east, the Central African Republic to the south, Cameroon and Nigeria to the southwest, and Niger to the west.
4. Prime Minister Narendra Modi held delegation-level talks with Zambian President **Edgar Lungu**.  
**Note:**
  - Several agreements has been signed after the talks.
  - President Lungu's visit will provide an opportunity to further energize India's mutually beneficial partnership with Zambia.
  - The Republic of Zambia (Southern African country) is a landlocked country of rugged terrain and diverse wildlife, with many parks and safari areas.
5. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Bhutanese counterpart Dr Lotay Tshering jointly inaugurated the 720 Megawatt Mangdechhu hydroelectric plant in **Thimphu**.  
**Note:**
  - This is the fourth plant built by India in Bhutan.
  - They also inaugurated the Ground Earth Station of South Asian Satellite, developed by Indian Space Research Organization.
  - India and Bhutan also signed 10 Memorandum of Understanding in science, technology, engineering and maths and judicial sectors.

## Honor & Awards

1. IIT Madras researchers have develop a **multi-modal robot** with Industrial and field applications called \_\_\_\_ **GraspMan**.

**Note:**

- This robot has various industrial applications and can be used in search-and-rescue operations.
- GraspMan consists a pair of graspers, which provide morphological adaptation, enabling it to conform to the geometry of the object being grasped.
- This allows the grasper to hold objects securely and manipulate it much like the human hand.

2. Wing Commander of **Indian Air Force** has been conferred with **Vir Chakra** on Independence Day\_\_ **Abhinandan Varthaman**.

**Note:**

- Abhinandan Varthaman had shot down F-16 jet of Pakistan Air Force.
- President Ram Nath Kovind has approved 132 Awards to Armed Forces Personnel and members of Paramilitary Forces.
- The awards include two Kirti Chakras, one Vir Chakra, 14 Shaurya Chakras, eight Bar to Sena Medals (Gallantry), 90 Sena Medals (Gallantry), five Nao Sena Medals (Gallantry), seven Vayu Sena Medals (Gallantry) and five Yudh Seva Medals.

3. The Kirti Chakra will be conferred on **soldier** \_\_\_\_ **Prakash Jadhav (posthumously)**.

**Note:**

- Prakash Jadhav died in a gunfight with terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir in 2018.
- It is third highest military honour awarded during peacetime.
- Jadhav, a sapper with the Indian Army who succumbed to bullet injuries sustained in Kulgam district.

4. Who has been awarded **Tamil Nadu** government's Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Award 2019\_\_ **K. Sivan**.

**Note:**

- He is the Chairman of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).
- under his leadership, the ISRO launched its Chandrayaan-2 mission.
- A native of Kanniyakumari district, Mr. Sivan is known popularly known as the 'Rocket Man'.

5. President Awards Maharshi Badrayan Vyas Samman for \_\_\_\_ **2019**.

**Note:**

- Sanskrit: (1) Dr. Ashok Thapliyal; (2) Prof. SujataTripathi; (3) Dr.Sanju Mishra; (4) Dr. Abhijit Hanmant Joshi; (5) Dr. Shara chchandra Dwivedi
- Pali: Ms. AnomaShriramSakhare
- Prakrit: Shri Ashish Kumar Jain
- Arabic: Dr. Fauzan Ahmad
- Persian: ER.M. ShahbazAlam
- Classical Kannada: (1) Shri G.B. Harisha; (2) Shri S. Karthik; (3) Dr. M. Byrappa
- Classical Telugu: (1) Dr. Addanki Srinivas (2) Dr. V. Triveni; (3) Dr. D.K. Prabhakar
- Classical Malayalam: (1) Dr. Rajeev R.R.; (2) Shri Santhosh Thottingal
- Classical Odia: Dr. Subrat Kumar Prusty.

6. Who was awarded JC Bose Fellowship for 2019\_\_ **Dr K Thangaraj**.

**Note:**

- Thangaraj was given this fellowship for his outstanding contributions in the field of population and medical genomics.
- The JC Bose Fellowship is awarded to scientists in recognition for their outstanding performance by the Science and Engineering Research Board, Department of Science and Technology.

7. Who has received the award under **category 'B'** (for Working Professionals) for Touch Vision's contribution towards empowering visually impaired people\_\_ **Ms Ankita Gulati**.

**Note:**

- Ms Gulati got this award for developing a multisensory kit which narrates the content in the raised picture when a visually impaired person touches it.
- TouchVision aims at digital inclusion for 253 million persons with visual impairment globally.

8. Who has announced to introduce two awards- the Neelum Sharma Tejaswini award and the Achyutananda Sahoo Award\_\_ **Prasar Bharti**.

**Note:**

- The awards will be launched to remember Senior DD News anchor Neelum Sharma who passed away on the 17th of August.

- Neelum Sharma was remembered with fondness and great affection as friends, colleagues and acquaintances from across the networks of Doordarshan paid her glowing tributes.

### Sports News

1. Commonwealth Games Federation has decided to exclude shooting from \_\_\_\_\_ **2022 Commonwealth, Birmingham.**

**Note:**

- Regarding this Commonwealth Games chief Louise Martin has said that shooting will not be part of the 2022 edition in Birmingham.
- Shooting has been a high-yielding discipline for India, with shooters accounting for 16 of the country's 66 medals, including seven golds, at last year's Gold Coast Games.

2. Who won gold medal at the Junior **World Wrestling Championships** in Talinn, Estonia\_\_ **Deepak Punia.**

**Note:**

- Deepak beat Russia's Alik Shebzukov to win the 86kg junior freestyle title which follows the silver he won in the category in 2018.
- Vicky Chahar, on the other hand, won bronze in the 92 kg category by beating Mongolia's Batmagnai Enkhuvshin.
- Both Deepak and Chahar had won gold and bronze respectively in the 2016 Cadet World Championships that was held in Tbilisi, Georgia.

3. **Who won** the UEFA Super Cup by defeating Chelsea by 5-4 in Istanbul, Turkey\_\_ **Liverpool.**

**Note:**

- The Match ended in draw at 2-2 following extra-time. In Penalty shootout Liverpool won by 5-4 beating Chelsea.
- This was Liverpool's fourth victory in this competition.
- The UEFA Super Cup is an annual super cup football match organised by UEFA and contested by the reigning champions of the two main European club competitions, the UEFA Champions League and the UEFA Europa League.

4. Indian sprinters have won a gold each in 300m races at the Athleticky Mitink Reiter event in the Czech Republic\_\_ **Hima Das and Mohammad Anas.**

**Note:**

- Hima won the gold in women's event and Mohammad Anas claimed the Gold medal in men's category.
- This was Hima's sixth gold in 2019 in European races since last month.
- Mohammad Anas won the gold clocking 32.41 seconds.
- India's Nirmal Tom clinched a bronze medal in the same event by clocking a timing of 33.03 seconds.

5. Australian Cricket player has become the **concussion substitution player** in the history of Test cricket\_\_ **Marnus Labuschagne.**

**Note:**

- A Concussion Replacement is a player who takes the place of a player who has been replaced for the remainder of the match.
- In Ashes Series 2019, Labuschagne replaced Steve Smith in Australia's XI on the last day of the Lord's Test.
- A Concussion Replacement Request is a notification made to the ICC Match Referee in accordance with the process set out by ICC.

6. Who won the gold medal at the Under-12 Asian Tennis Team championship held in Kazakhstan\_\_ **India.**

**Note:**

- India defeated Chinese Taipei (2-1) in the summit clash to win the title.
- The final comprised of three matches including 2 singles and one doubles.
- India won both the singles matches (Manas and Rethin) while lost the doubles encounter.
- The Indian team comprised Manas Dhamma(12-year), Arnav Paprakar and Tamil Nadu's Pranav Rethin.

7. Former South African Coach has been appointed as the Head Coach for the national cricket team for two years\_\_ **Russel Domingo.**

**Note:**

- He succeeds Steve Rhodes whose tenure was cut short after Bangladesh finished at the 8th position in the 10-nation World Cup this year.
- Russel Domingo has served as the Head Coach for South Africa's T20 side in 2012.
- He later replaced Gary Kirsten as South Africa Coach in the Tests and ODIs in 2013.

8. **Who** has claimed gold medals in both **singles** and **doubles** titles in Tennis events during the 2019 World Police and Fire Games (WPFPG) at Chengdu in China\_\_ **Ashish Kapoor.**

**Note:**

- Ashish Kapoor is the Assistant Inspector General (AIG) in Vigilance Bureau of Punjab.



- WPFPG is a biennial event taking place every two years in which officers or officials from police and Fire Departments from all over the world compete in the different events.
  - The World Police and Fire Games (WPFPG) is a biennial athletic event, open to active and retired law enforcement and fire service personnel throughout the world.
9. Former **Australian cricketer** has been elected as an Honorary Life Member of the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC), custodians of the game's laws\_\_ **Mitchell Johnson**.
- Note:**
- Johnson represented Australia in 153 One Day Internationals picking up 239 wickets, 73 international Test matches claiming 313 wickets and 30 T-20 Internationals in which he takes 38 wickets.
  - Johnson made his ODI debut for Australia in 2005 and hung up his boots a decade later in 2015.
10. Who has become the first Asian swimmer to cross the Cataline Channel of America\_\_ **Divyang Satendra Singh Lohia**
- Note:**
- Satendra holds the Asian record of crossing both the English and Catalina channels.
  - Gwalior born Satendra led the Indian Para Relay team along with five teammates and crossed the Catalina Channel in 11 hours 34 minutes.
  - The Indian Para Relay Team started 42 km of swimming at 10.57 p.m. from St. Catalina Island and finished swimming at Los Angeles at 10.30 a.m.
11. Who won the 5th International Army Scout Masters competition\_\_ **Indian Army**.
- Note:**
- The games were held at Rajasthan's Jaisalmer's Military station under the aegis of Southern Command of Indian Army.
  - A total of eight teams from India, Russia, China, Kazakhstan, Sudan, Uzbekistan, Armenia, and Belarus participated in the competition.
  - This was the first time the Indian Army participated in the competition.
12. Indian Premier League (IPL) franchise has appointed Brendon McCullum as its new head coach\_\_ **Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR)**.
- Note:**
- Former New Zealand batsman McCullum was closely associated with the KKR as a player first from 2008 to 2010 and again from 2012-13.
  - He was part of the IPL Championship squad in 2012.
  - KKR finished at the fifth spot in the latest edition of the IPL.

### Banking & Financial Awareness

1. Capital market regulator SEBI is planning to ease its norms for \_\_\_\_ **Muni Bonds**.
- Note:**
- It will help smart cities and other registered entities working in areas of city planning and urban development work, like municipalities, raise funds through issuance and listing of their debt securities.
  - The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) had issued its Issue and Listing of Debt Securities by Municipalities (ILDM) Regulations nearly five years ago.
  - Now, The regulator is proposing to allow this route for a larger number of entities including special purpose vehicles set up under the central government's ambitious 'Smart Cities Mission'.
2. Who has signed a **USD 500-million loan agreement** with cash-strapped **Pakistan** to support the country's trade competitiveness and exports\_\_ **Asian Development Bank (ADB)**.
- Note:**
- The Manila-based ADB also approved a USD 750,000 technical assistance package to support the preparation and implementation of the programme in the country.
  - The agreement was signed by Economic Affairs Division Secretary Noor Ahmed and the ADB's Country Director Xiaohong Yang in the presence of Minister for Economic Affairs Muhammad Hammad Azhar
3. As per the latest data of Reserve Bank of India, country's foreign exchange reserves reach all time high at \_\_ **USD 430.572 billion**.
- Note:**

- Expressed in dollar terms, foreign currency assets include the effect of appreciation/depreciation of non-US units like the euro, pound and yen held in the reserves.
  - The country's gold reserves surged by \$1.591 billion to \$26.754 billion.
  - Special drawing rights with the International Monetary Fund were up by \$6.7 million to \$1.441 billion.
  - The country's reserve position with the fund rose by \$7 million to \$3.636 billion.
4. Indian ride-hailing giant **Ola** has acquired an artificial intelligence start-up from Bengaluru\_\_ **Pikup.ai**.
- Note:**
- As part of the deal, Ola will hire Pickup.ai's team following the acquisition.
  - Pickup.ai is co-founded by Inder Singh and Ritwik Saikia.
  - The start-up uses autonomous technologies like artificial intelligence, computer vision and sensor fusion to provide seamless AI-powered solutions for businesses.
5. Who has asked banks not to **count failed transactions** at ATMs due to technical reasons as part of "free ATM transactions" permitted every month\_\_ **Reserve Bank of India**.
- Note:**
- Use of ATMs for balance enquiry and fund transfers too should not be part of the free transactions facility given to a customer.
  - Banks provide a certain number of free transactions at ATMs to their customers and beyond that impose charges.
  - The RBI clarified that transactions which fail on account of technical reasons, non-availability of cash, and any other reason attributable to the bank should not be counted as valid ATM transactions for the customer.
6. Consumer price index-based retail inflation eased marginally in July \_\_ **3.15%**.
- Note:**
- Retail inflation was 3.18 per cent in June 2019, while it stood at 4.17 per cent in the year-ago period.
  - Currently, the retail inflation is well below the RBI's comfort level.
  - The government has asked the central bank to keep inflation in the range of 4 per cent.
7. Australia and New Zealand Banking Group (ANZ) slashed its forecast for India's economic growth in the financial year ending next March \_\_ **6.2%**.
- Note:**
- The bank's estimate of gross domestic product (GDP) growth is now well below the expectations of other banks.
  - The forecasts all badly lag the government's longer-term target of getting the economy humming at rates above 8%.
  - India's quarterly GDP growth slowed to a five-year low of 5.8% in January-March as a result of sluggish domestic and global demand and little growth in private investment.

### Obituaries

1. Former India and Tamil Nadu cricket opener passed away\_\_ **V.B. Chandrasekhar**.
- Note:**
- He was the cricket manager of Chennai Super Kings in the franchise's first three years and was instrumental in getting the iconic M.S. Dhoni to CSK.
  - He was a National selector from 2004 to 2006.
2. Veteran **Bollywood actress** passed away after a brief lung-cum-heart ailment\_\_ **Vidya Sinha**.
- Note:**
- She was known for her role in Basu Chatterjee's film 'Rajnigandha' (1974). This film catapulted Sinha to instant fame.
  - Among her other notable films were: 'Hawas' (1974), 'Chhoti Si Baat' (1975), 'Mera Jeevana' (1976), the crime-thriller 'Inkaar', 'Kitaab' (both 1977), 'Pati, Patni aur Woh' and Basu Chatterjee's 'Safed Jhooth' (both 1978), a horror flick 'Saboot' (1980), 'Love Story' and as a gangster in 'Josh' (both 1981) and Salman Khan's mega-hit 'Bodyguard' (2011).
3. Renowned **Bangladeshi novelist** and the Ekushey Padak winning author passed away in Dhaka\_\_ **Rizia Rahman**.
- Note:**

- She wrote in all genres of creative work including short stories, poems, essays and children's fiction but she was renowned for her novels.
  - Bong Theke Bangla, Rokter Okshor and Ghar-Bhanga-Ghar are among some of her more well-known novels.
  - She was born in Kolkata in 1939 and migrated to East Bengal after the partition.
  - She received the Bangla Academy Literary Award in 1978 and was awarded Ekushey Padak this year.
4. Noted social worker and Padma Shri award winner passed away at a hospital in Chhattisgarh\_\_\_ **Damodar Ganesh Bapat**.  
**Note:**
- He dedicated his life to the treatment and service of leprosy patients.
  - Damodar Ganesh Bapat served leprosy patients at an ashram run by the Indian Leprosy Prevention Association at village Sothi (8-kilometers away from Champa) in Chhattisgarh.
  - He was awarded Padma Shri (the fourth highest civilian award) by in 2018 for his service to the society.
5. Doordarshan Anchor and **Nari Shakti Award Winner** passed away due to cancer\_\_\_ **Neelum Sharma**.  
**Note:**
- Neelum Sharma was known for her programmes like 'Tejaswini' and 'Badi Charcha'.
  - Through her show Tejaswini, Neelum focused on woman achievers of India.
  - She had been awarded the Nari Shakti Puruskar (highest civilian award for the woman in India) by President Ram Nath Kovind in 2018.
6. Veteran **Congress leader** and three-time Bihar Chief Minister passed away at a hospital in Delhi\_\_\_ **Dr Jagannath Mishra**.  
**Note:**
- Dr Mishra became Chief Minister in 1975, 1980 and 1989.
  - Before joining politics, Mishra was an economics professor at Bihar University.
7. Veteran music director-composer passed away after a prolonged illness at a hospital in Mumbai\_\_\_ **Mohammed Zahur Khayyam Hashmi**.  
**Note:**
- He was best known for his music in classic films such as 'Umrao Jaan' and 'Kabhi Kabhi'.
  - Besides 'Kabhi Kabhi' and 'Umrao Jaan', the musician's other notable works include films such as "Trishul", "Noorie" and "Shola Aur Shabnam".
  - In 2007, Khayyam was honoured with Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in Creative Music by the Sangeet Natak Akademi.
8. Three-time Oscar winner & triple **BAFTA winner legendary** animation director passed away\_\_\_ **Richard Williams**.  
**Note:**
- He debuted in 1958 with "The Little Island" which won him BAFTA.
  - He received his first Oscar for his animated adaptation of Charles Dickens "A Christmas Carol" in 1971.
  - Williams is best known for his 1988 animated film "Who Framed Roger Rabbit".
  - "The Return Of The Pink Panther" and "The Pink Panther Strikes Again" are some of his famous works.
9. Eminent Punjabi writer and Sahitya Akademi winner Professor passed away at his residence in Ludhiana, Punjab\_\_\_ **Niranjan Singh Tasneem**.  
**Note:**
- Tasneem was awarded Sahitya Akademi award in 1999 for his novel 'Gawache Arth' (The Lost Meaning) which was based on Punjab and lives of Punjabis in 1984.
  - He was also awarded Punjab's highest literary honour "Punjabi Sahit Rattan" in 2015.
  - Tasneem had served as a professor at SCD Government College, Ludhiana.
10. Veteran Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader and former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister passed away in Bhopal \_\_\_ **Babulal Gaur**.  
**Note:**
- Gaur served as the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh from August 2004 to November 2005.
  - He was elected in 10 Assembly elections from the seat of Govindpura(in Bhopal) before retiring from electoral politics in 2018 due to old age

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