

Weekly One-Liners

1st to 7th August 2019



Weekly One Liner Updates 1-7th August 2019

Dear readers,

Weekly One Liner Updates is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the first **week** (1-7th) of **August** 2019. This file is important for, **Banking interviews** and all **upcoming Banking & Insurance** exams.

Banking & Financial Awareness

1. The Postal Department has decided to convert the **India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)** into ___ **Small finance bank (SFB)**.
Note:
 - Besides, the department also looks to open one crore accounts for IPPB in 100 days.
 - According to the Postal Department statement, the decisions were taken at the annual Heads of Circles Conference held at Srinagar.
2. The total gross revenue collected under **Goods and Services Tax (GST)** in the month of July 2019) was ___ **Rs. 1,02,083 crores**.
Note:
 - It consisted of Central GST component of 17,912 crore rupees and State GST 25,008 crore rupees along with the Integrated GST revenue which was 50,612 crore rupees and Cess collection was 8,551 crore rupees.
 - During the period from April to July 2019, the domestic component has grown by 9.2 per cent while the GST on imports has come down by 0.2% and the total collection has grown by 6.83%.
 - An amount of 17,789 crore rupees has been released to the states as GST compensation for the months of April and May last.
3. **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has imposed a **penalty ranging** between **one to two crore rupees** on ___ **Seven public sector banks**.
Note:
 - According to **RBI press release**, Bank of Baroda, Bank of India, Indian Overseas Bank and Union Bank of India were fined 1.5 crore rupees each, while **Allahabad Bank** and Bank of Maharashtra were penalized 2 crore rupees each.
 - Oriental Bank of Commerce was penalized with **1 crore rupees**.
 - In a separate release, RBI said a fine of **1 crore rupees** was levied on Corporation Bank for non-compliance of norms on cybersecurity framework as well as fraud classification and reporting.
4. Who has become the **1st Indian bank** to link up with China's National Advance Payment System_ **SBI**.
Note:
 - The CNAPS, launched in 2008 by People's Bank of China (PBOC) provides real-time settlement services for all payments cleared in mainland China, as well as in all clearing banks in offshore yuan centres, such as Hong Kong.
 - The CIPS already has participants from multiple countries across the globe.
5. The Reserve Bank of India has announced that the National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT) facility will be available for the customers ___ **round-the-clock**.
Note:
 - According to RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das, the RBI will make available the NEFT system on a 24x7 basis from December 2019.
 - Currently, NEFT payment system operated by the Reserve Bank as a retail payment system is available for customers from 8 AM to 7 PM on all working days of the week except 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month.
 - RBI has also decided to create a central payments fraud information registry system to deal banking frauds adding that the details of the same will be shared later.

6. India contributed to the **UN Palestine refugee agency** and called for ensuring sustained fiscal support for the **organization work_ USD 5 million.**

Note:

- The cheque for the amount was handed over to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestinian Refugees by Representative of India (ROI) in Palestine, Sunil Kumar, at the Agency's headquarters in Jerusalem.
- The UNRWA has been providing health, education, relief and social services, as well as emergency humanitarian assistance, across its five areas of operations in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, West Bank, and the Gaza Strip since 1950.

7. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) cuts repo rate by **___35 basis points.**

Note:

- **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has announced its third Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy Rates for 2019-20 in Mumbai.
- The RBI reduced the policy repo rate under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) by 35 basis points (bps) from 5.75 per cent to 5.40 per cent with immediate effect.
- This is the fourth consecutive time that the Monetary Policy Committee has reduced the rates (25 basis points each).
- Consequently, the reverse repo rate under the LAF stands revised to 5.15 per cent.
- The marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate to 5.65 per cent.
- The MPC also decided to maintain the accommodative stance of monetary policy.

Current Policy Rates:

Policy Repo Rate	5.40%
Reverse Repo Rate	5.15 %
Marginal Standing Facility Rate	5.65%
Bank Rate	5.65%

Obituaries

1. The founder of cafe chain **Cafe Coffee Day (CCD)** has passed away___ **V G Siddhartha.**

Note:

- The body of Mr. Siddhartha was found in the Netravati river in Dakshina Kannada district of Karnataka.
- He served as the Chairman and Managing Director of CCD.
- Cafe Coffee Day (CCD) is an Indian cafe chain owned by Coffee Day Global Limited, a subsidiary of Coffee Day Enterprises Limited.

2. Former legendary left-arm bowler passed away___ **Malcolm Nash.**

Note:

- He was Glamorgan's legendary left-arm bowler who took 993 first-class wickets in career between 1966 and 1983.
- Malcolm Nash became famous after Garfield Sobers hit him for six sixes in an over.
- It was the first time any batsman had hit six sixes in an over in first-class cricket.

3. Veteran Gujarati journalist, author and columnist passed away in Mumbai ___**Kanti Bhatt.**

Note:

- He worked as journalist, writer, columnist and editor in various Gujarati publications like Chitrallekha, Mumbai Samachar, Janshakti, Sandesh, Yuva Darshan, Jansatta, Vyapar and Abhiyan.
- Kanti Bhatt was born on 15th July 1931 in Sachra village in the erstwhile Bhavnagar state of Gujarat.

4. Cricket **commentator** passed away in Mumbai _ **Anant Setalvad.**

Note:

- Setalvad had started his radio commentary stint in the pre-TV days and had shared the mike with the likes of former Test opener and ex-selection panel chief Vijay Merchant on All India Radio.
 - He used to draw pictures of the game's progress on airwaves with his fine command of the English language.
5. Veteran BJP leader and former External Affairs Minister passed away in New Delhi after suffering a massive cardiac arrest__ **Sushma Swaraj**.

Note:

- Sushma Swaraj has been elected Member of Parliament (LS& RS) 7 times and Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) for 3 times.
 - In 2014 when Narendra Modi lead NDA won the General Election, she became the first women External Affairs Minister.
 - She was also the 1st woman Chief Minister of Delhi (5th) from 13th October to 3rd December 1998.
 - Sushma Swaraj was awarded the Best Parliamentarian award two times in 2008 & 2010.
 - Swaraj was called India's "best-loved politician" by the US daily Wall Street Journal.
6. Nobel laureate passed away following a short illness__ **Toni Morrison**.

Note:

- Morrison was one of the most iconic writers of her time, excelling as a novelist, essayist, editor, and short story writer.
- Her most celebrated works are 'Beloved', 'Song of Solomon' and The Bluest Eye.
- She was the 1st African American woman to win the Nobel in literature (in 1993).
- For her acclaimed book 'Beloved' she also awarded with the Pulitzer Prize in 1988.
- Her book Song of Solomon has received the National Book Critics Circle Award in 1977.

Important Days

1. Freedom fighter and the **designer of the flag** on which the Indian national flag was based was **born on this day** in 1876, near **Machilipatnam** in Andhra Pradesh __ **Pingali Venkaiah**.

Note:

- Today is his **143rd birth** anniversary.
- Venkaiah's design for the **National Flag** was finally approved by **Mahatama Gandhi** in a Congress meeting in Vijayawada in 1921.
- A postage stamp was issued to commemorate him in 2009.

2. The "**Aadi Perukku**" festival (or Aadi monsoon festival) was celebrated in __ **Tamil Nadu**.

Note:

- People performed Puja on the banks of larger water bodies including sea coasts lakes and rivers.
- The festival is to show reverence by the public to rivers, as the traditional season of sowing of seeds for the next crops.
- At the Hogenakkal Waterfalls in Dharmapuri, tourists and pilgrims participated in the "Aadi Perukku" festival.
- Aadi is the name of the current Tamil month, and **Perukku** is the term for the flooding of waters

3. Japan marked the **74th anniversary** (6th August) of the **atomic bombing** of__ **Hiroshima**.

Note:

- Prime Minister Shinzo Abe led commemorations at the Peace Memorial Park in Hiroshima as residents offered silent prayers, lit candles and placed wreaths to remember those killed in the August 6, 1945 bombing.
- Japan suffered two nuclear attacks (1st Hiroshima & 2nd Nagasaki) by the United States at the end of World War II.
- The bombings claimed 1 Lakh 40 thousand lives in Hiroshima and 74 thousand in Nagasaki.

4. The Women and **Child Development Ministry** are observing the World Breastfeeding Week on __ **1-7th August**.

Note:

- The objective of the WBW is to create awareness among parents about breastfeeding, the importance of initiation, exclusive breastfeeding, and adequate and appropriate complementary feeding.
- The ministry is organizing a number of activities on the theme "Empower Parents, Enable Breastfeeding".

5. The National Handloom Day (5th) is being observed annually on__ **7th August**.

Note:

- In this occasion Union Textile and Women & Child Development Minister, Smriti Jubin Irani, presided over a function at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.
- To honour the handloom weavers in India every year on this date in a day is being celebrated.
- National Handloom Day seeks to focus on the contribution of handloom to the socio-economic development of the country and increase the income of weavers.

New Appointments

1. Who has been **unanimously elected** as the Speaker of the **Karnataka Legislative Assembly**__ **Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri**.

Note:

- The post fell vacant after KR Ramesh Kumar resigned as the Speaker of the Assembly shortly after the BJP government won the trust vote.
- Kageri, who represents the Sirsi constituency in Uttara Kannada.
- The Speaker of the Karnataka Legislative Assembly is the presiding officer of the Legislative Assembly of Karnataka, the main law-making body for the Indian state of Karnataka.

2. Who has been nominated as a Director on the **Central Board of Directors of Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**__ **Atanu Chakraborty**.

Note:

- Currently, he is a Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance.
- Shri Rajiv Kumar (new Finance Secretary) is also a Director on the Central Board of Directors of Reserve Bank of India.

3. The 22nd National Conference on e-Governance 2019 will be held at ___**Shillong**.

Note:

- The theme of the Conference is “Digital India: Success to Excellence”.
- It would provide opportunities to civil servants and others to showcase their successful interventions in improving end-to-end service delivery. 21st National Conference on e-Governance was held on 26- 27 February 2018 in Hyderabad, Telangana.

4. Former **Intelligence Bureau officer** was sworn in as the **Governor of Nagaland** ___ **R N Ravi**.

Note:

- Acting Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court, Arup Kumar Goswami administered him the oath of office.
- Earlier, R.N Ravi served as a former Intelligence Bureau officer and an interlocutor for the Naga peace talks.

5. Who has been sworn in as the Governor of West Bengal (28th) __ **Mr Jagdeep Dhankar**.

Note:

- The Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court Mr T.B Radhakrishnan administered the oath of office and Secrecy to him.
- Mr. Dhankhar succeeded Mr Keshari Nath Tripathy.

6. Who has been appointed as interim CEO (Chief Executive Officer) and Director of HSBC__ **Noel Quinn**.

Note:

- Noel Quinn will replace **John Flint** as the interim CEO.
- Mr Quinn qualified as an accountant in 1987.
- HSBC Bank India is a bank with its operational head office in Mumbai.
- It is a foreign bank under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 and thus is regulated by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

7. Who has assumed charge as **Managing Director (MD)** and **Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** of **LIC Housing Finance (LIC HFL)** _ **Siddhartha Mohanty**.

Note:

- He has replaced Shri Vinay Shah.
 - Earlier, he was the COO (chief operating officer) of LIC HFL.
 - LIC Housing Finance Limited (LIC HFL) is one of the largest housing finances (mortgage loan) companies in India having its Registered and Corporate office at Mumbai.
8. Congress **Rajya Sabha MP** resigned from the membership of the House___ **Bhubaneshwar Kalita**.
Note:
- Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu announced in the House that he has accepted Mr Kalita's resignation.
 - Mr Kalita was upset with the Congress when he was asked to issue a whip to party members against the government's move on the Kashmir issue.
9. Who has become new **Managing Director** (MD) and **Chief Executive Officer** (CEO) of Mindtree Ltd. ___ S.N. Subrahmanyam.
Note:
- The S.N. Subrahmanyam (CEO of Larsen & Toubro Ltd (L&T) has been appointed as non-executive vice-chairman.
 - Mindtree Limited is an Indian multinational information technology and outsourcing company headquartered in Bangalore, India and New Jersey, USA.
 - The company deals in e-commerce, mobile applications, cloud computing, digital transformation, data analytics, enterprise application integration and enterprise resource planning.

Important News - India

1. Culture and Tourism Minister **Mr Prahlad Singh Patel** has flagged off mobile library bus service in ___**New Delhi**.
Note:
- The objective of the mobile library bus service to reach out to readers in Delhi, especially those in slums, resettlement colonies and rural areas.
 - The five-bus mobile library service was launched under the "Ghar Ghar Dastak Ghar Ghar Pustak" Scheme of the Delhi Public Library (DPL).
 - These buses have been procured under CSR (corporate social responsibility) assistance from the Airports Authority of India (AAI).
2. Ministry of **Information and Broadcasting** (I&B) has launched a competition for designing a Postage Stamp along with the First Day Cover to commemorate Golden Jubilee edition of _____**International Film Festival of India (IFFI)**.
Note:
- An interested person may log in to **www.mygov.in (MyGov platform)** to participate in the competition from 1st August to 15th August 2019.
 - The winner will receive a **Certificate of appreciation** and travel and hospitality for 2 nights and 3 days to become a part of 50th IFFI.
 - **IFFI showcases** a collage of the best of contemporary and classic films from around the globe.
 - Golden Jubilee edition of International Film Festival of India will be organized from **20th-28th November** 2019 at Goa.
3. The **Union Government** has launched the **One Nation-One Ration Card scheme** on a pilot basis in ___**Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat**.
Note:
- Families who have food security cards can buy subsidized rice and wheat from any ration shop in these states.
 - Their ration cards should be linked with Aadhar Number to avail this service.
 - The white Ration Cardholders in Telangana have been getting the portability facility, enabling them to buy their subsidized rice and other food grains from any Fair Price Shop in the state.
 - The same facility can be utilized anywhere in Andhra Pradesh now through PoS machines under the One Nation One Ration Card scheme which has come into force in the two states.
4. Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) would set up a Pashmina testing centre in ___**Leh**.

Note:

- Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) will setup testing centre in partnership with the lab of Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC), Leh.
- The standards testing will have **lab, machines** and scientists to check the **quality of pashmina** collected.
- BIS would train the locals, with the cooperation of Leh Hill Council, in marking of the standards to save the time and money.
- The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is the national Standards Body of India working under the aegis of Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Government of India.

5. Delhi Chief Minister **Arvind Kejriwal** has announced **free electricity** for people consuming up to **200 units** under a domestic connection from **___1st August 2019**.

Note:

- In Delhi, people who consume up to 200 units will not have to pay electricity bills.
- Those consuming 201-400 units of electricity will get about 50% subsidy.

6. Scientists at **IIT Hyderabad** have developed **low-cost, environment-friendly solar cells** by employing an **off-the-shelf dye** used to make **___ kumkum in India**.

Note:

- The dye-sensitised solar cell (DSSC) is based on New Fuchsin (NF) dye with aqueous electrolyte and platinum-free counter electrodes.
- The most familiar solar cells today are made up of silicon and can be seen in the various overhead panels and other places.

7. The **Union Cabinet** has given nod to the setting up of **ISRO Technical Liaison Unit (ITLU)** at **___Moscow, Russia**.

Note:

- The unit will collaborate with Space agencies and industries in Russia and neighbouring countries for mutually synergetic outcomes.
- ITLU will also support the ongoing bilateral programmes of cooperation in space technology and act on behalf of ISRO.
- The Cabinet also approved MoU between ISRO and the Bolivian Space Agency on Cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes.

8. Human Resources Development (HRD) Minister **Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank** has inaugurated the Technology Expo at **___IIT Delhi**.

Note:

- It showcases the latest innovation in the field of science and technology.
- Over 80 latest innovations and 90 research posters by institutions from across the country are showcasing the prototypes developed by the investigators in the day-long exhibition.
- The Minister said research should be in accordance with the need of common people and industry. Later talking to media, Mr Nishank assured all kinds of support to the research community.

9. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has released the first set of pictures of the earth, captured by **___Chandrayaan-2**.

Note:

- The pictures were captured by **L 14 camera** onboard Chandrayaan II.
- The LI-4 camera onboard the lander Vikram of the spacecraft show the crystal clear and panoramic view of the earth, around which it is still revolving.
- It will move away from the earth's sphere of influence on the 14th of this month and reach the moon's orbit on the 20th.
- Its pictures of the moon from then on would be still more fascinating, given its proximity to the earth's only natural satellite.

10. India successfully test-fired its all-weather tracked-chassis Quick Reaction Surface-to-Air Missile (QR-SAM) from **___Integrated Test Range at Chandipur, Odisha**.

Note:

- It was the second developmental trial (first- 26th Feb, 2019) of the missile in this year from the same test range.
- It was jointly developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Bharat Electronics Ltd, the QR-SAM weapon system is a quick reaction, network-centric missile system capable of search-on-the-move.
- The QR-SAM system can also engage multiple targets within a range of around 25 to 30 km with two vehicle configurations for area air defence.

- It is a truck-mounted missile with a 360 degrees rotatable, electro-mechanically operated, turret-based launch unit.
11. The 3rd edition of India's largest education brainstorming event ScooNews Global Educators Fest (SGEF) held in **Udaipur**.
- Note:**
- The theme for this year's fest is 'Education for Sustainability: Moving on from conformity to creativity'.
 - It will bring together over 500 educators to discuss the way towards establishing India as the next global education powerhouse.
 - SGEF will also be recognizing individuals and organizations excelling at innovation in the field of Education by assisting the industry with trendsetting solutions and best practices.
12. The **Ministry of Culture and Tourism Minister** has celebrated the Lalit Kala Akademi's 65th Foundation Day in **New Delhi**.
- Note:**
- Ministry also inaugurated **art camp, artwork & painting exhibition** and released a book '**Mithila Ki Lok Chitrakala**'.
 - **Lalit Kala Akademi** (or National Academy of Art) was established in **New Delhi in 1954** by the government to promote and propagate understanding of Indian art, in and outside the country.
 - **LKA provides scholarships** and a fellow program, and sponsors and organizes exhibitions in India and overseas.
13. ISRO **Chairman K Sivan** laid the foundation stone for Space Situational Awareness Control Centre at Peenya in **Bengaluru**.
- Note:**
- Isro has set up a **directorate of space situational awareness** and management aiming at protecting high valued space assets from space debris close approaches and collisions.
 - The control centre would facilitate the intensified **activities foreseen for SSAM**, in view of increasing debris population and operational space assets.
 - The **control centre** would host a range of activities pertaining to the protection of Indian space assets from inactive satellites, pieces of orbiting objects, near-earth asteroids and adverse space weather conditions.

Important News – State

1. Jammu & Kashmir (J&K) Governor's Administration has approved operationalization of the Toll-Free Ambulance Service **102-108**.
- Note:**
- **Jammu & Kashmir** (J&K) Governor's Administration has decided to bring a fleet of 416 Ambulances under the ambit of this service, which will be operationalized through a centralized Call Centre working on a 24x7 basis.
 - The project will be operational by 15th October 2019.
 - It will provide round the clock transportation to the patients requiring immediate medical care especially critical, Trauma, accidental victims, pregnant women & sick children.
 - 102 Ambulance Service will provide free of cost service to the targeted population.
2. State Government has launched an **awareness campaign** for preserving the **greenery** and keeping the **environment clean** **West Bengal**.
- Note:**
- The State Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee launched the campaign named as 'Save Green, Stay Clean' in Kolkata.
 - The State Government will distribute more than 1 lakhs saplings throughout the state for spreading of greenery.
3. The **state government** has granted infrastructure project status for a **USD 10 billion** (about Rs. 70,0000 crores) plan to establish the **world's first ultra-fast hyperloop** project **Maharashtra**.
- Note:**
- The projects aim to link Mumbai with the neighboring city of Pune.
 - Hyperloops use magnets to levitate pods inside an airless tube, creating conditions in which the pods can shuttle people and freight at speeds of up to 1,200 km per hour.
 - The status could help fast-track land acquisition for the project over a 117.5 km stretch that will shuttle people between the cities in about 35 minutes.
4. Who has constructed the first-ever transport tunnel in the country which will pass through underwater **Kolkata Metro**.

Note:

- The East-West Metro corridor will pass through under Hooghly river and it will become the first such river crossing in the country.
- Two tunnels are being constructed on the up and down line, which is about 1.4 kilometres long.
- The width of the Hooghly river here is about 520 meters and this tunnel passes through the bottom of the river bottom.
- Kolkata metro is spending Rs 8,572 crore on this entire project.
- The metro line between Salt Lake Sector-5 to Salt Lake Stadium has Karunamayi, Central Park, City Center and Bengal Chemical metro stations.

5. Gujarat Chief Minister **Vijay Rupani** has launched a **welfare scheme** for the girl child **___Vhali Dikri Yojna**.

Note:

- It is a statewide cash incentive scheme for every girl child born in Gujarat, with a view to raising the female birth rate at par with male to achieve gender equality.
- The State Government will pay Rs. 4,000 to every girl child at the time of admission to Standard 4th, Rs. 6,000 at the time of taking admission to Standard IX, Rs. 1 lakh at the time of taking admission for higher education at the age of 18 and another Rs. 1 lakh at the time of marriage.

6. The Union Government has approved a project worth **Rs. 4,900-crore Kosi-Mechi river** interlinking project in **___ Bihar**.

Note:

- This is the second major river interlinking project in the country to be approved after the Ken-Betwa project in Madhya Pradesh.
- The project will prevent recurring floods in north Bihar and also irrigate over 2.14 lakh hectares of cultivable land in Bihar.
- The central government has approved construction of 76.20 km canals on the eastern bank of Kosi for irrigation purpose,
- The project is aimed at alleviating hardships of the people resulting from the floods and has the potential to usher in a green revolution in the Seemanchal region.

7. Mohali traffic police has launched the 3-D Smart Traffic Signal system based on **___Artificial Intelligence**.

Note:

- This 3-D technique is first of its kind in the country.
- The new system called 'Intelights' will have sensors which would automatically switch on the green and red signals depending upon the number of vehicles coming from that particular side.
- It will regulate with a smart bird's eye view wireless sensor system.

Important News - World

1. **Foreign Ministers** from **South East Asia** has attended the **52nd ASEAN summit** in **___Bangkok, Thailand**.

Note:

- Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand, H.E. Mr Don Pramudwinai chaired the 52nd ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting (AMM) plenary session.
- The annual meeting opened with a call from the host Thailand for deeper integration to expand trade and bolster prosperity in the region amid rising global challenges.

2. India is among **48 countries** whose citizens have been **exempted from visa** fees for tourism purposes by the **___Sri Lankan government**.

Note:

- According to Sri Lankan tourism minister John Amaratinga, visa fees (20 to 40 US dollars) will not be charged for grant of one-month visa for tourism.
- The tourists can apply for electronic travel authorisations online or apply for visa on arrival.
- Sri Lankan tourism has been impacted after the Easter Sunday attacks but the tourism authorities have claimed that there is a revival seen since last month.

3. Who will allow women to obtain **passports** and **travel abroad** without approval from a male "**guardian**" **___ Saudi Arab**.

Note:

- A passport will be granted to any **Saudi national** who submits the application.
- The regulation will be applicable to women over the age of **21 years**.
- Women's rights activists have campaigned for decades against the guardianship system.

- The decision comes amid a wide-ranging liberalisation drive spearheaded by Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.
4. The **WorldSkills International Competition 2019** (Olympics for Skills) will be held in ___**Kazan, Russia**.
- Note:**
- The competition will bring together Competitors, Experts, and industry, education, and government leaders from around the world.
 - The Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Government of India has announced 48-member Indian contingent to represent the country at the biggest showcase of skills excellence in the world.
 - The programme will be participated by more than 1,500 competitors from 60 countries in 55 skill competitions.
5. The **4th South Asian Speaker's Summit** will be held in ___**Male, Maldives**.
- Note:**
- The theme of the event is "**Achieving Sustainable Development Goals**".
 - A **parliamentary delegation** led by Lok Sabha Speaker **Om Birla** will represent India.
 - The fourth South Asian Speaker's Summit will be jointly organized by Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the Maldivian Parliament (22 to 27th August 2019).
6. The **Deep Ocean Mission** (DOM) led by the Union **Earth Sciences Ministry** will commence from___**31st October 2019**.
- Note:**
- The mission has received a go-ahead from the government.
 - **Expenditure plans** will be drawn and circulated to **various institutions** affiliated to the Ministry for executing programmes.
 - The Union Ministry of Earth Sciences had unveiled a blueprint of the programme in July 2018.
 - A major thrust of the mission will be looking for metals and minerals.
7. The US will impose an additional **10% tariff** on 300 billion US Dollars in ___**Chinese imports**.
- Note:**
- The US President accused China of not being serious in arriving at the trade deal and failing to keep its promise to buy more American agricultural products.
 - The new tariff, in **addition to the 25%** on goods worth **250 billion US dollars** that was previously in place, would come into effect from 1st of next month.
 - Since the commencement of trade war last year China and the US have so far hit each other with punitive tariffs covering more than USD 360 billion in two-way trade.
8. Who banned **face-covering cloth** (burqa or niqab) in **public buildings** and on **transport** as a **contentious law** on the garment came into force ___**the Netherland**.
- Note:**
- Between **100** and 400 women are estimated to wear a **burqa or niqab** in the European country of **17 million** people.
 - The legislation - which was passed in June last year after more than a decade of political debate on the subject - also applies to other face coverings such as full-face helmets, balaclavas or ski mask.

Honor & Awards

1. Who has been conferred with the **East Bengal's highest honor**, 'Bharat Gaurav' ___**Kapil Dev**.
- Note:**
- India's first World Cup-winning cricket captain Kapil Dev (60 years) has been conferred with the East Bengal's highest honour, 'Bharat Gaurav'.
 - Kapil had signed for East Bengal on June 22, 1992 and played for 27 minutes six days later as a substitute forward in an exhibition match against arch-rivals Mohun Bagan.
 - Bhaichung Bhutia honoured with "identifying and nurturing the icon" award, while former India captains, Manoranjan Bhattacharya and Bhaskar Ganguly have given Lifetime Achievement awards.
 - The club also honoured legendary PK Banerjee with the 'Coach of coaches' award, while Laldanmawia Ralte was given 'Best Footballer of the Year' award.
2. UK's capital has been named as the **world's best city** for students for the **second consecutive year** ___**London**.
- Note:**
- As per new **worldwide rankings**, London beat international cities like **Tokyo** and **Melbourne** that came second and third respectively.

- According to the rankings, **India's best student city is Bangalore** (81st), followed by Mumbai (85th), Delhi at 113 and Chennai at 115 out of a total of 120 cities ranked in the list.
 - The 'QS Best Student Cities Ranking' compiled by global education consultancy QS Quacquarelli Symonds highlights each city's performance across six categories - the number of top-ranked universities; the proportion of a city's population.
3. Renowned entrepreneur, co-founder and Director of **Einfole Technologies Pvt Ltd** was awarded the prestigious Entrepreneur Award 2019 ___ **Ruhan Rajput**.
- Note:**
- He won award o in the category of 'Entrepreneur of the Year in Service Business - BPO/KPO'.
 - His company, namely, Einfole Technologies Pvt Ltd is one of the leading players in the knowledge process outsourcing (KPO) industry.
 - Besides business, Ruhan Rajput also excels as an actor and model in Bollywood.
 - He made a debut in the film industry with Pravat Rout's film, 'Prarabdh', followed by three music albums: 'Mohabataiyan', 'Khidaki ka Parda' and 'Saiyan Re'.
4. According to the **World Bank's Report**, who has been **pushed** to the **7th place** in the global GDP rankings in 2018 ___ **India**.
- Note:**
- The **US remains** the top economy with a GDP of **USD 20.5 trillion** in 2018.
 - China was the **second-largest economy** with **USD 13.6 trillion**, while Japan took third place with USD 5 trillion.
 - India's GDP was at **USD 2.7 trillion** in 2018, while UK and France were at USD 2.8 trillion.
5. India's **TV journalists** has won the '**Magsaysay award 2019**' for his news show '**Prime Time**' ___ **Ravish Kumar**.
- Note:**
- Show '**Prime Time**' deals with real-life, **under-reported problems** of ordinary people.
 - **Ravish Kumar** (NDTV India's senior executive editor) is among the five recipients of the 2019 Magsaysay award, which recognises the "greatness of spirit and transformative leadership in Asia".
 - The four other winners of the **2019 Ramon Magsaysay Award** are Ko Swe Win (Myanmar), Angkhana Neelapaijit (Thailand), Raymundo Pujante Cayabyab (Philippines) and Kim Jong-Ki (South Korea).
 - The **Magsaysay award** is given every year to individuals or organisations in Asia who manifest the same selfless service and transformative influence that ruled the life of the late and beloved Filipino leader.
6. Indian statue has been shortlisted for 'The Structural Awards 2019' of the UK-based Institution of Structural Engineers (IStructE) ___ **Statue of Unity**.
- Note:**
- The Objective of the award to increase awareness of the important work that structural engineers do.
 - Statue of Unity (memorial to Sardar Patel) was unveiled by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Gujarat's Kevadia town on 31st October 2018.
 - It is among the 49 structures that will vie for the prestigious award.
 - Past winners of this award include iconic structures such as the Sydney Opera House in Australia, the Pompidou Centre in Paris and the Severn Bridge in England.

Sports News

1. India cricketer and Andhra Pradesh **Ranji team skipper** has announced retirement from all forms of the game ___ **Venugopal Rao**.
- Note:**
- Venugopala Rao has represented India in 16 ODIs, and 65 IPL matches.
 - Rao played 121 first-class matches scoring 7,081 runs with 17 hundred and 30 fifties to his credit.
 - From 2008-2014 he played for Deccan Chargers and Sunrisers Hyderabad in the IPL
2. Australian **all-rounder** has become the **first cricketer** of either gender to reach the **rare milestone** of scoring 1000 runs and taking 100 wickets in the T20 format ___ **Ellyse Perry**
- Note:**
- Perry is the **youngest person** to represent Australia in cricket and the first Australian to have appeared in both cricket and football World Cups.
 - Currently, Former Pakistani all-rounder **Shahid Afridi** (1416 runs and 98 wickets) stands closest to achieving the feat.

- Bangladesh's **Shakib al Hasan**, with 1471 runs and 88 wickets, stands next in line to join Perry.
3. The International Cricket Council (ICC) has named two new umpires in the elite panel for 2019-20___ Michael Gough(England) and Joel Wilson (West Indies).
Note:
- Gough having officiated in nine Tests, 59 ODIs and 14 T20Is and Wilson having stood in 13 Tests, 63 ODIs and 26 T20Is.
 - The other members of the Emirates ICC Elite Panel of Umpires are Aleem Dar, Kumar Dharmasena, Marais Erasmus, Chris Gaffaney, Richard Illingworth, Richard Kettleborough, Nigel Llong, Bruce Oxenford, Paul Reiffel and Rod Tucker.
 - The Emirates ICC Elite Panel of Match Referees remains unchanged with David Boon, Chris Broad, Jeff Crowe, Ranjan Madugalle, Andy Pycroft, Richie Richardson and Javagal Srinath the seven officials on that list.
4. Who has clinched **Gold medal** in Men's Rifle 3 Positions (3P) at 12th Sardar Sajjan Singh Sethi Memorial Masters competition___ **Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar**.
Note:
- He posted a comfortable victory with a score of 459.9 and a class 10.7 in the end.
 - Tinjit Dhanota (Punjab) and Esha Singh (Telengana) won the Men's and Women's 10 metres Air Pistol gold medals.
 - India's most accomplished 3P shooter Sanjeev Rajput had to be satisfied with silver, finishing with a score of 455.5, a clear 4.4 behind Aishwary.
5. Who became the **first Indian pair** to win a BWF Super **500 badminton tournament** in Bangkok, Thailand ___ **Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty**.
Note:
- They beat the reigning **World Champions** and third seeds **Li Jun Hui** and **Liu Yu Chen** of China in three hard-fought games 21-19, 18-21, 21-18 to win the men's doubles category.
 - The **2019 Thailand Open** was a badminton tournament which took place at Indoor Stadium Huamark in Bangkok, Thailand and had a total purse of USD 350,000.
 - **This tournament** was organized by the **Badminton Association of Thailand** with sanction from the BWF.
6. Who has won the gold medal in women's **53kg category** of the **Poland Open wrestling tournament** in Warsaw__ **Vinesh Phogat**.
Note:
- Vinesh Phogat prevailed 3-2 over local wrestler Roksana in the final of the competition.
 - This was her third consecutive gold in the 53 kg category after winning Gold at Grand Prix of Spain and at the Yasar Dogu International at Istanbul, Turkey.
7. British racing driver has won the **Formula 1**, Hungarian Grand Prix 2019___**Lewis Hamilton**.
Note:
- Mercedes driver Hamilton hunted down Max Verstappen to win the Hungarian Grand Prix for a record-extending seventh time.
 - The 2019 Hungarian Grand Prix was a Formula One motor race which was held at the Hungaroring in Mogyorod, Hungary.
 - The race was the twelfth round of twenty-one of the 2019 Formula One World Championship and the 35th running of the Hungarian Grand Prix.
8. India's **opening batsman** has become the batsman with the **most- number of sixes** in the T20I format__ **Rohit Sharma**.
Note:
- He blasted two sixes to go past West Indies' Chris Gayle at the top spot.
 - Now, the right-handed batsman Rohit Sharma has 106 sixes in the format whereas Gayle has 105.
 - Kiwi opening batsman Martin Guptill sits on the third position with 103 sixes.
 - Currently, Rohit Sharma holds the record for most number of centuries (four) and highest run-scorer in the T20I format.
8. Australia's player has won the ATP Washington Open title___ **Nick Kyrgios**.
Note:
- He defeated Russia's 10th-ranked Daniil Medvedev.
 - Nick Kyrgios claimed the USD 365,390 top prize and his 6th career ATP crown at the US Open tune-up event.
9. German **cancer researcher** has won the mixed annual **4,000 km** cycling Transcontinental race___ **Fiona Kolbinger**.
Note:

- She became the first woman to do so.
- She managed to complete the route, which travelled from Burgas on the eastern coast of Bulgaria to Brest in northwest France, in a time of just 10 days, two hours and 48 minutes.
- The race was the cyclist's first ever ultra-distance challenge.

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