

Weekly One Liner

22nd - 31st July 2019



Weekly One Liner Updates 22-31st July 2019

Dear readers,

Weekly One Liner Updates is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the **fourth week** (22-31st) of **July 2019**. This file is important for, **Banking interviews** and all **upcoming Banking & Insurance** exams.

Banking & Financial Awareness

- Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)** inflow has increased during the year 2018-19 ___ **USD 64.38 billion**.

Note:

- According to commerce ministry sources, it has been the endeavor of the government to put in place an enabling and investor friendly FDI policy.
- The intent is to make the FDI policy more investor-friendly and remove the policy bottlenecks that have been hindering investment inflow into the country.

- The **GST Council** has decided to reduce **GST Rate** on **Electrical Vehicles** from 12% to ___ **5%**.

Note:

- The **GST Council** also decided to reduce the rate on **Electric Vehicle Chargers** from 18% to 5%.
- The **new rates** will come into effect from the **1st of this month**.
- The Council also approved an exemption from GST on the hiring of **Electric Buses** by local authorities.

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has imposed a fine of about 26 lakh rupees on two online payment solutions providers for non-compliance of regulatory guidelines ___ **Mobikwik Systems Private Limited & Hip Bar Pvt Ltd**.

Note:

- According to Reserve Bank of India, Mobikwik Systems Private Limited has been slapped a fine of 15 lakh rupees while Hip Bar Pvt Ltd faced a fine of 10.85 lakh rupees.
- These two prepaid payment instrument (PPI) issuers were levied a monetary penalty for non-compliance of regulatory guidelines.

- Who has liberalized the end-use stipulations for the External Commercial Borrowings both for corporates as well as liquidity starved non-banking lenders ___ **Reserve Bank of India**.

Note:

- Liberalization will be applicable to ECBs taken for working capital, general corporate purpose loans or repayment of rupee loans.
- Corporate borrowers will be able to avail of ECBs to repay rupee loans taken for Capital expenditures if they are into manufacturing or infrastructure building and classified as Special Mention Account, SMA-2 or Non-Performing Asset, under any one-time settlement arrangement with lenders.

- Union Minister **Nitin Gadkari** and Insurance giant has agreed to offer **Rs 1.25 trillion lines** of credit by 2024, to fund highway projects ___ **LIC (Life Insurance Corporation)**.

Note:

- The fund will be a part of **innovative modes of financing** to meet India's huge infrastructure appetite.
- The **Road Transport and Highways Ministry** been looking to harness various sources of finances including pension and insurance funds.
- The fund will be provided for the timely execution of the **Rs 8.41 trillion ambitious** Bharatmala project that aims to lay a grid of highways pan-India.

- Who has approved the cumulative penalty of **Rs 3,050 crore** on Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea ___ **Digital Communications Commission (DCC)**.

Note:

- The penalty was imposed by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) for not providing points of interconnection to Reliance Jio when it entered the market.

- Who has tightened norms that governs resolution professionals (RPs), when they are in possession of authorization to take up work under insolvency law ___ **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI)**.

Note:

- Restrictions will also be in place for relatives of RPs in accepting employment after completion of resolution process.
8. **Mukesh Ambani-led** has jumped 42 places to become the **highest-ranking Indian** firm on the Fortune Global 500 list ___ **Reliance Industries**.
- Note:**
- US giant Walmart continues to top the Fortune 500 list followed by Chinese state-owned oil and gas company Sinopec Group, which moved one rank up.
 - Dutch company **Royal Dutch Shell** was ranked third followed by China National Petroleum and State Grid.
 - This year, ranked 106, Reliance Industries (RIL) has replaced IOC (117) as the top-ranked Indian company on the Global 500 list.
9. **US regulators** formalized a record 5 billion US Dollar fine on ___ **Facebook**.
- Note:**
- US regulators found the violation of users' privacy in the Cambridge Analytica data scandal involving 87 million users.
 - According to Federal Trade Commission (FTC), the penalty was the largest ever imposed on any company for violating consumers' privacy and one of the largest penalties ever assessed by the US government for any violation.
 - The FTC initiated the investigation after a scandal involving former British consulting firm Cambridge Analytica, which was accused of illegally accessing data of more than 87 million Facebook users without their prior knowledge.

Obituaries

1. Former **Japanese diplomat** and **International Atomic Energy Agency** (IAEA) chief passed away__ **Yukiya Amano**.
- Note:**
- Amano (72-years) who had wide experience in disarmament, non-proliferation diplomacy and nuclear energy, had been chief of the key **U.N. agency that** regulates nuclear issues worldwide since 2009.
 - He was deeply involved in the years-long negotiations that led to the landmark Iran nuclear deal with world powers that restricted the country's nuclear uranium enrichment.
 - As Head of the IAEA, Amano also dealt with the aftermath of the devastating 2011 Fukushima nuclear accident in Japan.
2. Australia's **tennis champion** passed away after a quiet **battle with cancer** in Germany__ **Peter McNamara**.
- Note:**
- Peter McNamara won three doubles Grand Slam titles and became a prominent coach after hanging up his racquet.
 - McNamara won five singles titles and 19 in doubles and teamed up with compatriot Paul McNamee to win the Australian Open doubles in 1979 and Wimbledon twice in 1980 and 1982.
3. **Dutch film actor** passed away at his home in the Netherlands__ **Rutger Hauer**.
- Note:**
- He acted in both Dutch and English-language TV series and films.
 - Hauer's roles included a terrorist in 'Nighthawks' with Sylvester Stallone, Cardinal Roark in 'Sin City' and playing an evil corporate executive in 'Batman Begins.'
 - Hauer founded the Rutger Hauer Starfish Association, an AIDS awareness organization.
4. **Russian boxer** passed away following injuries suffered in his IBF light-welterweight ___ **Maxim Dadashev**.
- Note:**
- Dadashev was reportedly unable to walk to the dressing room after his bout was stopped by trainer Buddy McGirt at the end of the 11th round.
 - He was hospitalized with bleeding on the brain and underwent emergency surgery but failed to recover.
 - Dadashev had won all of his previous 13 fights but had to absorb a barrage of punches from Puerto Rican Matias during the course of the fight in Maryland.
5. **Tunisia's President** passed away in a military hospital__ **Beji Caid Essebsi**.
- Note:**
- He was the major figure in the country's transition to democracy after the Arab spring.
 - Essebsi was the oldest head of state after the Queen, has been a major figure in Tunisian politics since the uprisings that led to the overthrow of the long-time despot Zine al-Abidine Ben Ali.

- Tunisia is often described as the lone success story of the revolutions of 2011 because of its slow but steady progress towards democracy, despite extended economic problems.
6. King Salman's elder **half-brother** passed away__ Prince Bandar.
Note:
- He was the eldest living son of the late King Abdulaziz Al Saud.
 - Prince Bandar bin Abdulaziz Al Saud was not an active political royal within the ruling Al Saud family and had been passed over in the line of succession to the throne.
7. Meghalaya **Assembly Speaker** passed away in Gurgaon following a brief illness__ Donkumar Roy.
Note:
- Mr. Donkumar Roy was elected as the assembly speaker in March 2018.
 - Donkumar Roy served as Chief Minister of Meghalaya (from 19th March 2008 to 18th March 2009).
 - He was the head of the United Democratic Party, a political party recognised in Meghalaya.
8. Senior Congress leader and former Union Minister passed away in a hospital in Hyderabad__ **S Jaipal Reddy**.
Note:
- He was a four-term MLA, member of Lok Sabha for five terms and member of Rajya Sabha for two terms.
9. **Noted economist** and former RBI Deputy Governor passed away__ **Subir Vithal Gokarn**.
Note:
- Gokarn served as the Deputy Governor of the RBI between 2009 and 2013, during the tenure of Governor D Subbarao.
 - Gokarn was also Chief Economist of Standard & Poor's Asia-Pacific and Chief Economist of CRISIL.
 - In 2015, he was appointed as Executive Director on the board of the IMF (International Monetary Fund).

Important Days

1. **India** celebrates 23rd July every year as the __ **National Broadcasting day**.
Note:
- On this day in 1927, the first-ever radio broadcast in the country went on the air from the Bombay Station under the Indian Broadcasting Company.
 - On 8th June 1936, the Indian State Broadcasting Service became All India Radio.
2. **World Hepatitis Day** is being observed every year on __ **28th July**.
Note
- The day raise global awareness of Hepatitis and encourage prevention, diagnosis, and treatment.
 - The theme of World Hepatitis Day 2019 is "Invest in eliminating Hepatitis".
 - The theme focuses on the hepatitis elimination goals by 2030, in the context of universal health coverage.
3. India has celebrated the anniversary of the victory of the **Indian Armed Forces** in 'Operation Vijay' against the infiltrating Pakistani troops__ 20th.
Note:
- The day is named after the successful '**Operation Vijay**' (in 1999) when India regained the control of the high outposts which had been stealthily taken over by Pakistan.
 - The central theme of this year's celebrations is 'Remember, Rejoice and Renew'.
 - The Kargil War was an armed conflict between India and Pakistan that took place between May and July 1999 in the Kargil district of Kashmir and elsewhere along the Line of Control (LOC).
4. The '**Global Tiger Day**' is being celebrated across the world __ **29th July**.
Note:
- According to All India Tiger Estimation 2018, India is one of the safest habitats in the world with 2967 tigers.
 - Madhya Pradesh saw the highest number of tigers at 526, closely followed by Karnataka at 524 with Uttarakhand at number 3 with 442 tigers.
 - The Tiger Estimation exercise is believed to be the world's largest wildlife survey effort in terms of coverage, the intensity of sampling and quantum of camera trapping.
5. World Hepatitis Day is being observed on __ **28th July**.
Note:
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 - The theme of World Hepatitis Day 2019 is "Invest in eliminating Hepatitis".
 - The theme focuses on the hepatitis elimination goals by 2030, in the context of universal health coverage.

- Hepatitis is a group of infectious diseases known as Hepatitis A, B, C, D, and E.
6. The **World Day against Trafficking** in Persons is observed across the world on ___**30th July**.

Note:

- The day raise awareness of the plight of victims of human trafficking and to protect their rights.
- The theme for World Day Against Trafficking in Persons 2019 is "Human Trafficking: Call Your Government To Action".
- In 2013, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) had designated 30th July as the World Day against Trafficking in Persons.

New Appointments

1. Who has been appointed as the new **Director-General (DG)** of **Border Security Force (BSF)**_ **VK Johri**.

Note:

- He will succeed **Rajni Kant Misra** who retires on **31st of July 2019**.
- Currently, Mr. Johri is serving as the Special Secretary in RAW, under the Cabinet Secretariat.
- The BSF is the country's largest border guarding force (present strength of about 2.5 lakh personnel) and is tasked to secure two of India's most important and sensitive fronts with Pakistan and Bangladesh.

2. Conservative Party leader has been elected as new **Prime Minister** of United Kingdom_ **Boris Johnson**.

Note:

- The **Prime Minister of the United Kingdom** is the head of the Government of the United Kingdom and chairs Cabinet meetings.
- The Prime Minister directs both the executive and the legislature, and together with their Cabinet are collectively accountable for their policies and actions to the Monarch, to Parliament, to their political party and ultimately to the electorate.

3. The **U.S. Senate** confirmed former soldier as Secretary of Defense_ **Mark Esper**.

Note:

- Esper replaces Patrick Shanahan, who led the military in an acting capacity but this week withdrew his name from consideration for a permanent role after allegations of domestic violence.
- Earlier, Mark Esper served as acting secretary of defence and was the 23rd United States Secretary of the Army from 2017 to 2019.

4. BJP veteran and **former Odisha minister** sworn in as the new Governor of **Andhra Pradesh** (23rd) ___ **Mr. Biswabhusan Harichandan**.

Note:

- Harichandan replaced ESL Narasimhan, who is also governor of Telangana.
- The governors and lieutenant-governors are appointed by the president for a term of five years.

5. Who has been appointed Officer on Special Duty (OSD) to the **Ministry of Home Affairs** ___ **Ajay Kumar Bhalla**.

Note:

- Currently, **Mr. Bhalla** is serving as Power Secretary.
- **Anshu Prakash** has been appointed new Secretary, Telecommunications, in place of Aruna Sundararajan, who is superannuating on 31st July.
- **Home Secretary** is the administrative head of the Ministry of Home Affairs and is the principal adviser to the Home Minister on all matters of policy and administration within the Home Ministry.

6. Who has been appointed as the UK's Home Secretary___**Priti Patel**.

Note:

- The Prime Minister named former Home Secretary **Sajid Javid** (former banker) to take over from Philip Hammond as the Finance Secretary or Chancellor.
- Mr Johnson has also named Brexit hardliner Dominic Raab as the country's Foreign Secretary.
- Priti Patel (MP for Witham) was first elected as a Conservative MP in 2010 and gained prominence in the then David Cameron led Tory government as his Indian Diaspora Champion.

7. **BS Yeddyurappa** takes oath as chief minister of ___**Karnataka**.

Note:

- Karnataka Governor Vajubhai Vala administers the oath to the BJP leader B.S. Yeddyurappa (76-years) as chief minister of the state (4th time) at a ceremony held outside the Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru.
- B S Yeddyurappa is popularly known as "Raithara Bandhu" for his pro-farmer policies, initiatives like separate agriculture budget in Karnataka Government during his chief ministership.

8. The leader of the **Congress party** in Lok Sabha has been appointed as the **Chairman** of the **Public Accounts Committee (PAC)** ___ **Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury**.
- Note:**
- The PAC has **15 members** from Lok Sabha and seven from Rajya Sabha.
 - The term of office of members of the committee does not exceed one year at a time.
 - Earlier, Mallikarjun Kharge (Congress leader in the 16th Lok Sabha) was the Chairman of the PAC.
9. The **US Senate** has overwhelmingly confirmed as the next Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (CJCS) __ **General Mark Milley**.
- Note:**
- He will replace General **Joseph Dunford**.
 - The Chairman is nominated by the **President for the appointment** and must be confirmed via majority vote by the Senate.
 - The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (CJCS) is, the highest-ranking and senior-most military officer in the United States Armed Forces
10. Who as been given **additional Charge** of chairman and managing director of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) ___ **Sunil Kumar**.
- Note:**
- Currently, Mr Kumar is Director (Human Resources and Enterprise Business) at MTNL.
 - He takes over from P K Purwar who was recently appointed chairman and managing Director of BSNL.
 - MTNL operates telecom services in the Delhi and Mumbai circles, has been incurring consistent losses and is now awaiting a comprehensive revival plan from the government.
11. Senior IPS Officer has been appointed as the next **Director-General (DG)** of **Border Security Force (BSF)** ___ **VK Johri**.
- Note:**
- He will succeed Rajni Kant Misra who retires on 31st of July 2019.
 - Currently, Mr. Johri is serving as the Special Secretary in RAW, under the Cabinet Secretariat.
 - The BSF is the country's largest border guarding force (present strength of about 2.5 lakh personnel) and is tasked to secure two of India's most important and sensitive fronts with Pakistan and Bangladesh.
12. Senior **IAS officer** has been appointed as the new Finance Secretary__ **Rajiv Kumar**.
- Note:**
- He succeeded **Subhash Chandra Garg** (1983 batch IAS- officer), who is currently the **power secretary**.
 - Currently, **Mr Rajiv Kumar** is serving as Secretary in the **Department of Financial Services**.
 - **Finance Secretary** is the administrative head of the **Ministry of Finance** and is the principal adviser to the Finance Minister on all matters of policy and administration within the Finance Ministry.
13. Governor of Uttar Pradesh -- **Anandiben Patel**.
- Note:**
- The Chief Justice of the High Court, Govind Mathur, administered her the oath of Office and Secrecy at Raj Bhawan in Lucknow.
 - Earlier, she was serving as the Governor of Madhya Pradesh.
 - Ms Patel will be the second woman Governor of the state after Sarojini Naidu.
14. **Fagu Chauhan** was sworn in as the 29th Governor of ___ **Bihar**.
- Note:**
- **Fagu Chauhan** was administered the oath of office by **Chief Justice** of Patna High Court Amreshwar Pratap Shahi at the Raj Bhavan in Patna.
 - Mr. Chauhan is a former member of **17th Legislative Assembly of Uttar Pradesh** from Ghosi, a seat he won from a record six times.
15. Senior **BJP leader** took oath as **Governor** of Madhya Pradesh___ **Lalji Tandon**.
- Note:**
- The oath was administered by acting Chief Justice of the High Court Ravi Shankar Jha.
 - Mr. Tandon replaced Anandiben Patel, who was appointed as Governor of Uttar Pradesh.

Important News - India

1. India's landmark Moon Mission 'Chandrayaan-2' launched from ___ **Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh**.

Note:

- **Chandrayaan-2** onboard the heavy-lift rocket Geosynchronous Launch Vehicle **GSLV-MkIII-M1** (nicknamed Baahubali).
 - The total cost of the mission is worked out to be **978 crore rupees**.
 - **Chandrayaan-2** carried 13 scientific satellites (weighs about 3.8 tonnes), explore the southern part of the Moon.
 - '**Chandrayaan-2**' would make India the **4th country** to soft-land on the Moon, a feat achieved only by the space agencies of the US, USSR, and China.
 - It will have three modules — **Orbiter, Lander (Vikram) & Rover (Pragyan)**.
2. On the 20th anniversary of the Kargil War, A new book "**Kargil: Untold stories from the War**" has been released in **New Delhi**.
- Note:**
- The book authored by **Rachna Bisht Rawat**.
 - The book is based on Rawat's interviews with war survivors and martyrs' families, take the readers to the treacherous Himalayan mountains.
3. The **International Police Expo 2019** (5th edition) has been organized in **New Delhi**.
- Note:**
- The theme of **International Police Expo 2019** is 'Challenges to strengthen peace and security'
 - The **2019 event saw the participation of Manufacturers** and technology players from more than 25 countries.
4. Commerce and Industry **Minister Piyush Goyal** has launched the Global Innovation Index (GII) in **New Delhi**.
- Note:**
- The theme this year is **Creating Healthy Lives - The Future of Medical Innovation**, which aims to explore the role of medical innovation as it shapes the future of healthcare.
 - India has jumped **24 places** in the **Global Innovation Index** in four years, from 81st position in 2015, it achieved the 57th position in 2018.
5. The **Supreme Court** (SC) bench has extended the deadline for publication of final **National Register of Citizens** (NRC) in Assam from 31st July to **31st August**.
- Note:**
- The **Apex Court rejected** the pleas seeking permission for 20% sample re-verification.
 - The **Centre and the Assam** government sought permission for sample re-verification to find out wrongful inclusions and exclusions of persons in the NRC.
6. A new **India-UK bilateral pilot scheme** has been launched to support **Britain's universities** to collaborate with **Indian partners** to send **UK students** to India during their studies **UKEIRI**.
- Note:**
- The "**UKEIRI Mobility Programme: Study in India**", an initiative of **Universities UK International** (UUKI) and **British Council India**.
 - It aims to generate up to **200 opportunities** for undergraduate students at **UK universities** to visit India by March 2021.
7. The **Union government** has extended the deadline for filing of **Income Tax returns** by individuals for the financial year 2018-19 to **31st August**.
- Note:**
- According to the **official release** of Finance Ministry, the decision has been taken after it was reported that some of the taxpayers are facing difficulties in filing their income tax returns due to various reasons including the extension of due date for issue of Form 16 for the Assessment Year 2019-20.
8. The **Central Board of Direct Taxes** (CBDT) has celebrated the **159th Income Tax Day** as **Aaykar Diwas**
- Note:**
- Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** has attended an event to mark **Income Tax Day** in New Delhi.
 - The event will include the release of **departmental publications**, e-journal, publicity kit for outreach programmes among other things.
 - The week preceding the **Aaykar Diwas** has been marked by various activities undertaken by the regional offices of the department across the country.
9. The **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** has released a **book** in New Delhi **Chandra Shekhar-The Last Icon of Ideological Politics**.
- Note:**
- The book has been written by Shri Harivansh, Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha; and Shri Ravi Dutt Bajpai.
 - The book release event was held at the Balayogi Auditorium, Parliament Library Building.

10. The **Union Cabinet** approves the merger of **National Institute of Miners' Health** with ____ **ICMR-NIOH**.

Note:

- This will help both the institutes in terms of enhanced expertise in the field of occupational health besides efficient management of public money.
- The Cabinet also approved sale of **481.79 acres** of land held by Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited, FACT to the Government of Kerala and utilization of the sale proceeds by FACT.

11. **ISRO's commercial arm** earned Rs 6,289 crore in the last 3 years ____ **Antrix Corporation**.

Note:

- Total 239 satellites were launched by ISRO's commercial arm 'Antrix Corporation' in the last three years, garnering revenue of Rs 6,289 crore,
- The government has already set up NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), under the administrative control of the Department of Space (DOS) to commercially exploit the research and development work of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) centres and constituent units of DOS.
- The NSIL was set up to meet the ever-increasing demands of the Indian space programme and to commercially exploit the emerging global space market.

12. Chief of Naval Staff **Admiral Karambir Singh** commissioned the **fifth Dornier squadron** of the Indian Navy at the Naval Air Enclave in Meenambakkam, Chennai ____ **Indian Naval Air Squadron 313**.

Note:

- The fifth Dornier squadron will help India track of the growing Chinese presence in the Indian Ocean Region.
- With commissioning of INAS 313, the Tamil Nadu states will have three naval (earlier, INS Rajali at Arakkonam and INS Parundu at Ramnad) airbases, the highest number for any Coastal State.
- The squadron will operate the indigenous Hindustan Aeronautical built maritime surveillance version multi-role Dornier 228 Short Range Maritime reconnaissance aircraft from Chennai airport.

13. The **11th edition** of the biennial **DefExpo 2020** will be held in ____ **Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh)**.

Note:

- The four-day event will offer an excellent opportunity for the Indian defence industry to showcase its capabilities and promote its export potential.
- The main theme of the DefExpo India- 2020 will be 'India - the Emerging Defence Manufacturing Hub'.
- The DefExpo would provide a unique platform for Defence industry OEMs, exhibitors and private industry to display their latest innovations and capabilities.

14. The **Western Railway (WR)** has thrown open to the public the **first printing press** heritage gallery of the Indian Railways at ____ **Mahalaxmi**.

Note:

- With this, the WR Mahalaxmi General Stores Depot (GSD) has become the first in Indian Railways to portray a heritage gallery of the printing and allied machines used in the WR Printing Press since 1948, which are still in working condition, it said.
- The press came into existence in 1912 under the Greater Indian Peninsular Railway (GIP) Bombay, as the railway needed stationery and tickets to run the operations.

15. India and **China** will carry out a **major military exercise** in Meghalaya this year ____ **Hand-in-Hand**.

Note:

- The exercise will take place at Umroi, Meghalaya in December 2019.
- It will be based on counter-terrorism humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations.
- The exercise was previously held in December last year at Chengdu, China

16. An annual **military exercise** between the US and **South Korean military exercises** will be held in August this year ____ **19-2 Dong Maeng (alliance)**.

Note:

- The announcement was made by Choi Jong-kun, the secretary for peace planning to South Korean President Moon Jae-in.
- Earlier, the United States and South Korea had suspended a large-scale exercise and it also cancelled a second exercise after the Singapore summit in June 2018.
- North Korea has threatened that the country will drop the nuclear talks with the US if it continues the military exercise with South Korea.

17. Lieutenant General Ranbir Singh has released the coffee table book titled 'Fire and Fury Corps – Saga of Valour, Fortitude and Sacrifice' in ____ **Leh, Jammu & Kashmir**.

Note:

- This book showcases the courage and bravery of the Fire and Fury Warriors and portrays the rich heritage and ethos of the Indian Army.

18. Culture Minister **Prahlad Singh Patel** has announced to include two language in the Sub-Field of Field Literature in the scheme component 'Award of Senior/Junior Fellowships ___ **Nepali and Santhali**.

Note:

- The announcement was made by the Culture Minister during an interaction with media in New Delhi yesterday.
- The fellowships are awarded for undertaking research-oriented projects.

19. The sixth ship of the **Landing Craft Utility (LCU) MK IV** class was commissioned into the Indian Navy__ **IN LCU L56**.

Note:

- Vice Admiral **Atul Kumar Jain**, Eastern Naval Command commissioned the ship in a ceremony held at Naval Dockyard, Visakhapatnam.
- The ship will be deployed for multi-role activities such as beaching operations, search and rescue missions, disaster relief operations, coastal patrol and surveillance operations along the Andaman and Nicobar Group of Islands.
- **LCU 56** is an amphibious ship with its primary role being transportation and deployment of Main Battle Tanks, Armoured Vehicles, Troops and Equipment from ship to shore.

Important News – State

1. Culture Minister **Prahlad Singh Patel** has inaugurated the **architectural illumination** of the historic ___ **Safdarjung Tomb, New Delhi**.

Note:

- A total of **213 technologically advanced LED lights** have been used to highlight the monument.
- The consumption of LED lights is approximately 62% less than conventional light fixtures.
- The Archaeological Survey of India has previously undertaken similar initiatives at the Red Fort, the Humayun's Tomb, and the Purana Qila in Delhi.
- The tomb will be illuminated from 7:00 PM to 11:00 PM daily and it will cost the government Rs 8,880 monthly.

2. **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has sanctioned **1,925 crore rupees project** for up-gradation of **power generation** and distribution in ___ **Tripura**.

Note:

- The amount was sanctioned to the **Tripura State Electricity Corporation Limited** after the state government had sought the ADB's assistance.
- The project has been sanctioned for upgrading capacity of **63 MW Rokhia Project** to 120 MW at an estimated cost of over 699 crores and modernising Gumti Hydro Electric Project at an estimated cost of nearly 1225 crore rupees.
- Rokhia project is located at West Tripura district whereas the Gumti project is in Gomati district.

3. Who has emerged as the most **rooftop solar panels** installed state ___ **Gujarat**.

Note:

- The data was tabled by R K Singh (Union minister of state for new and renewable energy) in the upper house of Parliament.
- Gujarat has an installed rooftop solar power capacity of 261.97 MW, against 1,700.54 MW for all of India. Gujarat is followed by Maharashtra (198.52 MW) and Tamil Nadu (151.62 MW) in terms of installed rooftop capacity.
- The Union government aims to install rooftop solar capacity of 40,000 MW by 2022.

4. Who has become number one state in implementation of Pradhanamntri Suraksha Beema Yojna in the country__ **Uttar Pradesh**.

Note:

- As per the statement released by the state government, 1.95 crores people have been given insurance cover under the scheme till 31st March 2019.
- Implementation of this ambitious central government scheme started in the state from January 2018 under which people between age group of 18 to 70 get an accidental insurance cover of rupees 2 lakh by paying a nominal premium of 12 rupees annually.
- Uttar Pradesh stands second in the country in the implementation of Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Beema Yojana, another flagship scheme of the Union Government.

5. Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister **Pema Khandu** has launched the **state-wide tree plantation programme** in Itanagar. **Clean-Green Arunachal Campaign 2019.**

Note:

- The campaign is being held as part of Van Mahotsav celebration and has set the target of planting 1 Crore tree within the next five years.
- The forest carbon stock in Arunachal comes to 148.52 tonnes per hectare, which is highest in the country and whose value in terms of carbon credit at 6 Euros per tonne works out to 48000 Crore rupees annually.

6. The 14-digit **Parivar Pehchan Patra** (PPP) officially rolled out by the chief minister **Manohar Lal Khattar**.

Note:

- Chief Minister Khattar has launched a portal 'www.meraparivar.haryana.gov.in'
- According to the government data, the population of over 2.5 crore, which is approximately 54 lakh households, will be covered through this exercise.
- As per the plan, more than 500 PPP registration centres will be set up for scanning and uploading of documents submitted by the citizens

7. Uttarakhand government is hosting the first-ever Himalayan states' conclave in **Mussoorie**.

Note:

- Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has attended the conclave as the chief guest.
- The prime focus of the meeting was sustainable development.
- The Conclave would focus on environmental protection, Himalayan culture, and economic development. It will also focus on solving the Himalayan states' problems.

8. The **Union government** has kicked off the **7th Economic Census** from the **north eastern state** of **Tripura**.

Note:

- It will be launched in other states and union territories in August and September.
- The census conducted by the Ministry of **Statistics and Programme Implementation** (MoSPI) will be held this year after a gap of five years.
- The data will be collected through the door to door survey of each household and commercial establishment under the provisions of the Collection of Statistics Act 2008.

9. The **Karnataka State Government** has cancelled the birth anniversary celebrations of **Hazrat Tipu Sultan**.

Note:

- In an order, Kannada and Culture department has stated that Hazrat Tipu Sultan Jayanti being celebrated since 2016 in the state is cancelled with immediate effect.
- Tipu Sultan (or Tiger of Mysore) was born on 20th November 1750 at Devanahalli, (Currently in Bangalore Rural district).
- Tipu Sultan was a ruler of the Kingdom of Mysore and a pioneer of rocket artillery.

10. Odisha Chief Minister **Naveen Patnaik** has announced that **Sachivalaya** (State secretariat) will now be called **Lok Seva Bhawan**.

Note:

- Mr. Patnaik made this announcement while moving the expenditure relating to the Home Department in Assembly.
- The Odisha secretariat building was inaugurated on November 12, 1959, by the then Union Home Minister Govind Ballabh Pant.

11. **Udhampur District Administration** (In Jammu and Kashmir) has launched a helpline **Jeene Do**.

Note:

- The objective is to improve sex ratio and deal with defaulters of Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques or PCPNDT Act under the Centrally sponsored 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' scheme.
- A Mobile Number '**9469793363**' has been dedicated to the public to register complaints regarding sex determination during pre-natal check-ups.

Important News - World

1. President **Ram Nath Kovind** embarked on a week-long visit to three West African nations **Benin, The Gambia & Guinea**.

Note:

- India's diplomatic relations with Africa have undergone an unprecedented transformation in the last five years.

- This will be the first high-level visit for our Head of State from India to all the three countries in West Africa.
2. Prime Minister of Nepal **KP Sharma Oli** has inaugurated '**India-Nepal Logistics Summit**' in ___**Kathmandu**.
- Note:**
- The theme of the summit was "Transforming Logistics Landscape".
 - He stressed upon smooth and quality logistics between India and Nepal.
 - Nepal and India have a significant volume of trade, investment, tourism and people-to-people movement for which smooth and quality logistics including easy transit facilities is very essential.
3. Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** is on a three-day visit to southern African country ___Mozambique.
- Note:**
- India is willing to forge a strong bilateral relationship with Mozambique by increasing regular engagement and cooperation in multiple spheres.
 - Mr Singh will hold talks with President, Defence Minister, Foreign Minister and Interior Minister of Mozambique during his visit.
 - During the defence minister's visit, India will also hand over two fast interceptor boats and 44 SUVs to Mozambique.

Honor & Awards

1. Noted **Vocalist** has been chosen for the **Sangita Kalanidhi award** of the Music Academy__ **S. Sowmya**.
- Note:**
- She will preside over the 93rd annual conference of the Academy to be held between 12 December 2019, and 1st January 2020.
 - Sangita Kala Acharya awards will go to vocalists **Seetha Narayanan** and **M.S. Sheela**.
 - **Sangeetha Kalanidhi** is the title awarded yearly to a **Carnatic Musician** by the Madras Music Academy.
2. Who has been conferred the '**Mohun Bagan Ratna**' ___ **Keshav Dutt & Prasun Banerjee**.
- Note:**
- Mohun Bagan will also felicitate pacer Mohammed Shami, while Ashok Chatterjee will be given the Lifetime Achievement award.
 - The Mariners will also give Life Memberships to Sourav Ganguly, Chuni Goswami, Dr Vece Paes, Prasenjit Chatterjee and Deb Shankar Halder.
 - One of the oldest surviving hockey Olympians of the country, Dutt donned (94-years) the national jersey in the 1948 London Games, where India won the first gold post-Independence, and the former centre halfback won his second Olympic gold in Helsinki 1952.
 - This is for the first time Mohun Bagan's executive committee has decided to confer their highest honour to a non-footballer.
3. Who has won the ownership right **geographical indication** (GI) tag from the **Registrar of Geographical Indication** over its Rasagola ___**Odisha**.
- Note:**
- The Chennai-based Registrar of Geographical Indications issued the ownership certificate registering the sweetmeat as 'Odisha Rasagola' under the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999.
 - The certificate will be valid until 22 February 2028.
 - Both Odisha and West Bengal have been contesting the origin of Rasagola and West Bengal had got GI for "Banglar Rasagola" in 2017.
4. Renowned Indian sand artist won People's Choice Prize at Boston International Sand Art Championship in the US__ **Padmashri Sudarsan Pattnaik**.
- Note:**
- Mr. Pattnaik was among the 15 top sand artists selected from across the world to participate in the 2019 Revere Beach International Sand Sculpting Festival in Boston.
 - Mr. Pattnaik (Representing India at the festival) bagged the award for his sand art on plastic pollution with the message 'Stop Plastic Pollution, Save Our Ocean'.

Sports News

1. Delhi's **Chess player** has become India's **64th** Grandmaster___ **Prithu Gupta**.

Note:

- Mr. Gupta has achieved the sensational feat at the age of 15 years, 4 months and 10 days.
- Gupta received his first GM norm at the Gibraltar Masters last year, before achieving the second norm at the Biel Masters the same year.
- Grandmaster (GM) is a title awarded to chess players by the world chess organization FIDE.

2. India's **long-distance runner** has been handed a **two-year suspension** by the IAAF's **Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU)** for a doping violation__ **Sanjivani Yadav**.

Note:

- Sanjivani Yadav had failed a dope test in November 2018 when her sample taken during the National Inter-State Athletics Championships was found to contain Probenecid, a masking agent.
- According to International federation's body for combating doping, the athlete admitted to her first violation resulting in disqualification all past results since June 29, 2018.
- The suspension period also commenced from June 29, 2018.

3. Irishman has won the British Open Golf ___ **Shane Lowry**.

Note:

- Lowry became the **second player** from the **Republic of Ireland** to win a major after Pádraig Harrington.
- The **2019 Open Championship** was the 148th Open Championship, played at **Royal Portrush Golf Club** in County Antrim, Northern Ireland.

4. India's first gold medallist in 63kg at the President's Cup boxing tournament in Astana, Kazakhstan___ **Shiva Thapa**.

Note:

- Four-time Asian medalist Thapa was to fight Kazakhstan's Zakir Safiullin in the summit clash but his opponent had to pull out due to injury.
- Woman boxer Parveen (60kg) lost her final bout to Rimma Volosenko and claimed a silver medal.

5. **Britain's swimmer** has broken his own world record in the men's **100-metre breaststroke** at the **World Championships** in Gwangju, South Korea__ **Adam Peaty**.

Note:

- Adam Peaty (24-years) smashed the previous record (57.10 seconds) that was set by him at last year's European Championships, after winning the semi-finals in 56.88 seconds.
- Now, Adam Peaty has swum the event 1.4 seconds faster than anyone else in history.

6. The **Maharashtra sports department** has sought funds of over **Rs one crore** for ace shooter ___ **Rahi Sarnobat**.

Note:

- Sarnobat hails from Kolhapur district in western Maharashtra, has qualified for the next year's Tokyo Olympics.
- According to a senior Government official, Players who can seek funds need to have resided in Maharashtra for 15 years and should have won at least one medal in junior or senior national competitions.

7. Who clinched the **men's** and **women's titles** in the 6th Bengal Open squash tournament in Kolkata__ **Abhay & Tanvi Khanna**.

Note:

- Singh defeated top seed Abhishek Pradhan 11-6 11-6 11-4, while Tanvi fought her way past Tamil Nadu's Aparajitha Balamurukan 11-7 11-6 5-11 13-11.
- Earlier, the under-15 category witnessed a thrilling battle with fifth-seeded Tamil Nadu girl Shameena Riaz upsetting top seed Soniya Bajaj from Maharashtra 9-11 11-7 11-5 7-11 11-8.
- Daughter of former India hockey captain Mohammed Riaz, Shameena recently won the U-15 title at the Goregaon Sports Club All India Squash Open in Mumbai.

8. Sri Lankan fast **bowling ace** has retired from **ODI-Cricket** ___ **Lasith Malinga**.

Note:

- Malinga is the third-highest wicket-taker for the island country behind Muttiah Muralitharan and Chaminda Vaas.
- He has taken 335 wickets from 225 one-day internationals for Sri Lanka.
- He has also taken three ODI hat-tricks and is the only player to have achieved the milestone twice during a World Cup.

9. Who formally recognised the **Indian Cricketers' Association (ICA)**, under Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013__ **Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)**.

Note:

- Former India cricketers Kapil Dev, Ajit Agarkar and Shantha Rangaswamy are the directors at ICA and will hold their positions until elections are held.

- The ICA is not affiliated to Federation of International Cricketers' Association (FICA) and is only open to former men and women cricketers, unlike the players' associations in most countries.
10. Pakistan Cricket Board's chairman has been appointed as the head of the ICC's influential Finance and Commercial Affairs committee__ **Ehsan Mani**.
- Note:**
- The F&CA assists the ICC in discharging its responsibilities in relation to all financial and commercial matters.
 - The International Cricket Council (ICC) has 104 cricket playing nations as members including 11 full members and other as associate members.
11. The Indian football team **slipped two places** in the FIFA__ **103rd**.
- Note:**
- India has 1214 ranking points to its kitty, down by five points from the previous chart issued last month.
 - The Indian team now lies at 18th among Asian countries.
 - Iran (23rd) is at the top among Asian countries, followed by Japan (33), Korea (37), Australia (46) and Qatar (62).
 - Overall, Belgium leads the chart, followed by Brazil, France, England and Uruguay.
12. The state Government is not able to host the **36th National Games** in November this year__ **Goa**.
- Note:**
- The Goa government has requested the **Indian Olympic Association (IOA)** to allot fresh dates in May 2020.
 - Recently, The IOA had fined the Goa government for frequently missing the deadlines to host the games in the last four years.
 - The National Games were earlier scheduled to be held in March- April 2019 but were postponed to November on account of Lok Sabha elections, by polls.
13. Pakistan **Speedster** called time on his Test career__ **Mohammed Amir**.
- Note:**
- Amir made his Test debut against Sri Lanka in Galle in July 2009 and he featured in 36 Tests, taking 119 wickets at an average of 30.47.
 - In July 2019, he was selected to play for the Dublin Chiefs in the inaugural edition of the Euro T20 Slam cricket tournament.
14. The **Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)** has officially announced new sponsors of **Team India**__ **Byju**.
- Note:**
- BYJU'S (Bengaluru-based online tutorial company) will be taking over the sponsorship from OPPO.
 - Now, BYJU'S will be seen on the Indian team jersey from September 2019 when the home series against South Africa.
 - Oppo had won the Indian team sponsorship rights in March of 2017 by bidding Rs 1079 crores.
15. Who grabbed a gold medal in **23rd President's Cup Boxing Tournament** in Labuan Bajo, Indonesia __ **Mary Kom and Simranjit Kaur**.
- Note:**
- The Olympic bronze medallist **Mary Kom** (in 51kg category) decimated Australian **April Franks** 5-0 in finals.
 - **Simranjit Kaur** (in 60kg category) defeated Indonesia's **Asian Games bronze medallist** Hasanah Huswatun 5-0 in the final bout.
 - With this, Indian boxers finished their campaign in the Tournament with nine medals.
16. Who booked a berth in **India's World Championship squad** in the 65kg category __ **Bajrang Punia**.
- Note:**
- Punia was born in Khudan village of Jhajjar district in the state of Haryana, India.
17. Sports Minister **Kiren Rijiju** has received the Special Olympics Torch in New Delhi__ **Flame of Hope**.
- Note:**
- The Flame of Hope after travelling from Singapore to Delhi, reached New Delhi.
 - The championship will be held at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Chennai from 3rd to 6th August 2019.
 - The 'Flame of Hope' symbolizes courage and celebration of diversity uniting communities around the globe.
18. Red Bull's driver clinched the rain-hit German Grand Prix at Hockenheim in Germany__ Max Verstappen.
- Note:**
- Four-time former champion Ferrari driver **Sebastian Vettel** claimed the second spot after starting from the rear of the grid.
 - Russian **Daniil Kvyat** achieved the third spot for Toro Rosso followed by Canadian **Lance Stoll** in fourth in Racing Point.

- The 2019 German Grand Prix was a Formula One motor race which was held on 28 July 2019 at the Hockenheimring in Germany.
19. Indian Test opener Prithvi Shaw has been suspended by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) for a doping violation till ___ **15th November 2019**.
- Note:**
- According to a **BCCI release**, Shaw had inadvertently ingested a prohibited substance, which can be commonly found in cough syrups.
 - Mr Shaw had provided a urine sample as part of the BCCI's anti-doping testing program during the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy match on 22nd February 2019 in Indore.
 - Prithvi Shaw became the second-youngest Indian after Tendulkar to make a Test century and the youngest Indian to do so on Test debut.
20. The third edition of '**Khelo India Youth Games**' will be held in ___ **Guwahati**.
- Note:**
- It will see the participation of more than 10,000 athletes and officials.
 - It will be conducted in partnership with Indian Olympic Association, School Games Federation of India & Assam as host State.
 - The inaugural edition was held in New Delhi, while Pune hosted the second one this year.
 - Khelo India Youth Games (KIYG) are the national level multidisciplinary Grassroot games in India held for two categories, namely under-17 years school students and under-21 college students.
21. **American sprinter** has broken the world 400m hurdles record at the US Championships_ **Dalilah Muhammad**.
- Note:**
- She clocked 52.20 seconds on the final day of action of the championships to achieve the feat.
 - The Olympic champion Dalilah Muhammad was 0.14 seconds faster to Russia's Yuliya Pechonkina, who had set the previous world record (52.34sec) on 3rd August 2003.
22. Who has received affiliation from the **Board of Control for Cricket** (BCCI) in India ___ **Chandigarh**.
- Note:**
- This was stated by Union Territory Cricket Association (UTCA) President Sanjay Tandon.
 - Earlier, The BCCI had told Chandigarh Cricket Association (Punjab) and Chandigarh Cricket Association (Haryana) to merge into the UTCA and form a unified body to represent Chandigarh.
23. The inaugural ICC World Test Championship will be played over ___ **Two years**.
- Note:**
- The World Test Championship will witness the top nine Test teams in the world compete in 71 Test matches across 27 series.
 - The two top teams will then go head to head in the World Test Championship final to be held in the United Kingdom in 2021.
 - Australia, Bangladesh, England, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka and the West Indies are the nine teams that will battle it out for the top honours in the World Test Championship.

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