

Weekly One-liners

8th to 14th September 2019



Weekly One Liner Updates 8-14th September 2019

Important Days

1. The **International Literacy Day (ILD)** is being observed every year on ___ **8th September**.

Note:

- It is an opportunity for Governments, civil society and stakeholders to highlight improvements in world literacy rates and reflect on the world's remaining literacy challenges.
- The Theme of International Literacy Day 2019 is Literacy and Multilingualism.
- After the 2011 census, literacy rate India 2011 was found to be 74.04%.

2. The **World Suicide Prevention Day (WSPD)** is being observed on ___ **10th September**.

Note:

- The theme of 2019 is "Working Together to Prevent Suicide".
- The WSPD is organized by the International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP).

3. The **International Day for South-South Cooperation** is being observed every year on ___ **12th September**.

Note:

- International days are occasions to educate the public on issues of concern, to mobilize political will and resources to address global problems and to celebrate and reinforce the achievements of humanity.
- The theme for 2019: From Commitment to Action — Follow up to Buenos Aires Plan of Action+40.
- South-South Cooperation is a term historically used by policymakers and academics to describe the exchange of resources, technology, and knowledge between developing countries.

New Appointments

1. **Senior diplomat** has been appointed as the new **Indian Ambassador** to Norway ___ **B Bala Bhaskar**.

Note:

- He will replace **Krishan Kumar**, who has been heading the Indian mission in Norway since July 2018.
- Formerly he served as a Joint Secretary of the WANA division of the MEA that deals with all the matters relating to India's trade with WANA region comprising 19 countries.

2. Kingdom of **Saudi Arabia** has appointed Prince **Abdulaziz bin Salman** as its new ___ **Energy minister**.

Note:

- Earlier, He had served as the Deputy and State Energy Minister for several years.
- Prince Abdulaziz (son of the King of Saudi Arabia) replaced the long-time oil industry veteran Khalid Al Falih.
- It is the first time a member of the ruling Al Saud family has held the energy minister post in the world's top oil exporter.

3. Who has appointed a three-member Independent Supervisory Committee to run the cricketing affairs of Bihar Cricket Association (BCA) and conduct fresh elections ___ **CoA of BCCI**.

Note:

- The CoA, chaired by Vinod Rai, took the decision after deliberating on the issue during a meeting in Mumbai.
- The Committee will have the power to supervise, regulate and suspend the powers, duties and functioning of all post holders in the BCA, appoint or replace electoral officer, ombudsman and ethics officer.

4. The Chairman of the **country's premier** news agency Press Trust of India (PTI)___ **Vijay Kumar Chopra**.

Note:

- Vijay Kumar Chopra succeeds N Ravi, publisher and former Editor-in-Chief of the Hindu.
- Publisher of Times of India, Vineet Jain (MD of Bennett, Coleman and Company Limited) unanimously elected as Vice-Chairman of PTI.
- The Press Trust of India Ltd. (PTI) is the largest news agency in India.

5. Justice **Vikram Nath** has been appointed as Chief Justice of ____ **Gujarat High Court**.

Note:

- He was administered the oath of office by Governor Acharya Devvrat at the Raj Bhavan in Gandhinagar.
- At present Mr Nath posted as a judge in the Allahabad High Court.
- The Gujarat High Court is the High Court of the state of Gujarat established under the Bombay State Re-organisation Act, 1960 after the state of Gujarat split from Bombay State.

6. President **Donald Trump** has fired his National Security Adviser (NSA) ____ **John Bolton**.

Note:

- Deputy National Security Advisor Charles Martin Kupperman (68-years) was made interim United States National Security Advisor for President Donald Trump.
- NSC serves as the chief in-house advisor to the President of the United States on national security issues.
- National Security Advisor (NSC) Advisor is a senior aide in the Executive Office of the President, based at the West Wing of the White House.

7. Who has stepped down as **executive chairman** of Alibaba Group Holding Ltd ____ **Jack Ma**.

Note:

- The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Daniel Zhang succeed him at Asia's most valuable company.
- Jack will remain on the board until Alibaba's annual meeting of shareholders in 2020.
- Jack Ma (former English teacher) started Alibaba.com in 1999 as a business-to-business marketplace with 17 co-founders.

8. Former Union Minister took oath as the **Governor of Himachal Pradesh** ____ **Bandaru Dattatreya**.

Note:

- The Chief Justice of Himachal Pradesh High Court V. Ramasubramanian administered him, oath of Office and Secrecy at Rajbhavan in Shimla.
- Dattatreya has replaced Kalraj Mishra who is now taking over as the Governor of Rajasthan.

9. Who took charge as principal secretary to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi ____ **Dr. Pramod Kumar Mishra**.

Note:

- He succeeds Nripendra Misra who stepped down recently.
- Mr Mishra holds a PhD in Economics / Development Studies from the University of Sussex in England.
- The United Nations conferred him with the SASAKAWA award in 2019 for his efforts towards disaster risk reduction.

10. Former Cabinet Secretary has been appointed as the new principal advisor to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi ____ **Pradeep Kumar Sinha**.

Note:

- P K Sinha served as the Cabinet Secretary from 13th June 2015 to 30th August 2019.
- He graduated in Economics from St Stephen's college and completed his Post Graduation from Delhi School of Economics.

Important News – India

1. PM Modi has inaugurated the **first Metro Coach** in Mumbai under the 'Make in India' initiative at ____ **Jio World Centre, Mumbai**.

Note:

- The coach has been built by **Bharat Earth Movers (BEML)** at its Bengaluru facility in flat 75 days.
- Maharashtra is pumping in over **Rs 1.2 lakh crore** to build 14 metro corridors stretching 337-km over the next decade.

- The **prime minister inaugurated AURIC** (Aurangabad Industrial City) business and administrative building and dedicated DMIC AURIC City to the nation.
2. The **Union government** will spend **3.5 lakh crore** rupees in the next five years on **___Jal Jeevan Mission**.
- Note:**
- Jal Jeevan Mission has been launched in order to free women from the trouble of having to toil hard to fetch water.
 - Jal Jeevan Mission involves saving water and delivering water at one's doorstep.
 - Under MUDRA scheme, one woman in every SHG will get a loan of 1 lakh rupees and this will help them start new ventures and grow their business.
3. The **first conference** of Military Medicine for **Shanghai Co-operation Organization** (SCO) Member States held in **___New Delhi**.
- Note:**
- The conference is the first Military co-operation event hosted by India, under the SCO Defence Co-operation Plan 2019-2020, after it became an SCO Member State in 2017.
 - The conference conducted with the aim to share best practices in the field of military medicine, build capacities and overcome common challenges.
4. India's **first-ever helicopter** summit held in **___Dehradun**.
- Note:**
- 'Helicopter Summit- 2019' was organized jointly by Civil Aviation Ministry, Uttarakhand government and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industries (FICCI).
 - The summit was based on the theme of expanding connectivity through helicopters.
5. PM Modi and Nepal's **Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli** have jointly inaugurated through video conference **___Motihari-Amlekhgunj pipeline**
- Note:**
- This is the first transnational petroleum pipeline from India and first South Asian oil pipeline corridor.
 - The pipeline will ensure smooth, cost-effective and environment-friendly supply of petroleum products to Nepal.
 - The 69 km long pipeline from Motihari in Bihar to Amlekhgunj in Nepal has been constructed by India in just 15 months, half of its 30 months deadline.
6. Member-countries of the **WHO South-East Asia Region** has resolved to eliminate highly infectious childhood killer diseases measles and rubella by **___2023**.
- Note:**
- A resolution to eliminate the diseases was adopted at the 72nd session of the WHO Regional Committee for South-East Asia in Delhi.
 - Measles elimination and rubella control have been a regional flagship priority since 2014.
 - India continues to grapple with 39,299 cases, ranking fourth among 194 countries in the number of measles cases registered between July 2018 and June 2019.
7. Who successfully flight tested an **indigenously developed** low weight, fire and forget Man-Portable Antitank Guided Missile (MPATGM) in the ranges of Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh **___DRDO**.
- Note:**
- The missile hit the target in top attack mode and destroyed it with precision.
 - The missile is incorporated with state-of-the-art Infrared Imaging Seeker along with advanced avionics.
 - The test paves the way for the Army to have developed third-generation man-portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile indigenously.
8. **Ministry of Railways** is observing 'Swachhta-Hi-Seva Pakhwada' across its entire network from **___11th September to 2nd October 2019**.
- Note:**
- Prime Minister of India at an event on **Swachhta Hi Seva** (SHS) offered Shramdaan at Mathura leading and giving a message to the nation on the removal of plastic waste.
 - According to **Shri Piyush Goyal** (Minister of Railways and Commerce & Industry), officers and staff of all departments to be involved in various activities during '**Swachhta-Hi-Seva Pakhwada**'.
 - **Mr Goyal** also directed Zonal Railways to upload selected photographs on **E-Drishti**, Minister's dashboard for monitoring purposes.
9. Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has launched the '**Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maan Dhan Yojana**' at **___Ranchi, Jharkhand**.

Note:

- The Scheme shall secure the lives of 5 Crore Small and Marginal Farmers by providing a minimum pension of Rs 3000 per month, to those who attain 60 years of age.
- Prime Minister also launched the National Pension Scheme for the Traders and The Self-Employed.
- The scheme aims at providing a minimum assured pension of Rs 3000, to small traders and self - employed after attaining the age of 60 Years.
- Around 3 Crore Small traders would be benefited from the scheme.
- The Prime Minister also inaugurated the New Vidhan Sabha Building of Jharkhand.

10. Tech giant **'Samsung'** has introduced two mobile applications named___ **'Good Vibes' and 'Relumino'**

Note:

- Good Vibes has been launched for deafblind to enable them to have two-way communication with their caregivers, family and friends.
- Good Vibes app uses Morse code, which converts vibrations (a combination of dots and dashes that the deafblind can interpret) into text or voice (on the caregiver's app) and vice-versa.
- 'Relumino' is a visual aid application for people with low vision to help them see images clearer by magnifying and minimizing images, highlighting the image outline, adjusting colour contrast and brightness, and reversing colour.
- National Association for the Blind (NAB) will use Relumino in classrooms where students with low vision will use these devices to see better, thus, helping them improve their learning abilities.

Important News – State

1. Union Home Minister **Amit Shah** chaired the 68th Plenary session of the **North Eastern Council (NEC)** in ___ **Guwahati, Assam.**

Note:

- Governors and Chief Ministers of **North Eastern states** (Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim) have attended the 2-day event.
- There will be presentations from various ministries and state governments on various developmental issues which are critical to the North East.

2. The most popular annual **harvest festival** is being celebrated in Kerala ___ **Onam.**

Note:

- It is a 10-day long festival from Atham to Thiruvonam.
- Onam celebrations include Onasadya, Onakodi, Pookkalam, Vallam Kali, Pulikali etc.
- The festival is celebrated to commemorate King Mahabali, whose spirit is said to visit Kerala at the time of Onam.

3. Who will set up India's first **international women's trade centre (iWTC)**, in consonance with the **United Nations**___ **Kerala.**

Note:

- This will not only help women to develop and expand their ventures and build relationships but also be a platform for their creative expression.
- It is envisaged as a safe space away from home for women to harness their entrepreneurial capabilities, set up or expand their businesses and get their products marketed globally.
- The first phase of iWTC, being executed under the gender park's "Vision 2020", is scheduled to be completed by 2021.

4. Odd-even rule to **combat pollution** will be applicable in **Delhi** between ___ **4 to 15th November 2019.**

Note:

- Under the odd-even scheme, cars with licence plates ending in an odd number (1,3,5,7,9) & even number (0,2,4,6,8) allowed to ply on alternate days, except weekends.
- Earlier, exemptions were granted to women, VIPs and two-wheelers.
- This is the third time odd-even rule will be rolled out in Delhi.
- Delhi government will also distribute N-95 masks to people in November.

5. The **state government** has decided to launch an **online service to adopt** a cow and provide sheds to them at across the State___ **Madhya Pradesh.**

Note:

- The **Madhya Pradesh government** has decided to launch an online service for those wanting to adopt a cow and provide sheds to them at gaushalas (cow shelters) across the State.
- While paying for a cow's feed for **15 days** would cost **Rs. 1,100**, one could take care of its diet for 10 years for Rs. 3 lakhs.
- While a lifetime adoption costs **Rs 3 lakh**, those willing to adopt a bovine for a year will have to pay **Rs 21,000**.

6. **Chief Minister** of Haryana **Manohar Lal Khattar** has launched two insurance schemes **Mukhyamantri Vyapari Samuhik Niji Durghatna Beema Yojana** and **'Mukhyamantri Vyapari Kshatipurti Beema Yojana'** for ____ traders of the state.

Note:

- 'Mukhyamantri Vyapari Samuhik Niji Durghatna Beema Yojana' (Around 3.75 lakh beneficiaries):
- The benefit of insurance would be admissible in case of accidental death, permanent disability and damage to two body organs, or eyes or one organ or one eye.
- 'Mukhyamantri Vyapari Kshatipurti Beema Yojana' (Around 3.13 lakh beneficiaries)
- It is an insurance cover scheme ranging from Rs 5 lakhs to Rs 25 lakhs would be provided.

Important News - World

1. Who hosted the **24th edition** of the World Energy Congress ____ **UAE**.

Note:

- The **24th World Energy Congress** will commence in Abu Dhabi under the patronage of **Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan**, President of the United Arab Emirates (9-12 September 2019).
- The four-day World Energy Congress aims to bring together international energy stakeholders, including governments, private and state corporations, academia and media.
- The theme of this World Energy Congress is Energy for Prosperity which also represents the ambitious and dynamic energy transition of the country.

2. Who has decided to re-introduce the **two-year post-study Visa** for International students ____ **U.K.**

Note:

- It will boost the opportunities for talented students to build successful careers thereafter their education.
- According to the British High Commission, the new 'graduate' route will be open to all international students, who have valid U.K. immigration status as a student.
- The move comes after intense debate and demand by the universities in the U.K. that feared losing talent to other countries.

3. President **Ram Nath Kovind** embarked on an official nine-day visit to ____ **Iceland, Switzerland and Slovenia**.

4. Who has inaugurated Southeast Asia's largest solar power farm which has the capacity to produce 688 million kWh of electricity per year ____ **Vietnam**.

Note:

- The Dau Tieng Solar Power Complex is a joint venture with the Thai industrial group B.Grimm Power Public Company and has an investment of more than USD 391 million.
- It is expected to generate 10% of the country's solar energy to guarantee supply to 320,000 homes.
- It will also prevent the emission of 595,000 tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere every year.

5. The **Nepal Infrastructure Summit 2019** (3rd) was held in ____ **Kathmandu, Nepal**.

Note:

- It deliberates on issues that shape incentives for investment and enable the private sector to partner for sustainable prosperity.
- The theme of the two-day summit is "Resilient Infrastructure for Sustainable Development".

6. Joint Military Exercise between India and Thailand will be conducted at Foreign Training Node, Umroi (Meghalaya) ____ **MAITREE-2019**.

Note:

- Indian and Royal Thailand Army (RTA) comprising 50 soldiers each will participate in the exercise with an aim to share experience gained during various counter-terrorism operations in their respective countries.

- The joint military exercise will enhance the level of defence co-operation between Indian Army (IA) and Royal Thailand Army (RTA) which in turn will further foster defence cooperation and bilateral relations between the two nations.
- Exercise MAITREE is an annual training event which is being conducted alternatively in Thailand and India (since 2006).

Honor & Awards

1. India's vice-captain is going to help **build awareness** for the need to conserve the Greater One-Horned Rhinoceros___ **Rohit Sharma**.

Note:

- **Rohit Sharma** is launching **Rohit4Rhinos campaign**, in partnership with WWF India and Animal Planet, on World Rhino Day (on 22nd September), where Rohit pledges to do his bit to save the "vulnerable" species from extinction.
- Rohit Sharma joined WWF India as its Brand Ambassador for Rhino Conservation in 2018.
- Animal Planet will run a series of path-breaking programmes during 'Rhino Week' to sensitize people about these gentle giants

2. **President's Secretariat** has announced recipients of Visitor's Awards 2019 for___ **research**.

Note:

- The Awards will be presented for Research in Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, Physical Sciences, Biological Sciences and for Technology Development.
- **Professor Sibnath Deb** will be awarded for his research in the field of child protection, especially his focus on child abuse and neglect, student's mental health and HIV/AIDS.
- **Professor Sanjay Puri** will be awarded for his research in the field of non-equilibrium statistical physics and nonlinear dynamics.
- **Professor Asad Ullah Khan** will be awarded for identifying Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) problem in India: mechanism of spread and control of AMR.
- **Dr Partima** will be awarded for her research on nano biosensors and nano-bio interactions especially early-stage cancer diagnosis using nanomaterials bases biosensing platform.
- **Dr Shaon Ray Chaudhuri** will be awarded for Technology Development, for developing microbial biofilm reactor for conversion of dairy wastewater into biofertilizer.

3. **Priyavrata** (16-years) has become the youngest person to clear___ **Tenali Pariksha**.

Note:

- The **Tenali examination** having 14 levels is taken twice a year by the students studying the "**Shastras**".
- **Tenali Pariksha** is conducted under Shri Kanchi Veda Vedanta Shastra Sabha.
- Priyavrata studies all Vyakarana Maha Granthas from Sri Mohana Sharma.

4. Noted Odia writer will receive the prestigious 'Sarala Puraskar-2019' for his poetry work 'Charu Chibar O Charjya' ___ **Pradeep Dash**.

Note:

- Sarala Puraskar will receive a cash award of Rs. 5 lakhs along with a citation at a special function scheduled to be held on 26th October 2019.
- It has been continuously awarded by Indian Metals Public Charitable Trust (IMPACT).
- The 'Sarala Puraskar' was instituted by eminent Odia industrialist late Dr Bansidhar Panda and late Ila Panda in 1979 & awarded by the Indian Metals Public Charitable Trust (IMPACT).

5. Who has been inducted as an **honorary fellow** of the Royal Society___ **Dr Yusuf Hamied**.

Note:

- **Dr Yusuf Hamied** (Chairman of Cipla) was elected as an honorary fellow of the Royal Society for his service to the cause of science.
- A total of 51 new Fellows and 10 foreign members were elected to the Royal Society in 2019.
- Royal Society is the independent scientific academy of the UK and the Commonwealth which is dedicated to promoting excellence in science.

6. Who will be inducted into the **2019 Asia Pacific Golf Hall of Fame** for his support to the sport in India and around the world__ **Pawan Munjal**.
Note:
- With the honour, he will join the legendary players such as Jack Nicklaus, Gary Player and other leading personalities such as David Chu who were bestowed with the highest honour in the Asia Pacific golf industry.
 - The induction ceremony will be held on 6th November at the 2019 Asian Golf Awards Gala Banquet at DLF Golf & Country Club in Gurugram.
7. India's envoy to United Arab Emirates has been honoured with the First-Class Order of Zayed II award by Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan __ **Navdeep Singh Suri**.
Note:
- Mr Suri was given the honour in recognition of his efforts during his tenure and his contribution to the development and strengthening of relations between the UAE and India.
 - Suri has been heading the Indian mission in the UAE since October 2016.
8. Who honoured with 'Knighthoods' by Theresa May in her resignation honours list__ **Geoffrey Boycott & Andrew Strauss**.
Note:
- Both former cricketers have received the honour for their services to sport after outstanding careers for England.
 - Geoffrey Boycott played 108 tests between 1964 and 1982 for England and scored 8,114 Test runs at an average of 47.72.
 - Andrew Strauss played 100 tests for England from 2004-12, scoring more than 7,000 runs at an average of 40.91.
9. Veteran **music director** has been conferred the "**Lata Mangeshkar Award**" for the year 2019-20__ **Usha Khanna**.
Note:
- The award presented by the Maharashtra government, the Lata Mangeshkar Award for Lifetime Achievement, consisted of cash reward of Rs 5,00,000, a citation, a trophy and a shawl.
 - Usha Khanna first composed super hit songs for the Asha Parekh debut film "Dil Deke Dekho" (1959).
 - Some of her famous songs are "Chhodo Kal Ki Baatein", "Hum tumse juda hoke, mar jayenge ro roke" "Jiske liye sabko chhoda".

Sports News

1. Who won **2019 US Open men's singles** title __ **Rafael Nadal**.
Note:
- Spain's Rafael Nadal (34-years) defeated Russian Daniil Medvedev 7-5, 6-3, 5-7, 4-6, 6-4 to claim US Open Men's tennis tournament - 2019 (139th edition) in New York (USA).
 - It was Rafael Nadal fourth US Open title and 19th Grand Slam title
2. Canadian **tennis player** has lifted the Women's singles title of US Open 2019__ **Bianca Andreescu**.
Note:
- She won the Grand Slam defeating Serena Williams of US in straight sets 6-3, 7-5.
 - It was the first time a Canadian tennis player claimed the Grand Slam singles title.
3. Who won the **Duleep Trophy 2019-20** at M. Chinnaswamy Stadium, Bangalore __ **India Red**.
Note:
- **India Red** thrashed **India Green** by an innings and 38 runs in the final to win the Duleep Trophy 2019-20.
 - Right-arm off-spinner **Akshay Wakhare** picked up a brilliant five-wicket haul to hand India Red the Duleep Trophy title.
 - Abhimanyu Easwaran was the leading run-scorer for India Red adjudged the Player of the Match.
4. Sri Lanka's **fast bowler** has become the first **T20I bowler** to take 100 wickets__ **Lasith Malinga**.
Note:
- Malinga surpassed Pakistan spinner Shahid Afridi's tally of 97 scalps to become the leading T20 wicket-taker.
 - He also took a hat-trick, dismissing 4 batsmen (Hamish Rutherford, Colin de Grandhomme, Ross Taylor and Munro) in 4 consecutive deliveries and became the first-ever bowler to pick up 2 hat-tricks in T20I cricket.
 - Till now Lasith Malinga has claimed 5 hat-tricks in his international career.

5. Who has been named as West Indies' new **one-day international** (ODI) and **Twenty20 International** (T20I) captain___ **Kieron Pollard**.

Note:

- Kieron Pollard is a medium-pace bowler and big-hitting batsman in the middle-order
- Jason Holder remains the West Indies Test captain.
- Pollard was part of the West Indies squad that won the 2012 ICC Men's T20 World Cup Pollard was part of the West Indies squad that won the 2012 ICC Men's T20 World Cup

6. Who has won the **Italian Grand Prix 2019** at the Autodromo Nazionale Monza track, Italy___ **Charles Leclerc**.

Note:

- Valtteri Bottas and Lewis Hamilton of Mercedes finished the race at 2nd and 3rd position respectively.
- Ferrari's last win at Monza came in 2010 through Fernando Alonso.
- The Italian Grand Prix is the fifth oldest national Grand Prix (after the French Grand Prix, the American Grand Prize, the Spanish Grand Prix and the Russian Grand Prix), having been held since 1921.

7. The 8th edition of Ladakh Marathon was held in ___ **Leh**.

Note:

- It claims to be the highest marathon in the world, held at a height of 11,500 to 17,618 feet (3,505 to 5,370 m).
- Over 6000 runners from 25 countries participated in the four categories of Ladakh Marathon.
- The 9th Edition will be held in 2020 will be a qualifying race for the Abbot World Marathon Majors.
- The Ladakh Marathon is organised by India's Rimo Expeditions with the support of the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC).

8. Who has won his fourth gold medal on the concluding day of Track Asia Cup Cycling competition in New Delhi___ **Ronaldo Laitonjam**.

Note:

- India emerged **overall champions** as its players picked up **three medals in the day**, two gold and one bronze.
- Overall, India topped the medals tally (10 gold, 8 silver and 7 bronze) as the tournament came to an end at the IGI Sports Complex.
- Uzbekistan finished second, with 4 gold and 3 silver and Malaysia secured third place, with 4 gold and 1 silver.

Banking & Financial Awareness

1. **ECL Finance Limited** has signed a **co-origination agreement** with a bank to increase access to credit for micro, small and medium enterprises ___ **State Bank of India**.

Note:

- It plans to provide business loans, machinery loans and SME asset-backed loans ranging from Rs 3 lakh to Rs 50 lakh at a blended rate of interest.
- This is the third co-origination agreement for Edelweiss, after Bank of Baroda and Central Bank of India.

2. **Punjab National Bank** (PNB) has put up for sale nearly a dozen **non-performing assets** (NPA) to recover dues of more than ___ **1,234 crore rupees**.

Note:

- The lender has invited bids from asset reconstruction companies non-banking financial companies, banks, financial institutions for 11 NPA accounts.
- The bank has asked the prospective bidders to speed up due diligence.
- The public lender is set to merge two peer banks 'Oriental Bank of Commerce and United Bank of India' with itself following the government's announcement to consolidate 10 public sector banks into four bigger entities.

3. India and **Asian Development Bank** (ADB) sign USD 200-million loan agreement for upgrading rural roads in ___ **Maharashtra**.

Note:

- Under the project the roads in rural areas will improve the condition of about 2100 kilo metres of rural roads to all-weather standards. This will boost links between local resident and economic centres across the state.
- 4. Who will launch a co-branded credit card, which will be marketed to customers, agents, and employees of the corporation and its subsidiaries ___ **IDBI Bank & LIC CSL**.
- 5. **Reserve Bank Of India** (RBI) will implement an idea to develop a **mobile application** with an aim to help the visually impaired people to identify ___ **Currency notes**.

Note:

- For this, RBI has selected Daffodil Software Pvt Ltd.
 - The application should be able to identify the denomination of legal tender banknotes of Mahatma Gandhi Series and Mahatma Gandhi (New) series by capturing the image of the notes that are placed in front of the mobile camera or scrolled across it.
 - The mobile application should be searchable via voice option in all app stores.
 - 6. Who has rolled out of Aadhaar Enabled Payment System Services (AePS) ___ **India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)**.
- Note:**
- With the launch of AePS, the India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) has now become single largest platform in India for providing interoperable banking services to customers (of any bank) by leveraging last mile unprecedented reach of Indian Postal network.

Obituaries

1. Legendary **Pakistan leg-spinner** passed away after suffering a **cardiac arrest** in Lahore ___ **Abdul Qadir**.

Note:

- Qadir, who played in 67 Tests and 104 ODIs had a total 368 wickets in his international career between 1977 and 1993.
 - Abul Qadir also served as Pakistan's chief selector and he picked the World T20-winning squad in 2009.
 - 2. Eminent Supreme Court lawyer and former union minister passed away in New Delhi ___ **Ram Jethmalani**.
- Note:**
- Mr. Jethmalani was a senior lawyer in the Supreme Court, a union minister for law and urban development in the Atal Bihari Vajpayee cabinet and the chairman of the Bar Council of India.
 - Jethmalani joined the bar at the age of 17 and earned the distinction of being the youngest advocate allowed to practice law.
 - In 2016, he was elected to the Rajya Sabha on RJD ticket.
 - 3. Actor and **Kathak dancer** passed away in Mumbai ___ **Veeru Krishnan**.
- Note:**
- He was best known for his work in films like Raja Hindustani, Dulhe Raja, Akele Hum Akele Tum among others.
 - He has trained several film and TV actors like Katrina Kaif, Athiya Shetty, Priyanka Chopra, Karanvir Bohra and others.
 - 4. Climate **change campaigner** of the **South Pacific** and Prime Minister of Tongan passed away ___ **Akilisi Pohiva**.
- Note:**
- Pohiva's **political career** was marked with constant battles against the monarchy of the South Pacific nation.
 - He was awarded the **Defender of Democracy Award** in 2013 by the Parliamentarians for Global Action, the first Pacific Islander to receive the prize

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