

Weekly One-Liners

22-31 December 2019



Weekly One Liner Updates **22-31st December 2019**

Dear readers,

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

Banking & Financial Awareness

1. Who has signed an MoU with the Gujarat government to facilitate the flow of credit to the MSME sector__ **Bank of Baroda.**

Note:

- As per the MoU, the financial aid will be provided for greenfield projects, startups, women entrepreneurs and entrepreneurs from backward areas.
- To avail the credit, the BoB customers should register their request on the link available single-window portal of the Gujarat government.
- BoB will take a further step, after the lead generated on the portal submitted to it.

2. Federal Bank has partnered with online real estate platform for listing and e-auctioning of immovable properties repossessed by the bank in recovery proceedings__ **Magicbricks.**

Note:

- The move is aimed at speedy recovery of the bank's impaired assets while helping customers get the best rate in the market for their properties.
- The bank has got into a pan-India arrangement with the housing portal in order to recover dues in 30 major accounts amounting to Rs 50 crore in the fourth quarter of this year.
- Under the deal, Federal Bank will leverage on Magicbrick's reach across demographic profiles and consumer categories, removing any geographical restrictions for buyers.

3. Who partnered with Kotak Mahindra Bank to enable EMIs on Kotak debit cards__ **Pine Labs.**

Note:

- Pine Labs, a merchant platform company and Kotak Mahindra Bank have tied-up to enable Equated Monthly Instalments (EMI) payments on Kotak Debit Cards.
- This arrangement enables over 10 million eligible Kotak debit card customers to pay for their purchases in easy installments through the Pine Labs POS terminals.
- Pine Labs has a network of over 150,000 merchants across India. It will be a win-win proposition for both consumers and merchants as EMIs extend the power of affordability to consumers.

4. In order to the **digital transaction in India**, who has introduced a new semi-closed **Prepaid Payment Instrument (PPI)** __ **Reserve Bank (RBI).**

Note:

- The new PPI can be used for the transaction of goods and services up to a limit of Rs 10,000.
- This direction was made under Section 18 read with Section 10(2) of Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.
- These PPIs will enhance the digitization of daily payments at local shops and retail outlets for the purchase of daily household goods and services.

5. Who has released a **postage stamp** to commemorate distinguished service and glorious contribution of Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) in protecting the nation __ **Nirmala Sitharaman.**

Note:

- The DRI continues to play an immense role in countering smuggling as well as in preserving the cultural heritage and environment of the country.

6. Pakistan on received USD 452.4 million as a second tranche of the USD 6 billion loans from the ___ **International Monetary Fund (IMF)**.

Note:

- The release of the second tranche amounting to over USD 452 million showed the IMF's confidence over the government's economic policies.
- The IMF had approved the second tranche of the loan for Pakistan under the USD 6 billion Extended Fund Facility in a meeting of its executive board in Washington on December 20.
- Pakistan had received the first tranche from IMF under its loan program in July.

7. IT giant has partnered with **industry body NASSCOM** to start a training platform on emerging technologies ___ **Wipro**.

Note:

- The Platform will train students on **artificial intelligence**, data science, the internet of things, cybersecurity etc.
- Through this platform, Wipro will train 10,000 students from more than 20 engineering colleges in India.
- This is a part of Wipro's corporate social responsibility programme, TalentNext, which aims to enhance the quality of engineering education by preparing faculty and academic leaders to train students.

8. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) in its latest report has retained India's economic growth forecast for FY20 ___ **6.1%**.

Note: IMF's projection is much higher than those by most agencies for FY20.

- Reserve Bank of India (RBI): 5%.
- Standard & Poor's: 5.1%.

9. The **Reserve Bank of India** (RBI) has appointed Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd. as the UTLBC (Union Territory Lead Bank Convenor) for the newly carved out ___ **Jammu and Kashmir (Union Territory)**.

Note:

- State Bank of India (SBI) will be the lead convenor bank for Union Territory of Ladakh.

Obituaries

1. Renowned Hindustani **Classical vocalist** passed away ___ **Vidushi Savita Devi**.

Note:

- Savita Devi was considered a doyen in the field of classical music field for her mastery on various semi-classical vocal forms, such as thumri, dadra, chaiti, kajri and tappa of the Banaras Gharana (Purabang).
- She authored a biographical work on her mother, titled "Maa... Siddheshwari" and was the head of the Music Department at Delhi University's Daulat Ram College for many years.

2. England football World Cup winner passed away ___ **Martin Peters**.

Note:

- Peters was part of the 1966 World Cup-winning side and scored in the final against West Germany.
- Peters is the fifth member of England's World Cup final team to have died, after captain Bobby Moore, Alan Ball, Ray Wilson and Gordon Banks.

3. American Song writer passed away due to cardiac arrest ___ **Allee Willis**.

Note:

- She was best known for composing the "I'll Be There For You", the theme song of the popular sitcom Friends.
- She has several other hits under her name like Earth, Wind, and Fire, which was inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame in 2018. She won a Grammy in 1985 for her work on the soundtrack for "Beverly Hills Cop"

4. The brilliant storyteller of China passed away ___ **Da Chen**.

Note:

- In his critically acclaimed, best-selling Colours of the Mountain, he recounted the abuses he and his family suffered during the latter years of the country's Cultural Revolution.

- His book "Colours of the mountain was published in seven languages.
 - His most recent book, Girl Under a Red Moon, was published just three months ago.
5. Renowned Hindi author passed away in a road accident in southern Sri Lanka__ **Ganga Prasad Vimal**.
Note:
- Mr. Vimal wrote more than one dozen poetry collections, short story collections and novels.
 - His last novel, Manushkhor, was published in 2013
 - He received several Hindi literary awards.
6. Vishweshwara Theertha Swami of Pejawar mutt passed away in the coastal town of Udupi in ___ **Karnataka**.
Note:
- Swamiji is the 32nd in the lineage of Pejawar Mutt following Vishvamanya Tirtha.
 - He had established Poornaprajna Vidyapeetha in Bangalore which has completed over 63 years.
 - The Pejavara mutt is one among the 'Ashta' Mutts of Udupi.
7. Veteran Political cartoonist passed away in Mumbai__ **Vikas Sabnis**.
Note:
- Inspired by Bal Thackeray and RK Laxman, he had started his career in 1968.
 - Since then, for over 50 years, Sabnis has worked as a staff cartoonist at various newspapers, including The Times of India and the Mid-day.
 - He made caricatures and political cartoons on various subjects and issues.

Important Days

1. The **National Mathematics Day** is being observed every year on ___ **22nd December**.
Note:
- Ramanujan Prime and Ramanujan theta discoveries have inspired further research on this mathematical subject.
 - He passed away on 6th April 1920.
2. Good Governance Day is being observed in India annually on ___ **25th December**.
Note:
- The day mark the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
- Good Governance Day was established in 2014 to honour former Prime Minister Vajpayee by fostering awareness among the Indian people of accountability in government.
 - The Index was launched by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, and the Centre for Good Governance.

New Appointments

1. Who was named the first prime minister of Cuba in more than 40 years__ **Manuel Marrero Cruz**.
Note:
- In Cuba, the post of PM was abolished in 1976 when Fidel Castro became president.
 - It was reinstated under the rules of a new constitution for the communist-run island passed earlier this year.
 - Marrero, who has served as tourism minister for 16 years and is an architect by trade, helped boost Cuba's economy by making tourism one of the
2. Who has been appointed as new **foreign secretary** of India__ **Harsh Vardhan Shringla**.
Note:
- At present, he is an ambassador to the United States and will become the 33rd Foreign Secretary of the country.
 - He will replace Vijay Gokhale whose term will be completed on January 28, 2020.
3. Who has taken over as the President of the industry chamber FICCI for 2019-20__ **Dr. Sangita Reddy**.
Note:
- She replaced Sandip Somany, Vice-Chairman and Managing Director, HSIL.

- The Walt Disney Company APAC President and Star & Disney India Chairman Uday Shankar has been elevated as Senior Vice-President of the chamber.
4. Who has been appointed as the first woman Chief Technology Officer (CTO) at the US government's powerful Federal Communications Commission __ **Dr. Monisha Ghosh**.
- Note:**
- She will advise Indian American Chairman of the FCC Ajit Pai and the agency on technology and engineering issues and work closely with the Office of Engineering and Technology.
 - Ghosh will take charge on 13th January 2020 and replace Dr. Eric Burger.
5. Boeing CEO has stepped down as the company is facing tough period following two fatal crashes__ **Dennis Muilenburg**.
- Note:**
- Muilenburg will be replaced by **Chairman David Calhoun** (from 13th January 2020).
 - Muilenburg became the CEO of the **world's largest aerospace company** in July 2015.
 - The company's best- selling commercial jet was grounded worldwide in March 2019 after two fatal crashes killed 346 people.
 - The Boeing Company is an American multinational corporation that designs, manufactures, and sells airplanes, rotorcraft, rockets, satellites, telecommunications equipment, and missiles worldwide.
6. Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) leader took oath as the 11th Chief Minister of the state__ **Hemant Soren**.
- Note:**
- Jharkhand Governor Draupadi Murmu administered the oath of office to Mr Soren at Morhabadi grounds in Ranchi.
 - Earlier, Hemant Soren had served as the 5th Chief Minister of Jharkhand (13 July 2013 – 28 December 2014).
 - In the 81-member Jharkhand Assembly, JMM-Congress-RJD alliance has won 47 seats in the recently concluded Assembly elections and BJP - 25 seats.

Important News – India

1. The **Govt. of India** has constructed Girls' Hostel for Nepal Armed Police Force School __ **Kirtipur**.
- Note:**
- The hostel was inaugurated by the Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of India, Dr. Ajay Kumar at Kirtipur in Kathmandu district.
 - **Nepal Armed Police Force** (APF) School is an academic institution created under the APF Welfare Service Centre of Nepal Armed Police Force.
 - The school was established in 2005 and it has over 21 percent of girls' students.
2. The Vice President of India **Shri M Venkaiah Naidu** has released the book __ **Turbulence and Triumph – The Modi Years**.
- Note:**
- The book was written by Rahul Agarwal and Bharti S Pradhan and is published by Om Books International.
 - It is a pictorial book which traces the journey of Narendra Modi from his days as a young boy from Vadnagar in Gujarat to New Delhi's 7, Lok Kalyan Marg as the 14th prime minister of India.
3. India and Iran chaired the 19th **Joint Commission Meeting** (JCM) in __ **Tehran**.
- Note:**
- They were agreed to accelerate work on the Chabahar project while reviewing the entire gamut of bilateral relations.
 - During the visit, the External Affairs Minister is expected to meet Iranian President Hassan Rouhani.
 - In 2018, Iran and India had signed an agreement worth \$85 million to develop the Chabahar Port in south-eastern Iran.
4. President **Ram Nath Kovind** has released the mobile app of the **Red Cross Society of India** in __ **Hyderabad**.
- Note:**
- He has inaugurated the mobile app formally at a dinner hosted by Telangana governor Tamilisai Sounderarajan at Rajbhavan in his honour.

- Developed by the Telangana Centre for Good Governance in less than three months, the mobile app is accessible in all languages.
5. K VijayRaghavan, Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India has launched an ___EChO Network.
- Note:**
- It is a national program to provide a template for cross-disciplinary leadership in India with the specific focus of increasing research, knowledge, and awareness of Indian ecology and the environment.
- EChO Network would develop a national network to catalyze a new generation of Indians who can synthesize interdisciplinary concepts and tackle real-world problems in medicine, agriculture, ecology, and technology.
6. India successfully test-fired its Quick Reaction Surface to Air Missile (QRSAM) system from a base off ___**Odisha coast**.
- Note:**
- The missile system developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is likely to be inducted into the armed forces by 2021.
- The QRSAM weapon system, which operates on the move, comprises a fully automated command and control, active array battery surveillance radar, active array battery multifunction radar and launcher.
- With this mission, the developmental trials of the weapon system have been successfully completed and it is expected to be ready for induction by 2021.
7. The **Indian Coast Guard (ICG)** conducted a two-day regional level **pollution response exercise** at sea off Vadinar in Gulf of Kutch ___**Swachhh Samundra NW-2019**.
- Note:**
- The exercise was conducted to validate and reinforce the **response mechanism** for oil pollution incidents and enable the Indian Coast Guard to fine-tune the actions required in such eventualities.
- The exercise was conducted in two phases. During phase one a tabletop exercise simulating oil spill from a tanker was conducted
- While a real-time demonstration of the oil spill scenario was conducted during the second phase of the exercise.
8. As per the report compiled by the US National Science Foundation (NSF), Who has emerged as the world's third-largest publisher of science and engineering articles ___ **India**.
- Note:**
- China, which accounts for 20.67 percent of all global publications in scientific articles, is at the top position, followed by the US at 16.54 percent.
- As per the report in 2008, India published 48,998 science and engineering articles. This increased to 1,35,788 articles in 2018 and the country now accounts for 5.31 percent of the total world publications in science and engineering.
9. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has launched Yojana in an event held in New Delhi__ Atal Bhujal Yojana.
- Note:**
- ATAL JAL scheme has been designed with the principal objective of strengthening the institutional framework for participatory groundwater management and bringing about behavioural changes at the community level for sustainable groundwater resource management in seven States (Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh).
- ATAL JAL will promote panchayat led groundwater management and behavioural change with a primary focus on demand-side management.
- Implementation of the scheme is expected to benefit nearly 8350 Gram Panchayats in 78 districts in these States
10. Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** named **Rohtang passageway** in Himachal Pradesh as ___**Atal Tunnel**.
- Note:**
- The strategic Atal tunnel will change the fortunes of this region and will help in promoting tourism in the region.
- The 8.8-kilometre-long tunnel is the world's longest tunnel above an altitude of 3,000 metres.
- After completion of the tunnel, it will provide all-weather connectivity to remote areas of Lahaul and Spiti Valley and reduce the distance between Manali and Leh by 46 Kilometres.
11. Railway station in Mumbai has been conferred with 'Eat Right Station' certification with the five-star rating by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) for food safety and hygiene ____ **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CSMT)**
- Note:**
- The CSMT is the first station on the Central Railway to get this certification.

- The CSMT has been judged on the basis of compliance of food safety and hygiene, availability of healthy diet, food handling at preparation, food waste management, promotion of local and seasonal food and creating awareness on food safety and healthy diet.
 - 'Eat Right Station' initiative is a part of the 'Eat Right India' movement launched by FSSAI and an FMCG major which is aimed at promoting food safety and hygiene at the static catering units at railway stations.
12. India's first long-distance Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) bus fitted with CNG cylinders at a function in ___**New Delhi**.
- Note:**
- It can travel around one thousand kilometers in a single fill.
 - The first long-range interstate CNG bus will play from Delhi to Dehradun.
 - Mahindra & Mahindra along with Agility Fuel Solutions of USA have partnered with IGL for introducing the new concept of lightweight Type IV composite cylinders in buses.
13. Indian Railways has unveiled 'Him Darshan Express' comprising all-new Vistadome coaches from ___**Kalka railway station to Shimla**.
- Note:**
- This special train will commute between the **Kalka and Shimla station** for the next year till December 24, 2020.
 - Modified in carriage and wagon depot at Kalka, this is a **first-of-its-kind train** on the Kalka-Shimla route.
 - The train will have seven coaches including one first-class sitting cum **luggage room coach** (FCZLR) and six first-class AC Vistadome coaches.
 - **Him Darshan Express** will be the first-ever train with Vistadome coaches by the Indian Railways that will run on a regular basis.
14. The **Human Resource Development** Minister **Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank** launched the five documents developed by ___ **University Grants Commission**.
- Note:**
- These five documents cover evaluation reforms, eco-friendly and sustainable university campuses, human values and professional ethics, faculty induction and academic research integrity.
 - On the occasion, the HRD Minister also mentioned SATAT and MulyaPravah, both frameworks of the UGC.
15. The Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Dr. Harsh Vardhan has launched the second edition of the 'Eat Right Mela' in ___**New Delhi**.
- Note:**
- The 'Eat Right Mela' is an effort to encourage citizens on having a healthy diet and reduce the disease burden in the country. The theme of the event is 'Healthier Diets'.
 - Organized by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) and National Association of Street Vendors of India, the Eat Right Mela is a commendable effort and outreach activity for citizens to nudge them towards eating right.
 - The first 'Eat Right Mela' was launched in New Delhi in December 2018.
16. The book titled "Dreams of a Billion: India and the Olympic Games" is written by ___**Boria Majumdar & Nalin Mehta**.
- Note:**
- This book will describe India's journey in the global sports arena of Olympics – the wins, the misses, the star sportspersons, their stories, and the challenges and possibilities that lie ahead of India to make its mark at the mega sporting event in Tokyo in 2020.
17. India's **ophthalmologist** has conferred with American Academy of Ophthalmology's (AAO) highest award Life Achievement ___ **Dr Santosh G Honavar**.
- Note:**
- American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) is the world's largest association of eye specialists.
18. Noted Economist and Political Analyst has released a book titled Politics of Opportunism ___ **S Gurusurthy**.
- Note:**
- The book was written by R P N Singh which throws light on the subject related to the rise of regional parties and Centre -States relation.
 - On the occasion, Mr Gurusurthy shared his views on the politics of opportunism.
 - Citizenship Amendment Act grants citizenship to the minority communities who have faced religious persecution in three neighbouring countries and came to India.

Important News – State

1. The 40-day harshest winter period in Kashmir has begun with the upper reaches of the valley __ **Chillai-Kalan**.
Note:
 - These 40 days are when the chances of snowfall are the highest and the maximum temperature drops considerably.
2. Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot inaugurated the first **Janta Clinic** in __ **Malviya Nagar, Jaipur**.
Note:
 - In its first phase, 12 Janta Clinics will be opened in Jaipur where people would get free medicines and free medical examinations in some cases.
 - Later, in the second and third phases of this scheme, Janta Clinics will be opened in other areas.
3. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister, YS Jagan Mohan Reddy launched a scheme for handloom weavers __ **YSR Nethanna Nestham**.
Note:
 - This scheme as per his promise made to the handloom weavers during his 3,648 km Praja Sankalpa Yatra.
 - The scheme will benefit 85,000 handloom weaver families in the State. "Under the scheme, Rs 24,000 will be credited directly into the bank accounts of the weavers having own looms every year. The amount will not be adjusted to the old dues of the beneficiary to the bank.
4. **Bhubaneswar-New Delhi Rajdhani Express** depicting Odisha's Art and culture flagged off by __ **Dharmendra Pradhan**.
Note:
 - The train has been draped in high-quality designs on vinyl wrapping showcasing dance forms, archaeological monuments, traditional Pattachitra, and flora and fauna of Odisha.
 - East Coast Railway (ECoR) and National Aluminium Limited Company (NALCO) had signed an agreement in this regard.
 - Mr. Pradhan also launched unreserved train tickets in Odia language, which will be available at 317 stations across the state.
5. The country's first university for the transgender community will be opened in Uttar Pradesh's __ **Kushinagar district**.
Note:
 - It will facilitate its members to study right from class one to PG and even do research and get a PhD degree.
 - The university is being built by the Akhil Bhartiya Kinnar Siksha Seva Trust (All-India transgender education service trust).
6. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has inaugurated the National Tribal Dance Festival in __ **Raipur, Chhattisgarh**.
Note:
 - The National Tribal Dance Festival is being organized in Chhattisgarh for the first time.
 - More than 1300 participants from 25 states & UTs of the country and six countries are participating in this three-day dance fest.
 - Nearly 1,400 artists belonging to 151 art troupes from 23 states and guest artists from six countries including Sri Lanka, Belarus, Uganda and Bangladesh will participate in this tribal folk cultural programme
7. Union Territory (UT) is celebrating Losar Festival __ **Ladakh**.
Note:
 - People of various parts of Ladakh region, celebrate Losar on the 1st Day of the Eleventh Month of Tibetan Calendar correlating to a date in the Gregorian calendar.
 - The celebrations continue for three to nine days in different parts of Ladakh.
 - Losar Festival celebrations include making symbolic meals and offerings to God and Goddess.
 - This year, it will be joyous Losar festival celebrations in the newly born Union Territory Ladakh.
8. 76th Anniversary of First Flag Hoisting by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at __ **Port Blair**.
Note:
 - Lt Governor Admiral DK Joshi and Minister of State for Health & Family Welfare Ashwini Kumar Choubey hoisted the National Flag at Flag Point, Port Blair
 - Subhash Mela Committee Swarajdweep organised a bike rally and a cultural programme.
9. Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar has announced to observe the year 2020 as __ **Susashan Sankalp Varsh**.
Note:
 - As a part of this, suggestions and reforms in the field of governance would be invited from people of the State
 - He dedicated a website would also be prepared on which the people could upload their suggestions.
10. Five-day event 'Mandu Festival' (1st- edition) kicked-off at __ **Mandu (Madhya Pradesh)**

Note:

- Mandu Festival' has been organised by Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board to dive deep into the rich history of the city.
- Based on the idea of Khojne Me Kho Jao, the Mandu festival is offering an eclectic mix of performing arts, workshops, nature trails, food, architecture and music to the visitors.

Important News – World

1. Who has declared an emergency to contain the **environmental impact** of a fuel spill in the Galapagos Islands__ **Ecuador**.
Note:
 - The Islands are located 1,000 kilometers east of mainland Ecuador.
 - The accident occurred when a crane collapsed while loading a container onto the barge.
 - The falling container destabilized the ship, causing it to sink.
 - Latin American Galapagos archipelago, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is home to one of the most fragile ecosystems on the planet.
2. The eight **West African countries** have agreed to change the name of their common currency from 'CFA franc' to__ **Eco**.
Note:
 - The announcement was made during a visit by French President Emmanuel Macron to Ivory Coast, who hailed the decision as a historic reform.
 - Even though the deal took six months in making, common currency Eco will see the light of day in 2020.
 - These countries currently use 'CFA franc' as their currency.
3. China, Russia, and Iran hold trilateral naval exercises in the__ **Gulf of Oman**.
Note:
 - This will be the first such move by the three countries in the volatile Middle East.
 - The Chinese Navy has sent a guided-missile destroyer to participate in the drills.
 - The exercise aims to deepen the exchanges and cooperation between the navies of the three countries and demonstrating the goodwill and ability of the three parties to jointly maintain world peace and maritime security.
4. China has **successfully launched** the largest carrier rocket of the country__ **'Long March-5'**.
Note:
 - The rocket (also known as CZ-5) blasted off with more than 1,000 tonnes of thrust.
 - The Chinese space authorities declared the mission a "complete success" just over half an hour after the lift-off when the Shijian-20 satellite it carried entered its designated orbit.
 - It is the country's third attempt (first and second failed) to launch the rocket

Honor & Awards

1. Former Miss World has been voted the Sexiest Vegetarian Personality by American animal rights organization PETA __ **Manushi Chhillar**.
Note:
 - Manushi is a strong advocate for vegetarianism and has expressed her views on the subject even on global platforms.
 - Manushi has been roped in for Yash Raj Films' biggest historical drama 'Prithviraj' where she will be seen in the lead role opposite Akshay Kumar.
2. **Major Anoop Mishra** has received the Army Design Bureau (ADB) Excellence Award by Army Chief General Bipin Rawat for Developing bulletproof jacket __ **Sarvatra**.
Note:
 - Bulletproof jacket 'Sarvatra' that can effectively provide protection to troops from lethal sniper rifle bullets.
 - The ADB was set up to work together with industry and academia and develop indigenous solutions for the Indian Army.
 - Currently, Maj. Anoop posted as Instructor at College of Military Engineering, Pune.
3. Who has won the 2019 Miss Teen International__ **Aayushi Dholakia**.
Note:
 - She was crowned by the previous year winner Odalys Duarte of Mexico.
 - With this, she became the first Indian as well as Asian to win the title in the 27 years history of the beauty pageant.

- Yessenia Garcia (Paraguay) came as the First Runners-Up and Anicia Gaothusi from Botswana came as the Second Runners-Up.
4. Former India captain has been named as the recipient of the prestigious CK Nayudu Lifetime Award for the year 2019__ **Krishnamachari Srikkanth**
Note:
- The 60-year-old Srikkanth played 43 Tests, scoring 2062 runs with two hundred and 12 half-centuries.
5. Former India women's captain is the co-recipient of the lifetime achievement award for the year 2019__ **Anjum Chopra**.
Note:
- They will receive the award during the BCCI Annual Award function in Mumbai on 12th January 2020.
6. Who has been named as "the most famous teenager in the world" by the United Nations (UN) in its 'decade in review' report__ **Malala Yousafzai**.
Note:
- Malala Yousafzai is the Pakistani activist for female education and the youngest Nobel Peace Prize (2014) laureate.
 - The report covers a decade of major events happened between 2010 and the end of 2013, celebrities and agreements that have become most famous.

Sports News

1. International Tennis Federation's (ITF) World Champions for 2019 -- **Ashleigh Barty and Rafael Nadal**.
Note:
- They will be rewarded for stellar seasons in which they finished at the top of women's and men's rankings respectively.
 - Barty, who quit tennis to play cricket in 2014 before returning to the game in 2016, became the first Australian to win the French Open since Margaret Court in 1973 when she beat Czech Marketa Vondrousova in June.
 - Nadal claimed the season-ending ITF world title for the fourth time after sealing a historic 12th French Open and a fourth U.S. Open, as well as helping Spain to their sixth Davis Cup title.
2. India's shuttler has won the Men's singles Bangladesh Junior International Badminton Series 2019 in Dhaka__ **Maisnam Meiraba Luwang**.
Note:
- Top-seeded Meiraba beat Ken Yong Ong 21 - 14, 21-18 in the final.
3. Who will host the **African Super Cup** for the next three years__ **Doha**.
Note:
- The African Super Cup in Doha with the next edition will be held on February 14, 2020.
 - At the beginning of this year, Qatar hosted the African Super Cup for the first time when the Moroccan "Confederation" champion of the Confederation succeeded in beating the Tunisian "champions" Esperance 2-1.
4. Former Indian captain **MS Dhoni** has been named captain of **Cricket Australia's** (CA) ODI team of the decade.
Note:
- Cricket Australia's ODI team of the decade: Rohit Sharma, Hashim Amla, Virat Kohli, AB de Villiers, Shakib Al Hasan, Jos Buttler, MS Dhoni (c), Mitchell Starc, Trent Boult, Lasith Malinga, Rashid Khan.
5. Indian weightlifter clinched a bronze medal in the women's 64kg weight category at the Qatar International Cup in Doha__ **Rakhi Halder**.
Note:
- She superseded the senior national record in both snatch and total lift with her personal best effort of 218kg (95kg in snatch + 123 kg in clean and jerk).
 - India ended the Olympic qualifying silver level event with three medals.
6. Indian skipper is one of the five players named in the Wisden Cricketers of the Decade__ **Virat Kohli**.
Note:
- Virat Kohli joins Australian batsman Steve Smith, and South Africans, Dale Steyn, and AB de Villiers.
 - Australian all-rounder Ellyse Perry is the only female cricketer in the list.
 - In 2019, Kohli scored 2,370 across formats at an average of 64.05.
7. Former Asian Games silver medalist boxer has been banned for one year by the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA)__ **Sumit Sangwan**.
Note:

- Sangwan's sample was collected by the body on October 10 during the Elite Men Boxing Championship.
 - The governing body for the anti-doping in sports announced its decision.
 - The boxer who was set to appear for the Tokyo Olympics 2020 and was named in the Olympics Qualifiers list will surely miss the event
8. Who has won the Bengaluru Open Golf Championship on December 26, 2019, and lifts PGTI title__ **Abhinav Lohan**.
- Note:**
- It was Lohan's first title on the TATA Steel PGTI and his second win of the year emerged victorious at the PGTI Feeder Tour event in Lucknow.
 - Lohan became the fourth Indian golfer to register his maiden title on the TATA Steel PGTI this season following the likes of Kshitij Naveed Kaul, Priyanshu Singh, and Veer Ahlawat.
9. Who has announced that 2020 will be his last year as a professional tennis player__ Leander Paes.
- Note:**
- Leander (made his Olympic debut in 1992) will look for one final flourish at Tokyo Olympics next year.
 - He has won eight doubles and ten mixed doubles Grand Slam titles.
 - Paes received the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award (in 1996-97), the Arjuna Award (in 1990), the Padma Shri award (in 2001) and the Padma Bhushan prize (in January 2014) for his outstanding contribution to tennis in India.
 - He won a bronze medal for India in singles in the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games
10. South African all-rounder announced retirement from all forms of cricket after the conclusion of the upcoming Test series against England__ **Vernon Philander**.
- Note:**
- Philander has played 97 matches across all three formats, taking a combined 261 wickets with 1784 runs in his international career.
 - He also took 51 wickets in his first seven Test matches which earned him the 2012 SA Cricketer of the Year award.
11. Indian grandmaster has become the 2019 Women's World Rapid Champion__ **Koneru Humpy**.
- Note:**
- She defeated China's Lei Tingjie in a dramatic final in Moscow, Russia.
 - After losing the opening game, Humpy made an impressive comeback and collected nine points each in 12 rounds to be tied with Tingjie.
 - Tingjie finished with a silver, while Turkey's Ekaterina Atalik won bronze.
 - Norway's Magnus Carlsen claimed the men's title.

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