

# Weekly One-Liners

1-7 Nov 2020



## Weekly One Liners Updates 1-7th November 2020

Dear readers,

**Weekly One Liners Updates** is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the **first week** (1-7th) of **November 2020**. This file is important for, **Banking, SSC, Railway & Insurance** exams.

### **Banking & Financial Awareness**

1. Which bank has launched instant payouts for fintech firms by partnering with payments giant VISA \_\_\_\_\_ **RBL Bank**.

**Note:**

- India-based private sector lender RBL Bank has launched instant payouts for fintech firms by partnering with payments giant Visa.
- Under this partnership, the bank will leverage Visa's real-time push payments platform Visa Direct, across the country.
- It will allow RBL Bank to create technology-led banking solutions catering to the growing needs of merchants and partners. Further, this will enable fintech firms to create digital payment solutions for the end customer.

2. Which multinational company has announced a growth fund of Rs 400 crore to give a hand to the government's vision of a self-reliant country \_\_\_\_\_ **Procter & Gamble**.

**Note:**

- The fund would be utilised to localise manufacturing of finished products, procurement of raw materials and packaging materials and to adopt go-to-market innovations and technology.
- This new fund is part of P&G India's 'vGROW' program that focuses on identifying and collaborating with start-ups, small businesses, individuals or large organisations offering innovative industry-leading solutions.

3. The Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) signed a contract worth Rs 400 crore with which IT firm for implementation of enterprise resource planning (ERP) to support its project Parivartan \_\_\_\_\_ **Tech Mahindra**.

**Note:**

- As a system integrator, Tech Mahindra will implement project Parivartan over a period of nine years at a cost of Rs 400 crore.
- Project Parivartan is a comprehensive business transformation exercise initiated by HAL through technology enhancement and centralised ERP.

4. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed monetary penalty on which two banks for various rule violations \_\_\_\_\_ **DCB Bank and Jio Payments Bank**.

**Note:**

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed monetary penalty on DCB Bank and Jio Payments Bank for various rule violations.
- The central bank has imposed a penalty of Rs 22 lakh on DCB Bank for non-compliance with certain provisions on marketing/distribution of mutual fund/insurance etc.
- The penalty has been imposed in exercise of powers vested in RBI under the provisions of Section 47A(1)(c) read with Section 46(4)(i) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

5. Which general insurance company in partnership with Freepaycard has launched Group Safeguard Insurance \_\_\_\_\_ **ICICI Lombard General Insurance**.

**Note:**

- This strategic partnership will make the bite-sized health insurance solutions, designed specifically for Freepaycardmembers, available at its multi-category partner retail outlets.
- Freepaycard members can add these health solutions on the go while shopping for other essential goods or services.
- The plan will be offered to the members of Freepaycard, allowing them to receive an assured amount in case of any injury or hospitalization for treatment.

6. With which organization the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation launched the MSME Credit Health Index to provide a measure of the growth and strength of the MSME sector in India \_\_\_\_\_ **TransUnion CIBIL**.

**Note:**

- The TransUnion CIBIL and the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation launched the MSME Credit Health Index to provide a measure of the growth and strength of the MSME sector in India.
  - The index provides a numeric indicator for benchmarking the health of the MSME sector to the policy makers, lenders and MSME market participants.
7. In a bid to develop skill sets of career-oriented individuals has entered into a strategic partnership with edX to expand the learners' perspectives and access to knowledge beyond the classrooms \_\_\_\_\_ **State Bank of India**.
- Note:**
- As part of this partnership, SBI will offer its Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) on the edX platform (edx.org.) from November 2020.
  - With this partnership, SBI becomes 1st Corporate Partner of edX from India.
  - SBI, initially will offer 3 courses, namely Unleashing Creativity at the Workplace, Relationship Marketing Strategy for Financial Services, and Conflict Resolution.
8. Which life insurance company launched 'Life + 36 critical illness Insurance' on Flipkart \_\_\_\_\_ **Aegon Life Insurance Company**.
- Note:**
- This plan offers a comprehensive insurance cover against COVID-19, which can be availed immediately on the Flipkart app with a basic life insurance plan.
  - This insurance ensures that the policyholders are protected against most lifestyle diseases along with a life cover to ease the financial burden.
  - The starting premium of the plan is Rs 153 for a life cover of Rs 1 lakh plus Critical Illness cover of Rs.10,000.
9. Which bank has been voted as the "Most Outstanding Company – Financial Sector" in India in the poll conducted by Asiamoney \_\_\_\_\_ **HDFC Bank**.
- Note:**
- HDFC Bank Limited has been voted as the "Most Outstanding Company – Financial Sector" in India in the poll conducted by Asiamoney, a well-established financial publication.
  - HDFC has been given the honour for the 2nd consecutive year.
  - Bharti Airtel won the overall winner by Market in India.
10. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved the acquisition of General Insurance Business of Bharti AXA General Insurance Company Limited by which another general insurance company \_\_\_\_\_ **ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company Ltd**.
- Note:**
- As per the proposed combination, the whole general insurance business of Bharti AXA will be transferred to ICICI Lombard by way of demerger, considering that ICICI Lombard will issue shares to Bharti AXA.
  - The combined entity(proposed merged non-life insurance company) is likely to have a market share of 8.7% on a pro forma basis.
11. Which bank has approved USD 132.8 million loan to Meghalaya, to improve and upgrade the power distribution network in the state \_\_\_\_\_ **Asian Development Bank**.
- Note:**
- The fund will help in improving the distribution system & financial sustainability of the Meghalaya Power Distribution Corporation Limited (MePDCL).
  - The MePDCL has a huge outstanding against the power purchased from central power generating stations and to the Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL).
  - The loan will support in clearing the power outstanding dues.
12. Which company has acquired the city gas licences for Ludhiana and Jalandhar in Punjab and Kutch (East) in Gujarat from Jay Madhok Energy \_\_\_\_\_ **Adani Gas**.
- Note:**
- The license was acquired from Jay Madhok Energy.
  - These agencies are operating under Phase 1 of Bharat Mala Pariyojana by NHAI.
  - Jay Madhok Energy has been show-caused by the oil regulator Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) over defaulting on timelines and alleged irregularities in acquisition of the city gas licence.
13. Visa in partnership with DigitSecure and which deployed the world's 1st live PCI certified Tap to Phone card acceptance solution \_\_\_\_\_ **HDFC Bank**.
- Note:**

- The objective is to accept safe contactless card payments in seconds through an app on their Near-Field Communication(NFC)-enabled Android smartphones, without the need of any dedicated card acceptance machines.
- The first merchant to go live with HDFC Bank as the acquirer is DeliveryPlus.
- In line with the 'Made in India' objective of local innovation, DigitSecure is the first Asia Pacific-based company to acquire PCI security certification to implement Tap to Phone technology.

14. Which small finance bank signed an agreement with Care Health Insurance Company Limited as Corporate Agent for Health Insurance Products \_\_\_\_\_ **AU Small Finance Bank.**

**Note:**

- Care Health Insurance is formerly known as 'Religare Health Insurance Company Limited.
- The Bank has been issued certificate of registration CA0515 under Registration of Corporate Agents – Regulations, 2015 by Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) and Bank has entered into agreement with Care Health Insurance Company.
- In terms of business, market penetration and reach, this partnership will be mutually beneficial for the bank and insurance company.

15. Which bank has launched launches 'Mine' a comprehensive banking programme for its millennial customers \_\_\_\_\_ **ICICI Bank.**

**Note:**

- Private lender ICICI Bank has launched a comprehensive banking programme for its millennial customers, (in the age bracket of 18 years to 35 years ), called 'ICICI Bank Mine'.
- The 'ICICI Bank Mine' is India's first and unique product launched by the bank to offer a mobile-first, highly personalised and experiential led banking experience to the millennial customers.

16. Which organization has partnered with the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) to launch the First Edition of the Quarterly MSME Credit Health Index \_\_\_\_\_ **TransUnion CIBIL.**

**Note:**

- The index will provide a reliable measure and benchmark of the growth and strength of MSME (Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises) in India.
- To provide Government, Policy makers, lenders and other stakeholders, insights and analysis on various aspects of the health of MSME industry to enable better policy with respect to MSME lending.
- The comprehensive information will facilitate better risk management and inclusion of MSME in Indian Banking and financial system.

17. Which credit card provider partnered with Paytm and Visa to launch contactless co-branded credit cards, India's next generation credit cards \_\_\_\_\_ **SBI Card.**

**Note:**

- The credit card will be available in two variants, namely, Paytm SBI Card and Paytm SBI Card SELECT.
- The 2 variants have been designed for the new age, digitally savvy customers. The product has been launched on the Visa platform.
- The aim of the Partnership is to bring in 'new to credit' users into the formal economy and empower them to control their finances.

18. India-based fuel outlet Bharat Petroleum (BPCL) has partnered with which Payments Bank for recharging truck drivers' fleet cards \_\_\_\_\_ **Fino Payments Bank.**

**Note:**

- India-based fuel outlet Bharat Petroleum (BPCL) has partnered with Fino Payments Bank for recharging truck drivers' fleet cards.
- Through this partnership, truck drivers in the country can now recharge their BPCL Smartfleet Cards, which are used for fuel payments.

19. Which social media platform has introduced payments services in India following approval by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) \_\_\_\_\_ **WhatsApp.**

**Note:**

- The NPCI approval also follows another recent direction imposing a cap of 30% of the total volume of transactions processed in Unified Payments Interface (UPI), applicable to all third-party app providers, effective from 1st January 2021.
- WhatsApp would now compete with existing players such as Paytm, Google Pay, Amazon Pay and PhonePe.



20. Which company has announced multiple green energy partnerships with Adani group, Indian Oil and Greenko, paving way for its entry into the Indian market \_\_\_\_\_ **Snam**.

**Note:**

- Snam is an operator of Europe's largest natural gas transmission network.
- Greenko has tied up with Snam for setting up a 50-50 joint venture to develop a "green hydrogen" business
- Italian firm has collaborated with the Adani Group to "envisage exploration of the hydrogen value chain in India and global markets.

21. Which social media platform has rolled out an offline to online small and medium businesses guide and other new resources to help small and medium businesses \_\_\_\_\_ **Facebook**.

**Note:**

- This will help them move from offline to social network-owned online platforms.
- It is a step-by-step manual on how firms can build a digital presence and reach potential customers on social media
- The accelerated digital adoption as a result of the pandemic has made it critical for small businesses to pivot from offline to online.

### Obituaries

1. Renowned personality R Doraikkannu passed away recently due to COVID-19 complications, he was Agriculture Minister of which state \_\_\_\_\_ **Tamil Nadu**.

**Note:**

- Doraikkannu was undergoing treatment here, after being shifted from a government medical college hospital in Villipuram on October 13, where he was admitted to after he complained of uneasiness.
- Tamil Nadu Governor Banwarilal Purohit condoled the death of Daoraikkannu and said he was saddened to know about the demise of the Minister.

2. Mesut Yilmaz passed away recently, he was veteran politician and former prime minister of which country \_\_\_\_\_ **Turkey**.

**Note:**

- He was the Chief of the now-defunctional centre-right Motherland Party or ANAP from 1991 to 2002.
- He served as prime minister of Turkey three times in the 1990s.
- His first two prime-ministerial terms lasted for just one month, in 1991 and then in 1996, while the third term was from June 1997 to January 1999.

3. Renowned personality Satish Prasad Singh passed away recently, he was former chief minister of which country \_\_\_\_\_ **Bihar**.

**Note:**

- Satish Prasad Singh, the leader of Soshit Samaj Dal became the 6th and the shortest- served CM of Bihar for 5 days (28 January to February 1, 1968) with the support of Indian National Congress (INC).
- He was born on January 1, 1936 in Korchakka (now known as Satish Nagar) Village, Khagaria district, Bihar.

4. Renowned personality Tripunithura Narayanaier Krishnan (T N Krishnan) passed away, he was a veteran \_\_\_\_\_ **Violinist**.

**Note:**

- T N Krishnan was a child prodigy who made his first solo violin concert in Triruvantahpuram in 1939.
- He was mentored by Alleppy K. Parthasarathy and had accompanied numerous musicians like Ariyakudi Ramanuja Iyengar, Musiri Subramania Iyer, Alathur Brothers, Madurai Mani Iyer, Chembai Vaidyanatha Bhagavatar among others.

5. Renowned personality Faraaz Khan passed away recently, he was a veteran \_\_\_\_\_ **Actor**.

**Note:**

- He had acted in several popular Bollywood films in the late 1990s and early 2000s.
- Some of them include Mehndi (1998), Fareb (1996), Dulhan Banoo Main Teri (1999) and Chand Bujh Gaya (2005) among others.

6. Renowned personality Faraaz Khan passed away recently, he was a veteran \_\_\_\_\_ **Actor**.

**Note:**

- Noted actor, filmmaker and voiceover artiste, Ashish Kakkad, has passed away.
- He was one of the most prominent artists from the Gujarati film industry.
- As a filmmaker, Ashish was known for his Gujarati projects namely Better Half (2010) and Mission Mummy (2016).

7. Renowned personality Sean Connery passes away recently, he was a \_\_\_\_\_ **Actor**.

**Note:**

- Scottish movie legend Connery, who shot to international stardom as the suave and sophisticated British agent James Bond and went on to grace the silver screen for four decades.
- Connery will be remembered first as British agent 007.
- He was admired by generations of film fans as the original and best 007 and went on to create a distinguished body of work in films such as The Man Who Would Be King, The Name of the Rose and The Untouchables.

**Important Days**

1. World Vegan Day is observed globally every year on \_\_\_\_\_ **1st November**.

**Note:**

- This day is celebrated to spread benefits of veganism for humans, non-human animals, and the natural environment.
- Vegan Day is an opportunity to promote the benefits of a vegan diet and veganism in general.

2. International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists is observed every year on which date \_\_\_\_\_ **2nd October**.

**Note:**

- Between 2006 and 2019, more than 1,200 journalists have been killed. The recent assassination of Journalist Jamal Khashoggi in October 2018 kindled worldwide criticism and scrutiny of the Saudi Government.
- The date of November 2nd was chosen to mark the International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against journalists to commemorate the assassination of French journalists in Mali in 2013.

3. Which Day is observed all across the world on 5th November \_\_\_\_\_ **World Tsunami Awareness Day**.

**Note:**

- The day is celebrated to spread awareness among people across the world in matters related to the dangers of tsunami.
- In 2020, World Tsunami Awareness Day encourages the development of national and community-level, local disaster risk reduction strategies to save more lives against disasters.
- This year's observance promotes "Sendai Seven Campaign," target.

4. Every year, the International Day for Preventing the exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict is observed on \_\_\_\_\_ **6th November**.

**Note:**

- The resolution to celebrate the day was passed in 2001.
- According to the United Nations Environment Programme, a least 40% of internal conflicts are linked to the exploitation of natural resources in the last 60 years.

5. The National Cancer Awareness Day is observed annually in India on \_\_\_\_\_ **7th November**.

**Note:**

- Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan first announced National Cancer Awareness Day in September 2014.
- According to the WHO, cancer is the second leading cause of death globally.
- World Cancer Day is observed on 4th February every year.

**New Appointments**

1. John Magufuli has been re-elected as the president of which country \_\_\_\_\_ **Tanzania**.

**Note:**

- Magufuli received 12.5m votes in Wednesday's presidential ballot, while his main challenger, Tundu Lissu of the Chadema party, received 1.9m votes, the commission said.
- Magufuli has been seeking a second five-year term and promised voters that he would boost the economy by completing ambitious infrastructure projects started in his first term.

2. Who has been appointed as the chief executive officer of the Electronics Sector Skill Council of India (ESSCI) \_\_\_\_\_ **PVG Menon**.

**Note:**

- The Electronics Sector Skill Council of India (ESSCI), an organization setup to provide a skilled workforce for the Electronics industry, announced the appointment of PVG Menon as its chief executive officer.

- Prior to taking up this role, Menon was the President & CEO of VANN Consulting and has over three decades of experience in the development, marketing and management of technology.
3. Who has been appointed as the chairman of Mumbai Port Trust (MbPT) \_\_\_\_\_ **Gurdeep Singh**.
- Note:**
- The appointment committee of the Union cabinet issued the order for the central deputation.
  - The post of MbPT chairman was vacant after former chairman Sanjay Bhatia retired on July 31 and was appointed as Lokayukta of Maharashtra.
  - Jalota, who is the first Goods and Services Tax (GST) commissioner of Maharashtra, is currently the additional chief secretary in the higher and technical education department of the state government.
4. Who has been appointed as the first-ever Indian-origin minister of New Zealand by the country's Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern \_\_\_\_\_ **Priyanca Radhakrishnan**.
- Note:**
- She was appointed as the Minister for the Community & Voluntary Sector and Minister for Diversity, Inclusion & Ethnic Communities.
  - She was elected first as a Member of Parliament belonging to the Labour Party in September 2017.
  - In 2019, she was appointed the Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Minister for Ethnic Communities.
5. Who has been elected as the 30th President of Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU) for a three-year term of 2020-2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Duarte Pacheco**.
- Note:**
- He succeeds Gabriela Cuevas Barron, a Mexican Parliamentarian.
  - The Presidential Election was conducted over the virtual platform during the 206th Session of the Governing Council of IPU, which was conducted as a virtual session.
  - Around 400 parliamentarians from 140 member Parliaments registered their vote during the 24-hour window.
6. Alassane Ouattara has been elected as the president of which country for a consecutive third term \_\_\_\_\_ **Ivory Coast**.
- Note:**
- The 2020 Ivory Coast Election held on 31st October 2020 was boycotted by the two opposition figures – former President Henri Konan Bedie and ex-Prime Minister Pascal Affi N'Guessan and their supporters.
  - The total voter turnouts was around 53.90% and the opposition claimed that only 10% Ivoirians took part in the election.
7. Who has been appointed as the Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) \_\_\_\_\_ **Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha**.
- Note:**
- President Ram Nath Kovind has administered the oath of office to Sinha as the Chief Information Commissioner in the Central Information Commission at a ceremony held at Rashtrapati Bhavan
  - Sinha, a former diplomat, joined as the Information Commissioner on January 1, 2019.
  - He has served as India's High Commissioner to the United Kingdom and Sri Lanka.

### Important News – India

1. The government of India is to set up fourteen more aerodromes in the country to develop sea plane tourism in the country, the project will be implemented jointly by \_\_\_\_\_ **The Ministry of Civil Aviation and Airport Authority of India**.
- Note:**
- Recently, PM Modi inaugurated the seaplane service between Statue of Unity in Kevadia and Sabarmati Riverfront in Ahmedabad.
  - The 14 aerodromes are being planned under UDAN scheme. The Ministry of Civil Aviation and Airport Authority of India are to implement the project jointly.
2. The Ministry of AYUSH will set up “Strategic Policy and Facilitation Bureau” with which entity to facilitate systematic growth of AYUSH sector \_\_\_\_\_ **Invest India**.
- Note:**
- The Bureau will help to make AYUSH systems future ready. It will support in making initiatives under the ministry to its full potential. Also, it will help to initiate the growth and investment of the AYUSH sector.
  - Invest India and the Ministry of AYUSH will collaborate to define short- and long-term targets. Also, it will deploy trained experts to implement and execute the plans of the ministry.

3. The Ministry of Labour recently notified the draft rules for the Industrial Relations Code, 2020 which are to be implemented by \_\_\_\_\_ **April, 2021.**

**Note:**

- The Industrial Relations Rules, 2020 is to supersede the Industrial Tribunal (Central Procedure) Rules, 1949, Industrial Tribunal (Central Procedure) Rules, 1954, Industrial Employment (Standing Order) Central Rules, 1946 and Industrial Disputes (Central) Rules, 1957.
- Under the new Industrial Relations Rules, 2020, the establishments with more than 300 workers will have to seek Government Approval to lay 15 days in prior to the lay off of the intended actions.
- Earlier, the limit was 100 employees. This means the doing business is being eased under the new rules.

4. The Indian Oil Corporation Research and Development Centre signed a MoU with which institution to develop biomass gasification-based Hydrogen Generation Technology to produce Fuel Cell Grade Hydrogen at an affordable price \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru.**

**Note:**

- The technology being envisaged under the programme will provide clean energy option to address the challenge of biomass waste.
- The technology is to be demonstrated at the Indian Oil Research and Development Centre at Faridabad. The hydrogen generated from this demonstration plant is to be used to power fuel cell buses of bigger projects of Indian Oil.
- Biomass Gasification is a process that converts biomass to hydrogen and other products without combustion.

5. Which Tiger Reserve has been included in the 'World Network of Biosphere Reserves' list of the UNESCO \_\_\_\_\_ **Panna Tiger Reserve.**

**Note:**

- This is the 12th biosphere reserve from India to be included in the 'World Network of Biosphere Reserves', and third from Madhya Pradesh, after Pachmarhi and Amarkantak. Currently, Panna Tiger Reserve is home to 54 tigers.
- The UNESCO World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNBR) covers internationally designated protected areas (known as biosphere reserves) that demonstrate a balanced relationship between people and nature (like encourage sustainable development).

6. India's first "Tyre Park" will be established in which city \_\_\_\_\_ **Kolkata.**

**Note:**

- The West Bengal Transport Corporation will launch this Tyre Park.
- The Tyre Park, which will come up at the Esplanade area, would have a small cafe where people can sit, relax and enjoy the craftsmanship made from tyres.

7. Which new initiative has been launched the Indian Railways to provide safety and security to women passengers during their train journeys \_\_\_\_\_ **Meri Saheli.**

**Note:**

- The Meri Saheli initiative has been launched by the Railway Protection Force (RPF) of Indian Railways.
- A team of lady officer and staff have been formed under the new initiative, which will visit all passenger coaches of the train including ladies coaches, to identify women passengers.
- The team will note down their journey details like coach number and seat number, especially if a lady is travelling alone on the train.

8. Chief Justice of India, Sharad Arvind Bobde inaugurated India's first-ever E-resource centre Nyay Kaushal in which city \_\_\_\_\_ **Nagpur.**

**Note:**

- Chief Justice of India, Sharad Arvind Bobde inaugurated India's first-ever E-resource centre Nyay Kaushal at Judicial Officers Training Institute in Maharashtra's Nagpur.
- Nyay Kaushal will facilitate e-filing of cases in Supreme Court, any High court and district courts across the country.

9. India's public broadcaster Prasar Bharati signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with which institutions to launch 51 direct-to-home (DTH) education TV channels \_\_\_\_\_ **Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-Informatics.**

**Note:**

- Under the MoU, all the 51 DTH education channels will be available as DD co-branded channels to all DD Fresh Dish viewers.



- The 51 DTH channels includes Swayamprabha, E-Vidya for Class 1 to 12, DigiShala, Vande Gujarat, etc. The channels are to provide quality educational programmes to rural and remote households.
  - These services are to available free of cost for all the viewers 24/7. This will aid the GOI to achieve its target of providing "Education to all".
10. Who will be the chairman of the of the committee constituted the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to review "Guidelines on Television Rating Agencies in India" \_\_\_\_\_ **Shashi S Vempati**.
- Note:**
- Headed by Shashi S Vempati, CEO, Prasar Bharti, the committee will examine the different aspects of television rating systems in India and carry out any changes, if necessary.
  - The committee will submit its report within two months from the issue of the notice.
11. Six startups under the leadership of women have won the COVID-19 Shri Shakti Challenge that was launched by which entity in collaboration with UN Women \_\_\_\_\_ **MyGov**.
- Note:**
- COVID-19 Shri Shakti Challenge was hosted on the platform of MyGov. It called for the applications from the startups that are led by women as well as those startups who provide solutions to issues faced by a large number of women.
  - COVID-19 Shri Shakti Challenge was implemented in two stages- Proof of Concept Stage and Ideation Stage.
  - It also received an overwhelming response with a total of 1265 entries from all over the nation.
12. The Union Cabinet approved a proposal to invest ₹1,810 crore for 210 MW Luhri Stage-I hydropower project to be constructed across river \_\_\_\_\_ **Satluj**.
- Note:**
- The Union Cabinet approved a proposal to invest ₹1,810 crore for 210 MW Luhri Stage-I hydropower project.
  - The project is to be constructed across river Satluj in Himachal Pradesh.
  - It is being implemented by Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Ltd (SJVNL) on Build-Own-Operate-Maintain (BOOM) basis.
13. Indian Railways (IR) has tied up with which institution to improve its operational efficiency using digital tools such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Data Analytics \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian School of Business (ISB), Hyderabad**.
- Note:**
- Indian Railway will provide passengers-related data, train operations-related data, freight data and asset-related data to ISB for the analysis.
  - After analysis, it will be used by IR in the Passenger Reservation System (PRS), introduction of new trains, and predictive asset maintenance.
14. India holds fifth joint working group on coal with which country where the countries discussed on Indian Coal Policy reforms, commercial mining of coal in India and coking coal exploration \_\_\_\_\_ **Indonesia**.
- Note:**
- During the meeting, the countries discussed on Indian Coal Policy reforms, commercial mining of coal in India and coking coal exploration.
  - India is currently looking for opportunities to import more coal from Indonesia. This is because the coal prices in world market is declining at rapid rate. The plan is to replace coal imports destinies with Indonesia and not increase coal imports.
  - India is to increase its coal imports from Indonesia because, the Indonesian coal prices have fallen greatly in September 2020 due to the pandemic. The prices have been declining since March 2020.
15. Who represented India in the first India-Nordic-Baltic Conclave held virtually \_\_\_\_\_ **S Jai Shankar**.
- Note:**
- The Conclave was jointly hosted by Ministry of External Affairs and Confederation of Indian Industry. The Conclave focused on clean technologies and renewable energies, Artificial Intelligence, supply chain logistics and block chain led transformation.
  - The Nordic Baltic Eight includes Estonia, Denmark, Finland, Latvia, Iceland, Norway, Lithuania and Sweden.
  - The Baltic States are Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia. These three countries are located in the Baltic sea and are fast growing economies.
16. The Katakey Panel was set up by which of the following to probe the blowout, subsequent fire at an Oil India Limited (OIL) well at Baghjan in Assam which submitted its report recently \_\_\_\_\_ **National Green Tribunal**.
- Note:**
- The Katakey Panel was set up by National Green Tribunal to provide a report about the accident. BP Katakey is a retired Guwahati High Court Judge.

- According to the panel, OIL did not have the required consent to establish, operate and carry out drilling and testing of hydrocarbons.
- The panel also reported that the well was deficient in planning and supervising critical operation at the well site.

17. Who chaired the Global Investor Roundtable Conference in which twenty of the world largest Sovereign Wealth Funds and pension \_\_\_\_\_ **Narendra Modi**.

**Note:**

- The conference witnessed the participation of twenty of the world largest Sovereign Wealth Funds and pension.
- These participants owned total assets of more than 6 billion USD.
- The main focus of discussion at the conference was about the vision of GoI in becoming a 5 trillion USD economy.

### Important News – State

1. Which state government has launched a special 10-day campaign to identify people suffering from tuberculosis (TB) in the state \_\_\_\_\_ **Uttar Pradesh**.

**Note:**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has pledged to make India TB-free by 2025.
- Under the door-to-door campaign, which will end on November 11, health workers will reach out to 81 lakh people, identify those suffering from TB, screen them and help them avail treatment at no cost.

2. The foundation stone of Indo-Israeli Centre of Excellence for vegetables Protected Cultivation has been laid down in which state of India \_\_\_\_\_ **Assam**.

**Note:**

- The centre will provide exposure to the latest Israeli technologies to the farmers of the state. It will help them in maximising their production.
- The centre is to provide a major boost to agricultural and horticultural production in Assam.
- The aim is to double farmers' income in the region through infusion of technology in agribusiness, agriculture and food processing.

3. Which state/UT is going to ink an MoU with National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) to establish 8000 MW Ultra Mega Renewal Energy Power Park of in border area with Pakistan \_\_\_\_\_ **Rajasthan**.

**Note:**

- The state government will soon ink an MoU with National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) to establish Ultra Mega Renewal Energy Power Park.
- The park to be set up near borders areas will be of 8,000 megawatts (MW) capacity, which will comprise 4,310 MW of wind energy; 3,760 MW of solar energy and 120 MW of power from biomass. Currently, Rajasthan's solar generation capacity is 4,883 MW.

4. India's first solar-powered miniature train launched in which state of India \_\_\_\_\_ **Kerala**.

**Note:**

- The train is first of its kind in the country.
- The train, which would be an attraction for children especially, was part of a string of projects totally worth Rs 60 crore taken up to elevate the facilities at the panoramic destination to international standards.

5. Which state government has granted 100% motor vehicle tax exemption for Electric Vehicles \_\_\_\_\_ **Tamil Nadu**.

**Note:**

- The State Government's order says after careful examination it has decided to grant 100 per cent tax exemption for all battery-operated transport and non-transport vehicles.
- The State has been taking various initiatives to boost the EV system in the state.
- Tamil Nadu is planning to set up the country's first park exclusively for the electric vehicle production eco-system.

6. Which state government has signed Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) worth around Rs 35,000 crore with 15 companies to develop state as data and logistics hub in India \_\_\_\_\_ **Maharashtra**.

**Note:**

- The MoU was signed by 10 Indian and 5 global companies at the 'Magnetic Maharashtra 2.0' investor meet in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- The event was attended by the state's Chief Minister (CM) Uddhav Bal Thackeray.

- The MoUs were signed with the state-run Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC) in the presence of Industries Minister Subhash Desai and Minister of State (MoS) for Industries Aditi Tatkare.
7. Union Minister of State (IC) for Tourism & Culture, Prahlad Singh Patel virtually inaugurated the “Tourist Facilitation Centre” facility in which state \_\_\_\_\_ **Kerala**.
- Note:**
- The facility has been constructed under the project “Development of Guruvayur, Kerala” under PRASHAD Scheme of the Ministry of Tourism, at the cost of Rs. 11.57 Crores.
  - The ‘National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive’ (PRASHAD) were launched by the Ministry of Tourism in the year 2014-15.
8. Tata Technologies has signed an agreement with which state government to modernise 150 state-run it is \_\_\_\_\_ **Karnataka**.
- Note:**
- The project cost includes investment from the state govt and also from the consortium of 20 companies led by Tata Technologies.
  - The project is expected to bring qualitative improvements in the field of industrial training and education to create an enhanced learning environment for training youth.
9. Which state’s tourism has been bestowed the coveted 'Highly Commended' Award by World Travel Mart London \_\_\_\_\_ **Kerala**.
- Note:**
- Kerala tourism was recognised for its remarkable activities aimed at promoting Responsible Tourism (RT) during the challenging times of COVID-19 pandemic.
  - Kerala's Responsible Tourism (RT) Mission received this recognition in the category of 'Meaningful Connections.'
  - This is the 5th International Award for the Responsible Tourism Mission since its formation in 2017.

### Important News – World

1. The headquarter of International Press Institute (IPI) is located in which city of world \_\_\_\_\_ **Vienna**.
- Note:**
- Recently, the International Press Institute (IPI) has highlighted that the impunity with which crimes against journalists are committed continued to rise as governments had failed to probe the cases.
  - This move comes ahead of the International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists which is celebrated on 2nd November every year.
  - IPI is a Vienna-based global network of editors, media executives and leading journalists who share a common dedication to quality, independent journalism.
2. Which country chaired the recently held BRICS Business Forum to increase trade and investment among the member countries of BRICS \_\_\_\_\_ **Russia**.
- Note:**
- The council was formed in 2013 summit in Durban. Since its establishment, the primary task of BRICS Business council is to increase trade and investment among the member countries of BRICS.
  - Russia chaired the meet as it is currently holding the rotating leadership of BRICS. Around 90 speakers from the member countries participated at the forum.
  - One of the main tasks of the council is to update the Strategy for Economic Partnership of BRICS.
3. Once completed world’s longest immersed tunnel, Fehmarnbelt Tunnel will link which two countries \_\_\_\_\_ **Denmark and Germany**.
- Note:**
- After more than a decade of planning, work has begun on the world’s longest immersed tunnel. Descending up to 40 meters beneath the Baltic Sea, Fehmarnbelt Tunnel will link Denmark and Germany, slashing journey times when it opens in 2029.
  - The tunnel, which will be 18 kilometers (11.1 miles) long, is one of Europe’s largest infrastructure projects, with a construction budget of over €7 billion (\$8.2 billion).

4. Portugal Parliamentarian, Duarte Pacheco has been elected as the 30th President of Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU) for a three-year term of 2020-2023, the headquarter of IPU is located in \_\_\_\_\_ **Geneva, Switzerland.**
- Note:**
- He succeeds Gabriela Cuevas Barron, a Mexican Parliamentarian.
  - The Presidential Election was conducted over the virtual platform during the 206th Session of the Governing Council of IPU, which was conducted as a virtual session.
  - Around 400 parliamentarians from 140 member Parliaments registered their vote during the 24-hour window.
  - More than 40% of the voting members were women parliamentarians and 27% of them were under 45.
5. Which Arabian country to go for first national election \_\_\_\_\_ **Qatar.**
- Note:**
- Qatar's ruler announced that a vote to review the policy of the country is to be held in October 2021.
  - This is the first of its kind in the region. Currently, un-elected Shura Council advises the absolute ruler, Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani.
  - Laws in Qatar can be overruled by a simple decree.
6. Which neighbouring country of India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Serum Institute of India for priority delivery of 3 crore COVID-19 vaccine doses \_\_\_\_\_ **Bangladesh.**
- Note:**
- This COVISHIELD Vaccines was developed by AstraZeneca and University of Oxford.
  - According to the agreement, initially 1.5 crore people will be vaccinated as each person requires two vaccine doses.
  - Currently there are three COVID-19 vaccines under trial in India.
7. The Oil India Limited is decided to brought a new technique snubbing unit from which country to control the oil well blowout in Assam's Baghjan \_\_\_\_\_ **Canada.**
- Note:**
- The Oil India Limited owned Baghjan well erupted on May 27, 2020. It has been burning for more than five months now. The fire damaged the highly sensitive ecosystem in the region.
  - It displaced more than 9,000 people. The fire is still uncontrollable even after five months of continuous efforts. In order to put off the fire, a snubbing unit is being brought from Canada.
8. In coordination with which state the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) has launched "Go Electric" campaign \_\_\_\_\_ **Andhra Pradesh.**
- Note:**
- The Andhra Pradesh State Government is to set up 400 Electric Vehicle charging vehicles all over the state to promote the usage of electric vehicles. This is to be achieved in coordination with the "Go Electric" campaign of BEE.
  - The main of the step is to attract investment in the EV sector by setting up charging stations and electric vehicle infrastructure.
9. Which country become the only country to formally pull out of the Paris climate accord since it was adopted in 2015 \_\_\_\_\_ **USA.**
- Note:**
- With this, the US has now become the only country to formally pull out of the deal since it was adopted in 2015.
  - The landmark Paris climate agreement was signed in 2015 to protect the planet from the worsening impacts of the climate crisis.
  - As per the rules of the agreement, a country cannot officially leave before one full year of notifying the UN of its intent to withdraw.
10. Which country's central bank governor chaired the 40th Meeting of the SAARCFINANCE Governors' Group was held virtually \_\_\_\_\_ **India.**
- Note:**
- The meeting was attended by the Governors from SAARC central banks. During the meeting, Mr Das also inaugurated the SAARCFINANCE Sync, a closed user group secure communication network.
  - The group took stock of the macroeconomic situation in the SAARC region; discussed the current SAARCFINANCE initiatives; and the way ahead.
  - The Governors reaffirmed their commitment to continued co-operation and sharing of central bank experiences.



## Honor & Awards

1. Who has been selected for 'Ezhuthachan Puraskaram 2020', the highest literary prize of Kerala \_\_\_\_\_ **Paul Zacharia.**

**Note:**

- Zacharia was chosen for his contribution to Malayalam literature during the past five decades.
- A five-member jury, headed by Kerala Sahitya Akademi President Vyshakhan, selected him for the award. 'Salam America', 'Oridath', 'Aarkkariyam', 'Bhaskara patelarum ente jeevithavum' are among his various literary works. Zacharia also won the Kerala Sahitya Akademi Award in 1979 and the Kendra Sahitya Akademi Award in 2004.

2. For which film Karsh Kale and the Salvage Audio Collective won the Best Original Music Award 2020 in 14th Asian Film Awards (AFA14) \_\_\_\_\_ **Gully Boy.**

**Note:**

- Karsh Kale and the Salvage Audio Collective won the Best Original Music Award 2020 for the film Gully Boy directed by Zoya Akhtar.
- Yang Ik-Joon, South Korean Actor and Director presented the Award.
- The film Gully Boy starring Ranveer Singh as the budding rappers who achieve his dream with his music about his life on the streets of Mumbai.

3. The 14th Asian Film Awards (AFA14) held in \_\_\_\_\_ **Busan.**

**Note:**

- Karsh Kale and the Salvage Audio Collective won the Best Original Music Award 2020 for the film Gully Boy directed by Zoya Akhtar.
- Yang Ik-Joon, South Korean Actor and Director presented the Award.
- The film Gully Boy starring Ranveer Singh as the budding rappers who achieve his dream with his music about his life on the streets of Mumbai.

4. Indian Army chief General M. M. Naravane was conferred the honorary rank of General by which country \_\_\_\_\_ **Nepal.**

**Note:**

- He has also presented a sword and scroll during the function held at the President's official residence 'ShitalNiwas' in Kathmandu.
- The tradition, which started in 1950, reflects the strong ties between the two militaries.
- Gen. K. M. Cariappa was the first Indian Army chief to be decorated with the title in 1950.

## Sports News

1. Name the Indian boxer who won the gold medal in Alexis Vastine International Boxing Tournament in Nantes, France in 52kg category \_\_\_\_\_ **Amit Panghal.**

**Note:**

- World silver-medallist Amit Panghal (52kg) won gold medal at the Alexis Vastine international boxing tournament in Nantes.
- Panghal defeated American Rene Abraham 3-0. Sanjeet beat Frenchman Soheb Bouafia.

2. Which company has won the sponsor title of the BCCI's 2020 edition of the Women's T20 Challenge \_\_\_\_\_ **Jio.**

**Note:**

- The partnership will also have the support of Reliance Foundation Education and Sports For All (RF ESA).
- This is a historic partnership, as for the first time a sponsor has signed with BCCI exclusively for the women's matches.
- The Jio Women's T20 Challenge to be played from 4th November to 9th November will be held in Sharjah.

3. Who has won the Formula One Emilia-Romagna Grand Prix at Imola in Italy \_\_\_\_\_ **Lewis Hamilton.**

**Note:**

- Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton won the Formula One Emilia-Romagna Grand Prix at Imola in Italy. The second prize was won by another Mercedes driver Valtteri Bottas.
- A Red Bull driver, Daniel Ricciardo, won the third prize. Mercedes won the 2020 constructors' championship.

4. Renowned cricket allrounder Shane Robert Watson announced retirement from all forms of Cricket, for which country did he played \_\_\_\_\_ **Australia.**

**Note:**

- He had already announced retirement from International Cricket in 2015 but was playing Franchise-based Cricket tournaments such as Indian Premier League (IPL), Pakistan Super League (PSL).
- He is a right-handed batsman and a right-handed fast medium bowler.
- He made his debut for the Australian cricket team in 2002, playing his first One Day International against South Africa.

### Books and Authors

1. World's 1st scientoon book titled "Bye Bye Corona" is authored by \_\_\_\_\_ **Pradeep Srivastava**.

**Note:**

- World's 1st scientoon book entitled "Bye Bye Corona", was released by Anandiben Patel, Governor, Uttar Pradesh.
- The book was written by 'scientoonist' Dr Pradeep Srivastava, former Senior Principal Scientist at CSIR-Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow.
- It is further planned to make a 3D version of the book. The book has been published by Vigyan Prasar.

2. Who has authored the book titled "Pandemonium: The Great Indian Banking Tragedy" \_\_\_\_\_ **Tamal Bandyopadhyay**.

**Note:**

- This book, published by Roli Books, provides an understanding of the challenges and economic potential of India.
- The book "Pandemonium" accounts how many promoters had swapped equity with debt while the managements of the banks were finding a way to protect their balance sheets until the intervention of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) against their bad loans.

3. Who has authored the book titled "The Age of Pandemic (1817-1920): How they Shaped India And the World" \_\_\_\_\_ **Ajay Kumar Parida**.

**Note:**

- The book is published by HarperCollins India and is set to release in December 2020.
- It documents the scale of devastation, cause and consequences and the resilience of the people during the pandemics.
- It also portrays the continuing relevance of learning from the disaster that affected the nation and the ways to combat the challenges like COVID-19.

### Science and Defence

1. The Indian Air Force (IAF) successfully test-fired an air-launched version of the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile from which fighter jet \_\_\_\_\_ **Sukhoi 30 MKI**.

**Note:**

- The aircraft took off from an airbase in Punjab & reached the Bay of Bengal after mid-air refuelling.
- The missile successfully hit a sinking ship in the Bay of Bengal, with deadly accuracy.
- This test was the longest range BrahMos strike that was undertaken by the Sukhoi 30 MKI platform.
- This missile was developed by DRDO, the air-launched version of nuclear-capable BrahMos has a strike range of 300 km with the capability to hit targets at sea or land in all weather conditions.

2. Defence Research Development Organization test fired the advanced version of Pinaka successfully. Pinaka is a \_\_\_\_\_ **Rocket system**.

**Note:**

- This enhanced version of the Pinaka rocket would replace the existing Pinaka Mk-I rockets. While Mk-1 had a range of 40 km, the new variant can hit a target 45 to 60 km away.
- The design and development of Pinaka were done by DRDO laboratories based in Pune, namely Armament Research and Development Establishment, ARDE and High Energy Materials Research Laboratory, HEMRL.

3. CARAT is a joint Naval Exercise conducted between which two countries \_\_\_\_\_ **USA and Bangladesh**.

**Note:**

- Bangladesh and United States held a joint Naval Exercise CARAT. CARAT is Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training. The exercise was held at Chittagong.

- Historically, the exercise involves people-to-people interactions, variety of professional exchanges, community relations project, Subject Matter Expert exchanges and social events. Due to COVID-19, the exercise was held virtually.

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