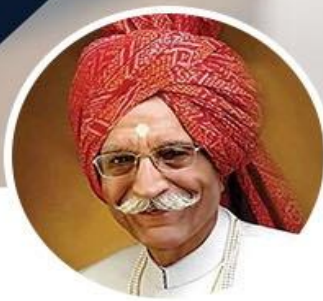


# Weekly One-Liners

1-7 Dec 2020



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

Dear readers,

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

### **Banking & Financial Awareness**

1. Which intergovernmental financial institution has released a new book titled, 'Future of Regional Cooperation in Asia and the Pacific' \_\_\_\_\_ **Asian Development Bank (ADB)**.  
**Note:**
  - The book reviews the progress with regional cooperation and integration in Asia and the Pacific. It explores ways for economies in the region to work combinedly to recover and rebuild from the COVID-19 pandemic, so as to achieve a more flexible, sustainable, and inclusive future.
  - The book consists of papers that are contributed by renowned scholars and staff of ADB.
2. To strengthen the power distribution sector in which state, the Government of India recently signed 133 million USD loan Agreement with the Asian Development Bank \_\_\_\_\_ **Meghalaya**.  
**Note:**
  - Also, the loan is to be supplemented with a 2 million USD grant from the Asian Development Bank Japan fund for poverty reduction.
  - This fund was basically allocated to finance renewable energy projects and support income generation activities for disadvantaged groups and women.
3. Which bank, in association with Japan's JCB International Co Ltd (JCB), has launched a debit card on National Payments Corporation of India's (NPCI) RuPay network \_\_\_\_\_ **State Bank of India**.  
**Note:**
  - The 'SBI RuPay JCB platinum contactless debit card' comes with a dual-interface feature, which will enable customers to perform both contact and contactless transactions in the domestic market and seamless contact transactions overseas.
  - With this card, consumers would be able to transact on ATMs and PoS terminals across the globe under JCB network.
4. According to data of the Commerce and Industry Ministry, which country is the second largest source of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in India \_\_\_\_\_ **USA**.  
**Note:**
  - During April-September 2020, India attracted FDI worth \$7.12 billion from the U.S. and \$2 billion from Mauritius, which slipped to fourth position, the DPIIT (Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade) data showed.
  - Singapore with \$8.30 billion foreign inflows continued to be the top source of FDI for India in April-September 2020-21. The country has received \$2.1 billion inflows from Cayman Islands.
5. With which bank the government of India has inked loan pact of USD 50 million to boost digital platforms for public finance reforms in West Bengal \_\_\_\_\_ **Asian Development Bank**.  
**Note:**
  - The integration of the state's financial and information systems through the programme's whole-of-government approach will help improve delivery of public services and generate fiscal savings that could help the state augment growth-enhancing development financing.
  - Through the support to interoperable e-Government platforms, the programme will ensure streamlining of social protection benefits such as pension and provident fund, facilitate gender-disaggregated data, tax payments and revenue collection.
6. To which bank the Reserve Bank of India has issued order to temporarily halt all launches of the Digital Business generating activities planned under its program Digital 2.0 \_\_\_\_\_ **HDFC Bank**.  
**Note:**

- The order dated December 2 comes after HDFC Bank's internet banking and payment system were disrupted by yet another outage on November 21.
  - HDFC Bank has drawn criticism for various such incidents over the past two years. RBI has directed HDFC Bank's top examine the lapses and fix accountability.
  - HDFC Bank is one India's largest private sector bank and has a market capitalization of Rs 7.7 lakh crore.
7. To improve the quality and reliability of electricity supply in which state of India the Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a USD 430 million multi-tranche financing facility (MFF) \_\_\_\_\_ **Uttar Pradesh.**
- Note:**
- The Uttar Pradesh Power Distribution Network Rehabilitation Project will improve efficiency and sustainability of power supply in the state.
  - The project will finance the conversion of 65,000 km rural low-voltage distribution lines from bare conductors to aerial bundle conductors to benefit an estimated 70 million people in 46,000 rural villages.
8. Which bank has launched a tech-based loan management solution called 'LenS-The Lending Solution', to speed up and maintain accuracy in online loan processing and sanctioning of credit proposals \_\_\_\_\_ **Punjab National Bank.**
- Note:**
- To standardise the system, process and appraisal formats for loan processing, speed up the process of credit sanctions, and auto-generate loan documents, among others are the main purpose behind the launch of it.
  - For all kinds of loans such as MSME, agriculture, retail and other credit, the system is expected to be implemented in a phased manner
9. Which bank has unveiled a premium banking program that offers personalized solutions focused on the particular needs of key consumer segments – from small business owners to salaried professionals and senior citizens \_\_\_\_\_ **Yes Bank.**
- Note:**
- Yes Bank will celebrate the launch of this enhanced program during 'Truly Yours' Week, from December 1 – 7, 2020 throughout the bank's network of branches across India, with several customercentric programs and partnered activations through dealer, OEM and bancassurance partners.
10. Which bank has entered into an agreement with Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) to use its asset restructuring module for MSME borrowers \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian bank.**
- Note:**
- MSMEs have been finding it difficult to maintain books of accounts, preparation of financial statements and submission of financial projections for producing the same to banks / FIs for availing credit finance / restructuring their loans based on their estimates and revision in working capital cycle.
  - MSMEs have to approach third parties for this purpose which involves time and cost.
11. Which bank has launched Rupifi Business Credit Card' for MSMEs in partnership with Rupifi and Visa \_\_\_\_\_ **Axis Bank.**
- Note:**
- This Contactless Co-Branded credit card, powered by Visa is applicable only to the MSMEs businesses that transact on the aggregator platforms partnered with Rupifi PAN (Permanent Account Number) India for their business purchases.
  - The card offers credit solutions to such MSMEs. It is only for domestic transactions.
12. Recently, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to extend liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) to which banks to make liquidity management more efficient \_\_\_\_\_ **Regional Rural Banks.**
- Note:**
- Accordingly, the apex bank has decided to extend the Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF) and Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) to RRBs. It has also decided to permit the RRBs to participate in the Call/Notice money market, both as borrowers and lenders.
  - RRBs are currently not permitted to access the liquidity windows of the Reserve Bank as well as the call/notice money market.
13. The Reserve Bank of India has proposed to increase the limit for contactless card transactions to what amount from Rs 2,000 per transaction from January 1, 2021 \_\_\_\_\_ **Rs 5,000.**
- Note:**
- Similarly, the limit for processing e-mandates and standing instructions on cards and Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPIs) for recurring transactions has been increased to Rs 5,000.
  - This announcement was part of the RBI's bi-monetary policy announcement held on December 4, 2020.
14. Paytm has partnered with which small finance bank to empower MSMEs with instant digital loans \_\_\_\_\_ **Suryoday Small Finance Bank.**

**Note:**

- The company is offering instant microloans to businesses that are unable to access financial services from traditional banking players.
- The company through this partnership is aiming at disbursing loans to over 1 lakh small businesses in the next 12 to 18 months.

15. The Karnataka regional office of NABARD signed MoU with which bank to extend concessional refinance facility to the beneficiaries of watershed development and tribal development projects \_\_\_\_\_ **State Bank of India**.

**Note:**

- The MoU aims to benefit 45000 beneficiaries from 260 Farmers Producers Organisations in 28 districts. In addition 8500 beneficiaries from Self Help groups and Joint Liability Groups will be covered.
- The MoU signed will enable SBI to act as an implementing agency for digitilising the Self Help Groups and uploading data on E-Shakti portal across the state.

16. Financial solutions provider Razorpay partnered with which global digital payments platform to facilitate international payments for small businesses and freelancers \_\_\_\_\_ **PayPal**.

**Note:**

- The company's partner businesses can now integrate with PayPal and accept payments from international customers from across 200 markets in a convenient, fast and secure manner.

17. Fintech company Finin has launched itself as a 'neobank', in partnership with which bank \_\_\_\_\_ **SBM Bank**.

**Note:**

- It will provide features such as detailed break-up of user spending and send prompts if they exceed pre-set limits and automatic sweeps of money into liquid funds.
- The bank will target white-collar workers and freelancers and has waiting list of 15,000 people before launch. It aims to open 50,000 accounts in six months.

18. Which life insurance company in association with Ketto India has initiated #PromisewalaDabba, a nationwide crowdfunding campaign \_\_\_\_\_ **HDFC Life**.

**Note:**

- #PromiseWalaDabba has been initiated by the insurance company for supporting the community, with an aim to help the Dabbawalas of Mumbai stand on their feet once again with a month's supply of ration, delivered to their homes.
- Ketto, India's foremost crowdfunding platform has also partnered with HDFC Life as part of the campaign in order to serve as a platform to raise money for this cause.

19. In partnership with which bank and NPCI the PayNearby announced to launch PayNearby Shopping Card, enabling its retail partners to derive maximum benefits of digital commerce in the mass market category \_\_\_\_\_ **Yes Bank**.

**Note:**

- The new service will allow PayNearby retailers to avail a range of digital services in a secure, risk-free mode. The retailers can avail of services such as e-learning, e-commerce, online gaming, monthly recharges and utility payments, online music, and videos.
- The launch of the PayNearby shopping card is powered by RuPay and is targeted for enabling a mass-market adoption. This will likely allow for cash digitization options at the grass-root levels.

20. Which Regional Rural Bank has launched 'Kirishi OD' scheme designed for farmers \_\_\_\_\_ **Karnataka Vikas Grameen Bank (KVGB)**.

**Note:**

- The farmers are provided with an OD facility based on the value of the land. The limit is capped to a maximum of ₹1.5 lakh per acre to irrigated lands and ₹1 lakh per acre to dry land.
- The facility can be used for working capital requirements such as maintenance of machinery and equipment, repair and replacement of machinery, agricultural allied activities and even for the repayment of private loans availed for personal use.

21. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a USD 190 million loan for modernization and upgradation of power distribution system in which city \_\_\_\_\_ **Bengaluru**.

**Note:**

- The funding for the Bengaluru Smart Energy Efficient Power Distribution Project by ADB includes a USD 100 million sovereign loan and a USD 90 million without sovereign guarantee loan to Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited (BESCOM).

- This features an innovative financing arrangement, the first of its kind for ADB, combining public and private sector loans to a state government-owned enterprise.

### Obituaries

1. Renowned personality S Ramakrishnan passed away recently, he was former director of which institution \_\_\_\_\_ **Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC).**

**Note:**

- Mr. Ramakrishnan joined the VSSC, a lead centre of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), in August 1972 after graduating from the College of Engineering, Guindy, and acquiring his MTech in Aeronautics from IIT, Madras.
- He joined as a member of the SLV-3 project team responsible for the development of India's first satellite launch vehicle under the leadership of A.P. J. Abdul Kalam.

2. Renowned personality Mir Zafarullah Khan Jamali passed away recently, he was former prime minister of which country \_\_\_\_\_ **Pakistan.**

**Note:**

- Jamali, the country's first and only elected prime minister from Balochistan, had served during the military regime of Gen Pervez Musharraf. However, Gen Musharraf sought his resignation in 2004 and he was replaced by Shaukat Aziz.
- He won the 2013 general elections as an independent, but later joined the PML-N and used to sit on the treasury benches in the previous assembly.

3. Renowned personality Manu Mukherjee passed away recently, he was a veteran \_\_\_\_\_ **Actor.**

**Note:**

- The actor is best remembered for his roles in Satyajit Ray's Joy Baba Felunath and Ganashatru.
- He had also been part of children's fantasy film Patalghar'.

4. Former chief of Intelligence Bureau chief Dineshwar Sharma passed away recently, he was Administrator of which Union territories \_\_\_\_\_ **Lakshwadweep.**

**Note:**

- Mr. Sharma, a 1979-batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer, hailed from Bihar. He served as IB Director from 2014 to 2016. He headed the bureau when the government announced demonetisation on November 8, 2016.
- In 2017, he was appointed as the union government's representative for peace talks with various groups in North Eastern states on May 30, 2017.

5. Renowned personality Valery Giscard d'Estaing passed away recently he was former President of which country \_\_\_\_\_ **France.**

**Note:**

- Giscard was elected president in 1974 at the age of 48 to become France's youngest postwar leader.
- He was also an ardent Anglophile, and took office a year after Britain joined the European Economic Community.

6. Renowned personality Dharampal Gulati, passed away recently he was owner of which company \_\_\_\_\_ **MDH.**

**Note:**

- Popularly called 'King of Spices,' was awarded the Padma Bhushan, the country's third-highest civilian award, in 2019.
- MDH exports spices to countries across the world such as Switzerland, Japan, the US, and Canada. It is one of the biggest brands of spices, and manufactures almost 50 different types of spices.

7. Legendary footballer Papa Bouba Diop passed away recently, for which country did he played \_\_\_\_\_ **Senegal.**

**Note:**

- He was of the age of 42. His goal helped Senegal secure historic 1-0 win over the then-world champions France in the opening match of the 2002 FIFA World Cup, and Senegal's first-ever match at the FIFA World Cup.
- Diop has won 63 caps for Senegal.

### Important Days

1. What is the theme of the World Aids Day 2020 \_\_\_\_\_ **Global Solidarity and Shared Responsibility.**

**Note:**

- The day is being celebrated since 1988.
  - It is celebrated to create awareness against the spread of HIV infection.
  - It is one of the 11 official Global Public Health campaigns of World Health Organisation.
2. The World Computer Literacy Day is observed every year on which date \_\_\_\_\_ **2nd December**.
- Note:**
- The day promotes technological skills, especially in children and women.
  - The World Computer Literacy Day controls the advanced gap that exists in the world today.
  - The day was originally founded by the Indian computer company NIIT to mark its 20th anniversary in 2001.
3. The National Pollution Control Day is observed every year on which date \_\_\_\_\_ **2nd December**.
- Note:**
- The year 2020 marks the 36th anniversary of the Bhopal Gas Tragedy.
  - Through this day, awareness is created about the rising pollution of air, water, and soil, as well as shifts the attention of people with regards to the pollution control acts.
4. International Day for the Abolition of Slavery is observed annually on \_\_\_\_\_ **2nd December**.
- Note:**
5. What is the theme of the 'International Day of Persons with Disabilities' for the year 2020 \_\_\_\_\_ **Not all Disabilities are Visible**.
- Note:**
- The theme of the for 2020 is 'Not all Disabilities are Visible'.
  - The day is celebrated to promote the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities in all spheres of society and development, and to increase awareness of the situation of persons with disabilities in every aspect of political, social, economic and cultural life.
6. What is the theme of the Indian Navy Day 2020, celebrated every year on December 4 \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Navy Combat Ready, Credible and Cohesive**.
- Note:**
- Every year the Indian Navy Day is celebrated on December 4.
  - Every year the Indian Navy Day is celebrated to commemorate Operation Trident.
  - The operation was launched by the Indian Navy during the India-Pakistan war of 1971 to attack Karachi Harbour.
7. International Volunteer Day is observed every year on \_\_\_\_\_ **5th December**.
- Note:**
- The theme for International Volunteers Day 2020 is 'Together We Can Through Volunteering'.
  - Amid the Covid-19 pandemic on the world level, the volunteers have worked at the forefront of medical, community and societal responses.
8. The International Civil Aviation Day is celebrated every year on which date \_\_\_\_\_ **7th December**.
- Note:**
- The purpose of International Civil Aviation Day is to help generate and reinforce worldwide awareness of the importance of international civil aviation to the social and economic development of States, and of the unique role of ICAO in helping States to cooperate and realize a truly global rapid transit network at the service of all mankind.
  - The Council has decided that from now until 2023, the theme will be: "Advancing Innovation for Global Aviation Development".
9. In India, the Armed Forces Flag Day is observed annually on \_\_\_\_\_ **7th December**.
- Note:**
- The three branches of the Armed Forces of India, namely, the Indian Army, the Indian Air Force and the Indian Navy are remembered on this day.
  - The 'Armed forces Flag Day Fund' (AFFDF) has been constituted by the Government of India for the welfare and rehabilitation of the Ex-Servicemen (ESM) community.

### New Appointments

1. Who becomes the first women vice chancellor of Allahabad University (AU) \_\_\_\_\_ **Professor Sangita Srivastava**.

**Note:**

- She is the first woman chosen for this post at AU.
  - Prof Srivastava is a former head of Allahabad University's home science department.
  - After her new appointment, she was relieved of her present charge as vice chancellor of Prof Rajendra Singh University on the orders of the chancellor and governor Anandiben Patel.
2. Who has been appointed as the as Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha and Lok Sabha Secretariat \_\_\_\_\_ **Utpal Kumar Singh.**
- Note:**
- His appointment will come into effect from December 1, 2020. He will succeed incumbent Snehlata Shrivastava.
  - Mr Singh is a 1986 batch IAS officer of Uttrakhand Cadre and has been appointed as Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha in the rank and status of Cabinet Secretary.
3. Who has been appointed as the Chairperson of National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) \_\_\_\_\_ **Varsha Joshi.**
- Note:**
- The Government of India has appointed IAS officer Varsha Joshi as the new Chairperson of National Dairy Development Board (NDDB).
  - She is presently served as Joint Secretary (CDD), Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Government of India.
4. Who has been named as the Treasury Secretary by the U.S. President-elect Joe Biden \_\_\_\_\_ **Kumud Srinivasan.**
- Note:**
- If confirmed, she will be the first woman to lead the Treasury Department in its 231-year history.
  - The 74-year-old previously broke barriers as the first female Fed chief.
5. Who has been appointed as the ambassador for the British Academy of Film and Television Arts' (BAFTA) 'Breakthrough Initiative' \_\_\_\_\_ **AR Rahman.**
- Note:**
- The initiative, supported by Netflix, aims to identify, celebrate, and support up to five talents working in film, games, or TV in India.
  - As part of BAFTA Breakthrough India, a jury of British and Indian industry experts will select five talents from across India to take part in the year-long mentoring and guidance programme.
6. Who has been appointed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Fit India' Ambassador \_\_\_\_\_ **Kuldeep Handoo.**
- Note:**
- Mr Handoo, who is Wushu Coach of Team India is serving as Inspector in Jammu and Kashmir Police Department.
  - Fit India Movement is a nation-wide movement in India to encourage people to remain healthy and fit by including physical activities and sports in their daily lives.
7. Who has been named as the president-elect of industry chamber FICCI for 2020-21 \_\_\_\_\_ **Uday Shankar.**
- Note:**
- Shankar will be succeeding Sangita Reddy, president of Ficci and joint managing director, Apollo Hospitals Group, during Ficci's 93rd annual general meeting.
  - Presently Shankar is the president of The Walt Disney Company for Asia Pacific and the chairman of Star and Disney India.
8. Who has been appointed as the first Vice President of the World LPG Association (WLPGA) \_\_\_\_\_ **SM Vaidya.**
- Note:**
- Shri SM Vaidya is appointed as the first Vice President of the World LPG Association (WLPGA), The World LPG Association (WLPGA) is the authoritative voice of the global LPG industry representing the full LPG value chain.
  - Shri SM Vaidya currently is the Chairman of Indian Oil Corporation.

### Important News – India

1. Who chaired the 19th Meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of Governments held recently \_\_\_\_\_ **M Venkaiah Naidu.**
- Note:**
- The Summit ended with the adoption of the Joint Communique.
  - During the meet he launched the first ever SCO Online Exhibition on Shared Buddhist Heritage. It was launched during the 19th Meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of Government.
2. What is India's rank in the Global Terrorism Index (GTI) 2020 \_\_\_\_\_ **8<sup>th</sup>.**

**Note:**

- India recorded 277 Deaths, 439 Injuries & 558 Incidents due to Terrorism in 2019. Regionally, South Asia was the most impacted region by terrorism in 2019, recording more deaths than any other region.
- Also, globally the deaths caused due to terrorism fell by 15 per cent to 13,286 in 2019 over 2018.

3. Who will chair the high-level inter-ministerial Apex committee for Implementation of Paris Agreement (AIPA) constituted by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change \_\_\_\_\_ **Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.**

**Note:**

- The purpose of AIPA is to generate a coordinated response on climate change matters that ensures India is on track towards meeting its obligations under the Paris Agreement including its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC).
- Senior officials from fourteen ministries will serve as members to AIPA who will oversee the progress in implementation of India's NDC and receive periodic information updates to monitor, review and revisit climate goals to fulfil the requirements of the Paris Agreement.

4. According to The International Farm Comparison Network (IFCN) Dairy Processors Report 2020 what is the position of AMUL as the Milk Processor globally \_\_\_\_\_ **8<sup>th</sup>.**

**Note:**

- The rankings are based on the parameters of Milk Intake per annum.
- Amul has reported an intake of 10.3 Billion Kg of Milk annually, it is more than double growth from the 4.54 Billion Kg of Milk Intake reported by Amul in 2013.

5. Which Indian firm has topped the Fortune 500 list of Indian companies list of 2020 \_\_\_\_\_ **Reliance Industries Ltd.**

**Note:**

- Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOC), the nation's biggest oil firm, bagged the second spot, followed by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) at the third.
- The country's largest lender State Bank of India was in the fourth position, while India's second-biggest fuel retailer Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL) took the fifth spot.

6. 7th edition of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Conclave 2020 was held in which city of India \_\_\_\_\_ **Hyderabad.**

**Note:**

- It was organized by UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund), National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRD & PR) in collaboration with 3 state governments – Telangana, Andhra Pradesh & Karnataka.
- Governor of Andhra Pradesh, Biswabhusan Harichandan participated as the Chief Guest of the Conclave.

7. India's first indigenously developed 100 Octane premium petrol developed by which petroleum company \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Oil Corporation Limited.**

**Note:**

- Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas and Steel Dharmendra Pradhan launched India's first indigenously developed 100 Octane premium petrol through video conferencing.
- The high octane premium grade petrol being marketed under the brand XP-100 will be made available in 10 cities across the country including the national capital in the first phase.

8. Vice-President Venkaiah Naidu virtually released a commemorative postage stamp in honour of late Prime Minister \_\_\_\_\_ **IK Gujral.**

**Note:**

- I K Gujral was the 12th Prime Minister of India, he served as the Prime Minister from April 1997-March 1998.
- During his tenure as India's External Affairs Minister, I K Gujral laid a set of five principles – 'Gujral Doctrine' to guide the conduct of foreign relations with India's immediate neighbours.

9. Who will be the chief guest for the Republic Day celebrations in January 2021 \_\_\_\_\_ **Boris Johnson (PM UK).**

**Note:**

- India has invited U.K. Prime Minister Boris Johnson as chief guest for the Republic Day celebrations in January 2021 and a decision on this is awaited from London.
- If Johnson accepts the invite, he would become the first British prime minister to grace the parade at Rajpath in nearly three decades.
- The last British prime minister at the Republic Day parade was John Major in 1993.

10. Arjun Munda e-launches "Virtual Aadi Mahotsav in \_\_\_\_\_ **Madhya Pradesh.**

**Note:**



- Videos showcasing different aspects of their culture – music, dance etc, will also be shared. In essence, it will still be a celebration of the tribes and their diverse, varied lifestyle but on a different platform.

### Important News – State

- Which state government has started 'Duare Sarkar' (government at doorsteps) programme to speed up and take the delivery of public services to the doorstep of the people \_\_\_\_\_ **West Bengal**.  
**Note:**
  - Benefits of at least 11 state government-run schemes will be made available to eligible people at camps to be set up for 'Duare Sarkar' (government at doorsteps) programme.
- Which state government has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with International Digital Health & Artificial Intelligence Research Collaborative (I-DAIR) to develop and deploy digital technologies in the health sector \_\_\_\_\_ **Punjab**.  
**Note:**
  - Punjab is the 1st govt partner of I-DAIR to develop models of people-centric digital infrastructures for health
  - Anirudh Tewari, the state's Additional Chief Secretary (Governance Reforms) signed the MoU on behalf of Punjab Government.
- The Suryadhar lake has been inaugurated in which state \_\_\_\_\_ **Uttarakhand**.  
**Note:**
  - Suryadhar lake has been built at a cost of Rs 50.25 crore. It is 550 metres long, 28 metres wide and 10 metres deep with a capacity of 77,000 cubic metres.
  - The lake will address the drinking water and irrigational needs of nearly 20 villages around it and is also set to become a major tourist and water sports destination in coming times.
- The cyclone 'Burevi' hits which state of India recently \_\_\_\_\_ **Tamil Nadu**.  
**Note:**
  - This is the third cyclone formed within the last 10 days in the Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea put together.
  - As the new cyclone Burevi comes just days after Cyclone Nivar, its impact is set to be more subdued.
- Country's first memorial for organ donors has been inaugurated in which state of India \_\_\_\_\_ **Rajasthan**.  
**Note:**
  - This exclusive memorial has been established jointly by Mohan Foundation Jaipur Citizen Forum (MFJCF) and the Jaipur Municipal Corporation, near the city's SMS Hospital, in honour of those who have given life to others in need.
  - The names of 38 organ donors who have saved the lives of over 100 people in Rajasthan, Delhi and Mumbai, are etched on the memorial.
- In which state the Raimona National Park is proposed to become sixth National Park in the state \_\_\_\_\_ **Assam**.  
**Note:**
  - The area of proposed Raimona National Park lies within the Ripu Reserve Forest that has a history of one of the best scientifically-managed forests in the country during the late 19th century.
  - The area comprises the highest biodiverse floristic composition of the state wherein as many as 11 different forest types and sub-types could be classified.
- Swasthya Sathi scheme is a health insurance scheme of which state that has now been expanded to cover the state's entire population \_\_\_\_\_ **West Bengal**.  
**Note:**
  - It provides basic health cover for secondary and tertiary care up to 5 lakh INR per annum per family.
  - Both state-run and private hospitals are part of the scheme.
  - The card under the scheme is issued to the female guardians of the families.
  - Every citizen and every family in the state are to be included in the scheme irrespective of their age group.
- Nongpok Sekmai police station of which state was ranked as the best performing police station in the country in the recently released the annual ranking of police Stations in India \_\_\_\_\_ **Manipur**.  
**Note:**
  - The annual ranking is being done since 2015.
  - Nongpok Sekmai police station in Thoubal district of Manipur was ranked as the best performing police station in the country.
  - The All Women Police Station of Suramangalam in Salem city of Tamilnadu was ranked second in the list

9. Which state government has organised the 9th edition of International Sand Art festival \_\_\_\_\_ **Odisha**.

**Note:**

- The sand art festival displays spectacular sand arts sculpted by skillful artists from India and around the world.
- World recognised sand artists from Mexico, Spain, Singapore, France, Norway, Germany, Netherland and USA have participated over the years

10. Which state is planning its first ever migratory bird festival this year \_\_\_\_\_ **Bihar**.

**Note:**

- It is to be jointly organised by Bhagalpur forest division, Bombay Natural History Society and the local Mandar Nature Club.
- The region houses a large number of migratory birds between November and March every year. The festival is intended to check cases of poaching in the region.

11. Biggest-ever Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) scheme 'Orunodoi' has been launched in which state \_\_\_\_\_ **Assam**.

**Note:**

- The scheme has been rolled out with 17 lakh families as beneficiaries at present. The government said that it will transfer Rs 830 per month to the account of one of the female members of the family under the 'Orunodoi' scheme.
- The number of beneficiaries will increase to about 22 lakh once the BTC districts are also included.

12. Which state aimed to completely eliminate AIDS by 2030 \_\_\_\_\_ **Madhya Pradesh**.

**Note:**

- The highest number 12 thousand 773 patients reported in Indore. Bhopal is at number two with more than 7 thousand patients. Jabalpur has around 6 thousand patients while Gwalior has more than 3 thousand HIV patients.
- The highest 68 percent HIV infected people belong to the age group of 25 to 49 years.

### Important News – World

1. Which country will chair the incoming 20th Meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of Government in 2021 \_\_\_\_\_ **Kazakhstan**.

**Note:**

- The Summit ended with the adoption of the Joint Communiqué.
- During the meet he launched the first ever SCO Online Exhibition on Shared Buddhist Heritage. It was launched during the 19th Meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of Government.

2. According to air pollution data released by the US Air Quality Index 2020 which city has topped the list of world's most polluted cities \_\_\_\_\_ **Lahore**.

**Note:**

- According to the index, Lahore reported a particulate matter (PM) rating of 423. Pakistan's financial capital Karachi ranked at 7 on the AQI.
- New Delhi came in second with a PM of 229, while Nepal's capital Kathmandu ranked the third-worst city with a PM of 178.

3. Which organization has published a flagship report titled "The State of Food and Agriculture (SOFA) 2020 – Overcoming Water Challenges in Agriculture" \_\_\_\_\_ **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**.

**Note:**

- The report states that around 1.2 billion people across the globe are under high levels of water stress, which means that one out of every 6 people in the world are facing a severe water stress or scarcity in agriculture with more than 15% of the rural population at risk.
- The State of Food and Agriculture 2020 report addresses two prime water challenges that affect agriculture and food production, Water Shortages and Scarcity.

4. According to the world Malaria report, 2020 prepared by the World Health Organisation, largest contributor of Malaria cases in the south-east Asia region \_\_\_\_\_ **India**.

**Note:**

- As per the report, India recorded the largest reduction in malaria cases in South East Asia.
- The case count has reduced from 20 million in 2000 to around 5.6 million in 2019.
- However, India is the largest contributor of Malaria cases in the south-east Asia region. Around 88% of Malaria cases in the region are from India.

5. Which becomes the first country to allow the sale of cultured meat \_\_\_\_\_ **Singapore**.

**Note:**

- The meat is created from animal cells without slaughtering chickens.
  - Eat Just Inc., a maker of meat and egg substitutes, has been approved to sell its laboratory-created chicken in Singapore
6. Bangladesh has signed its first Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) with which country \_\_\_\_\_ **Bhutan**.
- Note:**
- Under the PTA, 100 Bangladeshi products will get duty free access to Bhutan, while 34 items from Bhutan will get duty free access into Bangladesh.
  - Further items can be added in the list later on the basis of discussion between the two countries.

### Honor & Awards

1. Who has been won the Global Teacher Prize 2020 in recognition of his efforts to promote girls' education \_\_\_\_\_ **Ranjitsingh Disale**.
- Note:**
- He is a primary school teacher from Solapur of Maharashtra.
  - The Global teacher prize is awarded by the Varkey Foundation.
  - The 31-year-old Ranjitsingh Disale generously declared that he will split half of the prize money of USD 1 million with his top ten fellow finalists.
2. Who has been named by TIME magazine as the first-ever 'Kid of the Year' 2020 for her works using 'technology to tackle issues ranging from contaminated drinking water to opioid addiction and cyberbullying' \_\_\_\_\_ **Gitanjali Rao**.
- Note:**
- The 15-year-old from Colorado, US was selected from 5,000 nominees and was interviewed by Academy award-winning Hollywood actor Angelina Jolie for TIME.
  - At the age of 11, Rao won the Discovery Education 3M Scientist Challenge and was listed by Forbes in "30 Under 30" list for her innovations. Her latest discovery is an app called, Kindly, that detects cyberbullying at an early stage, based on artificial-intelligence technology

### Sports News

1. Who has won the Bahrain Formula One Grand Prix 2020 \_\_\_\_\_ **Lewis Hamilton**.
- Note:**
- The win, from pole position, was the 95th of seven-time world champion Hamilton's career and came with the safety car leading the field to the checkered flag.
  - Red Bull's Max Verstappen finished second with Thai teammate Alexander Albon completing the podium in the floodlit race at Sakhir after inheriting third place from Racing Point's Sergio Perez who suffered a blown engine three laps from the end.
2. Who become the fastest batsman to reach 22,000 international runs \_\_\_\_\_ **Virat Kohli**.
- Note:**
- Kohli achieved this feat during the second ODI between Australia and India at the SCG. The ODI legend scored a superb 89-run knock for India in their pursuit of 390.
  - Notably, Kohli has become the eighth batsman overall and the third Indian to surpass 22,000 international runs
3. Who won the formula One Sakhir Grand Pix in Bahrain \_\_\_\_\_ **Sergio Perez**.
- Note:**
- Sergio Perez became the first Mexican victor in F1 since Pedro Rodriguez in 1970, ending a series of races dominated by Mercedes for whom Valtteri Bottas finished eighth and George Russell ninth.
  - The 30-year-old Mexican recovered from a first-lap crash that dropped him to the back of the field in his 190th race.

### Books and Authors

1. Who released the book titled Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Government's Special Relationship with Sikhs on the occasion of 550th Gurupurab \_\_\_\_\_ **Hardeep Singh Puri**.
- Note:**

- The book was released in New Delhi in presence of Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar.
  - The book, published by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, was released in English, Hindi and Punjabi languages.
2. Who has authored the book titled “Indian Icon: A Cult Called Royal Enfield” \_\_\_\_\_ **Amrit Raj**.
- Note:**
- This book maps the trail-blazing story of the brand, the company and most of all, the individuals who have made Royal Enfield what it is now — a premium homegrown consumer brand for the global markets.
3. Who has authored the book titled “40 Years with Abdul Kalam- Untold Stories”, a book on the life of the former President of India Dr APJ Abdul Kalam \_\_\_\_\_ **A. Sivathanu Pillai**.
- Note:**
- The Vice President of India, M Venkaiah Naidu has released the book titled “40 Years with Abdul Kalam- Untold Stories”, a book on the life of the former President of India Dr APJ Abdul Kalam.
  - The book is published by Pentagon Press LLP and the foreword was written by Pranab Mukherjee, former president of India.

### Science and Defence

1. The Indian Navy test-fired the anti-ship version of which missile in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands territory \_\_\_\_\_ **BrahMos**.
- Note:**
- This comes amid the border tensions with China in eastern Ladakh.
  - This successful test is a part of series of trials being carried out by the three services. BrahMos Aerospace is a joint venture of India and Russia aimed at producing lethal weapon that can be launched from submarines, ships, aircraft and land.
2. On Indian Navy Day with which country India held a two-day Passage Exercise in the Eastern Indian Ocean \_\_\_\_\_ **Russia**.
- Note:**
- The exercise involves participation of RuFN guided missile cruiser Varyag, large anti-submarine ship AdmiralPanteleyev and medium ocean tanker Pechenga.
  - The exercise is aimed at enhancing interoperability, improving understanding and imbibing best practices between both the friendly navies.

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