

SSC & Railway Bi-Weekly Current Affairs 1 April - 15 April





Weekly One Liner Updates 1-15th April 2020

D			1	
Dea	r r	ea	ae	rs.

Bi-Weekly One Liners Update is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the **two weeks** (1-15th) of April 2020. This file is important for, **SSC and Railways** exams.

Important News - India

1.	The virtual meeting of the G20 Trade and Investment Ministers was attended by	Piyush Goyal.
----	---	---------------

Note:

- ➤ Piyush Goyal has urged the G20 nations to build a universal framework to boost the affordable access & facilitate easy movement of health professionals across national borders to fight over COVID-19.
- ➤ He stressed on the need to uphold multilateral commitments and improve its effectiveness to meet current challenges.
- Govt extends implementation of uniform stamp duty for capital market instruments from 1 April 2020 to _____July 1, 2020.

Note:

- ➤ the Department of Revenue has postponed the implementation of the uniform stamp duty on transfer of shares, debentures, futures, options, currency and other capital market instruments by 3 months to 1 July 2020 from 1 April 2020.
- To curb tax evasion, the government through Finance Act 2019 amended the Indian Stamp Act, 1899. Specific changes were to be effective from April 1, 2020 while amendments would come into effect from July 1, 2020.
- As part of the amendments, the stamp duty rates levied by Maharashtra will be taken as a benchmark as it accounts for 70% of the total collection.
- **3.** As per revised norms of the central government what is the limit for a person reside in J&K to become permanent resident of the UT _____15 Years.

Note:

- A new definition for domicile for Jammu and Kashmir was introduced.
- As per the new definition a person residing in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir for at least 15 years or has studied for a period of seven years in Jammu and Kashmir and appeared in Class 10 or 12 examinations will now be eligible to be a permanent resident of the UT.
- This new rule was issued under the Section 3A of the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Adaptation of State Laws Order 2020, under the Jammu and Kashmir civil services decentralisation and recruitment Act.
- 4. Which organization has launched a competition titled "United Against Corona- Express through Art" _____ Indian Council for Cultural Relations.

Note:

- ➤ The aim of the competition is to unite citizens across the world.
- ➤ The competition was announced by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and this soft-power initiative is being organized by ICCR.
- > ICCR invites Indians and world citizens to submit their work of art expressing their emotions, feelings, ideas and innovative thoughts on the COVID- 19.
- **5.** The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has extended the existing foreign trade policy (2015-20) _____ March **2021.**

Note:

- > The existing Policy came into effect on 1st April, 2015, is valid for 5 years and was originally up to March 31, 2020.
- Now, the commerce ministry will continue to provide the relief under various export promotion schemes such as Duty Free Import Authorisation (DFIA) and Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) by granting an extension of another one year.
- **6.** Donations for PM-CARES Fund granted tax exemption of _____100%.

Note:

2 | Page





- the donations made under newly-formed Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations Fund (PM-CARES FUND) to provide assistance to the persons affected by the COVID-19 outbreak, are made eligible for 100% deduction under section 80G of the Income Tax (IT) Act, 1961.
- For this, the provisions of the IT Act are amended through the Taxation and other Laws (Relaxation of Certain Provisions) Ordinance, 2020.
- 7. National Cadet Corps (NCC) has offered its volunteer cadets to assist the civilian authorities to fight COVID-19 under ______ 'Exercise NCC Yogdan'.

- ➤ It has issued guidelines for the temporary employment of its cadets to enhance the operations of various organizations involved in relief efforts & fighting the pandemic.
- The tasks for NCC cadets include- manning of helpline, call centres; distribution of relief materials, medicines, food, essential commodities; community assistance; data management and queue & traffic management.
- **8.** To build a portable and lightweight emergency ventilator system Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST) has partnered with ______ 'Wipro 3D'.

Note:

- The ventilator system will be based on Artificial Manual Breathing Unit (AMBU) to assist the breathing of the critical patients who have no access to ICU.
- This ventilator system is essentially a hand held device also called as AMBU bag or bag-valve-mask (BVM) to provide positive pressure ventilation to a corona patients with breathing difficulties with a controlled rate of expiration, inspiratory to expiratory ratio, Tidal volume etc.
- **9.** The COVID- 19 National Preparedness Survey 2020 was conducted in how many districts ______**410**.

Note:

- ➤ The COVID-19 National Preparedness Survey 2020 was conducted in 410 Districts in the Country within 3 working days beginning on March 25, 2020.
- The survey was conducted with responses from 410 civil servants who are providing field level leadership.
- **10.** To fight COVID-19 Civil services associations form an initiative called _____ 'Caruna'.
 - Associations representing officers of Central Civil Services, including the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) and the Indian Police Service (IPS), have created an initiative called 'CARUNA.
 - ➤ The CARUNA stands for Civil Services Associations Reach to Support in Natural Disasters.
 - This is to assist and supplement the government's efforts to battle against Corona Virus (COVID-19).
- **11.** The National Health Authority (NHA) partnered with which taxi company to provide 24/7 free transport services to India's frontline healthcare workers ____Uber India.

Note:

- ➤ Initially, Uber will facilitate the provision of 150 cars free of cost to support medical facilities in Delhi, Noida, Ghaziabad, Kanpur, Lucknow, Prayagraj, Patna via UberMedic service.
- The new cars supplied to NHA will be equipped with roof-to-floor plastic sheeting enclosing the driver's seat, thereby acting as a protective barrier between rider and driver.
- **12.** Name the operation launched by the Indian Air Force (IAF) to air-lifted 6.2 tonnes of essential medical supplies to Maldives via transport aircraft C-130J as assistance in the fight against the virus ________'Operation Sanjeevani'.

Note:

- Medicines including influenza vaccines, anti-viral drugs such as Lopinavir arid Ritonavir & other useful items were purchased by the Maldives' State Trading Organisation (STO) from 8 suppliers in India.
- ➤ But due to the 21-day lockdown imposed due to the COVID-19 epidemic, it could not be possible to take them to Maldives by any other means.
- ➤ India has already sent a 14-member Rapid Response Team of doctors and specialists to Maldives to set up a viral testing laboratory.
- ➤ In addition, 5.5 tons of essential medicines were presented as gifts to the Maldives by the Government of India (GoI).
- **13.** To deal with Covid-19 epidemic the central government has constituted a 10-member group under the chairmanship of **Amitabh Kant.**

Note:

The work of this group will primarily identify issues through 3 groups of stakeholders, the empowered group set up for coordination with private sector, NGOs and international organisations then present effective measures to address solutions to the issues related to the formulation of plans for counter-activities related to COVID-19.





14. To help India fight against COVID-19 the Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched the initiative called _____ "Lifeline UDAN".

Note:

- > Under Lifeline UDAN initiative of Ministry of Civil Aviation, 132 cargo flights have been operated so far across the country to transport medical cargo including to remote and hilly areas.
- With support from Air India, Alliance Air, IAF and private airlines, medical supplies of more than 184 tons have been delivered till date during lockdown period.
- 15. Department of Science & Technology, Government of India has approved to set up a rapid response centre "CAWACH".

Note:

- CAWACH stands for Centre for Augmenting WAR with COVID-19 Health Crisis. Rapid response centre "CAWACH" has been set up at a total cost of Rs 56 Crore at Society for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (SINE), IIT Bombay.
- > Centre for Augmenting WAR with COVID-19 Health Crisis (CAWACH) is a rapid response centre which has been set up to scout, evaluate and support the innovations and start-ups that address COVID-19 challenges.
- > The CAWACH centre will support the potential startups by providing financial assistance as well as fund deployment to target innovations that are deployable in the market within next 6 months.
- 16. Which Naval Dockyard has designed 'Portable Multi-feed Oxygen Manifold (MOM)' _____ Naval Dockvard Visakhapatnam.

Note:

- This oxygen manifold is designed to supply oxygen to multiple patients at a time, which could prove helpful in a contingency created by COVID-19 spread.
- The preliminary trials were conducted at MI Room at NDV, followed by rapid trials at the Naval Hospital INHS Kalyani, where it was successfully installed within 30 minutes.
- > The Navy personnel from the Eastern Naval Command (ENC) have developed a 'Portable Multi-feed Oxygen Manifold (MOM)' using a six-way radial header fitted to a single cylinder.
- **17.** Name the official COVID-19 tracking app that has been launched by the Government of India Aarogya Setu.

Note:

- The "Aarogya Setu" app has been developed by the National e-Governance Division of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology in association with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- > The Government of India has launched the mobile application "Aarogya Setu" to connect essential health services with the people of India to fight against COVID-19.
- 18. To help foreign tourists who are stuck in various parts of the country the Ministry of Tourism has launched a portal 'Stranded in India'.

Note:

- The portal consists of information around COVID-19 helpline numbers and call centres that foreign tourists can reach out for help, information around Ministry of External Affairs control centres along with their contact information and information around state-based/regional tourism support infrastructure.
- 19. Union Cabinet headed by Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi has approved an ordinance to cut in the salaries of all Members of Parliament by _____30%.

- ➤ It also provisioned a two-year suspension (2020-21 and 2021-22) of the MP Local Area Development (MPLAD) scheme so that the amount saved can go to the Consolidated Fund of India to fight COVID-19.
- This announcement was made by Prakash Javadkar, Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting.
- 20. National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has achieved the highest ever highway construction feat with an accomplishment of 3,979 km.
 - ► However, it has completed 88% of highway construction against the target of building 4,500 km highways in FY-20. In the FY 2018-19, NHAI constructed 3,380 km of National Highways.
 - > The government has initiated a highway development programme in 2015 namely Bharatmala Pariyojana, which includes development of about 65,000 km of NHs.
 - Under Phase-I of the programme, the government has approved implementation of 34,800 km of national highways projects with an outlay of Rs 5.35 lakh crore in a period of five years
- **21.** What is the name that has been given to mega ONLINE innovation challenge launched by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) _____ SAMADHAN.





- The innovation cell of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) and All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has launched a mega ONLINE challenge called "SAMADHAN" to fight against covid19.
- ➤ Under the "Samadhan" challenge, the students and faculty will be motivated for doing new experiments and new discoveries and provide them with a strong base leading to a spirit of experimentation and discovery.
- **22.** Which platform has been launched by the government of India for all front-line workers to equip them with the training and updates in coping with Pandemic _____ iGOT e-learning platform.

Note:

- ➤ Giving COVID 19 training to other potential second line workforce, India will be better prepared for the emergent situations.
- The target group is Doctors, Nurses, Paramedics, Hygiene Workers, Technicians, Auxiliary Nursing Midwives (ANMs), Central & State Govt. Officers, Civil Defence Officials, various Police Organisations, National Cadet Corps (NCC), Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS), National Service Scheme (NSS), Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS), Bharat Scouts & Guides (BSG) and other volunteers.
- The platform delivers curated, role-specific content, to each learner at his place of work or home and to any device of his choice.
- **23.** Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has removed export restrictions on 24 pharma ingredients including 12 active pharmaceutical ingredients, it operates under which ministry _____ Ministry of Commerce & Industry.

Note:

- In this regard, amendment has been made in the chapter 29 and 30 of the Schedule 2 of the ITCHS (Indian Trade Clarification based on Harmonized System) Export Policy, 2018 which is related APIs and formulations.
- It should be noted that the outbound shipments of paracetamol and its formulations continue to remain restricted or need a license from the government to get exported
- **24.** Which ministry has divide the health centers into 3 categories namely- COVID Care Centre, Dedicated COVID Health Centre and Dedicated COVID Hospital _____ Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Note:

- Under these facilities, it will be ensured that the capacity of hospital beds is used only for moderate and severe patients of infection.
- > Patients suspected of corona or patients with mild or very mild symptoms will be placed in Covid Care Center.
- > Patients with moderate symptoms of coronavirus will be admitted in Dedicated COVID Health Centre
- > Serious patients infected with the corona virus will be admitted in Dedicated COVID Hospital.
- **25.** Name the mobile doctor booth created by the West Central Railway's Coach Rehabilitation Workshop (CRWS) **CHARAK.**

Note:

- > This is to eliminate the possibility of physical contact between the doctor and the coronavirus (COVID-19) infected patient.
- A viral barrier chamber has been built in the railway compartment itself, through which doctors will be able to examine patients without direct physical contact.
- This system will prove to be very helpful as there is a shortage of PPE and medical staff at this time.
- > The mobile booth can go to remote villages & can also be taken up to 500 meters by hand.
- **26.** Hindustan Unilever has partnered with which organization to support India to combat COVID-19 _____UNICEF.

Note:

- Hindustan Unilever has partnered with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to support India to combat COVID-19.
- > The partnership aims to initiate a mass communication campaign with an objective of informing and empowering the general public against the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The mass communication campaign titled '#BreakTheChain' or '#VirusKiKadiTodo' will unite the technical knowledge of UNICEF with the marketing expertise and scale of HUL.
- **27.** What amount the government of India has approved for the 'India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health System Preparedness Package ______ **Rs.15000 crores.**

- The package is to build health infrastructure in states and UTs till March 2024.
- ➤ Of the 15,000 crore, Centre would release Rs.7,774 crore for immediate COVID-19 Emergency Response use till June 2020 and the rest will be set for medium-term support of 1-4 years.





28. To launch a digital campaign to ensure work safety of Tribal Gatherers TRIFED has collaborated with WHO and ____UNICEF.

Note:

- This is to ensure tribal gatherers carry on their work safely during the collection and harvest of Minor Forest Produce (MFP)/Non Timber Forest Produce (NTFP).
- This collaboration will promote a digital campaign for Self Help Groups (SHGs) highlighting the importance of Social Distancing
- This will further create awareness among the tribal community and also provide Do's and Don'ts Advisories relating to NTFP during Covid-19.
- **29.** The Supreme Court (SC) of India has extended the tenure of chairperson of Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT) _____Justice Shiva Kirti Singh.

Note:

- This decision has been taken by the bench of Justices L Nageswara Rao, Sanjay Kishan Kaul and Deepak Gupta headed by Chief Justice Sharad Arvind Bobde.
- > The bench also expressed concern over the delay in appointment of administrative and technical members of TDSAT and asked Solicitor General Tushar Mehta to answer on behalf of Centre.
- **30.** To improve the online education ecosystem of India Union Human Resource Development Ministry has launched the campaign _____ 'Bharat Padhe Online'

Note:

- The campaign aims to invite all the best brains in India to share suggestions or solutions directly with the HRD Ministry, to overcome the obstacles of online education while promoting the available digital education platforms.
- Educators across the country can also contribute with their expertise in the field of education, where a conversation may be initiated about the limitation of the current online education scenario, challenges faced by them in traditional classrooms that can be addressed through online education & the structure of a perfect online education ecosystem.
- **31.** Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has allowed the use of a diagnostic machine used to test drug-resistant TB (Tuberculosis) for conducting coronavirus tests namely _____ **TruenatTM**.

Note:

- Currently, India is using Real Time-Polymerase Chain Reaction test recommended by the US and approved by the FDA (Food and Drug Administration).
- > During the investigations, samples will be taken from the nose and throat and sent to the viral transport medium (VTM) provided with the kit.
- Earlier ICMR has also recommended the use of the Truenat beta CoV test on Truelab workstation, which is used to detect drug resistant TB.
- **32.** Which railway station becomes first station of IR to install sanitizing tunnel **Ahmedabad.**

Note:

- The Ahmedabad railway station at Kalupur, Gujarat of Western Railway became the first station of Indian Railways (IR) to install a Walk Through Mass Sanitizing Tunnel to ensure the safety of staff and passengers in the view of the COVID-19.
- The tunnel was inaugurated by Ahmedabad DRM (Divisional Railway Manager) Deepak Jha.

Important News - State

1. Which state topped in the all-India level for micro-irrigation (MI), under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) Tamil Nadu.

Note:

- > Tamil Nadu topped with coverage of 2,06,853.25 ha for the year financial year 2019-20.
- The state is followed by Karnataka and Gujarat with 1,41,103.56 Ha and 1,08,322.00 Ha of coverage respectively.
- On the other hand, the cumulative total coverage of MI during 2015-2020 has been topped by Karnataka (8,15,690.31 ha) followed by Andhra Pradesh (7,17,421.08 ha) and Gujarat (7,00,858.35 ha)
- 2. A 'Modi Kitchen' has been set up in which state of India _____Tamil Nadu.

Note:

6 | Page

The kitchen which has a capacity to serve 500 meals per day and will remain operational till 14th April 2020.





- > The Modi Kitchen aims to deliver food parcels within a range of radius of 10 kms and has been set up in one of the main shopping areas of the city.
- This initiative has been taken by the functionaries of the Common Service Centre amid the lockdown due to COVID-19 pandemic.
- 3. To provide information about the symptoms of COVID-19 to the people at their doorsteps which state has launched "Active Case Finding Campaign" _____Himachal Pradesh.

- Under the "Active Case Finding Campaign", the information would be provided to the people by the health workers.
- Every ASHA worker with a two-person team will reach out every house in the village and collect health information of every person.
- ➤ The collected information would be shared by the team with the department via Google form.
- **4.** Which state government has launched a mobile application 'Corona Watch' _____Karnataka.

Note:

- The mobile application aims to track the movement history of persons tested positive, before their detection in order to take precautions and to contain the coronavirus outbreak.
- The app will also provide the date and time of visit to spots by the patients. 'Corona Watch' app also comprises a list of government designated first response hospitals for COVID-19 where citizen with symptoms can visit.
- **5.** Which state has celebrated its formation day on April 1, 2020 _____Odisha.

Note:

- Utkal Divas (Odisha Day) is celebrated every year on 1st April all over Odisha.
- > Odisha Day is celebrated in the memory of the formation of the state as a separate province on 1 April 1936.
- This year marks the 83rd Utkal Divas or the foundation day of Odisha.
- 6. Which state government has started distributing pensions at the doorstep to its 58,44,240 beneficiaries _____Andhra Pradesh.

Note:

- They using its 2.5 lakh volunteer eliminating the need for pensioners to step out of their homes. The aim is to encourage beneficiaries to stay at home and avoid stepping out.
- > The beneficiaries have been receiving different amounts as per the defined categories.
- From old age persons to fishermen and folk artists, the pension will help every section amid the ongoing 21-day lockdown.
- 7. The Odisha government has launched an online cultural competition "Mo Prativa" in collaboration with the _____ UNICEF. Note:
 - > The cultural competition "Mo Prativa" has been launched in order to keep children engaged at home during the lockdown period.
 - > The competition will enable childern to participate in various activies such as painting, writing of slogans, short stories, poems etc.
- 8. In which state 'V Safe Tunnel' has been installed to sanitize people ______ Telangana.

Note:

- > The sanitising tunnel has been installed at the state Director General of Police's office.
- A unique disinfectant named 'V Safe Tunnel' sanitizes people from any possible bacteria and other microbes within 20 seconds.
- The 'V Safe Tunnel' aims to minimise the local transmission of Coronavirus in the state by providing maximum protection to people passing through the tunnel in around 20 seconds.
- 9. As per the report published by Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) for the year ended March 31, 2018 which state commits highest crime related to the environment in the country ______Rajasthan.
 - In accordance with the report by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) for the year ended March 31, 2018, 40.59% of the crimes related to the environment in the country were committed in Rajasthan (RJ) during 2014-16.
 - ➤ The major crimes were violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Wildlife Protect Act, 1972 which resulted in using of forest land for non-forest purposes without approval of government and capturing, poisoning, snaring or trapping of wild animals respectively.



www.grade	gradeup	
10. Which Note:	becomes the first state to extend Covid-19 lockdown till April 30Odisha.	
>	Amid unconfirmed speculation about the nationwide lockdown due to end on April 14, Odisha has become the Indian state to extend the ongoing lockdown.	ne first
>	In a statement Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik said that his government has decided to extend the lockdown print of the control	period
11. Which Note:	becomes the first state to commence clinical trial plasma therapy treatmentKerala.	
>	The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has given approval to Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST), Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala,	
>	This is to commence convalescent plasma therapy, which uses antibodies from the blood of cured patients, to critically ill COVID- 19 cases on a trial basis.	o treat
	Therefore, Kerala becomes the first state in the country to start clinical trial plasma therapy treatment	
	state announced a 5T plan which includes- Testing, Tracing, Treatment, Teamwork & Tracking and monitorin l the spread of COVID-19 in the stateDelhi .	g to
Note:	if the spread of COVID-19 in the statebein.	
>	Testing- Only through testing, the infected person can be detected & aggressive testing is crucial to prevent t spread of the virus.	:he
>	Tracing- Persons associated with a positive patient are identified and asked for self-quarantine.	
	Treatment- If someone is infected with COVID-19, they will be provided treatment.	
>	Teamwork- The virus can be combated & defeated through teamwork.	
>	Tracking & Monitoring- Active tracking & monitoring the developments will help to take action to deal with spread of the virus.	
	state government has launched "Operation SHIELD" in identified Containment Areas of the state to control the	e
-	l of the coronavirus pandemic Delhi.	
Note:		
	It deals with sealing, home quarantine, isolation & tracking, essential supply of commodities, local sanitisation door-to-door health checkups.	on and
>	S- Sealing of the immediate area/surroundings after geographical marking.	
>	H– Home quarantine of all the people living in the area. I– Isolation and tracing of people who have been first and second contacts.	
	E– Essential supply of commodities is ensured.	
	L– Local sanitisation of the area by authorities.	
	D– Door-to-door health checks of everyone living in the area.	
	state Government has launched a new initiative "Food Bank" based on the theme 'Help End Hunger Today'	
Manip		
Note:		
>	The food bank will provide food items (such as rice, aata, maida, daal, edible oil, salt, potato, onions, milk, bis	scuits,
	packaged drinking water), hand sanitisers and face masks to drug rehabilitation centres and people living in	
	Imphal East District affected by HIV (human immunodeficiency virus).	
	state government has launched an app called "COVIDCARE"Arunachal Pradesh.	
Note:		
>	The newly developed "COVIDCARE" app is an effort of the Arunachal Pradesh government to combat COVID-The "COVIDCARE" app has been launched for the people who are quarantined, asymptomatic or COVID-19 patients, facilitating them various facilities through the app.	·19.

Important News - World

1. As per the UNCTAD report titled World will go into recession except _____India and China. Note:

8 | Page





- According to the latest UN report the world economy will go into recession except India and China due to coronavirus pandemic.
- ➤ With two-thirds of the world's population living in developing countries facing unprecedented economic damage from the coronavirus crisis.
- ➤ The exporting countries will face \$2 trillion to \$3 trillion drop in investment from overseas in the next two years.
- ➤ The downward growth in the emerging economies was already predicted in the last quarter of 2019 but the corona virus outbreak has made it worsen.
- ➤ It should be noted that the analysis did not give an explanation to why and how India and China will be the exceptions in the times of world recession.
- 2. The World Bank in its Economic Update for East Asia and Pacific (EAP) titled "East Asia and Pacific in the Time of COVID-19" stated that poverty is estimated to increase _____ 11 Million.

- > The World Bank in report says that the economic fallout from the coronavirus pandemic could drive an additional 11 million people into poverty in East Asia and the Pacific.
- In the worse-case scenario outlined by the Washington-based financial institution, the region could suffer its sharpest downturn in more than two decades, plunging much of Asia into a prolonged recession.
- ➤ The bank's baseline forecast projects that regional growth could slow to 2.1% in 2020, compared to estimated growth of 5.8% in 2019.
- ➤ However, under its worse case projection, the region's economy could contract by 0.5%, creating the potential for an extended crisis.
- **3.** United Nation's COP 26 climate change summit postponed till _____ **2021.**

Note:

- The conference was planned to take place from 9-19 November 2020, in Glasgow, Scotland in the United Kingdom (UK).
- > Pre-COP and 'Youth for the Climate' event were also postponed supposed to be held in Italy.
- This decision has been taken by the COP Bureau of the UNFCCC after discussion with the UK and Italian partners.
- 4. What amount has been offered by the World Bank to the Indian government for a proposed India COVID-19 emergency response and health systems preparedness project ______ \$1 billion.

Note:

- This four-year project aims to develop the preparedness of India's health care systems in the time of the pandemic.
- The idea of the project will be to respond and mitigate the COVID-19 threat and strengthen national systems for public health preparedness in India, as per the project document.
- > The World Bank funding is from its COVID-19 fast-track facility where both the entities (World Bank and the government of India) will work on following the best international practice.
- 5. What amount has been announced by the aid agency USAID to India to fight against Coronavirus _____ USD 2.9 million.
 Note:
 - The funds announced are going to help India in its fight against COVID-19 and to also provide care for those who are affected and help the local communities with the tools to stop the pandemic spreading in the country.
 - The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and other relevant agencies, is working closely with India to support the country's response to the pandemic.
 - ➤ The US Agency for International Development (USAID) is one of the leading aid agencies globally.
- 6. What amount has been allocated by the SAARC Development Fund for COVID-19 projects _____USD 5 million.

Note:

- ➤ The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Development Fund (SDF) has allocated USD 5 million (about Rs 38 crore) for COVID-19 projects in 8 member countries, in an effort to mitigate the financial losses and severe socio-economic impact of the pandemic.
- 7. Which country has become the world leader in international patent filings via WIPO's Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) _____China.

- China has filled a total of 58,990 applications surpassing the United States (US), which was at top spot since the PCT began operations in 1978.
- ➤ It should be noted that for the third consecutive year, Chinese telecoms giant Huawei topped the global ranking in 2019 with 4,411 PCT applications.



- ➤ It was followed by Mitsubishi of Japan, which made 2,661 filings, Samsung of South Korea with 2,334 filings and Qualcomm of the US with 2,127 filings
- 8. Which organization has signed an memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Consumer Unity and Trust Society ______UNIDO.

- The MoU, valid for 5 years, aims to create a joint technical co-operation initiatives to support ongoing activities in achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goal (SDG).
- As per the MoU, CUTS will support e-commerce as a platform to accelerate Member States' transition to the digital economy and adapt to the 4th Industrial Revolution.
- ▶ Both the agencies also decided to implement a BRICS e-commerce project that will build upon the success of UNIDO's pilot e-commerce project implemented in the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) countries from 2016 to 2018.

Honor & Awards

1.	Which manufacturing unit of Indian Railway has set the Limca Book of Records for producing record 431 locomotives in
	the financial year 2019-2020 Chittaranjan Locomotive Works.

Note:

- This was achieved despite novel coronavirus (COVID-19) restrictions that creating disruptions during the current financial year (FY20).
- ➤ The unit has surpassed its own previous year (2018-2019) record when it produced 402 locomotives in 297 working days.
- CLW's Locomotive production has increased 75% over the last 6 years period from 250 in 2014-15 to 431 in 2019-20 in line to support 100% Electrification and 'Make in India' initiative of the central government.
- 2. Which NGO has been awarded the Skoll Award for Social Entrepreneurship 2020 in recognition of its exceptional work in the maternal and child health space in India _____ ARMMAN.

Note:

- ARMMAN, an India-based non-profit organization (NPO), has been awarded the Skoll Award for Social Entrepreneurship 2020 in recognition of its exceptional work in the maternal and child health space in India, along with 4 other awardees.
- ARMMAN is the only organization from Asia and Africa, selected from 700 organizations.
- 3. Who has been conferred with 'Hero to Animals Award' by animal rights body PETA India _____ Naveen Patnaik.

Note:

- ➤ He has been awarded by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) for allocating funds to feed community animals in Odisha during the lockdown over the novel coronavirus pandemic.
- The lockdown has not only affected people but animals as well. In the concern that the animals do not go starving in such conditions, CM approved of Rs 54 lakhs from a relief fund to feed animals of the community.
- **4.** Who has been named as the leading cricketer of the world in 2020 by Wisden _____Ben Stokes.

Note:

- England's all-rounder Ben Stokes has been named as the leading cricketer in the world 2020 by Wisden.
- Andrew Flintoff was the last English player to win the award in 2005. Ben Stokes was the hero of the Cricket World Cup 2019 final as he guided England to their maiden triumph in the 50-over showpiece tournament at Lord's on July 14.
- 5. Which female cricketer has been named the Wisden's Leading Female Cricketer in the World 2020 _____ Ellyse Perry. Note:

> Australia's Ellyse Perry has been named the Wisden's Leading Female Cricketer in the World.

Perry scored the highest runs and took the most wickets as Australia successfully retained their Women's Ashes title against England last year.

Banking & Financial Awareness

1. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has increased the foreign portfolio investment (FPI) limit in corporate bonds to 15%.

10 | Page



- ➤ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has increased the foreign portfolio investment (FPI) limit in corporate bonds to 15% of outstanding stock for FY 2020-21 from 9%to strengthen the segment of the corporate bonds.
- The limit has been increased under sections 10(4) and 11(1) of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (42 of 1999).
- > Apart from raising FPI limit in corporate bonds, RBI has also enabled a Fully Accessible Route (FAR) for investment by non-residents in government securities.
- 2. Which bank has launched Whatsapp banking to assist its customers in meeting the banking needs from homes during the lockdown _____ICICI Bank.

Note:

- Any existing ICICI Bank Savings Account customer on WhatsApp can access the new service.
- ➤ The customer who has only an ICICI credit card can use the service to block/ unblock the card.
- The Non-ICICI Bank customers can also use this service to know the nearby location of the Bank's branches / ATMs.
- **3.** To launch 'COVID-19 protection insurance cover' for shopkeepers, in a 1st, BhartPe partners with _____ICICI Lombard.

Note:

- According to this policy, 100% of the sum assured will be paid to the policyholder for the diagnosis of Coronavirus. This includes expenses incurred after hospitalization.
- The ICICI Lombard Health Cover, available on the BharatPe app, provided at a reasonable cost & offers a premium starting from Rs 199 and a sum assured of Rs 25,000 and value-added benefits.
- **4.** Asian Development Bank (ADB) has signed a loan agreement worth of \$60 million with affordable housing loan provider _____ **Aavas Financiers Ltd.**

Note:

- The grant, provided under the ADB's supporting access to housing finance for women and in lagging states project, will help increase higher rates of property ownership for women in lower-income groups.
- At present, India saw the acute housing shortage of 18.7 million units in urban region & 43.7 million units in rural region, that mostly affecting low-income groups, who are facing major problems in receiving mortgages including a lack of documents to prove their incomes.
- 5. Standard & Poor Global Ratings has slashed down India's growth forecast for financial year 2020-21 to _____3.5%.

Note:

- > The growth rate has been slashed due to the deteriorating credit conditions in the Asia-Pacific region as a result of Covid-19 outbreak.
- ➤ It also expects a sharp growth at 7.3% in the Indian economy for FY22 & also has lowered India's growth rate to 5.2% from 5.7% before lockdown.
- 6. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in consultation with the Government of India (GoI), has hiked the limit of Ways and Means Advances (WMA) for the first half of the financial year 2020-21 for the centre to _____ Rs 1.2 lakh crore.

Note:

- ➤ The increment will help state & central government to overtake the current mismatch in the cash flow of their receipts and payments & will step up expenditure in the social sector, including health and sanitation at the time of outbreak of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.
- 7. For the proposed a 4-year COVID-19 emergency response & health systems preparedness project in India the World Bank has offered _____ USD 1 billion.

Note:

> The project aims to develop the preparedness of India's health care systems in the time of the pandemic & also to respond and mitigate the pandemic.



- > The project measures the progress on key indicators, such as the proportion of laboratory-confirmed cases of Covid-19 who responded within 48 hours and the proportion of samples submitted for the confirmed Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus-2.
- **8.** PhonePe has launched India's first COVID-19 hospitalization insurance policy called Corona Care in collaboration with _____Bajaj Allianz General Insurance.

- > The policy will provide an insurance cover of 50,000 on a one-time payment of Rs 156 for people who are under 55 years of age.
- The insured person will be eligible for the claim only if he/she is diagnosed with COVID-19 after 15 days from the date of purchase of this insurance.
- > The policy will be valid at any hospital that is offering treatment for covid-19. It will also cover 30 days of expenses on pre-hospitalization and post-care medical treatment.
- 9. Which bank has listed green bonds of USD 100 million under its USD 10 billion global medium-term note programme on India International Exchange Limited's (INX) Global Securities Market Green Platform (GSM) _____State Bank of India.

Note:

- > SBI has adopted the green bond framework with the objective of creating a positive impact on the environment & this transaction is considered as part of the sustainability journey.
- > The funds raised by green bonds are used to finance green projects that do not discharge toxic elements.
- **10.** The United Nations (UN) Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) World Economic Forecasting Model estimates that the global economy could shrink by ____1%.

Note:

- The UN has also warned if the restrictions on economic activities are extended without adequate fiscal responses, the decline could be even deeper.
- ➤ The analysis estimated best & worst scenarios for global growth in 2020
- 11. According to the Fitch Solutions India's fiscal deficit is expected to go up to what per cent of GDP _____ 6.2 %.

Note:

- The reason for this is the economic stimulus package given to deal with the economic impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) epidemic.
- ➤ The government had set a target of limiting the fiscal deficit to 3.5 % of GDP during the current financial year FY 2020-21
- **12.** Asian Development Bank (ADB) in its Asian Development Outlook (ADO) 2020 has forecasted a slowdown in Indian economic growth to _____**4%.**

Note:

- For FY 21-22 it has predicted Indian economic growth to 6.2%.
- ➤ On the region front, Asia and Pacific are expected to decline to 2.2% in FY 20-21 and then rebound to 6.2% in 2021.
- Also, the growth in South Asia will downgrade to 4.1% in FY 20-21 and then recover to 6% in FY 21-22.
- 13. Fitch Ratings has trimmed the Indian growth forecast for fiscal year (FY) 2020-2021 to _____ 2%.

Note:

- ➤ This would be the slowest growth in India over the past 30 years.
- On the global front, Fitch has predicted a contraction of 1.9% in GDP (Gross Domestic Product) growth for FY 20-21
- **14.** The government of India has nominated Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) and which private sector bank for for the collection of donations PM-CARES Fund _____HDFC Bank.

Note:

➤ The contributions can be made by RTGS, NEFT, IMPS, cheques and demand drafts were drawn in favour of PM-CARES Fund.







- ➤ One can also remit contributions directly by electronic clearing system (ECS) to the designated savings bank account of nominated banks.
- ➤ It should be noted that all donations are entitled to 100% income tax exemption under Section 80G of the Income Tax Act, 1961.
- **15.** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to increase the number of days that a State/UT can continue to overdraft to _____**21 working days.**

- > Due to coronavirus pandemic States/UTs are facing cash flow mismatches therefore RBI has increased the number of days of overdraft from 14 working days to 21 working days.
- In addition, the number of days that a State/UT can overdraft in a quarter has also been increased to 50 working days from the current stipulation of 36 working days.
- ➤ The new arrangement is effective immediately and is valid until September 30
- **16.** Airtel Payments Bank has collaborated with which General Insurance to offer financial protection for COVID-19 via two different health insurance plans _____ Bharti AXA General Insurance.

Note:

- ➤ The plan named "Bharti AXA Group Health Assure Policy" offers a lump sum benefit of Rs 25,000 and the other plan "Group Hospital Cash" will offer a daily benefit of starting Rs 500.
- > It should be noted that both are 'Need-Based Insurance' covers with a validity of one year and there is no mention about the minimum and maximum age limit to avail this policy.
- **17.** The Punjab National Bank Housing Finance (PNBHF) has signed agreement with which agency to raise to provide loans to affordable housing segment ______ **Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).**

Note:

- It is a 5 year long term loan which helps to balance the company's Asset Liability Management (ALM) position.
- ➤ It is JICA's first debt funding in India's housing finance sector.
- **18.** Which public sector bank has initiated four schemes for agri sector to tackle COVID-19 impact _____ **Bank of Baroda** (**BoB**).

Note:

- The Bank of Baroda (BoB) has initiated four agro schemes for Women Self Help Groups (SHGs), Farmer Producer Organizations (FPO/FPC) and farming community.
- ➤ It should be noted only the existing borrowers of BoB whether individual or FPO or SHG are eligible for the schemes.
- > The four schemes are
 - 1. Additional Assurance to SHGs-COVID19
 - 2. Baroda Emergency Credit Line for Farmer Producer Organization (FPO/FPC)
 - 3. Baroda Special Scheme for existing Agriculture Investment Credit borrowers
 - **4.** Baroda Special Scheme for existing BKCC borrowers impacted by COVID-19
- **19.** The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has announced to provide emergency working capital to Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) up to _____ one crore.

Note:

- ➤ The SIDBI Assistance to Facilitate Emergency response against coronavirus (SAFE) loan limit has been increased to 2 crores from Rs 50 lakhs.
- ➤ It is a financial assistance program launched by SIDBI for (Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises) MSMEs that engage in the manufacturing of products (hand sanitizers, masks, gloves, head gear, bodysuits, shoe covers, ventilators, goggles, among others) or offer services to combat the novel coronavirus.
- **20.** According to the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) report India's GDP growth for FY 20-21 is likely to be declined to _____4.8%.



- As per the report the Economic growth for the country could stand at 5.1% for fiscal year 2021-22.
- ➤ It should be noted that our Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had projected India's GDP growth of 6-6.5% while presenting economic survey 2020-21, up from 5% estimate for 2019-20.
- **21.** Goldman Sachs lowered India's growth forecast for Financial Year 2020-21 from 3.3% to ______ **1.6%.**

- ➤ It stated that the revised growth will be deeper when compared to the recession India has experienced in 1970's, 1980's & 2009.
- Many analysts like Fitch, Moody are downgrading India's growth rate due to the pandemic.
- **22.** Which Small Finance Bank has launched DigiGen a digital banking platform to open savings account & fixed deposit digitally ______ Jana Small Finance Bank.

Note:

- It is a 3 step process to open an account, where the customers are eligible for 4.5% interest rates on savings accounts with no minimum balance and up to 7.5% interest on fixed deposits.
- > The new digital solution offers many features including online bill payment, instant cash transfer and airport lounge access on a debit card.
- 23. Which bank has extended its strategic bancassurance partnership with Max Life Insurance for five more years _____Yes Bank.

Note:

- As a part of partnership, the products of the life insurer sold through the branches of Yes Bank. Customers are offered with a broad range of need-based products and services.
- ➤ It should be noted that the companies began their partnership in February 2005, and has about 280,000 policies. It has settled death claims of more than Rs 70 crore and offered protection worth Rs 34,500 crore to policy holders and their families.
- **24.** Which countries central bank has raised its stake in Housing Development Finance Corporation Limited (HDFC) from 0.8% to 1.01% _____ China (People's Bank of China).

Note:

- The stake raising process was done as a secondary market transaction. The stakes comprises of 17.49 million shares of the the country's largest mortgage lender HDFC.
- After the transaction, the closing price of the Chinese central bank's stake in HDFC was Rs 2,976 crore.
- **25.** The twitter campaign urging bank customers to adopt digital modes of payment that are convenient and safe has been launched by _____Reserve Bank of India.

Note:

- > RBI emphasised on transacting digitally as it gives the convenience of making payments anytime and anywhere.
- Through the campaign, RBI reiterated the multiple digital payment options such as NEFT, IMPS, UPI and BBPS that are available 24*7.
- ➤ The face of the campaign is Bollywood actor Amitabh Bachchan.

Obituaries

1. Professor Arjun Dev passed away recently; he was a veteran _____Historian.

- He served as a historian at the National Council of Education Research and Training (NCERT). He also co-wrote some of the extremely popular textbooks with his wife Indira Arjun Dev.
- > Arjun Dev served as Member Secretary of the National Steering Committee on Textbook evaluation.



- > One of his books, which was discontinued by NCERT and was republished by Orient Blackswan as "History of the World: From the Late 19th to the Early 20th century", has remained a widely read text.
- 2. Name the Nobel Prize- winning physicist who expanded the world's understanding of magnetism, superconductivity and the structure of matter, passed away _____Philip Warren Anderson.

- The American theoretical physicist graduated from Harvard University in 1949 & then worked for Bell Telephone Laboratories until he began teaching at Princeton and the University of Cambridge.
- Anderson received Nobel Prize in Physics in 1977, along with Nevill Francis Mott of Britain & the American John Hasbrouck van Vleck, for their contribution on fundamental theoretical investigations of the electronic structure of magnetic and disordered systems.
- 3. Padma Shri awardee and former "Hazoori Raagi" at the Golden Temple, passed away is _____Bhai Nirmal Singh Khalsa.

 Note:
 - ➤ He has the knowledge of all 31 "raags" in the Gurbani of the Guru Granth Sahib (Sikh Holy Book).
 - In 2009, Singh received the Padma Shri award from the Government of India for his contribution of services in the field of arts and he was the first Hazoori Raagi to receive the award.
- 4. Name the American singer-songwriter, record producer and bassist passed away due to Coronavirus _____Adam Lyons Schlesinger.

Note:

- ➤ He was the co-founder of the 2000s pop-rock band "Foundations of Wayne" & known for co-writing the band's 2003 hit "Stacy's Mom".
- Schlesinger won 3 Emmy awards, two for original music and lyrics for the 2011 and 2012 Tony Awards and, another for original music and lyrics for "Crazy Ex-Girlfriend" in 2015.
- ➤ "A Colbert Christmas", co-written by Schlesinger & David Javerbaum, won him the 2009 Grammy Award for Best Comedy Album.
- 5. Name the world renowned virologist passed away in Johannesburg, South Africa _____ Gita Ramjee.

Note:

- She was the stellar vaccine scientist and an HIV prevention research leader.
- ➤ Gita was born on April 8, 1956, in Kampala, Uganda. She served as the Clinical Trials Unit Principal Investigator and Unit Director of the HIV Prevention Research Unit of the South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC) offices in Durban.
- 6. Name the American songwriter, soulful singer, guitarist & 3 time Grammy award winner passed away recently ______ Bill Withers.

- He is well known for these compilations- Lean on Me, Ain't No Sunshine, Just the two of us (for which he received Grammy awards) & Lovely Day.
- ➤ He has produced 9 albums, his debut album is Just As I Am(1971) & the last album was Watching You Watching Me(1985).
- ➤ In 2006 he was awarded the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) Rhythm & Soul Heritage Award, in 2007- Inducted into West Virginia Music Hall of Fame & in 2015- Inducted into Rock and Roll Hall of Fame
- 7. Name the Libya's former Prime Minister who passed away due to Coronavirus _____ Mahmoud Jibril el-Warfally. Note:
 - ➤ He served as the interim Prime Minister (PM) of Libya for almost a year during the Libyan Civil War in 2011, chairing the executive board of National Transitional Council and later killed Moammar Gaddafi in 2011.
 - ➤ He also served as an economic advisor to the Gaddafi government before the revolution and served as the interim leader until the country held its first free elections in four decades in 2012.



ww	/w.grade	up.co gradeup
8.	M.K. Ar	junan passed away recently, he was a renowned Malayalam Music Composer.
	>	He tuned about 700 songs, many of them among the biggest hits of all time.
	>	His songs were celebrated as much as those of great composers like G. Devarajan (who was also his guru), M.S. Baburaj, V. Dakshinamoorthy and K. Raghavan.
	>	Arjunan was awarded Kerala State award for the best composer in 2017 for Jayaraj's Bhayanakam.
9.		ned personality Honor Blackman passed away recently, she was a veteran Hollywood Actress.
	Note:	1 J J J J J J J J J J J J J J J J J J J
	>	Honor Blackman was one of the memorable co-stars of the early James Bond films.
	>	Honor Blackman shot to fame in her late 30s after playing legendary Bond girl Pussy Galore in the 1964 movie Goldfinger.
10.	Famou	s sportsperson Radomir Antic passed away recently, he was associated with which sportsFootball.
	Note:	
	>	Radomir Antic, Serbian football manager and player, the only man to have coached Barcelona, Real Madrid and
		Atlético Madrid, passed away at the age of 71 in Madrid, Spain.
	>	Antic managed Atletico on three separate occasions, winning the league and cup double in 1995-96 and only one
		of two people to coach EL Clasico rivals Real and Barca during his career after Enrique Fernandez Viola.
11.	Name t	he 2 time Grammy award winner & Grammy lifetime achievement award winner American folk singer passed away
	recentl	y John Prine.
	Note:	
	>	John Prine passed away due to coronavirus complications.
		His best works are Missing Years, Fair and Square for which he received Grammy awards, Angel From
		Montgomery, Illegal Smile, Christmas in Prison & Tree of Forgiveness among others.
	>	He was inducted into Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame in 2003 & Songwriters Hall of Fame in 2019 & received
		the PEN/New England Song Lyrics of Literary Excellence Award in 2016.
12.	Renow	ned player Donato Sabia passed away due to Coronavirus he was a veteran Sprinter.
	Note:	
	>	Donato Sabia, twice Olympics 800 meters finalist and the former European Indoor Champion, passed away at the
		age of 56 in Potenza, Italy due to Coronavirus.
	>	He was born on September 11, 1963 in Potenzo, Italy.
13.		s Indian American Brahm Kanchibotla passed away due to coronavirus, he was a veteranJournalist.
	Note:	
		In recent years, he has been writing for two Indian-American publications, the Indian Panorama and the South
		Asia Times.
		During his 28-year career in the US, he worked for 11 years as a content editor for Merger Markets, a financial
		publication, and also worked for News India-Times Weekly.
		He emigrated to the US in 1992 after having worked for several publications in India.
14.	Famou Note:	s Shanti Hiranand Chawla passed away recently, she was a veteran Hindustani Classical singer.

> Shanti was trained in thumri, dadra and ghazal singing by Begum Akthar. With the passing of Shanti Hiranand the

- Begum Akthar era is formally over. > She was world-renowned for keeping the legendary ghazal singer's style alive in her performances, which she
- staged all across the world including Lahore, Islamabad, Toronto, Boston, New York and Washington.
- **15.** Legendary sportsperson Sir Stirling Moss passed away recently, he was associated with which sports _____ **Formula 1.** Note:
 - Moss was widely regarded as the greatest driver never to win the Formula One drivers' world championship.





- ➤ The British driver took part in Formula One from 1951 to 1961 and also made 67 starts in the F1 World Championship, claiming victory winning 16 races and claiming 16 pole positions and 24 podium positions.
- **16.** Famous sportsperson Peter Bonetti passed away recently, he was associated with which sports _____Football.

- He was part of England's 1966 World Cup-winning team but was unused throughout the tournament. He was featured in 1970 World Cup quarter-final defeat by West Germany.
- ➤ He was nicknamed as 'The Cat' because of his safe handling, lightning reflexes and his graceful style.

Important Days

1. World Autism Awareness Day is observed every year on _____April 2.

Note:

- > The World Autism Awareness Day is observed to raise awareness about autism and problems faced by people suffering from it.
- ➤ The day has been observed since 2008.
- The day is one of the seven health-based United Nations (UN) days.
- The theme for 2020 is "The Transition to Adulthood".
- The International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action is observed every year on _____4th April.
 Note:
 - > It is observed to create awareness on landmines, other threats and progress towards their eradication.
 - ➤ In 2005, the UN (United Nations) General Assembly declared April 4 as the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action.
- 3. The 57th Edition of National Maritime Day (NMD) was celebrated on _____ April 5, 2020.

Note:

- > The day is observed annually to raise awareness in supporting intercontinental commerce and the global economy.
- The National Maritime Day was first celebrated on April 5, 1964.
- The saga of India shipping first started on April 5, 1919, when the SS Loyalty, the first ship of The Scindia Steam Navigation Company Limited travelled from Mumbai to the United Kingdom (UK).
- **4.** The International Day of Conscience (IDC) is observed for the 1st time on _____5th April 2020.

Note:

- This is celebrated to recognize the need to establish stability, well-being, peaceful and friendly relations on the basis of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all.
- > FIFA has joined forces with the United Nations (UN) and the World Health Organization (WHO) in supporting the "#BeActive campaign" launched on the UN International Day of Sport for Development and Peace
- 5. The International Day of Sport for Development and Peace (IDSP) is celebrated every year on _____6th April.

Note:

- > This is celebrated to recognize the power of sport in promoting social change, community development and to encourage peace and understanding.
- ➤ The United Nations (UN) General Assembly in 2013 has declared April 6 as IDSP & is celebrated annually since then 2014.
- 6. The International Romani Day is observed every year on _____ 8th April.

Note:

- The day is observed annually to raise awareness of the issues faced by Romani people and to celebrate Romani culture.
- The International Romani Day was officially declared at the fourth World Romani Congress of the International Romani Union (IRU) in Serock, Poland, in 1990.
- > The day also remembers the first major international meeting of Romani representatives held between April 7 to 12, 1971 in Chelsfield, England.
- 7. The World Homeopathy Day is celebrated every year on _____ 10th April.



- This year the day marks the 265th birth anniversary of the father of the Homeopathy systems of medicines Dr. Christian Friedrich Samuel Hahnemann, German physician.
- ➤ He discovered the way to heal through the use of homeopathy.
- The term 'homeopathy' comes from the combination of the two Greek words, homeo- meaning similar & pathosmeaning suffering or disease.
- ➤ Theme of the day this year (2020I is "Enhancing the scope of Homeopathy in Public Health".
- 8. The Play True Day is observed every year on _____ 9th April.

- ➤ The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) celebrated the Play True Day 2020.
- The theme of this year is 'Play Safe on Play True Day 2020'.
- WADA and the anti-doping community worldwide is celebrating the 'Play True Day' since 2014. WADA celebrates the day with athletes, national and regional anti- doping organizations, sports federations, major event organizers & other anti- doping stakeholders from the global clean sport community.
- 9. National Safe Motherhood Day (NSMD) is celebrated annually on _____ 11th April.

Note:

- The day is celebrated to raise awareness on proper healthcare and maternity facilities to pregnant and lactating women.
- NSMD is an initiative of the White Ribbon Alliance India (WRAI) to ensure that every woman should have the availability and enough access to care during pregnancy, childbirth and postnatal services
- 10. The international day of human space flight is observed across the world annually on _____ 12th April.

Note:

- The day remarks 1st human to orbit the earth- Yuri Gagarin in "Vostok 1" on April 12, 1961.
- > The day is observed to celebrate the space age for the human race to reaffirm the vital role of space science and technology in achieving sustainable development goals and improve the well-being of states, people, and to realize the ambition of maintaining the space for peaceful purposes.
- The 1st human-made Earth satellite Sputnik I was launched into outer space on 4th October 1957 which opened a new way for space exploration.
- 11. National Pet Day is celebrated every year on _____ 11th April.

Note:

- > The Day is celebrated to create public awareness about animals that currently live in shelters and rescues and are in need of a forever home.
- National pet day was founded in 2006 by Colleen Paige, who is a renowned animal welfare advocate and lifestyle expert.

New Appointments

1. Who has been appointed as the Managing Director of the Sundaram Home Finance ______ D. Lakshminarayanan.

Note:

- ► He will take charge on April 1, 2020 and will replace Srinivas Acharya.
- > Srinivas Acharya has been the company's MD since 2010 & has been part of the Sundaram Finance Group for almost 4 decades.
- ➤ The company had posted a total income of Rs 1006 crore and a net profit of Rs 145 crore for the financial year 2019.
- 2. The government extended the tenure of National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) acting President _____BSV Prakash Kumar.

- Earlier he was appointed as the acting President for 3 months from January 5 after the retirement of NCLT president Justice Mahesh Mittal (M.M.) Kumar.
- ➤ He previously served as a Judicial Member of the NCLT's Madras bench.



3.	The Government has extended the appointment of Madhabi Puri Buch as a whole time member (WTM) of the
	SFRI

- ➤ She was appointed as a WTM of SEBI for a period of 3 years in April 2017 whereas all the appointed members and Chairman of SEBI were only men from the public sector, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) or the Indian Administrative Service (IAS).
- ➤ She was not only the first woman to be appointed as a WTM of SEBI but also the first person from the private sector.
- ➤ In SEBI, she handles a range of departments from market and market intermediaries regulation to integrated surveillance and economic and policy analysis.
- **4.** Who has been appointed as the Chairman of the National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) **UB Pravin Rao.**

Note:

- ➤ UB Pravin Rao succeeds Keshav Murugesh, Group Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of World Network Services (WNS) Global Services, who served as chairman of NASSCOM for the year 2019-20. Previously Rao was the vice chairman of NASSCOM.
- **5.** Who has been appointed as the brand ambassador of PepsiCo for one year _____ **Shafali Verma.**

Note:

- Pepsi will be Shafali's first contract with a major brand. The beverage firm recently signed Bollywood star Salman Khan as its face for 2 years.
- > Shafali Verma hails from Haryana is the explosive top- order Indian batswoman, who played the ICC Women's Twenty20 International World Cup against Australia in Melbourne.
- **6.** Who has been appointed as the new Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Bharti AXA Life Insurance Company ______ Parag Raja.

Note:

- The appointment will be subject to the requisite approval from the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI).
- Parag Raja will be the successor of Vikas Seth.
- > Raja served as the Chief Distribution Officer at Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance (ABSLI).
- 7. Who has been appointed as the Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of IFFCO Tokio General Insurance _____ Anamika Roy Rashtrawar.

Note:

- She was the successor of Warendra Sinha.
- ➤ She was the first woman MD and CEO of a large private sector IFFCO Tokio general insurance company.
- > She joined the company as a whole-time director in June 2018 and spearheaded the company's business transformation project by expanding operations in tier -II, III, IV towns.
- **8.** Who has been appointed as part-time Chairman of AU Small Finance Bank for the period of one year _____ **Raj Vikash Verma.**

Note:

- ➤ Verma was inducted as an Independent Director with the AU Bank in January 2018. He was the former Chairman and Managing Director (MD) of National Housing Bank (NHB).
- Verma was a certified Associate of the Indian Institute of the Bankers (CAIIB).
- 9. Who has been appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of AU Small Finance Bank _____ Sanjay Agarwal.

Note:

Sanjay Agarwal reappointed as Managing Director (MD) and CEO (Chief Executive Officer)





- Agarwal has been associated with this institution (AU small finance bank) since its inception in 1996 (erstwhile AU Financiers India Limited), is also its promoter.
- AU Small Finance Bank is an Indian Scheduled Commercial bank that was founded as a finance company AU financiers (India) Limited incorporated as L.N. Finco Gems Private Limited
- **10.** Who has been appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Karnataka Bank ______ Mahabaleshwara M S.

Private sector lender Karnataka Bank received RBI (Reserve Bank of India) approval for the re-appointment of Mahabaleshwara M S as MD (Managing Director) and CEO (Chief Executive Officer) for next 3 years. The bank regulator has also approved for reappointment of Polali Jayarama Bhat as part time (non-executive) chairman.

11. Who has been appointed as the brand ambassador of the James Bullough Lansing (JBL)'s campaign -"Live it Real, Live it Raw" _____Sara Ali Khan.

Note:

- > She lines up with JBL ambassadors and partners from music, sports, and entertainment industries including actor and humanitarian Priyanka Chopra, music mogul AR Rahman, and Olympian Shuttler PV Sindhu in India.
- Mahindra Group's MeraKisan, an organic Agri producer has partnered with The Vice-Captain of the Indian Test Cricket team Ajinkya Rahane, as part of this, he will own equity & will be its brand ambassador.

Sports News

1. Which Grand Slam tournament has been cancelled for the first time since World War II due to coronavirus pandemic _____ Wimbledon 2020.

Note:

- The tournament organizer, All England Club (AELTC) after an emergency meeting announced that the Championships 2020 will be cancelled due to public health concerns linked to the Novel Coronavirus pandemic.
- ➤ The tournament was due to be played between 29 June and 12 July.
- 2. World Athletics championship shifted to _____2022.

Note:

- The 2021 world athletics championships will be shifted to 2022. The championship was originally scheduled to held in Eugene, Oregon from August 6-15, 2021.
- > The announcement came immediately after the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games postponed because of the coronavirus pandemic will now take place on July 23-August 8, 2021.
- ➤ The athletics federation also talking to the organisers of the 2022 European Athletics Championships, which are due to take place in Munich on August 11-21.
- **3.** What will be the mascot 19th Asian Games _____ 'The Smart Triplets'.

Note:

- The Olympic Council of Asia has announced the official mascots of the 19th Asian Games to be held in Hangzhou in 2022.
- The three robots namely Congcong, Lianlian and Chenchen which are collectively known as "The Smart Triplets" will be the official mascots of the 19th Asian Games.
- The mascot was unveiled by Olympic Council of Asia at a digital launch ceremony in Hangzhou, China.
- 4. Who has been inducted into Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame ____ Kobe Bryant.

- The late Kobe Bryant has been selected as a member of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.
- ➤ He has been selected as the member of the Hall of Fame in his first year of eligibility.
- ➤ Kobe Bryant, the 18-time NBA All Star, has now become a part of 9-member class that also constitutes multiple All-Star selections Tim Duncan and Kevin Garnett.
- **5.** The International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) has banned which two countries from participating in weightlifting events at the Tokyo Olympics due to multiple doping offences _____ Malaysia & Thailand.

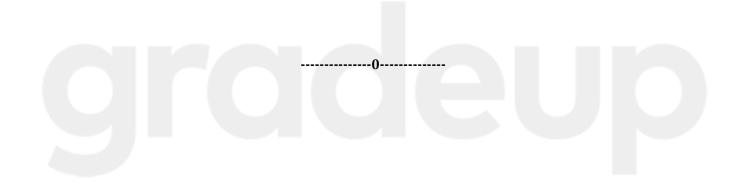


- The Independent Member Federation Sanctions Panel (IMFSP) of the International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) has banned the Malaysia & Thailand weightlifters from competing in Tokyo Olympics 2020.
- ➤ IMSP has imposed the disciplinary sanctions on both the countries from participating in weightlifting events at the Tokyo Olympics for doping violations.
- **6.** What is India's rank in the latest FIFA Ranking _____**108**th.

Note:

- According to the FIFA latest World Ranking 2020, released on April 09, 2020, Indian football team retained its 108th position with 1187 points.
- While Belgium ranked first and world champion France is in 2nd place and Brazil is at 3rd spot.
- 7. Which country will host Asian Boxing Championships 2020 in November 2020 _____ India.

- ➤ India will host the Women's and Men's Asian Boxing Championships 2020 in November-December as he expressed confidence that by then the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic would have been completely under control.
- ➤ However, the host city will be decided by BFI after things return to normal.
- ➤ India last hosted the Men's Asian Championship in Mumbai,Maharashtra in the year 1980, while the Women's Championship was hosted in 2003 in Hisar, Haryana.
- ➤ This competition is usually held once in two years but in the past it has also been held in consecutive years.





Gradeup Green Card

Features:

- 350+ Full-Length Mocks
- > 30+SSC & Railways Exams Covered
- Tests Available in English & Hindi
- Performance Analysis & All India Rank
- Previous Year Question Papers in Mock Format
- Available on Mobile & Desktop

