

# Weekly One-Liners

1st-7th May 2020



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

**Dear readers,**

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

### **Banking & Financial Awareness**

1. 'Vikas Abhaya' a loan scheme has been launched by \_\_\_\_ **Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB)**.

**Note:**

- The Regional Rural Bank has launched the scheme to provide some relief to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) borrowers whose business activities are disrupted on account of the COVID-19 pandemic in Dharwad.
- The loan will be for the existing MSME customers who have been regular as on February 29, a maximum loan of up to Rs 1 lakh will be provided and no collateral security is emphasized & is repayable within 36 months.
- It is an additional credit facility to the eligible existing MSME borrowers & helps them to assist over the current crisis and ensures the continuation of viable business activity.

2. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) extended the regulatory benefits under the special liquidity facility for mutual funds (SLF-MF) to \_\_\_\_ **All banks**.

**Note:**

- This decision has been taken on the lines of request made by banks to RBI.
- As we have notified earlier, on April 27, 2020, RBI has initiated a special liquidity facility of Rs 50,000 crore for MFs under which RBI will conduct repo operations of 90 days tenor at the fixed repo rate

3. Which institutions has approved a USD 400 million multi-year financial support to help India enhance its coastal & marine resources \_\_\_\_ **World Bank**.

**Note:**

- It will help protect coastal resources by focusing on the rehabilitation of coastal beaches and mangroves
- The 1st phase covers 8 coastal States and 3 coastal Union Territories, with USD 180 million in funding, for Enhancing Coastal and Ocean Resource Efficiency (ENCORE).
- The loan from the international bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) has a final maturity of 14.5 years including a grace period of 5 years.

4. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has cancelled the license of which bank \_\_\_\_ **CKP Co-operative Bank Ltd.**

**Note:**

- The order has come into effect after the working hours of 30 April, 2020 in order to save investors' decision.
- The reason behind this is the financial position of the bank is highly unfavorable & there is no concrete revival plan or any proposal for merger with any other bank.
- In the sequence of cancellation of license and commencement of liquidation work, the process of payment of amount will be initiated to depositors of CKP bank Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) Act, 1961.

5. Which Bank decided to launch 'India SME Services Platform', a digital platform to educate stakeholders in the small and medium enterprises (SME) ecosystem \_\_\_\_ **SIDBI**.

**Note:**

- The platform will provide Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) information about starting operations, getting finance, credit enhancement and other support services

- Bring together all MSMEs, MSME ecosystem stakeholders, financiers, corporates, government, regulators, employees and associations in an interactive platform, where all will be at one place & one place for all kinds of initiatives.
6. The Singapore based DBS bank has trimmed the India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) forecast for FY 2020-2021 to \_\_\_\_\_ **1%**.
- Note:**
- The general government (the Centre and States) deficit is likely to rise to 10-10.5% of GDP in FY21 vs around 6% of GDP earlier.
  - Public debt level to rise from 70% of GDP to 75-80%.
7. Which entity has launched video KYC engagement platform for the banking and finance sector \_\_\_\_\_ **Ameyo**.
- Note:**
- A customer engagement technology provider, Ameyo has launched video KYC engagement platform for the banking and finance sector.
  - The newly launched platform will eliminate the businesses' requirement of physical KYC in accordance with latest RBI guidelines issued in January 2020.
  - It is expected to decrease the customer onboarding process from the present 5-7 days to less than 3 minutes.
8. Which bank has released a song titled #HumHaarNahiMaanenge to keep hopes up amidst the ongoing national lockdown and Covid-19 pandemic \_\_\_\_\_ **HDFC Bank**.
- Note:**
- The lyrics of the song has been penned by Prasoon Joshi and music has been composed by AR Rahman.
  - HDFC Bank has announced that it will contribute Rs 500 each time the song is shared via social media towards the PM-CARES Fund.
9. Which housing finance company has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with IIT Delhi to develop washable and reusable Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) kits \_\_\_\_\_ **PNB Housing Finance**.
- Note:**
- By this MoU, the PNBHFL will support the Department of Textile and Fibre Engineering, IIT Delhi in fast-tracked R&D of high-quality PPE material.
  - It is to contribute to the well-being of healthcare workers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Obituaries

1. Renowned personality Rishi Raj Kapoor passed away, he was a veteran \_\_\_\_\_ **Actor**.
- Note:**
- Rishi Kapoor was the third generation actor, the second son of actor Raj Kapoor and a grandson of Prithviraj Kapoor.
  - He recently announced his next project, a remake of Hollywood film The Intern, also featuring Deepika Padukone. Rishi had starred in more than 100 films.
  - His autobiography Khullam Khulla: Rishi Kapoor Uncensored... was published by HarperCollins and launched at "The Hindu Lit for Life 2017".
2. Renowned personality Chuni Goswami, passed away, he was a famous \_\_\_\_\_ **Sportsperson**.
- Note:**
- Former India football captain Subimal Goswami, commonly known by his nickname Chuni Goswami, passed away at the age of 82 in Kolkata.
  - He was the captain of the 1962 Asian Games gold-medal winning team.
  - Goswami played 50 matches for India as a footballer from 1956 to 1964. However, he quit international football in 1964, at the age of 27.
  - Goswami was part of the Bengal's triumphant Santosh Trophy squad thrice in 1955, 1958, and 1959.

- Goswami was successful in cricket as well, he represented Bengal in 46 first-class games between 1962 and 1973.
3. Renowned personality Bijay Mishra passed away, he was a famous \_\_\_\_ **Playwriter**.
- Note:**
- Noted playwright, dramatist, scriptwriter and film director Bijay Mishra of Odisha passed away at the age of 83 due to age-related ailments in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
  - Mishra began playwright from 1960 and his first play 'Janani' was staged in Annapurna Theatre, Cuttack, Odisha. He was also a mainstream script writer in Odia Cinema & TV Industry.
  - He had written the script of the famous Odia film Jajabara (1975). It was his first film as a writer. He had also directed a film titled 'Trimurty' along with Akhyaya Mohanty and Hemanta Das.
4. Renowned personality Nissar Ahmed popularly known as K S Nissar Ahmed passed away, he was a popular \_\_\_\_ **Poet and Kannada writer**.
- Note:**
- He was the 73rd president of Kannada Sahitya Sammelana in the year 2007 held at Shivamogga.
  - He received Rajyotsava in 1981, Padma Shri in 2008 and Pampa Award in 2017.
  - He was awarded Doctorate in 2010 from the Kuvempu University.
  - Nityotsava, Manasu Gandhi Bazaru, SanjeAidara Male and Manadondige Mathukathe are his notable works. He has translated many Shakespeare plays into Kannada.
5. Famous personality Dalit Ezhilmalai passed away recently, he was a veteran \_\_\_\_ **Politician**.
- Note:**
- He participated in the Indo-Pak War of 1971 as an army officer and received Sainik Sewa Medal for his meritorious service.
  - He served in the Former Post & Telegraph Department of the Government of India Between 1963 and 1987 and deputed to the Army for five years.
  - In 1989 The Pattali Makkal Katchi(PMK) was established and he joined the party and became the general secretary.

### Important Days

1. International Labours day or May Day is celebrated every year on which date \_\_\_\_ **1st May**.
- Note:**
- It is also known as Workers day or May day.
  - This day is observed to pay tribute to the contribution of workers across the world.
  - It was only in the year 1891 when 1st May was announced formally to be observed as International Labour Day each year.
2. World Tuna Day is observed globally every year on \_\_\_\_ **2nd May**.
- Note:**
- This day is established by the United Nations (UN) to raise awareness about the importance of tuna fish. It is observed for the first time in 2017.
  - According to the UN, an outsized number of nations worldwide depend upon tuna for both food security and nutrition.
  - At the same time, more than 96 countries have tuna fisheries, and their capacity is constantly growing.
  - The World Tuna Day was officially proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) by adopting resolution 71/124 in December 2016.
3. World Press Freedom Day is observed globally every year on \_\_\_\_ **3rd May**.
- Note:**
- It is also known as World Press Day.
  - The day also pays tribute to journalists who have lost their lives.
  - They risk their lives at times or may even have to face tough situations in order to bring the news from different corners of the world in front of the public.
  - The theme of World Press Freedom Day 2020 is "Journalism without Fear or Favour".
4. International Firefighters' Day is observed globally every year on \_\_\_\_ **4th May**.

**Note:**

- This day is celebrated since 1999, to recognise and honour the sacrifices that firefighters make to ensure that their communities and environment are as safe as possible.
- The day was instituted, after the deaths of five firefighters in tragic circumstances in a bushfire in Australia on 2 December 1998.

5. International Day of the Midwife is observed globally every year on \_\_\_\_ **5<sup>th</sup> May**.

**Note:**

- This day is celebrated to recognise the work of midwives and raise awareness about the status of midwives for the essential care they provide to mothers and their newborns.
- The theme for 2020 International Day of the Midwife is Midwives with women: celebrate, demonstrate, mobilise, unite – our time is NOW!
- The World Health Organization (WHO) has designed the year 2020 as 'Year of Nurse and Midwife' to commemorate the 200th birth anniversary of nursing pioneer Florence Nightingale.

6. World Hand Hygiene Day observed globally on \_\_\_\_ **5<sup>th</sup> May**.

**Note:**

- The World Health Organization (WHO) has marked 5 May as World Hand Hygiene Day.
- This day is recognising the role clean and safe hands play in warding off many serious infections.
- It is also known as Hand Hygiene Day.
- The theme of the campaign is "SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands".

7. World Asthma Day is observed every year on \_\_\_\_ **1st Tuesday of May**.

**Note:**

- This year, World Asthma Day is observed on May 5, 2020.
- The day spread awareness about asthma disease and care around the world.
- Whilst the primary focus is supporting the person with asthma, support may also extend to family, friends and caregivers.
- The theme for 2020 is 'Enough Asthma Deaths'.
- World Asthma Day is annually organized by the Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA).

8. The World Athletics Day is observed every year on \_\_\_\_ **7<sup>th</sup> May**.

**Note:**

- The date is subject to adjustment, the date of World Athletics Day is decided by the IAAF, however, the month stays the same as May.
- The first World Athletics Day was observed in 1996.
- The basic objective of World Athletics Day is to boost the participation of youths in athletics.

### New Appointments

1. Who has been named advisor to Google Pay India \_\_\_\_ **Shikha Sharma**.

**Note:**

- Google Pay is one of the leading apps on Unified Payments Interface (UPI), battling with the likes of Amazon Pay, Paytm, etc.
- Sharma's appointment could be a way forward for Google Pay India's attempt at a card-based offering, which could be launched soon.
- Sharma quit ICICI Bank in 2008 to join Axis Bank. She steered Axis Bank till 2018 and transformed it into a major banking entity of the country. Sharma also serves in the board of IT major Tech Mahindra as an independent director.

2. Who has been appointed as the Secretary of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways \_\_\_\_ **Giridhar Aramane**.

**Note:**

- His appointment was approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- He has replaced Sanjeev Ranjan who has been appointed as secretary in the Ministry of Shipping.
- Giridhar Aramane is a 1988 batch IAS officer of Andhra Pradesh cadre.
- Before assuming charge as Secretary to MoRTH, he was serving as Additional Secretary in the Cabinet Secretariat.

3. Who has been appointed as the Secretary of the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises \_\_\_\_\_ **Arvind Kumar Sharma**.

**Note:**

- His appointment was approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- Before assuming charge as Secretary to MSME Ministry, he was serving as Additional Secretary in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO).
- Arvind Kumar Sharma is a 1988 batch IAS officer of Gujarat cadre and has worked in the Government of Gujarat at various positions.

4. Who has been appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Max Bupa Health Insurance \_\_\_\_\_ **Krishnan Ramachandran**.

**Note:**

- He will replace Ashish Mehrotra. Prior to this, he served as the CEO of Apollo Munich Health Insurance.
- He has over 23 years of experience in health insurance, healthcare and life sciences segments.

5. Who has been appointed as the US representative to World Bank's lending arm International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) \_\_\_\_\_ **Ashok Michael Pinto**.

**Note:**

- He was nominated as US Alternate Executive Director of IBRD for a period of 2 years.
- He currently serves as Counsellor to the Under Secretary for International Affairs at the United States (US) Department of the Treasury.
- He has been nominated by the United States President, Donald Trump

6. Who has been appointed as the new director on Central Board of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) \_\_\_\_\_ **Tarun Bajaj**.

**Note:**

- His appointment is confirmed by the Government of India.
- He is a 1988 batch Indian Administration Service (IAS) officer.
- He will replace Atanu Chakraborty, who retired on April 30.
- Prior to taking over as Economic Affairs Secretary, Bajaj was the Additional Secretary in Prime Minister's Office.

7. Who has been appointed as the chairperson of the Parliament's public accounts committee (PAC) \_\_\_\_\_ **Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury**.

**Note:**

- He was appointed the chairman of the committee by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla.
- The PAC examines accounts showing the appropriation of sums granted by Parliament for the expenditure of the Government of India, the annual financial accounts of the Government and others.
- The PAC is the oldest Parliamentary Committee in which 15 members are elected from the Lok Sabha and 7 members from the Rajya Sabha are elected every year for the 22 member panel of PAC.

### Important News - India

1. The central government has brought the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) under which ministry \_\_\_\_\_ **Jal Shakti Ministry**.

**Note:**

- It was earlier under the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.
- This decision is a formality of business allotment, which means that the authority must report to the Ministry of Jal Shakti.
- The move will have no impact on the independent nature of the functioning of the authority.
- Water management authorities of other rivers have also been brought under the ministry, which was earlier under the same ministry as CWMA.

2. Who chaired the task force on National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) which submitted its Final Report to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman \_\_\_\_\_ **Atanu Chakraborty**.

**Note:**

- The task force has submitted its Final Report on NIP for FY 2019-25 projecting total infrastructure investment of Rs 111 lakh crore during a 5-year span of FY 2019-20 to FY 2024-25.
- The report highlighted policy deficits and challenges in India's infrastructure sector and recommended reforms to scale up investment in the sector.
- For NIP projects, the Centre would invest 39% of the projected expenditure while states' share would be 40%, followed by private sector with 21%.

3. According to Mercom India Research's 'India Solar Market Leaderboard 2020' report what amount of solar energy generation capacity India has added during calendar year 2019 \_\_\_\_\_ **7.3 Giga Watt (GW)**.

**Note:**

- According to Mercom India Research's 'India Solar Market Leaderboard 2020' report, India has installed 7.3 Giga Watt (GW) of solar power in Calendar Year(CY) 2019.
- India has total solar installations of approximately 35.7 GW by the end of December 2019.
- Mercom Communications India, a subsidiary of global clean energy communications and consulting firm Mercom Capital Group, has released its report 'India Solar Market Leaderboard 2020'.

4. What is India's rank in the 7th edition of 'Open Budget Survey 2019' conducted by International Budget Partnership (IBP) \_\_\_\_\_ **53<sup>rd</sup>**.

**Note:**

- In the survey time New Zealand has been topped the list with a score of 87.
- The global average transparency score on this survey was 45.
- The survey ranked the countries in 5 different categories based on their scores.[0-20: scant, 21-40: minimal, 41-60:limited, 61-80:substantial,81-100:extensive].
- It evaluates each nation's 8 key budget documents of the Central or Federal Government, and assesses whether these are made public, in a timely manner, and provide comprehensive information.

5. Which institutions has initiated a programme on health and risk communication focusing on COVID-19 titled "Year of Awareness on Science & Health (YASH)" \_\_\_\_\_ **National Council for Science & Technology Communication (NCSTC)**.

**Note:**

- Its aim is to convey authentic best practices to the general public to minimize the risk of transmission of virus at all levels, in the absence of vaccines and cure for COVID-19.
- This programme will provide scientific awareness and health preparedness to combat the pandemic scenario like COVID-19 outbreak which has posed concerns and challenges around the globe.

6. Which 'Navaratna' public sector company started the production of Coal for the first time \_\_\_\_\_ **Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC) India Private Limited**.

**Note:**

- The coal allocated to the Neyveli Lignite Corporation India Limited (NLCIL) in 2016 with a capacity of 20 million tonne per annum from the Talabira II and III mines of Odisha will suffice the requirements of existing and future coal fired power plants.
- The NLC will generate competitive power in the future since the coal of grade G 12 and the stripping ratio of this mine is 1.09.
- NLCIL achieved Renewable Energy Generation capacity of 1404 MW comprising 1353 MW of Solar and 51 MW of Wind Power

7. National Board for Wild Life (NBWL) has permitted the use of 98.59 hectares of land for opencast coal mining project in which Wildlife Reserve \_\_\_\_\_ **Dehing Patkai Elephant Reserve in Assam**.

**Note:**

- The coal mining project will be done by North-Easter Coal Field (NECF), a unit of Coal India Limited.
- While, the rest of the area may be used for underground coal mining.
- Dehing Patkai Elephant Reserve that includes the Dehing Patkai Wildlife Sanctuary (also known as Jeypore Rainforest) consists of an 111.19 sq km area of rain forests and several reserve forests in Sivasagar, Dibrugarh and Tinsukia districts.

8. Who attended the Extraordinary Virtual G20 Digital Economy Ministers meeting was held to discuss the challenges posed by the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic \_\_\_\_\_ **Ravi Shankar Prasad**.

**Note:**

- The meeting was attended by Digital Ministers of G20 Members, invited countries and International Organizations.

- India was represented by Union Minister for Law & Justice, Communications and Electronics & IT Ravi Shankar Prasad.
9. Name the webinar organized by the National Mission for Clean Ganga and National Institute of Urban Affairs on theme “The future of River Management” \_\_\_\_\_ **IDEAthon**.
- Note:**
- Recently, the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) and the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) organized an IDEAthon on “The Future of River Management’.
  - The event aimed to explore how the Covid-19 crisis can shape river management strategies for the future.
  - The IDEAthon sought to brainstorm the learnings from Covid-19 pandemic, the following lockdown and its impact on river management.
10. What is India’s rank in the in scientific publication in 2018 among the countries \_\_\_\_\_ **Third**.
- Note:**
- The National Science and Technology Management Information (NSTMIS), Department of Science and Technology (DST), has conducted a survey on Research and Development (R&D) Statistics and Indicators 2019-20.
  - The survey included more than 6800 S&T Institutions spread across varied sectors like central government, state governments, higher education, public sector industry, and private sector industry in the country.
11. Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the virtual summit of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) for the first time since 2014, currently which country is the president of the grouping \_\_\_\_\_ **Azerbaijan**.
- Note:**
- Modi became the first full-time Indian prime minister to skip the NAM summit in 2016 and again in 2019.
  - India was represented by the vice president in the last two summits in 2016 in Venezuela and 2019 in Azerbaijan.
  - Manmohan Singh had participated at the Tehran NAM meet in 2012.
  - Azerbaijan is the president of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) grouping till 2022 and the meet is being organised under the leadership of its president Ilham Aliyev.
12. India’s first “COVID-19 test bus” has been launched by the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Alumni Council in which city of India \_\_\_\_\_ **Mumbai**.
- Note:**
- The Indian Institute of Technology(IIT) Alumni Council launched a “COVID-19 test bus” in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
  - The COVID-19 Testing bus will reduce 80% of the testing cost without compromising on the testing capacity.
  - According to the IIT alumni council, a global alumni body for all the 23 IITs this will increase the testing capacity within 100 days and support the health department in controlling the COVID-19 pandemic
13. Which IIT has partnered with Bharat Dynamics Ltd for development of affordable ventilators for Covid-19 treatment \_\_\_\_\_ **IIT Kanpur**.
- Note:**
- Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur has joined hands with Bharat Dynamics Limited for the development of affordable ventilators for Covid-19 treatment.
  - An MoU to this effect, has been signed between BDL, IIT Kanpur, IIT Kanpur’s incubator Foundation for Innovation and Research in Science and Technology and Nocca Robotics Private Limited(NRPL), an incubated start-up of IIT Kanpur.
14. Which of the following entity has launched virtual ‘Surakshit Dada-Dadi & Nana-Nani Abhiyan’ to ensure well being of senior citizens during the COVID-19 pandemic in association with Piramal Foundation \_\_\_\_\_ **NITI Aayog**.
- Note:**
- The aim of the campaign is to create awareness about various aspects of senior citizens’ health and lifestyle including preventive measures and requisite behavioural changes in view of COVID-19 pandemic.
  - It focus on behaviour change, access to services, early detection & tracking of COVID-19 symptoms
15. Which operation has been launched by the Indian Navy as a part of a national effort to repatriate Indian citizens from overseas \_\_\_\_\_ **Operation Samudra Setu**.
- Note:**
- The operation aims to evacuate personnel who repatriate Indian citizens from overseas.
  - Under the operation, a total of 1000 persons are planned to be evacuated during the first trip, catering for COVID-related social distancing norms vis-a-vis the carrying capacity and medical facilities available onboard.
  - This operation is done by the Ministries of Defence, External Affairs, Home Affairs, Health, and various other agencies of Central/State governments.



16. Which organization has launched 'e-karyalay' an electronic office application to enable the movement of files and documents without physical touch \_\_\_\_\_ **CISF**.

**Note:**

- It is designed by CISF in-house technical team for the usage of the 1.62 lakhs personnel & it resembles each and every function of traditional file movement.
- It has digital signature features to handle various securities related concerns and keep pace with existing standards.
- App's 'Dak' or letters management section handles all sorts of communication between various levels of functional hierarchy & it enables to transfer the dak (snail mail) directly to the file noting.

17. Under whose chairmanship the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has set up a committee to frame standard professional indemnity policy for insurance intermediaries that can be issued by all the insurers \_\_\_\_\_ **Yegnapriya Bharat**.

**Note:**

- The panel has been asked to prepare a standard professional indemnity policy "which covers all the contingencies and conditions (retroactive date, indemnity limits, excess, etc) mentioned in the Regulations" that can be issued by all insurers.
- The development came after the regulator witnessed several instances where policies taken by insurance intermediaries did not comply with the regulatory provisions.
- It was constituted by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act – IRDA Act, 1999 as an autonomous & statutory body to regulate & promote insurance and reinsurance in the country.

### Important News – State

1. According to an official statement which state tops among other states in providing employment under MGNREGS \_\_\_\_\_ **Chhattisgarh**.

**Note:**

- According to an official statement Chhattisgarh is 1st state to provide employment to over 18(18.51) lakh unskilled labourers, followed by Rajasthan (2nd) to 10.79 lakh workers & Uttar Pradesh (3rd) to around 9.06 lakh workers under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS).
- As per the data released by the Union Rural Development Ministry around 77.85 lakh people are engaged in different work under the scheme across the country.

2. Chak-Hao, the black rice of which state gets Geographical Indication (GI) tag \_\_\_\_\_ **Manipur**.

**Note:**

- Chak-Hao- the Consortium of Producers of Chak-Hao (Black Rice), Manipur and was facilitated by the Department of Agriculture, Government of Manipur and the North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Limited (NERAMAC).
- The black rice is glutinous rice cultivated in Manipur over centuries, is characterised by its special aroma & is consumed mainly after being cooked like rice or kheer.
- It has a deep black colour and when cooked, it usually turns purple. It's dark purple colour is primarily a product of its anthocyanin content which is considered as boosting up the antioxidants level, apart from this it also has vitamins, minerals, fibre, proteins, among others.

3. Terracotta work of which place has been granted with the Geographical Indication(GI) tag \_\_\_\_\_ **Gorakhpur (UP)**.

**Note:**

- It is a centuries-old traditional art form, the work is done with bare hands including the ornamentation & natural color which stays fast for a long time. There are more than 1,000 varieties of terracotta work designed by the local craftsmen
- Some of the major products of craftsmanship include the Hauda elephants, Mahawatdar horse among others.

4. Kovilpatti kadalai mittai of which place has been granted with the Geographical Indication(GI) tag \_\_\_\_\_ **Kovilpatti, Thoothukudi (Tamil Nadu)**.

**Note:**

- It is a peanut candy manufactured in Kovilpatti and adjacent towns and villages in Thoothukudi district, the southern part of Tamil Nadu.
- It is produced by using groundnuts and vellam (jaggery) and water from the river Thamirabarani which enhances the taste naturally.

- It is sold as single rectangular chunks, or rather cuboids, sealed in packets.
5. Saffron of which state has been granted with the Geographical Indication(GI) tag \_\_\_\_\_ **Kashmir Saffron.**
- Note:**
- It is a spice grown in some regions of Kashmir, including Pulwama (saffron bowl of Kashmir), Budgam, Kishtwar and Srinagar.
  - Iran is the largest producer of saffron and India is a close competitor.
  - In India, GI registration is administered by the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999 which came into force with effect from September 2003. Darjeeling Tea(2004) is the 1st indian product to get a GI tag.
6. Which state government has announced a free and cashless health insurance scheme to all its citizens \_\_\_\_\_ **Maharashtra.**
- Note:**
- Under the Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Jan Arogya Yojana, people in the state can avail of the benefits of free and cashless health insurance.
  - Documents such as ration cards and domicile certificates are essential to apply for the scheme.
  - At present, the scheme covers 85% of the population; but benefits are now extended to the remaining 15%.
7. Which state government has launched a mobile application ‘CMAPP (Comprehensive Monitoring of Agriculture, Price, and Procurement)’ to monitor the agriculture needs of the farmers in the state \_\_\_\_\_ **Andhra Pradesh.**
- Note:**
- Andhra Pradesh government has launched the mobile application ‘CMAPP to monitor the agriculture needs of the farmers in the state.
  - The mobile app showcases all data relating to the cost, procurement, and marketing facilities of the farmers for their agriculture produce.
8. Which state government announced to launch the "Nigah" Scheme to properly sensitize and educate family members of people coming from other states so that social distancing is effectively maintained \_\_\_\_\_ **Himachal Pradesh.**
- Note:**
- Under the scheme, a team of ASHA workers, health workers, and Anganwadi workers would visit the family members of persons arriving from other states.
  - They will educate them about the importance of social distancing so that they could be saved from any possible infection.
  - The state government also ordered to mark the people who have come from other states.
9. Which state government has launched the Ayush Kavach app that will provide health-related tips and information about ayurvedic medicines amid the COVID-19 pandemic \_\_\_\_\_ **Uttar Pradesh.**
- Note:**
- Ayush Kavach mobile app will help people access prescriptions to strengthen their resistance through the ancient mode of Yoga and Ayurveda of India.
  - The mobile app Ayush Kavach was developed by the Ayush Department of Uttar Pradesh in view of the COVID-19 health crisis.
10. Which state government has launched “Exit App” for stranded people of other states \_\_\_\_\_ **West Bengal.**
- Note:**
- “Exit App” will enable these people who are willing to go back to their native states, by applying online on this app. The permission for the exit of these people would be granted in an automatic and extremely easy manner.
  - The “Exit App” can be accessed by the stranded people from the West Bengal government’s ‘Egiye Bangla’ website.
  - Hence, this initiative of the West Bengal government will help large number of people who are stuck, in their return to their native state.
11. Which state government has decided to start the “Mukhya Mantri Shahari Rojgar Guarantee Yojna” \_\_\_\_\_ **Himachal Pradesh.**
- Note:**
- In this Yojna, 120 days” assured employment will be provided to people living in urban areas. It is being launched to revive the coronavirus-hit economy of the state.
  - Adequate training will be given to the people for their skill upgrade if required.
  - The cabinet also decided to provide an assistance of Rs 2,000 to each of the 1 lakh workers registered under the Building and Other Construction Workers Board.

## Important News – World

1. The geological survey of which country has released the first ever digital, unified, global, geological map of the moon namely “Unified Geologic Map of the Moon” \_\_\_\_\_ **USA**.  
**Note:**
  - The scientists from United States Geological Survey (USGS) Astrogeology Science Center, in collaboration with NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) and the Lunar Planetary Institute have virtually released the first ever digital, unified, global, geological map of the moon namely “Unified Geologic Map of the Moon”.
  - It will serve as a blueprint for future human missions and a source of research and analysis for the educators and the general public interested in lunar geology.
  - It should be noted that the moon is the closest cosmic body to Earth
2. Which country will launch its first Arktika-M satellite for monitoring the Arctic climate and environment at the end of the year \_\_\_\_\_ **Russia**.  
**Note:**
  - Russia will launch its first Arktika-M satellite for monitoring the Arctic climate and environment at the end of the year.
  - Russia's Arktika-M remote-sensing and emergency communications satellites will gather meteorological data in the polar regions of the Earth, which will allow to improve weather forecasts and will enable scientists to better study climate change.
3. What amount of multi-year financial support has been approved by the World Bank for India \_\_\_\_\_ **USD 400 million**.  
**Note:**
  - It will help protect coastal resources by focusing on the rehabilitation of coastal beaches and mangroves
  - The 1st phase covers 8 coastal States and 3 coastal Union Territories, with USD 180 million in funding, for Enhancing Coastal and Ocean Resource Efficiency (ENCORE).
  - The loan from the international bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) has a final maturity of 14.5 years including a grace period of 5 years.
4. Which Arabian country decided to change its currency from Rial to Toman by slashing four zeros from the rial \_\_\_\_\_ **Iran**.  
**Note:**
  - Iran's parliament has passed a bill allowing the government to slash four zeros from the rial and authorizing its replacement with another basic unit of currency called the toman (redenomination).
  - Under the bill, Iran's national currency will be changed from the rial to the Toman, which is equal to 10,000 rials.
  - It is the process whereby a country's currency is revalued due to significant inflation and currency devaluation, or when a country adopts a new currency and needs to exchange the old currency for a new one at a fixed rate.

## Honor & Awards

1. Who has been conferred with “Order of Rising Sun- Gold and Silver Rays” by the Japan government for promoting a better understanding of Japan in India and deepening ties between 2 countries \_\_\_\_\_ **Thangjam Dhabali Singh**.  
**Note:**
  - The Japan Government conferred the decoration on Singh while announcing the names of the foreign recipients of the Spring Decoration 2020.
  - He is the founder and the former president of the Manipur Tourism Forum (MTF).
  - Singh organised the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Imphal of the Second World War and several Japanese citizens, including officials from the Embassy of Japan in India had participated in the event.
2. Who has been elected as an International Honorary Member to the American Academy of Arts and Science \_\_\_\_\_ **Shobhana Narasimhan**.  
**Note:**
  - Prof. Shobhana Narasimhan from the Theoretical Sciences Unit (TSU) at the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR), has been elected as an International Honorary Member to the American Academy of Arts and Science (AAAS).
  - JNCASR is an autonomous institute under the Department of Science and Technology.

- AAAS honors such scholars and leaders who have distinguished themselves in the sciences, arts, humanities, and public life.
3. Who becomes the first Indian to be nominated for the Fed Cup Heart Award from the Asia/Oceania zone \_\_\_\_ **Sania Mirza**.  
**Note:**
- Sania had recently made a comeback to Fed Cup after four years.
  - With her 18-month son Izhaan present in the stands, Sania had helped India qualify for the Play-offs for the first time
  - The winners of the Heart Awards will be determined by online voting by fans which will go live on May 1 and will go on until May 8.
4. Who has been honoured with a commemorative World War II medal to mark the 75th anniversary of victory over Nazi Germany by Russian President Vladimir Putin \_\_\_\_\_ **Kim Jong Un**.  
**Note:**
- The medal was awarded to Kim for the role he played in safeguarding the memories of Soviet soldiers who died in the territory of North Korea.
  - Russian ambassador in North Korea, Alexander Matsegora presented the award to North Korean Foreign Minister Ri Son-gwon.

### Sports News

1. Which sports organization has launched the campaign “#WeWillWin” to pay a special tribute to health workers and other professionals \_\_\_\_\_ **FIFA**.  
**Note:**
- Through this campaign FIFA tribute a special video to health workers and other professionals who ensure the society continues to function among COVID-19 pandemic.
  - Former India football captain Bhaichung Bhutia who is also featured among 50 past and present football stars.
2. The governing body of swimming the Federation Internationale de Natation (FINA) has postponed the 2021 aquatics world championships to 2022. The tournament is scheduled to be held in which country \_\_\_\_ **Japan**.  
**Note:**
- Following the postponement of 2020 Tokyo Olympics to 2021 the governing body of swimming Federation Internationale de Natation (FINA) has postponed the 2021 aquatics world championships, Fukuoka, Japan to May 12 to May 29 of 2022 due to the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic.
  - FINA had to move the championships because the 2021 slot of Jul 16 to Aug 1 clashed with the new date for the Tokyo Games, which were postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
3. Sandeep Kumari has been given a 4 year ban by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) after failing a drug test, she is associated with which sports \_\_\_\_ **Discus throw**.  
**Note:**
- World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) has banned Indian discus thrower Sandeep Kumari for 4 years after failing a drug test. National Dope Test Laboratory (NDTL) had failed to detect the banned substance “steroid” which was present in her blood sample.
  - This blood sample is collected by NDTL officials during the Inter-State Championships in June 2018, in Guwahati, Assam where Kumari had won the gold with a throw of 58.41 meters in the competition.
  - WADA referred Kumari’s results management to the AIU (Athletics Integrity Unit) which notified her of the charges & provisionally suspended her in November 2018.
4. Name the tennis player who awarded life time ban by the Tennis Integrity Unit following his conviction on multiple match fixing and associated corruption charges \_\_\_\_ **Youssef Hossam**.  
**Note:**
- Egyptian Youssef Hossam has been banned from tennis for life after being found guilty of multiple match-fixing and other corruption offences.

- A Tennis Integrity Unit (TIU) investigation found that the 21-year-old had committed 21 breaches of anti-corruption rules between 2015 and 2019 and conspired with others to carry out a campaign of betting-related corruption at the lower levels of professional tennis.

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