

# Weekly One-Liners

August 15-21



## Weekly One Liners Updates 15-21st August 2020

Dear readers,

**Weekly One Liners Updates** is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the **third week (15-21st)** of **August 2020**. This file is important for, **Banking, SSC, Railway & Insurance** exams.

### **Banking & Financial Awareness**

1. Which bank has launched 'DIGITAL APNAYEN' campaign to encourage customers to use digital banking channels  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Punjab National Bank**.  
**Note:**
  - The campaign launched by the bank's Managing Director S S Mallikarjuna Rao on the occasion of Independence Day is till March 31, 2021.
  - PNB encourage customers to use digital channels and participate in the noble cause of donating to the PM CARES Fund for COVID-19.
2. What amount the Reserve Bank of India has decided to transfer as dividend to the central government accounting year 2019-20 \_\_\_\_\_ **Rs 57,128 crore**.  
**Note:**
  - It has decided to maintain a contingency risk buffer of 5.5 percent at the minimum threshold recommended by the Jalan committee to review RBI's capital framework.
  - The central board approved the dividend at its 584th meeting through video conferencing to discuss the financial operations and the balance sheet for the financial year 2019-20 .
3. The National Stock Exchange of India jointly developed and launched Platform for Investor Education (PIE), an online investor education resource centre with which Business school \_\_\_\_\_ **IIM Bangalore**.  
**Note:**
  - The PIE was launched in a virtual meet attended by Mr. Nagendraa Parakh, Executive Director of SEBI, Mr. Vikram Limaye MD & CEO of NSE and Professor Rishiksha T Krishnan, Director of IIM Bangalore.
  - PIE will serve as a unique platform to impart investor education in a simpler way through video, audio and other digital media formats.
4. Which of the following Private sector banks has garnered Rs 15,000 crores under its qualified institutional placement (QIP) \_\_\_\_\_ **Yes Bank**.  
**Note:**
  - Investors were allocated 41.89 crore shares at an issue price of Rs 358 per equity.
  - During the share sale, Monetary Authority of Singapore picked up 4.6 crore shares, representing 11.06 per cent of the QIP size.
  - Other prominent investors included Morgan Stanley Investment Funds Global Opportunity Fund and Societe Generale-ODI picking up 7.31 per cent and 5.55 per cent, respectively.
5. Which of the following exchanges is going to launch India's first bullion index named "Buldex" \_\_\_\_\_ **Multi Commodity Exchange of India (MCX)**.  
**Note:**
  - Bullions, viz. gold and silver are already being traded as individual commodities on the country's premier commodity exchange.
  - With gold and silver as underlying, Buldex will have a market lot size of 50 and be cash-settled futures contract. MCX had tested bullion index futures trade in mock trading exercises in July.
6. The Reserve Bank of India has lifted restrictions on the remuneration of the Bandhan Bank's MD & CEO. Who is present MD and CEO of Bandhan Bank \_\_\_\_\_ **Chandra Shekhar Ghosh**.  
**Note:**
  - The RBI had lifted restrictions on the remuneration of the bank's MD & CEO Chandra Shekhar Ghosh at the existing level.
  - The curbs were withdrawn after the lender met RBI norms to reduce promoters' stake to 40%.
  - All regulatory restrictions imposed by the RBI on the lender are now withdrawn.

7. Which Indian company announced the acquisition of Akorn India, a subsidiary of U.S. firm Akorn Inc \_\_\_\_ **Biological E.**  
**Note:**
- The acquisition, for an undisclosed sum, comes days after BE entered into an agreement with Johnson & Johnson firm Janssen Pharmaceutica, whose COVID-19 vaccine candidate (Ad26.COV2.S) is undergoing clinical trials.
8. Which payments bank has launched an Aadhaar Authentication based digital savings account Jan BachatKhata (JBK) \_\_\_\_\_ **Fino Payments Bank.**  
**Note:**
- Under the JBK, customers can transact at a Fino branch or merchant point with fingerprint and OTP combination, while at non-Fino points they need Aadhaar authentication.
  - Earlier, Fino Payments Bank had introduced Shubh and Bhavishya, subscription-based savings accounts targeted at specific customer segments.
9. Which bank has approved a total of 1 billion USD loan to provide assistance for the construction of modern, high-speed Delhi-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System \_\_\_\_\_ **Asian Development Bank.**  
**Note:**
- ADB'S finance will include the construction of railway tracks, station buildings, maintenance facilities, and traction, and power supply.
  - The project aims at smoothening regional connectivity by establishing transit options across the densely populated sectors of the National Capital Region connecting Delhi to Meerut in the state of Uttar Pradesh.
10. Muthoot Finance has partnered with which insurer to offer COVID-19 insurance cover of up to Rs 1 lakh under the initiative Muthoot Finance Ayush Gold Loan \_\_\_\_\_ **Kotak Mahindra General Insurance.**  
**Note:**
- The cover will be available only for the customers who avail gold loan from Muthoot Finance under the Muthoot Super Loan(MSL) scheme.
  - Along with this cover Muthoot Finance is also offering a higher per gram lending rate for Gold Loan for its MSL scheme gold loan customers.
  - This cover is as a part of Muthoot Finance ongoing customer loyalty programme and social commitment.
11. Which bank has launched 'Loan against Securities' is a unique digital solution under its loan in seconds platform \_\_\_\_\_ **Yes Bank.**  
**Note:**
- 'Loan against Securities' is an unique digital solution launched by the YES Bank under its loan in seconds platform.
  - "Loan against Securities" will enable customers to avail loan facility against the securities that they hold.
  - The customers are required only to pledge the securities and not selling them.
12. Which company has acquired majority equity stake in Chennai-based Vitalic Health Pvt. Ltd. as well as in its subsidiaries \_\_\_\_\_ **Reliance Retail Ventures Limited.**  
**Note:**
- Total transaction costed approximately Rs 620 crores. Vitalic Health Pvt. Ltd. is engaged in the business of pharma distribution, sales, and business support services, while its subsidiary runs an online pharmacy platform "Netmeds" which connects customers to pharmacists and offers door step delivery of medicines, nutritional health as well as wellness products
13. As per the "Framework for authorisation of pan-India Umbrella Entity for Retail Payments" released by RBI what should be the minimum paid-up capital of the umbrella entity \_\_\_\_\_ **Rs 500 crore.**  
**Note:**
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released the "Framework for authorisation of pan-India Umbrella Entity for Retail Payments" on the lines of the feedback received on the "draft framework for authorisation of a pan-India New Umbrella Entity for Retail Payment Systems" which was placed on Reserve Bank's website on February 10, 2020 for public comments.
  - In this regard, the apex bank has invited applications from eligible companies by February 26, 2021, the scrutiny of which will be undertaken by an External Advisory Committee (EAC).
14. Bharti AXA Life Insurance has entered into bancassurance partnership with which bank \_\_\_\_\_ **SBM Bank.**  
**Note:**

- Under this agreement, Bharti AXA Life Insurance will offer its entire suite of life insurance products, including protection, health, savings and investment plans, to the customers of SBM Private Wealth, the retail banking arm of SBM Bank India.
  - Through this alliance the customers of SBM Bank India will be empowered with protection and comprehensive financial planning solutions from the product portfolio of Bharti AXA Life Insurance.
15. Which General Insurance company has collaborated with BSE EBIX Insurance Broking Private Limited (BSE EBIX) to sell General Insurance products \_\_\_\_\_ **Universal Sampo General Insurance.**
- Note:**
- The partnership was initiated with the issuance of the recently launched Corona Kavach cover of Universal Sampo General Insurance Company Ltd through certified Point of Sales Persons (PoSPs) of BSE EBIX.
  - The partnership will enable more people to avail insurance plans and protect themselves and their families from COVID-19.
16. Which bank has launched 'DigiGo', a digital initiative to enable the opening of savings account instantly \_\_\_\_\_ **Lakshmi Vilas Bank.**
- Note:**
- LVB's new initiative will help people to avail the most required banking services instantly through the website.
  - As a Lakshmi DigiGo customer, one can visit the nearest LVB Branch and convert his/her "Lakshmi DigiGo", account to a fully-featured regular account of choice and avail cheque book, debit card and a host of other facilities.

### Obituaries

1. Famous sportsperson Chetan Chauhan passed away recently, he was associated with which sports \_\_\_\_\_ **Cricket.**
- Note:**
- He was Minister for youth and sports in the state of Uttar Pradesh Cabinet in 2018 and has also served as Minister of Sainik Welfare, Home Guards, PRD and Civil Security in the UP Cabinet.
2. Noted Carnatic musician Dr B Siva Kumar passed away recently, he was proficient in which musical instrument \_\_\_\_\_ **Veena.**
- Note:**
- Dr Siva Kumar, a science graduate of Loyola College Chennai has also taken MA in Music from Bharathi Dasan university and followed it up with a PhD in Music.
  - He has won several awards including the Tamil Iyal Isai Nataka sangam award and the award for Ragam Tanam Pallavi presentation from the Tamil Isai Sangam.
3. Renowned personality Nishikant Kamat passed away, he was a veteran \_\_\_\_\_ **Film Director.**
- Note:**
- Nishikant had directed some popular Bollywood movies like Force, Drishyam and Madaari. He made his silver screen debut in 2004 with the Hindi movie Hava Aney Dey.
  - In 2008, Kamat helmed his first Bollywood film Mumbai Meri Jaan. As an actor, he was known for his performances in Daddy, Rocky Handsome, Julie 2 and Bhavesh Joshi. He was also the creative producer of the web series The Final Call and Rangbaaz Phirse.
4. Renowned personality Pandit Jasraj passed away recently, he was a veteran \_\_\_\_\_ **Vocalist.**
- Note:**
- Pandit Jasraj was a recipient of India's fourth-highest civilian award, Padma Shri in 1975; Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 1987 and Padma Bhushan in 1999.
  - In the year 2000, the government of India conferred him with Padma Vibhushan, the second-highest civilian honour in the country.
5. Legendary sportsperson Angela Buxton passed away recently; she was associated with which sports \_\_\_\_\_ **Tennis.**
- Note:**
- Buxton won the women's doubles alongside Althea Gibson at both Roland Garros and Wimbledon in 1956.
  - Buxton also reached the singles final at Wimbledon 1956 but lost to American Shirley Fry.
6. Renowned personality Russell A. Kirsch passed away recently, he was a veteran \_\_\_\_\_ **computer scientist.**
- Note:**

- Russell Kirsch, a computer scientist credited with inventing the pixel and scanning the world's first digital photograph, passed away at his home in Portland.
- Pixels, the digital dots used to display photos; video and computer screens were invented by Russell Kirsch in 1957. He scanned the world's first digital photograph.

### Important Days

1. The World Humanitarian Day (WHD) is observed globally every year on \_\_\_\_ **19th August**.

**Note:**

- This day is celebrated to pay tribute to humanitarian personnel and those workers who lost or risked their lives while doing humanitarian service.
- This year is the 11th edition of World Humanitarian Day.

2. The World Photography Day also known as World Photo Day is observed annually on \_\_\_\_ **19th August**.

**Note:**

- The Day is celebrated to inspire photographers across the globe to share a single photo with a purpose of sharing their world to the world.
- The day celebrates the arts, crafts, science and history of Photography.

3. Indian Akshay Urja Day or Renewable Energy Day is observed on every year on which date \_\_\_\_ **20th August**.

**Note:**

- It is significant to promote awareness about renewable resources among people who are ignorant about the subject.
- Indian Akshay Urja Day was established in 2004 to support renewable energy development programs and promote its use instead of traditional sources of energy. The very first event relating to Akshay Urja Diwas was organized in New Delhi.

4. Whose birth anniversary is celebrated as Sadbhavana Diwas or Harmony Day on 20th August every year \_\_\_\_ **Rajiv Gandhi**.

**Note:**

- This year on 20th August 2020, we are going to celebrate the 76th birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.
- The Indian National Congress instituted Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavana Award in 1992, a year after his death.
- Every year this day is celebrated in the memory of the late Rajiv Gandhi who was the youngest Prime Minister of India at the age of 40 years.

5. World Mosquito Day is observed annually on which date \_\_\_\_ **20th August**.

**Note:**

- The Day is celebrated to raise awareness about the Causes and Prevention of Malaria and to commemorate the discovery made by British Doctor Sir Ronald Ross in 1897 that female Anopheles mosquitoes transmit Malaria between humans.

6. The World Senior Citizen Day is observed globally every year on \_\_\_\_ **21st August**.

**Note:**

- This day is celebrated to raise awareness about issues affecting older people, such as deterioration with age and the abuse of the elderly and support, honour and show appreciation to seniors and to recognize their achievements.
- The World Senior Citizen's Day also recognises and acknowledges the contributions of older people to society.

7. International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism observed globally every year on \_\_\_\_ **21st August**.

**Note:**

- The day is observed to pay tribute to the individuals across the globe who have been attacked, injured, traumatized or lost their lives because of terrorist attacks.
- This year, the 3rd commemoration of the day will focus on the response to the pandemic and cancellation of many memorials and commemorations, it is critical to take the time to remember and honour the victims of terrorism.

### New Appointments

1. Who has been appointed as the Director General of the Border Security Force (BSF) \_\_\_\_ **Rakesh Asthana**.



**Note:**

- Asthana is currently heading the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) with an additional charge of Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), will assume full-time charge of the border guarding force deployed at the approximately 2,280 km long border with Pakistan.

2. Who among the following has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer of GoAir Airline \_\_\_\_\_ **Kaushik Khona**.

**Note:**

- GoAir is owned by the Indian business conglomerate Wadia Group.
- Khona brings with himself more than 32 years of corporate experience and all at the CXO level. He was with the Wadia Group for almost 4 years from 2008 to 2011.

3. Goa Governor Satya Pal Malik has been appointed as the new Governor of which state \_\_\_\_\_ **Meghalaya**.

**Note:**

- Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari has been given the additional charge of Goa, it added.
- Mr. Malik, who was Governor of Jammu and Kashmir when its special status under Article 370 was abrogated last August, will be replacing Tathagata Roy in Meghalaya.

4. Recently, Ashok Lavasa has stepped down from which constitutional post \_\_\_\_\_ **Election Commissioner of India**.

**Note:**

- Lavasa is set to join the Philippines-based Asian Development Bank as the vice-president from September 2020.
- He will succeed the incumbent vice-president Diwakar Gupta, who is in charge of private sector operations, and public-private partnerships.

5. Who among the following has been appointed as Executive Director (ED) of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) \_\_\_\_\_ **GP Garg**.

**Note:**

- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has appointed GP Garg as executive director (ED). Prior to this, he was Chief General Manager in Sebi and has handled several assignments since joining in January 1994.
- He has been closely associated with Sebi's initiatives on financial literacy and investor education in the country.

6. Who has been appointed as the brand ambassador of Sports eyewear "Oakley" \_\_\_\_\_ **Rohit Sharma**.

**Note:**

- As a part of the partnership, Sharma will be sporting Oakley eyewear equipped with patented Prizm technology created specifically for sports lenses.
- With this partnership, Sharma will sport the brand's performance eyewear on and off the pitch.
- He joins the likes of Virat Kohli, Yuvraj Singh and Milind Soman who have endorsed the brand before.

7. Luis Rodolfo Abinader Corona has been sworn in as the 54th President of which country \_\_\_\_\_ **Dominican Republic**.

**Note:**

- Abinader's Modern Revolutionary Party (PRM) won the elections with 53% vote, while Gonzalo Castillo who was the candidate of the ruling PLD got 37.7%.
- The 53-year old Luis Rodolfo Abinader was elected to the four-year term on July 5, which ended the 16-year run in power by the Center-Left Dominican Liberation Party (PLD).

8. Who has been appointed as the Prime Minister of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for a 2nd consecutive 5-year term \_\_\_\_\_ **Keith Rowley**.

**Note:**

- Keith Rowley sworn in as Prime Minister of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for a 2nd consecutive 5-year term. He is from the ruling People's National Movement (PNM).
- As per the preliminary result, PNM won 22 of the 41 electoral seats, while the opposition United National Congress (UNC) led by former prime minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar won 19 seats.

9. Who has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the newly launched NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of NPCI \_\_\_\_\_ **Ritesh Shukla**.

**Note:**

- It is also responsible to co-create payment technologies with other countries.
- NPCI has appointed Ritesh Shukla as Chief Executive Officer(CEO) of NIPL.
- As per the Regulatory records the NIPL was incorporated on April 03, 2020 and has Dilip Asbe, MD & CEO of NPCI, Arif Khan, Chief Digital Officer and Rupesh Achayara, Head of Finance at NPCI as directors.

### Important News – India

1. Indian Railways is constructing the world's tallest pier bridge across river Lajai in which of the following states \_\_\_\_\_  
**Manipur.**  
**Note:**
  - The bridge which is being constructed across river Ijai near Noney is an engineering marvel because the tallest pier height will be 141 meter.
  - It will surpass the existing record of 139 meter of Mala - Rijeka viaduct, Montenegro in Europe.
  
2. In Association with which organization 'Atal Innovation Mission' has launched Artificial Intelligence (AI) based Step-up module for school students \_\_\_\_\_ **NASSCOM.**  
**Note:**
  - The module was launched in a virtual platform attended by CEO NITI Aayog Mr Amitabh Kant, Mission Director Atal Innovation Mission Mr R Ramanan and NASSCOM President Debjani Ghosh.
  - The AI Step-up module is expected to drive AI education and innovation to the next level in the young minds in schools across the country.
  
3. As per the draft plan prepared by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), the "One Sun, One World, One Grid" (OSOWOG) initiative will connect how many countries through a common grid that will be used to transfer solar power \_\_\_\_\_ **140 countries.**  
**Note:**
  - As per the draft plan prepared by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), the OSOWOG will connect 140 countries through a common grid that will be used to transfer solar power.
  - "The vision behind the OSOWOG mantra is "the Sun never sets" and is a constant at some geographical location, globally, at any given point of time.
  
4. Which institution has secured top position in the 'Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements,' (ARIIA) 2020 for being the best centrally funded institution in India \_\_\_\_\_ **IIT Bombay.**  
**Note:**
  - The top five centrally funded institutions in the list are 1. IIT Madras; 2. IIT Bombay; 3. IIT Delhi; 4. IISc Bengaluru; 5. IIT Kharagpur
  - The ARIIA ranking was launched in 2019 by the Innovation Cell of the Ministry of Education. The objective of ARIIA is to rank higher education institutions and universities in India as per Innovation, Entrepreneurship, Startup, and Development amongst faculty and students.
  
5. Quality Control Lab has been set up by the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) in which place \_\_\_\_\_ **Porbandar, Gujarat.**  
**Note:**
  - The Quality Control Lab will offer tests for seafood processors as well as exporters to confirm to product safety as per international regulatory requirements.
  - Quality Control Lab is empowered with advanced testing instruments to evaluate antibiotic residues, heavy-metals, namely cadmium, lead, mercury and arsenic in seafood samples and histamine in fish such as tuna and mackerel.
  
6. The Central Water Commission (CWC) of India has launched the flood forecasting initiatives across India in association with which tech giant \_\_\_\_\_ **Google.**  
**Note:**
  - The Central Water Commission is the first governmental partner of Google to measure water levels on an hourly basis using around 1000 stream gauges across India.
  - Under the flood forecasting initiatives, Google has sent out numerous public alerts to people in flood-impacted regions of India.
  
7. With the vision of going one step further towards self-reliance or "Atma Nirbhar Bharat" which ministry has launched 'Swadeshi Microprocessor Challenge' \_\_\_\_\_ **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.**  
**Note:**
  - The initiative aims at designing microprocessors for the development of various technological products.
  - Students from all levels and startup companies can participate in the challenge.
  - Prize money of total Rs. 4.30 crore will be provided by the government in the following way.
  - Total of 1 crore to 100 semi-finalists. For 25 finalists, a total of 1 crore and Rs. 2.3 crore for the top 10 teams.

8. According to the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare what is India's rank first in terms of area under organic farming \_\_\_\_\_ **9<sup>th</sup>**.

**Note:**

- Notably, Sikkim was the first state in the world to become completely organic and other states including Tripura and Uttarakhand have set targets to be on the same line.
- In 2015, two dedicated programs namely Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North East Region (MOVCD) and Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) were launched to encourage chemical free farming.

9. Which city police has signed an MoU with All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) for extending ayurvedic mode of preventive and promotive health services in the residential colonies of the force \_\_\_\_\_ **Delhi Police**.

**Note:**

- The MoU will offer Ayurveda Preventive and Promotive health services in the residential colonies of Delhi Police through a mobile unit named 'Dhanwantari Rath' and Police Wellness Centres.
- These sources would be catered by AIIA, supported by Ministry of AYUSH.
- "Dhanwantari Rath" is a mobile unit of Ayurveda health care services which comprises a team of Doctors who would be visiting Delhi Police colonies on regular intervals.

10. The Speaker of Lok Sabha, Om Birla attended the virtual mode of Fifth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament (5WCSP) organized jointly by International Parliamentary Union and the Parliament of which country \_\_\_\_\_ **Austria**.

**Note:**

- The two days long event was organized jointly by Geneva headquartered Inter Parliamentary Union and the Parliament of Austria with the assistance of the United Nations
- The second part of the conference is scheduled to be held next year in Vienna, Austria which is expected to be a physical mode of meeting.

11. Which of the following central government departments has launched its new official logo displaying three goals of the department, Accuracy, Validity, and Reliability \_\_\_\_\_ **Labour Bureau**.

**Note:**

- The newly launched logo displays the three goals of the Labour Bureau i.e. Accuracy, Validity, and Reliability.
- It also indicates the Labour Bureau as a data-based organization that deals in data pertaining to workers and work.

12. What is the name that has been given to the interactive first-of-its-kind game on COVID-19, launched by the Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan \_\_\_\_\_ **Corona Fighters**.

**Note:**

- The Minister also launched two new videos urging adherence to key COVID Appropriate Behaviours.
- The game presents a new and extremely creative way to teach people the right tools and behaviours to fight the Covid-19 pandemic.

13. To improve the production and productivity of raw Jute in the country Jute Corporation of India (JCI) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with which entity \_\_\_\_\_ **National Seeds Corporation (NSC)**.

**Note:**

- The MoU was signed virtually in the presence of Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar and Union Minister for Textiles, Smriti Zubin Irani.
- Around 10, 000 quintals of certified jute seeds of JRO-204 variety to be distributed to the farmers through JCI in the 2021-22 crop year.

14. With which IIT the Bureau of India Standards (BIS) signed an MoU for collaboration in areas of Standardisation and Conformity Assessment based on equality and reciprocity \_\_\_\_\_ **IIT Roorkee**.

**Note:**

- In Accordance with the agreement, the collaboration will include several fields like Civil, Electrical, Mechanical, Chemical, Earthquake Engineering, Development and Management of Water Resources and Renewable Energy Projects, Infrastructure Development, Medical Biotechnology and Nanotechnology biomaterials.
- IIT Roorkee and BIS will participate in the standardisation activity through technical committees of BIS at the national and international levels.

15. What is India's rank in the 2nd edition of global research "Digital Quality of Life (DQL) Index 2020" released by online privacy solutions provider SurfShark \_\_\_\_\_ **57<sup>th</sup>**.

**Note:**

- The DQL Index 2020 analyzes 85 countries around the world covering 6.3 billion people or 81% of the global population in terms of five core pillars: internet affordability, internet quality, e-infrastructure, e-security, and e-government, and results are premised on 12 different factors.



### Important News – State

1. Which state government has formed a nine-member committee to discuss and arrive at a possible solution to the touchy issue of creation of two autonomous councils in the State \_\_\_\_\_ **Arunachal Pradesh**.  
**Note:**
  - The panel headed by Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein has seven Cabinet colleagues, including Home Minister Bamang Felix and Tribal Affairs Minister Alo Libang, as members. The ninth member is Home Commissioner Kaling Tayeng.
  
2. The Madhya Pradesh state government has announced to name Gwalior-Chambal Expressway after who among the following \_\_\_\_\_ **Atal Bihari Vajpayee**.  
**Note:**
  - The Gwalior Chambal Expressway is a 6 lane expressway connecting Madhya Pradesh with Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan, through the ravines of Chambal region.
  - The expressway will go parallel to the Chambal river via Shivpuri, Bhind, Morena to Kota (Rajasthan).
  
3. Which state government has launched “YellowChain” centralized e-commerce platform \_\_\_\_\_ **Nagaland**.  
**Note:**
  - Yellow Chain will act as an integrated platform for the people of the state, where any Seller/Service Provider/Individual/Group can register themselves and upload their products, trades, skills, services etc. to enable the citizens/buyers to have access to their Service or Product.
  
4. Which state government has launched a student centric scheme named as “Padhai Tuhar Para” \_\_\_\_\_ **Chhattisgarh**.  
**Note:**
  - Chhattisgarh government has announced to launch a student centric scheme named as “Padhai Tuhar Para”.
  - The scheme will enable the school students to study with the help of community in their localities and villages, in view of the suspension of classes due to coronavirus outbreak.
  
5. Which of the following states tops in implementing PM SVANidhi Scheme \_\_\_\_\_ **Madhya Pradesh**.  
**Note:**
  - Madhya Pradesh is the leading state in implementing the Pradhan Mantri Street Vendors Atma-Nirbhar Scheme (PM SVANidhi).
  - The state has sanctioned interest free loans of Rs 10000 to more than 58000 street vendors, so far. Identity cards are distributed to the registered vendors.
  
6. Which state has launched the ‘Ek Sankalp – Bujurgo ke naam’ campaign for the elderly people living alone in homes during the global pandemic COVID-19 \_\_\_\_\_ **Madhya Pradesh**.  
**Note:**
  - This unique campaign is proving to be a boon for the **Elderly People** living alone in homes during the global pandemic COVID-19.

### Important News – World

1. Which intergovernmental organization has launched project ‘Nirmanshree’ for enhancing the women skill towards housing construction sector \_\_\_\_\_ **European Union**.  
**Note:**
  - This is the first-of-its-kind sustainable housing on a large scale in India with 1-million-euro.
  - The project will be implemented in Beed and Osmanabad districts of Maharashtra and the Dhenkanal and Jajpur districts of Odisha.
  
2. Which country has launched £3 million “Innovation Challenge Fund” in India to support scientists in academic arena and industry to fight the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change \_\_\_\_\_ **United Kingdom**.

**Note:**

- The fund invites tech innovators with connections to the AI-Data cluster in Karnataka and the future mobility cluster in Maharashtra to submit research and development proposals for tackling COVID-19 or which promote a greener planet.
3. Recently, India has signed a cultural agreement with which country that outlines a three-year programme of cooperation to further strengthen their strategic bilateral relations \_\_\_\_\_ **Israel**.

**Note:**

- India and Israel signed a cultural agreement that outlines a three-year programme of cooperation to further strengthen their strategic bilateral relations today.
- It aims to promote greater people-to-people exchanges.

4. Which became the first Gulf Arab country to have active diplomatic ties to Israel \_\_\_\_\_ **UAE**.

**Note:**

- Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel, and Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the United Arab Emirates, have agreed for the Israel–United Arab Emirates peace agreement, or the Abraham Accord to establish full diplomatic ties.
- It is expected that the peace accord will be signed in the White House, US in early September, 2020

**Honor & Awards**

1. Name the Indian origin physician who is among 19 winners of the UK’s Royal Academy of Engineering President’s Special Awards for Pandemic Service \_\_\_\_\_ **Ravi Solanki**.

**Note:**

- Ravi Solanki, a physician working on neurodegenerative diseases, along with Raymond Siems, an engineer working in machine learning, were awarded for their volunteer work to help build a secure and fully functioning website for a new National Health Service (NHS) charity HEROES.

2. Rohit Sharma, Vinesh Phogat, Manika Batra and M Thangavelu were recommended for which award by the National Sports Awards selection committee \_\_\_\_\_ **Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award 2020**.

**Note:**

- Rohit Sharma will be the fourth cricketer after legendary Sachin Tendulkar, MS Dhoni and Virat Kohli to be conferred the award. Tendulkar was awarded the Khel Ratna in 1998, Dhoni got it in 2007 and Kohli received in 2018.
- In a first, this year’s National Sports Awards ceremony is likely to be held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

3. St Christopher School of which state won the Gold Award along with cash prize of Rs.1 Lakh from the first ever Pallikkutam National Award for Innovation in Education instituted by Rajagiri Media \_\_\_\_\_ **Nagaland**.

**Note:**

- The St Christopher School won the award for ensuring a seamless class for the students with the limited infrastructure and resources in the rural area. The Prize money for Gold Award is Rs.1,00,000.
- The rural school provided a balanced online and offline activities for the students over the whatsapp.
- The award was sponsored under the CSR initiative of the Federal Bank Ltd.

4. Which city became India’s cleanest city for the fourth year in a row in the Swachh Survekshan 2020 awards \_\_\_\_\_ **Indore**.

**Note:**

- Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri announced the Swachh Survekshan 2020 result at the Award Ceremony ‘Swachh Mahotsav’ in the national capital being organised by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoUHA).
- This is the fifth edition of the annual cleanliness survey of the country. A total of 129 awards will be handed out to the top-performing cities and states.

**Sports News**

1. Suresh Raina is associated with which sports who announced his retirement from the sport \_\_\_\_\_ **Cricket**.

**Note:**

- He made his international debut against Sri Lanka in 2005 and represented India in 226 ODIs, 78 T20Is and 18 Tests in his cricketing career that spanned over 13 years.

- He scored 7,787 runs across all the formats in international cricket. He also claimed 167 catches in his international career, setting the bar high with his athleticism on field.
  - Suresh Raina is the first Indian batsman who has scored a century in all three formats of the game.
2. Who has won the Formula One Spanish Grand Prix 2020 held at Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunya, Spain \_\_\_\_\_ **Lewis Hamilton.**  
**Note:**
- Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes-Great Britain) has won the Formula One Spanish Grand Prix 2020 held at Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunya, Spain.
  - This was his 4th win of the season and the 88th win of his career. Max Verstappen (Red Bull-Netherlands) came second followed by Valtteri Bottas (Mercedes-Finland) at third.
3. The Asian Boxing Championship has been postponed to next year owing to the disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the tournament was scheduled to be held in \_\_\_\_\_ **India.**  
**Note:**
- India last hosted the men's Asian meet back in 1980 in Mumbai before conducting the women's event in 2003 in Hisar. The tournament became a combined event for men and women last year.
  - The COVID-19 pandemic has thrown sporting calendars haywire the world over with several big events, including the Olympics and the T20 World Cup of cricket, postponed.
4. Which fantasy gaming start-up has bagged the title sponsorship rights of Indian Premier League (IPL) 2020 \_\_\_\_\_ **Dream 11.**  
**Note:**
- Dream 11 has bagged the rights as Expression of Interest (EOI) was invited by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) for IPL 2020's title sponsorship after the Chinese mobile phone brand, Vivo, pulled out of it.
  - The title rights bagged by the fantasy gaming start-up "Dream 11" are valid till December 31, 2020.
5. Famous cricketer Laura Marsh of which country has announced her retirement from all forms of cricket \_\_\_\_\_ **England.**  
**Note:**
- In her international career, Marsh played 9 Tests, 103 ODIs and 67 T20Is. She managed to score 1,588 runs across all formats and also registered 217 wickets.
  - The 33-year-old announced her retirement from international cricket in December and has now decided to call time on her domestic career as well.
6. Which sports organization has signed an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with International Professional Scouting Organization (IPSO) to conduct online Scouting Workshops throughout India \_\_\_\_\_ **All India Football Federation (AIFF).**  
**Note:**
- Under the agreement, IPSO will conduct online workshops which will provide a number of courses and webinars with regards to scouting in India.
  - The workshop will be a starting point to become a scout or an analyst and will also help anyone to understand the foundations and protocols in talent identification, scouting & analysis.

### Books and Authors

1. Who has authored the book titled "A Bend in Time : Writings by Children on the COVID 19 Pandemic" \_\_\_\_\_ **Bijal Vachharajani.**  
**Note:**
- The book is published by Talking Cub (children's imprint of Speaking Tiger).
  - The book showcased the emotions and thoughts of children and young adults, from across the country and social groups, about the greatest global crisis in recent times: the COVID-19 pandemic
2. Who has authored the book titled "Full Spectrum: India's Wars, 1972-2020" \_\_\_\_\_ **Arjun Subramaniam.**  
**Note:**
- It is the sequel to his 1st book, 'India's Wars: A Military History, 1947-1971'.
  - The book portrays the comprehensive account of war and conflict in contemporary India over the past five decades next month. It will be published by HarperCollins Publishers India Pvt. Ltd.

3. Who has authored the book titled “One Arranged Murder” \_\_\_\_\_ **Chetan Bhagat.**

**Note:**

- Published by Westland Publications, it is slated to release on September 28, 2020.
- The plot revolves around a man coming home to his wife on Karvachauth only to not find her anywhere.

4. Who has authored the book titled ““India Tomorrow: Conversations with the Next Generation of Political Leaders” \_\_\_\_\_ **Pradeep Chhibber & B. Harsh Shah.**

**Note:**

- The book will attempt to unravel the personalities, aspirations, ideologies, interests, passions and motivation of the next generation leaders.
- It will include personalities of the likes of Rahul Gandhi, Smriti Zubin Irani, Varun Gandhi, Omar Abdullah and Akhilesh Yadav.

5. Who has authored the book titled ‘Grandparents’ Bag of Stories \_\_\_\_\_ **Sudha Murthy.**

**Note:**

- This was announced by the publishing house Penguin Random House India on the 70th birthday of award-winning author.
- The book, scheduled to be released in November, is a sequel to Murthy’s last release Grandma’s Bag of Stories and will feature 20 stories.

6. The book titled “The Beauty of Living Twice” is a Memoir of which Hollywood Actor to be release in March 2021 \_\_\_\_\_ **Sharon Stone.**

**Note:**

- She unveiled the cover of the book on Twitter.
- The Book will reflect on her journey from painful childhood in Pennsylvania to her experience in acting in films like Martin Scorsese’s mobster epic ‘Casino’ which earned her an Academy Award nomination and a Golden Globe award.
- The book is set to be published by Alfred A Knopf, and is set to release both in hardcover and ebook.

### Science and Defence

1. Team of researchers of which institutions have developed a sustainable process for making brick-like structures named “Space Bricks” on the surface of the moon in association with ISRO \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bengaluru.**

**Note:**

- The process uses the lunar soil, bacteria and guar beans to make the space brick.
- The process uses the Urea – sourced from human urine and lunar soil as the raw materials for the construction on the lunar surface which reduces the overall expenditure.

2. Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has approved the proposal of the National Cadet Corps (NCC) to be expanded across how many border and coastal districts \_\_\_\_\_ **173.**

**Note:**

- Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has approved the proposal of the National Cadet Corps (NCC) to be expanded across 173 border and coastal districts.
- As many as 1 lakh cadets from the area will be inducted to the NCC with Girl cadets covering one-third of the count.

3. Flipkart signed an MoU with which IIT to support the industry focused applied research in the fields like Artificial Intelligence, Natural Language Processing and Machine Learning \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Patna.**

**Note:**

- This is to create industry focused applied research to support the reach of e-commerce to more consumers and sellers.
- Under this MoU, IIT Patna will undertake joint research activities, writing research papers, organising seminars, internships and mentorship opportunities.

4. Which of the following technology companies has launched an employment application named 'Kormo Jobs' in India \_\_\_\_\_

**Google.**

**Note:**

- Google had first launched the employment application in Bangladesh in 2018 and further expanded it to Indonesia in 2019.
- In 2019, Google had also tested this app in India but under the brand 'Spot' on Google Pay app, which saw more than 2 million verified jobs posted on the platform, including from companies like Zomato and Dunzo.

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