

# Weekly One-Liners

September 15-21



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

**Dear readers,**

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

### **Banking & Financial Awareness**

1. Which company will acquire the UK based chip designer Arm of Softbank for as much as \$40 billion \_\_\_\_\_ **Nvidia**.

**Note:**

- The deal puts a vital supplier to Apple Inc and others across the industry under the control of a single player and will face potential pushback from regulators and Nvidia rivals.
- Nvidia will pay SoftBank \$21.5 billion in shares and \$12 billion in cash, including \$2 billion on signing.
- The deal will see SoftBank and the \$100 billion Vision Fund, which has a 25% stake in Arm, take a stake in Nvidia of between 6.7% and 8.1%.

2. ICICI Lombard has entered into a Bancassurance tie-up with which bank to sell its insurance products \_\_\_\_\_ **Yes Bank**.

**Note:**

- Through this agreement, ICICI Lombard aims to offer innovative insurance solutions to Yes Bank's Customers across 28 States and 8 Union Territories.
- Bancassurance is an arrangement between a Bank and an Insurance Company allowing the Insurance Company to sell its products to the Bank's Client Base.

3. S&P Global Ratings projected what per cent of contraction of Indian GDP in the current financial year (FY2020-21) \_\_\_\_\_ **9 per cent**.

**Note:**

- S&P Global Ratings has projected the GDP of India to contract by 9% in the fiscal year 2020-21 (FY21), as against its previous estimate of a 5% contraction, due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- For the FY22 (2021-22), S&P expects GDP growth of 6% and for the FY23 (2022-23), GDP growth is projected at 6.2%.

4. SBI General Insurance Company Ltd has signed a corporate agency agreement with which bank to distribute the products of SBI General Insurance to the customers of the bank \_\_\_\_\_ **YES Bank**.

**Note:**

- This partnership offers customers a wide range of non-life insurance products and services and deploys technology across the customer value chain to facilitate superior experiences for them.
- The unique branch and digital banking capabilities of YES Bank together with the brand strength and innovative product suite of SBI General Insurance will boost the customer value proposition of YES Bank.

5. The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) expects the Indian economy to contract by what per cent in FY21 (2020-21) \_\_\_\_\_ **10.2%**.

**Note:**

- The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) expects the Indian economy to contract by 10.2% in FY21 (2020-21) as compared to its previous estimate of 16.7% in June.
- For FY22 (2021-22), the Paris-based OECD projects India's gross domestic product (GDP) to grow at 10.7%.

6. Watch maker Titan Company has partnered with which bank to launch India's first contactless payment watches named "Titan Pay" \_\_\_\_\_ **State Bank of India**.

**Note:**

- Using these watches, the account holders of SBI can tap their Titan Pay watch on the contactless payment POS machines for making payments.
- It is powered by YONO SBI.
- Under this mechanism, payments of up to Rs. 2,000 can be made without entering a PIN, as per the RBI guidelines.

7. According to Asian Development Bank what is estimated GDP growth of India in the financial year 2020-21 \_\_\_\_\_ - **10.2%**.

**Note:**

- This estimate is worse than ADB's previous estimate of -4%.
  - However, for the FY22 (2021-22), ADB expects India's GDP at 8 per cent. ADB also expects the gross domestic product (GDP) growth for developing Asia at - 0.7 per cent in 2020, the first negative economic growth since 1962.
8. Which bank has collaborated with Mastercard World Debit Card for High Net Worth Customers \_\_\_\_\_ **SBM Bank (India) Limited.**
- Note:**
- It represents a combination of niche banking solutions and thoroughly managed lifestyle privileges, including some of the finest shopping and dining opportunities.
  - The custom built card is an addition to SBM Bank India's Private Wealth offering.
9. What is the estimated GDP contraction of India as per the UBS Securities projection \_\_\_\_\_ **8.6%.**
- Note:**
- UBS Securities has projected India's GDP for 2020-21 (FY21) to contract by 8.6%. (Earlier it was -5.8%).
  - For FY22, UBS Securities projects India's GDP to grow by 10%. UBS Securities is a Chinese investment bank and brokerage firm headquartered in Beijing, China.
10. Which home finance company has launched "Apna Ghar Dreamz" a new home loan scheme for skilled laborers like electricians, mechanics, painters, grocery store owners etc in the informal sector of Delhi \_\_\_\_\_ **ICICI Home Finance.**
- Note:**
- The credit amount of this loan ranges from Rs 2 lakh to 50 lakhs.
  - This scheme targets the people of the informal sector without all the documents which are required to get a loan from a formal financial institution.
11. Which bank has launched an online credit solutions platform to provide loans for Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) businesses in a convenient manner with credit facility up to Rs 20 crore \_\_\_\_\_ **DBS Bank India.**
- Note:**
- This segment-flagship platform facilitates access to business credit across the entire spectrum of micro, small and medium enterprises.
  - For loans above Rs 5 crore, customers can avail the loan through a simple online process by uploading bank statements, and IT(Income Tax) returns.
  - If the lending criteria is met, the platform is enabled to auto-generate an e-offer letter.
12. Which public sector bank has launched lead management system (LMS) – i-Lead 2.0 (Inspiring Leads System version 2.0) \_\_\_\_\_ **Canara Bank.**
- Note:**
- The system has been launched to provide its services to customers irrespective of where they reside.
  - Through lead management system (LMS), customers can enquire and get services rendered through simple modes such as internet banking, mobile banking, call centre, SMS and missed call.
13. Which Bank has set new vertical "Emerging Entrepreneurs Business (EEB)" to support the emerging needs of the unbanked and underbanked segment of customers \_\_\_\_\_ **Bandhan Bank.**
- Note:**
- The vertical will focus on supporting this segment of customers in their journey to becoming entrepreneurs.
  - In addition to micro loans, the vertical will also manage micro home loan, micro bazaar loan and micro enterprise loan.

### Obituaries

1. Renowned personality Kapila Vatsyayan passed away recently, she was a veteran \_\_\_\_\_ **Classical Dance Scholar.**
- Note:**
- Dr. Vatsyayan was a former member of Parliament and life time trustee of India International Centre (IIC).
  - Dr. Vatsyayan, the grand matriarch of cultural research, has for decades been an icon for students of the arts and for aesthetes in general.
2. Renowned sportsperson Sadashiv Patil passed away, he was associated with which sports \_\_\_\_\_ **Cricket.**
- Note:**
- Former Maharashtra cricketer, Sadashiv Patil passed away. He had represented India in only one Test and played 36 first-class matches between 1952 and 1964.

- He made his first-class debut for Maharashtra during the 1952-53 season and his only test debut against New Zealand at the Brabourne Stadium in 1955.
3. Renowned personality Amitabha Ghosh passed away recently, he was former \_\_\_\_\_ **Governor of RBI.**  
**Note:**  
 ➤ He was the shortest-serving Governor of the Reserve Bank of India for 21 days.  
 ➤ He had served as the 16th Governor of the Reserve Bank of India for 21 days between January 15, 1985, to February 4, 1985.
4. Former president of which country, General Moussa Traore passed away recently \_\_\_\_\_ **Republic of Mali.**  
**Note:**  
 ➤ He was born in 1936 in Kayes, Mali. He was a former military leader, forcibly took over the reign from Modibo Keita (known as the 'father of independence'), after participating in a military coup.  
 ➤ However, in March 1991, he himself was overthrown by popular protests and a military takeover.
5. Renowned personality Ashok Gasti passed away recently he was a veteran \_\_\_\_\_ **Politician.**  
**Note:**  
 ➤ The first-time he took oath as Rajya Sabha MP on July, 2020. He is credited for organising the BJP in Raichur district.  
 ➤ Gasti, a lawyer by profession and former general secretary of BJP's Other Backward Classes (OBC) Cell, was also a former chairperson of the Backward Class Development Corporation in Karnataka.
6. Renowned personality Babu Sivan passed away recently, he was a veteran \_\_\_\_\_ **Tamil Filmmaker.**  
**Note:**  
 ➤ He started his career with assisting director Dharani and made his directorial debut in 2009 with movie Vettaikaaran starring Vijay and Anushka Shetty.  
 ➤ Later, he also directing daily soap opera Rasaathi

### Important Days

1. National Engineers Day is celebrated every year on which date \_\_\_\_\_ **15<sup>th</sup> September.**  
**Note:**  
 ➤ In India, the Engineer's Day is celebrated on September 15 every year, since 1968, to recognise the contribution of engineers' in the development of the nation.  
 ➤ The day marks the birth anniversary of the engineering pioneer of India, Sir Mokshagundam Vishweshvaraya, (popularly known as Sir MV).
2. International Day of Democracy is observed globally every year on \_\_\_\_\_ **15<sup>th</sup> September.**  
**Note:**  
 ➤ The International Day of Democracy provides an opportunity to review the state of democracy in the world.  
 ➤ Democracy is as much a process as a goal, and only with the full participation of and support by the international community, national governing bodies, civil society and individuals, can the ideal of democracy be made into a reality to be enjoyed by everyone, everywhere.
3. The United Nations observes International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer every year on which date \_\_\_\_\_ **16<sup>th</sup> September.**  
**Note:**  
 ➤ The ozone layer is a fragile shield of gas which protects the Earth from the harmful portion of the rays of the sun and thus help in preserving life on the planet.  
 ➤ The theme of the day for 2020: "Ozone for life: 35 years of ozone layer protection". It marks 35 years of the Vienna Convention.
4. The World Patient Safety Day is observed globally every year on which date \_\_\_\_\_ **17<sup>th</sup> September.**  
**Note:**  
 ➤ The theme for World Patient Safety Day 2020: Health Worker Safety: A Priority for Patient Safety.  
 ➤ Raise global awareness about the importance of health worker safety and its interlinkages with patient safety.  
 ➤ Engage multiple stakeholders and adopt multimodal strategies to improve the safety of health workers and patients
5. The World Water Monitoring Day is observed globally every year on \_\_\_\_\_ **18<sup>th</sup> September.**  
**Note:**

- This day is celebrated to increase public awareness and involvement in water monitoring and protecting water resources around the world.
  - World Water Monitoring Day engages people of all ages in monitoring the condition of local rivers, streams, estuaries and other water bodies.
  - This year theme for World Water Monitoring Day 2020 is 'Solve Water.'
6. International Coastal Cleanup Day is celebrated every year on which date \_\_\_\_\_ **19<sup>th</sup> September (third Saturday in September)**.
- Note:**
- In 2020, the day is being held on 19 September. This year theme for International Coastal Cleanup Day 2020: "Achieving a trash-free Coastline".
7. International Equal Pay Day is observed globally for the first time on \_\_\_\_\_ **18th September 2020**.
- Note:**
- On the occasion of the first International Equal Pay Day, and in the midst of the fallout from the global COVID-19 pandemic, the Equal Pay International Coalition (EPIC) will host a virtual global Call to Action to encourage all labour market actors to take the necessary steps to ensure that equal pay is at the heart of recovery efforts worldwide.
8. World Bamboo Day is observed globally every year on \_\_\_\_\_ **18 September**.
- Note:**
- This day is celebrated to raise awareness of the benefits of bamboo and to promote its use in everyday products.
  - The theme for 11th edition of WBD 2020 is 'BAMBOO NOW.'
9. World Alzheimer's Day is observed every year on which date \_\_\_\_\_ **21<sup>st</sup> September**.
- Note:**
- This day tries to create awareness about the condition and the challenges one may face.
  - It also attempts to eliminate the stigma that surrounds this condition.
  - Alzheimer's is a progressive diseases which leads to memory loss.
10. International Day of Peace is observed around the world on which date \_\_\_\_\_ **21<sup>st</sup> September**.
- Note:**
- The UN General Assembly has declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, through observing 24 hours of non-violence and cease-fire.
  - This year, it has been clearer than ever that we are not each other's enemies. Rather, our common enemy is a tireless virus that threatens our health, security and very way of life.
  - The 2020 theme for the International Day of Peace is "Shaping Peace Together."

### New Appointments

1. Who has been appointed as new Executive Director of Asian Development Bank (ADB), Manila \_\_\_\_\_ **Sameer Kumar Khare**.
- Note:**
- Khare is a 1989-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of Assam cadre. He is currently serving as Additional Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs under Ministry of Finance.
  - He has been appointed to the post for a tenure of three years with effect from the date of assumption of the charge of the post or until further orders, whichever is earlier.
2. Who has been appointed as Executive Director at World Bank in Washington DC \_\_\_\_\_ **Rajesh Khullar**.
- Note:**
- The Appointment Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of Rajesh Khulla for a tenure of three years from the date of assumption of charge or till the date of his superannuation (August 23, 2023).
  - Khullar is currently posted as principal secretary to chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar. He will join the World Bank in the first week of November.
3. Who has been elected as the new Chief of Japan's ruling, Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and Prime Minister-designate of the country \_\_\_\_\_ **Yoshihide Suga**.
- Note:**
- The 71-year-old will assume charge of the office from 16 September 2020.



- Suga received maximum votes of 377 of the 534 valid votes in the Party election, held to pick a successor to Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who announced in August 2020 that he would resign due to health problems.
4. Who has been appointed as the country director for India by the Manila based Asian Development Bank (ADB) \_\_\_\_\_ **Takeo Konishi**.  
**Note:**
- Konishi will replace Kenichi Yokoyama who has taken over as Director-General of ADB's South Asia Department.
  - India is the fourth-largest shareholder of ADB and has been its largest borrower since 2010.
  - As head of the country office in New Delhi, Konishi will lead to ADB operations and policy dialogue with the government and other development partners in India.
5. Name the Bollywood actor who has been signed up by the Amazon.com Inc for its Alexa voice assistant \_\_\_\_\_ **Amitabh Bachchan**.  
**Note:**
- Amitabh Bachchan is the first Indian celebrity to lend his voice to Alexa.
  - Alexa users will be able to access Amitabh Bachchan's voice on Alexa by purchasing the Amitabh Bachchan voice experience.
  - Amazon first used a celebrity voice when Hollywood actor Samuel L. Jackson made a debut on Alexa.
6. Who has been appointed as the brand ambassador of Paytm First Games (PFG) \_\_\_\_\_ **Sachin Tendulkar**.  
**Note:**
- Tendulkar would promote the gaming platform PFG and all its fantasy sports such as cricket, kabaddi, football, and basketball.
  - Paytm is the official umpire partner for IPL till 2022 and has been the title sponsor for Indian cricket.
7. Who has been appointed as the chief of the National Technical Research Organisation (NTRO) \_\_\_\_\_ **Anil Dhasmana**.  
**Note:**
- Dhasmana succeeds former Intelligence Bureau officer Satish Jha, who demitted office.
  - Dhasmana, a 1981 batch IPS officer, is a Pakistan expert and was the lead planner of the Balakot airstrikes in February 2019.
  - He had stepped down a few months later when his extended term due to the general elections ended in June 2019.
8. Who has been given the additional charge of Food Processing Industries Ministry following Harsimrat Kaur Badal resignation \_\_\_\_\_ **Narendra Singh Tomar**.  
**Note:**
- He has been given the additional charge as President Ram Nath Kovind has accepted the resignation of Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal from the Union Council of Ministers, with immediate effect, under clause (2) of Article 75 of the Constitution.

### Important News – India

1. India has been elected as a member of the United Nation's Commission on Status of Women (CSW) from \_\_\_\_\_ **2021-2025**.  
**Note:**
- India will be a member for four years from 2021 to 2025.
  - India, Afghanistan and China had contested the elections to the Commission on Status of Women.
  - Even as India and Afghanistan won the ballot among the 54 members, China could not cross the half-way mark.
2. The India Gold Policy Centre (IGPC) at which IIM has signed an MoU with between International Financial Services Centre Authority (IFSCA) to provide consultation to facilitate the establishment of International Bullion Exchange (IBE) in India \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Institute of Management – Ahmedabad**.  
**Note:**
- As part of the MoU, IGPC-IIMA an independent think tank with in-house expertise in the area of gold markets shall be a knowledge partner for IFSCA to successfully roll out the International Bullion Exchange.

- IGPC-IIMA by setting broader vision, developing success strategies and creating operating guidelines for smooth functioning of the bullion exchange, will take a top-down approach.

3. The union cabinet approved the Orbital Rail Corridor Project for which state \_\_\_\_\_ **Haryana**.

**Note:**

- The project will be implemented by Haryana Rail Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (HRIDC) and the estimated completion cost of the project is Rs. 5,617 crore.

4. What is the theme of the 4th edition of Global Ayurveda Summit which was inaugurated by the vice president Muppavarapu Venkaiah Naidu \_\_\_\_\_ **Emerging Opportunities for Ayurveda during Pandemic**.

**Note:**

- The summit will include 8-day International Conference, 30-day International Exhibition and Focused Business to Business Meetings and participation from more than 25 countries.
- The objective of the summit is to showcase the Ayurveda immunity model to the global level as a solution named 'Health as One' and 'Immunity through Ayurveda'.

5. Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with which company for Magnetic Levitation Projects in India \_\_\_\_\_ **SwissRapid AG**.

**Note:**

- The agreement has been signed in the backdrop of Government of India's initiatives of 'Make in India' & 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat'.
- The MoU will enable the Indigenous manufacturing of the State-of-the-art Maglev Trains.
- The MoU will set the foundation for cooperation and exploration of mutually beneficial business opportunities.

6. What is India's rank in the in the latest edition of the World Bank's annual Human Capital Index that benchmarks key components of human capital across countries \_\_\_\_\_ **116<sup>th</sup>**.

**Note:**

- However, India's score increased to 0.49 from 0.44 in 2018, as per the Human Capital Index report released by the World Bank.
- The 2020 Human Capital Index update includes health and education data for 174 countries — covering 98 per cent of the world's population — up to March 2020, providing a pre-pandemic baseline on the health and education of children, with the biggest strides made in low-income countries.

7. Which city finds top position among the Indian cities in the Global Smart City Index released by the Institute for Management Development (IMD), in collaboration with Singapore University for Technology and Design (SUTD) \_\_\_\_\_ **Hyderabad**.

**Note:**

- The index ranks cities based on economic and technological data, as well as by their citizens' perceptions of how "smart" their cities are.
- The index has been topped by Singapore, followed by Helsinki and Zurich as top three smart cities.
- In the 2020 Smart City Index, Hyderabad was the top Indian city, placed at the 85th position

8. At which airport India opened its first exclusive private jet terminal \_\_\_\_\_ **Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi**.

**Note:**

- The Terminal was inaugurated by the Union Civil Aviation Minister Hardeep Singh Puri. The airport will allow movement of 150 jets on daily basis.
- The new terminal has capacity to handle over 50 passengers in an hour.
- The Ultra rich population of India has grown by 116% between 2013 and 2018. It is expected to increase more by 37% by 2023. The Ultra rich individuals are defined as persons with the net worth of 30 million USD.

9. The Ministry of AYUSH signed an MoU with which ministry to control Malnutrition as a part of POSHAN Abhiyaan \_\_\_\_\_  
**Ministry of Women and Child Development.**

**Note:**

- The MoU will see some time-tested and scientifically proven Ayush-based solutions being adopted for controlling malnutrition in the country.
- The MoU will help in tackling the problem of malnutrition in mothers and children in the country.

10. Which Public Sector Undertakings has been granted Bureau of Indian Standards – BIS certification for all its products \_\_\_\_\_  
**Hindustan Organic Chemicals Limited (HOCL).**

**Note:**

- The company is also supporting and implementing the Make in India initiative of Government of India in one or other way.
- It is a leader in chemical industry has manufacturing unit at Kochi in Kerala.
- All the products of the Hindustan Organic Chemicals Limited (HOCL) are widely being accepted, especially in Pharmaceutical industry where the highest product quality is called for.

11. Which government entity is observing “Swachhta Pakhwara” from 16th to 30th September 2020 \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Railway.**

**Note:**

- During the Pakhwara, intensive cleaning and sanitization of stations, trains, tracks, colonies and other railway establishments is being carried out with special focus on plastic waste management.

12. The Square Kilometre Array (SKA) programme, an international initiative building the world’s largest radio telescope will have control systems designed and built by which IT company \_\_\_\_\_ **Tata Consultancy Services (TCS).**

**Note:**

- Several other multiple leading Indian scientific Institutions are also contributing to the project under the leadership of TCS.
- The National Centre for Radio Astrophysics (NCRA) of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) is the lead Telescope Manager (TM) of the project, while other institutes like Raman Research Institute (RRI) and the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) in Bengaluru, Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA) in Pune, multiple IITs, among other Indian institutes are scientific partners

13. The 1.9 km-long Kosi Rail Mega Bridge project was inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi in which state of India \_\_\_\_\_  
**Bihar.**

**Note:**

- This was Mr. Modi’s fourth digital inauguration and foundation-laying ceremonies of projects and plans in poll-bound Bihar.
- The 1.9 km-long Kosi rail mega bridge on river Kosi, constructed at a cost of ₹516 crore, will connect Bihar to its north-eastern part and has strategic importance as well along the India-Nepal border.

14. Foundation station for the construction of Arun Jaitley Memorial Sports Complex has been laid down in which place \_\_\_\_\_  
**Kathua, Jammu & Kashmir.**

**Note:**

- Arun Jaitley Memorial Sports Complex will spread over 270 kanals of land and is being undertaken under the Prime Minister’s Development Package (PMDP) at an estimated cost of Rs.58.23 crore.
- The State of Art Sports Complex will be first of its kind sports complex in the Northern Region, having multiple sports facilities of international and national standards in one place.

15. Which IIT has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology (OUAT), Bhubaneshwar to generate frontier technologies and produce quality manpower in the field of agricultural research \_\_\_\_\_ **IIT Roorkee.**

**Note:**



- According to the MoU, both institutions will collaborate in research programmes where IITR and OUAT would work jointly in the field of Agriculture in the field of Genomics, Transgenics and Metabolomics, crop improvement, Information and Communication, application of Sensor in agriculture, information and communication, IT-based societal development and related aspects of Agriculture leading to the creation of rural livelihood opportunities

**16.** The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the establishment of a new All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) at \_\_\_\_\_ **Darbhanga, Bihar.**

**Note:**

- The total cost will be Rs.1264 crore and is likely to be completed within four years from the date of the approval of Government of India. The medical college will have 100 MBBS seats.

**17.** The Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package Insurance Scheme for Health Workers Fighting COVID-19 has been extended for another \_\_\_\_\_ **six months.**

**Note:**

- It was announced on 30th March this year for a period of 90 days and it was extended for a further period of 90 days up to 25th September.
- The scheme has now been extended for another 180 days.

### Important News – State

**1.** Which state government has launched 'My Family, My Responsibility' Campaign to tackle COVID 19 \_\_\_\_\_ **Maharashtra.**

**Note:**

- The campaign aims to motivate the maximum number of people to adopt a new lifestyle for effective COVID-19 control and also aims to reach people before the virus reaches them.
- It's main objective is to achieve effective healthcare education for the control of COVID-29. It will be conducted in 2 phases.

**2.** Which state government has signed an MoU with the SIDBI to increase self-reliance and provide capacity building and market support to the MSMEs in the state \_\_\_\_\_ **Gujarat.**

**Note:**

- The objective is also to hasten technology transfer and innovation within the state.
- SIDBI will help the small scale industries in the state to come out of the current COVID-19 situation effectively, and also evaluate the feasibility of infrastructure projects and common facility centres for MSME clusters in the state

**3.** Which state government has approved the 'Tourism Policy 2020-25' to boost tourism related aspects within the state and promote tourism at the district-level \_\_\_\_\_ **Karnataka.**

**Note:**

- The policy plans to give a boost to tourism related to heritage, wildlife, spiritual, cultural, adventure, coastal, nature, health and agriculture.
- The department plans to offer subsidies which have been enhanced to ₹10 crore from ₹1.2 crore under the new policy with a focus on districts and non-traditional tourist circuits.

**4.** Which state government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) to develop its micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) ecosystem \_\_\_\_\_ **Rajasthan.**

**Note:**

- This MoU will support the state government to have a better understanding and provide better solutions for the problems of MSMEs.
- Under this MoU, the Department of Industries of Rajasthan and SIDBI will work together to provide financial, technical, marketing and export support to the MSMEs in the state.
- This partnership with SIDBI will promote the state's innovative cluster-based thinking.

**5.** Which state government has launched a new road accident insurance scheme to provide timely treatment to victims that could help to reduce the fatality rate \_\_\_\_\_ **Maharashtra.**

**Note:**

- The scheme has been named after late Shiv Sena chief Balasaheb Thackeray.

- Under the Balasaheb Thackeray Accidental Insurance Scheme, an accident victim will be provided treatment in nearby hospitals in the first 72 hours of the incident.
6. Which state is the happiest state as per the first all India Happiness Report covering all states and Union Territories measuring happiness across the country \_\_\_\_ **Mizoram**.
- Note:**
- Overall, states from the Northeast Indian region have fared well in the survey, and Mizoram has topped in the happiness rankings among all; the states and union territories in the country.
  - Mizoram, Punjab, Andaman, and the Nicobar Islands are the top three in the list of states/union territories.
7. Which state government has launched a health and nutrition helpline to ensure children under six years of age get nutritional supplements and regular immunization doses \_\_\_\_ **Delhi**.
- Note:**
- The helpline, 'Sehat evam Poshan Saathinwas', will remain operational 24X7 in collaboration with NGO Indus Action.
  - Once a call is received on the number, 011-41193903, the team at the DCPCR will connect back with the caller within one-two days and register the grievance.
8. Which state government has launched 'Poshan Sarkar' program to ensure participation and leadership of local bodies- Gram Panchayats and Urban Bodies in the nutrition campaign \_\_\_\_ **Madhya Pradesh**.
- Note:**
- The main objective of the Poshan Sarkar programme is to eliminate the malnutrition by helping the Gram Panchayat and the Urban Bodies in the nutrition campaign.
  - Various activities will be organized under this. Under the programme, nutrition resolution will be passed in all Gram Panchayats/ Nagar Panchayats /Urban Bodies.
9. Which state government has launched Mukhyamantri Mahila Utkarsh Yojana (MMUY), a scheme of providing interest-free loans to women's groups in the state \_\_\_\_ **Gujarat**.
- Note:**
- Under the scheme, the government is expected to disburse interest-free loans to the tune of Rs 1,000 crore to women to help them become self-reliant (atmanirbhar). Each group with 10 women members will be eligible for the loan.
  - As part of the scheme, the interest on the loans will be paid to the banks by the government. This is expected to cost the state exchequer approximately Rs 170 crore.
10. Which state government approved a letter of intent (LOI) for the world's first Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) terminal \_\_\_\_ **Gujarat**.
- Note:**
- The project will be developed jointly by UK-headquartered Foresight Group, Mumbai-based Padmanabh Mafatlal Group and a Netherland-based consortium.
  - Apart from the CNG terminal, the investors would also develop a Ro-Ro terminal (for roll-on/roll-off ships), liquid cargo terminal and container terminal at Bhavnagar.
11. Amazon India has set up an all-women delivery station in \_\_\_\_ **Kadi, Gujarat**.
- Note:**
- The new all-women delivery station, operated by a delivery service partner, is part of the company's efforts towards increasing participation of women in the workforce.
  - In 2016, the company had launched its first all-women delivery station in India, with its partner in Chennai, Tamil Nadu
12. Which state government has launched the "Arthika Spandana" programme of disbursing loans to the tune of ₹ 39,300 crore through various cooperative institutions \_\_\_\_ **Karnataka**.
- Note:**
- Under this scheme, ₹15,300 crore would be disbursed to the agriculture sector while a sum of ₹24,000 crore would be earmarked for the non-agricultural sector.

**Important News – World**

1. Abraham Accord, which is the first Arab-Israeli peace deal in 26 years has been signed which three countries \_\_\_\_ **Israel, UAE, Bahrain.**  
**Note:**
  - This was hosted by the US President Donald Trump.
  - The UAE was represented by Foreign Minister Abdullah bin Zayed and Bahrain by Foreign Minister Abdullatif Al Zayani.
  - The Arab Accord — essentially bilateral agreements with Israel — does not mention the Israeli-Palestinian conflict
2. Cyclone 'Sally' hits which of the following countries \_\_\_\_ **USA.**  
**Note:**
  - Sally could hit Alabama, Florida and Mississippi coasts causing massive flash flooding and storm surges of up to 7 feet in some spots.
  - Its languid pace recalls 2017's Hurricane Harvey, which dumped several feet of rain over a period of days on the Houston area, causing major damage.
3. Which of the following philanthropic foundation announced two new grants, totalling USD 4.5 million to help improve farmer livelihoods in India \_\_\_\_ **Walmart Foundation.**  
**Note:**
  - The new grants will help two NGOs — Tanager and PRADAN — to further scale their efforts to help farmers earn more from the improved output and fair market access.
  - Both grantees will focus on increasing opportunities for women farmers via farmer producer organisations (FPOs).
4. Which has become the first airport in the world to be certified with "COVID-19 5-star airport rating" from Skytrax, a U.K.-based airport and airline review firm \_\_\_\_ **Fiumicino International Airport (FCO), Rome.**  
**Note:**
  - FCO, also known as the Leonardo Da Vinci International Airport, is the busiest airport in Italy.
  - The COVID-19 ratings for hygiene by Skytrax was based on a combination of procedural efficiency checks, visual observation analysis and ATP sampling tests.
  - Fiumicino Airport earned the 5-star rating for the hygiene processes and other preventative measures in place to help reduce the spread of Coronavirus.
5. Which country declares rape a national emergency after spike in cases \_\_\_\_ **Liberia.**  
**Note:**
  - The move comes after thousands of Liberians protested against rising incidents of rape in the capital Monrovia last month in a bid to draw attention to the country's alarming rate of sexual assault.
  - The government will also establish a so-called "national security task force" on sexual and gender-based violence.

### Honor & Awards

1. Who has been conferred with the Lifetime Achievement Award by Euromoney Awards of Excellence 2020 \_\_\_\_ **Aditya Puri.**  
**Note:**
  - The publication has recognised the iconic leader for his skills in building a world-class Indian bank at a time where there were no similar institutions in existence.
  - The coveted honour from the global financial magazine in recognition of his illustrious career in banking comes just ahead of his retirement next month.
2. Who has been named in the 2020 Class of 17 Young Leaders for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) \_\_\_\_ **Udit Singhal.**  
**Note:**
  - He has been named in the 2020 list of young leaders who promote sustainable development goals.
  - Udit Singhal is the founder of Glass2Sand, an initiative that is based on a zero-waste ecosystem to tackle the challenge of glass waste in Delhi.
3. Who has been honoured with 2020 Dayton Literary Peace Prize \_\_\_\_ **Margaret Atwood.**  
**Note:**
  - Atwood would receive the 2020 Richard C. Holbrooke Distinguished Achievement Award. She receives \$10,000 as prize money.

- The award celebrates the power of literature to create peace, social justice and understanding around the world.

### Sports News

1. The Thomas and Uber Cup 2020 was postponed to next year by the Badminton World Federation, the tournament was scheduled to be held in which country \_\_\_\_\_ **Denmark**.  
**Note:**
  - India had announced both the men's and women's squads for the prestigious event which was scheduled to be held in Aarhus, Denmark from October 3 to 11.
  - However, after Indonesia and South Korea on Friday joined Thailand, Australia, Chinese Taipei and Algeria in pulling out due to the dreaded disease, the sport's governing body held a virtual emergency council meeting.
2. International Tennis Federation (ITF) has renamed which tennis tournament as 'Billie Jean King Cup' \_\_\_\_\_ **Fed Cup**.  
**Note:**
  - Billie Jean King was pioneer of women's tennis who helped United States win the inaugural event of ITF
  - Billie Jean King Cup is the world's largest annual women's international team sports competition in terms of the number of nations that compete.
3. Who has won the F1 Tuscan Grand Prix 2020 \_\_\_\_\_ **Lewis Hamilton**.  
**Note:**
  - Lewis Hamilton won a hectic Tuscan Grand Prix to clinch his 90th Formula One win at Mugello Circuit, Italy and move one behind Michael Schumacher's record.
  - This was his 6th win of the season and 90th F1 win of his career. Valtteri Bottas came second followed by Alexander Albon at third place.
4. Who has been honoured with the prestigious 2020 Asia Game Changer Award for feeding millions across India amid the COVID-19 pandemic \_\_\_\_\_ **Vikas Khanna**.  
**Note:**
  - He was honoured for feeding millions across India amid the COVID-19 pandemic through a massive food distribution drive that he coordinated, thousands of miles away from his Manhattan home.
  - Khanna, 48, is the only Indian among the six honourees named by the leading organisation.

### Books and Authors

1. Who has authored the book titled "My Life in Design" \_\_\_\_\_ **Gauri Khan**.  
**Note:**
  - It is a coffee-table book, in which Gauri has written about her journey as a designer.
  - The book will feature unseen pictures of her interior design projects, family and residence. She will also talk about her design philosophy and style.
  - The book will be very visually appealing with exclusive pictures and information that guide aspiring designers or those who are just generally interested in the art of design.
2. Who authored the book titled 'Azadi: Freedom. Fascism. Fiction' \_\_\_\_\_ **Arundhati Rai**.  
**Note:**
  - The book has been published by Penguin Books Ltd
  - The author challenges the people to reflect on the meaning of freedom in a world of growing authoritarianism, especially during the time of Coronavirus Pandemic through her book.
  - She was awarded 1997 Booker Prize for her novel 'The God of Small Things'.
3. Who has authored the book titled 'End of an Era, India Exits Tibet' \_\_\_\_\_ **Claude Arpi**.  
**Note:**
  - The book highlights India Tibet relation between 1947 and 1962. it also focuses on India losing all its influence in Tibet.
  - It shows Nehru Memorial Library papers, de-classified Indian and Chinese documents and personal interviews.

## Science and Defence

1. Recently, a team of researchers found traces of phosphine gas in which planet is associated with the living organisms which on Earth \_\_\_\_\_ **Venus**.

**Note:**

- Phosphine gas is associated with the living organisms which on Earth.
- The team used telescopes in Hawaii and Chile's Atacama Desert in order to observe upper cloud deck of Venus which is around 60 km from the surface.
- They detected traces of phosphine, a flammable gas that on Earth occurs from the breakdown of organic matter.

2. India conducts 10th Defense Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI) Group Meeting virtually with which country \_\_\_\_\_ **USA**.

**Note:**

- The meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Raj Kumar, Secretary, Defence Production, from the Indian Ministry of Defence and Ms. Ellen M. Lord, Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, from the U.S. Department of Defense.
- During the meeting, the co-chairs signed a Statement of Intent (SOI) that declared their intent "to strengthen our dialogue on defense technology cooperation by pursuing detailed planning and making measurable progress" on several specific DTTI projects.

3. Researchers at which university have developed the world's smallest ultrasound detector \_\_\_\_\_ **Helmholtz Zentrum München and the Technical University of Munich (TUM)**.

**Note:**

- It is based on miniaturized photonic circuits on top of a silicon chip.
- With a size 100 times smaller than an average human hair, the new detector can visualize features that are much smaller than previously possible, leading to what is known as super-resolution imaging.

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