

Weekly One-Liners

8-14 Dec 2020



Weekly One Liners Updates 8-14th December 2020

Dear readers,

Weekly One Liners Updates is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the second **week** (8-14th) of **December 2020**. This file is important for, **Banking, SSC, Railway & Insurance** exams.

Banking & Financial Awareness

1. Which Bank has entered into the 'FinTech' space and launch an app that offers payments and banking services to customers of any bank _____ **ICICI Bank**.
Note:
 - The mobile application offers a combination of facilities of a payment app -- such as enabling customers to pay to any UPI ID or merchants, paying bills and do online recharge among others -- with instant banking services such as savings account, investments, loans, credit cards, gift cards, travel cards and much more.
 - Besides, the users of 'iMobile Pay' could also transfer money to any bank account, payment app and digital wallet.
2. The National Institute for Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (ni-msme) and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) have partnered with which fintech company to launch Digital Saksham, a capacity building initiative to drive awareness around digitization for MSMEs in the country _____ **Mastercard**.
Note:
 - Digital Saksham is an expansive program designed to strengthen the competitiveness of MSMEs through building their digital know-how and acceptance.
 - Digital Saksham will be rolled out across 25 cities in seven states of India.
3. Which Small Finance Bank has introduced 'Money Mitra', a new channel, to make banking services accessible to its customers in their neighbourhood _____ **Ujjivan Small Finance Bank**.
Note:
 - Money Mitra facilitates entrepreneurs of local businesses like kirana / medical stores or Insurance agencies to offer retail banking solutions to Ujjivan SFB customers exclusively.
 - Currently, Ujjivan SFB has established over 100 Money Mitra outlets across the country.
4. Which public sector bank has launched 'Atmanirbhar Women Scheme' to help women to be self-reliant _____ **Bank of Baroda**.
Note:
 - This launch is part of the bank's Baroda Gold Loan.
 - The launch was also made simultaneously in 18 branches coming under 18 zones in India.
 - Under this scheme Women can get loans at 0.50% concession, under this scheme.
5. Which bank has approved a \$2.5 million Technical Assistance to support advanced biofuel development in India _____ **Asian Development Bank (ADB)**.
Note:
 - This grant is funded from the Asia Clean Energy Fund, financed by the Government of Japan under the Clean Energy Financing Partnership Facility, and the Republic of Korea's e-Asia and Knowledge Partnership Fund.
 - With this commitment, ADB supports the National Policy on Biofuels of Government of India, which was established in 2018.
6. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has canceled the licence of Karad Janata Sahakari Bank of which state _____ **Maharashtra**.
Note:
 - This means that the bank is prohibited from taking any deposit or making any repayment.
 - However, the process of paying the depositors of the bank will be set in motion.
7. Bank won the mandate to be the designated bank for all financial institution for all monetary transactions under National Health Mission in West Bengal _____ **ICICI Bank**.
Note:
 - This is on the lines of WB government decision of implementing a single bank account system for NHM.
 - Under this, all financial transactions will be conducted through online software, integrated with bank accounts.

8. The Asian Development Bank has projected what per cent of contraction in the Indian GDP in the fiscal year 2020-21, in its Asian Development Outlook _____ **8 per cent.**

Note:

- Earlier it was estimated by the bank that India would contract by – 9%. This is the GDP forecast of India by the bank. The growth projection has been kept at 8%. These announcements are part of the Asian Development Outlook.
- According to the Asian Development of Outlook, the developing Asia is to contract by 0.4 % in 2020 and grow by 6.8% in 2021.

9. Which telecom company has launched world's first satellite based Narrow Band Internet of Things network in India in partnership with the Skylo _____ **BSNL.**

Note:

- This is to bring a breakthrough in satellite based narrowband internet of things technology.
- It will also help in achieving the targets of Digital India mission helping farmers, fishermen, meaning, construction and Logistic Enterprises in India.

10. Which bank has entered into a bancassurance partnership with ICICI Prudential Life Insurance Ltd to offer a range of life insurance products _____ **RBL Bank.**

Note:

- This partnership will allow more than 8.7 million customers of RBL Bank to access and purchase ICICI Prudential Life's customer-centric protection and long-term savings products.
- It provides financial security to the customers and their families through life insurance cover.

11. Which general insurer has entered into a strategic partnership with Mahindra Insurance Brokers Ltd. (MIBL) to increase the insurance penetration in tier 2 & 3 cities of India _____ **SBI General Insurance Company Limited.**

Note:

- MIBL has collaborated with SBI General Insurance under its 'Sajhedaari program'.
- This association enables the company to offer health insurance cover to people in tier-II and III cities and also generate employment.

12. Which bank has partnered with Haqdarshak Empowerment Solutions Private Limited to help Indian MSMEs (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) to recover from COVID-19 pandemic _____ **DBS Bank India.**

Note:

- This aid will happen through the newly launched Haqdarshak MSME platform.
- The platform helps India's enterprises to access MSME-focused government welfare schemes, covering registrations, documentation and applications for financing across India.
- DBS Bank India is a wholly owned subsidiary of DBS Bank Ltd, Singapore

13. Which life insurance company has launched 'GotYouCovered' campaign, a special initiative to appreciate frontline healthcare workers who are striving to protect people from the Covid-19 pandemic _____ **Bharti AXA Life Insurance.**

Note:

- Bharti AXA Life Insurance has joined hands with Primero Skills & Training, a skill development organisation imparting free skills and training programmes to youth under the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative, to support its healthcare workers by masking them against life and health risks during the ongoing Covid pandemic.
- The company will promote #GotYouCovered initiative and encourage people to acknowledge the efforts of frontline healthcare workers.

14. In partnership with which fintech company the Yes Bank has launched 'Yes Private Prime Credit Card' for the Affluent and Ultra High-Net-Worth-Individuals of India _____ **Mastercard.**

Note:

- The card is available on the Mastercard World Elite platform. The card is a strictly by-invitation-only lifestyle Credit Card.
- Yes Private Prime credit card is in line with YES Bank's strategy to deliver premium and exclusive services to its valued customers.

15. The license of which bank was cancelled by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) as it does not have adequate capital and earning prospects on December 2020 _____ **Karad Janata Sahakari Bank.**

Note:

- The Commissioner for Cooperation and Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Maharashtra has also been requested to issue an order for winding up the bank and appoint a liquidator for the bank.

- The RBI said it cancelled the licence of the bank as it "does not have adequate capital and earning prospects".
16. Which Bank tied-up with OrbitRemit Limited to facilitate low-cost money transfer to India by NRIs and small business in New Zealand _____ **Federal Bank**.
- Note:**
- "OrbitRemit Limited a leading full- service provider based out of New Zealand has its presence in other countries like Australia UK and currently provides remittance services to around 39 countries worldwide".

Obituaries

1. Renowned personality Madhukar Gangadhar passed away recently he was a veteran _____ **Hindi writer**.
- Note:**
- Mr. Gangadhar was born in Bihar's Purnia district on 7th January 1932. His last rites will be performed at his native place today.
- Mr. Gangadhar studied in Purnia Inter College and Patna University and had worked at Patna Akashwani and later also served as the director, AIR Allahabad.
- He also worked in the capacity of Deputy Director General (DDG), AIR at New Delhi.
2. Often known as the father of fibre optics, Narinder Singh Kapany passed away recently was a citizen of which country _____ **USA**.
- Note:**
- Kapany was the first to transmit images through fibre optics back in 1954 and laid the foundation for high-speed internet technology.
- He not only founded fibre optics but also used his own invention for the business.
- He founded the Optics Technology Incorporation and Kaptron Incorporation in 1960 and 1973 respectively.
3. Renowned personality Vidyavachaspati Bannanje Govindacharya passed away recently, he was a scholar of which languages _____ **Sanskrit and Kannada**.
- Note:**
- He had done extensive research on Madhwa philosophy, besides authoring over 100 books and 4,000 pages in Sanskrit on the subject.
- He had written commentaries on Vedas, Upanishad, Mahabharata, Ramayana, Bhagavata and Puranas.
- He was awarded Padma Shri in 2009.
- He had written screenplay for films 'Bhagavad Gita', 'Adi Shankaracharya' and 'Madhvacharya'.
4. Renowned personality John le Carre passed away recently, he was a veteran _____ **Novelist**.
- Note:**
- The author, whose real name was David John Moore Cornwell, wrote 25 novels and one memoir in a career spanning 60 years, selling some 60 million books worldwide.
- By exploring treachery at the heart of British intelligence in spy novels, le Carre challenged Western assumptions about the Cold War by defining for millions the moral ambiguities of the battle between the Soviet Union and the West.
5. Renowned personality Manglesh Dabral passed away recently, he was a veteran poet of which language _____ **Hindi**.
- Note:**
- As a critic of government policies, he returned his Sahitya Akademi award in 2015 in protest against the growing climate of intolerance in the country.
- He worked as the Editor of Jansatta's Sunday Magazine, Ravivari.
- Through his writings in the four-page literary magazine, Jansatta, he mentored a generation of Hindi writers.

Important Days

1. The International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of this Crime is observed annually on which date _____ **9th December**.
- Note:**
- The 9th of December is the anniversary of the adoption of the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (the "Genocide Convention").
- This year marks the 71st anniversary of the Convention.

2. What is the theme of the International Anti-Corruption Day 2020 being observed every year 9th December _____ **'RECOVER with INTEGRITY.'**
- Note:**
- The day is observed since the passage of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption on 31 October 2003.
 - The theme of International Anti-Corruption Day 2020: 'RECOVER with INTEGRITY.'
 - The theme focuses on recovery through corruption mitigation and emphasizes that inclusive COVID-19 recovery can only be achieved with integrity.
3. Which date has been approved by the United Nations General Assembly to be observed as the International Day of epidemic preparedness _____ **27th December.**
- Note:**
- The day is to be marked to facilitate exchange of information, transmission of scientific knowledge and best practices locally, regionally, nationally and internationally.
 - This will help to prevent and respond to the epidemics. The resolution Adopted expressed grave concern stating impacts created by epidemics and infectious diseases. The covid-19 was exemplified during the consensus.
 - The day mainly aims to prevent COVID-19 like situations and to equip the world to fight such scenarios.
4. What is the theme of the International Human Rights Day _____ **Recover Better-Stand Up for Human Rights.**
- Note:**
- The day was chosen to honour the United Nations General Assembly adoption of Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
 - The United Nations Prize in the field of Human Rights is awarded on the Human Rights Day.
 - This year, the Human Rights Day was celebrated under the theme "Recover Better-Stand Up for Human Rights".
5. Every year, UNICEF Day is observed on which date by the United Nations _____ **11th December.**
- Note:**
- UNICEF stands for United Nations International Children Emergency Fund. It was started in order to provide assistance, supplies and improve health, education, nutrition of children after World War II.
 - The organisation was originally named UNICEF, that is, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund.
6. What is the theme of the International Mountain Day 2020 celebrating every year on December 11 by United Nations _____ **Mountain Biodiversity.**
- Note:**
- It is important to conserve mountains as they are home to 15% of world population. They also host more than half of world biodiversity hotspots.
 - Also, conserving mountains is a key part of Goal 15 of the Sustainable Development Goals.
7. On which date the International Day of Neutrality celebrated across the world _____ **12th December.**
- Note:**
- It was officially declared by a UN General Assembly resolution adopted in February 2017 and first observed on December 12, 2017.
8. The Universal Health Coverage Day is observed every year on which date _____ **12th December.**
- Note:**
- The theme of 2020 is "Health for all: protect everyone. To end this crisis and build a safer and healthier future, we must invest in health systems that protect us all now".
9. The Energy Conservation Day is celebrated every year on which date _____ **14th December.**
- Note:**
- Every year on 14 December, the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), under the Ministry of Power, celebrates Energy Conservation Day in a bid to raise awareness on the importance of energy conservation for the present as well as future generations.
 - The day is organised annually to showcase India's achievements in energy efficiency and conservation, while working towards climate change mitigation.

New Appointments

1. Name the Indian American Doctors who has been appointed as the Surgeon General of US President-elect Joe Biden _____ **Dr Vivek Murthy.**

Note:

- 43-year-old Murthy will be leading the Covid-19 response team.

- He served as Surgeon General during the Obama administration too.
 - Dr Murthy was previously confirmed by the Senate to serve in the same capacity, holding the post as 'America's Doctor' between 2014 and 2017.
2. Who has been appointed as the first Chief Executive Officer of the newly launched The WHO Foundation, which works alongside the World Health Organization to address most pressing health challenges across the world _____ **Anil Soni**.
- Note:**
- Soni will assume his role as The WHO Foundation's inaugural Chief Executive Officer on January 1 next year.
 - In his new role, Mr Soni will accelerate the Foundation's "work to invest in innovative, evidence-based initiatives that support WHO in delivering on its mission to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all,
3. Who has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Common High Court for the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Union Territory of Ladakh _____ **Justice Rajesh Bindal**.
- Note:**
- He will take charge on December 9, 2020. He succeeds Justice Gita Mittal, the 1st female Chief Justice of this court.
 - President of India appointed him, in exercise of the power conferred by Article 223 of the Constitution of India
 - Prior to his appointment as chief justice of the common HC for the UT of J&K and UT of Ladakh, he served as the senior-most Judge of this court.
4. Who have been appointed as International Judo Federation (IJF) climate ambassadors by IJF President Marius Vizer _____ **Sabrina Filzmoser and Flavio Canto**.
- Note:**
- The pair are now expected to talk about global warming and use judo as a positive influence in delivering this message.
5. Who has been appointed as President of the World Squash Federation _____ **Zena Wooldridge**.
- Note:**
- She will become the 10th WSF President to serve since the Federation's inception in 1967.
 - She is the second female President after New Zealand's **Susie Simcock**.
6. Who has been elected as the president of the International Golf Federation (IGF) _____ **Annika Sorenstam**.
- Note:**
- IGF President, **Peter Dawson**, is stepping down after 10 years of leadership and service.
 - Sorenstam, a 72-time winner on the LPGA Tour and former No. 1 from Sweden.

Important News - India

1. Which two cities in Madhya Pradesh have been included in the list of UNESCO's world heritage cities under its urban landscape city programme _____ **Gwalior and Orchha**.
- Note:**
- The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), an agency of the United Nations, aims at promoting world peace and security through international cooperation in education, the sciences, and culture.
 - After getting included in the heritage city list, the face of Gwalior and Orchha will totally change and UNESCO along with the state tourism department will make a master plan for the beautification of the two places.
2. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated metro rail project in which city of India recently through video conferencing _____ **Agra**.
- Note:**
- The project consists of two corridor connecting the major tourist attractions with railway stations and bus stand.
 - This metro project, worth over Rs 8,000 crore, will strengthen the mission related to the establishment of smart facilities in Agra.
3. What is the theme of the India Mobile Congress 2020 organized by the Department of Telecommunications and Cellular Operators Association of India _____ **"Inclusive Innovation-Smart, Secure, Sustainable"**.
- Note:**
- The Department of Telecommunications and Cellular Operators Association of India are organizing the Indian Mobile Congress.
 - It was organized under the theme "Inclusive Innovation-Smart, Secure, Sustainable".
 - The Congress is to be held between December 8, 2020 and December 10, 2020.

4. What is India's rank in the 'Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) 2021' _____ **10th**.

Note:

- The overall score of India is 63.98. It is for the second time in a row that India emerged among the top 10 countries with higher climate performance from among 58 economies.
- India was at 9th spot last year in the index.
- Like CCPI 2020, the first three places in 2021 ranking also remains unoccupied, since none of the countries is on the path compatible with the Paris climate targets, to implement strategies to limit global warming below 2 or even 1.5°C.

5. The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently approved the setting up of PM-WANI. What does 'I' stands for in WANI _____ **Interface**.

Note:

- The Public Wi-Fi Access Network Interface is called PM-WANI.
- The PM-WANI will promote the growth of Wi-Fi networks in the country.
- This is expected to unleash a massive Wi-Fi revolution in the country. This is very much similar to that of the PCO model (PCO is Public Call Office).

6. The Union Minister of state for tourism and culture Shri Prahlad Singh Patel inaugurated the Association of Buddhist Tour Operators International Convention in _____ **New Delhi**.

Note:

- The convention is to be held in partnership with Ministry of Tourism.
- During the inauguration ceremony the Minister made the following announcements
 - The Swadesh Darshan scheme and PRASAD Yojana was launched to develop the tourism industry in the country.
 - Under the Swadesh Darshan scheme, more than 350 crores of Rupees have been sanctioned for the development of Buddhist sites
 - More than 900 crores of Rupees have been sanctioned under the PRASAD scheme

7. The Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways Shri Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the Koliwar Bridge built over which river in Bihar _____ **Sone**.

Note:

- The bridge was constructed at an expense of 256 crores of rupees.
- The existing two-Lane Bridge over the river for both road and rail traffic is 138 years old. The Bridge has been replaced which includes three lanes of carriageway.
- The bridge will up subsequently reduce the traffic on NH-30 and on NH -922. It is all major link between Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

8. The fifth India Water Impact Summit was organized by which entity _____ **National Mission for Clean Ganga & Centre for Ganga River Basin Management and Studies**.

Note:

- The Summit is being organised by the National Mission for Clean Ganga and the Centre for Ganga River Basin Management and Studies.
- The Summit will disseminate and discuss the need for modalities of embracing Ganga.
- Also, it will act as a common platform for the investors and stakeholders in the water sector.
- The Summit will promote International cooperation between India and several other foreign countries for river management.

9. The Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi laid foundation stone of new Parliament building in New Delhi. The project is expected to be completed by _____ **2022**.

Note:

- The construction cannot begin for now with the Supreme Court hearing petitions challenging the project on environmental grounds.
- Last week, the Supreme Court had berated the government, accusing it of "pushing forward aggressively" with the project even before its decision on the petitions. "You can lay the foundation stone, you can carry on paperwork but no construction or demolition, no cutting down any trees,

10. The second TCGA-Cancer Genome Atlas 2020 conference was held in which city of India _____ **New Delhi**.

Note:

- The conference brought together scientists and clinicians from all over the world to jointly establish the Indian Cancer Genome Atlas (ICGA).

- Indian Cancer Genome Atlas (ICGA) aims to create an indigenous, open-source and comprehensive database to collect molecular profiles of all prevalent cancers in the Indian population.
11. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with which country on Technology Cooperation in the Road Infrastructure Sector _____ **Austria**.
- Note:**
- It was signed by the Additional Secretary, MoRTH Shri K.C. Gupta and the Ambassador of Austria Brigitte Oppinger-Walchshofer in New Delhi.
 - The MoU will cover Road Transportation, Road/Highways infrastructure development, management and administration, Road safety and Intelligent Transport Systems between both countries.
12. Which Indian city ranked first in the Urban Quality of Life (UQoL) Index 2020 released by the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT-B) _____ **Mumbai**.
- Note:**
- In accordance to this, Mumbai (Maharashtra) tops the index followed by Delhi, Kolkata (West Bengal) and Chennai (Tamil Nadu) by providing Highest Quality of Life while Bihar's capital city Patna provides poorest quality of life to its people.
 - Notably, this is for the first time the index has considered the factor of gender parity under which Chennai is named as the most women-friendly city while Patna stood last.
13. What is India's rank in global spam calls in the 4th Edition of Global Insights Report for 2020 released by Truecaller _____ **9th**.
- Note:**
- This was a drop for India in the rankings, which indicates spam calls actually fell this year in the country.
 - Truecaller's report also revealed another interesting fact during the three months of lockdown: In India calls to emergency services spiked by 148% at the beginning of the lockdown.
14. Which entity has signed an MoU with Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited for green energy projects _____ **SJVN Limited**.
- Note:**
- As per the MoU, IREDA will provide services to SJVN for development of Green Energy Projects, and help SJVN in devising an action plan to create and acquire Renewable Energy Projects for the next 5 years.
 - As part of the MoU, IREDA will undertake Techno-Financial due diligence (identifying suitable technology for particular project sites) for the projects of SJVN.
15. The Asia Pacific Vaccine Access Facility (APVAX), a \$9 billion initiative as been launched by _____ **Asian Development Bank**.
- Note:**
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has launched a USD 9 billion vaccine initiative that will offer support to its developing member economies to procure and deliver COVID-19 vaccines.
 - The Asia Pacific Vaccine Access Facility (APVAX) provides a comprehensive framework and resource envelope for supporting developing Asia's vaccine access, using two complementary components.
16. National Centre for Divyang Empowerment has been inaugurated in which city of India _____ **Hyderabad**.
- Note:**
- This is first of its kind establishment to re-skill and rehabilitate the Divyang Warriors of the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) who suffered life threatening injuries in line of duty.

Important News – State

1. Which state topped in the Urban Governance Index released by the Praja Foundation recently _____ **Odisha**.
- Note:**
- According to the Urban Governance Index Odisha was followed by Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh. Delhi rank 13th in the list.
 - The states were marked between 0 and 100 based on the themes empowered City administration, elected representatives and legislative structure and empowered citizens and physical empowerment.
 - Maharashtra scored 55%, Odisha scored 56%. The Other top performers were Chhattisgarh with a score of 49.6 8%, Kerala with a score of 48.7 7% and Madhya Pradesh with the score of 45.9 4%.

2. Kanhalgaon will be the 50th wildlife sanctuary of which state _____ **Maharashtra**.

Note:

- With the addition of the state's 50th wildlife sanctuary and 10 new conservation reserves (CR), Maharashtra has expanded its protected area network from 62 to 73 zones with over 10,000 sq km of the state now secured.

3. Which state/union territories has achieved the status of 100% organic region after Sikkim _____ **Lakshadweep**.

Note:

- The UT is second after Sikkim to achieve the status of 100% organic region. It is first in the Union Territories of India to achieve the status.
- The entire 32 sq km area of the UT has been certified as organic under the Union Government's Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (organic farming improvement programme).

4. Which state government has announced the construction of a deep sea port in Tajpur _____ **West Bengal**.

Note:

- Tajpur Deep Sea Port will be built at a cost of Rs 15,000 crore and will generate employment for 25,000 people. It will be the state's first deep seaport.
- The concentration of iron and steel industries around Kharagpur will get a boost by having a port at their doorstep for exports.

5. Which state has launched "Livelihood Generation for Returned Migrant Workers project" to assist migrant workers who lost their job in the pandemic _____ **Mizoram**.

Note:

- The project will be funded by North East Council.
- Provide skill based training and entrepreneurship to over 2,600 workers through 7 components.

6. Which state government has recently launched a scheme to take the unique culture of its ethnic Tharu tribe across the world _____ **Uttar Pradesh**.

Note:

- The state government is working to connect Tharu villages in the districts of Balrampur, Bahraich, Lakhimpur and Pilibhit bordering Nepal, with the home stay scheme of the UP Forest Department.
- The idea is to offer tourists an experience of living in the natural Tharu habitat, in traditional huts made of grass collected mainly from the forests.

Important News – World

1. Which country will host the Special Annual Meeting 2021 of WEF in 2021 _____ **Singapore**.

Note:

- For the first time the WEF Special Annual meeting is taking place in Asia and the second time that meeting is being held outside Davos, Switzerland.
- The first meeting outside Davos, Switzerland was held in 2002 in New York.

2. Which International organisation has decided to introduce a prestigious award "Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman" International Prize in the Field of Creative Economy" _____ **UNICEF**.

Note:

- The name of the award is "UNESCO-Bangladesh "Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman" International Prize in the Field of Creative Economy."
- The award will be given every two years and the prize money will be US \$50,000. It will be given for the first time in November next year at the 41st General meeting of UNESCO.

3. With which country India decided to establish a task force on energy _____ **Qatar**.

Note:

- This was announced after a telecall between Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Steel, Dharmendra Pradhan, and Saad Sherida Al-Kaabi, Qatar's Minister of State for Energy Affairs and President and CEO Qatar Petroleum.
- Qatar is a reliable supplier of Liquefied Natural Gas and Liquefied Petroleum Gas.

4. The joint air force exercise "Shaheen (Eagle)-IX" was conducted between which two countries _____ **Pakistan and China**.

Note:

- Shaheen-IX is the ninth in the series of Joint Air Exercises which is conducted each year in both countries on alternate basis.
 - The first such drill was held in Pakistan in March 2011.
 - China and Pakistan share close military ties. China helps Pakistan to jointly produce JF-17 fighter jets and other armaments.
5. According to 11th Edition of Emissions Gap Report 2020 (Annual report) released by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Global Carbon Dioxide Emissions are set to fall by what per cent in 2020 owing to Pandemic _____ **7 per cent.**
- Note:**
- The report states that emissions of the richest 1% of the Global Population (Countries like United States of America (USA), European Union (EU), Australia and New Zealand) account for more than twice of the share of poorest 50% of countries.
 - Global GreenHouse Gas (GHG) emissions continued to rise in 2019. 52.4 GtCO₂e (Gigatonnes of equivalent carbon dioxide) without land-use change (LUC) and 59.1 GtCO₂e including LUC.
6. Which International organization has released the 2nd edition of “State of the Education Report for India 2020: Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET)” _____ **United Nations Education Scientific & Cultural Organization (UNESCO).**
- Note:**
- Over 400 representatives were participated that includes from the government, civil society, academia, partners and youth.
 - The second edition of the State of Education Report focuses on technical and vocational education and training (TVET).
7. Which becomes the first Arabian country to establish Friendship Association with India _____ **Oman.**
- Note:**
- Oman’s Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr bin Hamad bin Hamood Al Busaidi held detailed dialogue with his Indian counterpart S Jaishankar on giving further momentum to strategic ties.
 - The aim of the association to provide a platform that promotes friendship, understanding and matters of mutual interest between Oman and India business and social communities in the Sultanate.
8. Which country finds top position in Bloomberg New Energy Finance’s (BNEF) 2020 Climatescope survey ranking _____ **Chile.**
- Note:**
- India has dropped to the second position in Bloomberg New Energy Finance’s (BNEF) 2020 Climatescope survey ranking from first last year, as a result of a decline in clean energy investment, which fell 12 per cent in 2018-19 to \$8.5 billion and has plummeted 32 per cent since 2017.

Honor & Awards

1. Which agency has won the United Nations Investment Promotion Award 2020 _____ **Invest India.**
- Note:**
- The award ceremony took place at UNCTAD Headquarters in Geneva yesterday. The Award recognizes and celebrates the outstanding achievements of the World’s best-practice investment promotion agencies.
 - The evaluation was based on UNCTAD’s assessment of work undertaken by 180 national Investment Promotion Agencies across the world.
2. Who has won the 3rd Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize 2020 for his novel, “The City and The Sea” _____ **Raj Kamal Jha.**
- Note:**
- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the winner of the \$5,000 prize was announced online in Copenhagen, Denmark.
 - Jha’s book, which is based on the December 2012 Nirbhaya rape and murder case, was chosen from ten shortlisted books including Amitav Ghosh’s Gun Island, Nirmala Govindarajan’s Taboo and Ranjit Hoskote’s Jonahwhale.
3. Mondo Duplantis is associated with which country who has been named the male World Athletes of the Year at the World Athletics Awards 2020 _____ **Sweden.**
- Note:**

- Duplantis broke the world record in the pole vault twice, topping 6.17m and 6.18m on back-to-back weekends in February just a few weeks before the global coronavirus pandemic ground the sporting world to a halt. When competition finally resumed, Duplantis capped his season and produced the highest outdoor vault of all time (6.15m) and finished the year undefeated in 16 competitions.
4. Yulimar Rojas of which country has been named the female World Athletes of the Year at the World Athletics Awards 2020 _____ **Venezuela.**
- Note:**
- Rojas broke the South American indoor triple jump record in her first competition of the year, reaching 15.03m in Metz, France.
 - In her next competition, at the World Athletics Indoor Tour meeting in Madrid, she leaped 15.43m in the final round of the competition to break the world indoor record by seven centimetres.
5. Who grabbed the No. 1 slot in the Forbes' ranking of 100 most powerful women in the world _____ **Angela Merkel.**
- Note:**
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, US Vice President-elect Kamala Harris, Biocon Founder Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw and HCL Enterprise CEO Roshni Nadar Malhotra have been named among the world's 100 most powerful women by Forbes.
 - Sitharaman is ranked 41st on the list, Nadar Malhotra comes in at the 55th spot, Mazumdar-Shaw — described as "India's richest self-made woman" — is ranked 68th and chairwoman of Landmark Group Renuka Jagtiani is ranked 98th.
6. Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has been ranked at what position in the Forbes' ranking of 100 most powerful women in the world _____ **41st.**
- Note:**
- Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman is among the Forbes' ranking of 100 most powerful women in the world.
 - German Chancellor Angela Merkel grabbed the No. 1 slot for the 10th consecutive year, with European Central Bank head Christine Lagarde coming in second for the second year in a row. US Vice President-elect Kamala Harris made the list for the first time—debuting in the No. 3 spot.
7. Dr. Carolina Araujo belongs to which country who has been conferred with '2020 Ramanujan Prize for Young Mathematicians' for her significant work in algebraic geometry _____ **Brazil.**
- Note:**
- She is the first non-Indian women mathematician to receive this prize. She is from Institute for Pure and Applied Mathematics, Brazil
 - Ramdorai Sujatha from India was the first women to receive this award in 2006.
 - It is given every year to young mathematicians who conducts outstanding research in developing nation.
8. Who has won the Social Entrepreneur of the Year (SEOY) Award – India 2020 instituted by the Schwab Foundation and Jubilant Bhartia Foundation _____ **Ashraf Patel.**
- Note:**
- It is the 11th edition of the annual award, instituted by the Schwab Foundation and Jubilant Bhartia Foundation in 2010.
 - The award was presented by Union Minister of Women & Child Development & Textiles, Smriti Zubin Irani.
9. Who has been named the Time magazine's "Person of the Year-2020" _____ **Joe Biden and Kamala Harris.**
- Note:**
- U.S. President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris were jointly named Time magazine's 2020 "Person of the Year" chosen from a list of finalists that included President Donald Trump.
 - The US president was named as Person of the Year in 2016 by Time.
10. Who become the number one South Asian celebrity on the Eastern Eye's 50 Asian celebrities in the World list published by UK based Eastern Eye newspaper _____ **Sonu Sood.**
- Note:**
- The 47-year-old talented Bollywood star has been honoured for his inspiring philanthropic work throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, especially helping migrant workers reach their hometowns.
 - Canadian YouTuber, social media star, comedian and TV personality Lilly Singh came in second and Half-Indian British pop superstar, Charli XCX, was third in the list.

Sports News

1. Which country will host the Asia Cup in June 2021 _____ **Sri Lanka**.

Note:

- As per the original schedule, the tournament was supposed to be hosted by Pakistan in 2020, however, it got postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Now the event has been moved forward to June 2021, with Sri Lanka Cricket taking the hosting rights from PCB.
- As compensation, PCB has got the hosting rights for the 2022 edition

2. Jehan Daruvala is associated with which sports who has created history becoming first Indian to win the game recently _____ **Formula Race**.

Note:

- This was the final race of the F2 season. The Formula 2 Championship is a second-tier single-seater racing championship.
- The 22-year-old Jehan Daruvala is currently a member of the Red Bull Junior Team and competes for Carlin Motorsport.

3. Paul Sein Twa belongs to which country who has won the 'Goldman Environmental Prize 2020' for Asia _____ **Myanmar**.

Note:

- Sein Twa received the prestigious prize along with five other grassroots environmental activists from the Bahamas, Ghana, Ecuador, Mexico and France.
- Dubbed the "Green Nobel Prize," this award is given annually to environmental heroes from each of the world's six inhabited continents.

4. Who has won the world heavyweight titles 2020 _____ **Anthony Joshua**.

Note:

- Anthony Joshua has retained his world heavyweight titles with a ninth-round knockout of Kubrat Pulev, potentially setting up an all-British fight against Tyson Fury to be undisputed champion of boxing's marquee division.
- Joshua had already knocked down Pulev three times when he unleashed a right hook that sent the 39-year-old Bulgarian to the canvas once again.

5. Who has won the year-ending Formula One the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix 2020 _____ **Max Verstappen**.

Note:

- Champions Mercedes completed the podium places in a processional race with Valtteri Bottas second and seven times world champion Lewis Hamilton third.
- The 23-year-old Verstappen had clinched a brilliant pole position and made a good start while Bottas comfortably held off Hamilton.

6. Who has won the FICCI sportsperson of the year award 2020 in male category _____ **Bajrang Punia**.

Note:

- Wrestler Bajrang Punia and Shooter Elavenil Valarivan received the highest honour "Sportsperson of the Year of Men & Female" Award respectively.
- Bajrang Punia, represents India in Freestyle Wrestling in 65 kg category.

7. Elavenil Valarivan associated with which sports who has won the FICCI sportsperson of the year award 2020 in female category _____ **Shooting**.

Note:

- Wrestler Bajrang Punia and Shooter Elavenil Valarivan received the highest honour "Sportsperson of the Year of Men & Female" Award respectively.
- Elavenil Valarivan Represents India in the sport of Shooting, She won gold medal in 2018 ISSF Junior World Cup, She won Silver medal at World University Games in 2019. She won Gold medal at World Cup Suhl in 2019 & she will represent India in Tokyo Olympics 2021.

8. Which country will host the Asia Cup Cricket Tournament in 2022 _____ **Pakistan**.

Note:

- In July 2020, Asia Cup's Governing body, Asia Cricket Council (ACC) announced that the 2020 Edition of Asia Cup was cancelled due to Pandemic.
- The 2020 Edition was originally set to be hosted by Pakistan, as it was cancelled Pakistan were awarded to host the 2022 Edition as Compensation.
- Asia Cup is a men's One Day International (ODI) & Twenty20 International Cricket Tournament.

9. Which event will make its debut at the 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris and became a Medal Event _____ **Breaking**.

Note:

- Breaking will make its Olympic debut at the 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris, while 3 other sports will make their Olympic debut at the 2020 Tokyo Summer Olympics to be held in July, 2021 (delayed due to COVID-19).
- The additional sports were proposed by the Paris 2024 Organising Committee.

Books and Authors

1. Who has authored the book titled “Pioneer of Humanity: Maharishi Arvind” _____ **Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank**.

Note:

- The book is in Hindi with the title ‘Manavta ke Praneta Maharishi Arvind’.
- Shri Arvind was a person fully devoted to Indian culture, Indian values, Indian nationalism and Indian philosophy.

2. Who has authored the book titled ‘Romancing Targets’ _____ **Nidhi Vadhera**.

Note:

- In this book, Author Nidhi Vadhera shares with you a systematic approach to understand the sales process which will empower you to embrace sales targets and achieve results without getting burnt in the process.

3. The book titled “Dharma: Decoding the Epics for a Meaningful Life” has been authored by _____ **Amish Tripathi**.

Note:

- The book provides philosophical lessons extracted from the ancient Hindu Epics. The book is published by Westland Publications Pvt Ltd and set to release in December 2020.
- The book is presented in a form of conversation between the characters in modern day India, which offers various practical philosophical lessons from epics like “Maharabarat” and Amis’s books “the Shiva Trilogy” and “Ram Chandra Series”.

4. Who has released the book titled “The Shaurya Unbound-Tales of Valour of the CRPF” on the 19th anniversary of the attack on Indian Parliament _____ **Om Birla**.

Note:

- On the 19th Anniversary of the attack on Indian Parliament the Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla has released the book titled “The Shaurya Unbound-Tales of Valour of the Central Reserve Police Force”.
- It is a collection of 13 most exemplary acts of valour of CRPF brave hearts who were awarded with Chakras.

Science and Defence

1. The researchers at which IIT have developed novel materials that can harvest water from humid air _____ **IIT Guwahati**.

Note:

- This method involves spraying a sponge-like porous polymeric material on a normal printer paper.
- As per the researchers, this method can also be used in underwater hulls of ships and submarines to prevent bio-fouling; and to prevent icing on aircraft windows.

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