



SSC & Railway Exams Bi-Weekly Current Affairs (16 - 31 Oct) English PDF

Bi-Weekly One Liner Updates 16-31st October 2021

Dear readers,

Bi-Weekly One Liners Updates is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the **two weeks** (16-31st) of **October 2021**. This file is important for, **Banking, SSC, Railway & Insurance** exams.

Banking & Financial Awareness

1. Which cooperative bank has partnered with which Axis Securities to offer its customers investing services through a 3-in-one account _____ **Saraswat Cooperative Bank Ltd.**
Note:
 - The facility will integrate savings bank account maintained by the co-operative bank with the demat and trading account offered by Axis Securities, which is a subsidiary of Axis Bank.
 - This facility will make it easier for customers to transfer funds quickly, reduce paperwork and most importantly, provide a comprehensive platform to invest in various investment instruments like equities, derivatives, currency, commodities, MF, IPO, etc.
2. Which becomes the 12th Small Finance Bank (SFB) of India _____ **Unity Small Finance Bank.**
Note:
 - RBI has issued a new bank license after a gap of nearly 6 years.
 - It is the first time ever that two partners are uniting equally to build a Bank.
 - Centrum's MSME and Micro Finance businesses shall be merged into Unity Small Finance Bank.
3. Which small finance bank has partnered with Go Digit General Insurance to offer instant, easy-to-understand insurance products through the bank's network of branches across India digitally _____ **Shivalik Small Finance Bank Limited.**
Note:
 - The insurance products include health insurance plans, motor insurance, home and shop insurance.
 - The Shivalik bank's current customers are generally classified into different segments such as retail, manufacturing and services, housing and real estate, and microfinance.
 - Go Digit General Insurance will support the bank in making the process of buying cover, submitting and receiving claims easier for its customers.
4. Which IT major has announced the launch of 'Begin Again' program for the women professionals under which women can relaunch their career post a break – be it for a sabbatical, motherhood, elderly care, travel, passion, or any other personal reasons _____ **Wipro.**
Note:
 - The program is for those who had a break in their career for a duration of six months to one year or more for jobs based in India.
 - The initiative enables talented women to explore career opportunities that will harness their potential and allow them to get back on track with the present demands of the industry.
5. Which life insurance company has introduced the "Saral Bachat Bima Plan", a savings and protection cover for the entire family _____ **IndiaFirst Life.**
Note:
 - It is a savings and protection cover for the entire family.
 - This non-linked, non-participating, individual, limited premium policy provides a shorter pay commitment of five or 7 years while keeping the entire family protected for 12-15 yrs.
 - IndiaFirst Life is promoted by Bank of Baroda and Union Bank of India.
6. Under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) premium to be paid by farmers is what percent of sum insured for cash crops _____ **5%.**
Note:



- The union govt has constituted a working group to roll out an overhauled Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) from kharif 2022.
 - The group will have members from Centre, key crop-producing states and top executives of public sector insurance companies.
7. In collaboration with which blockchain development company the National Stock Exchange of India (NSE) has launched a blockchain platform for gold bullion named 'NSE-Shine' _____ **Chainflux**.
- Note:**
- The platform will provide a data framework for bullion bar integrity for settlement of Gold derivatives contracts.
 - The India Gold Policy Centre (IGPC) at the Indian Institute of Management - Ahmedabad (IIM-A) and the Indian Bullion and Jewellers' Association (IBJA) have worked closely with the NSE and Chainflux to develop this blockchain-based platform.
8. Which general insurance company has launched a 'Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS)' Insurance for drone owners & operators _____ **Tata AIG General Insurance Co. Ltd.**
- Note:**
- It also announced TropoGo, a deep tech startup on the drone ecosystem, as its distribution partner for the RPAS insurance scheme.
 - Tata AIG has launched the RPAS Insurance after satisfying the recommendations made by IRDAI's Working Group on RPAS Insurance, and other valuable inputs from the Drone Federation of India (DFI).
 - RPAS Insurance Products cover both Hull and Third-Party Liability risks on Drones, optional coverage for Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) operations, night flying, data loss liability, etc.
9. Telecom operator, Vodafone Idea (VIL) has joined hands with which Indian Multinational conglomerate company for a pilot project to test 5G-based smart city solutions _____ **L & T Group**.
- Note:**
- The two companies would make partnership to address the challenges of urbanisation, safety & security and offering smart solutions to the citizens, leveraging the smart city platform by L&T.
 - The pilot project will be commenced in Pune, Maharashtra.
10. Agri-fintech firm Dvara E-Dairy Solutions Private Limited has entered into a collaboration with which small finance bank to service small dairy farmers by empowering small and medium dairy farmers with financial and cattle management solutions using digital technologies _____ **Jana Small Finance Bank**.
- Note:**
- Through Jana SFB's extensive branch network in rural and agricultural regions across India, Dvara E-Dairy intends to expand the credit and underwriting process for cattle loans.
 - The Dvara E-Dairy's digital identity (ID) tag Surabhi e-Tag will provide accurate cattle identification based on the muzzle identity. Click here to know more
11. What does 'F' stand for in TROF _____ **File**.
- Note:**
- NPCI launched the NPCI Tokenization system (NTS) to support tokenisation of cards as an alternate to storing card details with merchants.
 - The NTS will support the tokenisation of RuPay cards to further enhance the safety of customers and provide a seamless shopping experience to consumers.
 - With NTS, acquiring banks, aggregators, merchants and others can get themselves certified with NPCI and can play the role of Token Requestor to help save the token reference number (Token Reference On File or TROF) against all card numbers saved.
12. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a penalty of ₹ one crore on which payments bank _____ **Paytm Payments Bank**.
- Note:**
- The central bank noted that Paytm payments bank's application seeking issue of final certificate of authorization, did not reflect its factual position.
 - This is related to an offence committed of the nature referred to in Section 26 (2) of Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007 (PSS Act).
13. SME lender and fintech Rupifi has partnered with which NBFCs to power 15 million small and medium-sized enterprises with access to instant credit _____ **Muthoot Finance**.
- Note:**



- The companies started this partnership earlier this year and are now looking to scale this across different industry verticals in the country.
 - Launched in January 2020, Rupifi allows SMEs to flexibly repay their dues as and when required with a per-day interest pricing but without any monthly EMIs.
 - Through this tie-up, the startup is looking to build its SME portfolio over the coming years.
14. Which bank has launched Micro ATMs across the country for key banking services such as cash withdrawals and checking account balances _____ **Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd (KMBL)**.
- Note:**
- Customers of all banks who possess a debit card can use a Kotak Micro ATM for key banking services such as cash withdrawals and checking account balances. A mini version of an ATM, micro ATMs are small handheld devices.
15. Which digital payment platform has, in association with NPCI Bharat BillPay Ltd (NBBL), launched ClickPay for its customers _____ **PhonePe**.
- Note:**
- ClickPay is a unique payment link that enables customers to make recurring online bill payments (electricity, water, gas, loan, etc) and removes the need to remember tedious account details associated with each biller or service.
 - This link sent by the biller will lead the customer directly to the payment page, fetching the bill amount instantly.
16. Which petroleum company has launched an automated fuelling technology -UFill- to ensure better customer experience at outlets _____ **BPCL**.
- Note:**
- The new U-Fill outlets have been launched in 65 cities and are likely to be launched soon across the country.
 - The customers need not download any app to use the U-Fill technology.
17. According to World's Best Employers rankings 2021 published by Forbes which Indian company becomes the best employer in the country _____ **Reliance Industries Ltd**.
- Note:**
- Mukesh Ambani-owned RIL was placed at the 52nd position in the overall ranking of 750 global corporates.
 - Other Indian companies that made it to the top 100 rankings include ICICI Bank at 65, HDFC Bank at 77 and HCL Technologies at 90.
 - The top place in the Forbes rankings was occupied by Samsung Electronics followed by IBM, Microsoft and Amazon.
18. With which bank the Mastercard, US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC), and US Agency for International Development (USAID) launched a \$100 million credit facility to promote and encourage small businesses in the country _____ **HDFC Bank**.
- Note:**
- This is aimed to promote and encourage small businesses in the country to digitise, while also helping Indian businesses, particularly those that are women-owned, to recover from the economic impacts of the pandemic.
 - HDFC Bank will reach beyond its current customer base to make at least 50 per cent of this credit facility available to new small business borrowers, with a goal of at least 50 per cent of the facility being used for lending to women entrepreneurs.
 - Mastercard will provide skills training and education to small business owners on their digitisation options through existing collaborations with the Confederation of Indian Industry and the Confederation of All Indian Traders.
19. Which technology company has announced the launch of the 'Unnati Program' to help equip engineering students in India with industry-relevant data-centric skills _____ **Intel**.
- Note:**
- The chipmaker plans to setup 100 Intel Unnati Data Centric Labs over the course of next year.
 - The idea is to bring academia and industry together to address skills gap in the new age technologies.
 - Focused on technology inclusion, the Intel Unnati Program strives to broaden access to technology infrastructure for educational institutions across all tiers.
20. The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) sanctioned Rs 608 crore to the Government of India (GoI) for different infrastructure projects in rural areas of _____ **Assam**.
- Note:**
- The infrastructure projects include 52 rural roads, 21 rural bridges, 19 flood protection projects and 32 soil conservation projects across the state under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) – XXVII.



- On completion of the projects, it is estimated that 17 lakh rural population in 900 villages will be directly benefitted.
21. Which fintech firm has partnered with Flipkart Wholesale, the e-commerce firm of the Flipkart Group to provide Embedded 'Buy Now, Pay Later' (BNPL) offering to the Micro Small Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) _____ **Rupifi**.
- Note:**
- The partnership will ensure the availability of instant and digital credit with flexible repayment terms and transparent pricing to around 1.5 lakh Kiranas and MSMEs members on Flipkart Wholesale.
 - Rupifi will ease the process of digitization to boost the B2B (Business to Business) retail ecosystem.
 - Rupifi is empowering MSMEs with a purchase credit line with flexible repayment options usage-based interest and zero fees.
22. With which bank the Future Generali India Insurance (FGII) Company Limited has entered into a bancassurance partnership to increase the reach of its insurance products _____ **Bank of India**.
- Note:**
- Through this alliance, FGII will offer its wide array of best-in-class and innovative insurance solutions to 5,084 BoI branches spread across 28 States and 8 Union Territories.
 - Bancassurance is an arrangement between a bank and an insurance company that allows the insurance company to sell its products through the bank's infrastructure to the customers of the bank.
 - This partnership arrangement can be profitable for both companies.
23. Which business firm has emerged as the winner for the Lucknow Scorchers, the new Indian Premier League (IPL) team _____ **RPSG Group**.
- Note:**
- For the Kolkata-based RPSG group, this is the second innings in IPL.
 - It had earlier owned the Rising Pune Supergiant which came in as a replacement for Chennai Super Kings.
 - While Sanjiv gets an opportunity to get back into league, his brother Harsh Goenka, Chairman of Mumbai-based RPG Group, had a different take.
24. Which business firm has emerged as the winner for the Ahmedabad Renegades, the new Indian Premier League (IPL) team _____ **CVC Capital Partners**.
- Note:**
- CVC Capital Partners is a private equity and investment advisory firm based in Luxembourg that have invested in other sports across the globe.
 - IPL's first season was played in 2008 and there have been fourteen seasons of the IPL tournament.
 - The 15th season will see 10 teams competing for the IPL title.
25. Budget carrier IndiGo airlines has entered into a strategic partnership with which bank for a co-branded credit card, Ka-ching, under the 6E Rewards programme _____ **Kotak Mahindra Bank**.
- Note:**
- Managed and operated by IndiGo, the Rewards Programme is linked to a co-branded card wherein members can earn rewards by using such card on IndiGo and other merchants and redeem them for availing the benefits.
 - 6E is the airline code for IndiGo.
 - The co-branded card will be available in two variants-- 6E Rewards and 6E Rewards XL -- offering exclusive travel benefits to the cardholders keen on domestic or international travel.
26. Which general insurance company has launched a solution named 'BeFit' to provide benefits of OPD services to its customers in a cashless manner _____ **ICICI Lombard General Insurance**.
- Note:**
- BeFit was serviced by ICICI Lombard's ILTakeCare app.
 - Under the BeFit solution, medicine will be delivered to home within 60 minutes and lab tests both at home and centre visit. It also offers 24×7 consultations (tele and virtual) by a panel of doctors.
 - Its offering covers pharmacy and diagnostics services related expenses for minor procedures that do not need hospitalization.
27. Mortgage lender HDFC Ltd has entered into a strategic alliance with which payments bank to offer home loans _____ **India Post Payments Bank**.
- Note:**
- Leveraging its countrywide network of 650 branches and over 136,000 banking access points (post offices), IPPB aims to make HDFC's home loan products and its expertise available to its customers across India.



- IPPB will offer housing loans through nearly 190,000 banking service providers (postmen and gramin dak sevaks).
28. Which organization has released report titled “The Changing Wealth of Nations 2021”, according to which South Asia suffers the most in terms of loss of human capital loss because of air pollution _____ **World Bank**.
- Note:**
- According to the report, Global wealth is growing, particularly due to middle-income countries catching up with the most advanced economies.
 - But many low-income nations remain stuck, collectively holding less than 1% of the pie despite accounting for 8% of the planet’s population.
29. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India signed a US\$100 million loan to promote an agribusiness network to boost farm incomes and reduce food losses in _____ **Maharashtra**.
- Note:**
- It will help small and marginal farmers, improving their post-harvest and marketing capacity, reduce food losses, and increase incomes through access to finance, capacity building, and horticulture value chain infrastructure development.
 - It will upgrade 16 existing post-harvest facilities and construct 3 new ones to provide individual farmers and FPOs.
30. With which bank the Central Govt has signed a \$251-million loan for climate-resilient, integrated urban flood protection and management in the Chennai–Kosasthalaiyar basin to strengthen the resilience of Chennai city to floods _____ **Asian Development Bank**.
- Note:**
- Govt of India and Asian Development Bank (ADB) have signed \$251-million loan for climate-resilient, integrated urban flood protection and management in Chennai–Kosasthalaiyar basin to strengthen the resilience of Chennai city to floods.
 - It will help residents of Chennai–Kosasthalaiyar basin to cope with intensifying rainfall, a higher sea level rise, and a storm surge caused by cyclones, and protect lives, economy, and environment.
31. Which general insurance company has partnered with Google Pay to enable the users to buy insurer’s health insurance on the Google Pay app _____ **SBI General Insurance**.
- Note:**
- This collaboration marks Google Pay’s 1st partnership with an insurer in India to offer health insurance.
 - The users were enabled to buy both individual and family plans under SBI General’s Arogya Sanjeevani policy through Google Pay Spot.
32. What is the new name the social media platform Facebook _____ **Meta**.
- Note:**
- The name change, the plan for which was first reported by the Verge, is a significant rebrand for Facebook, but not it’s first.
 - In 2019 it launched a new logo to create a distinction between the company and its social app.

Obituaries

1. Renowned personality Colin Powell passed away recently, he was former foreign minister of which country _____ **US**.
- Note:**
- Over four decades of life in US government, Powell would be remembered most distinctly for his speech, as secretary of state, at the UN Security Council that paved the way for the US invasion of Iraq in March 2003, wrongly alleging that Saddam Hussein, then Iraqi leader, had built a stockpile of weapons of mass destruction (WMD).
2. Name the Sri Lanka’s first-ever Test captain who passed away recently _____ **Bandula Warnapura**.
- Note:**
- A right-handed batsman, he led his country when it faced **England** in its first-ever Test match in 1982 and played three more Tests, scoring 96 runs overall at an average of 12. He also played 12 ODI matches, scoring 180 runs at an average of 15.
3. Renowned personality Balvinder Singh Nakai passed away recently he was chairman of _____ **IFFCO**.
- Note:**
- Nakai was an eminent farmer - cooperator, and was deeply involved in providing strength to Indian cooperative movement for the last three decades.



4. Renowned Doctor M. Krishnan Nair passed away recently, he was specialist in which discipline _____ **Oncology**.
- Note:**
- Nair was known for his various path-breaking initiatives in the field of cancer treatment especially in the areas of community and paediatric oncology and palliative care and his efforts to make the expensive treatment affordable to poor people.
 - He played a key role in the opening of the paediatric wing at RCC in 1980s, also led the setting up of a Community and Preventive Oncology Department there aiming to create awareness about the disease.
5. Renowned sportsman Saranjeet Singh has passed away recently, he was associated with which sports _____ **Hockey**.
- Note:**
- The former State Bank of India hockey player, who played for Coronation Club in the local league, represented Hyderabad juniors and seniors for many years in the late 70s and 80s and also played for India, which toured Germany in 1983.
6. Renowned personality Puneeth Rajkumar passed away recently, he was a veteran _____ **Actor**.
- Note:**
- He was known to fans as “Appu” – after the 2002 film. He was also a singer and was admired for his dance skills. Puneeth was the presenter of Kannadada Kotyadhipathi, the Kannada version of the game show Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?

Important Days

1. World Food Day is celebrated all over the world on _____ **16th October**.
- Note:**
- It is an initiative by the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations. This global event marks a day calling for worldwide awareness and collective action to combat the issue of hunger and ensure healthy diets for all.
 - The theme this year is “Our actions are our future. Better production, better nutrition, better environment and a better life”.
2. International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is celebrated every year on which date _____ **17th October**.
- Note:**
- This day is a means to recognize and acknowledge the efforts and struggles that people, who are pushed to live in poverty, face.
 - This year’s theme is “Building forward together: Ending Persistent Poverty, Respecting all People and our Planet.”
3. World Statistics Day is celebrated around the globe every year on which date to highlight the achievements of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics _____ **20th October**.
- Note:**
- The celebration of World Statistics Day 2021 is a global collaborative endeavour, organized under the guidance of the United Nations Statistical Commission.
 - The United Nations Statistical Commission proposed celebrating 20 October 2010 as World Statistics Day.
4. World Osteoporosis Day (WOD) is observed every year on which date to raise global awareness of the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of osteoporosis and metabolic bone disease _____ **20th October**.
- Note:**
- The day is organized by International Osteoporosis Foundation (IOF).
 - Global WOD Campaign theme for 2021: Serve Up Bone Strength.
 - Osteoporosis means 'porous bone' and is a disease that weakens bones, and if you have it, you are at a greater risk for sudden and unexpected bone fractures.
5. What is the theme of the International Chefs Day 2021 _____ **Healthy Food for the Future**.
- Note:**
- Theme of International Chefs Day 2021 campaign: Healthy Food for the Future.
 - It is also the day for experienced chefs to pass on their knowledge and culinary skills to the next generation with a sense of pride and commitment.



- It was created by Dr. Bill Gallagher, a renowned chef and the former president of the World Association of Chefs Societies (World Chefs), in 2004.
6. Police Commemoration Day is celebrated every year on which date, to pay tributes to all police personnel who died in the line of duty _____ **21st October**.
- Note:**
- Since 2012, the Police Commemoration Day Parade is being held at the National Level at the Police Memorial in Chanakyapuri, Delhi.
 - In 2018, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated India's first national police museum in Delhi on October 15.
7. International Stuttering Awareness Day is observed every year on which date _____ **22nd October**.
- Note:**
- This year (2021) the theme of the day is "Speak the change you wish to see".
 - This year, pianist Shivank Menon is bringing together personalities from the Indian film industry to break the stigma associated with stammering.
8. International Snow Leopard Day is celebrated every year on which date _____ **23rd October**.
- Note:**
- The day commemorates the anniversary of the **Bishkek Declaration** and to celebrate this endangered cat and raise awareness for its conservation and protection. It was on October 23, 2013, when political leaders from 12 countries came together to endorse the 'Bishkek Declaration on the conservation of snow leopards.
9. World Polio Day is celebrated annually on _____ **24th October**.
- Note:**
- The Day was established by Rotary International to commemorate the birth of **Jonas Salk**, who led the first team to develop a vaccine against poliomyelitis. 2021 theme for World Polio Day is "**Delivering on a Promise.**"
10. United Nations Day is celebrated every year on which date _____ **24th October**.
- Note:**
- It was on this day in **1945** that the Charter of the United Nations came into force. With the ratification of the UN Charter by the majority of its signatories, including the five permanent members of the Security Council, the United Nations officially came into being.
11. What is the theme of the Vigilance Awareness Week 2021 _____ **Independent India @75: Self Reliance with Integrity**.
- Note:**
- It is organized by Central Vigilance Commission (CVC).
 - It is celebrated during the week in which the birthday of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel falls, which is held on October 31.
 - Theme for Vigilance Awareness Week 2021: 'Independent India @75: Self Reliance with Integrity'.
12. The World Day for Audiovisual Heritage is observed every year on which date _____ **27th October**.
- Note:**
- The World Day for Audiovisual Heritage is a key initiative for both UNESCO and the Coordinating Council of Audiovisual Archives Associations (CCAAA) to honour audiovisual preservation professionals and institutions that safeguard our heritage for future generations.
 - The theme of the World Day for Audiovisual Heritage 2021: "Your Window to the World".
13. International Animation Day (IAD) is observed every year on which date to celebrate the art of animation and also recognize the artists, scientists and technicians behind animation _____ **28th October**.
- Note:**
- IAD was created in 2002 by Association Internationale du Film D' Animation (ASIFA), , a member of UNESCO.
 - 2021 marks the 20th International Animation Day
14. International Internet Day is celebrated every year on which date _____ **29th October**.
- Note:**
- The day marks the sending of the first electronic message which was transferred from one computer to another in 1969.
 - At that time the Internet was known as ARPANET (Advanced Research Projects Agency Network).
15. What is the theme of the World Psoriasis Day 2021 that was observed on 29th October 2021 _____ **Uniting for action**.
- Note:**
- The theme for 2021 World Psoriasis Day is "Uniting for action".
 - Psoriasis is a kind of skin disorder that reasons skin cells to multiply up to ten times faster.



- Psoriasis causes the skin to build up into bumpy red patches embraced with white scales.

16. World Thrift Day is celebrated every year on _____ **31st October**.

Note:

- This day is celebrated to promote the importance of savings and how saving money is important in today's world. It is an important day to be remembered for individuals as well as the country's economy.
- Savings, as we all know, is a necessity for every depositor who contributes to economic development.

17. In India, the Rashtriya Ekta Diwas or National Unity Day is observed every year on _____ **31st October**.

Note:

- The Day is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of the Iron Man of India, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
- This year marks the 146th anniversary of the great leader who played an instrumental role in India's struggle for independence, and later during the integration of the country.

18. World Cities Day is observed every year on which date _____ **31st October**.

Note:

- The Day is celebrated to promote the international community's interest in global urbanization, push forward cooperation among countries in meeting opportunities and addressing challenges of urbanization, and contribute to sustainable urban development around the world.
- Theme: "Adapting cities for climate resilience",

New Appointments

1. Who has been appointed as the chairman of the Karnataka Bank _____ **Pradeep Kumar Panja**.

Note:

- His appointment has been approved by Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- He will begin his role as the part-time non-executive Chairman.
- He will succeed P Jayarama Bhat, who will retire on November 13, 2021.

2. Amitabh Chaudhry has been re-appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of which bank _____ **Axis Bank**.

Note:

- His appointment was approved by Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- His second three-year term will begin from January 1, 2022.
- Prior to joining Axis Bank, he was the MD and CEO of HDFC Standard Life Insurance

3. Who has been unanimously elected as the President of the Indian Weightlifting Federation (IWLF) _____ **Sahdev Yadav**.

Note:

- Anand Gowde was elected as secretary general of the federation and Naresh Sharma the treasurer during the electoral congress Annual General Council Meeting at a city Hotel.
- A total of 10 vice presidents, four joint secretaries and seven executive committee members were also elected.
- The elections were conducted by Returning Officer Narinder Paul Kaushik, Judicial Officer (Retd.), Delhi District Courts.

4. Who has been appointed as the new Chairman & Managing Director of National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) _____ **Amit Rastogi**.

Note:

- Prior to this, he was the Director of Electrical Engineering at Integrated Headquarters, Ministry of Defence for five years and Additional General Manager Tech Services at Naval Dockyard for two years.
- NRDC was established in India in 1953 to help develop and promote technologies developed at various national R&D institutions.

5. A K Goel is Managing Director and CEO of which bank who has been elected as new chairman of Indian Bank's Association for 2021-22 _____ **Union Bank of India**.

Note:

- He succeeds Rajkiran Rai G, MD & CEO, Union Bank of India.
- In September 2021, Banks Board Bureau (BBB) had recommended the name of Goel for the forthcoming position of managing director and chief executive at Punjab National Bank (PNB).
- Goel has been heading UCO Bank, Kolkata-based public sector lender, since Nov 2018.



6. Who has been appointed as the Chairman of Association of Mutual Funds in India _____ **A. Balasubramanian.**

Note:

- He has earlier served as the AMFI Chairman for the period 2017 – 2019 and now would continue to hold the office till the conclusion of the next AGM.
- A. Balasubramanian is also appointed as the ex-officio Chairman of AMFI Financial Literacy Committee, being the Chairman of AMFI.
- Radhika Gupta, Chief Executive Officer, Edelweiss AMC, has been elected as the Vice-Chairperson of AMFI.

7. Who has been appointed as the ambassador of the Russian Film Festival in India _____ **Imtiaz Ali.**

Note:

- As part of the festival, ten notable Russian films of various genres will be premiered for Indian audiences on Disney+ Hotstar.
- The first-ever online Russian Film Festival in India is organized by ROSKINO with the support of the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation, the Cinema Fund, the Moscow City Tourism Committee, Discover Moscow, Rossotrudnichestvo, and with the assistance of Kartina Entertainment.
- The festival was launched in 2020 and has already been successfully held in 14 countries, with more than 200 thousand viewers.

8. Who has been appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Group Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of credit rating agency ICRA _____ **Ramnath Krishnan.**

Note:

- Prior to this, he was serving as the President for ratings and as chief ratings officer at ICRA.
- He joined ICRA in July 2020.
- He replaced N Sivaraman, who resigned with immediate effect due to personal reasons.
- Gurgaon based ICRA is a unit owned by global rating agency Moody's Corporation.

9. Who has been selected for 2022 Joseph A. Cushman Award for Excellence in Foraminiferal Research _____ **Rajiv Nigam.**

Note:

- He is the first Indian Citizen to be selected for the prestigious award.
- He has been chosen for his outstanding lifetime contributions to the field of foraminifera (microfossil) research.
- He will receive the award at Cushman Reception during 2022 Geological Society of America meeting in Denver, Colorado, USA

10. Who assumed charge as the Chairperson of Chennai Port Trust _____ **Sunil Paliwal.**

Note:

- He is currently holding the post of Chairman and Managing Director, Kamarajar Port Ltd.
- He had also worked as the managing director of Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board.

11. Who has been appointed as the brand ambassador of FloBiz, a neobank for Indian Small to Medium sized Businesses (SMBs) for its flagship product myBillBook _____ **Manoj Bajpayee.**

Note:

- He will promote the "Business Ko Le Seriously" campaign to mark the importance of digital solutions. FloBiz will release advertisement films featuring Manoj Bajpayee as a businessman.
- The campaign is credited by Tilt Brand Solutions.
- Bill Book is a software for GST registered businesses where invoicing is one of the core business activities.

12. Who will be the chairman of the reconstituted seven-member Economic Advisory Council to the PM _____ **Bibek Debroy.**

Note:

- Govt reconstitutes EAC-PM for two-year period under B Debroy as head
- Govt has reconstituted economic advisory council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM) for 2 years with Bibek Debroy as head.
- EAC-PM is an independent body, was set up in September 2017 with a term of two years.

13. Under whose chairmanship the Supreme Court has constituted a 3-member independent expert to probe the alleged use of Israeli spyware Pegasus for targeted surveillance in India _____ **R.V. Raveendran.**

Note:



- A bench headed by Chief Justice N V Ramana asserted that in a democratic country governed by the rule of law, indiscriminate spying on individuals cannot be allowed except with sufficient statutory safeguards by following the procedure established by law under the Constitution.
- Former apex court judge R V Raveendran, 75, will monitor the probe by the technical panel whose members are experts in cyber security and digital forensics.

14. Who has been appointed as the Managing Director and CEO of J&K Bank _____ **Baldev Prakash.**

Note:

- The Reserve Bank of India has vide letter dated October 26, 2021 accorded approval to the candidature of Prakash as MD & CEO of the Bank for a period of three years from the date of taking charge or April 10, 2022, whichever is earlier
- The state-owned lender will separately inform about the appointment of Baldev Prakash as MD & CEO by its board and the actual date of assuming charge by him.
- Prakash has over 30 years of experience in banking in various roles at small and large size branches at SBI.

15. Who has been appointed as the chairperson of the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID) _____ **KV Kamath.**

Note:

- In March this year, the Parliament passed the NaBFID bill paving the way for the creation of a DFI which will help fund long term infrastructure projects in the country.
- The DFI will be initially wholly owned by the government, but its stake will be reduced to 26% later.
- The Union budget has allocated ₹20,000 crore to capitalize the DFI, which is expected to create a lending portfolio of at least ₹5 trillion in about three years.

16. Shavkat Mirziyoyev has been re-elected as President of which country for a second five-year term _____ **Uzbekistan.**

Note:

- He won 80.1% of the total vote.
- He took the office of President in 2016 following the death of longtime President Islam Karimov,
- Prior to being appointed as President, he served as the Prime Minister of Uzbekistan from 2003 to 2016.

Important News – India

1. Under whose chairmanship the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has constituted a four-member high powered advisory committee on settlement orders and compounding of offences _____ **Vijay C Daga.**

Note:

- The committee will be chaired by Vijay C Daga, retired judge of High Court of Bombay.
- The panel will work as per the Settlement Proceedings Regulations, 2018 specified by the regulator.
- Under the settlement mechanism, an alleged wrongdoer can settle a pending case with the regulator without admission or denial of guilt by paying a settlement fee.

2. Civil Aviation Minister, Jyotiraditya M. Scindia has virtually flagged off how many routes expanding the aerial connectivity of North-East India _____ **Six.**

Note:

- Flight connectivity on these routes has been a long-pending demand of the natives of the regions.
- It will open a seamless gateway and smooth aerial access option for nature lovers, travellers, tourists etc.
- With these new flights, travellers from Guwahati, Aizawl and Shillong will get multiple options for onward connectivity to the rest of the country.

3. What is India's rank in the Global Food Security (GFS) Index 2021 _____ **71st.**

Note:

- GFS Index is published by London-based Economist Impact and is sponsored by Corteva Agriscience.
- Top performers: Ireland, Australia, the UK, Finland, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Canada, Japan, France and US.



4. Which institution has organized an International Conference and Exhibition on Digital technologies, 'Future Tech 2021- a Journey of digital transformation to technology adoption and acceleration' _____ **CII**.
Note:
- It is being held from October 19 to 27, 2021.
 - Theme of Future Tech 2021: Driving technologies for building the future, we all can trust
 - Theme will have 5 pillars: Strategy, Growth, Resilience, Inclusiveness, Trust.
5. What is India's rank in the 2021 Mercer CFS Global Pension Index survey, that ranked 43 pension systems across the world _____ **40th**.
Note:
- Top Performer: Iceland with an index value of 84.2.
 - Thailand had the lowest overall index value at 40.6.
 - India was ranked at 34th spot out of 39 pension systems in 2020
6. Recently inaugurated Kushinagar International Airport is _____ airport in Uttar Pradesh to scheduled passenger flights _____ **ninth**.
Note:
- PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the Kushinagar International Airport.
 - A charter from Colombo was the first flight to land in Kushinagar with over 100 Buddhist monks and dignitaries.
 - Kushinagar International Airport will facilitate pilgrimage to Lord Buddha's mahaparinirvana sthal of Lord Buddha, thereby boosting the economy of the region.
7. How much amount covered under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package (PMGKP) insurance scheme for healthcare workers fighting covid-19 that has been extended for another six months _____ **Rs 50 Lakh**.
Note:
- The current period of the policy is ending on 20 October 2021.
 - So far, 1351 claims have been paid under the scheme.
8. Which country has received the first consignment of 3.1 million litres high quality non-harmful Nano Nitrogen liquid fertiliser from India _____ **Sri Lanka**.
Note:
- It will help the island nation's Eastern province in the cultivation of maize and paddy.
 - Nano Nitrogen Liquid Fertilizer was developed by IFFCO, with the objective of addressing imbalanced and excessive use of conventional Urea.
 - It has been developed indigenously, for the first time in the world.
9. Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Prerana Sthal' was inaugurated at Naval Science & Technological Laboratory (NSTL) in _____ **Visakhapatnam**.
Note:
- The NSTL is the premier naval research laboratory of Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO).
 - Dr Kalam's Prerana Sthal will motivate the people particularly young minds from Dr Kalam's life and his impeccable achievements.
10. What is India's rank in the Global Hunger Index 2021 _____ **101st**.
Note:
- 18 countries, including China, Brazil and Kuwait, shared the top rank with GHI score of less than five.
 - India is behind its neighbours Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal.
 - GHI was prepared jointly by Irish aid agency Concern Worldwide and German organisation Welt Hunger Hilfe.
11. What is India's rank in the Rule of Law Index 2021 of the World Justice Project (WJP), an independent advocacy group founded in the United States _____ **79th**.
Note:



- The WJP Rule of Law Index 2021 ranks the countries based on scores ranging from 0 to 1, with 1 indicating the strongest adherence to the rule of law.
- Like the previous year, the top three global places for overall rule of law went to Denmark (score 0.90), Norway (0.90) and Finland (0.88) and Venezuela (score 0.27), Cambodia (0.32) and the Democratic Republic of Congo (0.35) this year too remained at the bottom of the WJP index.
12. A total how Centres for Financial Literacy and Service Delivery (SAKSHAM Centres) have been launched under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission in a week as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav _____ **152**.
- Note:**
- A total of 152 Centres (across 77 districts of 13 states) for Financial Literacy and Service Delivery (SAKSHAM Centres) have been launched under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission in a week as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.
- The objective of the centre is to provide financial literacy and facilitate the delivery of financial services to Self-Help Group members and the rural poor.
13. "Banni" breed of buffaloes found in which state of India that's first IVF calf was born recently _____ **Gujarat**.
- Note:**
- The process was carried out to enhance the number of genetically superior buffaloes to increase milk production
- Producing calves by deploying ART will pave the way for rapid multiplication of superior animals at a much faster pace.
- India has more than 109 million buffaloes that are 56 per cent of the world's buffalo population.
14. National Inter-religious Conference was organised in which city of India by the Lokmat media group _____ **Nagpur**.
- Note:**
- Theme of the conference was 'Global Challenges to Communal Harmony and Role of India'.
- It is a forum for bringing together the views of different religions and sects.
- Founder of Art of the Living, Guru Sri Sri Ravishankar, Swami Ramdev of Patanjali Yogpeeth, Acharya Lokesh Muni, Archbishop of Mumbai Cardinal Oswald Gracias, Haji Syed Salman Chishti, Bhikkhu Sanghasena and many other prominent religious leaders participated in this Conference.
15. M/s Andrew Yule & Co Ltd Central Public Sector Enterprise in Tea Sector has launched Azadi Amrut Chai in Orthodox, Elaichi, Adrakh and Masala flavors to commemorate the 75th year of India's Independence and to celebrate Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, it works under ambit of which ministry _____ **Ministry of Heavy Industries**.
- Note:**
- Azadi Amrut Chai was launched by the Union Heavy Industries Minister, Dr. Mahendra Nath Pandey.
- It will be available for retail sale soon at an introductory price of Rs 75 per 100 gms pack, at Tea Board counter of Parliament, Trifed outlets, Udyog Bhawan and other Central Government offices.
- M/s Andrew Yule & Co Ltd, a 158 years old company, has 15 Tea Gardens spread over Assam and West Bengal having close to 14000 employees.
16. Who will chair the newly-formed National Steering Committee formed by government of India to implement NIPUN Bharat scheme _____ **Dharmendra Pradhan**.
- Note:**
- The newly-formed National Steering Committee to implement NIPUN Bharat will be chaired by the Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and Minister of State for Education Annapurna Devi will be the vice-chairperson.
- The objective of the committee will be to oversee the progress of the National Mission on Foundational Literacy and Numeracy and provide guidance on policy issues and achieve the desired target in 2026-27.
- The committee will also review programmatic and financial norms periodically to ensure they are synchronised with targets to be achieved.
17. The National Tribal Dance Festival was organized in which city of India that promote and celebrate the uniqueness of tribal culture _____ **Raipur**.
- Note:**
- The three-day festival, organised under the tourism development plan of the Chhattisgarh government, hosted artists belonging to diverse tribal communities from countries, including Uzbekistan, Nigeria, Sri Lanka, Uganda, Syria, Mali, Palestine, and Kingdom of Eswatini.



- The artists from tribal areas of Bastar, Dantewada, Koriya, Korba, Bilaspur, Gariabandh, Mainpur, Dhura, Dhamtari, Surguja and Jashpur in Chhattisgarh presented their own distinctive history, culture and traditions.
18. What is the total outlay of the PM Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission recently launched by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi from Varanasi _____ **Rs 64000 crore.**
- Note:**
- It is one of the largest pan-India schemes for strengthening health care infrastructure across the country.
 - The PM Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission will be one of the largest pan-India schemes for strengthening health care infrastructure across the country.
 - It will be in addition to the National Health Mission.
19. R K Singh, Union Minister of Power & New and Renewable Energy, launched the new market segment GDAM, what does 'A' stands for in GDAM _____ **Ahead.**
- Note:**
- Under this, any interested party can setup renewable energy capacity and sell it to Discoms / industries sell renewable energy.
 - Open access will be granted within 15 days and large industries can go green.
20. Which will be the nodal agency for India's 1st Green Day Ahead Market (GDAM) recently launched by the Union Minister of Power & New and Renewable Energy, R K Singh for the renewable energy to enable the electricity generation and distribution companies to trade in the day-ahead market _____ **National Load Despatch Centre (NLDC).**
- Note:**
- The launch will also provide competitive price signals, besides offering an opportunity to the market participants to trade in green energy, in the most transparent, flexible, competitive, and efficient manner.
 - India is the only large electricity market in the world to implement a GDAM exclusively for RE.
21. The National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) comes under ambit of which ministry that has launched the first-of-its-kind and the largest 'Impact Bond' for skilling in India in collaboration with global partners _____ **Ministry of Finance.**
- Note:**
- Along with the NSDC, the global coalition comprises of HRH Prince Charles's British Asian Trust, the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation (MSDF), The Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF), HSBC India, JSW Foundation and Dubai Cares, with FCDO (UK Government) & USAID as technical partners.
 - "The Skill Impact Bond (SIB) is also the first impact bond involving public, private partners and a public private partnership organization.
 - CIFF, HSBC India, JSW Foundation and Dubai Cares support the outcome fund.
22. Which ministry has launched 'SAMBHAV' a national level awareness programme for promoting entrepreneurship leading to the economic development of the country _____ **Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises.**
- Note:**
- The mass outreach program will be a one-month long initiative under the Ministry of MSME in which students from different colleges/ITIs from all parts of the country will be encouraged by 130 field offices of the Ministry to take up entrepreneurship.
 - During the campaign, the college students will be made aware of the various schemes being implemented by the Ministry of MSME through audio/video film presentations.
23. Which institution has launched 'Garuda App' _____ **Election Commission of India (ECI).**
- Note:**
- Aim of the app is to ensure faster, smarter, transparent, and timely completion of election work and also to reduce the paperwork.
 - The longitude and latitude of the polling stations along with photos and location information will be uploaded in the app by Booth Level Officers (BLOs) (using their registered mobile numbers).
24. What is the theme of the 'CII Asia Health 2021 summit' _____ **Transforming Healthcare for a better tomorrow.**
- Note:**
- It is a 2-day summit and has been organized by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
 - Theme: 'Transforming Healthcare for a better tomorrow'.



- Aim: to provide a centralized forum to deliberate on most critical challenges that India and the world face in delivering healthcare, with focus on the digital transformations that result in improved patient outcomes and experience.

25. The first ever 'Apple Festival' was held in which place _____ **Srinagar**.

Note:

- It will provide a better platform to apple growers and other stakeholders
- With annual production of more than 2.2 million metric tonnes, apple from J&K contributes to 87% of the national production and is linked to the livelihood of about 30% of the population of Jammu and Kashmir.

26. What is India's rank, in the report published by London & Partners and Dealroom.co for climate tech investment _____ **9th**.

Note:

- Global climate tech venture capital investment surged from US\$ 6.6 billion in 2016 to US\$ 32.3 billion in 2021, a rise in funding by almost five times, the research disclosed.
- The top 10 countries for climate tech VC investment between 2016 and 2021 are – US (US\$ 48 billion), China (US\$ 18.6 billion), Sweden (US\$ 5.8 billion), UK (US\$ 4.3 billion), France (US\$ 3.7 billion), Germany (US\$ 2.7 billion), Canada (US\$ 1.4 billion), Netherlands (US\$ 1.3 billion), India (US\$ 1 billion) and Singapore (US\$ 700 million).

27. Which Union Ministry launched the 'Green Day Ahead Market (GDAM)' _____ **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy**.

Note:

- The introduction of GDAM is expected to create a domino effect that will lead to a gradual shift from PPA based contract to market-based models which will build and deepen the markets to the next level, paving the way for India to meet its ambitious target of 450 GW green capacity by 2030.
- The other benefits of participating in the GDAM would be reduction of curtailment of green power, unlocking untapped renewable energy potential, ensuring instant payment to RE generators ie on the day of delivery itself.

Important News – State

1. Which state police has launched a patrolling operation called 'Operation Satark' _____ **Delhi**.

Note:

- Delhi Police officials conducted foot patrolling in the Sarojini Market on October 12 under the operation.
- The patrolling is part of 'Operation Satark' which aims at facilitating a comprehensive check on routine nuisance mongers and instill confidence among the public.

2. Which state government has launched 'Mera Ghar Mere Naam' scheme to confer proprietary rights on the people living in the houses within the 'Lal Lakir' of villages and the cities _____ **Punjab**.

Note:

- The scheme would give much needed succour to people, especially the needy and underprivileged.
- Earlier this scheme was launched only for the residents of villages, but now it is being extended to the eligible residents of the cities within the 'Lal Lakir'.

3. 'Mount Harriet' that has been renamed as 'Mount Manipur' is located in which state/UTs _____ **Andaman and Nicobar Islands**.

Note:

- This was done in honour of Manipur's Maharaja Kulchandra Dhvaj Singh and 22 other freedom fighters were imprisoned here.
- 'Mount Harriet National Park' renamed as 'Mount Manipur National Park'.

4. Which state govt has launched the "Chief Minister's Health for All" scheme _____ **Manipur**.

Note:

- Door-to-door health screening will be conducted across the State and Jan Aushadhi medicines will be provided to patients free of cost for primary health care under the scheme.
-



5. Which state has financed the highest number of units in the country under the Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) _____ **Uttar Pradesh.**

Note:

- The Uttar Pradesh government has financed the highest number of units in the country under the Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP).
- The UP government has facilitated a total of over Rs 123 crore as margin money through various banks to about 3,588 units under PMEGP with a total cost of the projects worth over Rs 450 crore in the current financial year.

6. Which state government will soon launch 'Mukta' scheme to release women prisoners who have been in jail for years and have not been able to pay their bail amounts and fulfill other legal requirements _____ **Maharashtra.**

Note:

- The 'Mukta' scheme would bring relief to the women prisoners who have been languishing in jails for minor crimes, and would also reduce the burden on prisons.
- The 'Mukta' scheme will be implemented in various jails of the state to find out women who have been unnecessarily harassed and those who can be released by fulfilling the legal requirements.

7. Which state government has announced the implementation of the scheme "Mukhyamantri Ration Apke Dwar Yojana" _____ **Madhya Pradesh.**

Note:

- Under this scheme, the ration will be provided at the doorstep of the villagers where there are no Fair Price Shops (FPS).
- The objective of Mukhyamantri Ration Aapke Dwar Yojana is to provide ration material to Divyanga and senior citizens near their homes so that they do not need to go to the ration shop of other villages to get their monthly food.

8. VEM Technologies signed an MoU with which state government for setting up an integrated defence system facility _____ **Telangana.**

Note:

- The set up is about 511 acres and investing 1000 crores in five years with 2000 employees.
- The integrated defence system is going to be built with full fledged facility for missiles, naval systems, unmanned aircraft system, radars, aero engines etc.,
- The set up becomes a base for foreign Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) for domestic and global system production.

9. India's first state government-owned Wildlife DNA analysis laboratory was opened in which state _____ **Maharashtra.**

Note:

- Currently, there are two central government-owned Wildlife DNA laboratory, located at Dehradun and Hyderabad.
- This new facility will enable the authorities in Maharashtra to promptly get DNA reports of animals hit by man-wildlife conflict or menaces such as poaching, which until now, were sent to laboratories in Hyderabad or Dehradun for testing and authorities had to wait for months to get the report.

10. Which state government has launched 'Go-Green' scheme & its Portal to provide electric two-wheelers at subsidized rates to construction and industrial workers of the state _____ **Gujarat.**

Note:

- The Scheme aimed at reducing fuel bills and also curbs vehicular pollution.
- The electric 2 wheeler buyers of Construction and Industrial sectors can avail one-time subsidy on RTO registration and road tax.
- The organised sector workers, such as an industrial labourer, would get a subsidy of 30 per cent on the vehicle's price or Rs.30,000, whichever is less, on the purchase of battery-powered two-wheelers.



11. Which state has topped in the Public Affairs Index (PAI 2021), a governance performance index released by Public Affairs Centre (PAC), a Bengaluru-based nonprofit think tank _____ **Kerala**.

Note:

- In the overall rankings, Kerala continues to be at the top and Tamil Nadu has retained its second place. Telangana has replaced Andhra Pradesh at the third spot compared to last year's ranking.
- Gujarat ranks fifth, Karnataka seventh and Maharashtra 12th in the ranking.

12. Which became the first state to release its own Wildlife Action plan (2021-30) _____ **Maharashtra**.

Note:

- The plan will be a guiding document for an action plan for wildlife conservation for the next decade.
- The plan has suggested integrating climate change adaptation in wildlife conservation and the plan focuses on 12 areas.

13. The Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with which state government to spread awareness about the benefits of listing SMEs in the state _____ **Chhattisgarh**.

Note:

- This is expected to help in the healthy growth of SMEs.
- BSE will provide intellectual and manpower support to create awareness about the benefits of listing among SMEs.
- Besides, BSE will also provide training and capacity building support to District Industries Centre officials of the Government of Chhattisgarh.

Important News – World

1. With which country India has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for collaboration in the mining and steel sectors, with special focus on coking coal _____ **Russia**.

Note:

- The move is part of India's National Steel Policy 2017 under which the country is aiming to reach 300 million tonne steel production by 2030.
- The MoU has come at a time when India's non-power industries (aluminium, cement and secondary producers of steel) are facing severe thermal coal shortage issues.
- Coking coal and thermal coal, however, have different applications and do not overlap.

2. Which has become the first movie that was shoot in International Space Station (ISS) _____ **The challenge**.

Note:

- Russian cosmonaut Oleg Novitskiy of Roscosmos along with actress Yulia Peresild and producer-director Klim Shipenko departed the ISS in their Soyuz MS-18 spacecraft.
- The filmmakers had blasted off from the Russia-leased Baikonur Cosmodrome in ex-Soviet Kazakhstan earlier this month, travelling to the ISS with veteran cosmonaut Anton Shkaplerov to film scenes for "The Challenge".

3. Which neighbouring country has sought USD 500 million credit line from India to pay for its crude oil purchases amid a severe foreign exchange crisis _____ **Sri Lanka**.

Note:

- It is a part of the India-Sri Lanka economic partnership arrangement.
- The facility would be used for purchasing petrol and diesel requirements.
- State-run Ceylon Petroleum Corporation (CPC) owes USD 3.3 billion to the two main government banks Bank of Ceylon and People's Bank.

4. Where is the headquarter of Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO) located _____ **Moscow, Russia**.

Note:

- Currently, Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia and Tajikistan are its members.
- Afghanistan and Serbia are its observer states.



- This Russia-led security bloc have started military drills near the Afghan border in Tajikistan.

5. Which country ranked top in the Global Food Security (GFS) Index 2021 _____ **Ireland**.

Note:

- India is ranked at 71st position in the Global Food Security (GFS) Index 2021 of 113 countries.
- China has been ranked 34th, Pakistan ranked 75th, Sri Lanka (77th Position), Nepal (79th position) and Bangladesh (84th position).
- The GFS Index was designed and constructed by London-based Economist Impact and is sponsored by Corteva Agriscience.

6. Which country ranked first in the 2021 Mercer CFS Global Pension Index survey, that ranked 43 pension systems across the world _____ **Iceland**.

Note:

- India had stood at 34th position out of 39 pension systems rated in 2020.
- Globally, Iceland was ranked highest with an overall index value of 84.2 while Thailand had the lowest overall index value at 40.6.

7. India, Israel, United States and which Arabian country have decided to launch new quadrilateral economic forum _____ **United Arab Amirate**.

Note:

- Quadrilateral builds on ongoing cooperation between U.S., Israel and UAE after the Abraham Accords last year
- This QUAD grouping had decided to establish an international forum for economic cooperation, and discussed possibilities for joint infrastructure projects expanding economic and political cooperation in the Middle East and Asia.

8. Name the former president of United States who announced to launch his own social networking platform called "TRUTH Social," _____ **Donald Trump**.

Note:

- The long-awaited platform will be owned by Trump Media & Technology Group (TMTG), which also intends to launch a subscription video on-demand service that will feature "non-woke" entertainment programming.
- The Trump Media & Technology Group will merge with blank check company Digital Acquisition Corp to make TMTG a publicly-listed company.

9. Which country has elected its first-ever president to replace Britain's Queen Elizabeth as head of state in a decisive step toward shedding the Caribbean island's colonial past _____ **Barbados**.

Note:

- Sandra Mason was elected by a two-thirds vote of a joint session of the country's House of Assembly and Senate.
- A former British colony that gained independence in 1966, the nation of just under 300,000 had long maintained ties with the British monarchy.
- But calls for full sovereignty and homegrown leadership have risen in recent years.
- Mason, 72, will be sworn in on Nov. 30, the country's 55th anniversary of independence from Britain.

10. Which country has launched its first space rocket to be completely developed and built in the country called 'Nuri' _____ **South Korea**.

Note:

- The 47-meter rocket lifted off with bright yellow fire shooting from its engines.
- The rocket is called Nuri. It launched from the country's Naro Space Center, which is on a small island off South Korea's southern coast.

11. Who becomes the first film director to shoot a film in space named as "The Challenge" _____ **Klim Shipenko**.



Note:

- It took around 30 hours to record the material while in space.
- This is the first time a mission has been embarked to ISS to shoot a movie in space.
- The film “The Challenge” is based on the life of a woman doctor who goes to space to save a cosmonaut’s life.

12. Which organization released the ‘Production Gap Report’ _____ **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).**

Note:

- The Production Gap Report, first launched in 2019, tracks the discrepancy between governments’ planned fossil fuel production and global production levels consistent with limiting warming to 1.5°C or 2°C.
- UNEP’s Major Reports: Emission Gap Report, Adaptation Gap Report, Global Environment Outlook, Making Peace with Nature.

13. Which country will use one of the world’s biggest natural-gas projects to make blue hydrogen _____ **Saudi Arabia.**

Note:

- The kingdom is steps up its efforts to export a fuel seen as crucial to the green-energy transition.
- A large portion of gas from the \$110 billion Jafurah development will be used for blue hydrogen
- It is made by converting natural gas and capturing the carbon dioxide emissions.

14. Which Arabian country has launched a “National Infrastructure Fund” to that will invest in areas such as water, transportation, energy, and health, contributing to country’s plans to transform the economy and make it less reliant on oil revenue _____ **Saudi Arabia.**

Note:

- It has been advised by the world's largest fund manager BlackRock.
- The National Infrastructure Fund will invest in areas such as water, transportation, energy, and health, contributing to Saudi Arabia's plans to transform the economy and make it less reliant on oil revenue.

15. The 16th East Asia Summit was hosted by which country in that Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated virtually _____ **Brunei.**

Note:

- It was hosted by Brunei and saw the participation of leaders from the ASEAN countries and Australia, China, Japan, South Korea, Russia, US and India.
- This was 7th East Asia Summit attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- Members of EAS includes 10 ASEAN member states, and India, China, Japan, Korea, Australia, New Zealand, US and Russia.

16. Name the Indo-Canadian lady who has been appointed as Canada’s minister of national defence ____ **Anita Anand.**

Note:

- Ms. Anand (54) will replace long-time Defence Minister Indian-origin Harjit Sajjan, whose handling of the military sexual misconduct crisis has been under criticism.
- Mr. Sajjan has been appointed as Minister of International Development Agency.

17. Which country has successfully launched military communication satellite, titled as ‘Syracuse 4A’, into orbit _____ **France.**

Note:

- The satellite was launched on Ariane 5 rocket.
- It will allow the armed forces of France across the globe to communicate swiftly and securely.
- It is first in the series of three Syracuse IV communication satellite being developed to improve French military satellite communications.



Honor & Awards

1. Who received the prestigious C K Prahlad award for Global Business Sustainability Leadership for the year 2021 _____
Satya Nadella.
Note:
 - The award recognises exceptional, globally significant private-sector action, innovation and long-term business success in a globalizing world.
 - Four Microsoft leaders received the award. They are president and vice chair Brad Smith, chief financial officer Amy Hood, chief environment officer Lucas Joppa along with Nadella- for their collaborative leadership aimed at transforming Microsoft into a carbon negative company by 2030 and to remove all its historical emissions by 2050.
2. Name the Indian American scientist who was presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award at Ritossa Family Summits in Dubai _____ **Dr. Vivek Lall.**
Note:
 - General Atomics CE Dr Vivek Lall received a Lifetime Achievement Award in Dubai for his "outstanding vision, dedication and success.
 - A Jakarta-born Indian origin scientist, Dr Lall is known for this extraordinary role in strengthening India-US Defence trade and brokered some "top deals" between the two countries.
3. Which country's army has organized '2021 Cambrian Patrol Exercise' in that Indian Army's Team of 4/5 Gorkha Rifles has won a gold medal _____ **United Kingdom.**
Note:
 - Exercise Cambrian Patrol is an annual international military exercise conducted to test the ultimate human endurance, thus it is sometimes referred to as the 'Olympics of Military Patrolling'.
 - The Gold Medal was presented to the Indian team by General Sir Mark Carleton-Smith, the Chief of General Staff of the British Army.
4. Name the Indian company that has won the prize in the "Clean Our Air" category in first-ever Earthshot Prize, also called "Eco Oscar", instituted by Prince William for its technology to create fuel, fertiliser and other speciality chemicals from agricultural waste _____ **Takachar.**
Note:
 - The Indian company won the prize in the "Clean Our Air" category for its technology to create fuel, fertiliser and other speciality chemicals from agricultural waste.
 - Takachar's innovation aims to put an end to stubble burning, an annual scourge in north India that causes severe air pollution, including in the National Capital Region.
5. Which Buddhist order has won the prestigious Martial Arts Education Prize 2021 from the UNESCO International Centre for Martial Arts for their brave acts of service _____ **Kung Fu Nuns.**
Note:
 - The prize recognises the Kung Fu Nuns' heroic acts of service and championing of gender equality across the Himalayas.
 - Through martial arts, the Drukpa nuns empower young girls to defend themselves, build confidence, and take on leadership roles in their communities.
6. Renowned Alexei Navalny is a political leader of which country who has been awarded the 2021 Sakharov Prize, the European Union's top human rights prize _____ **Russia.**
Note:
 - It European Union's top human rights prize.
 - In awarding the Sakharov Prize to Mr. Navalny, the European Parliament praised his "immense personal bravery."
 - The 45-year-old activist was poisoned with a nerve agent last year and promptly arrested upon his return to Moscow from treatment in Germany and later imprisoned.
7. Who has been awarded the prestigious 2021 C K Prahlad award for Global Business Sustainability Leadership _____ **Satya Nadella.**
Note:
 - Three other Microsoft leaders are Brad Smith (President), Amy Hood (CFO) and Lucas Joppa.
 - They were awarded for their collaborative leadership aimed at transforming Microsoft into a carbon negative company by 2030.
 - The award was created in 2010 by the Corporate Eco Forum (CEF).



8. Seven-year-old Aadhyaa Aravind Shankar held from which state, who has scripted history by becoming the first-ever Indian to win the Children's Peace Image of the Year-Global Peace Photo Award _____ **Karnataka**.

Note:

- Global Peace Photo Award is awarded annually by Lammerhuber Editions in partnership with UNESCO and the Austrian Parliament.
- The award honours photographers from around the world whose pictures reflect human efforts towards a peaceful world.

9. According to Ministry of Information and Broadcasting who will be conferred the Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award at 52nd International Film Festival of India in Goa _____ **Istevan Szabo and Martin Scorsese**.

Note:

- Istvan Szabo is one of the most critically acclaimed Hungarian film directors of the past few decades known for masterpieces like Mephisto (1981) Father (1966).
- Martin Scorsese is one of the major figures of the New Hollywood era, regarded as one of the greatest and most influential directors in film history.

10. Koozhangal (internationally translated as Pebbles) is drama film of which language that has been selected as India's official entry for 94th Academy Awards (Oscars 2022) _____ **Tamil**.

Note:

- Koozhangal has been directed by filmmaker Vinothraj PS and produced by Vignesh Shivan and Nayanthara
- It is related to alcoholic abusive husband who, after his long-suffering wife runs off, sets out with his young son.
- 94th Academy Awards are scheduled to take place in Los Angeles, on March 27, 2022.

11. Renowned author and a filmmaker Tsitsi Dangarembga held from which country who becomes the first black woman to win 2021 Peace Prize of the German Book Trade for "new Enlightenment", a work on violence in her country and all over the world _____ **Zimbabwe**.

Note:

- The Award has been awarded by the Börsenverein des Deutschen Buchhandels, an association of German book publishers and book sellers.
- Dangarembga is the first black woman to win the German Peace Prize
- Tsitsi Dangarembga is novelist, playwright and filmmaker, born on February 4, 1959, in mutoko, Zimbabwe.

12. Who has been conferred with the 51st Dadasaheb Phalke Award (2019 edition) for his stupendous contribution to Indian cinema at 67th National Film Awards ceremony _____ **Rajnikanth**.

Note:

- Dadasaheb Phalke Award for 2019 was to be announced last year but was postponed due to Covid-19 pandemic, as were the National Film Awards for 2019.
- It is awarded for excellence in cinematic achievement and is the highest honour in film, awarded by the government.
- The recipient of the 2018 award was Amitabh Bachchan.

Sports News

1. Which country has won the 2021 Thomas Cup trophy in Aarhus, Denmark _____ **Indonesia**.

Note:

- Indonesia is the most successful nation in the history of the team championship of men's badminton with 14 titles.
- China settled for silver while Japan and hosts Denmark shared the bronze.

2. Which country has won the Uber Cup title by defeating Japan in the final in Aarhus, Denmark _____ **China**.

Note:

- This is China's 15th Uber Cup title win in 19 finals.
- Japan began the final in a stunning fashion when world number five Akane Yamaguchi beat reigning Olympic Champion in women's singles Chen Yu Fei 21-18, 21-10 to give Japan 1-0 lead.
- Yamaguchi had also beaten Chen Yu Fei at the recent Sudirman Cup.

3. South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Championship was held in which country _____ **Maldives**.

Note:



- India clinched the South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Championship for eighth time defeating Nepal 3-0 in Male.
 - Sunil Chhetri scored in the 49th minute of the match, which put him level with Lionel Messi on 80 international goals.
 - This is the Indian football team's first title triumph under head coach Igor Stimac.
4. Chennai Super Kings (CSK) has defeated which team in the final to win the 2021 Indian Premier League (IPL) title _____
Kolkata Knight Riders.
Note:
- This was the 14th edition of IPL which is an India-based Cricket league in 20-20 format.
 - This was the 4th victory of Chennai Super Kings (CSK) in IPL, having previously won the tournament in 2010, 2011, and 2018.
 - Captain of CSK: M.S. Dhoni
5. Who became India's 21st Woman Grand Master after achieving her 2nd International Master in Budapest, Hungary _____
Divya Deshmukh.
Note:
- She scored 5 points in the 9 rounds and ended up with a performance rating of 2452 to secure her final WGM norm.
 - She also secured her 2nd IM-norm and is now a norm away from becoming an International Master.
 - The Nagpur teenager had earned the first two WGM norms at the Velammal International women's round-robin tournament and the Aeroflot Open 2019.
6. Which state will host the 'South Asian Federation Cross Country Championship 2022 and 56th National Cross Country Championships _____
Nagaland.
Note:
- While the 56th National Cross Country Championships which is also being hosted by Nagaland will be clubbed with the South Asian Federation Cross Country Championships.
 - Top athletes from the eight south Asian countries – Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Maldives will participate in the event.
7. Name the Indian Grandmaster who clinched the title in the La Nucia Open chess tournament _____
P Iniyani.
Note:
- The 19-year-old Iniyani, with an Elo rating of 2529, finished equal on seven points with GMs Andrey Sumets (Ukraine) and Rodrigo Vasquez Schroeder (Chile) but the Indian won the event on the basis of a better tie-break score.
 - Iniyani, who was seeded fifth, remained unbeaten in the nine-round tournament.
 - He won six games and drew two, apart from getting a bye in the eighth round.
8. Which sport governing body has partnered with UNICEF to raise awareness about the mental health issues and wellbeing amongst children and adolescents _____
International Cricket Council (ICC).
Note:
- Under this partnership, ICC will promote the #OnYourMind campaign of UNICEF at the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021, beginning on October 17, 2021.
 - The ICC will use its global platforms, including its broadcast and digital channels to support UNICEF's work and urge for greater commitment, connection and conversation around mental health and physical wellbeing.
9. Name the Indian cricketers who have been awarded the life membership of the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) _____
Harbhajan Singh and Javagal Srinath.
Note:
- Harbhajan is India's third-highest wicket-taker in Tests, with 417 wickets in 103 Tests, while Srinath is one of the country's greatest ODI players, having taken 315 wickets and ended his career as India's second-highest wicket-taker in 50-over internationals.
 - Eight of the 12 Test-playing nations are represented in this year's list, which includes some of the most recognisable names in the modern game.
10. Name the Indian fencer who has won 2022 Charlellville National Competition in France in the individual women's sabre event _____
Bhavani Devi.
Note:



- She also made history at Tokyo Olympics by becoming the first Indian to compete in the sport at the Games by winning her round of 64 match 15-3 against Tunisia's Nadia Ben Azizi before going down to eventual bronze-medallist, Manon Brunet of France in the round of 32.
- She is currently ranked 50th in the world and is the top-ranked fencer from India.

11. Renowned cricketer James Pattinson held from which country who announced his retirement from international cricket _____ **Australia.**

Note:

- The 31-year-old, who has played 21 Tests and 15 ODIs, though will continue to play domestic cricket.
- Pattinson claimed 81 Test wickets and 16 ODI scalps in his career after making his Test debut in December 2011 alongside Mitchell Starc and David Warner against New Zealand in Brisbane.

12. Who has won men's single title in the 2021 Denmark Open Badminton championship held at the Odense Sports Park in Odense, Denmark _____ **Viktor Axelsen.**

Note:

- He defeated world number 1 Momota Kento of Japan.
- Akane Yamaguchi of Japan won her second title in women's category defeating An Se-young (South Korea).
- Men's double – Takuro Hoki, and Yugo Kobayashi (Japan)
- Women's double – Huang Dongping and Zheng Yu (China)
- Mixed double – Yuta Watanabe and Arisa Higashino (Japan).

13. Who has won the MotoGP world championship at the Emilia-Romagna Grand Prix _____ **Fabio Quartararo.**

Note:

- Pole Bagnaya led the Ducati home race when he crashed five laps to go, losing the race to Marc Marquez of Honda and the world title Quartararo.
- Quartararo's victory ended nearly a decade of Spanish domination after Marquez (six championships), Yamaha's Jorge Lorenzo (2012 and 2015) and Juan Mir of Suzuki (2020) won their last nine titles.

14. Who won the U.S. Grand Prix 2021 title _____ **Max Verstappen.**

Note:

- This is his eighth title of the season.
- Verstappen and Red Bull won on a track where Hamilton and Mercedes have been dominant for years.
- The victory doubled Verstappen's lead over Hamilton to 12 points in the standings with five races remaining and could prove to be a pivotal win in this classic championship battle.

15. Name the former cricketer who unveiled World's biggest cricket bat in Hyderabad _____ **Mohd Azharuddin.**

Note:

- President of Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA) and former India captain Mohd Azharuddin has inaugurated World's biggest cricket bat in Hyderabad.
- This bat has been certified by the Guinness Book of World Records as the biggest cricket bat in the world.
- It has been designed by Pernod Ricard India (P) Ltd with poplar wood and has been fabricated by BSL Events.

16. Name the Indian swimmer who won the gold medal in 50 meter backstroke at 74th senior National aquatic championships _____ **Ridhima Veerendra Kumar.**

Note:

- The 14-year-old relegated Maana Patel to second spot for the second successive race (after 100m backstroke on day one) by clocking 29.94s over 50m.

Books and Authors

1. Who has authored the book titled 'The Custodian of Trust – A Banker's Memoir' _____ **Rajnish Kumar.**

Note:

- Book has been published by Penguin Random House India.
- It gave a rare insight of how the financial system in our country works.
- Custodian of Trust depicts Kumar's journey from a modest house in the old city of Meerut to being a probationary officer in SBI in 1980 and growing to the post of Chairman in 2017.

2. Who has authored the book titled "Veer Savarkar: The Man Who Could Have Prevented Partition" _____ **Uday Mahurkar and Chirayu Pandit.**



Note:

- The book was launched by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh at Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi.
- The book reveals the work of great leader Savarkar.
- The book uncovers Savarkar's best possible pathway towards one nation that rises above religion and caste discrimination and regional feelings.

3. Who has authored the book titled "Sir Syed Ahmad Khan: Reason, Religion And Nation" _____ **Shafey Kidwai**.

Note:

- The book is an objective analysis of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan the founder of Mohammedan Anglo-Oriental College that grew into Aligarh Muslim University.
- The book is published by Routledge India.

4. Who has authored the book titled "Actually... I Met Them: A Memoir" _____ **Gulzar**.

Note:

- It is being published by Penguin Random House India publishing group.
- In this memoir book, Gulzar has shared many interesting unknown facts about legends like Kishore Kumar, Bimal Roy, Ritwik Ghatak, Hrishikesh Mukherjee and Mahasweta Devi, among others.

5. Who is the author of the book titled, "The Stars in My Sky: Those Who Brightened My Film Journey" _____ **Divya Dutta**.

Note:

- And now, news is that her second book titled 'Stars In My Sky' will be out this month.
- In 'Stars In My Sky', Divya will share her emotional journey of becoming an actor along with some of her defining moments as an artist.

6. Who has authored the book titled "Kamala Harris: Phenomenal Woman", a biography of Kamala Harris _____

Chidanand Rajghatta.**Note:**

- The book is published by HarperCollins Publishers India.
- The book features the life incidents of Kamala Harris, a woman of mixed race (India and Jamaica) who has become the first Indian descent, the first woman to become the vice president of the USA.

7. Who has authored the book titled 'AIIMS Mein Ek Jang Ladte Hue' _____ **Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'**.

Note:

- He gifted one copy of the book to the PM Narendra Modi.
- The book was written by him during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The book was published by Prabhat Prakashan Pvt. Ltd.

8. Who has authored the book titled 'Writing For My Life' _____ **Ruskin Bond**.

Note:

- The anthology accounts for Bond's life with his father, adventure in Jersey and London etc.
- The current one, which is Ruskin Bond's 2nd anthology, has been released 25 years after his first anthology of "The Best of Ruskin Bond".

Science and Defence

1. NASA's Perseverance rover sent pictures of 'Jezero crater' revealing it was a quiet lake, the crater is in which planet _____ **Mars**.

Note:

- Perseverance rover was launched on July 30 last year and arrived at the red planet.
- Perseverance explored the floor of Jezero Crater, which was once a lake and a dried-out river delta at the crater's edge.
- Based on the detailed images sent by the six-wheeler rover on Mars, the team has now published first scientific results about the Jezero Crater delta in the journal Science.

2. The 17th edition of the 'Ex Yudh Abhyas 21' was held between India and which country _____ **USA**.

Note:

- The 14-day exercise includes activities on joint training in a counter-insurgency/counter-terrorism environment.
- The Ex Yudh Abhyas is the largest running joint military training and defense cooperation endeavour b/w India and US.



3. Which institution in collaboration with Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has developed a comprehensive Geographic Information System (GIS) Energy Map of India _____ **NITI Aayog**.

Note:

- It will identify and locate all primary and secondary sources of energy and their transportation/transmission networks to provide a comprehensive view of energy production and distribution in a country.
- The GIS map provides a holistic picture of all energy resources of the country which enables visualisation of energy installations such as conventional power plants, oil and gas wells, petroleum refineries, coal fields and coal blocks, district-wise data on renewable energy power plants and renewable energy resource potential through 27 thematic layers.

4. In collaboration with which Indian Company European commercial drone and software developer FIXAR announced its entry in the fast-emerging domestic unmanned aerial vehicle market in India _____ **Paras Aerospace**.

Note:

- As a first step towards this partnership, the company will launch its flagship fixed wing drone FIXAR007 in the country.
- The initial agreement targets delivery of 150 drones to the operators in India in the next 6-8 months with the first expected to arrive next month.

5. Which space agency has launched Lucy spacecraft, the first space mission to study the Trojans Asteroids _____ **NASA**.

Note:

- Lucy will journey for 12 years, observing one main belt asteroid and seven Trojan asteroids.
- The swarms of Trojan asteroids associated with Jupiter are thought to be remnants of the primordial material that formed the outer planets.
- These primitive bodies hold vital clues to deciphering the history of the solar system.

6. Which ship builders builds India's first indigenous aircraft carrier (IAC) INS Vikrant that has begun its 2nd phase of sea trials _____ **Cochin Shipyard Limited, Kochi**.

Note:

- India's first indigenous aircraft carrier (IAC) Vikrant to be inducted into the Indian Navy by August next year.
- The 40,000-tonne aircraft carrier, the largest and most complex warship to be built in India, successfully completed a five-day maiden sea voyage in August.
- The warship will operate MiG-29K fighter jets, Kamov-31 helicopters, MH-60R multi-role helicopters.

7. So far, India has conducted bilateral tri service exercise only with three countries and the recent one is 'Konkan Shakti 2021' with UK, which are the other two countries _____ **Russia and USA**.

Note:

- The UK's Carrier Strike Group (CSG) led by its largest warship HMS Queen Elizabeth and several other frontline ships of the two navies are participating in the week-long 'Konkan Shakti' exercise.
- The UK is only the third country after the US and Russia with which India is conducting a tri-services exercise.
- Indian Navy's MiG 29K jets, the Royal Navy's F-35B aircraft and Indian Air Force's SU-30 and Jaguar fighters were among the key assets deployed for the exercise.

8. Which Indian port got new long-range marine communication technology called as Radio Over Internet Protocol (ROIP) system _____ **Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata**.

Note:

- SPM has become the first Major Indian Port to get a ROIP System.
- It is a long-range marine communication solution to aid specially during storms and inclement weather.
- It will cover the entire Hugli River Estuary from Kolkata to Sandheads, and will have base stations at 4 Locations: Kolkata, Hugli point, Haldia and Sagar Pilot Station.

9. What is the strike range of the recently test-fired ballistic missile Agni-5 from APJ Abdul Kalam Island in Odisha _____ **5000 km**.

Note:

- Agni-5: It is a nuclear-capable intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM), which uses a three-stage solid-fueled engine.
- It can strike targets at ranges up to 5,000 km with a very high degree of accuracy



- It is 17-metre long, 2-metre wide and has launch weight of around 50 tonnes and can carry a nuclear warhead of more than one tonne.

10. The new indigenously built Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICGS) named as 'Sarthak' has been dedicated to the nation, it will be based in _____ **Porbandar, Gujarat.**

Note:

- It will be based at Porbandar in Gujarat and was commissioned by the Director General of Indian Coast Guard, K Natarajan, at Goa.
- ICGS Sarthak: It is fourth in the series of five Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPVs) being built by Goa Shipyard Limited for the ICG, to boost maritime safety and security of India.

11. The first of two additional Krivak or Talwar-class stealth frigates, Tushil, being built by which country for the Indian Navy, that was formally launched into the waters _____ **Russia.**

Note:

- It is part of four follow-on frigates contracted by India from Russia, of which two are being built by Russia and two are under construction in India through technology transfer.
- The launch of a ship from dry dock into the waters is significant, as it marks the completion of the basic construction.
- The advanced construction and equipping of the ship will be done when the ship is afloat.

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