



# SSC & Railway Bi-Weekly Current Affairs English PDF (1 - 15 Nov)

## Bi-Weekly One Liner Updates 1-15<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear readers,

**Bi-Weekly One Liners Updates** is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the **two weeks** (1-15th) of **November 2021**. This file is important for, **Banking, SSC, Railway & Insurance** exams.

### **Banking & Financial Awareness**

1. Which become the world's most valuable public company \_\_\_\_\_ **Microsoft**.

Note:

- Microsoft surged 2.2 percent to a market value of \$2.49 trillion, surpassing Apple.
- For the first time since 2010, Microsoft passed Apple's market cap in 2018 and later in July 2020
- When market was coming to a close, Microsoft's market cap stood at \$2.49 trillion while Apple's market capitalisation stood at \$2.46 trillion.

2. Which institutions has released report titled 'Health Insurance for India's Missing Middle' highlighting the gaps in the health insurance coverage with solutions \_\_\_\_\_ **NITI Aayog**.

Note:

- The report highlights the need for designing a low-cost comprehensive health insurance product for the missing middle.
- As per the report, AB-PMJAY provides comprehensive hospitalization cover to the bottom 50% of population, 20% is covered through social health insurance and private voluntary health insurance and other 30% are devoid of health insurance, and has termed them as the missing middle

3. Government of Meghalaya has signed \$40 million Meghalaya Health Systems Strengthening Project with which of the international organization \_\_\_\_\_ **World Bank**.

Note:

- Government of India, Government of Meghalaya and World Bank has signed a \$40 million Meghalaya Health Systems Strengthening Project to improve the quality of health services and strengthen the state's capacity to handle future health emergencies, including the COVID-19 pandemic.

4. The RBI issued a revised Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework for banks to enable supervisory intervention at "appropriate time" and also act as a tool for effective market discipline. The revised PCA framework will be effective from \_\_\_\_\_ **January 1, 2022**.

Note:

- Capital, asset quality and leverage will be the key areas for monitoring in the revised framework.
- The revised PCA framework will be effective from January 1, 2022.
- The PCA framework is also intended to act as a tool for effective market discipline.

5. Which committee of the Reserve Bank of India has recommended that the scope of Section 5 of the SARFAESI Act be expanded to permit ARCs to acquire financial assets from all regulated entities, including AIFs, FPIs, AMCs making investment on behalf of MFs and all NBFCs including HFCs \_\_\_\_\_ **Sudarshan Sen Committee**.

Note:

- It suggested that the scope of Section 5 of the SARFAESI Act be expanded to permit ARCs to acquire financial assets from all regulated entities, including AIFs, FPIs, AMCs making investment on behalf of MFs and all NBFCs including HFCs.
- The committee has recommended that for all accounts above Rs 500 crore, two bank-approved external valuers should carry out a valuation to determine the liquidation value and fair market value.
- In case of accounts between Rs 100 crore and Rs 500 crore, one valuer may be engaged.

6. Which oil company will set up India's first mega-scale Maleic Anhydride Plant to manufacture value-added chemical products at its Panipat Refinery and Petroleum Complex (PRPC) \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Oil Corporation**.

Note:

- The project — with a capex of ₹3,681 crore will be commissioned in 54 months from stage 1 investment approval.



- The project is proposed to have a capacity of 120 KTA of Maleic Anhydride (MAH)
7. With which institution the NITI Aayog has partnered to facilitate a program for faster and easier financing of electric vehicles (EV) and they will up a \$300-million 'first loss risk sharing instrument' \_\_\_\_\_ **World Bank.**
- Note:**
- The two entities are setting up a \$300-million 'first loss risk sharing instrument', with State Bank of India (SBI) as its program manager.
  - This facility would seek to garner around \$1.5 billion in financing for EVs.
  - The instrument would act as a hedging mechanism, for banks to access in case of defaults of loans on purchase of EVs.
8. Which Bank will the program manager of the \$300-million 'first loss risk sharing instrument' being set up by NITI Aayog and the World Bank to facilitate a program for faster and easier financing of electric vehicles (EV) \_\_\_\_\_ **State Bank of India.**
- Note:**
- The two entities are setting up a \$300-million 'first loss risk sharing instrument', with State Bank of India (SBI) as its program manager.
  - This facility would seek to garner around \$1.5 billion in financing for EVs.
  - The instrument would act as a hedging mechanism, for banks to access in case of defaults of loans on purchase of EVs.
9. Which bank has launched a pre-approved 2-wheeler loan scheme 'Easy Ride' through its Mobile Application platform \_\_\_\_\_ **State Bank of India.**
- Note:**
- Eligible SBI customers can avail of end-to-end digital two-wheeler loans through the YONO app without visiting the bank branch.
  - Customers can apply for the Easy Ride loan for an amount up to Rs 3 lakh at a competitive interest rate of 10.5% per annum onwards for a maximum tenure of 4 years.
10. Which General Insurance company has partnered with Vega to offer personal accident insurance cover on every online purchase of Vega helmet \_\_\_\_\_ **ICICI Lombard General Insurance.**
- Note:**
- The personal accident insurance policy will provide individuals with the benefit of accidental death with sum insured of ₹1 lakh.
  - The cover is applicable on a worldwide basis.
  - The tie-up aims to give the customer dual safety and protection, through the helmet and the personal accident insurance cover.
11. Which bank has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with NCDEX e Markets Ltd (NEML) to become a "clearing bank" for handling financial transactions in the NeML market place and procurement/auction platform \_\_\_\_\_ **Bank of Baroda.**
- Note:**
- NEML, a wholly-owned subsidiary of agricultural commodity exchange, NCDEX, is an online commodities spot market and services company.
  - This tie-up opens up multiple opportunities for both institutions.
12. Which international internet company has registered its business in India and planning to launch internet services in the country \_\_\_\_\_ **Starlink.**
- Note:**
- It is planning to launch internet services in the country, as per the company documents filed with the government.
  - Starlink is the satellite internet division of billionaire Elon Musk's rocket company SpaceX.
13. Which Bank has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Indian Navy, offering a defence service salary package, 'Power Salute' \_\_\_\_\_ **Axis Bank.**
- Note:**
- Through the exclusive defence service salary package--Power Salute--Axis Bank will offer numerous benefits to all ranks of the Indian Navy, veterans and cadets.
  - The benefits include a personal accidental cover of up to ₹56 lakh to all navy personnel, veterans and cadets; additional up to ₹8 lakh children education grant; total permanent disability cover benefit up to ₹46 lakh; partial permanent disability cover of up to ₹46 lakh; air accident cover of ₹1 crore.



14. Which oil company has decided to set up 10,000 electric vehicle charging stations across the country in three years \_\_\_\_\_

**Indian Oil Corporation.**

**Note:**

- This step will boost the EV ecosystem in the country.
- PM Modi announced India's pledge to achieve net-zero emissions by 2070, as part of the global drive to fight climate change during COP26 summit in Glasgow.
- Indian Oil will soon unveil its net-zero emission target.

15. Which bank has launched the first 'Video life certificate service' for pensioners \_\_\_\_\_ **State Bank of India.**

**Note:**

- Pensioners from the comfort of their homes can schedule a video call with SBI staff at their convenience and complete the process of life certificate submission without having to visit the bank branch.
- State Bank of India is the largest commercial bank in terms of assets, deposits, branches, customers, and employees.
- It is also the largest mortgage lender in the country which has so far fulfilled the home buying dreams of 30 lakh Indian families.

16. Which Small Finance Bank has joined hands with NABARD for its Local Sustainable Economic Development Training Program \_\_\_\_\_ **ESAF Small Finance Bank.**

**Note:**

- K. Rajan, the State Revenue Minister inaugurated the state-level Local Sustainable Economic Development Training Program organized by the bank in this regard.
- ESAF Small Finance Bank's state wide initiative on Local Sustainable Economic Development Training Program in collaboration with Nabard is a step towards building financial literacy at grass root levels.

17. Which digital payment company has launched tokenization solution named as 'SafeCard' for online debit and credit card transactions \_\_\_\_\_ **PhonePe.**

**Note:**

- RBI had made device-based tokenization framework applicable to Card-on-File Tokenisation (CoFT) services as well i.e Card-on-File (CoF) in September 2021.
- Tokenisation provides users an added layer of security by converting sensitive card information like card name, card number, CVV, etc

18. Which technology company has launched a new company in London titled as Isomorphic Labs, that will aim to use artificial intelligence for drug discovery and medicine to find cures for some of humanity's most devastating diseases in the field of biological and medical research \_\_\_\_\_ **Alphabet.**

**Note:**

- This company will aim to use AI (artificial intelligence) for drug discovery and medicine to find cures for some of humanity's most devastating diseases in the field of biological and medical research.
- CEO of Isomorphic Labs: Demis Hassabis (Current CEO and co-founder of DeepMind)
- It is a commercial venture with the mission to reimagine the entire drug discovery process.

19. Which intergovernmental bank has approved a \$61 million (~INR 453 Crore) loan under 'Agartala City Urban Development Project' to improve livability, harness technology, and promote new developments to accommodate the expanding population in the city of Agartala, Tripura \_\_\_\_\_ **Asian Development Bank.**

**Note:**

- The Agartala City Urban Development Project will build and upgrade 48 kilometers (km) of new or existing stormwater drainage and construct 23 km of climate-resilient urban roads.
- The ADB's support is aligned with the Government of India's national Smart Cities Mission program, which aims to drive economic growth through local area development.
- ADB will also provide a \$1 million technical assistance (TA) grant from its Technical Assistance Special Fund to support the project's capacity building and awareness-raising activities.

20. Bombay stock exchange (BSE) in collaboration with which bank to promote and encourage the Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) and also listing of Start-ups \_\_\_\_\_ **HDFC Bank.**

**Note:**

- The collaboration helps the SMEs and Startups to get-in touch with accountants, Lawyers and Bankers in the list of BSE.
- The collaboration resolves financial constraints for the startups and SMEs and creates sustainability.
- Through this MoU, HDFC and BSE shall evaluate banking and lending solutions for startups and SMEs.



21. Liberty General Insurance Limited has collaborated with which digital payment company to provide motor insurance services digitally \_\_\_\_\_ **PhonePe**.

**Note:**

- Under this, Liberty General Insurance will provide a variety of Motor Insurance policies to the customers, digitally through PhonePe app.
- In 2020, PhonePe ventured into distribution of insurance and has become one of India's fastest growing digital distributors with sale of over 5 lakh policies in 5 months.
- The users of PhonePe can choose from multiple motor insurance products on the platform.
- It will work as a one stop destination for all insurance needs.

22. Which bank has launched the first 'Video life certificate service' for pensioners \_\_\_\_\_ **State Bank of India**.

**Note:**

- Pensioners from the comfort of their homes can schedule a video call with SBI staff at their convenience and complete the process of life certificate submission without having to visit the bank branch.
- State Bank of India is the largest commercial bank in terms of assets, deposits, branches, customers, and employees.
- It is also the largest mortgage lender in the country which has so far fulfilled the home buying dreams of 30 lakh Indian families.

23. Under what theme the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) going to organize its first global hackathon "HARBINGER 2021- Innovation for Transformation" \_\_\_\_\_ **'Smarter Digital Payments'**.

**Note:**

- The participants in the hackathon will get the opportunity to be mentored by industry experts, exhibit their innovative solutions before an eminent jury, and win prizes in each category.
- The winner will get Rs 40 lakh, and the runner-up will be awarded Rs 20 lakh.

24. Which social media giant has announced the launch of 'Grow Your Business Hub', a one-stop destination for the micro, small, and medium businesses to find relevant information, tools, and resources curated to cater to their business goals based on their growth journey \_\_\_\_\_ **Meta**.

**Note:**

- It is a localised business hub for the micro, small and medium business to find relevant information, tools, and resources curated to provide their business goals based on their growth.
- Grow Your Business Playbook to inspire and equip early-stage businesses to start their journeys on Meta's apps was also launched during the event.
- This playbook aims to assist the business to set up an offline to online journey and accelerating online sales for small businesses during the COVID-19 era and beyond.

25. Which Life insurance company has entered into a strategic partnership with Department of Posts and India Post Payments Bank to offer two Point of Sale (PoS) products — a term product and an annuity product — through the postal department's network of 1,36,000 banking access points and the payments bank's 650 branches \_\_\_\_\_ **Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Company**.

**Note:**

- Through this alliance, BALIC has become the first private life insurer in the country to enter into a tie up with the Department of Posts for sale of PoS products.
- This alliance will enable the lakhs of Gramieen Dak Sevaks to offer financial solutions in rural areas.

26. NPCI Bharat BillPay has tied up with which life insurance company to provide ClickPay to the insurer's customers \_\_\_\_\_ **ICICI Prudential Life Insurance Company**.

**Note:**

- ICICI Prudential Life Insurance is the first insurance company to offer this facility of ClickPay to its customers empowering them to make renewal premium payments with ease.
- To offer an automated and valuable insurance premium payment experience, ICICI Prudential Life Insurance will generate the ClickPay link and share it with customers which will redirect them to the payment page comprising payment details.

27. Which bank has entered into a co-lending agreement with Aadhar Housing Finance company to offer home loans at competitive interest rates \_\_\_\_\_ **UCO Bank**.

**Note:**

- The aim is to reach out to a large section of society to provide easy, convenient, and efficient home finance solutions to customers from the economically weaker, lower and middle-income groups.



28. The Reserve Bank of India has decided to permit banks to offer interest rates on FCNR (B) deposits using widely-accepted overnight 'ARR' for the respective currency' with an upward revision in the interest rates ceiling by 50 basis points (bps). What does 'A' stands for in ARR \_\_\_\_\_ **Alternative.**

**Note:**

- The Reserve Bank of India has decided to permit banks to offer interest rates on FCNR (B) deposits using widely-accepted 'Overnight Alternative Reference Rate (ARR) for the respective currency' with an upward revision in the interest rates ceiling by 50 basis points (bps).
- This comes in view of the impending discontinuance of LIBOR (London Inter-Bank Offered Rate) as a benchmark rate.

29. Which bank has signed an MoU with the Army Insurance Group (AGI) to offer retail mortgage loans to the Indian Army \_\_\_\_\_ **Axis Bank.**

**Note:**

- The bank will offer best-in-class products and services to defence personnel to cater to their home loan requirements.
- Through this partnership, it will exclusively offer higher loan amounts as well as the facility to transfer the balance of their loans from AGI to Axis Bank.

30. Who launched RBI Integrated Ombudsman Scheme based on "One Nation-One Ombudsman" by integrating which of the following schemes \_\_\_\_\_ **Narendra Modi.**

**Note:**

- The Reserve Bank of India will provide a multi-lingual toll-free phone number for all the relevant information on grievance redress.
- It will also provide assistance for filing complaints.
- Earlier, there were three Ombudsman schemes in India (i) Banking Ombudsman Scheme (ii) Ombudsman Scheme for Non-Banking Financial Companies and (iii) Ombudsman Scheme for Digital Transactions.

31. According to the Reserve Bank of India what will be the Consumer Price Index or CPI inflation for 2021-22 \_\_\_\_\_ **5.3 per cent.**

**Note:**

- The inflation was 7.61% in October last year.
- The RBI has projected the CPI inflation at 5.3 per cent for 2021-22.
- According to MoSPI data, inflation in the food basket rose to 0.85 per cent in October, compared to 0.68 per cent in the preceding month.

32. With which oil company the NTPC Limited signed an MoU to collaborate in the field of Renewable Energy (RE) and mutually explore opportunities for supply of low carbon/RE RTC (round the clock) captive power \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Oil Corporation Limited.**

**Note:**

- This is a first-of-its-kind novel initiative by two leading national energy majors of India, to support the country's commitment to achieving renewable energy targets and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- NTPC, India's largest integrated energy company, has an installed capacity of 67,657.5 MW (including 13,425 MW through JVs/Subsidiaries) comprising 47 NTPC stations.

33. Which IIT will collaborate with Oil India Limited (OIL) on the development and introduction of new technologies energy, and related sectors \_\_\_\_\_ **IIT Guwahati.**

**Note:**

- The partnership will also focus on cooperation in Transfer of existing technologies, Knowledge up-gradation and innovation partnership, Training and skill development, and other areas of mutual agreement.
- This MoU will facilitate a new path for exploring various opportunities in applied and translational research for the sustainable energy sector with OIL.
- According to MoU, this collaboration is equally beneficial for both parties.

34. Which Bank has integrated with the government's National Agriculture Market (eNAM) to enable digital collections and settlement of funds to various e-NAM beneficiaries \_\_\_\_\_ **HDFC Bank.**

**Note:**

- HDFC Bank has partnered with the SFAC to further improve the ease of doing business on e-NAM platform by offering collection modes like multi-net banking, debit card, NEFT/RTGS and UPI/IMPS



- This integration helps not only farmers but also Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), commission agents, institutional buyers and other Mandi level service providers etc. who form part of the entire agriculture value chain.
35. Which Indian infra company has received an order for a 400kV double circuit transmission line project valued at around \$120 million from the Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Limited (PGCB) \_\_\_\_\_ **Tata Projects**.
- Note:**
- This is a 120-km project from Barapukuria to Bogura in Bangladesh to be executed in 30 months.
  - The funding for the same will be provided by EXIM Bank under Indian Line of Credit.
  - This project is on the line of South Asia power pool comprising Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal.

### Obituaries

1. Cricket all-rounder Alan Davidson passed away recently. He belongs to which country \_\_\_\_\_ **Australia**.
- Note:**
- Australian and New South Wales cricket all-rounder Alan Davidson (92 years) passed away.
  - He was the first player to achieve the feat of scoring 100 runs as well as take 10 wickets in a single Test match.
2. Renowned personality and Dronacharya Awardee Tarak Sinha passed away recently, he was associated with which sports \_\_\_\_\_ **Cricket**.
- Note:**
- He was felicitated with the Dronacharya Award in 2018.
  - He is known for training India's finest cricketers like Manoj Prabhakar, Raman Lamba, Ajay Sharma, Atul Wassan, Surinder Khanna, Sanjiv Sharma, Aakash Chopra, Anjum Chopra, Rumeli Dhar, Ashish Nehra, Shikhar Dhawan and Rishabh Pant.
3. Renowned personality Koneru Ramakrishna Rao passed away due to age-related illness, he was a veteran \_\_\_\_\_ **Educationist**.
- Note:**
- Ramakrishna Rao was a former Chairman of Andhra Pradesh State Council of Higher Education (AP-SCHE).
  - He served as the Vice-Chancellor of Andhra University and Chancellor of GITAM (Gandhi Institute of Technology and Management) deemed-to-be university.
  - He has also served as President of the US-based Parapsychological Association and as the President of Indian Academy of Applied Psychology.
4. Renowned personality and Padma Vibhushan awardee Balwant Moreshwar Purandare (Babasaheb Purandare) passed away recently, he was a noted \_\_\_\_\_ **Historian**.
- Note:**
- Purandare (99), an authority on the Maratha warrior king Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.
  - Raja Shivchhatrapati, Purandare's popular two-part, 900-page magnum opus on Shivaji Maharaj in Marathi, was first published in the late 1950s and has since been a staple in Marathi households, going through numerous reprints over decades.
5. Renowned personality Wilbur Smith (88) passed away at his home in South Africa, he was a noted \_\_\_\_\_ **Author**.
- Note:**
- Smith was born in today's Zambia in 1933 to a British family.
  - He grew up experiencing the forest, hills and savannah of Africa on his parents' ranch.
  - He credited his mother with teaching him to love nature and reading.
  - In 1964, the author published his first novel, "When the Lion Feeds," which narrates the tale of a young man growing up on a South African cattle ranch.

### Important Days

1. World Vegan Day is celebrated every year on which date to promotes vegan diet \_\_\_\_\_ **1st November**.
- Note:**
- The day is celebrated to promotes vegan diet.



- Vegan diet bars the consumption of animal-based food products.
  - The event was started in 1994 by then Chair of The Vegan Society, Louise Wallis, in the United Kingdom.
2. The United Nations declared 2021 as the year of \_\_\_\_\_ **International Year of Fruits and Vegetables**.
- Note:**
- The Minister also released operational guidelines for the Horticulture Cluster Development Programme and QR code of the guidelines.
  - The conference was organized as part of the celebration of the “International Year of Fruits and Vegetables, 2021” declared by United Nations Organization.
3. United Nations(UN)’s International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists(IDEI) is annually observed across the globe on \_\_\_\_\_ **2<sup>nd</sup> November**.
- Note:**
- The day aims to create awareness and to formulate ways to counter the threats of violence and crimes against journalists to protect the freedom of expression for all.
4. The International One Health Day is annually observed across the globe on \_\_\_\_\_ **3<sup>rd</sup> November**.
- Note:**
- The day is observed to create awareness about the need for a One Health approach to address the shared health threats at the human-animal-environment interface.
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2021 marks the 6<sup>th</sup> One Health Day, a global campaign that highlights the importance of one health approach.
5. World Tsunami Awareness Day was observed across the world on \_\_\_\_\_ **5<sup>th</sup> November**.
- Note:**
- The day is celebrated to spread awareness among people across the world in matters related to the dangers of tsunami.
  - In 2021, World Tsunami Awareness Day promotes “**Sendai Seven Campaign**,” target (f), which aims to ‘substantially enhance international cooperation to developing countries through adequate and sustainable support to complement their national actions for implementation of the present Framework by 2030.’
6. The National Cancer Awareness Day is observed annually in India on \_\_\_\_\_ **7<sup>th</sup> November**.
- Note:**
- In 2018, approximately 18 million cases were there globally, of which, 1.5 million were in India alone. In 2018, there were around 0.8 million cancer deaths in India against 9.5 million globally.
7. The International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict observed annually on \_\_\_\_\_ **6<sup>th</sup> November**.
- Note:**
- On 5 November 2001, the UN General Assembly declared 6 November of each year as the International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict.
8. World Urbanism Day, also known as “World Town Planning Day”, is annually observed across the globe on which date \_\_\_\_\_ **8<sup>th</sup> November**.
- Note:**
- The day aims to focus on the aims, objectives and progress of urban and regional planning across the globe.
  - The celebration of World Urbanism Day is promoted by the International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP).
9. International Day of Radiology is observed globally every year on \_\_\_\_\_ **8<sup>th</sup> November**.
- Note:**
- The day is celebrated to promote the awareness of the value that radiology contributes to safe patient care, and improve public understanding of the vital role radiologists and radiographers play in the healthcare continuum.
  - The theme for 2021 is ‘**Interventional Radiology – Active care for the patient**’.
  - Radiology is the medical discipline that uses medical imaging to diagnose and treat diseases within the bodies of animals and humans.
10. In India, the “National Legal Services Day” is observed every year on which date by all Legal Services Authorities \_\_\_\_\_ **09 November**.
- Note:**



- The Day is celebrated to make people aware of the various provisions under the Legal Services Authorities Act and the right of the litigants.
  - On 11 October 1987, the Legal Services Authorities Act 1987 was enacted, while the act took effect on 9 November 1995.
11. World Science Day for Peace and Development is celebrated each year on \_\_\_\_\_ **10<sup>th</sup> November**.
- Note:**
- This day is celebrated to highlight the important role that science play in society and the need to engage the wider public in debates on emerging scientific issues.
  - The year 2021 marks the 20th edition of World Science Day for Peace and Development.
12. In India, the National Education Day is celebrated every year on \_\_\_\_\_ **11<sup>th</sup> November**.
- Note:**
- The day was announced by the Ministry of Human Resource Development on 11 September 2008.
  - Maulana Abul Kalam Azad served as education minister from **15 August 1947 to 2 February 1958**.
13. The World Pneumonia Day is observed every year on which date across the world to raise awareness, promote prevention and treatment and produce action to combat the disease \_\_\_\_\_ **12<sup>th</sup> November**.
- Note:**
- It was first celebrated in 2009.
  - Pneumonia: Any infection causing an inflammatory response in the lung.
14. World Diabetes Day (WDD) is observed every year on which date to growing concerns about the escalating health threat posed by diabetes \_\_\_\_\_ **14<sup>th</sup> November**.
- Note:**
- The day also birthday of Sir Frederick Banting, who co-discovered insulin along with Charles Best in 1922.
  - The day was launched in 1991 by the IDF and World Health Organization (WHO) and became an official UN Day in 2006.
  - Theme for WDD 2021-23: Access to Diabetes Care – If Not Now, When?
15. On which date, Children's Day is celebrated every year to mark the birth anniversary of India's first Prime Minister Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru \_\_\_\_\_ **14<sup>th</sup> November**.
- Note:**
- Children's Day is popularly known as '**Baal Diwas**' in India.
  - The day aims at increasing the awareness of the rights, care and education of children.
  - On this day, many educational and motivational programs are organised across the country, by and for children.

### New Appointments

1. Who has been appointed as the new chief executive of KPMG India for a four-year term \_\_\_\_\_ **Yezdi Nagporewalla**.
- Note:**
- His term will commence on February 7, 2022, and end on December 31, 2026
  - Nagporewalla was nominated by the KPMG India Board and approved by the India Partners.
  - He will be replacing Arun M Kumar, the current Chairman and CEO whose five-year term concludes on February 6, 2022.
2. Who has been appointed as the Chairperson of National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) \_\_\_\_\_ **Ashok Bhushan**.
- Note:**
- He has been appointed for four years or until he attains the age of 70 years, whichever is the earliest.
  - Justice Bhushan was the former Chief Justice of Kerala High Court.
  - NCLAT was formed under Section 410 of the Companies Act, 2013.
3. Who has been appointed as the chairperson of the 20-member Empowered Group of Secretaries to review and monitor PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan (NMP) \_\_\_\_\_ **Cabinet Secretary**.
- Note:**
- Centre has constituted 20-member Empowered Group of Secretaries (EGoS) to review and monitor the mechanism for the development and implementation of PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan (NMP).
  - Chairperson of the EGoS is Cabinet Secretary (Present Office Holder – Rajiv Gauba)



4. Who has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Barclays with immediate effect \_\_\_\_\_ **CS**

**Venkatakrishnan.**

**Note:**

- Prior to his appointment as head of global markets and co-president of BBPLC, Venkat served as chief risk officer at Barclays.
- Venkat holds S.B., S.M. and Ph.D. degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

5. Who has been appointed as the next Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS) \_\_\_\_\_ **R. Hari Kumar.**

**Note:**

- Presently, he is Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief (FOC-in-C) Western Naval Command.
- He will take over on November 30 when incumbent Admiral Karambir Singh retires from service.
- Vice Admiral Kumar graduated from J-squadron, 61 Course National Defence Academy in December 1981 and was commissioned into the Executive Branch of the Navy on January 1, 1983.

6. Who has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Barclays with immediate effect \_\_\_\_\_ **CS**

**Venkatakrishnan.**

**Note:**

- CS Venkatakrishnan was head of global markets, co-president of Barclays Bank PLC, and a member of the Group Executive Committee of Barclays, based in New York.
- Prior to his appointment as head of global markets and co-president of BBPLC, Venkat served as chief risk officer at Barclays.

7. Who has been appointed as the brand ambassador of Novo Nordisk India to create awareness on better diabetes management and early insulin adoption \_\_\_\_\_ **Kapil Dev.**

**Note:**

- Novo Nordisk is a company that provides diabetes innovative solutions for diabetes care. It also focuses on educating people about management of diabetes.
- World Diabetes Day observed on 14th November, it marks the birthday of Sir Frederick Banting who co-discovered Insulin.

8. Who has been appointed as the Director-General of Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) \_\_\_\_\_ **Satya Narayan Pradhan.**

**Note:**

- Mr Pradhan, a Jharkhand cadre 1988-batch IPS officer, was currently holding additional charge of NCB chief despite holding the responsibility of Director General of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF).
- He was given additional charge of NCB Director-General after Rakesh Asthana was appointed as Delhi Police Commissioner.

9. Morinari Watanabe belong to which country who has been re-elected as the President of the International Gymnastics Federation (FIG) for a period of three year \_\_\_\_\_ **Japan.**

**Note:**

- He was first elected as the President of FIG in 2016 for a four-year term beginning January 2017.
- His term was then extended by one year.
- He will now continue to hold the position till 2024.
- Headquarters of International Gymnastics Federation: Lausanne, Switzerland

10. Who has been appointed as the Director General of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) \_\_\_\_\_ **Atul Karwal.**

**Note:**

- He is an IPS Officer of 1988-batch Gujarat cadre.
- He will replace Satya Narayan Pradhan who has been appointed as Director-General of Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB).

11. Who has been appointed as the Director General of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) \_\_\_\_\_ **Sheel Vardhan Singh.**

**Note:**

- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the proposal of the Ministry of Home Affairs for appointments.
- Singh, a 1986 batch Indian Police Service officer of Bihar cadre, is currently Special Director in the Intelligence Bureau. Singh has been appointed as the Director-General, CISF up to 31.08.2023.

12. Who has been appointed as the chief executive officer (CEO) of the Standard Chartered Securities (India) \_\_\_\_\_ **Rajeev Srivastava.**

**Note:**



- His appointment is currently subject to regulatory approvals
  - Prior to this, he worked at HDFC Securities where he headed the products and business development functions of the organization.
  - SCSI: It is a leading broking company and is registered as a trading and clearing member with BSE and NSE.
13. Who has been named the Goodwill Ambassador for the United Nations (UN) World Food Programme (WFP) \_\_\_\_\_ **Daniel Brühl**.
- Note:**
- He will support raising awareness for the millions of hungry people and engage his supporters in advocacy for a Zero Hunger world.
  - As the goodwill ambassador, he will inform about the main drivers of hunger and showcase the efforts of UN WFP to tackle both immediate needs and root causes of hunger.
14. Who has been elected to the International Law Commission for a five-year term, in a hard-fought election at the United Nation \_\_\_\_\_ **Bimal Patel**.
- Note:**
- He will serve a five-year term starting January 1, 2023.
  - Prof. Patel has served in various roles such as the Director at the Gujarat National Law University and member of the 21st Law Commission of India.
  - Prof. Patel garnered 163 votes in the UN General Assembly out of 192 members present and voting.
15. Who has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the fashion and lifestyle e-commerce platform Myntra \_\_\_\_\_ **Nandita Sinha**.
- Note:**
- Ms. Sinha succeeds Amar Nagaram,
  - Before joining Flipkart, she was the co-founder at MyBabyCart.com, an e-commerce site.
  - Myntra is a major Indian fashion e-commerce company headquartered in Bengaluru, Karnataka, India.
16. Who has been appointed as Team India's T20 International captain \_\_\_\_\_ **Rohit Sharma**.
- Note:**
- He has replaced Virat Kohli.
  - Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) announced the decision, while also naming India's 16-man squad for the upcoming home series against New Zealand.
  - Rohit Sharma was the frontrunner to replace Kohli as the T20I captain ever since Kohli made the announcement.
17. Who has been appointed as the new Secretary General of Rajya Sabha \_\_\_\_\_ **PC Mody**.
- Note:**
- He was formerly working as the chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT).
  - He replaced P.P.K. Ramacharyulu, who was appointed to the post on 1st September, 2021 and has now been appointed as an adviser to the Rajya Sabha chairman.

### Important News – India

1. Who has launched the "Dairy Sahakar" scheme at Anand, Gujarat \_\_\_\_\_ **Amit Shah**.
- Note:**
- The Dairy Sahakar with a total investment of Rs 5000 crore will be implemented by NDCDC under Ministry of Cooperation, Government of India to realize the vision, "from cooperation to prosperity".
  - Under Dairy Sahakar, financial support will be extended by NDCDC to eligible cooperatives for activities such as bovine development, milk procurement, processing, quality assurance, value addition, branding, packaging, marketing, transportation and storage of milk and milk products, export of dairy products within the overall objectives of "Doubling the farmers income" and "Atmanirbhar Bharat".
2. Who dedicated "Sardar Patel Leadership Centre" to the nation at Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA), Mussoorie \_\_\_\_\_ **Jitendra Singh**.
- Note:**
- Sardar Patel Leadership Centre aims to lay the foundation capacity building for future generations of Civil Servants
  - Sardar Patel Leadership Centre will emerge as a Huge Resource Centre to provide continuous study and learning opportunities to Civil Servants from India and Abroad as visualised by the Father of All India Services.



3. Which Shatabdi Express becomes the first Integrated Management Systems (IMS) certified Shatabdi \_\_\_\_\_ **Chennai-Mysore Shatabdi Express.**

**Note:**

- It received the certificate for world-class maintenance of the train, environment-friendly resources.
- The train's primary maintenance is handled by Basin Bridge Coaching Depot of Indian Railways' Chennai Division.

4. The Pension fund regulator Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) has added Aadhaar based eKYC for which flagship scheme \_\_\_\_\_ **Atal Pension Yojana.**

**Note:**

- Aim: to expand its subscriber base and simplify the on-boarding process further.
- PFRDA is allowing enrollment of subscribers through physical, net banking and other digital modes, at present.
- After an APY account is opened, Atal Pension Yojana-Service Provider (APY-SP) will offer subsequent servicing to the subscribers.

5. What is the theme 14th edition of Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference 2021 inaugurated by Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs, Hardeep S. Puri \_\_\_\_\_ **Mobility for All.**

**Note:**

- Theme of the conference: Mobility for All
- Aim: provide an opportunity to decision makers and delegates to interact with professionals, experts, industry, civil society, technology, services providers and other stake holders in Urban Transport
- India at 75-Mobility for All film also released.

6. Ramky Enviro has inaugurated one of the world's first and India's largest landfill gas-to-compressed biogas plant in which city of India \_\_\_\_\_ **Hyderabad.**

**Note:**

- The project is focused on the conversion of landfill gas into compressed biogas as an automotive fuel.
- The project offers significant benefits such as carbon sequestration and reduced emissions of GHGs into the environment and contributes to the greening of the automotive industry.
- The end (Biogas) product of the plant will be sold to Bhagyanagar Gas Limited (BGL).

7. Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has launched Bhasha Sangam initiative for schools. It has been launched to teach basic sentences of everyday usage in how many languages \_\_\_\_\_ **22.**

**Note:**

8. Ministry of Rural Development signs Memorandum of Understanding with which e-commerce company for the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM) \_\_\_\_\_ **Flipkart.**

**Note:**

- Helps empower those who take the lead by participating in e-commerce.
- This partnership is in line with DAY-NRLM's goal of strengthening the capacity of rural communities for self-employment and entrepreneurship, and provides further impetus for the Prime Minister's vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat.

9. Who has launched the 'Ayushman CAPF' Scheme health cards at the national level in New Delhi \_\_\_\_\_ **Amit Shah.**

**Note:**

- The scheme has been designed to cover all serving personnel and their dependents of the seven Central Armed Police Forces.
- He handed over 'Ayushman CAPF' Scheme health cards to the Director General, National Security Guard for distribution to NSG personnel
- The scheme is a joint initiative of the Home Ministry, Health Ministry and National Health Authority (NHA).

10. India has adopted a net zero target by which year in the COP26 summit in Glasgow \_\_\_\_\_ **2070.**



**Note:**

- India announced a new targets to increase reliance on renewables and reduce the carbon intensity of its economy, including to adopt a net zero target by 2070.
- Investment in RE and climate change adaptation policies suggest it is well positioned to take further steps to reach this new target.

11. Which Organisation developed 'Ganga Atlas: River of the Past' that was launched during the 5th Ganga Utsav \_\_\_\_\_ **IIT Kanpur.**

**Note:**

- Ganga Atlas developed by Prof Rajiv Sinha, IIT Kanpur documents the changes in River Ganga over the past 5-6 decades in terms of channel morphology, land use & land cover, river dynamics and associated issues.

12. Who will head the 22-members technology innovation group on sixth generation or 6G formed by the Department of Telecommunications \_\_\_\_\_ **K Rajaraman.**

**Note:**

- Telecom secretary K Rajaraman will head the initiative as chairperson and the forum aims to create vision and objectives as well as develop a roadmap for research and development (R&D), pre-standardisation, development of applications and products, and action plans for 6G technology.

13. Which organization has released "The Adaptation Gap Report 2021" that discusses the irreversible nature of global climate risk \_\_\_\_\_ **UN Environment Programme (UNEP).**

**Note:**

- It is the 12th edition of the Emissions Gap Report.
- The Report shows that new national climate pledges combined with other mitigation measures put the world on track for a global temperature rise of 2.7°C by the end of the century.
- That is well above the goals of the Paris climate agreement and would lead to catastrophic changes in the Earth's climate.

14. What is India's rank in the inaugural Global Drug Policy Index 2021, released by the Harm Reduction Consortium \_\_\_\_\_ **18<sup>th</sup>.**

**Note:**

- The five lowest-ranking countries are Brazil, Uganda, Indonesia, Kenya, and Mexico.
- India's rank is 18 out of 30 countries.
- It is a data-driven global analysis of drug policies and their implementation.

15. Which Indian city has been included in the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) with a special mention for its craft and folk art \_\_\_\_\_ **Srinagar.**

**Note:**

- Srinagar joins Chennai and Varanasi - UNESCO Cities of music; Jaipur - UNESCO city of crafts and folk arts; Mumbai - UNESCO city of film and Hyderabad - UNESCO City of gastronomy.
- Worldwide, 49 new cities have joined the UNESCO's Creative Cities Network (UCCN).

16. The Central government has launched 'DBT-Star College Mentorship Programme' for \_\_\_\_\_ **Young Innovators.**

**Note:**

- The 'DBT-Star College Mentorship Programme' will help towards the concept of networking, hand holding and outreach, said Singh who is the Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science and Technology.
- The pan India scheme envisages a 'Star College' in every district of the country supported by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), under the science and technology ministry.

17. Who has inaugurated the 14th edition of 'c0c0n', an annual Hacking and Cyber Security Conference \_\_\_\_\_ **Bipin Rawat.**

**Note:**

- The conference, which is being conducted by Kerala Police in association with two non-profit organisations, Society for the Policing of Cyberspace (POLCYB) and Information Security Research Association (ISRA), would be primarily discussing online scams and defenses during the lockdown period



- The conference is being held virtually so that people from across the globe can attend the event as the 13th edition of 'c0c0n' last year saw more than 6,000 attendees from around the world.
- 18.** The union minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change and Labour & Employment, Shri Bhupender Yadav has inaugurated the Ganga Connect exhibition showcased by National Mission for Clean Ganga, c-Ganga, and the High Commission of India at the \_\_\_\_\_ **City of Glasgow College.**
- Note:**
- The exhibition is an attempt to showcase the level of development in the Ganga river basin to a global community of environmental stakeholders, who have gathered in Glasgow for the UN Conference of the Parties (COP-26) meeting.
  - "Ganga Connect is a global exhibition that will showcase multiple facets of the river basin and connect with interested parties.
  - This project is important from the point of view preserving and protecting Ganga and its ecosystem and creating widespread awareness about the river basin."
- 19.** What is the theme of the 40th edition of India International Trade Fair 2021 \_\_\_\_\_ **Atmbirbhar Bharat.**
- Note:**
- 40th edition of IITF is a magnum of India Trade Promotion Organization representing India in totality as an ideal destination for numerous business and investment opportunities.
  - Bihar is the Partner State, while Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand are the Focus States.
  - Overseas participation is from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bahrain, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, UAE, Tunisia, and Turkey.
- 20.** What is India's rank in the global Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) 2022, released by Germanwatch along with Climate Action Network (CAN) and New Climate Institute on the side-lines of the COP26 \_\_\_\_\_ **10<sup>th</sup>.**
- Note:**
- It is being released by German-watch along with Climate Action Network (CAN) and New Climate Institute
  - India was at 10th place in 2020 as well
  - The report noted that no country performed well enough in all index categories to achieve an overall very high rating in CCPI. Therefore, once again, the top three places in the overall ranking remain empty.
- 21.** Union Cabinet chaired by PM Narendra Modi has declared November 15 as 'Janjatiya Gaurav Divas' to mark the birth anniversary of \_\_\_\_\_ **Birsa Munda.**
- Note:**
- The day is dedicated to the brave tribal freedom fighters and their sacrificed for the country.
  - This day will be celebrated every year from now on to recognize the efforts of the tribals for preservation of cultural heritage and promotion of Indian values of valor, hospitality and national pride.
- 22.** National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI) is a not-for-profit Company under the aegis of which ministry that has launched 'Digital Payment Gateway' to make the internet accessible to everyone \_\_\_\_\_ **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.**
- Note:**
- It will lead to increased ease of use for NIXI's customers by offering real-time payments, providing uninterrupted services and ensuring seamless experience to all stakeholders.
  - PayU is enabling payment digitization for crucial initiatives across the three key domains of NIXI.
  - NIXI has partnered with PayU and NSDL to offer Payment gateway services.
- 23.** World's longest bi-lane road tunnel called "Sela Tunnel" is being built in which state/union territories of India \_\_\_\_\_ **Arunachal Pradesh.**
- Note:**
- The tunnel, located near China border, is expected to give India strategic heft by facilitating faster movement of its troops.
  - The tunnel goes through Sela Pass and is expected to cut down the distance to China border through Tawang by 10 km.
  - It is located on the border between the Tawang and West Kameng districts of Arunachal.
  - The project consists of two tunnels.
- 24.** Who will head the committee constituted by the central government for the determination of RoDTEP rates for exports from special economic zones (SEZs) and export-oriented units (EOUs), as these sectors were left out in the earlier exercise \_\_\_\_\_ **Gopal Krishna Pillai.**
- Note:**



- The committee will be headed by Former Home Secretary Gopal Krishna Pillai, Former CBEC (Central Board of Excise and Customs) member Y G Parande and former customs member Gautam Ray.
  - The committee will also make recommendations on issues relating to errors or anomalies with respect to the RoDTEP schedule of rates notified.
25. First-ever National Yogasana Championship was held in which city of India \_\_\_\_\_ **Bhubaneswar**.
- Note:**
- It has been organized by National Yogasana Sports Federation (NYSF) in association with the Odisha state.
  - Around 560 young Yogasana Sports athletes from across 30 states would be participating in the event.
26. Which industry association has organized a virtual agriculture summit and awards event 'Envisioning Smart & Sustainable Agriculture' aims to bring all key stakeholders and policymakers on a common platform to ideate an implementable strategy for smart and sustainable agriculture \_\_\_\_\_ **FICCI**.
- Note:**
- The summit 'Envisioning Smart & Sustainable Agriculture' aims to bring all key stakeholders and policymakers on a common platform to ideate an implementable strategy for smart and sustainable agriculture.
  - The plenary sessions will focus on issues such as strengthening agri-inputs for sustainably increasing productivity.
  - A knowledge report on 'India Beyond 75: Envisioning smart and sustainable agriculture' is being released during the event.
27. Who lead the Indian delegation in the Abu Dhabi International Petroleum Exhibition and Conference (ADIPEC) \_\_\_\_\_ **Hardeep Singh Puri**.
- Note:**
- Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri will lead an official and business delegation for the conference.
  - During the visit, the Minister will participate in the inaugural Ceremony of ADIPEC and also take part in a Ministerial Round Table titled "Charting the Climate Action Path from COP 26 to COP 27".
28. According to the data from air quality and pollution city tracking service from IQAir, a Switzerland-based climate group which becomes the most polluted city of the world \_\_\_\_\_ **Delhi**.
- Note:**
- While Delhi's Air Quality Index (AQI) at 556 made it to the top of the list, Kolkata and Mumbai recorded an AQI of 177 and 169, respectively, at fourth and sixth position.
  - The cities with the worst AQI indices also include Lahore, in Pakistan, and Chengdu, in China.
  - A real-time air quality information platform - IQAir is also a technology partner of the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP).

### Important News – State

1. Which state has topped the State Energy Efficiency Index 2020 (SEEI), scoring 70 points out of 100 and is included in 'Front runner' category \_\_\_\_\_ **Karnataka**.
- Note:**
- The Ministry of Power's (MoP) Energy Efficiency Index ranks states on their performance across 68 indicators covering buildings, industry, municipalities, transport, agriculture, distribution companies (DISCOMs), and cross-sector initiatives.
  - The index assesses the states' performance on policy and regulation, financing mechanism, institutional capacity, adoption of energy efficiency measures, and energy savings.
2. Union Minister, Rajeev Chandrasekhar has inaugurated first virtual Internet Exchange of NIXI in which city of Uttarakhand \_\_\_\_\_ **Dehradun**.
- Note:**
- It will help in enhancing and improving the quality of Internet and Broadband services in Uttarakhand.
  - Next Internet Exchange in Uttarakhand will be at Nainital District.
3. Which of the following state has topped Public Affairs Index 2021 \_\_\_\_\_ **Kerala**.
- Note:**
- Public Affairs Index (PAI) 2021 analyses governance by looking into growth, equity and sustainability indicators.
  - PAI is released by Public Affairs Centre (PAC).
4. 1,000-megawatt (MW) Pakal Dul Hydro Electric Project was inaugurated in which state/union territories \_\_\_\_\_ **Jammu & Kashmir**.



**Note:**

- Pakal Dul HE Project (1,000 MW) is being constructed by Chenab Valley Power Projects Pvt Limited (CVPPPL), a joint venture company of National Hydro Electric Power Corporation (NHPC) and Jammu and Kashmir State Power Development Corporation (JKSPDC).
- CVPPPL has been entrusted with 3,094 MW hydro power projects for construction in Jammu and Kashmir.

5. Which State government has launched the 'Uttam Beej portal' which will benefit the farmers of state by providing quality seeds with transparency \_\_\_\_\_ **Haryana**.

**Note:**

- While launching the portal, the CM congratulated lakhs of farmers of the State also fulfilling their decade-old demand.
- The State is producing 30-35 lakh quintals certified seed of Wheat and other crops.

6. Which state govt has launched Mukhyamantri Awasiya Bhu-dhikar Yojana, the state government will provide plots of land to families who do not have land to build their homes \_\_\_\_\_ **Madhya Pradesh**.

**Note:**

- The construction of houses comes under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana
- To ensure that every family has the right to a dignified life with basic necessities.
- Family should consist of a married couple and their unmarried children, and families living in a particular village are eligible.

7. 'Bestu Varas' is the New year day celebrated in which state \_\_\_\_\_ **Gujarat**.

**Note:**

- The day falls on the Pratipada Tithi of the Kartik month of the Hindu calendar.
- The Shukla Paksha (brighter phase of the Lunar cycle) marks the beginning of the Gujarati New Year.

8. Which organization signed an MoU with the UP government to manage the Varanasi Milk Union for a period of 5 years \_\_\_\_\_ **The National Dairy Development Board**.

**Note:**

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to this effect was signed between government of Uttar Pradesh, Pradeshik Cooperative Dairy Federation Ltd (PCDF), Varanasi Milk Union and NDDB during a virtual ceremony
- This will promote dairy sector in the northern State, while providing the dairy farmers required economic resilience.

9. Which state government has launched Janasevaka and Janaspandana scheme for doorstep delivery and complaint portal for citizens \_\_\_\_\_ **Karnataka**.

**Note:**

- Janasevaka is an initiative to help people avail government services easily.
- Using a mobile application or website, or by getting in touch via a call centre, people can get up to 56 government services delivered to their doorsteps, including home delivery of ration at subsidised rates, or an Aadhaar card, caste certificate, income certificate, senior citizen card, BBMP khatha transfer and health card.

10. Which state topped in the third LEADS (Logistics Ease Across Different States) 2021 report \_\_\_\_\_ **Gujarat**.

**Note:**

- Gujarat occupied the first spot among 21 states, followed by Haryana, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, and Maharashtra in that order.
- The report ranks the states on the basis of their logistics ecosystem, highlights the key logistics-related challenges faced by the stakeholders and includes suggestive recommendations.

11. A new Biotechnology Centre for Northeast tribals has been inaugurated in which state of India \_\_\_\_\_ **Arunachal Pradesh**.

**Note:**

- Centre for Bio-resources and Sustainable Development will greatly help in improving the socio-economic status of tribal people in the State.
- The Centre aims at conservation and sustainable utilization of the local bio-resources using biotechnological tools and is ably supported by Department of Biotechnology.

12. Which is the partner state of the 40th edition of India International Trade Fair 2021 \_\_\_\_\_ **Bihar**.

**Note:**

- Theme: Aatmanirbhar Bharat



- 40th edition of IITF is a magnum of India Trade Promotion Organization representing India in totality as an ideal destination for numerous business and investment opportunities.
13. Which state government has launched a first of its kind road safety initiative named as 'Rakshak', to train first responders of road accidents \_\_\_\_\_ **Odisha**.
- Note:**
- Under Rakshak, 300 master trainers will train 30,000 local people, staying or working at the eateries and different business establishments located near accident-prone spots.
  - These 30,000 volunteers will be trained as First Responders to road accidents.
  - They will be equipped to administer first aid and pre-hospital trauma care to accident victims within the golden hour.
14. With which state's Inland Water Transport (IWT) dept, the World Bank has signed an MoU of Rs 770 crore loan to improve river transportation in the state \_\_\_\_\_ **Assam**.
- Note:**
- Central Govt will refund 80% of the sanctioned amount and the state government would bear the remaining 20%.
  - CM of Assam also flagged off four steel catamaran vessels at Pandu Port recently under World Bank-funded project to integrate high-quality passenger and vehicle ferry services into the state's wider transport network system.

### Important News – World

1. Which country has launched an online dashboard - the 'Climate Equity Monitor' to assess equity in climate action, inequalities in emissions besides energy and resource consumption across the world \_\_\_\_\_ **India**.
- Note:**
- The "Climate Equity Monitor" also tracks the climate policies of several countries from the perspective of developing countries.
  - The website has been conceptualized and developed by independent researchers from India -- the Climate Change Group at the M.S Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF), Chennai.
2. Which country has returned about 250 antiquities worth \$15 million to India in a long-running investigation of a stolen art scheme \_\_\_\_\_ **USA**.
- Note:**
- The items, worth an estimated \$15 million, were handed over during a ceremony at the Indian Consulate in New York City.
  - The centrepiece is a bronze Shiva Nataraja valued at \$4 million
  - The investigation has focused on tens of thousands of antiquities allegedly smuggled into the United States by dealer Subhash Kapoor.
3. G20 Leaders' Summit 2021 concluded recently. What is the moto of the G20 Summit 2021 \_\_\_\_\_ **People, Planet, and Prosperity**.
- Note:**
- Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau has concluded his participation at G20 Leaders' Summit in Rome, Italy, with focus on the urgent priorities of protecting the environment and fighting climate change and biodiversity loss.
  - Summit concluded with the adoption of the Rome Declaration by G20 Leaders.
4. Which country has inaugurated World's Largest Hydrogen Fuel Cell Power Plant \_\_\_\_\_ **South Korea**.
- Note:**
- Largest hydrogen fuel cell power plant of the world named as 'Shinincheon Bitdream Fuel Cell Power Plant' has been inaugurated at Seo-gu, Incheo in South Korea.
  - It has a total capacity of 78.96 kWh and can provide electricity to nearly 250,000 households per year.
5. Which Prime Minister has launched Infrastructure for Resilient Island States (IRIS) on sidelines of climate summit in Glasgow \_\_\_\_\_ **Narendra Modi**.
- Note:**



- It is aimed at achieving sustainable development through a systematic approach to resilient, sustainable and inclusive infrastructure in Small Island Developing States (SIDS).
  - The launch of IRIS gives a new hope, confidence and satisfaction of doing something for the most vulnerable countries.
6. Which got a rare recognition as it was invited to participate in International Seed Conference that would be held virtually by Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations (UN) \_\_\_\_\_ **Telangana**.
- Note:**
- The programme, International Seed Conference, is being organised to discuss development of seed industry.
  - Representatives, Ministers, scientists and seed experts from 195 countries would participate in the conference.
7. Which country has unveiled a coin to commemorate the life and legacy of Mahatma Gandhi \_\_\_\_\_ **United Kingdom**.
- Note:**
- The coin is available in a range of standards, including gold and silver
  - The special collectors' coin was designed by Heena Glover.
  - The coin features an image of a lotus, India's national flower, alongside one of Gandhi's most famous quotes - 'My life is my message'.
8. Which organization has released a report titled 'Beating the Heat: A Sustainable Cooling Handbook for Cities' \_\_\_\_\_ **UN Environment Programme (UNEP)**.
- Note:**
- The UNEP in the report says the world's rapidly growing urban centers should adopt cooling technologies that are cleaner in order to limit greenhouse gas emissions and strengthen the resilience of communities.
  - According to the report investing in air condition systems that are less carbon-intensive is key to greening the urban environment.
9. According to the QS Asia University Rankings 2022, released by the Quacquarelli Symonds, global higher education think-tank, which has come up as Asia's best university for the 4th consecutive year \_\_\_\_\_ **National University of Singapore**.
- Note:**
- National University of Singapore has come up as Asia's best university for the 4th consecutive year.
  - China's Peking University at 2nd position and Nanyang Technological University in Singapore, and the University of Hong Kong in Hong Kong at 3rd.
10. Which neighbouring country has issued an Letter of Exchange (LoE) with India to formalize 7 additional Entry – exit trade points \_\_\_\_\_ **Bhutan**.
- Note:**
- India and Bhutan will have seven additional entry and exit points for trade as part of measures to increase trade connectivity.
  - These include Nagarkata Land Customs Station without commodity restriction; Agartala Land Customs Station; Pandu port (Guwahati Steamerghat), subject to cross border control at Dhubri; Jogighopa port subject to cross border control at Dhubri.
11. Which country ranked first in the inaugural Global Drug Policy Index 2021, released by the Harm Reduction Consortium \_\_\_\_\_ **Norway**.
- Note:**
- The five lowest-ranking countries are Brazil, Uganda, Indonesia, Kenya, and Mexico.
  - India's rank is 18 out of 30 countries.
  - It is a data-driven global analysis of drug policies and their implementation.
12. Which neighbouring country has issued a Letter of Exchange (LoE) with India to formalize 7 additional Entry – exit trade points \_\_\_\_\_ **Bhutan**.



**Note:**

- India and Bhutan will have seven additional entry and exit points for trade as part of measures to increase trade connectivity.
- These include Nagarkata Land Customs Station without commodity restriction; Agartala Land Customs Station; Pandu port (Guwahati Steamerghat), subject to cross border control at Dhubri; Jogighopa port subject to cross border control at Dhubri.

13. With which country India has signed a pact aimed at spurring innovation and speeding up the development of dual use technologies by small and medium sized firms in both countries \_\_\_\_\_ **Israel**.

**Note:**

- The pact was signed between India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Israel's Directorate of Defence Research and Development (DDR&D).
- The agreement – known as the Bilateral Innovation Agreement – will “promote innovation and accelerated R&D in startups and MSMEs of both countries for the development of dual use technologies.

14. Which becomes the 101st member country to join the International Solar Alliance (ISA) \_\_\_\_\_ **USA**.

**Note:**

- ISA is an alliance of 124 countries.
- It was initiated by India.
- Most of the member countries are sunshine countries, lying either partly or completely between Tropic of Cancer and Tropic of Capricorn.
- This alliance was launched with the objective of working for efficient consumption of solar energy and reduce dependence on fossil fuels.

15. Which country placed as the highest ranked country in Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) 2022, released by Germanwatch along with Climate Action Network (CAN) and New Climate Institute on the side-lines of the COP26 \_\_\_\_\_ **Denmark**.

**Note:**

- The report noted that no country performed well enough in all index categories to achieve an overall very high rating in CCPI.
- Therefore, once again, the top three places in the overall ranking remain empty. Denmark, placed 4th, is the highest ranked country in CCPI 2022.
- India has retained its spot in the top 10 best performing countries for the third year in a row in the global Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI).

16. Who has been re-elected as the Prime Minister of Japan in the parliamentary elections held on 10th November 2021 \_\_\_\_\_ **Fumio Kishida**.

**Note:**

- His governing party Liberal Democratic Party scored a major victory securing 261 seats in the 465-member lower house.
- He is the former Foreign Minister of Japan.

### Honor & Awards

1. Which word has been selected as the Oxford English Dictionary's 2021 Word of the Year \_\_\_\_\_ **Vax**.

**Note:**

- It is used as a short form for vaccine and means a substance put into a person's body to prevent them from getting a disease.
- It was used 72 times as much as it was in 2020



2. Who has been bestowed with the prestigious 'Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award 2020' for her outstanding contribution in the field of land adventure \_\_\_\_\_ **Priyanka Mohite**.

**Note:**

- She will receive the award from President Ram Nath Kovind at a function in the Rashtrapati Bhawan.
- The 28-year-old Mohite, who started out by trekking in Sahyadri ranges in western Maharashtra and rock-climbing, began summiting mountains from 2010.

3. How many Padma awards has been awarded this year by the President Ram Nath Kovind \_\_\_\_\_ **119**.

**Note:**

- The Padma Awards are one of the highest civilian honours of India announced annually on the eve of Republic Day.
- The Awards are given in three categories: Padma Vibhushan (for exceptional and distinguished service), Padma Bhushan (distinguished service of higher order) and Padma Shri (distinguished service).

4. Who has been conferred with the Basavashree award 2021 by the Bruhanmutt \_\_\_\_\_ **Puneeth Rajkumar**.

**Note:**

- The award honours people for services to society in their respective fields by following the principles of Lord Basaveshwar.
- It is presented by Chitradurga Bruhanmutt since 1997.
- The award includes a Rs 5 lakh cash and a memento.

5. Who has won the prestigious Booker Prize 2021 for fiction for his novel 'The Promise' \_\_\_\_\_ **Damon Galgut**.

**Note:**

- It was his ninth book that states the decline of one dutch family in South Africa over four decades from the apartheid era to the present day. It is a tale of a troubled Afrikaner family and its broken promise to a Black employee.
- With this recognition, Damon Galgut won 50,000 pounds (\$69,000) as an award amount.
- Booker prize is the world's most prestigious literary honours which is also called Oscars of world literature.

6. Which IIT has bagged a grant worth \$250,000 from the XPRIZE Foundation, which is part of the Elon Musk Foundation at the COP26 summit in Glasgow \_\_\_\_\_ **IIT Bombay**.

**Note:**

- Four students and two teachers from IIT Bombay have won a grant of \$250,000 (approximately ₹1.85 crore) for the new-age technology at the Sustainable Innovation Forum at COP-26 in Glasgow.
- The grant has come from XPRIZE Foundation in collaboration with Elon Musk Foundation.

7. Who became India's seventh woman billionaire and the wealthiest self-made billionaire \_\_\_\_\_ **Falguni Nayar**.

**Note:**

- She established Nykaa in 2012.
- She holds 53.5% stake in Nykaa and has a net worth of USD 7.48 billion.
- This comes after the IPO of FSN E-Commerce Ventures which is Nykaa's parent entity. This is also the first woman-led unicorn to list on the stock exchange.

### Sports News

1. Pairing with whom Indian ace table tennis player Manika Batra clinched the women's doubles title in the WTT Contender tournament in Lasko, Slovenia \_\_\_\_\_ **Archana Girish Kamath**.

**Note:**

- The Indian duo defeated the Puerto Rican team of Melanie Diaz and Adriana Diaz in straight sets by 11-3, 11-8, 12-10.
- Manika Batra and Archana Girish Kamath entered the finals of the women's doubles event of the WTT Contender tournament after defeating the team of Wang Yidi and Liu Weishan.



2. Nagpur based teenager Sankalp Gupta has become India's \_\_\_\_\_ Grandmaster \_\_\_\_\_ **71<sup>st</sup>**.

**Note:**

- The 18-year-old secured the three required GM norms in just 24 days by playing three tournaments on the trot.
- To achieve the GM title, a player has to secure three GM norms and cross the live rating of 2,500 Elo points.

3. Name the Indian women shooter who has won won the 10m air pistol mixed team gold at the inaugural ISSF President's Cup with Iran's Javad Foroughi \_\_\_\_\_ **Manu Bhaker**.

**Note:**

- The Indo-Iranian pair got the better of the French-Russian duo of Mathilde Lamolle and Artem Chernousov 16-8 in the gold medal match.
- Among the other Indians in the field, Abhishek Verma paired up with Ukrainian Olena Kostevych to finish sixth while the pairing of Saurabh Chaudhary and Swiss Heidi Gerber Diethelm also made it among the top eight semi-finalists to finish seventh.

4. Akash Kumar is associated with which sports who won a bronze medal recently in a world championship \_\_\_\_\_

**Boxing.**

**Note:**

- With this win he became the 7th Indian male boxer who won a medal at the World Boxing Championships and also received \$25,000 as prize money and a belt for his accomplishment.
- He suffered a 0-5 loss against Kazakhstan's Makhmud Sabyrkhan.

5. Veteran cricketer Dwayne Bravo is associated with which country who announced his retirement from international cricket \_\_\_\_\_ **West Indies**.

**Note:**

- Dwayne Bravo hails from Santa Cruz, Trinidad.
- Dwayne Bravo has played in all seven T20 World Cups and he has been a part of the West Indies team that won the T20 Title in 2012 and 2016.
- He has scored 1245 runs at an average of 22.23 and a strike rate of 115.38 and he has picked up 78 wickets.

6. Who has won the Mexico City Grand Prix 2021 \_\_\_\_\_ **Max Verstappen**.

**Note:**

- Starting from the second row, Verstappen made a brilliant move on the outside going into Turn 1 to take over Mercedes-Benz AMG's Valtteri Bottas and Lewis Hamilton, who started at pole and second place, respectively.
- Verstappen was never unsettled from there and comfortably took the win, with Hamilton eventually crossing the line in second place some 16 seconds behind after managing to hold off local hero Sergio Perez.

7. Who has become India's 72nd chess Grand Master by bagging his third and final GM norm during a tournament in Serbia \_\_\_\_\_ **Mitrabha Guha**.

**Note:**

- The 20-year old Guha achieved the GM title after securing the final norm at the ongoing GM Mix 220 tourney in Novi Sad, Serbia.
- The Indian, who beat GM Nikola Sedlak of Serbia in the ninth round, has so far scored seven points with six wins, two draws and a loss to Russian GM Vladimir Zakhartsov in the seventh round.

8. Who has won 2021 Rolex Paris Masters final title \_\_\_\_\_ **Novak Djokovic**.

**Note:**

- This is the sixth Paris Masters title for the Serbian Djokovic and overall 37th ATP Masters 1000 title.
- Rolex Paris Masters: It is the annual tennis tournament for male professional players.
- It is a part of the ATP Tour Masters 1000.

9. Who has won the won the Brazilian Grand Prix 2021, and gained momentum in his Formula One title fight \_\_\_\_\_ **Lewis Hamilton**.

**Note:**

- Hamilton, a seven-time world champion, beat Verstappen despite starting from 10th position on the grid due to a penalty.



- Verstappen, the winner of the race's previous edition in 2019, finished second and saw his lead in the driver's championship shrink to 14 points.
  - The winner of a race gets 25 points.
10. Which country has won their maiden T20 World Cup title held the Dubai International Stadium \_\_\_\_\_ **Australia.**  
**Note:**
- Chasing a stiff target of 173, the Aussies overhauled New Zealand's score with seven balls remaining.
  - David Warner was chosen as Player of The Tournament for his effort with the bat.
11. Women's cricket T20 tournament will be making its debut in which games event \_\_\_\_\_ **2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham.**  
**Note:**
- This will be 1st time that women cricket will be included in Commonwealth Games
  - Earlier, cricket was played as List A men's tournament at 1998 Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
  - 2022 matches will be played under Twenty20 format and there will only be women's tournament.

### **Books and Authors**

1. Who has authored the book titled "The Story of the First Civilizations: From Mesopotamia to the Aztecs" \_\_\_\_\_ **Subhadra Sen Gupta.**  
**Note:**
- This is the last book authored by Subhadra Sen Gupta and published posthumously by Talking Cub, an imprint of Speaking Tiger.
  - The book is an informative book for Children, on the ancient civilizations around the world like Mesopotamia, Egypt, Indus valley, Greece, Rome etc
2. Who has authored the book titled "The Sage with Two Horns: Unusual Tales from Mythology" \_\_\_\_\_ **Sudha Murty.**  
**Note:**
- The book is published by Penguin Random House India imprint India Puffin.
  - The series features the stories of kings and queens, gods and goddesses, sages and extraordinary men and women of wisdom.
3. Who has authored the book titled "Not just cricket: A Reporters Journey" \_\_\_\_\_ **Pradeep Magazine.**  
**Note:**
- It is published by HarperCollins Publishers India.
  - It consists of life experiences, social, political, ups and downs of Indian cricket by the journalist Pradeep Magazine. It also contains memorable cricket encounters and anecdotes of cricket.
4. Who has authored the book titled "An Economist at Home and Abroad: A Personal Journey" \_\_\_\_\_ **Dr Shankar Acharya.**  
**Note:**
- The book features the professional and personal life of the most accomplished policy economist Dr Shankar Acharya.
  - The book is published by HarperCollins India.
5. Who has authored the book titled 'The Cinema of Satyajit Ray' \_\_\_\_\_ **Bhaskar Chattopadhyay.**  
**Note:**
- The book is divided into two sections, first is about art and second is the artist.
  - Bhaskar Chattopadhyay also authored novels like "Patang" (2016), "Here Falls the Shadow" (2017) and "The Disappearance of Sally Sequeira" (2018).
6. Who has authored a book on Ayodhya verdict titled "Sunrise over Ayodhya: Nationhood in our Times" \_\_\_\_\_ **Salman Khurshid.**  
**Note:**
- Book states about unity between Hindus & Muslims and about creating an awareness that the Supreme Court verdict on Ayodhya was a good one.



- On 9 November 2019, the Supreme Court, in a unanimous verdict, cleared the way for the construction of a Ram temple at the disputed site in Ayodhya.
7. Who is the author of the book titled 'Nehru: The Debates that Defined India \_\_\_\_\_ **Tripurdaman Singh and Adeel Hussain.**
- Note:**
- This book mentions the political journey of Jawaharlal Nehru from being elected as Congress president to various other important aspects of his life.
  - The book has been published with permission from HarperCollins India.

### Science and Defence

1. India has launched First Manned Ocean Mission 'Samudrayan' at Chennai. So far five other countries have launched such mission, which one is not among them \_\_\_\_\_ **Australia.**
- Note:**
- With this, India joins the elite club of nations such as USA, Russia, Japan, France and China to have such underwater vehicles for carrying out subsea activities.
  - It shall facilitate in carrying out deep ocean exploration of the non-living resources such as polymetallic manganese, hydro-thermal sulphides, cobalt crusts, located at a depth between 1000-5500 meters.
2. DRDO and Indian Air Force have carried out two successful flight tests of indigenously-developed SAAW. What is the full form of SAAW \_\_\_\_\_ **Smart Anti-Airfield Weapon.**
- Note:**
- An electro-optical seeker based flight test of this class of bomb was conducted for the first time in India.
  - Meant to disable airfield runways, SAAW is capable of hitting ground targets up to a range of 100 kilometres.
  - It can carry a warhead of 125 kilograms.
3. In Association with NASA which country's space agency announced plans to send a rover to the moon by 2026 that will harvest lunar soil containing oxygen, which could eventually be used to support human life in space \_\_\_\_\_ **Australia.**
- Note:**
- The rover will harvest lunar soil containing oxygen, which could eventually be used to support human life in space.
  - If all goes to plan, it will be the first rover with Australian-made components to reach the moon.
4. "Zolfaghar-1400" is an annual military exercise of which country that was conducted in Gulf of Oman recently \_\_\_\_\_ **Iran.**
- Note:**
- Navy and air force units as well as ground forces were participating in a more than 1 million square-kilometer (386,100 square-mile) area east of the strategic Strait of Hormuz.
  - The war games are aimed at "improving readiness in confronting foreign threats and any possible invasion.
  - Nearly 20% of all oil shipping passes through the strait to the Gulf of Oman and Indian Ocean.
5. Which country has launched Earth science satellite named as 'Guangmu' into space \_\_\_\_\_ **China.**
- Note:**
- It was launched via Long March-6 carrier rocket.
  - Guangmu: World's first Earth-science satellite dedicated to serving the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.
6. Which defence manufacturing facility has delivered the fourth Scorpene Submarine of Project P-71 to the Indian Navy which will be commissioned as 'INS Vela' \_\_\_\_\_ **Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd.**
- Note:**
- The MDL has earlier delivered submarines Kalvari, Khanderi, and Karanja to the Navy.
  - The fifth submarine in the series, Vagir, was launched on November 12, 2020 and has commenced her harbour trials and is likely to go for her maiden surface sortie on December 21, while the sixth one is in an advanced stage of outfitting.
  - Two SSK submarines built by MDL in 1992 and 1994 are still in service today.



7. At which IIT, India's 1st Centre for Excellence in Research on Drone/UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) technology and Artificial Intelligence has been launched \_\_\_\_\_ **IIT Guwahati.**

**Note:**

- V K Singh inaugurated the Skill development Centre for Drone/UAV operation and maintenance, and Nodal Centre for overall administrative Drone Data management for the northeastern region.
- 'AXOM Droneports' was also launched to support cargo drones that are delivering urgent medical and emergency supplies to remote areas of the region.

8. Indian navy conducted 6th edition of the biennial training exercise 'EX SHAKTI 2021' with navy of which other country \_\_\_\_\_ **France.**

**Note:**

- Indian Army will be represented by Gorkha Rifles Infantry Battalion and France Army will be represented by troops of 21st Marine Infantry Regiment of 6th Light Armoured Brigade.
- Focus: Counter Terrorism operations, military cooperation and inter-operability between the two Armies.

9. India has conducted 32nd edition of Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) exercise with which country \_\_\_\_\_ **Thailand.**

**Note:**

- It is a three-day bi-annual CORPAT exercise
- Indian Navy was represented by Indian Naval Ship (INS) Karmuk while Royal Thai Navy participated with Majesty's Thailand Ship (HTMS) Tayanchon
- It was conducted for 1st time in 2005 along their International Maritime Boundary Line

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