

Weekly One-Liners

1-7 Nov 2021



Weekly One Liners Updates 1st -7th November 2021

Dear readers,

Weekly One Liners Update is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the **first week** (1-7th) 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.

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.

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 _____ **2nd 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 _____ **3rd 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.
- 3rd November 2021 marks the 6th 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 _____ **5th 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 _____ **7th 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 _____ **6th 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.

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 Venkatakrisnan**.
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.

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 NCDC under Ministry of Cooperation, Government of India to realize the vision, "from cooperation to prosperity".
 - Under Dairy Sahakar, financial support will be extended by NCDC 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 Atmanil Barbarat.

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.

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.

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 'Shincheon 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.

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.

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 _____ **71st**.
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.

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).

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.

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