

# Weekly One-Liners

8-14 Nov 2021



## Weekly One Liners Updates 8th -14th November 2021

Dear readers,

**Weekly One Liners Update** is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the **Second week** (8-14th) of **November 2021**. This file is important for, **Banking, SSC, Railway & Insurance** exams.

### **Banking & Financial Awareness**

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. 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.
9. 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.
10. 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.
11. 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.
12. 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.
13. 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.

14. 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.

15. 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. 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.

2. 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.

3. 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 Urbanism Day, also known as "World Town Planning Day", is annually observed across the globe on which date \_\_\_\_\_ **8th 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).

2. International Day of Radiology is observed globally every year on \_\_\_\_\_ **8th 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.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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**.
6. 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.
7. 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?
8. 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 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.
2. Who has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Barclays with immediate effect \_\_\_\_\_ **CS Venkatakrisnan**.
- Note:**
- CS Venkatakrisnan 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.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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
6. 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).
7. 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.
8. 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.
9. 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.
10. 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.

11. 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.

12. 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.

13. 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. 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.

2. 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).

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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.”
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. 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.
9. 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.
10. 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.
11. 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.
12. 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.
13. 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.

14. 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".

15. 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 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.

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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 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.

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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).

6. 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 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.

2. 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. 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.

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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.
6. Who has 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.
7. 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.
8. 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 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.
2. 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. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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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