

# Weekly One-Liners

1-7 March 2021



## Weekly One Liners Updates 1-7th March 2021

**Dear readers,**

**Weekly One Liners Update** is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the **first week (1-7th) of March 2021**. This file is important for, **Banking, SSC, Railway & Insurance** exams.

### **Banking & Financial Awareness**

1. Which public sector bank has signed a corporate agency agreement with the SBI General Insurance to retail its insurance products to the customers of the bank \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Overseas Bank**.

**Note:**

- IOB has signed a Bancassurance for the distribution of the non-life offerings with SBI General Insurance to offer a wide range of general insurance solutions and innovative products to the customers of the bank.
- This partnership will improve the reach of insurance products in urban, tier II and III markets.
- This will also create awareness to the customers about the personal lines of insurance.

2. Which health insurance company has announced India's first initiatives of upto 100% health insurance premium returns under the new version of its Flagship product 'Activ Health Policy' \_\_\_\_\_ **Aditya Birla Health Insurance**.

**Note:**

- With this ABHICL became the only insurance company to offer up to 100% premium returns(HealthReturnTM), offers upto 100% reload of sum insured through its upgraded Activ Health Policy.
- 'Activ Health' is Asia's first plan to offer mental illness counselling coverage and Industries first to cover unlimited homeopathy telemedicine.

3. The government of India has decided to infuse what amount into state-owned Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) in the next financial year \_\_\_\_\_ **Rs. 1,500 crores**.

**Note:**

- The amount is Rs 200 crore higher than the provision made by the government for the current fiscal. The government has earmarked Rs 1,300 crore capital infusion for the bank.
- The (Rs 1,500 crore) provision is for Exim Bank as equity support/ subscription to increase the paid up capital of the bank to the level of its authorised capital.

4. The Reserve Bank of India came out with a slew of directions related to maintenance of liquidity coverage ratio, risk management, asset classification and loan-to-value ratio, among others, for \_\_\_\_\_ **Housing Finance Companies**.

**Note:**

- These directions, which shall come into force with an immediate effect and it will be applicable to all the housing finance companies registered under section 29A of the National Housing Bank Act 1987.
- HFCs are mandated to maintain a liquidity buffer in terms of liquidity coverage ratio (LCR). This will help to have sufficient high-quality liquid asset (HQLA) to survive an acute liquidity stress scenario lasting for 30 days.

5. As per the new guidelines for Housing Finance Companies released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), by which year all HFCs irrespective of their asset size will have to maintain 100% liquidity coverage ratio (LCR) \_\_\_\_\_ **1st Dec 2025**.

**Note:**

- HFCs are mandated to maintain a liquidity buffer in terms of liquidity coverage ratio (LCR). This will help to have sufficient high-quality liquid asset (HQLA) to survive an acute liquidity stress scenario lasting for 30 days.
- Therefore, the non-deposit taking HFCs with an asset size of Rs 10,000 crore and above, and all deposit-taking HFCs irrespective of their asset size will have to maintain a minimum LCR of 50% by 1st Dec 2021 and to 100% by 1st Dec 2025.

6. The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has eased the listing norms for large companies by enabling them to divest a minimum what percent in the Initial public offering (IPO) \_\_\_\_\_ **5%**.

**Note:**

- The minimum public float for large firms with post-issue market capital exceeding Rs 1 trillion is reduced from 10% of post-issue market capital (existing provision) to Rs 10,000 crore. In addition to this, there will be 5% of the incremental amount beyond Rs 1 trillion.
- A company with a post-issue market cap of Rs 2 trillion will have to divest a minimum of 7.5%, instead of 10%.

7. Along with which bank and Ministry of MSMEs, the World Bank is planning to launch a \$100-million (\$1 billion) credit guarantee scheme to boost India's rooftop solar programme \_\_\_\_\_ **State Bank of India**.
- Note:**
- This scheme will enable micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and those firms which do not meet the lending criteria of banks and other financial institutions to avail concessional debt financing for setting up rooftop solar units.
  - WB credit guarantee scheme will be provided as a Green finance i.e. financing for sustainable climate.
8. Telangana Grameena Bank and Andhra Pradesh Grameena Vikas Bank became India's 1st RRBs to launch Digital Savings Account opening facility through Video-Know Your Customer (KYC) facility. These banks are sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_ **State Bank of India**.
9. Which payments and banking technology company has partnered with PayPal to enable International payments for its merchants \_\_\_\_\_ **Cashfree**.
- Note:**
- It will enable businesses using Cashfree's payment gateway to show prices of all products in 28 + currencies.
  - It will enable Businesses to add a PayPal Express Checkout option to their order pages and accept payments from users across 200 markets.
10. Which IT company has joined the "Partnering for Racial Justice in Business initiative" launched by WEF that will help in promoting a culture of inclusion, diversity, justice and equity for the people coming from different racial backgrounds at the workplace \_\_\_\_\_ **Wipro**.
- Note:**
- The initiative is aimed towards driving action and accountability for companies to confront racism at a systemic level, set new global standards for racial justice in business and accomplish necessary policy changes for inclusion and advancement of professionals with under-represented racial and ethnic identities.
11. The Arya Collateral Warehousing Services Pvt. Ltd. (Arya) has partnered with which bank to offer collateral management and warehousing services to support the farmers with effective market linkage \_\_\_\_\_ **Canara Bank**.
- Note:**
- Arya will support the farmers and FPOs to get financial assistance against their agricultural produce stored in warehouses managed by Arya.
  - Through the 450 FPO's that work with Arya, Canara Bank will leverage the reach of Arya to more than 350000 farmers.
12. Which bank has joined 'Liink', a peer-to-peer Blockchain-based data network of US based Investment Banking Company JPMorgan chase \_\_\_\_\_ **State Bank of India**.
- Note:**
- The partnership will help SBI to reduce transaction costs, speed up Consumer transactions (including International transactions).
  - SBI became the 1st bank in India to go live on the blockchain-based payment network of JPMorgan.
13. Which stock exchange signed an MoU with the SIDBI for cooperation in the various MSMEs initiatives \_\_\_\_\_ **National Stock Exchange**.
- Note:**
- The various initiatives of the NSE and SIDBI for the betterment of MSME and the cooperation between them will impact the development of the MSMEs and increase the reach of these programs.
  - The major MSME initiatives to solve the working capital problems faced by small businesses were SME Exchange, NSE Emerge and TreDs platform of Receivable Exchange of India Ltd (RXIL).
14. Which Private sector bank has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Indian Army for salary accounts of Indian army personnel \_\_\_\_\_ **Kotak Mahindra Bank**.
- Note:**
- Private sector lender Kotak Mahindra Bank will handle the salary account of the Indian army personnel, the bank said.
  - The bank has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Indian Army here for salary account.
15. What is the initial capital likely to put in the in the proposed bad bank that aims to help extract funds stuck in non-performing loans by nine banks and 2 NBFCs including SBI, PNB, and Bank of Baroda \_\_\_\_\_ **Rs 7,000 crore**.
- Note:**

- The entities include PSBs like State Bank of India, Punjab National Bank, Bank of Baroda, Canara Bank, Union Bank of India, Bank of India.
- Other than these, private sector lenders ICICI Bank, Axis Bank, IDBI bank are also a part of the combine.
- Meanwhile, the non-bank entities include state-owned financiers of power projects- Power Finance Corporation (PFC) and Rural Electrification Corporation (REC).

### Obituaries

1. Renowned personality Vernon Jordan passed away recently, he was a veteran \_\_\_\_\_ **Social Activist**.

**Note:**

- Vernon Jordan, who grew up in the segregated South to become an influential leader in the American civil rights movement, Washington politics and Wall Street passed away at age 85.
- Jordan, who in 1980 was badly wounded by a white supremacist sniper in Indiana, died Monday night, according to the statement, journalist Andrew Ross Sorkin.

2. Veteran parliamentarian Nand Kumar Singh Chauhan passed away recently, he was Lok Sabha MP from which party \_\_\_\_\_ **BJP**.

**Note:**

- He was suffering from COVID-19 and was airlifted to Medanta Hospital in Gurugram last month in a serious condition.
- The leader started his political career in 1978 from the Shahpur Municipal Council and was later elected as member of the Madhya Pradesh Assembly.
- He was an MLA from 1985 to 1996.

3. N.S. Lakshminarayana Bhatta passed away recently, he was a veteran poet of which language \_\_\_\_\_ **Kannada**.

**Note:**

- Well-known Kannada poet, critic and translator N.S. Lakshminarayana Bhatta passed away in Bengaluru
- The poet, many of whose bhavageetes (lyrical poems) were set to tune and popularised through cassettes in the 80s, was ailing for sometime. He is survived by his wife and two children.
- Born in 1936 in Shivamogga district, he was a prolific writer, publishing several collections of poems besides critical works and translations.
- He taught Kannada literature in Bengaluru university until he retired. Some of his best known songs are Thaye ninna madilali, Marege ninthu kayuthiruva karulu yaavudu, Baare nanna Deepika among others.

### Important Days

1. Zero Discrimination Day is celebrated every year on which date \_\_\_\_\_ **1<sup>st</sup> March**.

**Note:**

- Zero Discrimination Day is celebrated to promote and celebrate everyone's right, regardless of age, gender, sexuality, nationality, ethnicity, skin colour, etc.
- Zero Discrimination Day aims to raise the voice for the right to live life with dignity, despite one's choices, beliefs, profession, education, disability or even illness.
- The theme of Zero Discrimination Day 2021: "End Inequalities".

2. 45th Civil Accounts Day was celebrated on which date \_\_\_\_\_ **1<sup>st</sup> March**.

**Note:**

- The Indian Civil Accounts Service (ICAS) observes the "Civil Accounts Day" every year on March 01, 2021, since its inception in 1976. The year 2021 marks the 45th Civil Accounts Day celebrations. ICAS is one of the Civil Services of India, under the Department of Expenditure, Union Ministry of Finance.

3. World Hearing Day is celebrated every year on which date by the World Health Organisation (WHO) \_\_\_\_\_ **3<sup>rd</sup> March**.

**Note:**

- The theme of World Hearing Day 2021 is **Hearing care for ALL!: Screen, Rehabilitate, Communicate**.
- World Hearing Day 2021 will mark the launch of the first-ever **World Report on Hearing**.

4. World Wildlife Day is observed globally every year on \_\_\_\_\_ **3<sup>rd</sup> March**.

**Note:**

- World Wildlife Day also raise awareness about the benefits that the conservation of wild fauna and flora provides to people living on earth. The day also reminds us of the need to fight against wildlife crime and human-induced reduction of species causing various wide-ranging economic, environmental and social impacts.

5. What is the theme of the National Safety Day 2021 \_\_\_\_\_ **Sadak Suraksha**

**Note:**

- The National Safety Day (NSD) is celebrated every year on 4 March by the National Safety Council (NSC) of India. In 2021, we are observing the 50th National Safety Day.
- The purpose of the day Purpose is to instil a sense of safety awareness among people by providing them with safety, health and environment-related support services.

6. National Security Day (Rashtriya Suraksha Diwas) is celebrated every year on which date \_\_\_\_\_ **4th March.**

**Note:**

- The day aims to show gratitude to all the security forces, including policemen, para-military forces, commandos, guards, army officers, and other persons involved in security, who sacrifice their life in maintaining the peace and security of the people of the country.
- 4 March also marks the day when the National Security Council (NSC) of India was established, in 1966 by the Ministry of Labour under the Government of India.
- The first National Security Day (NSD) was held in 1972.

7. What was the theme of the Janaushadhi Week celebrated from March 1st to March 7th, 2021 to create more awareness about "Janaushadhi" \_\_\_\_\_ **"Jan Aushadhi -- Seva Bhi, Rozgar Bhi".**

**Note:**

- On the occasion of Jan Aushadhi Divas 2021 Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated to the nation the 7,500th Janaushadhi Kendra at NEIGRIHMS in Shillong.
- The Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana aims to provide quality medicines at an affordable price.

### New Appointments

1. Name the Indian Economist who has been appointed as the Assistant Secretary-General and Head of the New York Office of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) \_\_\_\_\_ **Ligia Noronha.**

**Note:**

- Ms Noronha will succeed fellow Indian and development economist Satya Tripathi to whom Secretary-General Guterres is "grateful for his leadership and dedicated service during his tenure.
- She has worked since 2014 as Director of UNEP's Economy Division based in Nairobi, leading UNEP's work on climate mitigation and energy transitions; on inclusive green economies, sustainable consumption and production, as well as on trade and sustainable finance, and the nexus of environment, pollution and health.

2. Who was appointed as the Managing Director General of Asian Development Bank (ADB) \_\_\_\_\_ **Woochong Um.**

**Note:**

- He will assume office immediately and report to ADB President Masatsugu Asakawa.
- Um will support Asakawa to institute bank-wide coherence on key initiatives and issues. He will play a key role in enhancing ADB's internal and external communications across all activities that involve operations, knowledge, fund-raising and institutional reforms.

### Important News – India

1. Sugamya Bharat App has been launched by which ministry \_\_\_\_\_ **Ministry of Social justice and Empowerment.**

**Note:**

- Sugamya Bharat APP — a Crowdsourcing Mobile Application is a means for sensitising and enhancing accessibility in the 3 pillars of the Accessible India Campaign i.e. built environment, transportation sector and ICT ecosystem in India.
- The app provides for five main features, 4 of which are directly related to enhancing accessibility, while the fifth is a special feature meant only for Divyangjan for COVID related issues.

2. In association with which IIT the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is to form a Centre of Excellence in gaming and other related areas \_\_\_\_\_ **IIT Bombay.**

**Note:**

- Addressing the opening ceremony of virtual exhibition and prize announcement of Khel Khel Mein through video conference yesterday, Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar said, IIT will start the courses from this year itself.

3. Which ministry has convened the 5th Asia Economic Dialogue (AED) 2021 in association with India and Pune International Centre (PIC) on the theme “Post Covid-19 Global Trade and Finance Dynamics \_\_\_\_\_ **Ministry of External Affairs.**

**Note:**

- Its inaugural session was addressed by Union Minister Dr. Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, MEA on “Resilient Global Growth in a Post-Pandemic World”.
- The dialogue saw the discussions between COVID-19’s impact on trade and finance, on the world and on Asia as well as strategies to deal with this impact.

4. Where did union government has invested Rs. 400 crores to create India’s first Fisheries Hub under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) \_\_\_\_\_ **Goa.**

**Note:**

- Out of this, Rs 41.47 crore has been already approved under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)”
- Goa has the potential to become the fisheries hub of the country
- On basis of the discussions with the State Government, it has been decided to develop 30 new landing centres for fisheries as well as for tourism purposes.

5. Who is the chairman of the reconstituted governing council of the National Institution for Transforming India or NITI Aayog \_\_\_\_\_ **Narendra Modi.**

**Note:**

- According to a notification of the Cabinet Secretariat, chief ministers of all states and those of the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir, Delhi and Puducherry are full time members of the council.
- The Lieutenant Governors of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Ladakh, and the administrators of Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu and Lakshadweep will be special invitees of governing council.

6. Which entity has launched an ‘AI Gamechangers’ program to promote artificial intelligence (AI)-led innovation in the country \_\_\_\_\_ **NASSCOM.**

**Note:**

- Microsoft is the innovation partner for the program,
- As part of the ‘AI for India’ mission, the program seeks to recognize impactful and scalable AI-based innovation in the country.
- Nasscom and Microsoft will work closely to develop and promote the AI Gamechangers program, built on a shared commitment towards accelerating the adoption of AI across key sectors.

7. Who inaugurated the second edition of 'Maritime India Summit 2021' \_\_\_\_\_ **Narendra Modi.**

**Note:**

- Prime Minister Modi inaugurated the second edition of the summit via video conferencing.
- Prime Minister also launched e-book of maritime vision 2030, which is aiming to make the Indian maritime industry at par with the top global benchmark in the next 10 years.

8. The International Commission on Large Dams (ICOLD) Symposium on Sustainable Development of Dams & River Basins was held in \_\_\_\_\_ **New Delhi.**

**Note:**

- Minister for Jal Shakti, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat was the Chief Guest of the Event.
- The event acts as a forum to share expertise on latest technologies in Dam construction, dam safety measure etc.
- Advanced technologies can be implemented in Dams to generate clean and cost effective energy, thereby ensuring India’s commitments to the Paris Climate Agreement.

9. The seven-days International Yoga Festival was held in which city of India \_\_\_\_\_ **Rishikesh.**

**Note:**

- Nearly 400 yoga enthusiasts participated in the event.
- Festival was inaugurated by Agriculture Minister Subodh Uniyal, head of Akhil Bharatiya Akhada Parishad (ABAP) Narendra Giri and Patanjali Yogpeeth chairman Acharya Balakrishna.

10. According to the 'Ease of Living Index 2020' released by the Government of India (GoI) which city has been adjudged as the most liveable city in India among million-plus population category \_\_\_\_\_ **Bengaluru**.

**Note:**

- Of the 49 cities ranked on livability index in the million-plus population category, Delhi ranks 13th.
- At the bottom of the list are Amritsar, Guwahati, Bareilly, Dhanbad and Srinagar.

11. According to the 'Ease of Living Index 2020' released by the Government of India (GoI) which city has been adjudged as the most liveable city in India the category of cities with population of less than million \_\_\_\_\_ **Shimla**.

**Note:**

- According to the the 'Ease of Living Index 2020' released by the Government of India (GoI), Shimla topped the category of cities with population of less than million. It is followed by Bhubaneswar, Silvassa, Kakinada and Salem.
- At the bottom of the list of 62 cities are Aligarh, Rampur, Namchi, Satna and Muzaffarpur.

12. According to the 'Municipal Performance Index Report released by the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, which city's civic body has emerged as the best performing municipality among all million-plus municipalities \_\_\_\_\_ **Indore**.

**Note:**

- The Municipal Performance Index report ranking 114 civic bodies was released by the Union housing and urban affairs minister.
- The ranking has been done on parameters of service delivery, planning, financial systems, and governance practices.

13. Which becomes the first railway station in Maharashtra to be awarded with Gold certification as per CII's Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) ratings \_\_\_\_\_ **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus Railway Station**.

**Note:**

- Central Railway has implemented various green initiatives across its zone, with plantation creating green areas, installation of solar panels, etc.
- IGBC ratings gives impetus to the national priorities like energy efficiency, water conservation, etc.

14. With which ministry the Central Silk Board has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on a convergence model for the implementation of Agroforestry in the silk sector under the ongoing Sub-Mission on Agroforestry (SMAF) Scheme \_\_\_\_\_ **Ministry of Agriculture**.

**Note:**

- The signing of this MoU aims to incentivize the farmers to take up sericulture based Agroforestry models thereby contributing to the Make in India and Make for the World vision of the Prime Minister.

15. As on 26.02.2021, what percent accounts with an amount of Rs. 20,749 crores have been sanctioned to women entrepreneurs under Stand Up India Scheme \_\_\_\_\_ **more than 81%**.

**Note:**

- Stand Up India Scheme was launched on 5 April 2016 to promote entrepreneurship at grass root level for economic empowerment and job creation.
- This scheme seeks to leverage the institutional credit structure to reach out to the underserved sector of people such as Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Women Entrepreneurs so as to enable them to participate in the economic growth of nation.

16. As on 26.02.2021, what percent of accounts with an amount of Rs. 6.36 lakh crore have been sanctioned to women entrepreneurs under MUDRA scheme since inception \_\_\_\_\_ **about 68%**.

**Note:**

- PMMY was launched on April 8, 2015 for providing loans up to 10 lakh to the non-corporate, non-farm small/micro enterprises.
- These loans are classified as MUDRA loans under PMMY.
- These loans are given by Commercial Banks, RRBs, Small Finance Banks, MFIs and NBFCs.

17. Maitri Setu has been built over which river that connects Sabroom in India with Ramgarh in Bangladesh \_\_\_\_\_ **Feni**.

**Note:**

- The name 'Maitri Setu' symbolizes growing bilateral relations and friendly ties between India and Bangladesh.
- The construction was taken up by the National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd at a project cost of Rs. 133 Crores.

18. How many Janaushadhi Kendra have been open as on 7th March 2021 under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana \_\_\_\_\_ **7500**.

**Note:**

- The Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana aims to provide quality medicines at an affordable price.

- From 86 centres in 2014, the number of stores under the scheme has grown to 7,500, covering all districts of the country

### Important News – State

1. Which state government has launched “Mukhyamantri Antyodaya Parivar Utthan Yojana” aimed at uplifting 1 lakh BPL families of the state \_\_\_\_\_ **Haryana**.

**Note:**

- One of the 4 scheme is Mukhyamantri Antyodaya Parivar Utthan Yojana/
- The first phase of the scheme to begin on April 1, 2021.
- The Scheme is aimed at uplifting 1 lakh BPL families of Haryana; these families will be selected through the Parivar Pehchan Patra (PPP) portal.

2. Which state government has launched Dr BR Ambedkar Awas Navinikarn Yojana \_\_\_\_\_ **Haryana**.

**Note:**

- The Schemes are aimed at satisfying the needs of the people under Below Poverty line (BPL).
- He also highlighted the state’s initiatives to increase income of BPL families by at least Rs. 8000 to Rs. 9000/month.

3. New Science Centre has been inaugurated in which city of Tripura \_\_\_\_\_ **Udaipur**.

**Note:**

- The Udaipur Science Centre has been developed at a cost of Rs 6 crore funded jointly by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India and Department of Science, Technology and Environment, Tripura Government and with this; National Council of Science Museums (NCSM) has now set-up science centres in all the north eastern states.

4. Which state government has approved a bill that reserves 75 percent of the private sector jobs with gross salary upto ₹ 50,000 per month for the people of the state \_\_\_\_\_ **Haryana**.

**Note:**

- The bill, tabled by Mr Chautala last year, makes it mandatory for the private sector companies to reserve 75 percent of jobs with salary upto ₹ 50,000 per month for natives of Haryana.
- It also contains a clause companies can invoke if suitable local candidates cannot be found. In such cases they may hire from outside so long as they inform the government of such a step.

5. The International Business Machines (IBM) India partnered with which state government to provide free online courses to students, Job seekers & Entrepreneurs of the state \_\_\_\_\_ **Goa**.

**Note:**

- This initiative is aimed at upskilling 10,000 youths across 10 institutions in 1 year through IBM SkillBuild Program.
- Personalised coaching and experimental learning module is provided on Information & Communication Technology (ITC).
- The program has over 1lakh beneficiaries in Indian in 2021 alone.

6. Which state has launched India’s maiden Engineering Research & Development (ERD) policy to raise R&D contribution to 45% in 5 year \_\_\_\_\_ **Karnataka**.

**Note:**

- This policy has the potential to create over 50,000 jobs in ERD space
- According to Nasscom, ER&D has the potential to become \$100-billion industry
- New policy has identified 5 key focus sectors: aerospace and defence; auto, auto components and EV; biotechnology, pharma, medical devices; semiconductors, telecom; software products.

7. The President of India Ram Nath Kovind laid the foundation stone for the conservation works of Singorgarh Fort which is located in which state of India \_\_\_\_\_ **Madhya Pradesh**.

**Note:**

- The President also inaugurated the newly carved Jabalpur Circle of Archaeological Survey of India.
- He also addressed the State Level Tribal Conference at Singrampur village in Damoh.



- The program was organized by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India and the Tribal Affairs Department of Madhya Pradesh.

### Important News – World

- Which country has successfully launched its first ever Arctic-monitoring satellite that will monitor the Arctic's climate and environment \_\_\_\_\_ **Russia**.  
**Note:**
  - A Soyuz-2.1b carrier rocket with the "Arktika-M" satellite on board blasted off from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan.
  - The Arktika-M spacecraft was delivered to the orbit at 12.14 PM.
  - The Arktika-M will provide round-the-clock continuous monitoring of the northern territory of Russia and the seas of the Arctic Ocean.
- The Swedish automaker, Volvo has announced that it will make only electric vehicles by \_\_\_\_\_ **2030**.  
**Note:**
  - The automaker phasing out the production of all cars with internal combustion engines — including hybrids.
  - Volvo's announcement follows General Motors' pledge earlier this year to make only battery-powered vehicles by 2035.
- To which African country, India has sent a consignment of 1,000 metric tonnes of rice and 100,000 hydroxychloroquine as humanitarian assistance \_\_\_\_\_ **Madagascar**.  
**Note:**
  - The prompt Indian assistance to the Madagascar government was conveyed by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar in a phone conversation with Madagascar's Foreign Minister Tehindrazanarivelo Djacoba A S Oliva.
- Which the partner country of the second edition of 'Maritime India Summit 2021' \_\_\_\_\_ **Denmark**.  
**Note:**
  - Prime Minister Modi inaugurated the second edition of the summit via video conferencing.
  - Prime Minister also launched e-book of maritime vision 2030, which is aiming to make the Indian maritime industry at par with the top global benchmark in the next 10 years.
- With which country India has signed an agreement for cooperation in the field of agriculture and allied sectors \_\_\_\_\_ **Fiji**.  
**Note:**
  - The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Ministry of Agriculture of Indian government and Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Fiji in this regard.
  - The MoU between India and Fiji provides for cooperation in various areas including promotion of joint ventures between private sectors of both countries.
- Which country is building world's first platypus sanctuary to promote breeding and rehabilitation as the duck-billed mammal faces extinction due to climate change \_\_\_\_\_ **Australia**.  
**Note:**
  - The Taronga Conservation Society Australia and the New South Wales State government would build the specialist facility, mostly ponds and burrows for the semi-aquatic creatures, at a zoo 391 km (243 miles) from Sydney, by 2022, which could house up to 65 platypuses.
- India and which country have agreed to collaborate in the area of Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) in the Oceanic space for the next 5 years \_\_\_\_\_ **Norway**.  
**Note:**

- National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR), Chennai will be preparing the MSP framework for Puducherry & Lakshadweep in the initial phase of the project.
- The framework of these 2 environmentally critical areas (Pondicherry & Lakshadweep) will be replicated to other coastal regions of India.
- The 2 places have been chosen due to their potential to Flourish in multiple sectors such as Industries, Fisheries & Tourism.

8. Which country India described as the “Priority One” partner in the defence sphere \_\_\_\_\_ **Sri Lanka**.

**Note:**

- The SLAF is celebrating its 70th Anniversary on March 2 and to commemorate the historical event, a Fly Past and an Aerobatic Display is being organised for the first time in the country at a grand scale.

9. The 14th UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice was held in which city of world \_\_\_\_\_ **Kyoto, Japan**.

**Note:**

- This year, the event was held in a hybrid format.
- Key issues related to criminal justice, strategies for crime prevention and international cooperation in promoting the rule of law and preventing all forms of crime are expected to be discussed.
- This is the first time that Japan is hosted the congress since 1970.

### Honor & Awards

1. Who received the Best Woman Boxer of the Tournament Award at the 30th Youth International Boxing Tournament ‘Adriatic Pearl’ \_\_\_\_\_ **Vinka**.

**Note:**

- For her magnificent show, Vinka received the Best Woman Boxer of the Tournament award.
- With two medals in the men's category, the 19-member Indian team concluded its campaign with an overall second position (12 medals).

2. According to Hurun Global Rich List 2021, Reliance Industries (RIL) chairman, what is the rank of Mukesh Ambani as the richest person of the world \_\_\_\_\_ **8<sup>th</sup>**.

**Note:**

- The List was topped by Elon Musk (CEO of Tesla), Jeff Bezos (CEO of Amazon) & Bernard Arnault (CEO of LVMH-Louis Vuitton).
- Hurun Global Rich List 2021 is the 10th Year of ranking. It ranked 3, 228 Billionaires from 2, 402 companies & 68 countries

3. According to the 10th Edition of Hurun Global Rich List 2021 who emerged as the richest person of the world \_\_\_\_\_ **Elon Musk**.

**Note:**

- Tesla chief Elon Musk bagged the top spot with net worth \$197 billion.
- Jeff Bezos ranked second with \$189 billion net worth, followed by Bernard Arnault
- Asia's richest person and Reliance Industries chairman Mukesh Ambani is ranked 8th
- Total wealth of all billionaires across the globe surged 32% (\$3.5 trillion) in 2020.

4. Who has been declared as the winner of the 30th Bihari Puraskar for 2020 for his Hindi book of Criticism, titled Taslima: Sangharsh aur Sahitya \_\_\_\_\_ **Mohankrishna Bohara**.

**Note:**

- Mohankrishna Bohara will be awarded 30th Bihari Puraskar for 2020 for his Hindi book of Criticism, titled Taslima: Sangharsh aur Sahitya in New Delhi
- His book was published in 2016.

- Bihari Puraskar: It carries an award money of two lakh 50 thousand rupees, a Citation and Plaque. It is one of the three literary awards instituted by K.K. Birla Foundation in 1991.

### Sports News

1. Who partnered with Ankita Raina to win the WTA 250 Doubles title at Phillip Island Trophy Tennis Tournament \_\_\_\_\_ **Kamilla Radhikova.**

**Note:**

- The pair beat Russia's Anna Blinkova and Anastasia Potapova 2-6, 6-4, 10-7.
- This is Ankita's first title on the WTA tour.
- The win will help Ankita, 28, enter the top 100 of the WTA rankings in doubles with the live rankings currently showing her in the 94th position.

2. Who becomes the first cricketer to have 100 million followers on social media platform Instagram \_\_\_\_\_ **Virat Kohli.**

**Note:**

- The 32-year-old Kohli is also the first person in the Asia-Pacific region to achieve the feat.
- Kohli is also the fourth most followed sportsperson on Instagram.
- Portugal football star Cristiano Ronaldo tops the chart with 265 million followers, ahead of Argentina football captain and FC Barcelona legend Lionel Messi and Brazil's Neymar, who are second and third in the list with 186 million and 147 million followers respectively.

3. Name the Indian shuttler who has won the women's singles title in badminton at Uganda International Badminton Tournament 2021, held in Kampala \_\_\_\_\_ **Malvika Bansod.**

**Note:**

- Varun beat his Indian counterpart Sankar Muthusamy by 21-18 16-21 21-17 to win men's singles final.
- Malvika won 17-21 25-23 21-10 over compatriot Anupama Upadhyaya in the women singles summit clash.

4. Varun Kapur is associated with which sports \_\_\_\_\_ **Badminton.**

**Note:**

- Varun beat his Indian counterpart Sankar Muthusamy by 21-18 16-21 21-17 to win men's singles final.
- Malvika won 17-21 25-23 21-10 over compatriot Anupama Upadhyaya in the women singles summit clash.

5. Who won the sixth edition of the New Delhi Marathon in men's category \_\_\_\_\_ **Srinu Bugatha.**

**Note:**

- Bugatha clocked a personal best of 2 hours 14 minutes and 59 seconds which was shy of the 2 hours 11 minutes and 30 seconds that he was targeting to earn himself a run in the Tokyo Olympics.
- Uttarakhand's Nitendra Singh Rawat (2:18:54) and Army Sports Institute's Rashpal Singh (2:18:57) clinched the silver and bronze medal in the men's elite category.

6. Who won the sixth edition of the New Delhi Marathon in women's category \_\_\_\_\_ **Sudha Singh.**

**Note:**

- Sudha, who was aiming for a hat-trick of Olympic appearances, won the women's title with a timing of 2:43:41.
- That was, however, off the national record of 2:30:00 which would have earned her a ticket to Tokyo.
- Maharashtra's Jyoti Gawate (2:58:23) and Ladakh's Jigmet Dolma (3:04:52) clinched the silver and bronze medal, respectively among the women.

7. Name the Indian shuttler who won silver medal in the BWF Swiss Open Super 300 in Basel \_\_\_\_\_ **PV Sindhu.**

**Note:**

- She lost to World No. 3 Spaniard and reigning Olympic champion Carolina Marin in the final of the women's singles event.
- The World Champion shuttler who has faced a lot of criticism lately for lacklustre performances in the last year had entered the semifinal stage of a BWF tournament after 19 months.

### Books and Authors

1. Who has authored the book titled "Advantage India: The Story of Indian Tennis" \_\_\_\_\_ **Anindya Dutta.**

**Note:**

- Advantage India is a well-researched account of the journey of Indian tennis, with a special section on the Doubles game and on women's tennis in India.
  - The book is published by Westland publications.
  - The book provides the extensive history of Indian tennis on both men's and women's side.
2. Who authored the book titled 'The Lost Soul' \_\_\_\_\_ **Olga Tokarczuk**.
- Note:**
- It is a story that beautifully weaves together the voice of the Nobel Prize-winning Polish novelist Olga Tokarczuk and the finely detailed pen-and-ink drawings of illustrator Joanna Concejo, who together create a parallel narrative universe full of secrets, evocative of another time. Here a man has forgotten what makes his heart feel full.
3. Who has authored the book titled "Joe Biden: American Dreamer" a biography of American President, Joe Biden \_\_\_\_\_ **Evan Osnos**.
- Note:**
- The author portrays President Joseph R. Biden Jr. as a man who has sustained a 50-year political career and became the President and a man who is marked with deep personal losses.
  - The book captures the characters and features of the presidential election.

### Science and Defence

1. Which country hosted the multinational Exercise Desert Flag-VI for the first time \_\_\_\_\_ **UAE**.
- Note:**
- The exercise is being held from March 3 to 21 at the Al-Dhafra airbase in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).
  - The Exercise Desert Flag is an annual multi-national large force employment warfare exercise hosted by the UAE Air Force.
  - The aim of the exercise is to provide operational exposure to the participating forces, while training them to undertake simulated air combat operations in a controlled environment.
2. Which entity has organized 'India Telecom 2021' – an Exclusive International Business Expo under Market Access Initiative Scheme (MAI) \_\_\_\_\_ **TRAI**.
- Note:**
- The main objective of the event is to provide opportunities to Indian telecom exporters to meet qualified overseas buyers.
  - TEPC has created this platform to bring potential buyers from across the globe and quality telecom equipment manufacturers and ICT services solution providers from India under one roof to interact and finalize business deals.
3. Special forces of which country is being trained by Indian Army in "Combat Free Fall" to help them build their capabilities \_\_\_\_\_ **Turkmenistan**.
- Note:**
- The Indian Army shared the information of the training on Twitter and said it was building bonds of friendship with the Turkmenistani forces.
  - Special Forces Training School Indian Army has commenced training of Turkmenistan Special Forces in Combat Free Fall as a precursor to a series of customised courses to follow and help build the capability of the Turkmenistan Special Forces
4. Who becomes 3rd batsman to hit 6 sixes in an over in international cricket \_\_\_\_\_ **Kieron Pollard**.
- Note:**
- Pollard achieved the feat when he hit Sri Lanka's Akila Dananjaya out of the park 6 times in the 6th over of West Indies' successful chase in the first T20I at the Coolidge Cricket Ground in Antigua.
  - Kieron Pollard joins World Cup-winning former India all-rounder Yuvraj Singh as the only other batsman to hit 6 sixes in an over in T20I cricket.
5. Name the Indian wrestler who won the gold in the men's 65kg event at the Matteo Pellicone Ranking Series in Rome \_\_\_\_\_ **Bajrang Punia**.
- Note:**

- Bajrang defeated Mongolia's Tulga Tumur Ochir 2-2 by criteria in the final of the freestyle event.
  - The 27-year-old grappler secured a hard-fought win over the Mongolia wrestler.
6. Name the Indian wrestler who won the gold in the women's 53kg event at the Matteo Pellicone Ranking Series in Rome  
**Vinesh Phogat.**

**Note:**

- She defeated Canada's Diana Weicker 4-0 in the final of the Matteo Pellicone Ranking Series
- It was her second gold medal in two weeks, Vinesh had won a gold medal in Kyiv last week and this performance would give her the belief that her preparations for the biggest sporting event are on the right track.

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