

Weekly One-Liners

22-28 Feb 2021



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Weekly One Liners Updates 22-28th February 2021

Dear readers.

Weekly One Liners Updates is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the fourth week (22-31st) of February 2021. This file is important for, Banking, SSC, Railway & Insurance exams.

Banking & Financial Awareness

- 1. With which bank the Union Government has signed a loan agreement for \$304 million Assam Intra-State Transmission System Enhancement Project to improve reliability, capacity and security of the power transmission network in the State of Assam Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank.
 - Note:
 - > The project aims to strengthen Assam's electricity transmission system by constructing 10 transmission substations and laving transmission lines with the associated infrastructure.
 - The project will also upgrade 15 existing substations, and transmission lines and existing ground wire to optical power ground wire and provide technical assistance to support project implementation
- Which bank has been adjudged as the "Best Service Provider" in Human Resources and also the best institution for 2. "Excellence in Learning & Development" at 29th Global HRD Congress awards _____ Union Bank of India. Note:
 - > Shri Kalyan Kumar, Chief General Manager, HR was named as "Chief Human Resources Officer of the Year". Shri Vinayak V Tembhurne, General Manager, HR, received the coveted award on his behalf.
 - \geq Global HRD Congress Awards are given to institutions annually for the best HR practices under different categories.
- Which bank recently has been brought under Reserve Bank of India's regulatory preview ______ State Bank of Sikkim. 3. Note:
 - The bank, established five years before Sikkim acceded to India in 1973, provides treasury operations for the state government.
 - \triangleright It only operates within Sikkim and is wholly-owned by the state government.
 - > The bank currently has 42 branch offices and operates three revenue counters for government works.
- Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs) in India need to plan for an effective IBOR transition, as majority of LIBOR rates 4. are likely to be phased out by the end of 2021. What does 'O' stands for in IBOR _____ Offered.
 - Note:
 - Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs) in India need to plan for an effective Inter Bank Offered Rate (IBOR) transition, as majority of LIBOR rates are likely to be phased out by the end of 2021.
 - \geq London Inter Bank Offered Rate (LIBOR) is one of the most common series of benchmark rates referenced by contracts measured in trillions of dollars across global currencies.
- 5. What is the total outlay of the new central sector scheme has been launched for industrial development of Jammu and Kashmir _____ Rs 28,400 crore.

Note:

- > The scheme is approved with a total outlay of 28 thousand 400 crore rupees. It will be effective from 1st April this vear and will remain in force up to 31st March 2037.
- \triangleright The main purpose of the scheme is to generate employment which directly leads to the socio-economic development of Jammu and Kashmir.
- 6. As per RBI data, India forex reserves were down by USd249 million to how much amount _____ USD 583.697 million. Note:
 - In the previous week, the reserves had declined by USD 6.24 billion to stand at USD 583.945 billion.
 - \triangleright It had touched a record high of USD 590.185 billion in the week ended January 29, 2021.
 - In the reporting week, the decrease in reserves was mainly due to a fall in the foreign currency assets (FCAs), a \geqslant major component of the overall reserves.
- 7. Which payments banks has been granted the scheduled commercial bank status by Reserve Bank of India by including it to the Second Schedule to the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 _____ Fino Payments Bank.

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- > The scheduled commercial bank status allows Fino Payments Bank to enhance its banking position in the treasury and participation in LAF (Liquidity Facility) window, as per the RBI.
- > It also helps the bank strengthen its business proposition on liabilities generation.
- 8. Indian Institute of Technology, Madras incubated dairy-tech startup, Stellapps signed an MoU with which payments bank to digitize the dairy milk procurement value chain and improve banking facilities at milk collection centres _____ India Pots Payments Bank.

Note:

- The objective of the MoU is to expand access to a range of financial services for millions of unbanked and underbanked dairy farmers.
- Stellapps is the first of its kind startup in India working towards the digitization of the dairy supply chain.
- **9.** Which bank in in partnership with the Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) and Chennai Smart City Limited (CSCL) launched 'Namma Chennai Smart Card' _____ ICICI Bank.

Note:

- The Rupay powered co-branded, contactless prepaid card was unveiled by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister (CM) Edappadi K. Palaniswami.
- The aim of the card is to enable residents of Chennai, Tamil Nadu to make seamless payments for various services within the city.
- > The new proposition is a step towards transforming Chennai into a Smart City.
- 10. Which institution is to provide Rs 100 crore to Gurgaon-based hospital chain Medanta, to fight Covid-19 pandemic _____

Asian Development Bank.

Note:

- ➤ The Asian Development Bank (ADB) will provide ₹100 crore loan to hospital chain Medanta for healthcare services and medical equipment to fight the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The project will support the purchase of personal protective equipment, basic hygiene products, and patient care equipment such as ventilators and beds. It will also support staff training programmes on infection prevention and control.
- **11.** As per S&P global ratings, which county will be the fastest growing emerging market economies with 10% growth in next fiscal **India**.

Note:

- S&P Global Ratings has said that India will be one of the fastest growing emerging market economies with a 10 per cent growth in the next fiscal.
- S&P Director, Sovereign & International Public Finance Ratings, Andrew Wood said this while speaking in a webinar on India outlook for 2021.
- 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 crore.

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.
- **13.** 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:
 - 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.
 - 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. 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.

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Obituaries

 Renowned personality Rahul Khullar passed away recently, he was former chairman/head of which regulator ______ TRAI.

Note:

- Khullar, a 1975-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer, was appointed as TRAI chief in May 2012. He served at TRAI for three years. Before being appointed as TRAI chief, he was a secretary of the Ministry of Commerce and Trade.
- He had topped MA Economics in 1974 from Delhi School of Economics and then taught briefly at Hansaraj College, Delhi University, before joining the IAS in 1975.
- 2. Vishnu Narayanan Namboothiri, who passed away recently was poet of which language _____ Malayalam. Note:
 - Namboothiri,one of the widely acclaimed poets of contemporary Malayalam literature, was awarded the Padma Shri in 2014.
 - > He is also a recipient of several literary honours, including the Kerala Sahitya Akademi award.
 - His works are known for their blend oftradition and modernity. Some of his noted works are are 'Swaathandhryathe- Kurich Oru Geetham', 'Bhoomigeethangal', 'India Enna Vikaram', 'Aparaajitha', 'Aranyakam', 'Pranayageethangal' and 'Ujjayiniyile Rappakalukal', among others.

Important Days

- 1. World Thinking Day is celebrated each year by the Girl Guides and Girl Scouts across the world on _____ 22nd February. Note:
 - The day is observed to think about fellow brothers and sisters around the world, address their concerns and understand the true meaning of guiding.
 - > This year's Thinking Day theme was "Stand together for Peace".
- 2. Central Excise Day is celebrated every year on which date across India _____ 24th February. Note:
 - > The day is celebrated to honour the officers associated with CBEC and their services.
 - > This is done to encourage the officers to carry out their duties with utmost sincerity.
 - > The officers, every year perform checking of corruption in goods from the manufacturing sector.
- 3. World NGO Day is observed every year on which date _____ 27th February.

Note:

- The day celebrates the efforts of those social workers who have gone an extra mile to make the world a better place.
- The Day was officially recognised and declared by the 12 member countries (Belarus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Norway and Sweden).
- > It was marked for the first time by the UN, EU leaders and international organisations in 2014.

4. World NGO Day is celebrated every year globally on _____ 27th February.

Note:

- World NGO Day aims to inspire people to become more actively involved within NGOs (Charities, NPOs, CSOs) and encourage a greater symbiosis between NGOs and both the public and private sector.
- The universal concept of World NGO Day is Celebrate, Commemorate and Collaborate the various NGOs around the world, and the people behind them.
- 5. In India, February 27th is celebrated as the _____ National Protein Day. Note:
 - > The day was launched by the '**Right to Protein**', a national-level public health initiative on February 27, 2020.
 - > This year theme of National Protein Day is **"Powering with Plant Protein"**.
 - > 2021 marks the second year for this nutritional awareness milestone in India by 'Right to Protein'.
- 6. National Science Day is celebrated all over India on _____28th February.
 - Note:
 - On this day, Sir CV Raman had announced the discovery of the Raman Effect for which he was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1930. The government of India designated 28 February as National Science Day (NSD) in 1986.

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- > The theme for this year's National Science Day is 'Future of STI: Impact on Education Skills and Work'.
- 7. Rare Disease Day is observed every year on _____ last day of February (28th February, 2021).

- This year in 2021 it falls on February 28, 2021.
- > The day is observed to raise awareness for rare diseases and improve access to treatment and medical representation for individuals with rare diseases and their families.
- Rare Disease Day was first launched by European Organisation for Rare Diseases (EURORDIS) and its Council of National Alliances in 2008.

New Appointments

Who resigned as the chief minister of Puducherry after failing to win the trust vote in the assembly _____ V Narayanaswamy.

Note:

- Speaker V.P. Sivakolunthu declared that V. Narayanasamy lost the trust motion.
- Earlier Narayanasamy was asked to prove his strength in the assembly by the Lt. Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan.
- 2. Name the Punjabi singer who has been roped in by the Reserve Bank of India to drive its public awareness campaigns on cyber frauds ______ Viruss.

Note:

- > The RBI has roped in Punjabi singer-rapper Viruss in its public awareness campaign.
- The campaign also includes Viruss' popular 2017 Indie hit 'Bam Bhole' that was recreated for Akshay Kumar-Kiara Advani starrer Laxmi.
- RBI's latest public directives on how one can and should protect themselves from cyber crimes and identity theft comes along with peppy rap music.
- 3. Who has been appointed as the Chairman National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC) _____ Vijay Sampla. Note:
 - ▶ He has been the former Union Minister of State for Social Justice & Empowerment from 2014 to 2019.
 - NCSC is an Indian constitutional body under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, that works for the socio-economic development of the scheduled castes and to prevent atrocities against them.
- Name the Indian social activist who has been appointed for the newly-instituted International Anti-Corruption Champions Award by the Joe Biden Administration _____ Anjali Bharadwaj. Note:
 - The 48-year-old Bhardwaj has served as an active member of the Right to Information Movement in India for over two decades.
 - She is the founder of the Satark Nagrik Sangathan (SNS), a citizens' group which promotes transparency and accountability in government and encourage the active participation of citizens.
- 5. Who has been appointed as the US ambassador to the United Nations ______ Linda Thomas-Greenfield. Note:
 - The Senate voted 78-20 to confirm Thomas-Greenfield for the Cabinet-level position. Greenfield is the eighth confirmed member of President Joe Biden's Cabinet.
 - Linda Thomas-Greenfield is a US diplomat with vast experience in Africa. She is a three-decade veteran of the US State Department.
- 6. Irakli Garibashvili has been appointed as the new prime minister of which country _____ Georgia. Note:
 - > He took office immediately after the vote.
 - > He was appointed as the PM following the resignation of former PM Giorgi Gakharia on 18th February 2021.
 - ▶ He was elected as the head of the government with 89 votes in favor and 2 against.
- Who has been elected as the president of the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) _____ A Sakthivel. Note:
 - He is the owner and Founder of Poppys Group of Companies of Tirupur, Tamil Nadu and is currently the Chairman of Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC).

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- ▶ He succeeds Sharad Kumar (S K) Saraf, a Mumbai-based businessman.
- 8. Mohamed Bazoum has been reelected as the President of which country in the recently held election _____ Niger. Note:
 - Niger's electoral commission has declared the governing party candidate, Mohamed Bazoum, the winner of the country's presidential election runoff.
 - Bazoum had secured 55.75 percent of the votes cast on February 21, beating former President Mahamane Ousmane who garnered 44.25 percent, Issaka Souna, chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI).
- 9. Who has been appointed as the new Goodwill Ambassador of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the UN's sexual and reproductive health agency _____ Natalia Vodianova. Note:
 - She will empower women and girls by promoting sexual and rights of them and tackling the stigma and taboos that surround their bodies and health, including menstruation that lead to discrimination and exclusion.
 - She has teamed up with UNFPA over the past 3 years to launch a series of "Let's Talk" events worldwide. This series have mobilised policy makers, civil society and the private sector to address shame, exclusion and discrimination, faced regularly by millions of women and girls.
- **10.** Who has been roped in as the Global Brand Ambassador of Levis, a premium American denim brand _____ **Deepika** Padukone.

- > This strategic partnership highlights the increasing focus of Levis on women's category.
- > Deepika became the first female celebrity to endorse the brand in India.
- As a part of this partnership, Deepika Padukone will work on the new campaign of levis which is focused on a new range of fashion fits from Levis.

11. Who has been elected as the President of Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI) _____ **Dushyant Chautala.** Note:

- > He was unanimously elected during the 84th Annual meeting of TTFI at Panchkula, Haryana.
- > He will hold the post for a period of 4 years.
- > He is the youngest president of any National sports federations in India.
- **12.** Who has been appointed as the brand ambassador of edtech platform Unacademy _____ **Sachin Tendulkar.** Note:
 - According to the terms of the partnership, Tendulkar will serve as the brand ambassador for Unacademy and will also conduct a series of live interactive classes on the platform.
 - > The former cricketer has also invested in the company.

Important News - India

1. Construction of how many houses have been approved under PMAY-U at 53rd Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee Meeting _____ 56,368.

Note:

- > These houses are proposed to be constructed under various verticals of PMAY-U Mission.
- > A total of 11 States/UTs attended the meeting.
- The participating States/UTs were also directed to use the online mechanism (MIS) for proper implementation and monitoring of the Mission.

Note:

The "Nagaland: Enhancing Classroom Teaching and Resources Project" will improve classroom instruction; create opportunities for the professional development of teachers; and build technology systems to provide students and teachers with more access to blended and online learning as well as allow better monitoring of policies and programs.

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- Such an integrated approach will complement conventional delivery models and help mitigate the challenges posed by COVID-19.
- 3. How many toy manufacturing clusters have been approved by the Central Government at a cost of Rs 2,300 crore

8.

- Note:
 - This decision has been taken on the lines of "National Action Plan for Indian Toy Story" that seeks to reduce import dependence of toys which was around \$1.5 billion in FY2020 of which 90% of imports was from China and Taiwan.
 - In this regard, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) and the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) will develop toy clusters under existing schemes such as the Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (Sfurti) which is currently being implemented in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.
- 4. The '3rd edition of the Indian Sign Language (ISL) Dictionary with 10,000 terms has been published by the Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC), it is an autonomous Institute under which ministry _____ Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.

Note:

- The Dictionary has been published by the Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC), an autonomous Institute under the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.
- > The 3rd edition is the culmination of an innovative 4 year project that was initiated in November 2016 by ISLRTC).
- 5. Which scheme has completed two year of its implementation in February, 2021 _____ Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi.

Note:

- PM-Kisan scheme was launched with an aim to ensure a life of dignity as well as prosperity for our hardworking farmers, who work day and night to keep our nation fed. The tenacity and passion of our farmers is inspiring.
- > Over the last 7 years, the Government of India has taken many initiatives for transforming agriculture
- 6. Which campaign was launched by central government to ensure energy security in the country _____ Go Electric. Note:
 - ➤ 'Go Electric' logo was also unveiled on the occasion.
 - Bureau of Energy Efficiency is mandated to undertake an awareness drive for promoting public charging, emobility and its ecosystem.
- Recently Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Prakash Javadekar inaugurated the Atal Paryavaran Bhavan in which state/UT _____ Lakshadweep. Note:
 - ➤ 'Go Electric' logo was also unveiled on the occasion.
 - Bureau of Energy Efficiency is mandated to undertake an awareness drive for promoting public charging, emobility and its ecosystem.
 - BEE will extend technical support to the SDAs and other partners to ensure uniformity of information to implement the campaign.
- 8. Which stadium has been renamed the Narendra Modi Stadium _____ Sardar Patel Stadium, Ahmedabad. Note:
 - President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the newly revamped Motera cricket stadium in Ahmedabad, which has been renamed the Narendra Modi Stadium.
 - The ground, which was earlier named the Sardar Patel Stadium, and more popularly known as the Motera stadium, has been renamed after the Prime Minister, who was also formerly a president of the Gujarat Cricket Association.
- 9. The 18th Edition of BioAsia 2021 was conducted virtually from which city of India _____ Hyderabad. Note:
 - Organized by the Telangana Government, BioAsia is Asia's Largest Life Sciences & healthcare forum. It is also a flagship event of the Telangana Government.

- > It is the 18th edition in the annual series and was held virtually for the first time.
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- The theme of the summit is 'Move the Needle'.
- **10.** Under whose chairmanship the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has set up 14-member committee to relook its information and security guidelines _____ **Janakiram**.

- The economic situation owing to the pandemic has seen an exponential increase in cyber-attacks across the globe and in particular, the financial sector.
- This situation has necessitated regulators to re-look into their Cyber Security Guidelines applicable to all regulated entities in an effort to protect the financial systems.
- The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) had issued guidelines on cyber security in April 2017 as a part of its governance mechanism.
- **11.** Which entity has partnered with Social Alpha, to set up the Swavalamban Divyangjan Assistive Tech Market Access (ATMA) fund, a Social Impact fund ______ SIDBI.

Note:

- It is a first of its kind inclusion fund that offers financial grants to Social Alpha-incubated startups that work in the Assistive Technology (AT) sector.
- The purpose of the partnership is to promote innovation and reduce the expenses for persons with disabilities to procure new technologies.
- **12.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of Dhubri Phulbari bridge that would be India's longest bridge is being built on which river _____ Brahmaputra.

Note:

- The 19.282 km four-lane bridge, expected to be completed by 2026-27, will connect Phulbari in Meghalaya and Dhubri in poll-bound Assam.
- The initiation of work on the bridge will be among a slew of projects that the BJP-led government in Assam has been pushing through ahead of elections to the 126-member Assembly.
- 13. The Union Government approved the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for how many sectors as per the announcement made by Finance Minister while presenting budget 2021-22 _____ 13. Note:
 - She announced that the government aims to spend ₹1.97 lakh crore on various PLI schemes over the next 5 years, starting from this fiscal.
 - She informed, to achieve double-digit growth, PLI schemes to create manufacturing global champions for an Atma Nirbhar Bharat have been announced for 13 sectors.
- **14.** Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) is a scheme implemented under which Union Ministry _____ **Ministry of Food Processing Industries.**

Note:

- Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) is a flagship scheme being implemented by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.
- The Union Food Processing Industries Ministry cleared 20 projects worth Rs 363.4 crore for two schemes under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY).
- **15.** Which ministry has organized "Mushaira" on the theme of "Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat" _____ **Ministry of Minority** Affairs.

Note:

Renowned poets and poetess such as Shri Wasim Barelvi; Mrs Shabeena Adeeb; Shri Manzar Bhopali; Shri Popular Meeruthi; Mrs Saba Balrampuri; Ms Naseem Nikhat; Mrs Mumtaz Naseem; Col. V. P. Singh; Shri Alok Shrivastava; Sardar Surendra Singh Shajar; Shri Khursheed Haider; Shri Aqeel Nomani; Dr. Nayyar Jalalpuri; Shri Sikandar Hayat Gadbad will enthral the audience in "Mushaira", to be organised at Dr.Ambedkar International Centre, Janpath in New Delhi.

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16. Drinking Water Survey, 'Pey Jal Survekshan' is an initiative of which ministry _____ **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.**

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- > It is a drinking water survey launched in 10 cities under Jal Jeevan Mission (Urban).
- > It will ascertain the equitable distribution of water, reuse of wastewater in target cities.
- Fit will cover 10 cities; Agra, Badlapur, Bhubaneswar, Churu, Kochi, Madurai, Patiala, Rohtak, Surat, and Tumkur.
- **17.** Who has become the first Indian to be elected as chairperson of the Advisroy Committee of the Human Rights Council ______ Ajay Malhotra.

Note:

- > Ajay Malhotra becomes the first Indian Chairperson of the Advisory Committee at the Human Rights Council.
- Malhotra has previously served as ambassador to Russia, Kuwait, Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations, New York and Romania.

18. Which city has got recognition as 2020 Tree City of the World _____ Hyderabad.

Note:

- > The capital of Telangana is the only city of India to be recognised as the Tree City.
- Hyderabad has been chosen for this recognition for its commitment towards maintaining and growing the urban forest.
- According to "National Urban Digital Mission (NUDM)" by which year a digital infrastructure will be created all over country ______ 2024.

Note:

- The Central government Tuesday launched National Urban Digital Mission' to create a digital infrastructure for cities in the country, a statement stated.
- Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri and Minister of Electronics and IT Ravi Shankar Prasad launched the National Urban Digital Mission' (NUDM) at a virtual event.

Important News - State

- 1. India's first Digital University has been launched in which state _____ Kerala. Note:
 - The state government of Kerala, on the line of its Digital Transformation Initiatives announced in Budget 2021, has launched India's first Digital University, Kerala University of Digital Sciences, Innovation and Technology (KUDSIT) in Technocity at Mangalapuram in Thiruvananthapuram by upgrading its two-decade old Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management Kerala (IIITM-K), a center of excellence in information technologies.
- 2. Which state will host the 2nd Edition of Khelo India University Games (KIUG) in 2021 _____ Karnataka. Note:
 - The KIUG 2021 will see the addition of 2 new native sports namely 'Yogasana' & 'Mallakhamb' in the medal events. The total number of medal events/sports will be 19.
 - > The games will be conducted in the U-25 age category in accordance with the World University Games norms.
- **3.** Which state government has approved the implementation of mission 'Lal Lakir' to enable villagers living within the 'Lal Lakir' to monetise their property rights and for availing benefits provided by the government departments, institutions and banks _____ Punjab.

Note:

- Lal Lakir refers to land that is a part of the village habitation and is used for non-agriculture purposes only.
- > Earlier, these properties can be sold through power of attorney (POA) and the sale deeds could not be registered.
- **4.** The 47th Khajuraho Dance Festival was celebrated in which state _____ Madhya Pradesh. Note:
 - > Khajuraho Temples come alive with splendour, beams, and the hustle-bustle of art lovers at the Festival.
 - The first-day event is dedicated to Bharatanatyam performance by Geeta Chandran and her troupe and Kathak performance by Deepak Maharaj.

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Note:

- > It was organized by the Odisha Chapter of the Real Estate Developers Association of India (CREDAI).
- > Partner Country for the 2021 Fair Bangladesh & focus countries are Afghanistan & Iran.
- > Bihar is the Partner State for the Fair.
- > It was inaugurated by the Odisha Law Minister Pratap Jena.
- 6. Which state government has launched "Free Gift Milk to girl students" initiative _____ Sikkim.
 - Note:
 - Sikkim Chief Minister P. S. Tamang launched the 'Free Gift Milk to Girl Students of Sikkim' initiative at Gangtok last week.
 - > The initiative will benefit round 1,500 students who would be provided 200 mls of milk every day.
- 7. Which state has hosted 13th edition of annual cultural festival Utsavam 2021 _____ Kerala. Note:
 - Organized by Kerala Tourism along with Kerala Folklore Academy, Bharat Bhavan, and District Tourism Promotion Councils.
 - The festival brings alive Kerala's rich and diverse folk and ritualistic art traditions in 30 venues across the state, the 7-day annual cultural festival 'Utsavam 2021' started on a colourful note on February 20.
- 8. Asia's biggest cattle park was inaugurated in which state of India _____ Tamil Nadu. Note:
 - ▶ It was constructed at a cost of Rs 1,023 crore. It is the state's 5th veterinary college.
 - > In addition to this he also inaugurated a veterinary medical college and Thalaivasal revenue taluk office.
 - On the occasion, he also announced that a frozen semen station will be set up in Karumandurai, Salem at the cost of Rs 100 crore.
- 9. Karlapat wildlife sanctuary, which was in news recently, is located in which state _____ Odisha. Note:
 - > Karlapat Wildlife Sanctuary is located in Kalahandi district of Odisha.
 - Karlapat Wildlife Sanctuary is about 15 km from Bhawanipatna, the district headquarters of Kalahandi district. The sanctuary covers an area of 175 square kilometres.
- **10.** Which Indian state assembly played the National Anthem after almost 60 years _____ **Nagaland.** Note:
 - > The move is historic for a state that has been ravaged by decades of secessionist violence and protracted peace talks that still hang fire.
 - > Nagaland attained statehood on December 1, 1963, and was the 16th state of the Union.
- Where is the Asia's largest Advanced Institute for Integrated Research on Livestock and Animal Sciences (Cattle Park) was inaugurated recently ______ Salem, Tamil Nadu.
 Note:
 - Note:
 - He made this announcement after inaugurating the Asia's biggest cattle park Advanced Institute for Integrated Research on Livestock and Animal Sciences (AIIRLAS) - spread over 1,600 acres and constructed at the cost of Rs 1,023 crore on Koot Road near Thalaivasal in Salem district

Important News - World

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1. With which country India has signed a landmark Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA) _____ Mauritius.

Note:

- > This agreement is India's first-such agreement with an African country.
- > The CECPA will encourage Indian entrepreneurs to invest both in Mauritius and across the region, thus helping the ambition of the country to become a strategic regional economic hub and a centre of excellence.
- Which global entity has signed an MoU with Power System Operation Corporation (POSOCO), New Delhi for promoting research in the domestic power sector _____ The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI).

Note:

- > The entities will work towards addressing the challenges of the Power Sector.
- The aim of the MoU is to enhance the interaction between the industry-research bodies for knowledge sharing and capacity building through collaboration and to encourage research on issues related to the Indian power sector.
- 3. Which country hosted a workshop on COVID-19 Management: Experience, Good Practices and Way Forward' ______ India.

Note:

- Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Mauritius, Nepal, Pakistan, Seychelles and Sri Lanka participated in the workshop.
- > All countries including Pakistan supported Prime Minister Narendra Modi's proposals at the workshop.
- **4.** Recently which country has officially rejoined the Paris Climate Agreement _____ USA.

Note:

- Though technically the US remained outside the Agreement only for over three months after its formal exit from the deal in November last year, the country under Donald Trump administration kept itself away from the international accord in terms of federal climate action for four years even as sub-national players were doing their bit for a cleaner future.
- 5. Which country hosted the Meeting of BRICS Finance and Central Bank Deputies _____ India.

Note:

- Tarun Bajaj, Secretary Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, and Dr. Michael Patra, Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India.
- > Other participants included BRICS Finance and Central Bank Deputies of Brazil, Russia, China and South Africa.
- ▶ India assumed the BRICS Chairship in 2021, at a time when BRICS is celebrating its 15th anniversary.

6. Which country becomes the top trade partner of India in 2020 surpassing USA _____ China.

Note:

- Two-way trade between the longstanding economic and strategic rivals stood at \$77.7 billion last year, according to provisional data from India's commerce ministry.
- Although that was lower than the previous year's \$85.5 billion total, it was enough to make China the largest commercial partner displacing the U.S. bilateral trade with whom came in at \$75.9 billion amid muted demand for goods in the middle of a pandemic.
- 7. Which became the first country to receive a batch of free anti-coronavirus vaccine doses through the COVAX initiative ______ Ghana.

Note:

- The World Health Organization (WHO), which leads COVAX together with Gavi the Vaccine Alliance and the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, said the shipment of 600,000 AstraZeneca doses was the first step in immunizing the West African nation of 30 million.
- 8. The Parliament of which country passed the landmark legislation called the "News Media and Digital Platforms Mandatory Bargaining Code" which mandates the global digital platforms to pay for publishing the Australian news content on their respective platforms _____ Australia.

Note:

- The law easily passed after Facebook and Google, the main targets of the legislation, reached agreements to pay Australian news organisations to avoid being subjected to tough mandatory bargaining rules under the regulation.
- > The legislation mainly targets Facebook and Google.
- The law easily passed the tech giants (Facebook and Google) signed agreements with the government to pay Australian news organisations.
- 9. Which organization has released its report titled "The State of School Feeding Worldwide" ______ UNWFP.

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- As per the report, the COVID-19 pandemic risks have reversed the efforts that were made worldwide in a decade to provide nutritious food to the most vulnerable children across the globe.
- The report highlights that, one in two school children that would count as around 388 million children worldwide received the school meals when the pandemic was at its peak. This accounts for the highest number in history.
- When the pandemic was at its peak around April 2020, 199 countries had closed their schools. Because of which, 370 million children were suddenly deprived of nutritious meal of the day.
- **10.** Which country has been named as the preferred bidder to host the 2032 Olympic Games by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) ______ Australia.

Note:

- > The IOC's future host commission recommended that the body enters "targeted dialogue" with Brisbane bid organisers and the Australian Olympic Committee.
- The state of Queensland had hosted the 2018 Commonwealth Games and Brisbane was praised for its high percentage of existing venues, a good masterplan, experience in organising major events and its favourable weather.
- 11. Which country space agency successfully landed its 5th rover "Perseverance" on Mars _____ USA.

Note:

- It touched down the surface of Mars after successfully overcoming a risky landing phase known as the seven minutes of terror.
- The six-wheeled vehicle will now spend at least the next two years drilling into the local rocks, looking for evidence of past life.

Honor & Awards

1. Who has been conferred with best actor male award at Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival awards 2021 ______ Akshay Kumar.

Note:

- The award season 2021 continues as Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival Awards honoured the best in film, television, music and the new addition, OTT
- Akshay Kumar was declared best actor (male) in the horror-comedy Laxmii, which was a remake of hit Tamil film Kanchana (2011).
- Who has been conferred with best actor female award at Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival awards 2021
 Deepika Padukone.

Note:

- The award season 2021 continues as Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival Awards honoured the best in film, television, music and the new addition, OTT
- Deepika won the best actor (female) award for her performance in Meghna Gulzar's Chhapaak that told the story of acid attack survivor Laxmi Aggarwal.
- Who has been chosen for CERAWeek Global Energy and Environment Leadership Award 2021 for in recognition of his commitment to sustainability in the energy and the environment _____ Narendra Modi. Note:

Note:

- CERAWeek by IHS Markit--the world's preeminent energy conference--will be held virtually March 1-5. 2021 marks the 39th edition of the conference and is the first time that it will be an all-virtual event.
- Prime Minister Modi will participate in a special plenary with Daniel Yergin, vice chairman of IHS Markit and conference chair on March 5.
- Which organization has been conferred with the Genome Valley Excellence Award for the year 2021 during the BioAsia 2021 ______ Bharat Biotech.

Note:

- A prestigious award, it is an integral part of BioAsia, the biotechnology and Life Sciences conference Telangana government organises every year.
- Bharat Biotech is being presented the Genome Valley Excellence Award for 2021 for its "breakthrough, pioneering research, development and commercialisation of vaccines, including COVID-19 vaccine Covaxin.

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Sports News

- 1. Rajeev Ram held from which country who has won Australian open mixed double event Barbora Krejcikova of Czech Republic _____ USA.
 - Note:
 - The sixth seeds dominated from start to finish and did not drop serve in the match as they cruised to a 6-1, 6-4 victory in 59 minutes at the Rod Laver Arena, bringing the surprise run of the hometown pair to an end.
 - It marks Krejcikova's third straight mixed doubles title at Melbourne Park after she triumphed with Ram in 2019 and Nikola Mektic last year, capping a successful fortnight for the Czech, who also reached the women's doubles final with compatriot Katerina Siniakova, losing to Elise Mertens and Aryna Sabalenka.
- 2. Jasmine Harrison held from which country who has become the youngest woman to row solo across the Atlantic Ocean ______ England.

Note:

- The 21-year-old from Thirsk, North Yorkshire in the UK, achieved the feat by finishing top in the 2020 Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge, organized by Atlantic Campaigns.
- Harrison, who is a swim instructor and bartender by profession, travelled 3,000 miles (4,828km) across the Atlantic Ocean in 70 days, 3 hours and 48 minutes.
- 3. Which state will host the Indian Women's League (IWL) _____ Odisha. Note:
 - > The dates will be announced later.
 - Since the Covid-19 pandemic, Indian football has been trying to restart on-field sporting action.
 - It all started with the I-League qualifiers, followed by the Indian Super League (ISL) and the I-League. ISL and I-League are currently being played.
- 4. Name the Indian Boxer who won the silver medal at the 72nd Strandja Memorial Boxing Tournament in Sofia, Bulgaria _____ Deepak Kumar.

Note:

- ➢ He lost the final against Bulgaria's Daniel Asenov in the men's flyweight.
- The result may not be in favour of DeepakKumar but the Indian boxer surely won the hearts with his attacking game.

Note:

- > She defeated 2017 world champion Vanesa Kaladzinskaya.
- Up against the world number seven Belarusian, it was not an easy bout for the world number three Indian as the two grapplers kept testing each other with consistent attacks in the sea-saw battle in which Vinesh prevailed.

Books and Authors

- 1. Who has authored the book titled "Agriculture Acts 2020" _____ A.K. Rajan. Note:
 - The book is about the three controversial Central farm laws, which resulted in a months-long massive protest by farmers in New Delhi.
 - > It has shown how the laws hit at the federal structure of India.

2. Who has authored the book titled, '#METOO' _____ Karan Puri.

Note:

- > Author's 1st fiction novel is 'Shit Happens A desi boy in America'.
- > This book was a best seller and also as mentioned in India Today Top 20 books in 2012.
- > The book highlights the strength of human beings who have lived through the trauma of sexual violence.

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- Who is the author of the book titled 'India: A Scamster Born Every Minute' _____ Snigdha Poonam. Note:
 - Penguin Random House India acquired the book from the leading international literary agency, The Wylie Agency. It will be released under Penguin's Viking imprint in 2022.
 - > The book provides insight about the subculture of scams, cons and frauds in India.
 - > It proposes to navigate the sociocultural landscape of India and maps the evolution of corruption in India.
- 4. Who has authored the novel titled 'Bride of the Forest: The Untold Story of Yayati's Daughter' _____ Madhavi S Mahadevan.

- > The book is published by Speaking Tiger Publishing Private Limited.
- > The book features the stories of the little known women in the epis who suffered various systemic atrocities of that period.
- > The book is about a girl, Drishadvati, whose fertility was bartered in exchange for rare horses.
- 5. Who released the book "Rashtra Pratham-82 Varsha ki swarnim Gathas" _____ Amit shah.

Note:

- Home Minister Amit Shah today released a book 'Rashtra Pratham 82 varshon ki Swarnim Gatha' in New Delhi.
- The book chronicles the glorious history of CRPF since its raising in 1939 and it has detailed and thoroughly researched account of CRPF's journey, challenges, successes, and sacrifices.

Science and Defence

- 1. Scientist from which IIT developed washable adhesive and related products _____ IIT Kanpur. Note:
 - > The mat is a low-cost one and remains washable and usable over many cycles.
 - The adhesive associated makes use of nanoscopic pyramidal bumps on its surface to attract dust particles towards it, thereby cleaning the sole of our shoes when we step on it.
 - > When the adhesive gets completely covered with particulate matter, it is washed in a way that we wash our clothes.
- 2. Amazonia-1 is a satellite of which country that was launched by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) through its PSLV-C51 along with 18 payloads _____ Brazil.

Note:

- It was launched as per the tentative scheduled at 10:24 AM.
- > The 637-kg Amazonia-1 is the first Brazilian satellite to be launched from India.
- > Amazonia-1 is the optical earth observation satellite of the Brazilian National Institute for Space Research (INPE).
- **3.** Which country successfully test fired anti-tank guided missile "Helena" and "Dhruvastra" recently _____ **India**.

Note:

- ▶ Helena is the Army version and Dhruvastra is the Air Force version of the ALH.
- The missile systems have been designed and developed indigenously by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

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