

Weekly One-Liners

8-14 April 2021



Weekly One Liners Updates 8-14th April 2021

Dear readers,

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

Banking & Financial Awareness

1. Which Bank gives grants to 21 startups working in the social sector under its SmartUp Grants 2021 _____ **HDFC Bank.**

Note:

- 21 startups working in the social sector were selected through a rigorous screening process from 300 applicants.
- The bank instituted SmartUp grants in 2017 and
- It has supported 87-number of startups from various cities across India so far.
- HDFC Bank has partnered with IIT Delhi, IIM Kashipur, AIC-BIMTECH, IIT BHU, GUSEC, C-CAMP, Banasthali University etc. to shortlist the winner.

2. Which bank has approved a USD 484-mn to improve transport connectivity and road maintenance in the Chennai - Kanyakumari Industrial Corridor (CKIC) in Tamil Nadu _____ **Asian Development Bank.**

Note:

- The CKIC is part of India's East Coast Economic Corridor.
- It stretches from West Bengal to Tamil Nadu and connects India to the production networks of Southeast and East Asia.
- The project will upgrade about 590 km of state highways in the CKIC influence areas.

3. Which municipal corporation has issued country's first green bonds _____ **Ghaziabad Municipal Corporation.**

Note:

- Ghaziabad Municipal Corporation, a civic body in Uttar Pradesh, has raised Rs 150 crore through the issuance of green bonds and the proceeds will be utilised for the tertiary water treatment plant to benefit industries in Ghaziabad.
- The corporation also received Rs 19.5 crore incentive from the Union government for raising funds through municipal bonds.

4. FlexiLoans.com, a digital lending platform has partnered with which entity to offer collateral free loan to MSME's and Freelancers _____ **PayPal.**

Note:

- FlexiLoans.com, a digital lending platform focused on Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) partnered with PayPal, a leading digital payments company to offer collateral-free business loans to MSMEs, freelancers, women entrepreneurs and sole proprietors.
- This partnership is in line with PayPal's commitment to provide innovative credit solution capabilities to Indian merchants who sell cross-border using PayPal.

5. Bharti Axa Life insurance has partnered with which small finance bank for a bancassurance partnership under which the bank will sell insurance policies to its customers _____ **Fincare Small Finance Bank.**

Note:

- Under the partnership, Bharti AXA Life Insurance will offer its comprehensive suite of life insurance products, including protection, savings and investment plans, to the customers of Fincare Small Finance Bank across its 747 branches and digital network presence across the country.
- This alliance will make life insurance solutions reachable to over 26.5 lakhs customers of Fincare Small Finance Bank and provide financial security to them.

6. Which payments bank launched its new 'Rewards123' savings account, which provides customers with perks and rewards _____ **Airtel Payments Bank.**

Note:

- The Rewards123 Savings Account is built specifically that allows you to get access to a variety of perks when you save and transact digitally.

- The company claims that its newly introduced saving account is designed to offer consistent value, with assured rewards on different types of digital transactions throughout the year.
7. In association with which bank the NITI Aayog has developed first of its kind Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) Handbook that was launched by the Supreme Court Justice DY Chandrachud _____ **ICICI Bank**.
- Note:**
- Supreme Court Justice DY Chandrachud released the first of its kind Online Dispute Resolution(ODR) Handbook developed by Agami and Omidyar Network India.
 - The handbook was developed in association with (National Institution for Transforming India) NITI Aayog with the support of ICICI Bank, Ashoka Innovators for the Public, Trilegal, Dalberg, Dvara and NIPFP.
 - ODR Handbook features the insights and learnings to equip a person to successfully adopt ODR.
8. According to International Monetary Fund (IMF) report what is India's debt to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) ratio at the end of 2020 _____ **90 percent**.
- Note:**
- The International Monetary Fund(IMF) reported an increase in India's debt to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) ratio from 74 percent (at the end of 2019) to 90 percent (at the end of 2020) during the COVID-19 period.
 - Based on the IMF's baseline forecast, it expects a further drop in India's 'Debt to GDP ratio' to 80 percent due to the recent Indian economy recovery.
 - IMF suggested India to support people and firms, and, in particular, the most vulnerable.
9. SwitchON Foundation has partnered with which bank to offer finance to the marginal farmers for buying solar pumps _____ **Punjab National Bank**.
- Note:**
- PNB will be financing solar pumps through the SwitchON Foundation's – First Loss Default Guarantee Fund.
 - The basic aim of this fund is to help unbanked small marginal farmers without any collateral and to promote clean energy.
10. The National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) has secured a Rs 600 crore loan from which bank for onward lending to cooperatives in the country _____ **Deutsche Bank**.
- Note:**
- An agreement in this regard inked between NCDC and Deutsche Bank, Germany's largest bank.
 - The farmer producer organisations being set up in the country would be able to access easier credit and market through the NCDC agreements with ICC and Deutsche Bank, which will help small and marginal farmers.
11. The National Housing Bank recently allocated what amount under its "Special Refinance Facility", 2021 to provide short term refinance support to the housing finance companies and other eligible Primary Lending Institutions _____ **Rs 10,000 crore**.
- Note:**
- The objective of the SRF 2021, is to provide short term refinance support to HFCs and other eligible PLIs on flexible terms and conditions.
 - The total amount allocated under this scheme shall be Rs.10,000 crore.
 - The facility will aid in meeting the short-term liquidity requirement in the Public Lending Institutions.
12. The Government of India has announced mandatory hallmarking of gold artefacts and jewellery from _____ **1st June 2021**.
- Note:**
- In November 2019, the govt had announced that hallmarking of gold jewellery and artefacts would be made mandatory across the country from 15 January 2021.
 - But the deadline was extended for four months after the jewellers sought more time in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic.
13. As per the IRDAI (Regulatory Sandbox) (Amendment) Regulations, 2021, Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India has extended the validity of Regulatory Sandbox for _____ **2 years**.
- Note:**
- As most of the approved experiments may not be completed (due to COVID-19) within the scheduled time of July 25, 2021.
 - This extension of the time period will enable the applicants to complete their existing sandbox experiments and new sandbox proposals also will be allowed.

14. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved the acquisition of what percent of equity shareholding of Gangavaram Port Limited (GPL) by Adani Ports and Special Economic Zones (APSEZ) Limited _____ **89.6 per cent.**

Note:

- The acquisition was approved under Section 31(1) of the Competition Act, 2002.
- The APSEZ Ltd has acquired the controlling stakes of GPL from DVS Raju and Family for Rs.3604 crore.
- APSEZ acquired 58.1 per cent stakes of GPL from DVS Raju & Family and 31.5 per cent stake of Warburg Pincus.

Obituaries

1. What is the name of India's first female cricket commentator who passed away recently _____ **Chandra Naidu.**

Note:

- She had done her first commentary during a match between national champions Bombay (now Mumbai) and MCC in Indore in 1977.
- She had also penned a book titled 'CK Nayudu: A Daughter Remembers' on her late father, who was a distinguished cricketer.

2. Renowned personality Fatima Rafiq Zakaria passed away recently he was a veteran _____ **Journalist.**

Note:

- She was awarded the Padma Shri in recognition of her work in education in 2006.
- Ms Zakaria, who had played an eminent role in the field of education, was also honoured with the Sarojini Naidu Integration Award for Journalism in 1983.

3. Renowned personality Ramsey Clark passed away recently, he was a former Attorney General of which country _____

USA.**Note:**

- Clark, one of the architects of the landmark Voting Rights Act of 1965 and Civil Rights Act of 1968.
- In a lengthy career of representing unpopular causes, Clark defended or gave advice to Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic, Liberian political figure Charles Taylor and Iraq's Saddam Hussein.

4. Renowned personality Satish Kaul passed away recently, he was a veteran _____ **Actor.**

Note:

- The actor began his career in the early '70s, juggling between Hindi and Punjabi films.
- While his popular Bollywood films include Ram Lakhan, Pyaar Toh Hona Hi Tha and Aunty No 1 etc.

5. Renowned sportsman and coach Sanjay Chakravarty passed away recently, he was associated with which sport _____

Shooting.**Note:**

- Legendary shooting coach Sanjay Chakravarty passed away due to Covid-19. The Dronacharya awardee had trained some of the finest Indian shooters including Abhinav Bindra, Gagan Narang, Anjali Bhagwat and Suma Shirur, Deepali Deshpande, Anuja Jung and Ayonika Paul.

6. Renowned sportsperson Balbir Singh Junior passed away recently, he was associated with which sport _____ **Hockey.**

Note:

- Born on May 2, 1932, at Sansarpur in Jalandhar, also known as the nursery of Indian hockey, Balbir Singh Junior had played alongside legends like Balbir Singh Senior, Leslie Claudius, Prithipal Singh, Balkishan and Charles Stephen among others.
- He was part of the Punjab state hockey team and also captained Panjab University team.

7. Ramon Magsaysay awardee Ibn Abdur Rehman passed away recently, he was a veteran _____ **Human rights activist.**

Note:

- Rehman spent his life defending human rights, opposing military dictators, fighting for the rule of law and democracy.
- He was also a strong voice for the country's minorities, including Christians and Hindus.
- Rehman worked as an editor for various newspapers before joining the commission. He regularly contributed articles for several Pakistani newspapers.

8. Renowned personality Yogesh Praveen passed away recently, he was a veteran _____ **Historian.**

Note:

- Because of his immense knowledge about the history of lucknow , Yogesh Praveen is known as the Encyclopedia of awadh and Lucknow history.

- He wrote many books including 'Shantranj ke khiladi' and 'Umrao jaan' which was later taken as a movie.
- Apart from being an author, he had also written lyrics for the movie Junoon.

Important Days

1. The World Chagas Disease Day is observed every year on which date _____ **14th April.**

Note:

- The WHO approved the designation of Chagas Disease Day on May 24, 2019, at the 72nd World Health Assembly.
- It is one of 11 official global public health campaigns marked by WHO.

2. Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) Valour Day (Shaurya Diwas) is observed every year on _____ **9th April.**

Note:

- It was on this day in 1965, a small contingent of CRPF created history by defeating an invading Pakistani army, several time larger, at the Sardar Post located in the **Rann of Kutch, Gujarat.**
- The CRPF men eliminated 34 Pakistani soldiers and captured four alive. In the conflict, CRPF lost six personnel who had attained martyrdom.

3. World Homeopathy Day is celebrated every year on which date to spread awareness about homoeopathy and its contribution to the world of medicine _____ **10th April.**

Note:

- The day marks the birth anniversary of German physician Dr Christian Friedrich Samuel Hahnemann, who is considered the founder of the system of alternative medicine called Homeopathy.
- The year 2021 marks the 266th birthday of Hahnemann.

4. The International Day of Human Space Flight is observed globally every year on _____ **12th April.**

Note:

- The UN General Assembly passed a resolution on April 7, 2011, had declared April 12 to be celebrated as **International Day of Human Space Flight.**
- On 12 April 1961, was the date of the 1st human space flight was carried out by Yuri Gagarin, a Soviet citizen, who became the first person to journey into outer space.

New Appointments

1. Who has been appointed as the Chief Election Commissioner of India _____ **Sushil Chandra.**

Note:

- He succeeded Sunil Arora, whose tenure ended on April 12.
- Mr. Chandra took office as an Election Commissioner on February 15, 2019 after retiring as the chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes.
- A 1980 batch Indian Revenue Service officer, Mr. Chandra had worked in the areas of international taxation and investigation.

2. Who has been appointed as the brand ambassador for Punjab's COVID vaccination drive _____ **Sonu Sood.**

Note:

- During the coronavirus-induced lockdown last year, the actor had helped migrants reach their home states.
- Sood catapulted to the national spotlight for feeding thousands of underprivileged people amid the COVID-19 pandemic.
- He was viewed as a messiah of sorts for migrants.

3. Who has been appointed as the brand ambassador of SportzXchange, a fantasy sports platform _____ **Prithvi Shaw.**

Note:

- SportzXchange will create engaging content featuring Prithvi Shaw as part of an integrating campaign with a theme "Yahaan Hai Kuch Xtra" that will help build awareness about the differentiated offerings and amplify the reach of the brand during upcoming IPL/Fantasy matches.

4. Guillermo Lasso elected new President of which country _____ **Ecuador.**

Note:

- Guillermo Lasso, 65 years old, received over 52% of the vote to clinch the presidency, his third attempt at running for office.
- He defeated Andrés Arauz, a 36-year-old leftist economist and protégé of powerful ex-president Rafael Correa. Mr. Arauz conceded with more than 95% of votes counted.

5. Who has been appointed as the Brand Ambassador of Consumer electronic company, 'Elista' _____ **Suresh Raina.**

Note:

- Consumer electronic company, 'Elista' appointed former Indian Cricketer Suresh Raina as its Brand Ambassador. Elista is a subsidiary of 'TeknoDome', a UAE based trading company, which started its manufacturing in 2020.
- Elista manufactures innovative products in consumer electronics ranging from LED TVs to Coolers, under the concept of 'Making in India for the world'.

6. Who has been appointed as the Director-General (DG) of the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) _____ **Siddharth Singh Longjam.**

Note:

- Ganapathy, a 1986 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of the Uttarakhand cadre, is currently Director General, Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS).
- He has been appointed the Director-General, National Security Guard (NSG), from the date of joining the post and up to February 29, 2024 i.e. date of his superannuation.

Important News - India

1. What amount has been contributed by India to the United Nations Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism _____ **\$500,000.**

Note:

- India has contributed an additional \$500,000 to the United Nations Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism, taking the country's donation to the UN office set up to combat terrorism to over \$1 million. With this amount, India's total contribution to it so far is \$1.05 million.

2. Which Artificial Intelligence portal has been launched by the Supreme Court of India _____ **SUPACE.**

Note:

- Through this portal, the SC intends to leverage machine learning to deal with the vast amounts of data received at the time of filing of cases.
- Justice L Nageshwara Rao, who is also the chairman of the SC's Artificial Intelligence Committee, delivered the opening address during the virtual launch of SUPACE.

3. Union Minister of Education Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' presented Lilavati Awards 2020 on women empowerment, the award was instituted by which entity _____ **AICTE.**

Note:

- The awards ceremony was based on the theme of women empowerment.
- Based on the theme 'Women Empowerment', AICTE finalized the winners of Lilavati Awards 2020 from a total of 456 entries who competed across 6 sub themes, which include:
 - ✓ Women's Health
 - ✓ Self-Defense
 - ✓ Sanitation and Hygiene
 - ✓ Literacy
 - ✓ Women Entrepreneurship
 - ✓ Legal Awareness.
- The winner received Rs 1 Lakh cash prize.
- First runner-up got Rs 75,000 and second runner up got Rs 50,000.

4. Which initiative has been launched by the Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' to the implement the National Education Policy 2020 _____ **SARTHAQ.**

Note:

- The full form of SARTHAQ is 'Students' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement through Quality Education.
- This implementation plan was released as a part of the celebrations leading to the Amrit Mahotsav on 75 years of Indian independence.
- The plan delineates the roadmap for the implementation of NEP 2020 for the next 10 years.

5. What is the theme of the 6th Edition of the prestigious Raisina Dialogue, jointly organised by the Ministry of External Affairs and the Observer Research Foundation _____ **#ViralWorld: Outbreaks, Outliers and Out of Control.**

Note:

- The 6th Edition of the prestigious Raisina Dialogue, jointly organised by the Ministry of External Affairs and the Observer Research Foundation, will be held virtually from 13-16 April, 2021.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi Inaugurated the Dialogue

6. Which ministry has organized the 6th Edition of the prestigious Raisina Dialogue along with Observer Research Foundation _____ **Ministry of External Affairs.**

Note:

- The 6th Edition of the prestigious Raisina Dialogue, jointly organised by the Ministry of External Affairs and the Observer Research Foundation, will be held virtually from 13-16 April, 2021.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi Inaugurated the Dialogue.

7. Which entity has launched 'Poshan Gyan', a national digital repository on health and nutrition in partnership with Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Centre for Social and Behaviour Change, Ashoka University _____ **NITI Aayog.**

Note:

- NITI Aayog, in partnership with Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Centre for Social and Behaviour Change, Ashoka University launched Poshan Gyan, a national digital repository on health and nutrition.
- The launch event was addressed by NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Dr Rajiv Kumar, CEO Amitabh Kant, Women and Child Development Secretary Ram Mohan Mishra and Additional Secretary Dr Rakesh Sarwal.

8. What is the name of the e-marketplace that will connect aqua farmers and the buyers launched by Commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal _____ **e-SANTA.**

Note:

- It will enable farmers to get a better price and the exporters to directly purchase quality products from them.
- The full form of the e-Santa is "Electronic Solution for Augmenting NaCSA farmers' Trade in Aquaculture"

9. What is the theme of the Global Food Policy Report 2021 published by the International Food Policy Research Institute _____ **Transforming Food Systems After COVID-19.**

Note:

- This year the institute has released the report based on the theme "Transforming Food Systems After COVID-19".
- As per the report the severe health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic have disrupted food systems and upended livelihoods.

10. Which mission has been launched by the Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Dr Harsh Vardhan to raise awareness of the importance of nutritionally balanced diet and the importance of accessibility to all local fruits & vegetables _____

Aahaar Kranti.

Note:

- It is a joint initiative of Vijnana Bharati (Vibha), Global Indian Scientists' and Technocrats' Forum (GIST), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW) & Pravasi Bharatiya Academic and Scientific Sampark (PRABHASS).
- The motto of the Mission is Uttam Aahaar Uttam Vichaar or 'Good Diet-Good Cognition'.
- It aims to achieve nutritional balanced diets by emphasizing on consumption of locally sourced fruits and vegetables.

11. Which app has been launched by the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government for to promote wellbeing across age groups _____ **MANAS.**

Note:

- MANAS which stands for Mental Health and Normalcy Augmentation System was endorsed as a national program by the Prime Minister's Science, Technology, and Innovation Advisory Council.
- It is a comprehensive, scalable, and national digital wellbeing platform and an app developed to augment mental well-being of Indian citizens.
- The application integrates the health and wellness efforts of various government ministries, scientifically validated indigenous tools with gamified interfaces developed by various national bodies and research institutions.

12. Which country hosted the summit of BRICS Finance Ministers _____ **India.**

Note:

- Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman emphasised the key role the BRICS group was playing in responding to the current global crisis through policy support and by enhancing international policy coordination.
- She was addressing the first meeting of BRICS finance ministers and central bank governors meeting virtually from New Delhi.
- The meeting was co-chaired by Sitharaman and RBI governor Shaktikanta Das.

Important News – State

1. Which state government has launched 14 days mask Abhiyan to counter the spread of covid 19 infections _____ **Odisha**.
Note:
 - Aim: to turn the use of a mask into a habit.
 - This will play a huge role in controlling the current resurgence of COVID-19.
 - Also, the Odisha State Government has increased the fines for violators from Rs 1000 to Rs 2000.

2. Which state got India's first floating LNG storage and regasification unit _____ **Maharashtra**.
Note:
 - FSRU based LNG Terminals aim at providing the ability to enhance the pace of natural gas import capability in an environment-friendly and efficient manner".
 - The port is the first deepwater, 24×7 operational private port in Maharashtra.

3. Which state/UTs signed an MoU with Solar Energy Corporation of India to set up 50-Mega Watt solar power project _____ **Ladakh**.
Note:
 - Union Territory Administration, Leh Hill Council and Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI Ltd) have signed MoU to set up a 50 MW solar power project at Taru in Leh district.
 - Ladakh has a potential of 33GW of renewable energy to contribute nation's efforts in reducing carbon emissions. UT Administration, Leh Hill Council and Solar Energy Corporation of India have signed 1st MoU to harness Solar energy with a 50 MW project at Taru in Leh.

4. What amount has been approved for Highway Projects in Uttarakhand by the union government _____ **Rs 1,210.17 crore**.
Note:
 - These projects are for building 231.04 kms of highways.
 - These include strengthening work of National Highway-309B on EPC (engineering, construction and procurement) mode in Uttarakhand under State Public Works Department (PWD) with a budget of Rs 48.19 crore.

Important News – World

1. First meeting of joint working group on 'Counter Terrorism, Countering Violent Extremism and De-Radicalisation' between India and which country held recently in April, 2021 _____ **Maldives**.
Note:
 - India and Maldives decided to enhance capacity building mechanism to counter terror as well as collaboration to counter violent extremism and de-radicalisation.
 - The two sides agreed to strengthen cooperation that will include assistance and capacity building for the security and law enforcement agencies and other relevant agencies of the Maldives as well as collaboration and the exchange of best practices in the areas of counter-terrorism, preventing and countering of violent extremism and de-radicalisation, according to an official statement issued after the first meeting of India-Maldives Joint Working Group on 'Counter Terrorism, Countering Violent Extremism and De-Radicalisation'.

2. Prime Minister Narendra Modi holds a Virtual Summit with Mark Rutte, the prime minister of _____ **The Netherlands**.
Note:
 - During the meeting both the countries are agreed to work together for the supply chain in the Indo-pacific region.
 - India and the Netherlands share cordial and friendly relations underpinned by shared values of democracy, rule of law, and freedom.
 - Both countries have wide-ranging cooperation including water management, agriculture and food processing, healthcare, smart cities, etc.

3. Which country hosted the BASIC Ministerial meeting on Climate change _____ **Singapore**.
Note:

- At a time when the European Union is toying with the idea of 'carbon border tax' as part of its green push, the BASIC nations — Brazil, South Africa, India and China — have jointly opposed the move, saying such trade barrier would not only be discriminatory but also against the principles of equity under the Paris Agreement on climate change.
 - The BASIC nations expressed concerns over the issue while discussing climate actions during the two-day ministerial meeting.
4. Which becomes the first country to ratify the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement, the world's largest free trade agreement, led by China _____ **Singapore**.
- Note:**
- In doing so, Singapore became the first among 15 participating countries to ratify RCEP.
 - The RCEP must first be ratified by at least six ASEAN and three non-ASEAN member states to come into effect. Once implemented, RCEP would be the world's largest free trade agreement, covering around one-third of the world's population and about 30% of the world's economy.
5. Who becomes the United Arab Emirates's first female astronaut _____ **Noura al-Matroushi**.
- Note:**
- The United Arab Emirates named the next two astronauts in its space programme on 10th April, including the country's first female astronaut.
 - Noura al-Matroushi is the UAE's first female astronaut.
 - The announcement gave no biographical information about her or her male counterpart, Mohammed al-Mulla.
6. Name the Indian origin business tycoon of UAE who has been honoured with Abu Dhabi's top civilian award for their noble and charitable contributions to the community _____ **Yusuffali MA**.
- Note:**
- Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, Sheikh Mohamed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan has honoured Indian-origin businessman Yusuffali MA and 11 other individuals with Abu Dhabi's top civilian award for their noble and charitable contributions to the community.
 - The prestigious award was given to Mr Yusuffali, who was born in Kerala, for his outstanding contribution to Abu Dhabi's business, industry and support to various philanthropic initiatives.
7. Which two Asian countries has launched the construction of an international center for trade and economic cooperation named 'Central Asia' _____ **Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan**.
- Note:**
- Uzbek Prime Minister Abdulla Aripov and his Kazakh counterpart Askar Mamim, laid a capsule at the construction site of the logistic centre, which is located in the vicinity of the border check post Gisht Kuprik.
 - According to a News release on Kazakh Prime Minister's official website, the center, which occupies 400 hectares of land, will have a capacity of accommodating 35,000 people and 5,000 trucks per day in both directions.
8. Indian contributed what additional amount to the United Nations Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism, taking the country's donation to the UN office set up to combat terrorism to over \$1 million _____ **\$500,000**.
- Note:**
- With this amount, India's total contribution to it so far is \$1.05 million.
 - India said it was keen to continue working with the UN office to further the common objective of combatting terrorism.

Honor & Awards

1. Who has been awarded with the famous Devishankar Awasthi Award 2021 _____ **Ashutosh Bhardwaj**.
- Note:**
- This honour has been given to him for his work 'Pitra-Vadh'.
 - He was elected by the selection committee of Ashok Vajpayee, Nandkishore Acharya, and Rajendra Kumar.
2. Who has been inducted into the WWE Hall of Fame Class of 2021 _____ **Great Khali**.
- Note:**
- The Great Khali went on to battle many of WWE's most legendary Superstars, including John Cena, Batista, Shawn Michaels and fellow 2021 Inductee Kane, whom he defeated to pick up his first win on The Grandest Stage of Them All, WrestleMania.
3. Dutee Chand, the Jakarta Asian Games silver-medalist in 100 and 200 metres, will receive Veerni Award instituted by which state _____ **Chhattisgarh**.
- Note:**

- The award, instituted by the Chhattisgarh state government, recognises contribution of Indian women in different fields, including sports.
 - In 2019, the Odisha sprinter became the first Indian woman to win a gold medal at the World University Games held in Italy.
4. Which film has won the best picture at the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) 2021 _____
Nomadland.
- Note:**
- The awards were given during a pandemic-curbed ceremony that recognized a diverse array of screen talent.
 - “Nomadland” filmmaker Chloe Zhao became only the second woman, and the first woman of color, to win the BAFTA for best director, and star Frances McDormand was named best actress.
5. Who will be conferred with honour of the Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters (Chevalier dans l’Ordre des Arts et des Lettres), the second-highest civilian French honour _____ **Guneet Monga.**
- Note:**
- This honour has earlier been given to Hollywood stars like Meryl Streep, Leonardo DiCaprio, and Bruce Willis.
 - Revelling in her recent success with Umesh Bist’s Pagglait starring Sanya Malhotra, this is another proud moment for Monga.
 - The French Consulate has decided to offer the title Chevalier dans l’Ordre des Arts et des Lettres to Guneet Monga for her varied accomplishments going past geographical and demographical boundaries.
6. Who has won the Sir Richard Hadlee medal 2021 _____ **Kane Williamson.**
- Note:**
- He had a great test season. He scored 251 against West Indies followed by a century on the boxing day.
 - Williamson’s staggering performance against Pakistan helped New Zealand book a place in the ICC World Test Championship final.

Sports News

1. FIFA has suspended the football governing body of Chad and which country _____ **Pakistan.**
- Note:**
- The suspension will be lifted once the relevant government decisions have been repealed.
 - A group of football officials led by Ashfaq Hussain, which was elected by the Supreme Court in 2018 to run the PFF but was not recognised by FIFA, took over the headquarters recently and seized control from the FIFA Normalisation Committee headed by Haroon Malik.
2. Which city will host the 22nd Laureus World Sports Awards in a virtual ceremony owing to the raging COVID-19 pandemic _____ **Seville.**
- Note:**
- The awards show, featuring presentations and related news stories will be available to the world’s media and broadcast extensively on Laureus social media platforms.
 - The winners of Laureus World Sports Awards are selected by a jury comprising 69 members of the Laureus World Sports Academy.

Books and Authors

1. Who has authored the book titled “India’s Power Elite: Class, Caste and a Cultural Revolution” _____ **Sanjaya Baru.**
- Note:**
- The book discusses the socio-cultural changes that happened in India after the 2014 General Elections.
 - The book analyses the regime of Prime Minister Narendra Modi & Bharatiya Janata Party, on how the party wins state elections in places where it had no footprint.
 - He served as Prime Minister Manmohan Singh’s media advisor and chief spokesperson (PMO) between May 2004 and August 2008.

Science and Defence

1. Which para military forces celebrates Valour Day (Shaurya Diwas) on 9 April every year _____ **CRPF**.

Note:

- It was on this day in 1965, a small contingent of CRPF created history by defeating an invading Pakistani army, several time larger, at the Sardar Post located in the Rann of Kutch, Gujarat.
- The CRPF men eliminated 34 Pakistani soldiers and captured four alive. In the conflict, CRPF lost six personnel who had attained martyrdom.

2. Two-week “Balikatan” (Shoulder-to-Shoulder) military exercise is being conducted between which countries _____ **USA and Philippines**.

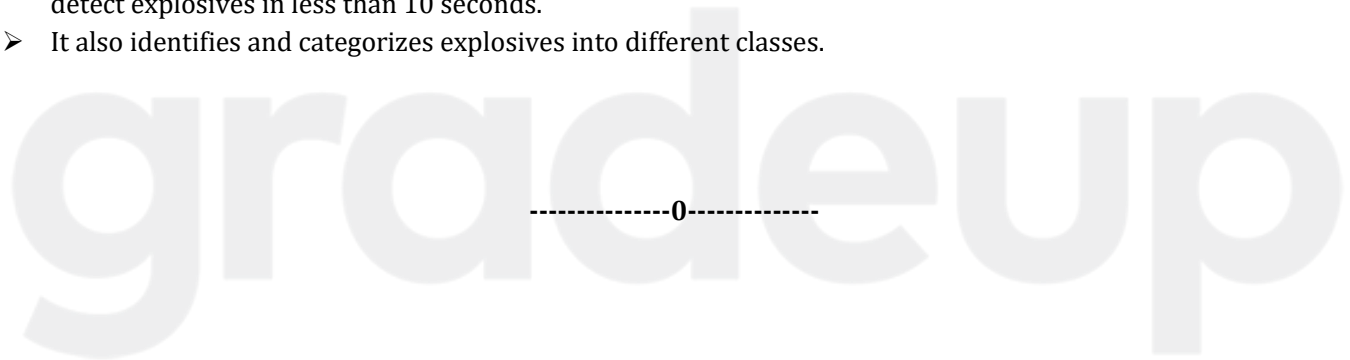
Note:

- Unlike previous exercises, however, this year's "Balikatan" (Shoulder-to-Shoulder) drills to test the readiness of their militaries to respond to threats such natural disasters and militant extremist attacks, will be scaled down.
- Only 1,700 troops -- 700 from the United States and 1,000 from the Philippines will participate, unlike previous exercises which involved as many as 7,600 soldiers.

3. Which IIT incubated startup NanoSniff Technologies has developed the world's first micro-sensor-based explosive trace detector (ETD) _____ **IIT Bombay**.

Note:

- It will be marketed by IIT Delhi-incubated startup Vehant Technologies.
- A fully made-in-India product in terms of R&D and manufacturing, the indigenously developed ETD device can detect explosives in less than 10 seconds.
- It also identifies and categorizes explosives into different classes.





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