

Weekly One-Liners

22-31 May 2021



Weekly One Liners Updates 22-31st May 2021

Dear readers,

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

Banking & Financial Awareness

1. The Mahindra Rural Housing Finance (MRHFL) has partnered with which bank for a cash management solution _____
India Post Payments Bank (IPPB).

Note:

- Under the partnership, IPPB will be offering cash management and collection services to MRHFL through its access points and postal service providers.
- IPPB's large national network has facilitated the deployment of cash management solutions to meet the requirements of MRHFL.
- Using the cash management service, MRHFL customers could able to repay their monthly or quarterly loan instalments at over 1.36 lakh post offices.

2. Which bank has issued the first-ever foreign portfolio investor (FPI) licence to the GIFT IFSC alternative investment fund (AIF) of True Beacon Global _____ **Kotak Mahindra Bank.**

Note:

- This is the first FPI licence issued to an AIF incorporated in GIFT IFSC by any custodian bank or designated depository participant (DDP) in the country.
- AIF is an important business vertical at GIFT IFSC and offers huge benefits and a competitive edge for setting up a fund in IFSC at GIFT City.

3. PayCore is global payment solutions company of which country that has been onboarded by NPCI as one of the certified partners for 'RuPay SoftPOS' to drive cashless payments across the country _____ **Turkey.**

Note:

- Along with PayCore, NPCI aims to reduce the investment cost required by banks to reach over the MSMEs (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) and intends to increase the spread of 'RuPay SoftPOS' across India with its network of banks.
- NPCI partnered with SBI Payments and launched 'RuPay SoftPoS' to transform NFC enabled smartphones into Point of Sale (POS) terminals for merchants and retailers.

4. Which fintech startup has partnered with financial services company Vivriti Capital to provide working capital financing to MSMEs _____ **FlexiLoans.com.**

Note:

- The partnership will be powered by FlexiLoans.com's technology and credit underwriting platform 'BiFrost', which has been integrated with Vivriti's Co-lending platform 'CredAvenue'.
- The aim of this initiative is to reach out to more than 10,000 MSMEs in the next 12-18 months.

5. According to ministry of Commerce and Industry the Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) in the country grew by what per cent during 2020-21 _____ **19 per cent.**

Note:

- Total FDI, including equity, re-invested earnings and capital, rose 10 per cent to the "highest ever" of USD 81.72 billion during 2020-21 as against USD 74.39 billion in 2019-20.
- In terms of top investor countries, Singapore is at the top with 29 per cent share. It was followed by the US (23 per cent) and Mauritius (9 per cent) during the last fiscal.

6. According to ministry of Commerce and Industry which country is the top investor with 29 per cent share _____
Singapore.

Note:

- Foreign direct investments (FDI) into the country grew 19 per cent to USD 59.64 billion during 2020-21 on account of measures taken by the government on the fronts of policy reforms, investment facilitation and ease of doing business, the commerce and industry ministry.

7. According to 3rd Advance Estimates of production of major agricultural crops for 2020-21 the total foodgrain production in India is estimated to rise by _____ **2.66%**.
- Note:**
- It is an increase of 7.94 MT than the production of foodgrain of 297.50 MT achieved during 2019-20.
 - The 305.44 MT estimate is higher by 26.66 MT compared to average production of foodgrains of the previous five years (2015-16 to 2019-20).
 - The assessment is based on data received from States.
8. Which bank has digitized onboarding of credit card customers by implementing TransUnion's Onboarding Solution _____ **Yes Bank**.
- Note:**
- This solution will enable YES BANK to onboard its credit card customers seamlessly, efficiently, and quickly.
 - TransUnion's seamless onboarding delivers a full range of identity, fraud, decisioning and credit solutions through a single platform and API calls to make integration easy and convenient for the lender.
9. In collaboration with the NPCI which bank has launched a facility for linking an UPI ID with its digital wallet, 'Pockets' and become the first to link e-wallet with UPI Network _____ **ICICI Bank**.
- Note:**
- By linking Pockets with UPI, ICICI enables its customers to undertake UPI transactions from their wallet balance instead of their savings account, as the users can directly use the balance in the wallet for smaller transactions.
 - The current initiative marks a departure from the current practice which demands UPI IDs to be linked with a savings bank account.
10. The size of the Reserve Bank's balance sheet, which is reflective of activities carried out by it in pursuance of currency issue function as well as monetary policy and reserve management, has increased by what per cent during the nine-month period ended March 31, 2021 _____ **6.99 per cent**.
- Note:**
- While income for the year decreased by 10.96 per cent, the expenditure decreased by 63.10 per cent, as per the RBI's Annual Report for 2020-21.
 - The year ended with an overall surplus of Rs 99,122 crore as against Rs 57,127.53 crore in the previous year, representing an increase of 73.51 per cent, it added.
11. Which has become the first Small Finance Bank to offer its NRI customer segment the ease of account opening online _____ **Equitas Small Finance Bank**.
- Note:**
- The company will also be the only one in the Small Finance Bank sector to have Virtual Relationship Managers based on time zones.
 - The online process of account opening for NRIs can be done via smartphone or computer connected to the Internet.
12. The Reserve Bank of India has imposed a fine of Rs 10 crore on which bank for deficiencies in regulatory compliance found in the auto loan portfolio of the bank _____ **HDFC Bank**.
- Note:**
- As per the RBI, HDFC Bank has violated the provisions of section 6(2) and section 8 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.
 - After receiving a complaint from a whistleblower, RBI conducted an examination in the marketing and sale of third-party non-financial products to the bank's auto loan customers and found that the bank was in contravention of regulatory directions.
13. Which lending platform has launched India's 1st lending platform under the cryptocurrency exchange for the investors to invest their coins and earn returns _____ **ZebPay**.
- Note:**
- Under the ZebPay Lending Platform, the investors could deposit their Bitcoins/other coins and earn returns like the bank's fixed deposits (FD).
 - The platform will generate returns on users' crypto investments based on their selected cryptos, their token and the time period for which it is loaded.
14. Which public sector bank has launched 3 categories of loan schemes to offer healthcare credit, business and personal loan to individuals _____ **Canara Bank**.
- Note:**

- Canara Chikitsa healthcare credit facility offers loans from over Rs 10 lakh to Rs 50 crore to registered hospitals, nursing homes, medical practitioners, diagnostic centres, pathology labs that are engaged in servicing healthcare infrastructure.
- Under the Canara Jeevanrekha healthcare business loan, the bank will offer loan up to Rs 2 crore at a concessional interest rate for manufacture and supply of healthcare products viz, medical oxygen and oxygen cylinders, and oxygen concentrators to registered hospitals and nursing homes or other manufacturers, and suppliers.
- Canara Suraksha personal loan scheme will provide loans from Rs 25,000 – Rs 5 lakh as immediate financial assistance for COVID-19 treatment.

Obituaries

1. Renowned personality Rajkumar Keswani passed away recently, he was a veteran _____ **Journalist**.

Note:

- He had warned about irregularities that led to the Bhopal gas tragedy much before the world's worst industrial disaster took place in 1984.
- After starting his career as sub-editor of Sports Times during college days, Keswani went on to be associated with prominent outlets like New York Times, NDTV, Dainik Bhaskar, The Illustrated Weekly of India, Sunday, India Today and The Week.

2. Renowned personality Pandit Rewa Prasad Dwivedi passed away recently, he was a veteran _____ **Sanskrit scholar**.

Note:

- His original works include poetry as epics and lyrics, plays, and prose. He wrote new literature under the pseudonym "sanatana", meaning 'the eternal'.
- His most significant works, Sitacaritam and Svatantryasambhavam are two epic poems. He has written extensively on Sahityasastra (Poetics) and produced such great works as Kavyalankarakarika, Natyanusasanam, and Sahityasarirakam.
- In the early 1980s, Dwivedi organized the World Sanskrit Conference at Banaras Hindu University.

3. Name the former chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission who passed away recently (May 2021) _____ **Srikumar Banerjee**.

Note:

- He retired as chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission and secretary of the Department of Atomic Energy in 2012.
- Banerjee also served as the director of the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) for six years till 2010.
- A metallurgy engineer from the IIT Kharagpur, Banerjee joined the BARC after completing his B Tech degree, and rose to become the director of the premier scientific institution.

4. Former Indian Olympian Sakti Mazumdar passed away recently, he was associated with which sports _____ **Boxing**.

Note:

- Sakti Mazumdar had represented India in the 1952 Helsinki Olympics in the men's flyweight event.
- In his first fight he beat Nguyen Van Cua of Vietnam by walkover.
- But he was defeated by Han Soo-ann of South Korea in the next round.

5. Renowned personality O P Bhardwaj, passed away recently, he was a former coach of which sports _____ **Boxing**.

Note:

- Bhardwaj, India's first Dronacharya awardee coach in boxing had served as a national selector and was the coach of the national side from 1968 to 1989.

6. Renowned sportsman Max Mosley passed away recently, he was associated with which sports _____ **Formula One**.

Note:

- The youngest son of Oswald Mosley, the leader of the British fascist movement in the 1930s.
- Mosley was a racing driver, team owner and lawyer before becoming president of the International Automobile Federation (FIA) in 1993.

7. Motorcycle rider Jason Dupasquier passed recently following a crash during Moto3 qualifying race for the Italian Grand Prix he held from which country _____ **Switzerland**.

Note:

- Dupasquier was involved in an accident with Ayumu Sasaki and Jeremy Alcoba toward the end of Saturday's session, which was immediately red-flagged.

- Dupasquier was only 19 years old at the time of his passing.
8. Renowned personality Eric Carle passed away recently, he was veteran _____ **Children's author**.
- Note:**
- His classic "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" and other works gave millions of kids some of their earliest and most cherished literary memories.
 - He famous picture book "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" has been translated into about 66 languages.
 - His career as an illustrator and children's author gained pace when he collaborated on "Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?".
9. Renowned personality H S Doreswamy passed away recently, he was a veteran _____ **Freedom fighter**.
- Note:**
- He ran the publication house of 'Sahitya Mandira' and the Indian nationalist newspaper 'Pauravani' that voiced the aspirations of an independent India.
 - He joined the freedom struggle at a young age and participated in the Quit India movement. He was jailed for 14 months from 1943 to 1944.

Important Days

1. The International Day for Biological Diversity is observed every year on _____ **22nd May**.
- Note:**
- The theme of the day this year (2021) is "We're part of the solution #ForNature."
 - Last year's (2020) theme was, "Our solutions are in nature."
 - The United Nations General Assembly in December 2000, adopted May 22 as International Day for Biological Diversity.
2. The International Day to End Obstetric Fistula is observed every year on which date by the United Nations _____ **23rd May**.
- Note:**
- The day is observed to promotes action towards treating and preventing obstetric fistula, a condition that affects many girls and women in developing countries.
 - The theme of this year's observance is "Women's rights are human rights! End fistula now!".
3. The World Turtle Day is observed every year on which date _____ **23rd May**.
- Note:**
- The day is celebrated to make people aware of turtle and tortoise and their habitats.
 - The theme for this year "Turtles Rock!" encourages a worldwide audience to see turtles as more than just rocks with legs.
4. The Indian Commonwealth Day is celebrated every year on _____ **24th May**.
- Note:**
- Also known as Empire Day, Commonwealth Day commemorates the formation of the British Empire in India and other colonies of Britain.
 - This year the theme for Commonwealth Day is: Delivering a Common Future.
 - The aim of this theme is to highlight how the 54 Commonwealth countries are innovating, connecting and transforming to help achieve essential goals like tackling climate change, promoting good governance, achieving gender equality.
5. International Missing Children's Day is observed globally every year on which date _____ **25th May**.
- Note:**
- This day is observed for missing children who have found their way home, remember those that are victims of crime, and continue efforts to seek out those that are still missing.
 - 25 May is now widely referred to as Missing Children's Day, with the forget-me-not flower as its emblem.
6. World Thyroid Day is observed globally every year on _____ **25th May**.
- Note:**
- The main purpose of the WTD is to aware of the importance of Thyroid and the prevention and treatment of thyroid diseases.

- This day is established in 2008 as a part of the campaign led by the European Thyroid Association (ETA) and the American Thyroid Association (ATA) followed by the Latin American Thyroid Society (LATS) and Asia Oceania Thyroid Association (AOTA) to commemorate the patients with Thyroid diseases and doctors and physicians who treat them.
7. International Women's Health Day is observed every year on which date _____ **28th May**.
- Note:**
- Latin American and Caribbean Women's Health Network (LACWHN) and Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights (WGNRR) launched the day.
 - Year after year, women, girls, advocates and allies have continued to take action and stand up for sexual and reproductive rights for what they are: an indivisible and inalienable part of our human rights.
8. World Hunger Day is observed globally every year on which date _____ **28th May**.
- Note:**
- The objective of this day is to raise awareness about more than 820 million people living in chronic hunger worldwide.
 - It is observed since 2011 to not only spread awareness about the malaise of chronic hunger but also to solve hunger and poverty through sustainable undertakings.
 - The initiative recognizes the dire need to save nearly a quarter of a billion lives from malnourishment and chronic hunger.
9. Amnesty International Day is observed every year on _____ **28th May**.
- Note:**
- The Amnesty International was founded on 28 May 1961 in London, following the publication of the article "The Forgotten Prisoners" in The Observer, a British newspaper, by the lawyer Peter Benenson.
10. World Digestive Health Day (WDHD) is observed every year on which date _____ **29th May**.
- Note:**
- It is organised by the World Gastroenterology Organisation (WGO) in collaboration with the WGO Foundation (WGOF).
 - The theme of WDHD 2021 is "Obesity: An Ongoing Pandemic."
11. International Everest Day is being observed on _____ **29th May**.
- Note:**
- Nepalese Tenzing Norgay and New Zealand's Edmund Hillary had climbed Mt. Everest on this day in 1953, as the first humans to achieve the feat.
 - Nepal decided to observe the day as International Everest Day in 2008 when the legendary climber Hillary passed away.
12. What is the theme of the World No Tobacco Day 2021 observed every year by the WHO on 31st May _____ **Commit to quit**.
- Note:**
- The annual campaign is an opportunity to raise awareness on the harmful and deadly effects of tobacco use and second-hand smoke exposure, and to discourage the use of tobacco in any form.
 - This yearly celebration informs the public on the dangers of using tobacco, the business practices of tobacco companies, what WHO is doing to fight the tobacco epidemic, and what people around the world can do to claim their right to health and healthy living and to protect future generations.

New Appointments

1. Narinder Batra of India has been re-elected as the President of which sport organization _____ **International Hockey Federation (FIH)**.
- Note:**
- He is also the President of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) and a member of International Olympic Committee (IOC).
 - The FIH Congress was held virtually due to travel restrictions imposed in the wake of the ongoing pandemic.
 - He will hold the office until 2024 as the FIH has reduced the term from four to three years due to deferment of the Congress last year.
2. Name the hockey player who has been appointed as the a member of the FIH Athletes' Committee _____ **P R Sreejesh**.
- Note:**

- Sreejesh was one of the four new members appointed by the EB which met two days before the 47th FIH Congress.
 - Sreejesh Parattu (IND), Marlana Rybacha (POL), Mohamed Mea (RSA), and Matt Swann (AUS) are now joining the Committee.
 - The 33-year-old Sreejesh is one of the senior-most and decorated players of the Indian team.
3. Who has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) _____ **Rajesh Bansal**.
- Note:**
- Rajesh Bansal was a member of the founding team of Aadhaar who played a key role in designing India's Direct Benefit transfer system, particularly for cooking fuel and electronic KYC (e KYC).
 - He is an expert in electronic cash transfers and digital financial services and earlier he has also served in the areas of technology, financial inclusion and payment systems in RBI.
 - The Reserve Bank Innovation Hub would develop internal infrastructure to promote fintech research and facilitate engagement with innovators and start-ups.
4. Anatole Collinet Makosso has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of which country _____ **Congo**.
- Note:**
- He was appointed by Denis Sassou Nguesso, the President of Congo.
 - He replaced the former Prime Minister Clement Mouamba, who has been in office since 2016.
 - Anatole Collinet Makosso was born in 1965 in Pointe Noire, Congo.
5. Who has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Chhattisgarh High Court _____ **Prashant Kumar Mishra**.
- Note:**
- The appointment was made in view of the impending retirement of Justice PR Ramachandra Menon who is set to demit office on May 31, 2021.
 - He also served as Advocate General and became a judge of the Chhattisgarh High Court in December 2009.
6. Who has been appointed as the new Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) _____ **Subodh Jaiswal**.
- Note:**
- He was the most senior officer among the three shortlisted for the post of CBI Director.
 - Jaiswal, along with KR Chandra and VS Kaumudi, was short-listed out of 109 officers for the top post by the high-powered committee led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
 - Other members of the committee include Chief Justice of India (CJI) NV Ramana and Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury.
7. Who has been appointed as the Commerce Secretary, Government of India _____ **B.V.R. Subrahmanyam**.
- Note:**
- Mr. Subrahmanyam is a 1987 batch IAS officer of the Chhattisgarh cadre, and was sent on deputation to Jammu and Kashmir in June 2018.
 - He served as Chief Secretary when the State was bifurcated into two Union Territories in 2019.
 - He is a widely experienced bureaucrat having worked in Manmohan Singh Prime Minister's Office as Joint Secretary.
8. Who has been sworn in as the president of the Central Tibetan Administration (CTA), the Dharamshala-based Tibetan government-in-exile _____ **Penpa Tsering**.
- Note:**
- Chief Justice Commissioner Sonam Norbu Dagpo administered the oath to Penpa Tsering, the second democratically-elected Sikyong (president) of the 17th Parliament-in-Exile of the Central Tibetan Administration.
 - Penpa Tsering succeeded Lobsang Sangay.
 - Penpa Tsering, 53, was the speaker of the Parliament of the CTA for two terms between 2008 and 2016.
9. Who will be the CEO of Amazon from July 2021 _____ **Andy Jassy**.
- Note:**
- Andy Jassy (Amazon Web Services founder) will be replacing the current CEO of Amazon by replacing Jeff Bezos in the second half of 2021.
 - Andy Jassy joined Amazon in 1997 and has led Amazon's Web Services cloud team since its inception.

Important News - India

1. National Commission for Protection of Child Rights comes under administrative control of which minister that has Launched 'SAMVEDNA' to Provide Psycho-Social Mental Support for Children During Covid-19 _____ **Ministry of Women and Child Development.**

Note:

- SAMVEDNA stands for Sensitizing Action on Mental Health Vulnerability through Emotional Development and Necessary Acceptance.
- The main objective is to provide psychological first-aid and emotional support to children affected during COVID-19 Pandemic.

2. India's largest Virtual Fair in the Home, Fashion, Lifestyle, Textiles and Furniture sector, the 51st Edition of Indian Handicrafts and Gift Fair (IHGF) 2021 took place in _____ **New Delhi.**

Note:

- It was organized by Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH)
- It was inaugurated by Ravi K. Passi, Chairman of EPCH.
- IHGF is an exclusive Business-2-Business (B2B) online platform developed to assist buyers from all across the globe to source from India.

3. The Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED) has partnered with which institution for implementation of Van Dhan Vikas Kendra (VDVK) initiative under Van Dhan Yojna in 39 Tribal Aspirational districts _____ **NITI Aayog.**

Note:

- Van Dhan tribal start-ups or VDKV is a programme for value addition, branding & marketing of Minor Forest Produces by establishing Van Dhan Kendras to facilitate the creation of sustainable livelihoods for the forest-based tribes.
- A dedicated team consisting of members from TRIFED and NITI aayog will be for implementation of Van Dhan Yojana.

4. Kuno National Park is located in which state where 10 African Cheetahs will be brought from South Africa & Namibia _____ **Madhya Pradesh.**

Note:

- It is the 1st time in the world that a large carnivore will be relocated from one continent to another.
- As per the plan, 10 African Cheetahs will be brought from South Africa & Namibia and reintroduced in India.
- The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has approved a budget of INR 1, 400 Lakh for the 2021 Fiscal under 'Project Cheetah'.

5. Which institution has constituted a committee to submit a report on alleged violation of norms in the construction of a reservoir across the Cauvery river at Mekedatu in Karnataka _____ **National Green Tribunal.**

Note:

- NGT bench consisting of Justice K Ramakrishnan took suo motu cognizance of newspaper report regarding the dam.
- Report states Karnataka proposes to construct a dam across Cauvery river even though proposal was deferred by Cauvery Water Management Authority twice in past because of opposition from Tamil Nadu government.

6. After whom the Mohali International Hockey Stadium has been renamed by the government of Punjab _____ **Balbir Singh Senior.**

Note:

- He passed away at the age of 96 on 25th May 2020.
- Balbir Singh Senior won three Olympic gold medals from the Olympic Games held in London (1948), Helsinki (1952) and Melbourne (1956).
- He served as the vice-captain of the Indian team during the Helsinki (1952) and as the Captain during the Melbourne (1956) games.

7. Under whose chairmanship International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA), the regulator of GIFT- City, constituted a 12-member expert committee on investment funds (IF) _____ **Nilesh Shah.**

Note:

- The Committee consists of leaders from the entire Fund Management ecosystem including from areas such as technology, distribution, legal, compliance, and operations.
- The aim is to develop a comprehensive and consistent regulatory framework for IF based on global best practices with a special focus on ease of doing business.

8. Which IIM has partnered with The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ) to identify the challenges across pandemic-hit sectors and to figure out ways to tackle them _____ **IIM Indore**.

Note:

- For this IIM Indore has received a research grant of Rs 85.3 lakh. Covid-19 has not only impacted the health index of several countries (WHO 2020); but also created the macro-level turbulence that has severe implications for economic political social and psychological well-being.
- The institutions will now work together on documenting the challenges faced by these business sectors and their ways of tackling challenges.

9. The Mid-Day-Meal Scheme (MDM) scheme is implemented by which ministry that has approved proposal to provide monetary assistance to 11.8 Crore students through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) of the cooking cost component _____ **Ministry for Education**.

Note:

- Class 1-8 students who are studying in 11.20 Lakh Government and Government aided schools across India will be benefitted.
- Each Child will get approximately INR 100 under the One-time welfare measure.
- The INR 1200 Crore fund has been provided from the Cooking cost component of MDM Scheme.

10. Under whose chairmanship the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has constituted a 5-member Committee for Reforms in Criminal Laws _____ **Srikrishna Deva Rao**.

Note:

- The Committee is appointed by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) to reform Indian Penal Code (IPC) is set to propose a separate Section in IPC on 'Offences relating to speech and expression'.
- Purpose – At present there is no definition of what is 'Hate Speech' in IPC, The Committee for Reforms in Criminal Laws is attempting for the 1st time to define it.

Important News – State

1. Which state government has launched 'Mukhya Mantri Vatsalya Yojana' for orphaned children who have lost their parents due to Covid-19 _____ **Uttarakhand**.

Note:

- The scheme is scheduled to be implemented by May 30, 2021.
- The State Government proposed to make arrangements for their maintenance, education and training for employment for those orphaned children up to the age of 21 years.

2. Which state government launched 'Sanjeevani Pariyojana' to provide for supervised and quick medical care at home for people in rural areas with mild to moderate symptoms of COVID-19 _____ **Haryana**.

Note:

- The pilot project is supported by Deloitte, and the implementation of the initiative will begin from Karnal district.
- The initiative will raise awareness about the second wave of COVID-19 and ways to treat it.
- The initiative will help in transforming the healthcare services provided to the people of Haryana.

3. Which state government has launched the "Mission Oxygen Self-Reliance" scheme to meet the state's oxygen needs _____ **Maharashtra**.

Note:

- Units set up in Vidarbha, Marathwada, Dhule, Nandurbar, Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg regions will be eligible for incentives up to 150 per cent of their eligible fixed capital investments and units set up in the rest of Maharashtra will be eligible for up to 100 per cent general incentives.
- The government will also give a refund on gross SGST, stamp duty, electricity duty and unit subsidy of power cost for five years and interest subsidy for MSME units with a fixed capital investment of up to Rs 50 crore.

4. Which state government has launched an online portal named 'Akanksha' to provide comprehensive details on all the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities in the state _____ **Karnataka**.

Note:

- The portal was created by the Department of Planning, Programme Monitoring and Statistics, Karnataka in collaboration with UNDP's (United Nations Development Programme) Sustainable Development Goals Coordination Centre (SDGCC).
- NITI Ayog (The National Institution for Transforming India) Chief Executive Officer, Amitabh Kant also participated in the launch virtually.

5. Which state government has launched Ankur scheme under which citizens will be awarded for planting trees during monsoon _____ **Madhya Pradesh.**

Note:

- The Award named “Pranvayu” will be given to People who take the initiative to plant saplings.
- People can participate in the tree plantation drive by registering themselves on the Vayudoot app.
- A picture has to be uploaded while planting the sapling and another photograph after taking care of the sapling for 30 days.

6. Which state government has launched solar-based electrification programme for rural households in the state _____ **Goa.**

Note:

- This project will bring electricity through renewable energy to areas in Goa where grid connectivity is not feasible.
- The solar PV-based home lighting systems for households was inaugurated only two days after the agreement was signed between Convergence Energy Services Ltd (CESL) and Goa Energy Development Agency (GEDA).

Important News – World

1. The ‘Protected Planet Report 2020’ has been released by which organization according to that around 21 million square kms have been added within the Protected & Conserved Areas of the world since 2010 _____ **IUCN and UNEP.**

Note:

- According to the report around 21 million square kms (which is 7 times the size of India) have been added within the Protected & Conserved Areas of the world since 2010.
- It brings the total percentage of earth’s land which is protected/conserved to 64%, which is just a fraction short of the Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 (Protecting/Conserving 17% of Earth’s land and 10% of its marine environments by 2020).

2. Which country hosted the Global G20 Health Summit along with European Commission _____ **Italy.**

Note:

- The summit adopted the agenda to overcome Covid-19 pandemic.
- It also decided to develop and endorse a Rome Declaration of principles.
- ACT-Accelerator is used for “Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator”.

3. With which country India has signed a three-year Work Program for development in Agriculture cooperation _____

Israel.**Note:**

- Under the work program, both countries will implement two initiatives namely ‘Indo-Israel Agricultural Project Centre of Excellence’ & ‘Indo-Israel Villages of Excellence (IIVoE)’.
- It will benefit local farmers both through the Centers of Excellence and the Villages of Excellence.
- Under the IIAP, 29 CoEs have been established across India in 12 states.

4. The World Health Organization (WHO) has signed an MoU with which country to launch the first WHO BioHub Facility as part of the WHO BioHub System _____ **Switzerland.**

Note:

- The facility will allow the rapid sharing of viruses and other pathogens between laboratories and global partners.
- It will be set up in Spiez, Switzerland. Under this agreement, the Spiez Biocontainment Laboratory will be made available to WHO and the lab will act as a repository for Sars-CoV-2 viruses or other pathogens with epidemic or pandemic potential.

5. Which country has announced that it will work with the WHO other partners and nations to develop an advanced international pathogen surveillance network to identify COVID-19 variants and emerging diseases _____ **UK.**

Note:

- The UK PM also claimed that the “Global Pandemic Radar,” as the network was called, will ensure the early detection of new variants and emerging pathogens, so vaccines and treatments needed to stop them can be rapidly developed.
- The Global Pandemic Radar is expected to become fully operational before the end of with the aim of significantly improving global health security going into next year.

Honor & Awards

1. Which country's governing body of hockey has won the prestigious Etienne Glichitch Award _____ **Hockey India, India.**
Note:
 - The awards were announced by the game's governing body FIH during the HockeyInvites virtual conference.
 - It was part of its 47th FIH Congress which concluded with the FIH Honorary Awards.
 - The award gives recognition to numerous individuals, teams and organisations for their outstanding contributions to the sport of hockey.

2. Who has been awarded the India Biodiversity Award 2021 in the individual category of 'Conservation of domesticated species' _____ **Shaji .N.M.**
Note:
 - Mr. Shaji, who conserves a wide array of around 200 tuber crops including greater yam, lesser yam, elephant foot yam, arrow root, colocasia, sweet potato, cassava and Chinese potato in his farm has received State awards seven times for his efforts.
 - He has also received the Plant Genome Savior Reward 2015, instituted by PPV&FR Authority, New Delhi.

3. Who has been emerged as the highest-paid athletes in the world for 2021 according to the list released by Forbes _____ **Conor McGregor.**
Note:
 - This year, MMA fighter Conor McGregor tops the list with US\$180 million in total earnings, edging past the two football legends Lionel Messi (#2) and Cristiano Ronaldo (#3) who've been topping the charts consistently in the past few years. Read on to discover the full list and find out how much do the superstars make.

4. Who has been honoured with 2021 Templeton Prize _____ **Jane Goodall.**
Note:
 - Dr. Jane Goodall is founder of the Jane Goodall Institute, UN Messenger of Peace and world-renowned ethologist and conservationist.
 - The Templeton Prize honors individuals whose exemplary achievements advance Sir John Templeton's philanthropic vision – harnessing the power of the sciences to explore the deepest questions of the universe and humankind's place and purpose within it.

5. According to the Forbes Real-Time Billionaires List who became the world's richest person _____ **Bernard Arnault.**
Note:
 - He overtook Jeff Bezos, CEO of Amazon, whose net worth was 186 billion USD and Elon Musk, CEO of Tesla whose net worth was 147.3 billion USD.
 - The net worth of Bernard Arnault has risen from 76 Billion USD (March 2020) to 186.3 billion USD with a massive rise of around 110 Billion USD in 14 months.

6. Who become the first Indian to win the Rudolf V Schindler Award from the American Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ASGE) _____ **Dr D Nageshwar Reddy.**
Note:
 - Rudolf V Schindler Award is the highest category in the prestigious Crystal Awards named after Dr Schindler who is considered as "the father of gastroscopy."
 - With this, Dr Reddy becomes the first Indian medical practitioner to win this award.
 - Dr Reddy is one of the first to promote endoscopy in India and has led the charge of educating numerous endoscopists all over the world.

7. Who has been conferred with the International Eni Award 2020 which is also called as Energy Frontier award for research into renewable energy sources and energy storage _____ **C.N.R. Rao.**
Note:
 - The award is also known as Energy Frontier award.

- This is considered to be the Nobel Prize in Energy Research.
- The Energy Frontiers award has been conferred for his work on metal oxides, carbon nanotubes, and other materials and two-dimensional systems, including graphene, boron-nitrogen-carbon hybrid materials, and molybdenum sulfide (Molybdenite - MoS₂) for energy applications and green hydrogen production.

8. Who has been conferred with Spain's top Princess of Asturias Award in the social sciences category _____ **Amartya Sen.**

Note:

- Amartya Sen was selected for his best-known work- "Poverty and Famines".
- His research on famines and his theory of human development, welfare economics and the underlying mechanisms of poverty have contributed to the fight against injustice, inequality, disease and ignorance.
- The award comprises a Joan Miro sculpture representing and symbolising the Award, a diploma, an insignia and a cash prize of 50,000 Euros.

9. Name the Indian actor who has been awarded with Golden Visa by UAE government _____ **Sanjay Dutt.**

Note:

- The Golden Visa system essentially offers long-term residency to people with outstanding talents.
- In 2019, UAE implemented a new system for long-term residence visas enabling foreigners to live, work & study there without the need of a national sponsor & with 100% ownership of their business.
- As per reports, Sanjay Dutt is the first mainstream to receive the Golden Visa.

10. Who has won the International Dublin Literary Award 2021 for her novel, Lost Children Archive _____ **Valeria Luiselli.**

Note:

- Lost Children Archive is the 5th novel of Valeria Luiselli and the 1st one to be written in English
- Valeria Luiselli was born in Mexico City and her essay collections include Sidewalks, Faces in the Crowd, The Story of My Teeth, and Tell Me How It Ends: An Essay in Forty Questions.

Sports News

1. Which sporting club has won the 2020-21 La Liga title _____ **Atletico Madrid.**

Note:

- Luis Suárez scored the winner for Atlético as it beat Real Madrid for the title in a wild finish that had plenty of twists with the two remaining title contenders playing at the same time.
- Atlético's 11th league title ended a seven-year dominance by Barcelona and Real Madrid in Spain.
- Since 2014, Barcelona had won the league four times and Madrid twice, including last season.

2. Who has won the men's singles title at 2021 Lyon Open tennis in France _____ **Stefanos Tsitsipas.**

Note:

- He defeated Briton Cameron Norrie by 6-3, 6-3 in final
- Tsitsipas lifted his seventh career title and his second red surface win this year.
- Tsitsipas lost in the Barcelona final to Rafael Nadal but landed the Monte Carlo ATP with a 6-3, 6-3 win over Russian Andrey Rublev.

3. Who won the Formula One Monaco Grand Prix title 2021 _____ **Max Verstappen.**

Note:

- The 23-year-old Dutch driver started the day 14 points behind Mercedes' seven times world champion Lewis Hamilton and ended it four clear.
- Hamilton finished seventh, with an extra point for the fastest lap.
- The victory was Verstappen's second of the season and also the first time he had stood on the podium at the sport's most glamorous race.

4. Who has won the Men's Singles title at Geneva Open tennis tournament _____ **Casper Ruud.**

Note:

- He defeated 15th-ranked Denis Shapovalov of Canada.
- In Geneva, the 22-year-old Ruud dropped only one set en route to the championship match against Shapovalov, who was also seeking his second tour-level title.
- Ruud improved to an ATP Tour-leading 32 clay-court wins in 2020-21, ahead of Greece's Stefanos Tsitsipas (26) and Chile's Cristian Garin (25).

5. Which country will host the 2022 FIFA under-17 Women's World Cup _____ **India.**

Note:

- India was set to host the 2021 U-17 Women's World Cup before it was canceled due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- This global event will be the second FIFA tournament to be hosted by India after the FIFA under-17 World Cup in 2017, which broke the record for being the most attended youth World Cup in FIFA's history.

6. Palak Kohli and Parul Parmar associated with which sport who were qualified for the Tokyo Paralympics 2021 _____

Badminton.**Note:**

- They are the first Indian para shuttlers to qualify for the Tokyo Paralympics.
- Palak Kohli is ranked no.11 in the world and she is becoming the youngest para-badminton player in the world to qualify for Tokyo 2021 Paralympics.
- The pair is currently ranked number 6 in the world and has won a total of four titles together since 2019.

7. Who awarded with Europe's Golden Shoe, as he finished as the top scorer in Europe's leading domestic leagues _____

Robert Lewandowski.**Note:**

- He scored a record-breaking 41 goals in the Bundesliga en route to Bayern's ninth consecutive league title.
- By breaking Gerd Muller's single season Bundesliga record, Lewandowski became the first Bundesliga striker to win the Golden Shoe.
- He beat out Barcelona's Lionel Messi, Juventus's Cristiano Ronaldo, PSG's Kylian Mbappe, and fellow Bundesliga rivals Erling Haaland (Borussia Dortmund), and Andre Silva (Eintracht Frankfurt).

8. Which Football Club has won the 2020-21 UEFA Champions League title _____ **Chelsea.**

Note:

- Chelsea defeated Manchester City 1-0 in the final, to lift the 2020-21 UEFA Champions League title, on May 29, 2021, played at the Estádio do Dragão in Porto, Portugal. German forward Kai Havertz scored the only goal of the football match.
- This is the second Champions League title for Chelsea, after winning the first won in 2012.

9. Name the Indian Women boxer who settles with silver medal at 2021 Asian Boxing Championships ____ **Mary Kom.**

Note:

- The five-time Asian Championships gold medallist Mary Kom was competing in a high-octane 51kg final.
- This is the second silver for Mary Kom at the Asian Championships who has previously won silver in 2008.
- Apart from this, she won world championship titles on five occasions including 2003, 2005, 2010, 2012, and 2017.

10. Name the Indian Women boxer who won the Gold Medal in the 2021 Asian Boxing Championships in 75Kg category _____

Pooja Rani Bohra.**Note:**

- She defeated Mavluda Movlonova in the gold medal clash.
- Meanwhile, Lalbuatsaihi (64kg) also won the silver medal in her category, losing to Milana Safronova.
- Anupama (+81kg) also bagged a silver medal, losing to Lazzat Kungeibayeva in the final.

Books and Authors

1. The book titled 'Sach Kahun Toh' is an autobiography of which Indian actor ____ **Neena Gupta**.

Note:

- The book was written by Neena Gupta in 2020 during the lockdown, and now it is available for pre-order.
- In the book, she shares her life story, details the life's many choices, big milestones in her life, and her battles against stereotypes, then and now.
- About Neena Gupta: She won the National Film Award for Best Supporting Actress in Woh Chokri (1994).

2. Who has authored the book titled 'India and Asian Geopolitics: The Past, Present' _____ **Shivshankar Menon**.

Note:

- He was the Prime Minister's National Security Adviser and Foreign Secretary, is exploring these phases in their historical context to tell the story of how India weathered the many geopolitical storms of the past in his latest book.
- Menon has taken a different approach to history.
- He underscores the seriousness of China taking Tibet in 1950, which, according to him, was a pivotal moment in India-China relations, but challenges the argument that India failed to stop the Chinese invasion.

3. Who has authored the book titled "Nehru, Tibet and China" _____ **Avtar Singh Bhasin**.

Note:

- The book based on years of meticulous archival research, this book in fascinating detail, analyses the events from 1949 to the Indo-China war in 1962 and its aftermath to explore the answers to these burning questions.
- On 1 October 1949, the People's Republic of China came into being and changed forever the course of Asian history.

4. Who has authored the book titled "The Spiritual CEO" _____ **S Prakash**.

Note:

- The book was published by Westland Publication.
- In this book, Prakash explores, in the context of Korporate Karma, Korporate DNA and spiritual alchemy, how a CEO can metamorphosis and become a "spiritual CEO".

5. Who has authored the book titled "7 Lessons from Everest – Expedition Learnings from Life and Business" _____ **Aditya Gupta**.

Note:

- The proceeds from the book will be given to NGO Child Rights and You (CRY).
- The campaign is initiated by The Rug Republic (a brand owned by Aditya Gupta) to extend support in ensuring care, protection and education to children amidst these trying times.
- It is a coffee-table book, with 350 stunning images spread over 250 pages.

6. Who has authored the book titled 'Stargazing: The Players in My Life' _____ **Ravi Shastri**.

Note:

- The Book is about some 60 extraordinary talents that Ravi Shastri has met from across the world who have inspired him.
- It is co-authored by RaviShastri and sports journalist Ayaz Memon and illustrations are featured by Shiva Rao and it is expected to be out in 2021.

7. Who has authored the book titled "Savarkar: A Contested Legacy (1924-1966)" _____ **Vikram Sampath**.

Note:

- The release of the book was announced on the occasion of the 138th birth anniversary of Veer Savarkar, the Hindutva ideologue.
- The book is published by the Penguin Random House India.
- The book covers the life story of Veer Savarkar, one of the most contentious and iconoclastic political thinkers from 1924 to his death in 1966.

Science and Defence

1. INS Rajput, the first destroyer of the Indian Navy, was decommissioned at _____ **Naval Dockyard, Visakhapatnam**.

Note:

- The lead ship of the Kashin-class destroyers built by the erstwhile USSR.
- INS Rajput was constructed in the 61 Communards Shipyard in Nikolaev under her original Russian name 'Nadezhny' meaning 'Hope'.

- The ship was commissioned as INS Rajput on May 4, 1980, at Poti, Georgia by I K Gujral, the then Ambassador of India to the USSR.
2. Which space agency has decided to send first mobile robot to the Moon in late 2023 in search of ice and other resources on and below the lunar surface _____ **NASA**.
- Note:**
- The US agency, as part of its Artemis program, is planning to send its first mobile robot to the Moon in late 2023 in search of ice and other resources on and below the lunar surface.
 - The Volatiles Investigating Polar Exploration Rover, or VIPER will collect data that would help NASA map resources at the lunar South Pole that could one day be harvested for long-term human exploration at the Moon.
3. In association with Monash University, which IIT has developed a detector named 'FakeBuster' to identify imposters attending a virtual conference without anybody's knowledge _____ **IIT Ropar**.
- Note:**
- It can also find out faces manipulated on social media to defame or make a joke of someone.
 - The 'FakeBuster' is a deep learning-based solution that helps detect if a video is manipulated or spoofed during a video-conference meeting.
4. Which group of nation has conducted War Games 'Steadfast Defender 21' to improve the ability of the Allied forces _____ **NATO**.
- Note:**
- Majority of the exercise will take place in Germany, Portugal and Romania.
 - The main objective is to improve the ability of the Allied forces to move quickly across the Atlantic and Europe to protect each other, if need arises.
 - Around 9,000 troops from more than 20 NATO Allies and partners will take part in the exercise.
5. With which gulf country India has renewed its MoU on military cooperation along with its annexure as well as on maritime issues _____ **Oman**.
- Note:**
- The signing ceremony of MoU on military cooperation was held at the Ministry of Defense, Muscat. The document was signed by Secretary General of the Ministry of Defense, Oman Dr Mohammed bin Nasser Al Zaabi and Ambassador of India to Oman Munu Mahawar.

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