

Bi-Weekly Current Affairs (16-28) February PDF (English)

Bi-Weekly One Liner Updates **16-28th February 2022**

Dear readers,

Bi-Weekly One Liners Updates is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the **two weeks** (16-28th) of **February 2022**. This file is important for, **Banking, SSC, Railway & Insurance** exams.

Banking & Financial Awareness

1. Reliance Jio has formed a joint venture with which company to provide affordable broadband services in India leveraging satellite technology ____ **SES, Luxembourg.**
Note:
 - Jio Platforms will own 51% stake in the joint venture while SES, a leading global satellite-based content connectivity solutions provider will own 49% stake.
 - The total value of the contract is around \$100 million.
2. In February 2022, which bank has been empanelled by the Small Farmers Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC) to facilitate digital collection and settlement services on National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) portal for transactions between farmers and traders across the country ____ **IndusInd Bank.**
Note:
 - Under this arrangement the bank will offer an array of transaction services through digital modes including multi-net banking, debit card, NEFT, RTGS, IMPS, and UPI to the buyer and seller of the agriculture produce.
 - As of January 2022, there are over 1.7 crore farmers and more than 1.8 lakh traders who are registered on eNAM and have benefitted from the digital marketplace.
3. Which bank has joined hands with the Chennai-based UNANU Technologies for digital freight finance to fund transport contractors. using the end-to-end logistics technology platform ____ **Karur Vysya Bank.**
Note:
 - UNANU has built the Freight Financing System within their suite of software platforms.
 - Using the module "U-Turbo – a marketplace", one can on-board logistics companies and shippers to Freight Financing programme.
4. The Ministry of statistics and programme implementation (MoSPI) projected India's gross domestic product (GDP) deflator for FY23 at ____ **3 to 3.5 percent.**
Note:
 - The Government's own projection on real GDP growth for FY23 is at 7.6-8.1 percent and the union budget projected nominal GDP growth rate to be 11.1 percent for FY23.
 - Economic Survey 2021-22 projected a real GDP growth rate of 8-8.5 percent in FY23.
 - GDP Projection in the Budget is based on advance estimates of 'National Statistical Office' (NSO).
5. Which Fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) company has become India's 1st 100% Plastic Waste Neutral company ____ **Dabur India Limited.**
Note:
 - It claimed to be the first Indian consumer goods company to achieve this landmark.
 - Dabur has collected, processed and recycled around 27,000 MT of post-consumer plastic waste from all over India in the 2021-22 financial year.
 - Dabur's plastic waste management initiative was rolled out in the year 2017-18.
6. Which Indian company has signed an MoU with Taiwanese electronics manufacturing company, Hon Hai Technology Group (Foxconn) to form a joint venture for manufacturing semiconductors in India ____ **Vedanta.**
Note:



- According to the MOU signed between the two companies, Vedanta will hold the majority of the equity in the joint venture, while Foxconn will be the minority shareholder.
 - This first-of-its-kind joint venture between the two companies will support Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision to create an ecosystem for semiconductor manufacturing in India.
7. IndiGo airline has announced a partnership with which oil company for its 6E Rewards Ka-ching credit cardholders under which cardholders will earn accelerated reward points of up to 4 per cent on fuel _____ **Indian Oil**.
- Note:**
- Under the partnership, Ka-ching cardholders will earn accelerated reward points of up to 4 per cent on fuel spends at more than 35,000 IndianOil outlets across the country.
 - With accelerated earnings, Ka-ching cardholders will earn free flight tickets with 6E Rewards from daily fuel purchases.
8. Which automobile company has joined hands with Common Services Center e-Governance Services to support the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyaan _____ **Renault India**.
- Note:**
- To digitally empower citizens in rural areas by training them to operate computers, laptops, browse the internet, access government websites, banking service and undertake digital payments.
 - The aim of the program is to empower rural citizens in the age group of 14 to 60 years.
9. DMI Finance Private Limited has launched a digital personal loan product on which digital wallet to provide reliable credit access to pre-qualified users of wallet _____ **Google Pay**.
- Note:**
- Through the partnership, DMI Finance intends to disburse up to Rs 1 lakh per loan, which would be repayable over a maximum of 36 months. The product is being launched across more than 15,000 pin codes.
 - The launch of the loan product will include the advantages of the digital loan disbursement process of DMI Finance and the Google Pay's customer experience.
10. With which bank the LKP Securities Ltd has signed an agreement to offer a special 3-in-1 online account _____ **HDFC Bank**.
- Note:**
- The 3-in1 account facilitates swift fund transfer between the bank account and trading account as clients no longer have to go through a lengthy authentication process.
 - To deliver an efficient experience by offering ease of opening trading, demat and bank account in a seamless manner.
11. In association with which digital payments platform, NITI Aayog will be hosting the first-ever open-to-all hackathon that aims to showcase path-breaking solutions for the fintech ecosystem _____ **PhonePe**.
- Note:**
- The Hackathon will provide an opportunity for innovators, digital creators and developers from all over India to think, ideate and code.
 - It aims to showcase path-breaking solutions for the Fintech Ecosystem.
12. As per the Second Advance Estimates of production of major crops what is the estimated food grains production in the year 2021-22 _____ **316.06 million tonnes**.
- Note:**
- Further, the production during 2021-22 is higher by 25.35 million tonnes than the previous five years' (2016-17 to 2020-21) average production of foodgrains.
 - Total production of Rice during 2021-22 is estimated at record 127.93 million tonnes.
13. Which bank has been empaneled by the SFAC to facilitate digital collection and settlement services on e-NAM portal for the transactions between farmers and traders across India _____ **IndusInd Bank**.
- Note:**
- IndusInd Bank has been directly integrated with e-NAM platform to provide safe and hassle free payments, clearing and settlement services to the farmers and traders.
 - Under this arrangement, the bank will offer an array of transaction services through digital modes including multi-net banking, debit card, NEFT, RTGS, IMPS and UPI to the buyer and seller of the agriculture produce.
14. Wealth tech company, Fisdom has partnered with which bank to offer wealth management products and services to over 29 million customers of the bank _____ **Bank of Maharashtra**.



Note:

- This partnership is to distribute the wealth products and services through the bank's network of more than 2,000 branches and its digital platforms, including the mobile banking app and internet banking.
- The wealth management services will be made accessible to bank customers through both physical and digital mode.

15. Which bank has partnered with Ezetap to provide integrated Point of Sale (PoS) solutions across 4,000 locations in India _____ **Kotak Mahindra Bank.**

Note:

- The initiative will strengthen the bank's presence in the digital payments market space.
- The partnership will enable it to scale up its PoS product base across merchant segments, including retail enterprises and government customers.

16. Twitter Inc has partnered with which payments gateway to improve the support for its 'Tips' feature in India _____ **Paytm's payment gateway.**

Note:

- Using the Tips feature, users can send payments to their favourite content creators on twitter.
- Tips is available since November to all Twitter users above 18 years of age in India. It is available in Indian languages including Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Marathi and Tamil.

17. Which Asset Management company has launched eInvest- a mutual fund mobile app for investors for a smooth investing experience _____ **Edelweiss Asset Management.**

Note:

- eInvest is an easy-to-use app for investors to give them a smooth investing experience where they can perform all financial transactions and access their investment from anywhere at any time with speed and ease.

18. Which credit bureau of India has launched a MSME consumer education program that will help small businesses gain awareness on credit management, CIBIL Rank and commercial credit information _____ **TransUnion CIBIL.**

Note:

- It will teach them on how to build good credit history and CIBIL Rank to avail easier and faster loans.
- It will kick off with MSME clusters in Maharashtra, Assam and Tripura

19. Name the wholly-owned subsidiary company that has been set up by NHPC Ltd for development of renewable energy, small hydro and green hydrogen-based businesses _____ **NHPC Renewable Energy Ltd.**

Note:

- The new company -- NHPC Renewable Energy Ltd -- was registered with Registrar of Companies, NCT of Delhi & Haryana.
- The Subsidiary Company shall develop Renewable Energy Projects either in Stand-alone mode or through formation of Special Purpose Vehicles with collaboration of other agencies.

20. Which bank and the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Limited (IRCTC) have launched a co-branded contactless credit card _____ **Bank of Baroda.**

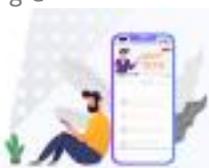
Note:

- The card offers maximum savings to frequent railway travellers and the card users will also get multiple benefits for shopping across other categories like groceries, fuel etc.
- The card provides 1% transaction fee waiver for the customers on all train ticket bookings and 1% offer as fuel surcharge waiver across all petrol pumps in India.
- Customers will be provided with 1,000 bonus reward points for purchase worth Rs.1,000 or more within 45 days of card issuance.

21. Which bank has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Assam Rifles to provide 'Central Forces Salary Package' _____ **Bank of Baroda.**

Note:

- Under the agreement, Bank of Baroda will offer the Baroda Central Forces Salary Package to all personnel of the Assam Rifles, both serving and retired.
- Further, the Bank will also provide special benefits, including Personal Accident Insurance and a co-branded credit card.
- Assam Rifles is country's oldest paramilitary force.



22. Which power company has collaborated with Germany-based RWE Renewable GmbH to explore potential for a joint development of offshore wind projects in India _____ **Tata Power Renewable Energy.**

Note:

- A corresponding MoU has been signed between Tata Power Renewable Energy Ltd and RWE Renewables GmbH, one of the world's leaders in offshore wind.
- The MoU between Tata Power Renewable Energy and RWE becomes significant in the light of the Central govt's announcement of achieving 30GW of offshore wind installations by 2030.

23. Which telecom company has joined the SEA-ME-WE-6 undersea cable consortium to scale up its high-speed global network capacity to serve India's fast growing digital economy _____ **Bharti Airtel.**

Note:

- The 19,200 Rkm SEA-ME-WE-6 will connect Singapore and France, and will be amongst the largest undersea cable systems globally.
- Through SEA-ME-WE-6, Airtel will add 100 TBps capacity to its global network.
- Airtel will land the SEA-ME-WE-6 cable system in India at new landing stations in Mumbai and Chennai.

24. According to India Ratings, what is the estimated GDP growth rate of India for FY 2021-22 _____ **8.6 percent.**

Note:

- The National Statistical Organisation (NSO), which has forecast 9.2 per cent real GDP growth for the year.
- The major reason for the likely downward revision is the upward revision of FY21 GDP to Rs 135.6 lakh crore in the first revised estimate of national income for FY21, which was released on January 31, 2022.

25. Which bank has collaborated with the Indore Clean Energy Private Ltd for the development of 550 tonnes/day of Municipal Solid Waste to Compressed Biogas plant - the largest Bio-CNG plant in Asia _____ **HDFC Bank.**

Note:

- Indore Clean Energy Pvt Ltd (ICEPL) is promoted by Green Growth Equity Fund (GGEF), which is the largest climate impact fund in India with anchor investors like NIIF & Government of UK.
- Earlier on February 19, 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated the municipal solid waste based Gobar-Dhan plant and dedicated it to the citizens of Indore City, Madhya Pradesh.

26. Which general insurer has joined hands with Ashv Finance, a tech-led NBFC present in over 100 locations in India, to offer financial protection to latter's business loan borrowers _____ **Edelweiss General Insurance.**

Note:

- Under this, EGI will utilize Ashv Finance reach of small business owners across India and offer them easy and friendly, tech powered solutions, coupled with superior customer experience.
- Ashv will offer timely credit to small businesses and MSMEs (Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises) while EGI will provide health insurance cover to all the customers of Ashv Finance in all major cities across the country.

27. TripMoney, the fintech arm of MakeMyTrip has partnered with which bank to launch a rupee-denominated secure credit card _____ **SBM Bank.**

Note:

- "The TripMoney Global card offers multiple value-added benefits including zero forex mark-up, lifetime free validity and 100 per cent digital in-app card management.
- The card is powered by Visa and can be used across over 150 countries.

28. By which date and year the RBI has asked the certain class of NBFCs to mandatorily implement 'Core Financial Services Solution (CFSS)' in order to provide seamless customer interface as well as have a centralised data base _____ **September 30, 2025.**

Note:

- The RBI has decided that NBFCs – Middle Layer and NBFCs – Upper Layer with 10 and more 'fixed point service delivery units' as on October 1, 2022 shall be mandatorily required to implement CFSS.
- CFSS is akin to the Core Banking Solution (CBS) adopted by banks.

29. As per Moody's Investor Services, what is the estimated GDP growth forecast for India in the calendar year 2022 _____ **9%.**

Note:

- It maintained a forecast for 5.5 per cent growth in CY2023.
- In its update on Global Macro Outlook 2022-23, Moody's said sales tax collection, retail activity and Purchasing Managers Index suggest solid momentum.

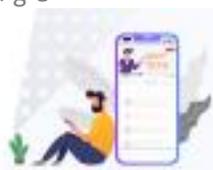


30. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the re-appointment of Rakesh Sharma as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of which of the following banks _____ **IDBI Bank**.
- Note:**
- This re-appointment is as per approval of the Reserve Bank of India received in this regard.
 - He was previously appointed as the MD & CEO of the bank in October 2018.
31. Which bank in association with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), launched 'MSME RuPay Credit Card' for meeting business related operational expenses of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) _____ **Union Bank of India**.
- Note:**
- It is a first of its kind initiative to provide simplified and digital delivery of Finance to Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), to meet their business-related operational expenses.
 - This dedicated card for MSMEs will be available to eligible borrowers of Union Bank of India.
32. Which bank has partnered with International Air Transport Association (IATA) to launch payment platform 'IATA Pay' for airline industry in India _____ **Standard Chartered**.
- Note:**
- IATA Pay's rollout will enable participating airlines to offer instant payment options like UPI Scan and Pay.
 - Service leverages Unified Payment Interface (UPI), enabling consumers to instantly pay for airline tickets from bank accounts
33. Which will become first multilateral agency to open an office in Gujarat International Finance Tech City (Gift) _____ **New Development Bank**.
- Note:**
- NDB has received approval for the same and will open the office in May 2022 in GIFT City
 - NDB announced Director General position for India Regional Office and will be responsible for origination-implementation of operations in India
34. In a bid to boost the production of biofuel in the country to curb carbon emissions, among others, agri co-op giant NAFED signed an MoU with _____ **Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)**.
- Note:**
- The MoU was signed to set-up Bio-fuel projects, Plants for post-processing of products viz Cattle feed & Marketing of end products of CBG.
 - The project will benefit Farmers, communities, and Environment in the region & contribute to Hon.
 - PM vision 2021 for making India a 'Net Zero Emission Country by 2070.
35. Which payments bank has become an official acquiring partner for e-RUPI vouchers, further making it accessible at offline stores across the country _____ **Paytm Payments Bank Limited**.
- Note:**
- e-RUPI, which is a government initiative, is a cashless prepaid voucher that beneficiaries can present via SMS or QR Code. Paytm's merchant partners can then scan, enter the amount to be paid and receive the payment directly in their bank account.
 - This will benefit beneficiaries (users), even those who do not have access to formal banking services or smartphones to avail the convenience of digital payments.
36. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has cancelled the certificate of registration issued to _____ **PC Financial Services Pvt Ltd**.
- Note:**
- Accordingly, PC Financial Services will not be able to transact the business of a NBFI (Non-Banking Financial Institution).
 - PC Financial Services was primarily engaged in mobile app-based lending operations through an app called 'Cashbean'.

Obituaries

1. Renowned personality Sandhya Mukherjee passed away recently, he was a veteran _____ **Singer**.

Note:



- She sang under the direction of famous composers such as S D Burman, Roshan and Madan Mohan.
 - She received the National Film Award for best female playback singer in 1970 for the movies Jay Jayanti (a Bengali remake of Sound of Music) and Nishi Padma.
 - This year she refused the Padma award.
2. Renowned personality Bhargavi Narayan passed away recently, she was a veteran _____ **Actor**.
- Note:**
- Bhargavi Narayan was a renowned actor in the Kannada film industry.
 - She was married to Belavadi Nanjundaiah Narayanan, fondly called Makeup Nani10.
3. Renowned personality Bappi Lahiri passed away recently, he was a veteran _____ **Composer**.
- Note:**
- Best known for popularising disco music to the Indian mainstream, the singer was fondly known as Bappi da, and experienced huge success in the 1980s and 90s.
 - He earned the title 'Disco King'.
4. Renowned personality Dr Chennaveera Kanavi passed away recently, he was a prominent writer and poet of which language _____ **Kannada**.
- Note:**
- He was also known as 'Samanvaya Kavi' (Poet of Reconciliation).
 - Dr Kanavi received the Sahitya Akademi Award in 1981 for his work Jeeva Dhvani (Poetry).
5. Surajit Sengupta was associated with which sports who passed away recently _____ **Football**.
- Note:**
- Sengupta had been associated with Kolkata's three big clubs, Mohun Bagan (1972-1973, 1981-1983), East Bengal (1974- 1979) and Mohammedan Sporting (1980).
 - He represented the national team from 1973 to 1979 and was in the national team for the 1978 Asian Games.
6. 102-year-old Gandhian leader Shakuntala Chowdhary held from which country who passed away recently _____ **Assam**.
- Note:**
- She worked towards the welfare and empowerment of women.
 - Shakuntala Chaudhary spent a large portion of her life at the Kasturba Ashram, since 1947.
 - She was a recipient of Vayosheshta Samman - National Awards For Senior Citizens 2021, from the government of India.
7. Renowned personality Sadhan Pande passed away recently, he was veteran _____ **Politician**.
- Note:**
- Pandey represented Kolkata's Burtolla assembly constituency 5 times since 1987, when he was in the Congress, and the Manicktala constituency 3 times since 2011.
 - He joined the TMC after its formation in 1998.
8. Renowned personality KPAC Lalitha passed away recently she was a noted _____ **Actress**.
- Note:**
- She acted in over 500 films in Malayalam and Tamil in her career spanning around five decades
 - She won the national award for Best Supporting Actress for her performance in Malayalam film 'Amaram' and 'Santham'.
9. Renowned personality Hemananda Biswal passed away recently, he was former chief minister of which state _____ **Odisha**.
- Note:**
- He was the first tribal chief minister of Odisha.
 - Mr. Biswal was elected chief minister for the first time for the period December 7, 1989, to March 5, 1990, and again from December 6, 1999, to March 5, 2000.

Important Days

1. International Childhood Cancer Day (ICCD) is observed every year on which date _____ **15th February**.
- Note:**
- The day is a global collaborative campaign to raise awareness about childhood cancer and to express support for children and adolescents with cancer, the survivors and their families.



2. Every year India observes the Soil Health Card Day on which date to commemorate the launch of the Soil Health Card (SHC) Scheme _____ **19th February.**
Note:
 - 2022 marks the seventh year of the launch of the SHC Scheme. The scheme aims at issuing soil health cards to all farmers every two years. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Soil Health Card (SHC) Scheme on 19th February 2015 at Suratgarh in Rajasthan.
3. What is the theme of the International Mother Language Day _____ **Using technology for multilingual learning: Challenges and opportunities.**
Note:
 - The International Mother Language Day (IMLD) is observed annually on the 21st of February to raise awareness regarding linguistic and cultural diversity and to promote multilingualism.
 - The IMLD day was announced by UNESCO on 17 November 1999 and formally recognized by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 2002.
4. What is the theme of the World Day of Social Justice 2022 _____ **Achieving Social Justice through Formal Employment.**
Note:
 - World Day of Social Justice is observed every year on February 20, since 2009 to raise voice against social injustice and to bring various communities internationally together to eliminate poverty, gender, physical discrimination, illiteracy, religious discrimination to make socially integrated society.
5. World Pangolin Day is celebrated every on which date to raise awareness about this shy, elusive mammal covered in hard scales from tip to tail _____ **Third Saturday of February (19th Feb 2022).**
Note:
 - This year marks the 11th edition of the Day.
 - Pangolins are known as the world's most trafficked animals.
 - Two out of eight species of pangolins are listed as 'critically endangered' in the IUCN Red List.
6. World Thinking Day is celebrated every year on which date _____ **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.
 - The theme for World Thinking Day 2022 is Our World, Our Equal Future.
7. Central Excise Day is celebrated every year on which date across India _____ **24th February.**
Note:
 - In India, the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) is responsible for administering Customs, Goods, and Service Tax (GST), Central Excise, Service Tax, and Narcotics in India.
8. What is the theme of the National Protein Day 2022 _____ **Food Futurism.**
Note:
 - National Protein Day is observed every year in India on 27th February to create awareness about protein deficiency and encourage people to include of this macronutrient in their diet.
 - The day was introduced for the first time in 2020, by the 'Right to Protein', a national-level public health awareness initiative to educate people about the importance of adequate protein consumption for better nutrition, health, and wellbeing.
9. World NGO Day is celebrated every year on _____ **27th February.**
Note:
 - It is an international day to recognise, celebrate and honour non-government and non-profit organisations and also those who contribute their time and efforts in making society a better place to live in.
10. National Science Day is celebrated every year on which date _____ **28th February.**
Note:



- On this day, Indian Physicist Sir C.V. Raman announced the discovery of the 'Raman Effect' for which he was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1930.
- In 1986, Government of India designated 28 February as National Science Day.
- This year the theme of the National Science Day is- Integrated Approach in Science and Technology for Sustainable Future.

11. The Rare Disease Day is celebrated every year on which date _____ **Last day of February (28th Feb 2022).**

Note:

- The Rare Disease Day (RDD) is observed every year on the last day of February. This year in 2022 it falls on February 28, 2022.
- Theme 2022: "Share Your Colors."

New Appointments

1. Who has been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of Air India _____ **Mehmet Ilker Ayci.**

Note:

- Expected to take charge on or before April 1, Ayci (51) until recently was the Chairman of Turkish Airlines and was also on its Board of Directors prior to that.
- Born in Istanbul in 1971, Ayci was once the Advisor to the country's current President, R.T. Erdogan, when the latter was the Mayor of Istanbul.

2. Who has been appointed as the new Chairman of Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) _____ **Vineet Joshi.**

Note:

- He replaces IAS Manoj Ahuja, who has been appointed as the Officer on Special Duty (OSD) in the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
- Vineet Joshi is also the Director-General of the National Testing Agency (NTA). In 2010 as well he got the responsibility of CBSE chairman.

3. Who has been appointed as the India's first national maritime security coordinator (NMSC) _____ **G Ashok Kumar.**

Note:

- G Ashok Kumar is an alumnus of Sainik School, Amravathi Nagar and National Defence Academy, Khadakvasla, Pune. He was commissioned into the executive branch of the Indian Navy on July 1, 1982.
- Ashok Kumar has held various challenging staff and command assignments during his distinguished career in the Navy for over three decades.

4. Who has been appointed as the Director of the Institute of Economic Growth _____ **Chetan Ghate.**

Note:

- He succeeds Professor Ajit Mishra.
- Mr Ghate is a former member of the Reserve Bank of India's first monetary policy committee between 2016-2020.

5. Who has been appointed as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of Jet Airways _____ **Vipula Gunatilleka.**

Note:

- His appointment is made by new promoters of Jet Airways, Jalan Kalrock Consortium.
- He was the CEO of SriLankan Airlines till January 2022.
- He was also the CFO and board member of TAAG Angola Airlines from November 2015 to July 2018 under Emirates Management.

6. Who has been appointed as the new President and CEO of Honda Cars India Ltd (HCIL) with effect from April 1, 2022 _____ **Takuya Tsumura.**

Note:

- He was in-charge of South Asian countries including India from 1997 to 2000 while working at head office of Honda
- He will succeed Gaku Nakanishi, who has been appointed as General Manager, Automobile Business of Asian Honda (Regional office-Bangkok, Thailand)
- Honda Cars India Ltd was established in 1995.

7. Emma Terho belongs to which country, who has been re-elected as the Chair of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Athletes' Commission (AC) _____ **Finland.**

Note:



- She is a double Olympic bronze medallist and former captain of the Finland women's ice hockey team.
 - She was appointed as the Chair of the Commission on August 06, 2021, for the first time during Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.
8. Who has been appointed as the Chairman of the International Rubber Study Group (IRSG) for a period of two years _____ **K.N. Raghavan.**
- Note:**
- Raghavan is currently the Executive Director of Indian Rubber Board and Head of the Indian delegation to IRSG.
 - India has taken over the chair of the IRSG from Cote d'Ivoire.
 - IRSG is an intergovernmental organisation of natural rubber (NR) and synthetic rubber (SR) producing and consuming countries.
9. Who has been appointed as the brand ambassador for Thums Up _____ **Sharukh Khan.**
- Note:**
- Earlier this month, The Coca-Cola Company announced that the home-grown Thums Up brand became a billion-dollar brand in 2021—the first to reach the milestone from its portfolio of drinks in India.
 - The new campaign has been launched to mark this key milestone.
10. Who has been appointed as the member of Central Advisory Board on Culture (CABC) by Ministry of Culture _____ **Sudha Ragunathan.**
- Note:**
- CABC established to provide policy advice to Ministry of Culture on developing programmes.
 - CABC Presided over by Minister of Culture of the Government of India
 - CABC's member provide policy advice, along with aiding participative decision-making and provide an integrated view of the different ideas and interests from various domains of culture.
11. Who has been appointed as a full-time member of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM) _____ **Sanjeev Sanyal.**
- Note:**
- Sanyal, who is currently serving as the Finance Ministry's principal economic adviser, had been working since the 1990s with the financial markets.
 - His addition to the EAC-PM is expected to aid the top advisory body.
12. Who has been appointed as the as the Non-Executive Chairman of the FMCG major Hindustan Unilever Ltd (HUL) with effect from March 31, 2022 _____ **Nitin Pranjape.**
- Note:**
- The FMCG major has announced the appointment of Nitin Paranjpe, currently chief operating officer of Unilever, as the non-executive chairman of the company.
 - Sanjiv Mehta will continue as CEO & MD.
13. Who has been appointed as the Brand Ambassador of Dish TV India Limited's DTH brand D2H _____ **Rishabh Pant.**
- Note:**
- Pant will feature in 360-degree brand communication for D2H for the next two years.
 - Dish TV India Limited is a direct-to-home (DTH) company with brands such as Dish TV, Zing and D2H under its ownership.

Important News - India

1. In which city, Indian Railways is setting up country's biggest and world class wrestling academy to support wrestling as a sport _____ **Delhi.**
- Note:**
- The academy would be the biggest in the country, equipped with advanced training facilities.
 - The sports facility being made at Delhi will be exclusively for wrestling and will provide opportunities for wrestlers to enhance their skills and become 'world champions' in the coming years.
2. Which organization has organized a hackathon named Darkathon-2022 from February 15 to April 22 to find solutions to unravel the anonymity of darknet markets _____ **Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB).**
- Note:**



- The initiative aims at involving students, youth and technical experts to find effective solutions to unravel the anonymity of darknet markets.
 - This hackathon is being organised in three phases starting today and concluding on 22nd April.
3. First of its kind two-day Global Summit on 'Reimagining Museums in India' was held in which city ____ **Hyderabad**.
Note:
- Union Ministry of Culture is organized the first of its kind summit to celebrate the glorious history of its people, culture and achievements, as part of Azadi Ka Amritmahotsav marking 75 years of Independence of the Country.
 - Over thousand museums from the country and abroad has showcased cultural heritage on the occasion to for educating future generations as part of the summit.
4. Who will be the head of the Apex Committee on G20 Secretariat, formed to oversee the preparations for G20 India Summit 2023 ____ **Prime Minister**.
Note:
- The G20 Secretariat will be guided by an Apex Committee headed by Prime Minister and it will have the following members.
 - Finance Minister, Home Minister, External Affairs Minister and G20 Sherpa (Piyush Goyal) will be the members of the committee.
5. The Ministry of Education (MoE) approved a new scheme "New India Literacy Programme" to be implemented from 2022 to ____ **2027**.
Note:
- The ministry has also decided to use "Education For All" instead of "Adult Education" as the previous term did not appropriately represent all non-literates in the 15 years and above age group.
 - The scheme will be implemented through volunteerism via online mode.
6. The Ministry of Education (MoE) approved a new scheme "New India Literacy Programme" under which the term "Adult Education" will be replaced by ____ **Education for All**.
Note:
- The scheme will cover non-literates of the age of 15 years and above in the country.
 - Now, Govt. has replaced the term "Adult Education (प्रौढ़ शिक्षा)" as 'Education for All' in the country.
 - It will be implemented through volunteerism through online mode.
7. Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal has unveiled the much-awaited water taxi service in which city ____ **Mumbai**.
Note:
- The initiative will help in promoting tourism as well as reducing traffic congestion in the city.
 - The WT services are expected to cut the commuting time between Mumbai and Navi Mumbai by almost 45 minutes to an hour.
8. Which organization has launched 'Quit Tobacco App' to help people to quite tobacco in all forms ____ **World Health Organization**.
Note:
- The 'WHO Quit Tobacco App' is the latest tobacco control initiative by the WHO South-East Asia Region.
 - It was launched during WHO's year-long 'Commit to quit' campaign.
9. What is the length of the main tunnel of T-49, the longest tunnel of Indian Railways, between Sumber and Arpinchala station of Katra-Banihal section of Udhampur- Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project that has been connected successfully ____ **12.758 km**.
Note:
- It is constructed between Sumber and Arpinchala station of Katra-Banihal section USBRL
 - It the longest tunnel of Indian Railways.
 - T49 is a tunnel of length 12.758 km long and it is going to be the longest tunnel of Indian Railway.
10. What is the outlay of the Scheme for Economic Empowerment of DNT/NT/SNTs (SEED) launched by the Ministry for Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE) ____ **Rs 200 crore**.
Note:
- It is an umbrella scheme for the empowerment and welfare of the most deprived and economically weaker Indian communities' viz. De-notified Tribes (DNTs), Nomadic Tribes (NTs) and Semi Nomadic Tribes (SNTs). It has been formulated with four components that affect their livelihood.
 - Its outlay is ~Rs 200 crore to be spent over five years beginning 2021-22 to 2025-26.



11. The 12th edition of President's Fleet Review was conducted at which place as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav _____
Visakhapatnam.
Note:
- The 12th edition of President's Fleet Review is being conducted at Visakhapatnam as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.
 - Defence Minister Rajnath Singh was also present at the event.
12. Under whose chairmanship SEBI has reconstituted its alternative investment policy advisory committee, which advises the capital markets regulator on a range of issues that impact further development of the AIF space _____
N R Narayana Murthy.
Note:
- Chairman of the committee: N R Narayana Murthy.
 - It will advise the capital markets regulator on a range of issues that impact further development of AIF (Alternative Investment Fund) industry.
 - Prior to this, there were 22 members in the committee, which was constituted in March 2015.
13. International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS) is located in which city where two new new Centres called 'Centre of Demography of Gender' and 'Centre for Ageing Studies' are inaugurated recently _____
Mumbai.
Note:
- Here two new Departments and two new Research Centres were inaugurated by Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya and Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Dr. Bharati Pawar.
 - The newly inaugurated departments are 'Department of Survey Research and Data Analytics' and the 'Department of Family and Generations'.
14. Which ministry has organized a Chintan Shivir 'Heal by India' for strengthening the country's educational institutions in the health sector _____
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
Note:
- Union Health Ministry has organized Chintan Shivir — 'Heal by India' for two days.
 - Heal by India initiative: Generate job opportunities abroad for India's trained professionals in the health sector and enhance education to churn out quality human resources in health, thus helping them become eligible to work anywhere in the world.
15. Delhi-Khajuraho-Delhi route has been awarded to which airline company under the UDAN 3.0 _____
SpiceJet.
Note:
- With this, 405 routes would be operationalized under the UDAN-RCS (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik- Regional Connectivity Scheme).
 - The Delhi-Khajuraho-Delhi route was awarded to SpiceJet airline under the UDAN 3.0.
16. 550-tonne capacity 'Gobar-Dhan' Bio-CNG plant has been inaugurated in which city by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi _____
Indore.
Note:
- It is based on the concept of waste-to-wealth innovation.
 - The municipal solid waste based Gobar-Dhan plant is in line with PM's vision of creating "garbage-free cities" under the Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.0.
17. Under which scheme the central government has launched a doorstep distribution drive 'Meri Policy Mere Hath' _____
Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY).
Note:
- The doorstep campaign aims to ensure all farmers are well aware and equipped with all information on their policies, land records, the process of claim and grievance redressal under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana.
 - The campaign will be launched in all implementing states in the upcoming Kharif season.
18. In February 2022, India has signed a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) _____
UAE.
Note:
- It will cover goods, services and digital trade, among others, that will allow 90% of the country's exports a duty-free access to the Emirates.
 - The bilateral trade pact is India's first in the region and the first comprehensive trade agreement with any country in a decade.



- UAE is India's third-biggest trading partner behind the US and China.
19. The Government has approved the scheme of Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) for continuation till _____ **2026**.
- Note:**
- The proposal entails an expenditure of Rs. 12929.16 crore out of which Central Share is Rs. 8120.97 crores and the State Share is of Rs. 4808.19 crores.
 - It has been envisaged to support around 1600 projects under the new phase of the scheme.
20. India's first Biosafety level-3 containment mobile laboratory was launched in which place _____ **Nashik, Maharashtra**.
- Note:**
- The mobile laboratory has been set up to investigate newly emerging and re-emerging viral infections that are highly infectious and of lethal potential to human beings.
 - The laboratory has been designed and built by the Indian Council of Medical Research in collaboration with Mumbai based bio-safety equipment maker Klenzaid.
21. Who has composed the signature tune for "Vande Bharatam" that was released by Minister of State for Culture & External Affairs Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi _____ **Ricky Kej and Bickram Ghosh**.
- Note:**
- The tune is composed by Grammy Award winner Ricky Kej and Oscar contender Bickram Ghosh
 - It was produced for Vande Bharatam, Nritya Utsav of Ministry of Culture presented at Rajpath, New Delhi for Republic Day event 2022.
22. With what financial outlay Centre has approved continuation of Central Sector National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS) for a period of five years from 2021-22 to 2025-26 _____ **Rs 1,827 crores**.
- Note:**
- Financial outlay for the scheme: Rs 1,827 crores.
 - Income ceiling for the scheme has been increased from Rs 1.5 lakh per annum to Rs 3.5 lakh per annum
23. The 'Kisan Drone Yatra' which was inaugurated virtually by PM Modi, was organised at which place _____ **Manesar**.
- Note:**
- The PM labelled it a "milestone" for Indian agriculture.
 - A raft of recent policy relaxations and incentives, including proposals in the Union Budget 2022-23, has opened up India's vast agriculture sector for commercial use of drones, or unmanned aerial vehicles.
24. The Ministry of Education (MoE) has approved the continuation of the National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS) till _____ **2025-26**.
- Note:**
- In eligibility criteria minor changes has been made such as increasing income ceiling from Rs 1.5 lakh to Rs 3.5 lakh per annum.
 - The objective of the scheme is to award scholarships to meritorious students of economically-weaker sections to deter them from dropping out at class 8 and encourage them to continue their education at secondary stage.
25. Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways and AYUSH Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated Nikarshan Sadan" - The Dredging Museum in _____ **Visakhapatnam**.
- Note:**
- It displayed models of different types of dredgers, vintage photos, and historical milestones of this dredging behemoth from the Eastern Port City of Vizag.
 - He also inaugurated skill development facility - Centre of Excellence in Maritime and Shipbuilding (CEMS) in Visakhapatnam, improving employability.
26. Which organization has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) to implement Sustainable Cities India program _____ **World Economic Forum (WEF)**.
- Note:**
- The partnership gains significance on the backdrop of India's commitment at COP26 summit in Glasgow to achieve net zero carbon emission by 2070.
 - The 'Sustainable Cities India' intends to enable cities to decarbonise in a systematic and sustainable way that will reduce emissions and deliver resilient and equitable urban ecosystems.
27. International Business Machines Corp. (IBM) has launched a cybersecurity hub in which city to address the concerns of its clients across the Asia Pacific (APAC) region _____ **Bengaluru**.



Note:

- The security hub will be one of the only two centres globally. The other one is in the US.
- The IBM global analysis report for 2022 states that Asia emerged as the top-most targeted region for cyberattacks, representing 26% of attacks analyzed in 2021.

28. Indian Railways along Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL), has Successfully commissioned India's first Solar Photovoltaic Plant of 1.7-MegaWatt (MW) at _____ **Bina, Madhya Pradesh.**

Note:

- The plant will directly feed power to traction systems of Indian Railways.
- The move to create a solar plant was taken after Indian Railways decided to be self-reliant for its energy needs and solarise railway stations by utilizing its vacant lands for Renewable Energy (RE) projects.
- The Ministry of Railways has decided to install solar power plants on its vacant unused lands on mega scale.

29. The central government has recently launched an Ombudsperson App for which flagship programme _____ **MNREGA.**

Note:

- It will facilitate hassle free reporting, categorization of grievances and disposal of complaints by Ombudsperson
- It will also ensure tracking and timely passing of awards by Ombudsperson.
- The app will ensure transparency and accountability in the ecosystem of MNREGA

30. What is India's rank in the International Intellectual Property Index 2022, compiled by US Chambers of Commerce _____ **43rd.**

Note:

- Overall score of India has increased from 38.40 percent (19.20 out of 50) in the ninth edition to 38.64 percent (19.32 out of 50) in the 10th edition
- It is released by Global Innovation Policy Center of U.S. Chamber of Commerce
- Top countries: USA, followed by UK, Germany, Sweden, and France.

31. Name the world's first airport fully powered by solar energy, that is set to become power-positive _____ **Cochin International Airport.**

Note:

- CIAL's solar plants together generate two lakh units of power a day whereas the daily consumption of power in the airport stands at 1.6 lakh units.
- The airport became the first in the world in 2015 to be fully powered by solar energy.

32. In Bhasha Sangam mobile app people can learn 100+ sentences of daily use in how many Indian languages _____ **22.**

Note:

- The 'Bhasha Certificate Selfie' initiative is encouraging people to upload their selfies with the certificate from their social media accounts using the hashtag #BhashaCertificateSelfie.
- Using the app, people can learn 100+ sentences of daily use in as many as 22 scheduled Indian languages.

33. Name the operation launched by Indian government for the evacuation of Indian Nationals from Ukraine due to Russia-Ukraine war _____ **Operation Ganga.**

Note:

- Due to the ongoing tension between Ukraine and Russia, Ukraine has been declared as a no-fly zone by the authorities for the safety and security of the nations. Due to this many Indian nationals were left stranded in Ukraine.
- To help the Indian citizens come back to the country, the government of India decided to conduct a special evacuation mission named Operation Ganga.

34. Union Minister for MSME, Narayan Rane announced establishment of MSME-Technology Centre at _____ **Sindhudurg.**

Note:

- The MSME-Technology Center to be set up at Sindhudurg at a cost of about Rs 200 crore will enhance the competitiveness of MSME industries.
- MSME RuPay Credit card will enable the user to avail the facility of digital payment at any time.

35. BSES Yamuna Power Limited (BYPL), a subsidiary of Reliance Infrastructure-backed BSES has commissioned India's first 'Smart Managed EV Charging Station' in _____ **New Delhi.**

Note:



- Supported by Nordic Innovation, an organisation promoted by the governments of Nordic countries, and executed by Fortum Charge & Drive, it will be the first BYPL operated and managed Smart EV Charging Station.

Important News – State

1. Maru Mahotsav is celebrated in which state _____ **Madhya Pradesh**.

Note:

- It is also known as Maru Mahotsav of the Golden City.
- It is a 4-day long festival with competitions like Turban tying, Panihari Matka, Mehendi and mandana competitions.
- Other attractions: Camel Safari, Camel beautification, Camel Polo match, BSF Camel Tattoo, Camel dance, etc.

2. Considered to be second-largest fair in India, the Medaram Jatara is organized in which state for that Ministry of Tribal Affairs has sanctioned Rs. 2.26 Crores for 2022 edition _____ **Telangana**.

Note:

- Under the AzadiKa Amrit Mahotsav, the Government of India has announced that tribal culture and heritage will be the cynosure of 2022.
- After the Kumbh Mela, Medaram Jatara is the country's second-largest mela which is held for four days.

3. Which state govt signed an MoU with QX Global Group Limited for the holistic development of the Information Technology and IT Enabled Services (ITeS) sector in the State _____ **Gujarat**.

Note:

- The Gujarat government's Department of Science and Technology had announced a new IT/ ITeS policy for the next 5 years in order to develop a robust ecosystem for the IT and digital sector.
- The policy also aims from the current Rs 3,000 crore annually to Rs 25,000 crore over the next five years.

4. In which state the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has launched the 'Waste to Wealth Creation' programme for women _____ **West Bengal**.

Note:

- Under this programme, SIDBI will extend benefits to 50 women in directly generating revenues from alternate livelihoods.
- Later, each of them is expected to become a trainer for replicating and disseminating the knowledge among other aspirants.

5. In February 2022, the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has signed MoUs with which state government to promote the micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) sector _____ **Bihar**.

Note:

- The first MoU was exchanged by Manish Sinha, General Manager, SIDBI and Pankaj Dixit, IAS Director (Technical Development), GoB. Second MoU was exchanged by Sinha and Bhogendra Lal, ED (H.Q.), BIADA.
- Bihar is the 14th state of India with which SIDBI has partnered to strengthen MSME. SIDBI will place an expert agency with the state industries department of Bihar.

6. Which state will soon get a motor racing track, which will be the first of its kind in eastern and northeastern India _____ **Mizoram**.

Note:

- The proposed project worth Rs 10 crores will be constructed at Lengpui, about 31 km north of Aizawl, where the lone state's airport is located.
- Mizoram State Sports Council (MSSC) and Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) had inked a pact for the construction of REC Motosports Racing Tract and Sports Complex.

7. Which state govt has announced New Biotechnology Policy for the year 2022-27 aimed to achieve Aatmanirbhar Bharat, the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi _____ **Gujarat**.

Note:

- Under this policy, strategic projects, mega and large projects are eligible for special packages.
- This will attract new investment through anchor units and existing industries and create new employment opportunities in the state

8. This year (2022) which edition of Khajuraho Dance Festival was inaugurated by the Madhya Pradesh Governor Mangubhai Patel _____ **48th**.

Note:



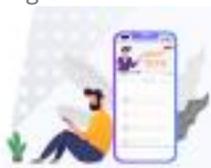
- It is a week-long festival, that will be held till 26th February.
 - This world-famous festival is organized in Khajuraho, Chhatarpur district of Madhya Pradesh
 - It will be participated by renowned artists from across the country and world
9. Which state police force has become the 1st police force in the country to introduce Smart Card Arms License _____ **Delhi**.
Note:
- It will be printed in-house after verification of data of the arms license holders.
 - Smart card arms license has also been integrated with e-beat book through mobile application 'Shastra App'.
10. For which project the World Bank has recently approved loan worth \$115 million for the State Governments of Karnataka and Odisha _____ **REWARD**.
Note:
- Aim: to implement Rejuvenating Watersheds for Agricultural Resilience through Innovative Development Programme.
 - It will help national and state adopt improved watershed management practices to help increase farmers' resilience to climate change, promote higher productivity and better incomes.
11. Which state government has launched India's first Night Navigation mobile application (app) for ferry services _____
Assam.
Note:
- The inaugural night journey of an Inland Water Transport ferry fitted with the system sailed between Guwahati and North Guwahati at 9 pm and completed the return journey also in about an hour.
 - The night navigation mobile application was developed by the transport department in association with K Raju, the principal scientist of IIT Madras.
12. Which of the following has been designated as Doda brand product _____ **Lavender**.
Note:
- A key decision taken during the meeting was to designate Lavender as Doda brand product, to promote lavender under 'One District, One Product' initiative of the Modi Government.
 - Doda district in J&K is the birthplace of India's Purple Revolution, or the cultivation of Lavender.
 - Though, Lavender cultivation is practiced in almost all the 20 districts of Jammu & Kashmir.
13. Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) has announced a collaboration with which tech giant for local startups to connect with the global startup community _____ **Google**.
Note:
- This wider network enables local startups to leverage Google's programme comprising mentorship and training of startup teams to help scale up their solutions.
 - The collaboration will enable Kerala's startups to join a wider network to leverage Google's programme comprising mentorship and training of startup teams for scaled-up solutions.
14. Which state govt has launched a four-year mentorship programme called Project Arohan to provide guidance to students and hone their skills _____ **Assam**.
Note:
- In this regard, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma met Anita Rajan, CEO of Tata STRIVE, and skill development of Tata Trusts and sought corporation from them for the project.
15. State-owned SJVN will develop a 400 MW solar park in which state _____ **Himachal Pradesh**.
Note:
- According to a company statement, an in-principle approval has been accorded by the ministry for development of this project under Ultra Mega Renewable Energy Power Parks of its solar park scheme.

Important News – World

1. What is the theme of the Energy and Resources Institute's (TERI) World Sustainable Development Summit 2022 _____
'Towards a Resilient Planet: Ensuring a Sustainable and Equitable Future'.
Note:
- This year the theme of the summit is 'Towards a Resilient Planet: Ensuring a Sustainable and Equitable Future'.



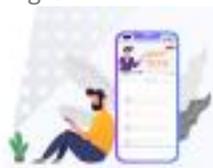
- It will discuss a wide range of issues including climate change, sustainable production, energy transitions, global commons and resource security.
2. Which country will hold the Presidency of the G20 from 1st December 2022 to 30th November 2023 _____ **India**.
- Note:**
- G20 is the premier forum for international economic cooperation that plays an important role in global economic governance.
 - As per practice, a G20 Secretariat is being established to handle work relating to knowledge, content, technical, media, security, and logistical aspects of India's G20 Presidency.
3. In February 2022, India signed a letter of intent (LoI) with which country for working towards bringing down the cost of renewable energy (RE) technologies ____ **Australia**.
- Note:**
- Both the countries will also focus on scaling up the manufacturing of low cost solar and clean hydrogen.
 - This was signed during the fourth India–Australia energy dialogue.
4. G20 summit in 2022 will be held in which country _____ **Indonesia**.
- Note:**
- In 2021, the G20 summits was held in Rome, Italy. In 2022 the G20 summit will be held in Bali, Indonesia while in 2023 it will be held in New Delhi, India.
 - India will hold the Presidency of the G20 from 1st December this year to 30th November 2023, culminating with the G20 Summit in India in 2023.
5. Which country will be the first foreign country to adopt India's UPI system, paving the way for transforming the digital economy of the country _____ **Nepal**.
- Note:**
- This will play a pivotal role in transforming the digital economy of the neighbouring country.
 - NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL), the international arm of NPCI, has joined hands with Gateway Payments Service (GPS) and Manam Infotech to provide the services in Nepal.
6. In February 2022, Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a virtual summit with Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed al Nahyan the Crown Prince of which country to firm up Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement _____ **UAE**.
- Note:**
- Both leaders were discussed bilateral cooperation and international issues of mutual interest.
 - In recent years, bilateral relations between India and the UAE have strengthened in all areas, and both sides have embarked upon a comprehensive strategic partnership.
 - The Prime Minister visited UAE in 2015, 2018, and 2019 while the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi visited India in 2016 and 2017.
7. In February 2022, the Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla led a Parliamentary delegation to the which country _____ **UAE**.
- Note:**
- This is the first-ever visit under the bilateral exchange of Parliamentary Delegations from either side.
 - The Lok Sabha Speaker will have the rare honour of addressing the Federal National Council of UAE on the 22nd of this month.
8. According to the annual Frontiers report released by the UN Environment Programme, in 2021, which was the most affected region due to wildfires _____ **Africa**.
- Note:**
- In report titled "Noise, Blazes and Mismatches: Emerging Issues of Environmental Concern", UNEP has warned that Wildfires are predicted to worsen in the coming years and decades.
 - Wildfires are a natural phenomenon, but are becoming more dangerous and affecting larger areas.
9. Which airport continues to be the world's busiest airport by international passenger numbers for the eighth consecutive year _____ **Dubai International (DXB)**.
- Note:**
- DXB's annual traffic exceeded forecasts for the year by more than half a million passengers, on the back of a strong last quarter. India continues to be its top destination in passenger volume.
10. Which country has successfully tested naval configuration of the Iron Dome missile defense system, C-Dome _____ **Israel**.
- Note:**



- C-Dome system: naval version of Iron Dome, which has been used to shoot down rockets fired from the Gaza Strip for the past decade.
 - It is being installed on Israel's latest-generation corvette ships, which protect Israel's coastline and offshore natural gas assets in the Mediterranean Sea.
 - Developed by: Israel Missile Defense Organization.
11. In February 2022, with which country India has signed a Roadmap on Blue Economy and Ocean Governance agreement _____ **France**.
- Note:**
- This tie-up will help to explore the potential for collaboration in marine science research for a better understanding of oceans, and ensure that ocean remains a global common, a space of freedom and trade, based on the rule of law.
 - The agreement was signed between India's External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and his French counterpart Jean-Yves Le Drian.
12. Which country and India has launched the second edition of Innovation Bridge that will create a synergistic ecosystem in agriculture and Medtech sectors _____ **Israel**.
- Note:**
- It will create synergistic ecosystem in agriculture and MedTech sectors
 - Indo Israel Innovation Bridge will create avenues to enhance natural partnership and steer it towards mutual benefit and growth
13. Which become the second country after China to implement T+1 stock settlement mechanism in a phased manner _____ **India**.
- Note:**
- The system will be starting with select stocks and then gradually adding others to fold
 - Instruction for this was issued by SEBI on 1st Jan, 2022
 - Before this, settlement period of stocks in India was T+2 (two days after actual buy/selling of stock)
14. Which institution will establish its first branch in UAE as part of the India-UAE trade deal _____ **The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)**.
- Note:**
- This will be the first time an IIT will be established outside India.
 - Presently, there are 23 IITs in India, which are located in various regions of the country offering undergraduate, postgraduate and doctorate level programmes.

Honor & Awards

1. Who has been declared as the Business Standard Banker of the Year 2020-21 _____ **Sandeep Bakhshi**.
- Note:**
- Bakhshi took charge in October 2018 amid a controversy around his predecessor, who had to step down over corporate governance issues. Since then, he has not just unhinged the bank from the controversy but also delivered growth on almost all parameters.
 - The second-largest private sector lender in the country is well-capitalised.
2. Which bank has won Best Technology Bank of the Year (Small Banks) at the 17th Annual Banking Technology Conference and Awards, instituted by the Indian Banks' Association (IBA) _____ **South Indian Bank**.
- Note:**
- The IBA 17th Annual Banking Technology Conference and Awards 2021 organised by the IBA was virtually held on 14th February 2022.
 - The IBA Awards 2021 celebrate "Next-Gen Banking" and recognise the technologies and practices in the banking industry that have demonstrated a high degree of innovation over 2021.
3. Which public sector company has been awarded the 'India's Most Trusted Public Sector Company' award _____ **Coal India Ltd**.



Note:

- CIL received this honor at the “Energy Meet and Excellence Award” function organized by Industry Chamber “ASSOCHAM” in Kolkata.
- Minister of state for Coal, Mines and Railways Shri Raosaheb Patil Danve also complimented CIL for bagging the coveted award.

4. Who has been conferred with ‘Hilal-e-Pakistan’ the second highest civilian honour in the country _____ **Bill Gates**.

Note:

- It is the second highest civilian honour in the country
- He has been awarded for his efforts to help eradicate polio in Pakistan.
- Gates is on a day-long visit to Pakistan and has met with Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan.

5. Who received the Best Actor (Male) award in the Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival (DPIFF) Awards 2022 _____ **Ranveer Singh**.

Note:

- The award was presented by Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival (DPIFF) in memory of Dadasaheb Phalkeji ‘Father of Indian Cinema’.
- It is India’s only independent international film festival.
- Bollywood stars Ranveer Singh and Kriti Sanon received awards in the Best Actor and Best Actress category for their performances in movies ‘83’ and ‘Mimi’.

6. Who has been honoured with the Outstanding Contribution To Film Industry award at the Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival Awards 2022 _____ **Asha Parekh**.

Note:

- Known as the 'Hit Girl' of Indian cinema, Asha Parekh had appeared in many commercially successful films throughout her career.
- She was the highest-paid actor (female) of her time and was one of the most successful actors (female) of the 1960s and 1970s.

Sports News

1. Which team has won the women's title in the National senior volleyball championship _____ **Kerala**.

Note:

- Defending champion Kerala defeated Railways 25-21, 17-25, 25-21, 25-17 and won the women's title in the National senior volleyball championships at the KIIT indoor stadium, Bhubaneswar.
- It was Kerala's fourth straight triumph in the Nationals.

2. Which football club have won their first FIFA Club World Cup 2022 by defeating Brazil's Palmeiras in extra-time in the final in Abu Dhabi _____ **Chelsea**.

Note:

- Chelsea defeated South American counterparts in the final at Mohamed bin Zayed Stadium by 2-1.
- The winner came from the penalty spot in the 117th minute.
- Chelsea Football Club is an English professional football club based in Fulham, West London.

3. Which Indian city will host the 2023 International Olympic Committee (IOC) session _____ **Mumbai**.

Note:

- It will be held at Jio World Convention Centre, Mumbai.
- The last of IOC session was hosted by India in 1983 in New Delhi.
- IOC session for 2022 was held in Beijing, China.

4. Sakibul Gani belongs to which state who has become the first player in the history of the cricket to score a triple century on his first-class debut _____ **Bihar**.



Note:

- He scored 341 off 405 balls, hitting 56 fours and two sixes, in the Plate Group Ranji Trophy fixture against Mizoram at the Jadavpur University Campus ground in Kolkata.
- Gani has played List A cricket before this, scoring 377 runs from 14 matches including a century. In 11 domestic T20s, he has made 192 runs.

5. Indian tennis star Manika Batra has been roped in as the brand ambassador of which sportswear brand recently _____

Adidas.

Note:

- Owing to her 'Impossible Is Nothing' attitude, Manika joins Adidas' rich roster of women athletes, consisting of names like Mirabai Chanu, Lovlina Borgohain, Hima Das, and Nikhat Zareen.

6. Which country bagged the maximum number of medals at the 2022 Winter Olympic Games _____ **Norway.**

Note:

- Norway tallied the most gold medals, 16, and the highest total number of medals, 37, of all the countries competing in Beijing.
- Norway's 16 gold medals represent the most ever won at a single Winter Games.

7. Which country will host the 2026 Winter Olympics Games _____ **Italy.**

Note:

- The Presidency of the Games was formally handed-over to Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo, in Italy, to host the 2026 Winter Olympics.
- Italy first became the host country for the Olympics during the 1956 Winter Games, which were held in Cortina d'Ampezzo.

8. Name the Indian Grand Master who has defeated world champion, Magnus Carlsen in the eighth round of Airthings Masters Chess competition _____ **R Praggnanandhaa.**

Note:

- He won with black pieces in 39 moves to halt Carlsen's run of three straight wins
- Prior to this, Indian registered solitary win versus Levon Aronian along with recording 2 draws and 4 defeats

9. Name the Indian Women Weightlifter who won the Gold Medal in the Singapore International Weightlifting tournament _____ **Mirabai Chanu.**

Note:

- India has concluded its campaign at Singapore Weightlifting International 2022 with eight medals, including six golds and silver and bronze each.
- Each of the eight Indian lifters who registered for Singapore International won medals and secured their spots at Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games, scheduled to be held in July-August.

10. Tan Kim Her belongs to which country who has been appointed as India's doubles coach in badminton till the Asian Games in 2026 _____ **Malaysia.**

Note:

- He has been credited with shaping the careers of doubles specialists Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy
- In his first stint (2015-2019) as doubles coach in India

11. Name the Indian boxer who has won the gold in 52kg category in the 73rd Strandja Memorial Tournament in Sofia, Bulgaria _____ **Nikhat Zareen.**

Note:

- Nitu prevailed 5-0 over Italy's Erika Prisciandaro, a former youth world championship bronze-medallist.
- Zareen, on the other hand, outpunched Ukraine's Tetiana Kob, a three-time European Championships medallist 4-1.

12. Who became the first Indian to win a silver in an individual section of the Para World Championships _____ **Pooja Jatyan.**

Note:

- Pooja lost to Italy's Patrilli Vincenza in the final to be content with the silver medal.



- The compound mixed pair of Shyam Sundar Swamy and Jyoti Baliyan had earlier opened India's account by winning a silver medal.

13. Who has won the 2022 Mexican Open tennis tournament _____ **Rafael Nadal**.

Note:

- This is 91st ATP title of his career and the third title of the season.
- This is the 4th time that Rafael Nadal has won Mexican Open title, after winning the previous ones in 2005, 2013 and 2020.

14. Sadia Tariq is associated with which sports who won Gold medal recently in a world championship _____ **Wushu**.

Note:

- The 15-year-old from Srinagar participated in the Moscow Wushu Stars championship amid the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war.
- Sadia Tariq won the gold medal in junior tournament at the Moscow Wushu Stars Championship 2022.
- She had recently bagged Gold medals in the 19th and 20th Junior National Championship which was held in Haryana and Jalandhar respectively.

Books and Authors

1. Who is the author of the book titled "How to Prevent the Next Pandemic" _____ **Bill Gates**.

Note:

- In the book Bill Gates has written about specific steps that can only stop future pandemics but, in the process, provide better health care for everyone around the world.
- Bill Gates' last book 'How to Avoid a Climate Disaster' was published in 2021.

2. Who has authored the book titled "Dignity in a Digital Age: Making Tech Work for All of Us" _____ **RO Khanna**.

Note:

- The book highlights the effects of changing lifestyle patterns of Americans due to technological progress.
- It also mentioned about the digital divide i.e unequal access to technology and the revenue, as it is one of the most pressing issues faced by the United States.

3. Who has authored the book titled "Humane: How the United States Abandoned Peace and Reinvented War" _____ **Samuel Moyn**.

Note:

- The book is published by Farrar, Straus & Giroux, New York, United States of America (USA).
- The book highlights the United States of America (USA) strategy on fighting wars and how armed combat was transformed from an imperfect tool for resolving disputes into an integral component of the modern condition.

4. Who has authored the book titled 'A Nation to Protect' _____ **Priyam Gandhi Mody**.

Note:

- The book highlights the role of PM Narendra Modi during the Covid crisis in the past two years.
- The book documents the Centre's leadership in this unprecedented time and how it tided the nation through the crisis.

5. Who has authored the book titled, "A History of Sriniketan: Rabindranath Tagore's Pioneering Work in Rural Construction" _____ **Uma Das Gupta**.

Note:

- It is published under Niyogi Book's 'Paper Missile' imprint.
- Tagore's work in 'village reconstruction' at Sriniketan is not as widely known as his work at Santiniketan, popularly known today as a university town.
- The idea of doing something to redeem the neglected village came to Tagore when he first went to live in his family's agricultural estates in East Bengal during the 1890s.



6. Who has authored the book titled 'The Founders: The Story of PayPal and the Entrepreneurs Who Shaped Silicon Valley' _____ **Jimmy Soni**.

Note:

- This book explores the origin of PayPal and its founding team, comprising of Elon Musk, Amy Rowe Klement, Peter Thiel, Julie Anderson, Max Levchin, Reid Hoffman, and many others whose stories have never been shared.
- PayPal: US-based multinational financial technology company.

Science and Defence

1. In February 2022, the ISRO successfully launched which earth observation satellite _____ **EOS-4**.

Note:

- EOS-04, INSPIRESat-1 and INST-2TD were injected successfully into a sun-synchronous polar orbit by PSLV-C52.
- EOS-04 is designed to provide high-quality images under all weather conditions for applications such as agriculture, forestry and plantations, soil moisture and hydrology and flood mapping.

2. 'Cope South 22' is a joint tactical airlift exercise of which two airforce _____ **US and Bangladesh**.

Note:

- Named as Cope South 22, the exercise will be conducted at Bangladesh Air Force (BAF) Kurmitola Cantonment, Dhaka; and Operating Location-Alpha, Sylhet, Bangladesh.
- It will witness the participation of nearly 77 airmen, along with two US Air Force C-130J Super Hercules from the US Air Force (USAF) 36th Airlift Squadron (AS) of the 374th Airlift Wing at Yokota Air Base in Japan.

3. Asia's largest defence exhibition, DefExpo 2022, which will be held in _____ **Gandhinagar**.

Note:

- More than 900 defence firms and 55 countries are expected to participate in it.
- A 1,000-drone display is expected to be one of the highlights of the exhibition.
- This will be the second time such a show is being organised in the country. It was first organised at the Beating Retreat in Delhi on January 29.

4. Which fighter aircraft has been showcased by India in the Singapore Air Show 2022 _____ **Tejas MK-1**.

Note:

- India showcased the IAF's 'Made in India' Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas Mark-One(MK-1), a 4th generation fighter aircraft.
- Singapore Air Show is a biennial event that provides a platform for the Global Aviation Industry to showcase its products.

5. The Indian Air Force (IAF) has conducted sixth edition of Eastern Bridge-VI exercise with which country _____ **Oman**.

Note:

- The exercise named Eastern Bridge-VI is in its sixth edition.
- Exercise Eastern Bridge V was held in October 2019 at the Air Force Base Masirah, Oman.
- The IAF contingent comprised MiG-29 and C-17 aircraft. It was the first time that MIG-29 fighter aircraft participated in an International Exercise outside India.

6. Multinational 'Exercise Cobra Warrior 22 will be organized by which country, in which Indian Air Force will also participate with a fleet of five Tejas light combat aircraft (LCA) _____ **England**.

Note:

- Besides the Royal Air Force of the UK, the US, Saudi Arabia, Sweden and Belgium will also participate in the exercise. The multi-nation air exercise named "Ex Cobra Warrior 22" will be conducted at Waddington, UK, from March 6 to March 27.



- The IAF's C-17 aircraft will provide the necessary transport support for induction and de-induction.
7. The undersea submersible vehicle MATSYA 6000 is capable of taking how many person to a depth of 6,000 metres (m), that will be ready for its launch in 2024 for the Samudrayaan Mission _____ **three**.
- Note:**
- The vehicle is designed by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and developed by the Ministry of Earth Sciences and NIOT under the aegis of Deep Ocean Mission (DOM).
8. A joint team of scientists from DRDO and which IIT successfully demonstrated Quantum Key Distribution link between Prayagraj and Vindhyachal in Uttar Pradesh, a distance of more than 100 kilometres _____ **IIT Delhi**.
- Note:**
- It was achieved over commercial-grade optical fibre already available in field
- With this, India has demonstrated indigenous technology of secure key transfer for bootstrapping military-grade communication security key hierarchy
9. In February 2022, with the arrival of the latest three aircraft, how many Rafale fighter aircraft have been received by India till date from France for which it signed a contract with France in September 2016 _____ **35**.
- Note:**
- The aircraft took off from a French airbase and were provided mid-air refuelling by the Air Force of the United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- With the arrival of the latest three aircraft, India has now received a total of 35 of the 36 Rafale jets for which it signed a contract with France in September 2016.
10. The Indian Navy received its 12th and final anti-submarine warfare aircraft P-8I from which company recently _____ **Boeing**.
- Note:**
- This is the fourth of four additional aircraft delivered under the options contract signed by the Ministry of Defence in 2016.
- The Indian Navy became the first international customer for the P-8I in January 2009, when it signed a contract with Boeing for eight P-8I Poseidon aircraft for \$2.17 billion.
11. Who has authored the book titled "The Great Tech Game: Shaping Geopolitics and the Destinies of Nations" _____ **Anirudh Suri**.
- Note:**
- It has been published by HarperCollins India publication.
- The book lays out a roadmap for how any country must develop its own strategic plan to succeed in this technology-dominant era.
- He is the founding partner and managing director of India Internet Fund.
12. The biennial exercise multilateral Naval Exercise "Milan 2022" is being organized in which place _____ **Vishakhapatnam**.
- Note:**
- It will be conducted over a duration of nine days in two phases with the harbour phase scheduled from February 25 and the Sea Phase from 1st March to 4th March
- Theme: 'Camaraderie - Cohesion - Collaboration'
- It is a biennial multilateral naval exercise incepted by Indian Navy in 1995 at the Andaman and Nicobar Command
13. Which edition of joint military exercise 'EX DHARMA GUARDIAN-2022' was conducted between India and Japan at Belagavi (Belgaum), Karnataka _____ **third**.
- Note:**



- It will be conducted from 27th February to 10th March 2022.
- It is participated by the 15th Battalion of 'Maratha Light Infantry Regiment of the Indian Army' and 30th Infantry Regiment of Japanese Ground Self Defence Forces (JGSDF).

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