

Weekly One Liners 1st to 8th of December 2019

RBI keeps the repo rate unchanged at 5.15% in 5th Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy

- In its **5th Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Committee** meeting, the Reserve Bank of India has decided to keep the policy repo rate unchanged to **5.15%**.
- The MPC has also decided to maintain the accommodative stance of monetary policy to revive growth, while ensuring that inflation remains within the target.
- The main decisions taken in the 5th Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy Committee meeting are:
- The repo rate under the **liquidity adjustment facility (LAF)** left unchanged to **5.15%**.
- The reverse repo rate under the LAF stands same i.e. **4.90%**.
- The marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate also remains same i.e. **5.40%**.
- RBI has also reduced the real **GDP growth** for 2019-20 from **6.1% to 5%**.

RBI releases "Guidelines for 'on tap' Licensing of SFB in the Private Sector"

- The **Reserve Bank of India** released **guidelines for 'on tap' Licensing of Small Finance Banks in the Private Sector**.
- Now payments banks willing to convert themselves into **small finance banks (SFBs)** can apply for such a licence only **after 5 years of operations**.
- Existing payments banks (PBs), which are controlled by residents and have completed five years of operations, are also eligible for conversion into small finance banks after complying with all legal and regulatory requirements of various authorities and if they conform to these guidelines.
- The licensing window will be open on-tap. The minimum capital for setting up an SFB has been mandated at **₹200 crores**, adding for primary (urban) co-operative banks

(UCBs), which wish to become SFBs, the initial requirement of net worth will be ₹100 crores, which will have to be increased to ₹200 crores within five years from the date of commencement of business.

- SFBs will be given scheduled bank status immediately upon commencement of operations.

NEFT transactions to be made 24x7 from December 16

- The **Reserve Bank of India** announced round-the-clock transactions will be allowed **24x7 facility** under the **National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT)** system on all days including weekends and holidays from December 16.
- These transactions after the usual banking hours are set to be automated initiated using **'Straight Through Processing (STP)'** modes by the banks.
- The existing discipline for crediting the beneficiary's account or returning the transaction within 2 hours of settlement to the originating bank will also continue.
- Member banks are also advised to initiate necessary action and ensure availability of all necessary infrastructural requirements at their end for providing seamless NEFT 24x7 facility to their customers.

TEST SERIES

Bilingual

**LIC ASSISTANT
MAINS**

25 TOTAL TESTS

Validity : 12 Months

India becomes 1st country to make entire Haj process digital

- **India** has become the **1st country** to make the entire process for pilgrims going on **Haj completely digital**.
- An online application, e-visa, Haj mobile app, **'e-MASIHA'** health facility, **"e-luggage pre-tagging"** providing all information in India itself regarding accommodation and transportation in Mecca and Madina will be provided to 2 lakh Indian Muslims going for Haj in 2020.
- Minority Affairs Minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi signed the bilateral annual **Haj 2020 agreement between India and Saudi Arabia with Haj and Umrah Minister of Saudi Arabia**.

Nationwide vaccination drive launched under Mission Indradhanush 2.0

- The centre is launching a nationwide vaccination drive to prevent eight diseases under Intensified **Mission Indradhanush 2.0 across the country**.
- The government's flagship scheme is aimed at immunizing children under the age of 2 years and pregnant women against 8 vaccine-preventable diseases.
- The IMI covers vaccines for **diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis, tuberculosis, measles, meningitis and Hepatitis B**. Vaccines for **Japanese encephalitis and Hemophilus influenza** are also being provided in selected areas.
- The IMI 2.0 aims to achieve targets of full immunization coverage in 272 districts spread over 27 States. The IMI 2.0 will be carried out between December 2019 and March 2020.

Vice Prez M Venkaiah Naidu launches Bharatiya POSHAN Anthem

- Vice President **M Venkaiah Naidu** launched the **'Bharatiya Poshan Anthem'** in New Delhi.
- The aims towards taking the message of making India malnutrition free to all corners of the country.
- The anthem was conceptualised by Union Ministry of Women and Child Development (MoWCD) and has been penned by noted lyricist Prasoon Joshi and sung by Shankar Mahadevan.

National Affairs

- Hallmarking of **gold jewellery and artefacts** will be made mandatory across the country from **January 15, 2021**. The step aims to ensure the purity of the precious metal.
- Public sector trading firm **MMTC** has ordered import of **11,000 metric tonnes of onions from Turkey**.
- The **Election Commission of India** will implement the **political parties Registration Tracking Management System (RTMS)**.
- Union HRD Minister **Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'** and Minister of State for Youth Affairs & Sports **Kiren Rijiju** has jointly launched the **Fit India School Rating System**.
- The Central Government launched the **National Clean Air Programme (NCAP)** as a long-term, time-bound, national-level strategy to tackle the air pollution problem across the country in a comprehensive manner.

States in the News

- Ministry of Information & Broadcasting is organising a “**Multi Media Exhibition**” at **World War II museum, Kisama in Nagaland.**
- President **Ram Nath Kovind** and Prime Minister Narendra Modi greeted the people of Nagaland on its **57th Statehood Day on 01st December 2019.**
- The **20th Edition of Hornbill Festival** began with a colourful blend of culture and tradition with a modern twist at Naga Heritage Kisama **in Nagaland.**
- **Donyi Polo Cultural & Charitable Trust and Indigenous Faith & Cultural Society of Arunachal Pradesh** celebrated ‘**Indigenous Faith Day**’ on 1st December.
- **Uttar Pradesh government** has decided to provide **25 per cent subsidy and 100 per cent stamp duty** waiver for setting up the defence industry in the state.
- **Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik** has launched ‘**Madhu**’ app. It is an e-learning mobile phone application which will help school students to understand their subjects in a better and most efficient way. The app is named after ‘**Utkal Gourab**’ **Madhusudan Das.**
- Union Minister for Jal Shakti **Gajendra Singh Shekhawat** and Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat inaugurated the **14 MLD sewage treatment plant (STP)** in Sarai village near Haridwar in the presence of Sweden’s King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia.
- The Union Minister for food processing inaugurated **Avantee mega Food Park** in **Dewas, Madhya Pradesh.**

International Affairs

- The **G20 Presidency** has been taken over by **Saudi Arabia from Japan.** Saudi Arabia has become the 1st Arab nation to assume the G20 presidency.
- Iraqi Prime Minister **Adel Abdul Mahdi** has submitted his resignation to Parliament amid ongoing **anti-government protests across the country.**
- The **Global Migration Film Festival (GMFF)** was organised in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The festival screened **15 films** on the theme of “**migration and its various aspects**”.
- The **National Assembly of Republic of Mauritius** has unanimously elected **Prithvirajsing Roopun**, as new President of the island nation, a largely ceremonial post.

Schemes and Committees

- The government has launched a drive to enroll one crore beneficiaries under the **Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan (PM-SYM)** and the National Pension Scheme for Traders and Self Employed Persons (NPS-Traders) by March next year.

Agreements/MoUs Signed

- **The Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has agreed to advance a loan of **US \$206 million** to develop water supply and sewerage infrastructure in **Tiruchi and other cities in Tamil Nadu.**

Special Offer

**IBPS CLERK 2019
PRELIMS**

WITH VIDEO SOLUTIONS

35 TOTAL TESTS

Bilingual | Validity : 2 Months

Banking/Economy/Business News

- **Walmart India**, in partnership with HDFC Bank, launched a co-branded credit card exclusively for members of its Best Price Modern Wholesale “B2B Cash & Carry” stores, offering “**free credit up to 50 days**.”
- The **National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF)** of India and **Canada Pension Plan Investment Board (CPPIB)** have agreed for CPPIB to invest up to **\$600 million through the NIIF Master Fund**.
- The **Online trucking platform BlackBuck** has partnered with private lenders IDFC Bank and Yes Bank to provide **FASTags to truck owners free of cost**.
- The ties between **India and Bangladesh transcend the strategic partnership**. The multidimensional relationship between the two countries covers not only traditional areas like trade, commerce, security and border management but also new areas such as IT, space and nuclear science among others.
- **Investor Education & Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA)** works under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with **Bank of Baroda (BoB)** to spread customer awareness and investor education and reaching out to investors and stakeholders.
- The **International Finance Corporation (IFC)**, a unit of the World Bank Group, has anchored an investment round of **\$200million** in **Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Limited (MMFSL)**.
- **Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB)** and **Canara, HSBC, Oriental Bank of Commerce, Life Insurance Company Ltd.** signed an MoU for **bancassurance (for selling life insurance products through the branches of KVGB)**.
- The country's foreign exchange reserves crossed the **\$450-billion** mark for the first time ever on the back of strong inflows which enabled the central bank to buy dollars from the market, thus checking any sharp appreciation of the rupee.
- **HDFC ERGO general insurance company**, India's third-largest non-life insurance provider in the private sector, has launched “**my: health Woman Suraksha policy**”, a comprehensive medical insurance scheme specially designed for women.

Appointments/Resignations

- The **National Council of Science Museums (NCSM)** and **IIT (Indian Institutes of Technology) Gandhinagar and Kharagpur**, have joined hands to develop **Gandhipedia**, an online repository of books, letters and speeches written by Mahatma Gandhi, to commemorate his 150th birth anniversary.
- The yearly magazine called **'Borderman'** was released by **Nityanand Rai**, Minister of State for Home Affairs on the occasion of 55th raising day of BSF (Border Security Force) organized by the Ministry of Home Affairs
- **Soma Roy Burman** has assumed the charge of new Controller General of Accounts (CGA). She is the **24th CGA and the seventh woman to hold this coveted position**.
- Lt Gen **Podali Shankar Rajeshwar** took over as the **14th Commander-in-Chief of the Andaman & Nicobar Command (CINCAN)**.
- **Hari Mohan** has taken over the charge as Chairman, **Ordnance Factory Board (OFB)**. He will replace **Saurabh Kumar** who superannuated from the services.
- The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** board has unanimously elected **Masatsugu Asakawa** as its new president.

Books and Authors

- **Sundar Pichai** promoted as Alphabet Inc. CEO after Google co-founders **Larry Page and Sergey Brin** have announced that they are stepping down from the leadership role of the parent company Alphabet.
- **K Vijay Kumar** has been appointed as a **senior security advisor** in the Union Home Ministry headed by Amit Shah.

Defence News

- The **7th edition of India-Sri Lanka joint exercise "MITRA SHAKTI"** begins at Aundh Military Station, Pune.
- India successfully test-fired its indigenously developed surface-to-surface nuclear-capable **Prithvi-II missile** off Odisha coast.
- The **8th India-China joint training exercise 'HAND-IN-HAND 2019'** with the theme counter-terrorism under United Nations mandate is scheduled to be conducted at Umroi, Meghalaya from 07 to 20 December 2019.
- **Exercise INDRA 2019** a joint, tri-services exercise **between India and Russia** will be conducted in India from 10-19 December 2019 simultaneously at Babina (near Jhansi), Pune, and Goa.

Awards and Recognitions

- The Ministry of Environment gave away awards for a short film competition on the environment. Several school students and professionals were awarded prizes for their documentaries and films by **Ravi Agrawal, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment at the ceremony organised by the ministry and Centre for Media Studies (CMS).**

- English author Tony Joseph has won the **12th 'Shakti Bhatt First Book Prize'**. He was awarded for his 2018 book, **"Early Indians: The Story of Our Ancestors and Where We Came From"**.
- Barcelona forward **Lionel Messi** has won the **Ballon d'Or award** for the world's best player for a record 6th time.
- The **Mumbai Central station of Railways** was conferred with the **'Eat Right Station'** certification with four stars rating by the **Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)**, as a part of 'Eat Right India' movement launched last year. The Mumbai Central Railway Station is the country's first "Eat Right Station."
- **Arun Jaitley** former Finance Minister of India was bestowed with the **Economic Times (ET) Lifetime Achievement Award for Public Service 2019.**
- **Joker' fame Joaquin Rafael Phoenix**, American actor from California, United States (US) has been bestowed with the **PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) 'Person of the Year' Award 2019.**
- The **New Zealand cricket team** has been awarded the **Christopher Martin-Jenkins Spirit of Cricket award.**

TEST SERIES

Bilingual

AGRICULTURE FIELD OFFICER PRELIMS

25 MOCK PAPERS

Validity : 12 Months

- Bollywood actor **Shilpa Shetty's** fitness app "**Shilpa Shetty App**" has been awarded **Google Play's Best Apps of 2019**. The app was awarded in the category of '**Personal Growth**'.
- President of India conferred 36 awardees with the **National Florence Nightingale Awards 2019** at an event in Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. The award was given to **Late Lini Sajeesh** from Kozhikode, Kerala, who died while on duty caring for a Nipah (NiV) virus-infected patient in Kerala.

Summit and Conference

- Defence Minister addresses the **Armed Forces Flag Day-CSR Conclave** in New Delhi.
- The government has launched the **4th round of Regional Connectivity Scheme - UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik)** to further enhance the connectivity to remote and regional areas of the country.
- Chief of the Air Staff of India is participating in the **Pacific Air Chiefs' Symposium 2019 (PACS 2019)** at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. The theme for this year's symposium is 'A Collaborative Approach to Regional Security'.
- The United Kingdom(UK) hosted two days organised 2019 **NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) Summit** in London.
- Commerce and Industry Minister inaugurated the **3rd edition of National Public Procurement Conclave** in New Delhi.

Ranks and Reports

- The **Comptroller and Auditor General's report** stated that the railways recorded an operating ratio of **98.44%** in **2017-18**. The above operating ratio was the worst in the last 10 years. Operating ratio is a measure of expenditure against the revenue.
- **Aberdeen Police station** in the **Andaman and Nicobar Islands** ranks 1st in the list of the best-performing police stations in the country while dealing with a property offence, a crime against women and weaker sections.

Sports News

- **Mercedes racer Lewis Hamilton** has won the **Abu Dhabi Grand Prix held in Abu Dhabi, UAE**.
- The **13th edition of South Asian Games** has officially kicked off after the opening ceremony at **Dasharath Stadium in Kathmandu, Nepal**.
- **Star wrestlers Vinesh Phogat and Sakshi Malik** registered convincing wins in the finals to claim gold medals at the Senior Wrestling National Championships in Jalandhar, Punjab.

Important Days

- **World AIDS Day**, designated on **01st December** every year. The theme of this year's World AIDS Day is "Communities make the difference".
- The **United Nations observes International Day for the Abolition of Slavery** on **2nd of December** every year.
- **International Day of Persons with Disabilities** is being observed on the **3rd of December** every year. The theme this year is - **Promoting the Participation of Persons with Disabilities and their leadership: Taking Action on the 2030 Development Agenda**.
- The **International Volunteer Day (IVD)** is observed across the world on **5 December** every year. This year theme is " **Volunteer for an inclusive future**".
- **World Soil Day** is celebrated annually on the **5th of December** at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) headquarters in Rome, Italy.
- The United Nations General Assembly officially recognized **7 December as International Civil Aviation Day** globally. The theme of this year Civil Aviation Day is "**75 Years of Connecting the World**".

Obituaries

- Former Hollywood actress **Shelley Morrison** passed away recently.
- **Baskar Menon, Veteran Journalist in the Press Trust of India (PTI)** passes away.

Miscellaneous News

- Minister of State for Human Resource Development **Sanjay Dhotre** inaugurated the India Pavilion at **International Book Fair in Guadalajara, Mexico**. India is the '**Guest of Honour Country**' in book fair and becomes the first Asian country to participate as 'Guest of Honour' in the Fair. This fair is the biggest book fair in the Spanish-speaking world.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi extended greetings to **Border Security Force (BSF) personnel on the organization's 55th raising day (01st December 2019)**.
- The **35th anniversary of Bhopal Gas Tragedy** is being observed across the country. It is one of the world's worst industrial disaster that claimed thousands of lives on the night of December 2, 1984.
- Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu launched the new **Rotavirus vaccine: ROTAVAC-5D** designed and developed by Bharat Biotech in New Delhi.
- **Government of India (GoI) & Portugal** has decided to cooperate in the setting up of an India's 1st National Maritime Heritage Museum at the ancient Indian site of **Lothal in Gujarat** with the aim to boost the underwater or marine archaeology.
- Tennis legend **Roger Federer** will become the first living person in Switzerland to have a coin minted in his honour. **The Federal Mint, Swissmint, has created a 20-franc silver coin bearing Federer's image**.
- The nation is paying homage to **Bharat Ratna Dr BR Ambedkar** on his **64th Mahaparinirvan Diwas** (death anniversary) on **6 December**.

- **Jammu and Kashmir** Government has approved the **Leave Travel Concession (LTC)** in favour of its employees.
- **Ripu Daman Bevli** was appointed as **Plogging Ambassador of India** by Kiren Rijiju, Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS) on the 50th Fit India Plogging Run held in Delhi's Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium.

Static Takeaways

- Barham Salih is the current President of Iraq.
- Baghdad is the capital of Iraq.
- The Iraqi dinar is the currency of Iraq.
- Nagaland CM: Neiphiu Rio, Governor: Shri R. N. Ravi.
- Headquarters of United Nations: New York, USA; Founded: 24 October 1945.
- Secretary-General of the United Nations: Antonio Guterres.
- Chief of International Organisation of Migrants (IOM) in Bangladesh: Giorgi Gigouri.
- IOM is the UN migration agency established in 1951.
- Chief Minister of Nagaland: Neiphiu Rio; Governor of Nagaland: R N Ravi.
- Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh: Pema Khandu.
- Governor of Arunachal Pradesh: B. D. Mishra.
- Ordnance Factory Board Founded: 1712.
- Ordnance Factory Board Headquarters: Kolkata, West Bengal.
- Defence Minister of India: Rajnath Singh.
- President of Nepal: Bidya Devi Bhandari.
- Vice President: Nanda Bahadur Pun.
- Prime Minister of Nepal: KP Sharma Oli.
- Sunil Arora is the Chief Election Commissioner of India.
- The Prime Minister of Mauritius: Pravind Kumar Jugnauth.
- UP Present CM: Yogi Adityanath, Governor: Anandiben Patel.
- ADB established: 1966, ADB is owned by 68 members.
- Google established: 4 September 1998; Headquarters: Mountain View, California, United States.
- Country Director of ADB's India Resident Mission: Kenichi Yokoyama.

- Headquarters of Walmart India: Gurgaon, Haryana.
- President and CEO of Walmart India: Krish Iyer.
- DRDO Chairman: G Satheesh Reddy, Established: 1958, Headquarters: New Delhi.
- UDAN scheme came under: Ministry of Civil Aviation.
- Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Civil Aviation: Hardeep Singh Puri.
- Formation of International Finance Corporation: July 20, 1956.
- Headquarters of International Finance Corporation: Washington, D.C., U.S.
- Membership of International Finance Corporation: 184 countries.
- CEO of International Finance Corporation: Philippe Le Hou rou.
- Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS): Admiral Karambir Singh.
- Governor of RBI: Shaktikant Das; Headquarters: Mumbai; Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata.
- FSSAI founded: August 2011.
- FSSAI Act: Food and Standards Act, 2006.
- FSSAI Headquarters: New Delhi.
- FSSAI Chairperson: Rita Teatota.
- FSSAI Chief Executive Officer: Shri Pawan Kumar Agarwal.
- China Capital: Beijing; Currency: Renminbi.
- Chief of the Air Staff: Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria.
- Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank founded: September 12, 2005.
- Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank Headquarters: Dharwad, Karnataka.
- Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank Chairman: Puttaganti Gopi Krishna.
- Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank Sponsored by: Syndicate Bank.
- Gujarat CM: Vijay Rupani; Governor: Acharya Dev Vrat; Capital: Gandhinagar.
- Capital of Uttarakhand: Dehradun; Governor: Baby Rani Maurya.
- Union Minister for food processing: Harsimrat Kaur Badal.
- National Investment and Infrastructure Fund of India MD and CEO: Sujoy Bose.
- IDFC Bank MD & CEO: V. Vaidyanathan; HDFC Tagline: Always You First.
- Yes Bank MD & CEO: Ravneet Gill; Yes Bank Tagline: Experience our Expertise.
- Vladimir Putin is President of Russia.
- Moscow is the capital city of Russia.
- The Russian ruble is the currency Russia.
- Member countries of NATO: 29; Founded: 4 April 1949; Headquarters: Brussels, Belgium.
- Union Commerce and Industry Minister: Piyush Goyal.
- RBI 25th Governor: Shaktikant Das; Headquarters: Mumbai; Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata.
- HDFC ERGO MD & CEO: Ritesh Kumar; Founded: 2002.
- HDFC ERGO Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- National Council of Science Museums Director-General: A. D. Choudhury; Founded: 4 April 1978; Headquarters: Kolkata, India; Parent Organization: Ministry of Culture.
- Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change: Prakash Javadekar.
- India's High Commissioner to Bangladesh: Riva Ganguly Das.
- Lieutenant (Lt) Governors of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K): Girish Chandra Murmu.
- Bank of Baroda (BoB) Headquarters: Vadodara, Gujarat.
- Bank of Baroda (BoB) Non-Executive Chairman: Hasmukh Adhia.
- Bank of Baroda (BoB): India's International Bank.
- May 12 is observed as the International Day of Nurses.

TEST SERIES

Bilingual



**LIC ASSISTANT
MAINS**

25 TOTAL TESTS

Validity : 12 Months