

# Weekly One Liners 09<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> of December 2019

## Most Important Current affairs

### India among top 10 countries with higher climate performance

- India has been ranked **9th** in 2019's **Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI)** at the **COP25** climate summit in the Spanish capital **Madrid**. The index is jointly presented by **Germanwatch, NewClimate Institute** and **Climate Action Network**.
- The authors of the report noted that the **first three places** of the ranking remain **unoccupied**.
- While some EU countries such as Sweden (4th) and Denmark (5th), one of the best climbers, achieve overall high or very high ratings, the performance of EU countries varies largely.
- Only two G20 countries i.e. the **UK (7th)** and **India (9th)** are ranked in the **high category** while **eight G20 countries** were placed in the **worst category** of the index.
- Australia (56th out of 61), Saudi Arabia and above all the US perform particularly poor.
- **China**, the largest global emitter slightly improves its ranking in the index to **30th place**.

### India ranks 129th in Human Development Index 2019

- The **Human Development Index** measures average achievement of the countries in **3 basic dimensions** of human development i.e. **life expectancy, education** and **per capita income**. The index is released by the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**.
- **India** has been ranked **129th** among 189 countries in the Human Development Index 2019.

- India was ranked 130th last year in the index. **Norway, Switzerland, Ireland** occupied the **top three positions** in the index.
- According to the report, **South Asia** was the **fastest growing region** in human development progress showing a 46% growth over 1990-2018, followed by East Asia and the Pacific at 43%.

#### Facts related to India:

- **India's** HDI value increased from **0.431 to 0.647**, which places it above the average for countries in the medium human development group (0.634) and above the average for other South Asian countries (0.642).
- In the **Inequality-adjusted HDI (IHDI)**, **India** was ranked **130th**, losing nearly half the progress (0.647 to 0.477) made in the past 30 years.
- The IHDI indicates percentage loss in HDI due to inequalities. In the **Gender Inequality Index (GII)**, India is at **122** out of 162 countries.

### ISRO launches earth observation satellite "RISAT-2BR1"

- The **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** will launch its earth observation satellite "**RISAT-2BR1**" on **PSLV-C48** from the First Launch Pad (FLP) of Satish Dhawan Space Centre, **Sriharikota**.
- RISAT-2BR1 is a **Radar imaging earth observation satellite** weighing about 628 kg and will be placed into an orbit of 576 km at an inclination of 37 degrees.
- PSLV-C48 is the 50th mission of PSLV and will also **carry 9 customer satellites** of Israel, Italy, Japan and USA as co-passengers.
- These international customer satellites are being launched under a commercial arrangement with New Space India Limited.

### Greta Thunberg named Time Person of the Year for 2019

**Sweden's Greta Thunberg** has been named as **Time magazine's Person of the Year for 2019**. Greta Thunberg is the Swedish schoolgirl who inspired a global movement to fight climate change and became popular with the "**#FridaysForFuture**". She is the **youngest person** to be chosen by the magazine in a tradition that started in 1927. TIME is also expanding Person of the Year to reflect the full range of subjects that TIME covers. For the first time, TIME has chosen the most influential person in a range of fields

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| S. No. | Name                                       | Profession                                  | Category                   |
|--------|--|---|----------------------------|
| 1      | Greta Thunberg                             | Climate activist                            | Person of the Year         |
| 2      | Bob Iger                                   | Chairman and CEO of The Walt Disney Company | Businessperson of the Year |
| 3      | The Public Servants                        | Federal workers of the US                   | Guardians of the Year      |
| 4      | United States women's national soccer team | Women's Soccer                              | Athlete of the Year        |
| 5      | Melissa Jefferson (Lizzo)                  | Singer                                      | Entertainer of the Year    |

**Forbes releases the list 'The World's 100 Most Powerful Women'**

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has been ranked 34th by Forbes in 'The World's 100 Most Powerful Women'. HCL Corporation CEO and Executive Director Roshni Nadar Malhotra and Biocon Founder Kiran Mazumdar Shaw are two other Indians who also featured in the above list.

The Forbes 2019 list of 'The World's 100 Most Powerful Women' has been topped by German Chancellor Angela Merkel, followed by President of the European Central Bank Christine Lagarde in the 2nd spot and Speaker of the US House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi, ranked 3rd. Bangladesh's Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina also featured on the list on the 29th position.

| S.No. | Name                         | Country       |
|-------|------------------------------|---------------|
| 1     | Angela Merkel                | Germany       |
| 2     | Christine Lagarde            | France        |
| 3     | Nancy Pelosi                 | United States |
| 4     | Ursula von der Leyen         | Belgium       |
| 5     | Mary Barra                   | United States |
| 6     | Melinda Gates                | United States |
| 7     | Abigail Johnson              | United States |
| 8     | Ana Patricia Botín           | Spain         |
| 9     | Ginni Rometty                | United States |
| 10    | Marillyn Hewson              | United States |
| 34    | <b>Nirmala Sitharaman</b>    | <b>India</b>  |
| 54    | <b>Roshni Nadar Malhotra</b> | <b>India</b>  |
| 65    | <b>Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw</b>   | <b>India</b>  |
| 100   | Greta Thunberg               | Sweden        |

**National Affairs**

- **Walmart** will train **50,000 entrepreneurs** from the micro, small & medium enterprises (**MSME**) sector by opening 25 institute hubs in India under the '**Walmart Vriddhi Supplier Development Progame**' across the nation in **next 5 years** which would train the MSME entrepreneurs.
- **President Ram Nath Kovind** has laid the foundation stone of the memorial to be built in the memory of the **Paika rebellion**, a **200-year-old armed revolt in 1817** against the British East India Company in **Odisha**.
- The "**Duchifat-3**" is an **Israeli student's made satellite** to be launched from **ISRO's Sriharikota** launch site. The satellite is jointly built by Herzliya Science Center and Sha'ar HaNegev High School **students of Israel**.
- The external affairs ministry is organising the **6th Indian Ocean Dialogue** with the theme "**Indo-Pacific: Re-imagining the Indian Ocean through an Expanded Geography**" and **Delhi Dialogue XI** with the theme of "**Advancing Partnership in Indo-Pacific**" in **New Delhi**.
- **Department of Social Justice and Empowerment** has started the scheme of **National award** for outstanding service in the field of **Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug abuse**. The award will be distributed on the occasion of International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking on 26th of June 2020.
- **Jammu and Kashmir** will host the workshop on **Bamboo cultivation** which focuses on the promotion of Bamboo cultivation in the potential **Kandi** areas of Jammu.
- **Indian Space Research Organization** has begun preparatory works for setting up a **3rd rocket launchpad** in the small coastal hamlet of **Kulashekrappattinam** in the Thuthukudi district of **Tamil Nadu**.
- A **National Tribal Dance Festival** will be held in **Chhattisgarh's** capital Raipur.

**States in the News**

- **Gurgaon's** ambitious **Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC)** has been inaugurated and will serve as the nodal point for all online data related to the Smart City applications, including CCTV-based public safety and adaptive traffic management system, smart parking system, water supply management system, pollution monitoring, property tax management system and asset management system.

- **Human Library event** will be held in **Mysuru, Karnataka** and will generate greater human cohesion across various social, religious and ethnic diversities.
- **Odisha** to set up **45 new fast track courts** out of which 21 courts would be dedicated to cases of rape and sexual harassment of women while the remaining 24 fast track courts will specifically deal with Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) cases.
- The **Andhra Pradesh** Cabinet approves the **A.P. Disha Bill, 2019** (A.P. Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2019) paving the way for awarding the **death penalty** for the **offences of rape and gang-rape** and expediting the verdict in trials of such cases to **21 days**.
- Chief Minister **Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy** inaugurated the **Virtual Police Station** at **Andhra University, Andhra Pradesh**.

### International Affairs

- 34 year old **Sanna Marin** has been elected as **Finland's new prime minister**, making her the youngest head of government in the country's history.
- The **8th edition** of the Embassy's annual film festival titled "**Ambassador's Choice: Screening of Films**" was inaugurated at the auditorium of Embassy of India, **Riyadh**.
- The **world's first fully-electric commercial aircraft** took its inaugural test flight by taking off from the Canadian city of **Vancouver**.
- The representatives from the United States, Mexico and Canada inked a revamped version of their regional trade pact "**United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA)**".

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### Agreements/MoUs Signed

- An MoU has been signed between **National Small Industries Corporation** and **Suadi Aramco (Asia)** for the development of **MSME Ecosystem in India** in Oil & Gas Sector.
- **National Thermal Power Corporation Limited** has signed a term loan agreement of **Rs 5,000 crore** with **State Bank of India** to part finance the capital expenditure of NTPC.
- **Dell Technologies** partnered with **UNESCO MGIEP** (Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace) to enable school teachers to adopt technology in classrooms by using **ICT tools** which are developed by **Dell Aarambh** and **FramerSpace platform**.
- The **Ministry of Shipping (MoS)** has announced that **Mongla** and **Chattogram** (Both in Bangladesh) have been declared as **Ports of Call** under "**Coastal Shipping Agreement**" between India & Bangladesh. The Port of Mongla is declared as Port of Call under PIWT&T (Protocol on Inland Water Transit and Trade ) and Chattogram port is not part of PIWT&T.
- **Maldives government** has signed a contract with a joint venture of **Indian companies** which aims to prepare project report and the development of Addu, which is the 2nd biggest city in the island nation. The project will be **financed by EXIM bank** of India through **line of credit** of **USD 800 million**.

### Banking/Economy/Business News

- **Export-Import Bank of India** has provided **\$500 million** (Rs 3561 crore) **Line of Credit** to **Bangladesh** for defence-related procurement in the neighbouring country.
- Union Government informed that loans worth over **10 lakh crore rupees** have been **sanctioned till 1st November 2019** under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, **PMMY**.
- **National Stock Exchange** has launched **interest rate options** on **10-year Government bonds** maturing in **2029** with a coupon rate of 7.26% and 6.45%.
- **Xiaomi** has formally launched its lending platform "**Mi Credit**" in India for Android phones. Under this, the individuals can avail up to **Rs 1 lakh loan**.
- The **Asian Development Bank** has lowered its forecast for **India's economic growth** in fiscal year 2019-20 to **5.1%**.

## Appointments/Resignations

- The **News Broadcasters Federation (NFB)** has elected editor-in-chief of Republic TV **Arnab Goswami** as the **President** of its governing board.
- The **National Stock Exchange of India Ltd** has appointed **Girish Chandra Chaturvedi** as its new **chairman**.
- **C. Sugandh Rajaram** has been appointed as the next **High Commissioner of India** to the Republic of **Ghana**. He will replace Birender Singh Yadav.

## Schemes and Committees

- The **Puducherry government** unveiled a start-up policy which aims to create a corpus fund of **Rs 10 crores** to support the setting up of **start-up incubators** and to develop **co-working spaces**.

## Defence News

- The **Indian Air Force** has decided to put tail numbers in **30 Rafale jets** with "**BS**" initials after the recently retired Air Force Chief **Birender Singh Dhanoa**. 6 Rafale trainer aircraft will carry **RB** series tail numbers which stands for Air Chief Marshal **RKS Bhadauria**, the current Chief of Air Staff.
- The **UAE** and the **United States** has commenced a joint military exercise '**Iron Union 12**' to enhance the combat and tactical capabilities.
- **4th edition** of International Seminar cum Exhibition on Naval Weapon Systems '**NAVARMS-19**' begins in Institute for Defence Studies and Analysis, Development Enclave, **New Delhi** with the **theme "Make in India - Fight Category: Opportunities and Imperatives"**.

## Awards and Recognitions

- **Kairat Abdrakhmanov** (Kazakhstan), **Nicholas Emiliou** (Cyprus), **Frantisek Ruzicka** (Slovakia), **Volodymyr Yelchenko** (Ukraine) have been honoured with '**The Diwali - Power of One**' award 2019 also known as '**Oscars of Diplomacy**' in recognition and celebration of their work, especially at the United Nations, for a secure and peaceful world.
- **Abu Dhabi** (UAE) has been selected as the **world's leading Sports tourism Destination** at the **26th edition** of the **World Travel Awards (WTA)** being held in Muscat, **Oman**.
- Miss South Africa **Zozibini Tunzi** was crowned **Miss Universe 2019** in Atlanta, **US**.

- Under the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, the **Photo Division** has invited entries for the **8th National Photography Awards**. The National Photography Awards are conferred under **three categories: Lifetime Achievement Award, Award for Professional Photographers, Award for Amateur Photographers**. This year's **theme** for Professional Photographers is '**Life and Water**' and for the Amateur Photographers is '**Cultural Heritage of India**'.
- **Gulu Mirchandani**, the founder chairman of Mirc Electronics Ltd. (**Onida**) has been conferred with "**Lifetime Achievement Award**" by the Consumer Electronics and Appliances Manufacturers Association for his extensive contribution to the consumer electronics industry (**CEAMA**).
- Ethiopia's Prime Minister **Abiy Ahmed** has received the **2019 Nobel Peace Prize** for his efforts to achieve international peace and co-operation. This year's Nobel Peace Prize was the **100th** to be awarded.
- Indian actress **Priyanka Chopra** was honoured for her **20 years of work and contribution in cinema**, at the **Marrakech Film Festival** held at the famous Jemaa el Fna square. Hollywood actor Robert Redford, Moroccan actress Mouna Fettou and filmmaker Bertrand Tavernier were among other people who were honoured at the festival.
- **Odisha** has won the '**World Habitat Award**' for **Jaga Mission** which is also called **Odisha Liveable Habitat Mission (OLHM)**. It is a slum land titling project executed for the benefit of millions of urban-poor people living in slums.
- The Gurugram-based startup **blue Sky Analytics** has created an application called '**Zuri**' that won the Copernicus Masters Award also called Space Oscars, under the Social Entrepreneurship category.
- The **FICCI India Sports Awards 2019** has been awarded to **Railway Sports Promotion Board** under the category of **Best Company Promoting Sports**.

## Summit and Conference

- The Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** addressed the valedictory session of the **54th edition** of **DGsP/IGsP Conference** which was held in **Pune**.
- **Switzerland** will be the partner country at the **17th edition of BioAsia2020** to be held with the theme "**Today For Tomorrow**" in Hyderabad, **Telangana**.
- The '**International Seminar on Climate Smart Farming Systems**' for BIMSTEC countries began in **New Delhi**.

- **Bureau of Police Research & Development (BPR&D)** has organized the **37th National Symposium of Heads of Police Training Institutions in New Delhi** with the theme of **'Optimal Utilization of Resources-Through Sharing and Networking'**.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh chaired a meeting of the **Consultative Committee of Parliament** for the Ministry of Defence in **New Delhi**.

### Ranks and Reports

- According to a report by the **Stockholm International Peace Research Institute**, the **worldwide arms sales** rose by nearly **5%** in **2018** and the market is **dominated** by the **United States**. US firm **Lockheed Martin** is the world's **largest arms maker** with the sales accounting for **11%** of the world market.

### Sports News

- **World Anti-Doping Agency** has **banned Russia** for 4 years from participation in global sporting events including the **2020 Tokyo Olympics** and the **2022 Beijing Winter Olympics**.
- Bangladesh's Prime Minister **Sheikh Hasina** has inaugurated the special edition of **Bangabandhu Bangladesh Premier League T20 cricket championship** to mark Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's birth centenary in 2020.
- **R. Praggnanandhaa** from India has won the **FIDE Open category** of the **London Chess Classic** held in London. He finished joint first with Anton Smirnov of Australia both scoring 7.5 points.
- **Wasim Jaffer** has become the **first player** in Indian cricket to feature in **150 Ranji matches**. He is followed by Madhya Pradesh batsman Devendra Bundela (145 matches) and Amol Muzumdar (136 matches), who have played for Mumbai and Assam.
- Actor **Suniel Shetty** has been selected as the **brand ambassador** of **National Anti-Doping Agency NADA**.
- **India** has finished on top with **312 medals** comprising 174 gold, 93 silver and 45 bronze in the **13th South Asian Games** recently concluded in Nepal.
- Indian match referee **GS Lakshmi** is set to become the **first woman match referee** to officiate a **men's ODI match**.
- Indian women's hockey team captain **Rani Rampal** and ace pistol shooter **Saurabh Chaudhary** won the **Sports Person of the Year** awards at the **FICCI India Sports Awards 2019**.

- The **International Hockey Federation** unveiled a **new world ranking system for 2020** in Lausanne, Switzerland. It will come into effect from the 1st January 2020. The new ranking will be match-based instead of tournament-based calculation.
- The top tier of Spanish club football "**La Liga**" has announced cricketer **Rohit Sharma** as its **brand ambassador in India**.

### Important Days

- The **United Nations** observes **Human Rights Day** on **10 December** every year to acknowledge the advocates and defenders of human rights around the world. The **theme** for year 2019 is "**Youth Standing Up for Human Rights**".
- The **United Nations** observes **9 December** as the **International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of this Crime**. It aims to raise awareness of the Genocide Convention and its role in combating and preventing the crime of genocide and to commemorate and honour its victims.
- The United Nations observes **International Anti-Corruption Day** on **9 December** to raise public awareness of corruption and what people can do to fight it. The **theme** for 2019 is "**United Against Corruption**".
- The United Nations observes **International Day of Neutrality** on **December 12** every year.
- **International Universal Health Coverage Day (UHC Day)** is celebrated globally on **12 December** to raise awareness of the need for strong and resilient health systems and universal health coverage with multi-stakeholder partners. The **theme** for the 2019 UHC Day is "**Keep the promise**".

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### Obituaries

- **Braj Bihari Kumar**, the Chairman of Indian Council of Social Science Research (**ICSSR**) **passed away**. He was appointed as the chairman of the ICSSR in May 2017.
- The inventor of **Universal Product Code(UPC)** or **Barcode**, **George Joseph Laurer**, passed away.
- The former **US Federal Reserve** chief **Paul Volcker** passed away.
- Former Nandi Award winner and renowned Telugu actor and writer **Gollapudi Maruti Rao** passed away recently.

### Miscellaneous News

- **Khadi and Village Industries Commission** distributed **500 Bee Boxes, 500 Electric Pottery Wheels** and **200 Leather Tool Kits** in an event in **Boondi District of Rajasthan**.
- The **UNESCO-recognized Nilgiri Mountain Railway** conducted a special service for foreign tourists on special steam engine from **Coonor to Ooty**.
- The **Federation of Indian Association** has invited **Super 30** founder **Anand Kumar** to a function on the eve of India's **Republic Day celebrations** in New York. Year "2020" also marks the 50th anniversary of FIA.
- Jammu and Kashmir's Lt Governor Girish Chandra Murmu has inaugurated the **72-metre long Multi Cell Box Type Load Class 70** bridge built by **Border Roads Organisation** in **Rajouri**. The bridge spans over Draj nallah and connects Draj Area to Tehsil Kotranka area under District Rajouri.
- **Archaeological Survey of India** has identified **138 numbers** of monuments as **Must-See Monuments**. The 'Must See' list of ASI features first-class Indian monuments and archaeological sites including those that feature on UNESCO's (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) World Heritage List.
- **PUMA** has signed Indian men's football team captain **Sunil Chhetri** as its **brand ambassador**.
- **PepsiCo** has appointed actor **Salman Khan** as the new **brand ambassador** of its flagship Pepsi brand of carbonated beverage in India.
- Amazon's audiobook company **Audible** has launched a new app "**Audible Suno**" in **India** which features original audio series aiming to expand Audible's reach in India's highly competitive digital entertainment and streaming space.

### Static Takeaways

- UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, France. Director-General of UNESCO Audrey Azoulay.
- President of WADA: Sir Craig Reedie; Headquarters: Montreal, Canada.
- Indian Airforce founded: 8 October 1932, India; Headquarters: New Delhi.
- Chairman, President & CEO of Lockheed Martin: Marillyn A. Hewson.
- President of the UAE: Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan; Capital: Abu Dhabi; Currency: Dirham.
- Diwali Foundation USA Chairman: Ranju Batra.
- National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) established in 1955.
- NSE's Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer: Vikram Limaye.
- Exim bank Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra; Founded: 1 January 1982.
- Gurdeep Singh is the Chairman and Managing Director of NTPC.
- Chief Minister of Haryana: Manohar Lal Khattar, Governor: Satyadeo Narayan Arya.
- Saudi Arabia Capital: Riyadh; Currency: Saudi riyal.
- Finland Capital: Helsinki, Currency: Euro.
- Odisha Governor: Ganeshi Lal; Chief Minister: Naveen Patnaik.
- Nepal Prime Minister: K P Sharma Oli; Capital: Kathmandu.
- ISRO Director: Sivan, Headquarters: Bengaluru, Established: 1969.
- Ethiopia capital: Addis Ababa; Currency: Ethiopian birr.
- Odisha CM: Naveen Patnaik; Governor: Ganeshi Lal.
- founder of Archaeological Survey of India: Alexander Cunningham.
- Capital of Switzerland: Bern; Currency of Switzerland: Swiss franc.
- Asian Development Bank Headquarters: Manila, Philippines; President: Takehiko Nakao.
- Chief of the Naval Staff: Karambir Singh.
- UNESCO formation: 4 November 1946; Headquarters: Paris, France; Director-General: Audrey Azoulay.
- Capital of Odisha: Bhubaneswar; Governor of Odisha: Ganeshi Lal.
- Canada Capital: Ottawa; Currency: Canadian dollar.
- Lieutenant (Lt) Governors of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K): Girish Chandra Murmu.
- Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment: Thaawar Chand Gehlot.

- The BIMSTEC member states 'Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Nepal and Bhutan are among the countries dependent on the Bay of Bengal.
- Lt. Governors Puducherry: Dr Kiran Bedi.
- Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Shipping: Mansukh L. Mandaviya.
- FICCI stands for Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry.
- CM of Andhra Pradesh: YS Jaganmohan Reddy.
- CM of Chhattisgarh: Bhupesh Baghel; Governor of Chhattisgarh: Anusuiya Uikey.
- ISRO Director: K.Sivan; Headquarters: Bengaluru; Established: 1969.
- CM of Andhra Pradesh: YS Jaganmohan Reddy.

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