

Weekly One Liners 17th February to 23rd February 2020

Most Important Current Affairs of February

UN report: India Ranks 77th on Sustainability Index

- **India** has been ranked at **77th position** in the **Sustainability Index 2020** and **131st** on the **Flourishing Index 2020**, according to a UN-backed report. The report commissioned by the World Health Organization (WHO), UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) and The Lancet medical journal.

- **Norway** leads the **table** for survival, health, education and nutrition rates – followed by South Korea and the Netherlands. The central African Republic, Chad and Somalia come at the bottom.
- The Sustainability Index 2020 takes into account per capita carbon emissions and the ability of children in a nation to live healthy lives. It ranks countries on excess carbon emissions compared with the 2030 target. The Flourishing Index 2020 measures the best chance at survival and well-being for children

ESPN India Awards 2019 announced

The **ESPN India Awards 2019** was announced. The ESPN.in Awards recognises the best individual and team performances in Indian sport on a calendar-year basis. ESPN Multi-Sport Awards recognised achievements across 10 categories.

Below is the complete list of winners of **ESPN India Awards 2019**:

S. No.	Award	Name Winner
1	Sportsperson of the Year (Female)	PV Sindhu (Badminton)
2	Sportsperson of the Year (Male)	Saurabh Chaudhary (Pistol shooter)
3	Emerging Sportsperson of the Year	Deepak Punia (Freestyle wrestler)
4	Coach of the Year	Pullela Gopichand (Badminton)
5	Team of the Year	Manu Bhaker-Saurabh Chaudhary (10m air pistol)
6	Lifetime Achievement award	Balbir Singh Sr (Hockey)
7	Comeback of the Year	Koneru Humpy (Chess player)
8	Differently-abled Athlete of the Year	Manasi Joshi (Badminton)
9	Moment of the Year	PV Sindhu's World Championships final win
10	The Courage award	Dutee Chand (Athlete)

20th Laureus Awards 2020 announced in Berlin

- The **Laureus World Sports Awards** is an annual award ceremony honouring individuals and teams from the world of **sports** along with sporting achievements throughout the year. It was established in **1999** by Laureus Sport for Good Foundation founding patrons Daimler and Richemont.
- This is the **20th anniversary** of the prestigious Laureus Award which celebrates the best in the world of sport. The event was held in **Berlin, Germany**.

Below is the complete list of winners of **Laureus World Sports Awards**:

S. No.	Award	Name Winner
1	Laureus World Sportsman of the Year:	Lewis Hamilton and Lionel Messi
2	Laureus World Sportswoman of the Year	Simone Biles
3	Laureus World Team of the Year	South Africa Men's Rugby Team
4	Laureus Best Sporting Moment	Carried on the shoulders of a nation' – Sachin

		Tendulkar
5	Laureus World Breakthrough of the Year	Egan Bernal
6	Laureus World Comeback of the Year	Sophia Flörsch
7	Laureus World Sports person of the Year with a Disability	Oksana Masters
8	Laureus World Action Sports person of the Year:	Chloe Kim
9	Laureus Lifetime Achievement Award:	Dirk Nowitzki
10	Laureus Academy Exceptional Achievement Award	Spanish Basketball Federation
11	Laureus Sport for Good Award	South Bronx United

National Affairs

- **India** is switching to the world's cleanest petrol and diesel i.e. from Bharat stage-IV (BS-IV) to **Bharat stage-VI** (BS-VI) from **April 1, 2020**.
- The **North East Frontier Railway Construction Organisation** has built **India's tallest railway pier bridge** which is **100 metres tall** equivalent to a 33-storey building, across Makru river in the Tamenglong district of **Manipur**.
- The **4th Anniversary** of the launch of **Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission** (SPMRM) was being observed which was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 21st February 2016.
- Symposium on "**Emerging Opportunities for Indian Textiles and Crafts**" which was **chaired** by Union Minister of Textiles and Women and Child Development **Smriti Zubin Irani**, was held in **New Delhi**. The symposium was organized by Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts under the aegis of Ministry of Textiles, Government of India.
- Government of India will set up **Central Consumer Protection Authority** (CCPA) by the first week of April 2020 under the **Consumer Protection Act 2019**.
- Union Cabinet has approved the **2nd Phase** of the **Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen** till 2024-25 to ensure that no one is left behind and everyone uses a toilet.
- Union Cabinet has approved the constitution of the **22nd Law Commission of India** which will give recommendations on different aspects of law which are entrusted to it.
- The Delhi International Airport Ltd has declared "**Indira Gandhi International Airport**" of Delhi as India's **first single-use plastic-free** airport.
- The Ministry of Textiles has organized "**Kala Kumbh**" exhibition in **New Delhi** to promote Geographical Indication (GI) craft and heritage of India.
- The Indian Railways' **South Central Railways** (SCR) zone has become the 1st zonal railway in the country

to have functional "**energy neutral**" railway stations on the network.

- Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar released the **Reference Annual Bharat 2020 & India 2020** in New Delhi.

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Memory Based Package

- ◆ Based on Papers of 22nd Feb 2020
- ◆ (1+2) Full Length Mocks

Bilingual

International Affairs

- **Bangladesh** has observed the "**Shaheed Dibash**" which is also known as '**Amar Ekushey**' to commemorate and to pay tribute to the martyrs of language movement.
- Prime Minister of **Ireland Leo Varadkar** has **resigned**.
- The **Financial Action Task Force (FATF)** has decided to keep **Pakistan** on the **FATF Grey List** till June 2020.
- **Pakistan** has successfully completed the flight test of the air-launched cruise missile **Ra'ad-II**.
- Amazon CEO **Jeff Bezos** has announced the launch of "**Bezos Earth Fund**" to combat Climate Change with a contribution of **\$10 billion**.
- The government of **Nepal** has observed the **70th National Democracy Day** on **19th February**.
- **Ashraf Ghani** has won the **Presidential elections of Afghanistan** and will become the President of Afghanistan for the **2nd time**.

- **Bangladesh and Nepal** have agreed to sign a **Free Trade Agreement** to enhance trade between the two countries.
- External Affairs Minister **Dr S Jaishankar** will inaugurate **Indian Pavilion** at **70th Berlin International Film Festival** in Germany.
- Indian-origin **Alok Sharma** has been named the new **UK Minister** in charge of the crunch **UN climate talks** to be hosted by **Britain**.

States in the News

- **Haryana** government has decided to open **Atal Kisan – Majdoor canteens** across the state to provide affordable and cheap meals to farmers and labourers at a concessional rate of 10 rupees per plate.
- “**Run for India Tea**” has been organized in collaboration by **Tripura Tea Development Corporation (TTDC)** and **Tea Board of India** in Tripura to further promote and popularise Tripura tea alongside India tea and to boost the tea industry in the state.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched 50 development projects worth over **1,200 crore rupees** at **Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh**.
- **Kerala** government has launched “**Yodhav (Warrior)**” mobile app (application) at Kochi, Kerala through which the public can inform police about drug abuse and its distribution.
- ‘**Pyaar ka Paudha**’ (a plant of love) campaign has been launched by the **Bihar government’s** Department of Environment and Forest in Patna to encourage the practice of planting trees in the state.
- **Uttarakhand** Chief Minister has **launched** the **web portal** of **Shri Badrinath** and **Shri Kedarnath** temple committee. The web portal has been developed by Uttarakhand state National Informatics Centre.
- The **Maharashtra** government has announced **5-day working week** for **state government employees**.

Agreements/MoUs Signed

- **HDFC Bank, Mastercard** and **SAP Concur** have joined hands for spending management services for the corporate sector.
- The **Gujarat government** has signed an MoU with **State Bank of India** to facilitate approval of loans to entrepreneurs in the **MSME sector** with ease and within a short time-frame.
- The **Government of India** has signed **USD 450 million loan** agreement with the **World Bank** to support the national programme “**Atal Bhujal Yojana (ABHY): National Groundwater Management Improvement Programme**”.

Banking/Economy/Business News

- The **National Company Law Appellate Tribunal** has approved the **Rs 19,700 crore** resolution plan of JSW Steel to take over the bankrupt Bhushan Power and Steel.
- According to the “**World Population Review**”, **India** has emerged as the **5th-largest world economy in 2019**, overtaking the United Kingdom and France.
- **Moody’s** Investors Service has cut **India’s 2020 Gross Domestic Product (GDP)** growth forecast to **5.4%** from 6.6% and the next financial year (**2020-21**) growth rate estimate to **5.8%** from 6.7%.

Appointments/Resignations

- **Mahant Nriya Gopal Das** has been elected as the **president** and **Champat Rai** as the **general secretary** of the **Ram Janmabhoomi Teertha Kshetra Trust**.
- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has appointed retired IAS officers **Amarjeet Sinha** and **Bhaskar Khulbe** as the **Advisers to Prime Minister Narendra Modi**.
- **Sanjay Kothari** has been selected as the new **Central Vigilance Commissioner** while **Bimal Julka** as the new **Chief Information Commissioner** in the Central Information Commission.
- **Australia** has appointed **Barry O’Farrell** as the next high **commissioner to India**. He will be succeeding Harinder Sidhu.
- **GoAir** has appointed **Vinay Dube** as its new **chief executive officer (CEO)**.

Defence News

- **Seminar on Indian Defence Equipment** was organized in **Dhaka** by the **High Commission of India in Bangladesh** to pursue further cooperation between India and Bangladesh in the field of defence technologies.
- The Chief of the Defence staff (CDS) General Bipin Rawat has announced the plan of establishing the **first Integrated Tri-Services Command** which will be responsible for **handling the air defence of the entire country**.

Summit and Conference

- The **13th Conference of Parties (COP)** of the Convention on the **Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)** will be held at **Gandhinagar, Gujarat**. The **theme** of the Conference is **"Migratory species connect the planet and we welcome them home"**.
- **Gujarat** hosts brainstorming session **"Chintan Shivir"** at Kevadia in Gujarat to focus on the future prospects of the coal sector.
- The 5th edition of **Difficult Dialogues** began in **Panji, Goa** with focus on the **"State of Law"**.
- The annual **All India Conference of the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT)** was held in **New Delhi** to discuss issues related to the work of CAT, including structural and institutional issues.
- The **3rd edition** of the **Global Ministerial Conference on Road Safety** will be held in **Stockholm, Sweden** with a **theme "Achieving Global Goals 2030"**.
- The Government of **Telangana** hosting **Bio-Asia Summit 2020** in **Hyderabad** to explore the capabilities of Life Science Companies and their investments. The **theme** of the Summit: **Today for Tomorrow**.
- The **International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)** 43rd Governing Council meeting was held in **Rome, Italy** with the **theme "Investing in sustainable food systems to end hunger by 2030"**.

Ranks and Reports

- According to the **22nd edition** of the **world language database Ethnologue**, **English, Chinese and Hindi** secured the **top three** positions as most spoken language of the world in 2019.

Sports News

- **Ross Taylor** of **New Zealand** has become the first player in the cricketing world to play **100 matches** in all the **three formats** of the game i.e. **One Day International matches, T20 International matches and Test matches**.
- **BCCI** has announced the schedule for the **13th edition** of the **Indian Premier League 2020** which will commence on 29th March 2020 and conclude on 24th May 2020.
- The **Asian Football Confederation (AFC)** has announced that **India** will host **AFC Women's Asian Cup in 2022**.
- **India** will host the **FIFA Under-17 Women's Football World Cup 2020** comprising 5 cities namely Ahmedabad, Bhubaneswar, Guwahati, Kolkata and Navi Mumbai.
- The All India Football Federation (AIFF) has received the Asian Football Confederation's **"Grassroots Charter Bronze Level"** membership to promote its basic-level events as AFC recognised.
- The International Hockey Federation (FIH) announced that **India** will host **2021 Junior Men's Hockey World Cup**.
- Indian chess master **Koneru Humpy** has won the **Cairns Cup chess tournament** held at **St.Louis, US**.
- The Tokyo 2020 Organising Committee has revealed the official Games **motto: "United by Emotion"** for **Tokyo 2020 Olympics**.
- **Asian Wrestling Championship 2020** begins in **New Delhi**.
- The **National Anti Doping Agency (NADA)** has imposed a ban of 4 years on **Haryana's javelin thrower Amit Dahiya** for avoiding sample collection and for his attempt of trying to cheat officials during the 2nd National Javelin Throw Open Championship 2019 held at SAI Centre in Sonapat.
- Indian left-arm spinner **Pragyan Ojha** has announced his **retirement** from international and first-class cricket.

Important Days

- **International Mother Language Day** was observed globally on **21 february** with the **theme "Languages without borders"**.
- The **World Day of Social Justice** is celebrated annually all over the world on **20 February**. The **theme** for 2020: **"Closing the Inequalities Gap to Achieve Social Justice"**.
- The **Soil Health Card Day** is being observed on **19th February** every year.
- **World Pangolin Day** is celebrated annually on the 3rd Saturday of February to raise awareness about pangolin species and mobilizes various stakeholders to speed up conservation efforts.

Science and Technology

- The **Department of Telecommunications (DoT)** has launched the '**5G Hackathon**' in association with the government of India, academia and industry stakeholders to shortlist India's focused cutting edge ideas that can be converted into workable 5G products and solutions.
- The **Indian Space Research Organisation** has revealed in its annual report for 2019-20 that it will launch **10 Earth Observation Satellites** in **2020-21**.

Obituaries

- Former president of Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) **V L Dutt** passed away.
- **Larry Tesler**, the computer scientist who introduced the cut, copy and paste commands passed away.
- The former Manchester United goalkeeper **Harry Gregg** passed away.
- Legendary women's golfer **Mickey Wright** passed away.
- Veteran Bengali actor and former Trinamool Congress MP **Tapas Pal** passed away.

Miscellaneous News

- The '**Historical Gastronomica - The Indus Dining Experience**' exhibition was held at the National Museum in **New Delhi**.
- The **Chitra Bharati Film Festival** will be held at Gujarat University in Ahmedabad, **Gujarat** and will be organised by Bharatiya Chitra Sadhana.
- National Institution for Transforming India (**NITI Aayog**) has organized a meeting on **Active Pharmaceuticals Ingredients (API) Industry** under the **chairmanship** of NITI Aayog's CEO **Amitabh Kant**.
- The services of **Kashi Mahakal Express**, the 3rd private train of Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC), has commenced between **Varanasi and Indore**.
- Union Minister of State for Shipping Mansukh Laxmanbhai Mandaviya laid the foundation stone for a 50-metre high **modern lighthouse** at Dhanushkodi in Rameswaram, **Tamil Nadu**.
- The **Delhi Police** has integrated its "**Himmat Plus App**" with the app of ride hailing company "**Uber**" to ensure safety and security of people travelling in cabs.
- The Union government has decided to rename 'The Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses' (IDSA) as '**Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses**'.

- **Radhakishan Damani**, founder of Avenue Supermarts (known as D-Mart) has now become the **2nd richest Indian** after Reliance Industries Ltd chairman Mukesh Ambani, with a net worth of **\$17.8 billion**.



Static Takeaways

- International Olympic Committee Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland.
- International Olympic Committee President: Thomas Bach.
- Chief executive Officer of International Hockey Federation (FIH): Thierry Weil.
- President of Hockey India: Mohd Mushtaque Ahmad.
- FIFA Women's Chief Football Officer: Sarai Bareman.
- President of All India Football Federation: Praful Patel.
- Union Minister of Railways: Piyush Goyal.
- Gujarat CM: Vijay Rupani; Governor: Acharya Dev Vrat; Capital: Gandhinagar.
- Union Minister of Textiles: Smriti Zubin Irani.
- UP Present CM: Yogi Adityanath, Governor: Anandiben Patel.
- Union Minister of Law and Justice: Ravi Shankar Prasad.
- Union Minister of Jal Shakti: Gajendra Singh Shekhawat.
- Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution: Ramvilas Paswan.
- Union Minister of Rural Development: Narendra Singh Tomar.
- Capital of Manipur: Imphal; Governor of Manipur: Najma Heptulla.
- Prime Minister of United Kingdom: Boris Johnson.
- Capital of Germany: Berlin; Currency of Germany: Euro.
- Prime Minister of Bangladesh: Sheikh Hasina; Capital: Dhaka; Currency: Taka.
- Capital of Afghanistan: Kabul; Currency: Afghan Afghani.
- Prime minister of Nepal: KP Sharma Oli.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Capital of Nepal: Kathmandu; Currency of Nepal: Nepalese rupee. ● CEO of Amazon: Jeff Bezos. ● Prime Minister of Pakistan: Imran Khan. ● The headquarters of Financial Action Task Force is in Paris, France. ● Michael D Higgins is President of Ireland. ● Governor of Maharashtra: Bhagat Singh Koshyari. ● Shri Badrinath and Shri Kedarnath temple Committee Chairman: Mohan Prasad Thapliyal. ● Governor of Bihar: Phagu Chauhan, Chief Minister: Nitish Kumar. ● Governor of Kerala: Arif Mohammed Khan. ● Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Yogi Adityanath. ● Chief Minister of Tripura: Biplab Kumar Deb. ● Chief Minister of Haryana: Manohar Lal Khattar. ● President of World Bank: David Robert Malpass. ● Managing Director of Housing Development Finance Corporation HDFC: Aditya Puri. ● President of Mastercard South Asia: Porush Singh. ● Australia Capital: Canberra; Currency: Australian Dollar. ● Prime Minister of Australia: Scott Morrison. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chief Minister of Telangana: K. Chandrashekar Rao. ● Capital of Sweden: Stockholm; Currency of Sweden: Swedish krona. ● Union Minister of Coal and Mines: Pralhad Joshi. ● Chairman of Coal India Limited: Pramod Agrawal. ● ISRO Director: K. Sivan, Headquarters: Bengaluru; Established: 1969. |
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