

Weekly One Liners 10th to 16th August 2020

Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare launches "Krishi Megh"

- **Krishi Megh** (National Agricultural Research & Education System -Cloud Infrastructure and Services) has been launched. It will help in meeting the services and infrastructure requirements of Digital Agriculture of National Agricultural Research and Education System (**NARES**).
- The minister also launched the **KVC ALUNET** (Krishi Vishwavidyalaya Chhatr Alumni Network) and Online Accreditation System for Higher Agricultural Educational Institutions (**HEI**).
- The National Agricultural Higher Education Project has been funded by the **Government of India** and the **World Bank**.

Jal Shakti Minister launches Swachh Bharat Mission Academy

- The **Swachh Bharat Mission Academy** has been launched by the Union Minister for Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat.
- It has been launched as a **crucial part** of the **phase 2** of Swachh Bharat Mission (**Grameen**).
- It is a **phone-based academy** and offers a **60-minutes module**, which is an IVR based training course, covering a wide range of topics under Open Defecation Free sustainability (**ODF-S**) as well as Solid and Liquid Waste Management (**SLWM**).
- It will ensure behaviour change and promote the capacity building of the key stakeholders such as Swachhagrahis, PRIs members, community-based organizations, NGOs, SHGs etc.

Raksha Mantri launches Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation

- Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation (**NIIO**) has been launched by the Raksha Mantri Shri **Rajnath Singh**.
- **NIIO** is a **three-tiered** organisation and it will enable its end users to interact with academia as well as industry for the promotion of innovation and indigenisation for self-reliance in defence, with the help of its dedicated structures.

- The twin aspects of **innovation** and **indigenisation** would be brought together by the Naval Technology Acceleration Council (**N-TAC**).
- It also includes a working group under the **N-TAC**, which will be responsible for the implementation of the projects.
- To fulfill the objective of induction of emerging disruptive technology in an accelerated time frame, **Technology Development Acceleration Cell** (**TDAC**) has been established.

Forbes magazine released "The Highest-Paid Actors Of 2020" list

Forbes magazine has released "**The Highest-Paid Actors Of 2020**" list. Bollywood actor, **Akshay Kumar** is the only Indian star to be listed among the top 10 world's highest-paid actors of 2020.

Top 6 highest-paid actors in the list of Forbes Magazine 2020:

S. No.	Winner
1	Dwayne Johnson
2	Ryan Reynolds
3	Mark Wahlberg
4	Ben Affleck
5	Vin Diesel
6	Akshay Kumar

Gramodaya Bandhu Mitra Puraskaras

- The awards recognise "**Yeoman service** rendered by **individuals** and **institutions** to provide succour and uplift the vast majority of our population dependent on agriculture and allied activities for livelihood".

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Following is the list of **winners** of the **Gramodaya Bandhu Mitra Puraskaras**:

- Chairperson of Infosys Foundation, Sudha Murty; Group Head of Agri and IT Businesses of ITC Ltd, Sivakumar Surampudi; Padma Bhushan Vijay Bhatkar; Padmasri SP Verma; Vilas Shinde (Director, Sahyadri Farms); Koosam Rajamouli, Former Sarpanch of Gangadevipalli in Telangana; Brig Pogula Ganesham, Founder of Palle Srujana; and Govinda Rajulu Chintala, Chairman of the Nabard.

National News

- **Line of Credit** of worth **18 million US dollars** has been extended by the Government of India to the Government of **Maldives**, with the primary objective of expanding the fishing facilities at Maldives Industrial Fisheries Company (**MIFCO**).
- **Bangladesh** has decided to construct a **monument** for the Indian soldiers who died in **1971** during the Bangladesh's struggle for independence from Pakistan.
- Submarine Optical Fibre Cable (**OFC**) connecting **Andaman & Nicobar Islands** to the **mainland** has been launched. The **2300 Kms** long submarine cable will boost the endless opportunities in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands by providing better internet & mobile connectivity.
- National Portal on Human-Elephant conflict called "**SURAKHSYA**" has been launched to collect real-time information and to manage conflicts on a real-time basis.
- **National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) Online Dashboard** has been launched. NIP will act as one stop solution for all stakeholders seeking for information on infrastructure projects in New India.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** rolled out the platform for "**Transparent Taxation - Honoring the Honest**". The new platform will carry forward the journey of direct tax reforms and will also reward the honest taxpayers.
- **Indian Railways** is observing "**Cleanliness Week**" from 10th August in order to mark the **Independence Day**.

- 2nd edition of **Student Entrepreneurship Programme (SEP 2.0)** has been rolled out by the Niti Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission (**AIM**) in collaboration with **Dell Technologies**. It will enable young innovators of Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs) to work closely with Dell volunteers.
- **Reliance Foundation** has launched the "**W-GDP Women Connect Challenge**" across India in association with US Agency for International Development (**USAID**) and Women's Global Development and Prosperity (**W-GDP**). It aims to **bridge the gender divide** as well as the **digital divide** in India.

States in the News

- Khadi and Village Industries Commission (**KVIC**) will open the **Silk Training cum Production Center** in the tribal village of Chullyu in **Arunachal Pradesh**.
- A webinar with title '**AtmaNirbhar Madhya Pradesh: Health and Education**' was inaugurated by Union Minister of Education Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' in New Delhi.
- **Mukhya Mantri Kisan Sahay Yojana** has been announced by the **Gujarat** for the current **Kharif season** and all farmers of the state will be covered under this scheme. Mukhya Mantri Kisan Sahay Yojana will replace the existing crop insurance scheme.
- **Chhattisgarh** Government has launched the "**Indira Van Mitan**" Yojana to make the **forest dwellers** of the state **self reliant**. Under this, government will form **groups of youth in 10,000 villages** of tribal areas and they will be responsible to conduct all forest based economic activities.
- **Assam** government would provide **Rs 830 per month** each to 17 lakh poor families under the ambitious "**Orunodoi**" scheme, to financially empower women. It will help poor households to meet their medical, nutritional, and academic needs besides to meet the additional spending during various festivals.
- **Price Monitoring and Resource Unit (PMRU)** has been established in **Karnataka** by National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (**NPPA**), Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Government of India, in association with Karnataka State Drug Control Department.

International Affairs

- A “**state of environmental emergency**” has been declared by the island nation of **Mauritius**, as a Japanese bulk carrier “MV Wakashio” ran aground on a reef in Mauritius and began leaking oil into the ocean.
- Sri Lanka’s former President, **Mahinda Rajapaksa** took oath as the country’s Prime Minister for the fourth time.
- President of **Belarus**, **Alexander Lukashenko** has won his sixth consecutive term in the country’s **presidential election**.
- **Mohamed Ould Bilal** has been appointed as the new **Prime Minister of Mauritania**. The appointment was made following the resignation of his predecessor **Ismail Ould Cheikh Sidiya** and his entire government.
- **Walter Roger Martos Ruiz** has become the new **Prime Minister of Peru**.
- **Russia** has become the **first country** to register a coronavirus vaccine “**Sputnik V**” registered for use.
- Prime Minister of **Lebanon**, **Hassan Diab** and his entire government has **resigned**, in the wake of the major blast in Beirut.

Agreements/MoUs Signed

- **Boston Group** has signed an **MoU** with the **Andhra Pradesh government** to set up an IT company in Visakhapatnam.
- **Flipkart** has signed an MoU with **One District, One Product (ODOP)** scheme of the Government of **Uttar Pradesh**. It will bring the artisans, weavers and craftsmen under the ODOP scheme into the scope of the “Flipkart Samarth” initiative.

Banking/Economy/Business News

- **Reserve Bank of India** has introduced a mechanism of ‘**Positive Pay**’ feature for all cheques of value **Rs 50,000 and above**. This feature helps to **avert cheque frauds**. The limit of Rs 50,000 will cover approximately 20% of transactions by volume and 80% by value.
- Life Insurance Corporation of India (**LIC**) has announced a special scheme ‘**Special Revival Campaign**’ to revive lapsed policies.
- **Paytm** has launched India’s 1st Pocket Android POS (Point of Sale) Device named ‘**Paytm All-in-One Portable Android Smart POS**’ for contactless

ordering and payments in India. It is an effort to digitise and empower a large number of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

- **Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE)** has signed an **MoU** with **Akola, Maharashtra-based** bullion trade and industry associations namely **Akola Sarafa Association** and **Akola Sarafa Va Suvarnakar Yuva Sangh**, to enhance cooperation between BSE and physical markets represented by the two trade bodies in various areas like knowledge sharing, education and training, events as well as explore areas of mutual interests.
- The proposed combination filed by Keihin Corporation, Nissin Kogyo Co., Ltd., Showa Corporation and Hitachi Automotive Systems, Ltd has received the approval from the **Competition Commission of India**. The two companies have filed for the formation of a Joint Venture between **Honda Motor Co. Limited (HAMCL)** and **Hitachi Limited (HL)**.

Appointments/Resignations

- **Harsh Kumar Bhanwala** has been appointed as **executive chairman** of the **Capital India Finance Limited**.
- **Pramod Bhasin** has been appointed as a new **Chairman** of Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (**ICRIER**). He will replace Isher Judge Ahluwalia.
- **Soma Mondal** has been selected by the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) as the next **chairman** of Steel Authority of India Limited (**SAIL**).
- Former RBI deputy governor, **Subhash Sheoratan Mundra** has been appointed as **non-executive chairman** of Indiabulls Housing Finance (**IBH**).

BILINGUAL

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Starts Aug 17, 2020

10:30 AM to 6 PM

- **Sameer Gehlaut** has become the **chief executive officer** of **Indiabulls Ventures Ltd.**
- Vice Admiral **Dinesh K Tripathi**, AVSM, NM has become the Director General Naval Operations (DGNO).

Schemes & Committees

- **Dr V K Paul**, Member Niti Aayog has **chaired** the meeting of **National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration** for COVID-19.

Awards and Recognitions

- Journalist **Nitin Sethi** has won the Asian College of Journalism's (ACJ) Award 2019 for **Investigative Journalism** for his six-part series titled "**Paisa Politics**" published by The Huffington Post India.
- Journalist **Shiv Sahay Singh** has won the **K. P. Narayana Kumar Memorial Award** for Social Impact Journalism for his story titled "**Death by digital exclusion: On faculty public distribution system in Jharkhand**" published in The Hindu.
- A total of **121 Police personnel** have been awarded the "**Union Home Minister's Medal for Excellence in Investigation**" for the year 2020. Award seeks to encourage high professional standards of investigation of crime and recognize such Excellence in Investigation by investigating officers.

Summits & Conferences

- Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) has organised the "**India@75 Summit - Mission 2022**" focusing on 'reinventing technology in India'.

Sports News

- **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports** will organise the "**Fit India Freedom Run**" from 15th August to 02nd October 2020 to mark the 74th Independence Day of India on August 15 to 151st birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on October 2.
- Red Bull racer, **Max Verstappen** has won the 70th Anniversary **Grand Prix**.
- Indian Umpire, **KN Ananthapadmanabhan** has been included in **ICC's international panel of umpires**.

Books & Authors

- **Dalai Lama**, will release a new book titled "**Our Only Home: A Climate Appeal to the World**" on climate change with German environmental journalist, Franz Alt in November.

- Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Prakash Javadekar unveiled a book titled '**Connecting, Communicating, Changing**' that chronicles **Shri M Venkaiah Naidu's** three years in office as the **Vice President of India**.

Science and Technology

- **Skyroot Aerospace**, a Spacetech startup has successfully test fired an upper stage rocket engine "**Raman**" and has become the **first Indian private firm** to exhibit the potential to build a homegrown rocket engine. "**Raman**" is a **3-D printed rocket engine** which has been named after Nobel laureate CV Raman.
- **Air Unique-quality Monitoring (AUM)** Photonic System has been indigenously developed with the prime objective of real-time remote monitoring of air quality. It has been developed by **Prof. Rao Tatavarti** along with the support of Department of Science and Technology's **Clean Air Research Initiative**.

Important Days

- United Nations observes the **International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples** on **09th August** every year. The **theme** of day for 2020 is "COVID-19 and indigenous peoples' resilience".
- Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas celebrates the **World Biofuel Day** on **10th August** every year. On the occasion, the ministry also organized the webinar with the **theme** "Biofuels towards Atmanirbhar Bharat".
- **International Youth Day (IYD)** is observed globally on **12th August** every year. The **theme** of International Youth Day 2020, "**Youth Engagement for Global Action**".
- **World Elephant Day** is celebrated every year on **August 12** to create elephant conservation and share knowledge for better protection of wild captive elephants.
- **World Organ Donation Day** is observed globally on **13th August** every year.

Obituaries

- Former Congress leader and eight-time parliamentarian from Telangana, **Nandi Yellaiah** passed away.
- Former wrestler **James Harris**, who was also known as "**Kamala**", passed away.

- Former India defender and Mohun Bagan captain **Manitombi Singh** passed away.
- Noted Urdu poet **Rahat Indori** passed away.
- Veteran Tamil film songwriter, **PK Muthusamy** passed away.
- Veteran sports journalist, **GK Menon** passed away.
- Malayalam poet-lyricist, **Chunakkara Ramankutty** passed away. He wrote over 215 songs for 76 movies

Miscellaneous News

- **Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL)** has developed a web portal named '**AIR SUVIDHA**' for India-bound international passengers. It will allow eligible passengers to apply online for exemption from mandatory institution quarantine process.
- **Mumbai's Dadar** has become the **first city in India** to have **women symbols** on traffic signals and signage.
- **Goa's** traditional festive sweet dish '**Khaje**', spicy **Harmal Chilli** and **Myndoli Banana** (Moira Banana) has obtained Geographical Indication (GI) tag from the Geographical Indications Registry.

Static Takeaways

- CEO of ICC: Manu Sawhney; Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates.
- Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports: Kiren Rijju.
- Founder and Chairperson, Reliance Foundation: Nita M Ambani.
- Acting Administrator of US Agency for International Development: John Barsa.
- Chief Executive Officer of National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog: Amitabh Kant.
- Union Minister for Railways: Piyush Goyal.
- Chairman of Central Board of Direct Taxes: Pramod Chandra Mody.
- Lieutenant Governor of Andaman and Nicobar Island: Admiral D K Joshi.
- Prime Minister of Bangladesh: Sheikh Hasina; Capital: Dhaka; Currency: Taka.
- President of the Maldives: Ibrahim Mohamed Solih.
- Capital of Maldives: Male; Currency of the Maldives: Maldivian Rufiyaa.
- RBI 25th Governor: Shaktikanta Das; Headquarters: Mumbai; Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata.
- Chief of Naval Staff: Admiral Karambir Singh.
- Director & Chief Executive of Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER): Dr Rajat Kathuria.

- Managing Director of Capital India Finance Ltd: Keshav Porwal.
- Headquarters of Steel Authority of India Limited: New Delhi.
- Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh: Yogi Aditya Nath; Governor: Anandiben Patel.
- Chairman of The Boston Group: Subu Kota.
- Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh: YS Jagan Mohan Reddy; Governor: Biswa Bhushan Harichandan.
- Chairperson of Competition Commission of India: Ashok Kumar Gupta.
- Founder of Paytm: Vijay Shekhar Sharma.
- Chief Minister of Karnataka: B.S. Yediyurappa; Governor: Vajubhai Vala.
- Chief Minister of Assam: Sarbananda Sonowal; Governor: Jagdish Mukhi.
- Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh: Bhupesh Baghel; Governor: Anusuiya Uikey.
- Chief Minister of Gujarat: Vijaybhai R. Rupani; Governor: Acharya Dev Vrat.
- Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh: Shivraj Singh Chouhan; Governor: Anandiben Patel.
- Chairman of Khadi and Village Industries Commission: Vinai Kumar Saxena.
- Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh: Pema Khandu; Governor: B.D. Mishra.
- Secretary-General of United Nations: António Guterres.
- Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas: Dharmendra Pradhan.
- Chief Minister of Goa: Pramod Sawant; Governor: Satya Pal Malik.
- Chief Minister of Maharashtra: Uddhav Thackeray; Governor: Bhagat Singh Koshyari.
- Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare: Dr Harsh Vardhan.
- Union Minister of External Affairs: Dr Subrahmanyam Jaishankar.

