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Monthly One Liners - February 2021



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Financial One Liners:

- **Engineering college students in Hubballi** have come up with 'Maya', a robot that has been programmed to serve in banks and **speaks in many regional languages**.
- The **Punjab National Bank (PNB)** has taken a giant step and won't allow its customers to **withdraw money from non-EMV automated teller machines (ATMs)**.
- The government proposed to introduce a **unified securities markets code**, a move that will help in **boosting the ease of doing business** in the country's financial markets.

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- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** issued guidelines on **risk-based internal audit (RBIA)** system for select **non-bank lenders and urban co-operative banks (UCBs)**.
- The **Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)** kept its **repo rate unchanged at 4 percent** while **maintaining an 'accommodative stance'** as long as necessary at least through the current financial year to the next year.
 - Reverse Repo Rate- 3.35%
 - Marginal Standing Facility Rate- 4.25%
 - Bank Rate- 4.25%
 - CRR- 3%
 - SLR- 18.00%.
- The **Union Budget 2021**, the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** projected a **GDP growth rate of 10.5 percent** for the financial year beginning 1 April.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** released the **Annual Report of the Ombudsman Schemes** for the year 2019-20.
- **Digital payments platform PhonePe** announced that it has **partnered** with **Axis Bank** on a **Unified Payments Interface (UPI) multi-bank model**.
- The **State Bank of India's (SBI) Economic Research Department** has revised **GDP estimates of India for FY21** to contract **7.0%**.
- **Reserve Bank of India, Delhi** is observing **Financial Literacy Week** from **February 8-12, 2021**, to propagate financial education.
- Committee set up by the **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai)** has recommended the introduction of **index-linked insurance policies (Ilips)**.
- **AGS Transact Technologies (AGSTTL)** has partnered with **Mastercard** to provide a pan India 'contactless' cash withdrawal experience at ATMs.

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- **Federal Bank** has announced the **launch of FedFirst**, a **special savings account scheme** for **children below 18 years of age**.
- **RBI** has announced certain measures of protection of common bank account holders in the Monetary policy statement.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has decided to set up an **expert committee on Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs)** involving all stakeholders in order to **provide a medium-term road map to strengthen the sector**, enable faster rehabilitation/resolution of UCBs, as well as examine other critical aspects relating to these entities.
- The **Confederation of Real Estate Developers' Associations of India (CREDAI)** has entered into a **memorandum of understanding** with **Indian Payments and Postal Bank (IPPB)** to **facilitate opening of bank accounts for construction workers**.
- The **Reserve Bank** set up a **committee to draw a vision document for strengthening urban cooperative banks (UCBs)** and exploring the potential of consolidation in the sector. The committee, to be **headed by former RBI Deputy Governor N.S. Vishwanathan**
- Private general insurer **ICICI Lombard** has launched the '**Corporate India Risk Index**'. This is intended to be a unified, standardised corporate risk index that spans industries and companies.
- **Kotak Mahindra Bank** launched its **outward forex remittance service, Kotak Remit**, hence allowing its users to directly send money abroad from their phones.
- The **Kerala Bank** has launched **ATM demonstration vans** to promote digital transactions.
- **Indian Bank** has entered into an **MOU with Society for Innovation and Development (SID)**, an initiative of Indian Institute of Science, **for extending exclusive credit facility to Start-ups and MSMEs**.

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- **Bank of Maharashtra** has entered into a strategic partnership with **Vayana Network** to offer financial support to the MSME sector.
- **E-commerce company Flipkart** has partnered with **ICICI Lombard** to offer 'Group SafeGuard' insurance, a group insurance policy to its consumers.
- The Union Government said that the country's V-Shaped Economic Recovery happened due to Mega Vaccination Drive, Robust Recovery in the Services Sector and Robust Growth in Consumption and Investment.
- **Microsoft** announced the launch of its new **India Development Center (IDC)** facility at **NCR** that will serve as a premier hub for driving cutting-edge engineering and innovation.
- The **California-based global digital payment platform PayPal** has announced that the company has decided to **wind down its domestic payment services in India** with effect from **April 01, 2021**.
- **India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra)** estimates **India's gross domestic product (GDP)** to bounce back to **10.4 per cent growth in FY22**.
- **Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank)** will provide **\$400 million** to **Maldives** to fund **Greater Male Connectivity Project**.
- The **Government of India, the Government of Chhattisgarh** and the **World Bank** signed a **\$100 million project** to develop sustainable production systems.
- Hyderabad-based product development and software services startup **Machint Solutions** has launched an **intelligent neo banking platform, Uluka**.
- **Global forecasting firm Oxford Economics** revised India's economic growth projection for 2021 to **10.2 percent from the earlier 8.8 percent**.
- The **Japanese brokerage** has projected the GDP of India to **grow at 13.5 percent in FY22 (2021-22)**.

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Non- Financial One Liners:

Schemes:

- The **Maharashtra** Cabinet approved the implementation of the Chief Minister **Water Conservation Programme**, costing **Rs.1,340.75 crore**.
- The **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)** has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with **Zomato for empowering street food vendors** with new digital technology and to provide greater income-earning opportunities on the food delivery platform.
- The government has approved the **Rs 945-crore Startup India Seed Fund Scheme (SISFS)** for the period **2021-25** to offer early-stage funding to startups for proof of concept, prototype development, product trials, market entry and commercialization.
- Union Textile Minister **Smriti Irani** rolled out the **commercial Jute seed distribution scheme**. Jute Corporation of India had last year signed an MoU with **National Seeds Corporation for commercial distribution of 1 thousand Metric Tonne certified jute seeds** for the year 2021-22.
- The **Union Cabinet** approved a **production-linked incentive (PLI)** scheme worth **Rs 12,195 crore for telecom equipment manufacturing**. It will be implemented from April

National:

- **The High-Level Committee under the Chairmanship of Home Minister Amit Shah** approved Additional Central Assistance of over **one thousand seven hundred 51 crore rupees** under the National Disaster Response Fund, NDRF to five states, which were affected by floods, landslides during **South-West Monsoon-2020** and **hailstorm during Rabi 2019-20**.
- **External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar** has had a telephonic conversation with US Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken.

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- The government has said that the country is witnessing a **V-Shaped Economic Recovery** which is a testimony to the resilience and intrinsic strength of its economy.
- An arboretum showcasing the floral diversity of the **Shivalik hills** was inaugurated at **Jeolikot in Nainital district**.
- **Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu will inaugurate Aadi Mahotsav**, a National Tribal Festival at Dilli Haat in INA in the National Capital.
- **Textiles Minister Smriti Irani inaugurated the 8th India International Silk Fair** on Virtual Portal.
- The **Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi** approved the **Budget for the fiscal year 2021-22**.
- In the Union Budget, Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** proposed to amend Insurance Act, **1938 to increase FDI limit from 49% to 74% in insurance companies**, and allow foreign ownership and control with safeguards.
- Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar, Petroleum Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, Animal Husbandry Minister Giriraj Singh, Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and Minister of State for Jal Shakti Rattan Lal Kataria jointly launched a **unified web portal** for monitoring the progress of **GOBARDHAN** activities across the nation.
- **Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman**, while presenting the **Union Budget FY 2021-22** in Parliament announced that the government has approved a policy of strategic disinvestment of public sector enterprises
- To help **India's startups** amid the COVID-19 pandemic, **tax holidays for these businesses have been extended by one year till March 31, 2022**, said Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman while presenting the **Union Budget 2021-22**

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- **Sh. Babul Supriyo** announced the establishment of a **Centre for Wetland Conservation and Management (CWCM)**, as a part of the **National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM)**, Chennai, an institution under the Ministry.
- An '**amputee clinic**', the first of its kind in India, with the aim of improving amputation patient care by providing a collection of services under one roof with significant coordination was launched in **Chandigarh**.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** pushed for '**Atmanirbhar Bharat**' (self-reliant India) an Oxford panel has now chosen '**Atmanirbharta**' in Hindi word of 2020.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** will inaugurate the **Chauri Chaura centenary celebrations at Chauri Chaura in Uttar Pradesh** on February 4 via video conferencing.
- **Union Budget for Financial Year 2021-22** has proposed to set up **100 new Sainik Schools** in the country, in partnership with NGOs, private schools and State-owned schools.
- **Ayesha Aziz**, the 25-year-old from **Kashmir** who is the youngest female pilot in the country, acts as a source of inspiration and a beacon of empowerment for numerous Kashmiri women.
- The **Ministry of corporate affairs (MCA)** amended the **Companies Rules to revise** the definition of a small company and **to allow non-resident Indians (NRIs)** to incorporate **one person companies (OPCs)** in India.
- **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited NSE 3.79 % (HAL)** unveiled a leap in technology of teaming up **unmanned aircraft and vehicles** with manned jets similar to the US project of skyborg.
- Minister of State for Home Affairs **G Kishan Reddy** introduced the **Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2021** in the **Rajya Sabha**.
- On Feb 06, 2021, President **Ram Nath Kovind** inaugurated **a museum**, dedicated to the **life of former Army Chief General Kodandera Subayya Thimayya**, in Karnataka.

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- **GMR Group** has signed a **memorandum of understanding** with **Airbus** (a leading manufacturer of commercial aircrafts) to explore collaboration opportunities across aviation services, technologies and innovation.
- **Odisha's Balasore** will get the country's **first thunderstorm** research testbed, the **India Meteorological Department (IMD)**.
- The **Uttar Pradesh** government has introduced a system of issuing a **unique 16-digit Unicode** to **mark all kinds of landholdings in the state**.
- **Skyroot Aerospace and Bellatrix Aerospace** have signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** to use the **Orbital Transfer Vehicle** being developed by **Bellatrix Aerospace** in the upper stage of **Vikram series** of launch vehicles being developed by **Skyroot**.
- With the Centre's approval, **Tamil Nadu government** passed an order for creating the **fifth tiger reserve** in the state and the **51st in the country**.
- **Packaged food companies** said the **Food Safety and Standards Authority of India's (FSSAI)** move to **reduce trans-fat in food items** which use edible oil as an ingredient to **2% from 2022**.
- The **five-day National Horticulture Fair 2021** has started in **Bengaluru on 8 February**.
- The government introduced a bill in the **Rajya Sabha**, which seeks to replace the **National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Second (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020**.
- The government will launch the website of the **India Toy Fair- 2021**.
- The Ministry of Agriculture has said that the government has launched a new Central Sector Scheme titled **'Formation and Promotion of 10,000 Farmer Produce Organizations (FPOs)'** and it has committed resources in this regard with a budgetary provision of **Rs 6,865 crore**.
- Prime Minister **Shri Narendra Modi** inaugurated the **World Sustainable Development Summit 2021** via video conferencing.
- **Rajya Sabha** passed the **Major Port Authorities Bill, 2020**.

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- **Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai** said, there are **60 kilometres** area in India Bangladesh border which cannot be fenced, **making it prone to infiltration**.
- Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways **Nitin Gadkari** will formally launch **India's first-ever diesel tractor converted into a CNG tractor** on February 12.
- **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Ministry** has informed that more than one crore two lakh MSMEs were registered in the country within **five years**.
- **Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh** virtually inaugurated more than **57,000 water structures constructed in Madhya Pradesh under the 'Jala Abhishekam' campaign** from New Delhi.
- Indian Army National Seminar-cum-Webinar, named as **Divya-Drishti 2021 on Multi-Domain Operations: Future of Conflicts** was organised by Centre for Land Warfare Studies, **CLAWS**.
- The **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)**, added **four more states** have completed the reforms in the '**Ease of Doing Business**', as stipulated by the **Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance** as per recent data.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** dedicated to the nation **four projects** related to **oil, gas and road sector** worth rupees four thousand and seven hundred crores at Haldia in West Bengal.
- A major accident occurred in **Chamoli in Uttarakhand** due to the **breaking of the glacier**
- With the **aim of doubling farmers' income by 2022**, Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** announced that the **agricultural credit target** was set at **Rs.16.5 lakh crore for FY22**, during Union Budget 2021

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- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** is addressing the party MPs on the occasion of '**Samarpan Diwas**' to commemorate the contributions of his party's founder leader **Deen Dayal Upadhyay** on his death anniversary.
- To **strengthen skills training at district level**, the skills development ministry launched the **Mahatma Gandhi National Fellowship (MGNF)** programme nationwide in partnership with nine Indian Institutes of Management across India.
- In Madhya Pradesh, the three-day **Mandu Festival began at Mandu** in the historic town of **Dhar district**.
- The first time in its history, the **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** has opened its **UR Rao Satellite Centre in Bengaluru** for testing satellites developed by the private sector
- The **Finance Ministry** will infuse **Rs 3,000 crore** capital into state-owned general insurance companies during the current quarter in a bid to **improve their financial health**.
- The **Lok Sabha passed the Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Bill, 2021** by voice vote.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lay the foundation stone of **Maharaja Suheldev** Memorial and development work of **Chittaura Lake in Bahraich, Uttar Pradesh** through video conferencing.
- Minority Affairs Ministry is organising **26th Hunar Haat of indigenous artisans and craftsmen** from across the country at **Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi**.
- **India** will provide **Nepalese Rupees(NR) 142 million** to **Nepal** for the **restoration and conservation of three cultural heritage sites in the Kathmandu Valley**.
- **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** and **MapmyIndia**, the navigation solutions provider, have joined hands to offer an **indigenous mapping solution to take on Google Maps**.

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- **IIT Bombay** launched its **first-ever annual fundraising campaign** in India, **Cherish IIT Bombay 2021**.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address the **NASSCOM Technology and Leadership Forum (NTLF)** via video conferencing.
- **Defence Minister Rajnath Singh** has said that unity in diversity is the beauty of Indian democracy and this unique feature is only visible in India.
- The **World Bank** has released a comprehensive report titled '**Traffic Crash Injuries and Disabilities: The Burden on Indian Society**' in association with the SaveLife Foundation.
- Government has made **FASTag** mandatory on the **National Highways**. All lanes in the fee plazas on National Highways were declared as FASTag lanes.
- The **Union Government** has increased the budget of **Department of Science and Technology and Ministry of Earth Sciences** by **30 per cent** as compared to the revised **estimate of 2020-21**.
- Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari said that Tamil Nadu has **become a pioneer in reducing road accidents by fifty per cent**.
- **President Ram Nath Kovind** inaugurated the **Rashtrapati Bhavan Krida Sthal** in the President's Estate which includes renovated **Football Ground and Basketball Court**.
- **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** has launched a **Pilot Pey Jal Survekshan** under **Jal Jeevan Mission- Urban, JJM-U**.
- **Defence Minister Rajnath Singh** launched **e-Chhawani portal**.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** will launch the **Mahabahu-Brahmaputra** initiative, lay the foundation stone of **Dhubri-Phulbari Bridge** and perform Bhoomi Poojan for construction of Majuli Bridge Assam through video conferencing.
- E-commerce giant **Amazon** has announced its plans to begin **manufacturing devices in India**.

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- IIT Madras-incubated startup **Pi Beam** has launched an **electric two-wheeler, PiMo**, for Rs 30,000.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** will inaugurate and lay the foundation stone of key projects of power and urban sector in **Kerala through video conferencing**.
- The **Union Cabinet** approved a production-linked **incentive scheme for the telecom sector**.
- Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment **Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot** will virtually release the **3rd edition of the Indian Sign Language (ISL) Dictionary** with 10,000 terms (including 6,000 earlier terms) on **17th February 2021** in a virtual programme.
- **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** has launched a **Pilot Pey Jal Survekshan** under **Jal Jeevan Mission- Urban**.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** would launch the **Mahabahu-Brahmaputra initiative** and lay the **foundation stones of one bridge** and perform a ground-breaking ceremony (bhumi puja) of another in **Assam** via video conferencing.
- The **National Informatics Centre (NIC)** of India has launched an **instant messaging app** just like **WhatsApp** for government employees called **Sandes**.
- The importance of accurate data for policy making, **Labour Minister Santosh Gangwar** launched **software applications for five pan-India surveys**, including on migrant and domestic workers.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** laid the foundation stone for key **oil and gas sector projects in Tamil Nadu** via video conferencing.
- **India has joined Iran and Russia** in a **two-day navy exercise** dubbed "**Iran-Russia Maritime Security Belt 2021**" in the northern part of the Indian Ocean.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** paid rich tributes to **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj** on the occasion of his Birth Anniversary.

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- The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization and the Arbor Day Foundation have recognized **Hyderabad as a 2020 Tree City of World**, for its commitment to growing and maintaining urban forests.
- Foreign Ministers of Quad countries - **India, Australia, Japan and US** - discussed the necessity to promote freedom of navigation in the Indo-Pacific region.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** has said that India is working towards a **healthy and COVID-19 free neighbourhood**.
- **Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank** has announced that the **fourth edition of Prime Minister's Interaction Programme** with school students, teachers and parents - Pariksha Pe Charcha will be held next month.
- **Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan** launched **Intensified Mission Indradhanush 3.0, (IMI 3.0)** to expand immunization coverage across the country.
- The Union government launched the '**Go Electric**' campaign to spread awareness about the **benefits of e-mobility and electric vehicle (EV)** charging infrastructure in India.

State:

- In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Adviser to Lieutenant Governor Farooq Khan reviewed the functioning of **One-Stop-Centres for women** in the UT during a meeting at Civil Secretariat, Jammu.
- In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, **over 22 lakh people** have so far applied for the **golden card under** newly launched **Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (ABPMJAY) SEHAT scheme** in various districts across the Union Territory.
- The **Kerala government's Gender Park in Kozhikode** will become **functional from next month**, coinciding with the second edition of the **International Conference on Gender Equality (ICGE-II)**.

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- **Andaman and Nicobar Islands** has become the **first state or Union territory** in the country to become **Covid-19 free** with active cases falling to zero in the islands.
- Punjab Chief Minister Captain **Amarinder Singh** virtually launched the '**Har Ghar Pani, Har Ghar Safai**' mission as part of the government's campaign to accomplish the goal of **100 per cent potable piped water supply in all rural households by March next year**.
- State Election Commissioner **N. Ramesh Kumar** launched a software application called '**eWatch**' to keep tabs on poll-related irregularities.
- Delhi Chief Minister **Arvind Kejriwal** launched the '**Switch Delhi**' campaign to promote **electric vehicles** and appealed to people to buy such vehicles to **combat pollution in the city**.
- The southern state of **Kerala** will get its **first human milk bank**. The state-of-the-art facility will be inaugurated by health minister **K K Shailaja** at state-owned **Ernakulam general hospital in Kochi**.
- **Assam** Chief Minister **Sarbananda Sonowal** inaugurated the **first heliport** of the state in **Majuli** district.
- **Manipur** chief minister **N Biren Singh** launched **a new range of packaged organic products** and **Loumi Connect App** apart from distributing Bolero Camper vehicles and nurseries to seven **Farmers Producer Companies (FPCs)**.
- Union Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** on February 6, initiated the ceremonial distribution ceremony of **Chah Bagicha Dhan Puraskar Mela in Guwahati**.
- The **Karnataka government** issued an official notification announcing **Vijayanagara** as the **state's 31st district**, which was carved out of the **ore-rich Ballari district**.
- In **Assam**, the **Kaziranga national park** has recorded a total of **93 thousand 491 birds** as per the latest census.

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- The **health department** in **Madhya Pradesh** has launched the **Social Awareness and Action to Neutralise Pneumonia Successfully ('SAANS')** campaign with the aim of **reducing infant mortality due to pneumonia**.
- The **high speed mobile data services** have been **restored in Jammu and Kashmir**, bringing respite to people affected by the ban, especially students, working professionals and business community.
- In **Jharkhand**, the **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, MSME** wing of the Government of India will cooperate in setting up industries up to **20 crore rupees in Dhanbad**.
- **India's first geothermal power project** will be established at **Puga village of eastern Ladakh**. **Puga** has been identified as the hotspot of geothermal energy in the country by the scientists.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** will lay the **foundation stone of various development projects** at **Dhekiajuli in Sonitpur district in Assam**.
- **Himachal Pradesh** has become the **first State in the country to make the end to end processing of the cabinet paperless by implementing e-cabinet application**.
- In **Gujarat**, the State Government has asked the **Tata group** to start the work on **setting up Indian Institute of Skills- IIS**.
- The state government has launched **Kerala Knowledge Mission** which aims **to transform the state to a knowledge economy**.
- In Gujarat, the Coast Guard District Headquarters **Number-1** conducted the district-level **Pollution Response Workshop and Mock Drill - 2021 at Porbandar**.
- Union Home Minister and senior BJP leader **Amit Shah** will be visiting West Bengal.
- Odisha launched various **citizen-centric on-line services** of the State Transport department.

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- To promote **wooden toys, local artifacts, handicrafts** Maharashtra Small Industries Development Corporation and Maharashtra State Khadi & Village Industries Board have signed a **Memorandum of Understanding with Flipkart**.
- In the **Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir**, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha inaugurated the state of the art **General Bus Stand cum Shopping complex Cum Multi Level Parking** constructed at the **cost of Rs. 213 Crore in Jammu**.
- The **Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike** has launched Swach Sarvekshan Abhiyan in Bengaluru to educate citizens about solid waste management.
- **Goa has become the 6th State in the country** to successfully undertake **Urban Local Bodies reforms** stipulated by the **Department of Expenditure**.
- In **Puducherry**, a campaign has been launched titled **“Zero Covid by Feb28”** to ensure that there are no COVID-19 cases by the end of February 2021.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled several key development projects worth **6,100 crore rupees at INS Garuda Naval Air Station at Kochi in Kerala**.
- The Prime Minister inaugurated and laid the **foundation stone** of several developmental projects worth over **8000 crore rupees at Chennai in Tamil Nadu**.
- The Annual Convention of **Association of Domestic Tour Operators of India (ADTOI)** concluded at **Kevadia in Gujarat**.
- The **11th Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav** is being held between **14th to 28th February at Cooch Behar, Darjeeling and Murshidabad in West Bengal**.
- **Waltair Division**, in its efforts to enhance the passenger amenities at Railway stations, has commissioned another innovative facility called **Robotic Spa under Non-fare revenue here at Visakhapatnam railway station**.

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- Punjab has become the 13th State in the country to successfully undertake “One Nation One Ration Card system” reform.
- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister **Yogi Adityanath** will inaugurate the **Mukhyamantri Abhyudaya Yojana**, a free coaching program meant for students preparing for competitive exams, on **Feb 15, 2021**
- The tribal painter **Bhuri Bai of Madhya Pradesh** was invited as the **Chief Guest** at the **Foundation Day celebrations of Bharat Bhavan**.
- IIT Bombay launched its first-ever annual fundraising campaign in India, **Cherish IIT Bombay 2021**.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** laid the foundation stone of **Maharaja Suheldev Memorial and Maharaja Suheldev Development project** and dedicated it to the public **Maharaja Suheldev State Medical College (Baharaich) via video conferencing**.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** will dedicate to the nation and lay the foundation of key projects of the oil and gas sector in **Tamil Nadu through video conferencing**.
- **Dr. Kiran Bedi** has been removed from the post of **Puducherry Lieutenant Governor**.
- The number of **states successfully completing the Ease of Doing Business reforms** has increased to **15**.
- **Patnaik** announced a **Rs 200-crore package** for the development of the **16th-century shrine of Maa Samaleswari, the presiding deity of western Odisha**.
- **Sikkim Chief Minister P. S. Tamang** launched the ‘Free Gift Milk to Girl Students of Sikkim’ initiative at Gangtok.
- **Civil Aviation Ministry and Directorate General of Civil Aviation** have granted permission for usage of drones to **Kochi Metro Rail Limited, Kerala**.

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- **Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan** has urged the Centre to set up a Centre of Excellence on Maritime Biotechnology in **Bhubaneswar in Odisha**.
- **Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister Dr. C. N. Ashwath Narayana**, who holds the Higher Education portfolio, has informed that **2,500 classrooms** at the higher education level will be converted into smart classrooms in the **next two months**.
- **Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio** announced **two new grants**, namely, the **Chief Minister's Grant for Journalism and the Chief Minister's Research Grant**.
- All the government hospitals in the country will have **Janaushadhi Kendras** that sell affordable generic medicines to the common man.
- **Recykal**, a digital '**waste commerce**' solutions provider, has been **selected as the first member from India for the World Economic Forum's Circulars Accelerator programme 2021**.
- **Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan** inaugurated the **Kerala Fibre Optic Network (KFON)** project intended to **provide free internet connections to Below Poverty Line (BPL) families** in the state.
- A team of scientists, nature lovers and doctors have come up with a **mobile application 'Snakepedia' on snakes in Kerala to help the public as well as doctors to treat snake bites**.
- In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, a seven day long exhibition of **National Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Hub (NSSH) scheme** concluded at ITI, Ground in Rajouri.
- The **Kerala government** has sanctioned **Rs.9 crore** to convert the **conventional anganwadis into "smart" structures with better amenities**.
- Union Sports Minister **Kiren Rijiju** has announced that the second **Khelo India University Games** will be hosted by **Karnataka**.

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- The **first paperless budget** will be presented in **Uttar Pradesh Assembly**.
- Yogi Adityanath-led Uttar Pradesh government plans to develop **Jewar Airport** as **Asia's biggest airport** with six runways.
- **Former Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir Mehbooba Mufti** has been re-elected as **President of Peoples' Democratic Party**.
- **Chandigarh** became the **first state or Union Territory** in India to **launch Carbon Watch**, a mobile **application to assess the carbon footprint of an individual**.
- The **Assam cabinet**, chaired by **Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal**, approved a proposal **to increase the daily wage of tea garden workers to Rs 217, a hike from Rs 167**.
- **Uttar Pradesh** Government presented the biggest ever budget to the tune of around **Rs 5,50,270 crores** to make **Atma Nirbhar or self-reliant Uttar Pradesh**.
- **Jammu and Kashmir** formally rolled out **e-Kuber payments system** of Reserve Bank of India.
- The **Punjab Cabinet** approved implementation of mission '**Lal Lakir**'
- **Union Minister of State for Sports and Youth Affairs Kiren Rijiju** inaugurated gym complex and modern change room and laid the foundation stone for **330-bedded hostel**, upgradation of kitchen and dining hall and synthetic athletics track in the Bengaluru campus of Sports Authority of India.
- The **week-long 47th Khajuraho Dance Festival** began in **Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh** which is based on the **Indian classical dance tradition**.
- **Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh** has inaugurated **Skill Development Centre (SDC) for Fire Safety Training of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** at **Pilkhuwa in Uttar Pradesh** through virtual mode on February 22, 2021

Monthly One Liners - February 2021

- **Ramky Enviro Engineers Ltd (REEL)**, a leading waste management company, announced that it has entered into a seven-year contract with the **Greater Chennai Corporation** to design and implement an IOT-enabled solid waste collection programme.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** harped on the importance of infrastructure projects as a development index for **West Bengal**.
- **DigiBoxx**, India's first digital asset management platform has launched its services in the Tamil Nadu market.
- **Madhya Pradesh** Chief Minister **Shivraj Singh Chouhan** has announced that **Hoshangabad** city in the state would be **renamed as Narmadapuram**.
- In Manipur, the **State Chief Minister N. Biren Singh** launched the Prime Minister Formalization of **Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PM FME) Scheme**.
- BJP national president **JP Nadda** will participate in a series of programmes in **Kolkata and North 24 Parganas** in West Bengal.
- **Digital University** has been set up in **Kerala's Technocity, Mangalapuram**. The **Governor of Kerala Arif Mohammed Khan** has inaugurated the country's first Digital University in the state.
- In Maharashtra, the **State Government's New Agriculture Pump Power Connection scheme** has been receiving a good response.
- **Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur** launched 'e-Parivahan Vyavstha' of the State Transport Department to provide faceless services to the people of the State regarding **Driving Licence/Registration Certificates/Permits etc.**
- In **Tamil Nadu**, **Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palanani** announced that the retirement age of State Government employees has been increased from **59 to 60 years**.

Monthly One Liners - February 2021

- In Tripura, the **39th Agartala International Book Fair** with the theme “**Ek Tripura, Shrestha Tripura**” has begun at Agartala.

International:

- The Government of India and the World Bank signed a **500-million US dollar Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States Programme (STARS)** to improve the quality and governance of school education in **six Indian states**.
- Vietnam's** ruling Communist Party chief **Nguyen Phu Trong, 76**, has been re-elected for a **rare third five-year term**.
- The UK is applying to join a **free trade** area made up of **11 Asia and Pacific nations**, under its **post-Brexit plans**.
- A visa scheme to allow **Hong Kong residents** to come to the UK opened, with some **THREE LAKH** people expected to apply.
- Nepal has decided to award the contract for construction of **679 mega watt Lower Arun Hydropower Project** to **India's Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN)**.
- The Myanmar Military Tatmadaw** has announced a one year state of emergency in the country.
- The government of **Bangladesh** signed an agreement with the **World Bank** for the **upgradation of rural roads and connectivity in the western region**.
- According to the global travel and tourism report ‘**World Tourism Barometer**’ released by the **World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)**, the year 2020 was the “**worst year on record**”.
- The **Denmark** to build **world's first energy** island in the North Sea
- The military government in Myanmar has stepped up actions against leaders of the **Aung San Suu Kyi led National League for Democracy (NLD)**.

Monthly One Liners - February 2021

- **Bangladesh** has received **USD 200 million** for Water Sanitation, Hygiene (WASH) project for rural areas from the World Bank.
- **External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar** and **US Secretary of State Antony Blinken** held a "comprehensive discussion and reviewed Indo-Pacific developments and the Quad cooperation".
- The **United Arab Emirates (UAE)** made history as its **first-ever interplanetary Hope Probe mission** successfully entered orbit around **Mars**.
- **United States President Joe Biden** has revoked the national emergency order used to fund former President Donald Trump's **Mexico border wall project**.
- **China** is celebrating **Lunar New Year** as it ushered into the **Year of the Ox**.
- The **Independent High Electoral Commission (IHEC)** of **Iraq** has sent invitations to embassies of 52 countries to monitor the country's elections slated to take place on 10th of October this year.
- The **14th International Children's Film Festival of Bangladesh (ICFFB)** came to an end in **Dhaka**.
- **South Korea** unveiled a **48.5 trillion won (\$43.2 billion)** plan to **build the world's largest wind power plant by 2030** as part of efforts to foster an environmentally-friendly recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Pakistan** conducted a **successful training launch of a surface-to-surface cruise missile** which can **strike targets up to 450 kilometres**
- The **United States** extended the **nuclear arms** control treaty known as the **New START** with **Russia** for the next five years.
- **Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla** will pay a two-day visit to **Moscow** on **17th and 18th of February** at the invitation of Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Morgulov.

Monthly One Liners - February 2021

- The first day of the spring called '**Pahela Phagun**' was celebrated in Dhaka despite the continued shadow of Corona pandemic in the country.
- **China** last year overtook the **United States** as the **EU's biggest trading partner**, the **EU statistics agency Eurostat**
- Ethiopian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs **Demeke Mekonnen Hassen** arrived in New Delhi on a **four-day official visit to India**.
- On February 18, 2021, The Prime Minister of **Georgia, Giorgi Gakharia** has announced his **resignation**
- **Facebook** has **blocked Australian users** from **sharing or viewing news content on the platform**, causing alarm over public access to key information.
- The **French Parliament** has approved an **Anti-radicalism Bill** in a bid to **fight the Islamic radicalism**.
- The **Bangladesh Supreme Court** launched the **Artificial Intelligence (AI) based translation software 'Amar Vasha'** through a virtual event.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke with Prime Minister of Australia Scott Morrison**
- The scheme to provide free menstrual products for the next three years comes after a six-month pilot program launched last year in **15 schools in the Waikato region** where **3,200 young people** were provided with period products.
- The **United States** officially **rejoined the Paris Agreement on climate change** designed to limit global warming and avoid its potentially catastrophic impacts.
- India offered a **USD 100 million line of credit to Mauritius** to facilitate procurement of **defence assets** and the two countries signed a **Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Partnership Agreement** following talks between **External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar** and **Mauritius Prime Minister Pravind Jugnauth** here.

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- **Israel** has launched a coronavirus '**green pass**' system, and that allows people who have been vaccinated to access public facilities.
- A British woman, **Jasmine Harrison** of **England** has become the **youngest woman** to row solo across an **Ocean by completing a 3,000-mile (4828 km)** journey across the Atlantic.
- **External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar** inaugurated the new Indian High Commission building in Mauritius in the presence of **Prime Minister of Mauritius Pravind Jugnauth and Foreign Minister Alan Ganoo**.
- **Union Government** and the **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)** signed a loan agreement for a **304 million dollar Assam Intra-State Transmission System Enhancement Project** to improve reliability, capacity and security of the power transmission network in the State of Assam.
- **China** has regained its position as the **top trading partner of India in 2020**, which was held by the **United States**, since 2018-19.
- **Pakistan** is unlikely to exit the '**grey list**' of the **FATF** as some European countries have taken the stand that Islamabad has not fully implemented all the points of a plan of action set by it, on the eve of the plenary meeting of the global watchdog for money laundering and terror financing.
- **Australia's parliament** passed landmark legislation requiring **global technology giants** to pay for the news content shared on their platforms, in a move that is being closely watched around the world.
- **Foreign Minister of Uzbekistan Abdulaziz Kamilov** who is on a two day visit to India met with **External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar** in New Delhi.
- The **24th edition of the India-USA Executive Steering Group meeting** was held at New Delhi from 22nd to 24th February.

Monthly One Liners - February 2021

- The new Passenger train service between **India and Bangladesh** will start from 26th of March, the day the neighbouring country begins the **Golden Jubilee celebrations of its Independence**.
- **Union Minister of State for Personnel, Dr. Jitendra Singh** has said that India's successful commencement of the **COVID-19 vaccination programme** with two indigenously developed vaccines, offers a lot of hope of a decisive victory against the pandemic in the coming months.
- China is celebrating its traditional **Lantern festival**.

Summits & Conferences:

- The **Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)** has started organising **KRITAGYA**- a National level hackathon in the month of August, 2020 to promote innovation in agriculture and allied sectors in the country.
- The **Indian Air Force** will host a **Chiefs of Air Staff (CAS) Conclave** on 3rd and 4th Feb 21 at **Air Force Station Yelahanka**.
- The first-ever **ASEAN-India Hackathon** concluded on **February 4 with more than 400 students**, mentors, and officials from **10 ASEAN countries** and India participating.
- The **45th Kolkata International Book Fair** will be held in **July** this year at the **Central Park Ground of Salt Lake**.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** will inaugurate the **World Sustainable Development Summit 2021** on **10th of February** via video conferencing.
- The **first High-Level Dialogue (HLD)**, co-chaired by the **Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal** and the European Union Executive Vice-President and Trade Commissioner **Valdis Dombrovskis**, was held on Feb 05, 2021.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** will inaugurate the **Maritime India Summit-2021** on 2nd March.

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- The slogan of '**Dekho Apna Desh**' by the Prime Minister has given **boost to domestic tourism** stated **Union Minister of State (IC) for Tourism & Culture, Shri Prahlad Singh Patel**, while inaugurating via video conferencing **Kevadia, Gujarat**.
- **AIM and Australia's national science agency (CSIRO)** kick started the **India-Australia Circular Economy (I-ACE) Hackathon, 2021**.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** addressed the **29th edition of Nasscom Technology and Leadership Forum (NTLF)** which is being **organized from 17th - 19th Feb** through video conferencing.
- **Dr. Harsh Vardhan**, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare today participated and expressed his views in **WION and Zee Media's 'Population versus Planet' Conference**
- The **Asia Economic Dialogue 2021 (AED 2021)** jointly convened **by the Ministry of External Affairs and Pune International Centre (PIC)**
- The **11th India-EU Macroeconomic dialogue** was held through video conferencing.
- A **trilateral dialogue** was held among **India, France, and Australia** on February 24, 2021 at the senior officials' level, with **focus on further enhancing cooperation in the Indo-Pacific**.
- The **International Commission on Large Dams (ICOLD) Symposium** on Sustainable Development of Dams & River Basins was inaugurated by **Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat**, Minister for Jal Shakti as Chief Guest and **Shri R.K. Singh**, Minister of State (IC) for Power and New & Renewable Energy, Govt. of India presided over the Opening Ceremony.

Ranks & Indices:

- **India ranked 10th out of 11 Asia Pacific countries** in a newly-launched health index to measure the progress towards **personalised healthcare**.
- The **second edition** of the India Justice Report, **India's only ranking** of states on delivery of Justice to people, announced.

Monthly One Liners - February 2021

- Germany ranks first in the PHDCCI International Economic Resilience (IER) Rank followed by India and South Korea at second and third positions, respectively, according to the report released by industry body PHDCCI.
- India slipped two places to 53rd position in the 2020 Democracy Index's global ranking, according to The Economist Intelligence Unit.

Appointments:

Name of the Person	Appointed as	Key Points
R S Sharma	CEO of Ayushman Bharat Scheme	Replacing Indu Bhusan
Ram Mohan Rao Amara	MD & CEO of SBI Card	
Bhavya Lal	chief of staff of NASA	
Andy Jassy	Next CEO of Amazon	He will replace Jeff Bezos
Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala	next director general of the World Trade Organization	
Michael Bloomberg	United Nations Climate Envoy	
Bikram Singh Bedi	MD of Google Cloud	
Praveen Sinha	Acting Chief of CBI	
Jiten Chopra	CFO of Indigo	Succeeds Aditya Pande
VP Joy	Kerala's Chief Secretary	Succeeds Viswas Mehta
Hima Das	Deputy Superintendent of Police in Assam	
Aditya Mittal	Arcelor Mittal CEO	
Satishwar Balakrishnan	Managing director and chief executive officer of Aegon Life	

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	Insurance	
Marc Llistosella	chief executive officer and managing director of Tata Motors	Succeeds Guenter Butschek
Mario Draghi	PM of Italy	Succeeds Giuseppe Conte
Puligoru Venkata Sanjay Kumar	Chief Justice of Manipur High Court	
Dr. Ajay Mathur	Director General of International Solar Alliance (ISA)	
Om Prakash Dadhich and Sandeep Kumar	Members in the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC).	Dadhich replaces Dr John Joseph Sandeep Kumar replaces Ashok Kumar Pandey
Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala	head of the World Trade Organization.	
Mahender Singh Kanyal	Indian Ambassador to Syria	presently Ambassador of India to Suriname
Mahesh Palashikar	GE T&D India Ltd (GETDIL) Chairman	succeeding Vishal K Wanchoo
Umakant Dash	Institute of Rural Management-Anand (IRMA) Director	
Nihar N Jambusaria	ICAI President	
Toshihiro Mibe	Honda CEO	

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Amrit Singh	Max Life Insurance Chief Financial Officer	
Japan's Seiko Hashimoto	next Tokyo 2020 president	
Yanira Ramirez	H&M Country Sales Manager for India	
V S Ganesh	Executive Director & CEO of Page Industries	Succeeds Vedji Ticku
Shantanu Mitra	MD & CEO of Fullerton India	
Timothy Prentice	Vice President of TVS Motor Company	
Dr Mangu Hanumantha Rao	Executive Director for Madurai AIIMS	
Gautam Thakar	Global CEO of OLX Autos	
K P Krishnan	Shriram Capital Chairman of the board	
Sachin Tendulkar	Brand Ambassador of Unacademy	
Dushyant Chautala	president of the Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI)	
Natalia Vodianova	UN Goodwill Ambassador	
Deepika Padukone	Global Brand Ambassador of Levis	
Manu Sharma	Vice President and Genral Manager of Nothing India	

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- Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, **Shri Prakash Javadekar** and **Ms Barbara Pompili**, the French Minister for Ecological Transition launched the **Indo-French Year of the Environment in New Delhi**
- **Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB)** announced the appointment of Sanjay Bangar as the new batting consultant ahead of **Indian Premier League (IPL) 2021**.
- Preeti Sinha will oversee **UNCDF's 'last mile' finance models** to reduce poverty and support local economic development.
- **Page Industries** shares decline after **CEO Vedji Ticku resigns** 'owing to personal commitments' Shares of **Page Industries** dropped over 5 percent after the **Vedji Ticku, Chief Executive Officer** and Executive Director of the company **resigned** "owing to personal commitments".
- **President Ram Nath Kovind** has appointed **Jasmeet Singh and Amit Bansal** as Judges of the **Delhi High Court**

Agreements and MoUs:

- **Ford Motor Co** will tap into software, artificial intelligence and **cloud computing** offered by **Alphabet Inc's Google** to develop new consumer services and modernize internal operations.
- The **National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation (NBCFDC)** has signed an MoU with Apollo Medskills Private Ltd for providing COVID Vaccination Administration training to Nurses, Medical and Nursing students and Pharmacists.
- **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)** and **Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited (MIDHANI)** have signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** for **development and production of composite** raw materials during the **Aero India 2021 in Bengaluru on February 04, 2021**

Monthly One Liners - February 2021

- Billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries Ltd has sourced the world's first consignment of 'carbon-neutral oil' from the US as it looks to become a net zero-carbon company by 2035.
- The 1st meeting of the Joint Working Group in the field of Renewable Energy between India and the Kingdom of Bahrain held On Feb 04, 2021 in virtual format.
- A total of 201 MoUs, product launches, and technology transfers were concluded at the Bandhan ceremony held on the last day of Aero India 2021 at Yehalanka, Bengaluru on February 05, 2021.
- Karnataka has benefitted from the Aero India show that concluded in Bengaluru.
- Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi called for an immediate and comprehensive ceasefire in Afghanistan to end a spike in violence, as the two countries signed an agreement for building a dam to supply water to Kabul city.
- New Development Bank (NDB), the multilateral development bank established by the BRICS states, has announced a commitment of \$100 million into the NIIF Fund of Funds (FoF).
- HCL Technologies announced it has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur (IITK) to collaborate in the area of cybersecurity.
- India and Nepal signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the reconstruction of six secondary schools in the Himalayan nation.
- Global IT leader TCS will invest an estimated Rs.1,200 - Rs.1,500 crore to expand operations in Kerala and has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Technopark here for leasing 97 acres of land at its Technocity campus to set up a digital hub for engineering, product development and IT services across manufacturing sectors, Kerala Chief Minister's office informed.
- Flipkart, Tamil Nadu MSME inks MoU to support small, local products.

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- **India and Ethiopia** signed two agreements related to visa facilitation and leather technology.
- A **national hydrogen mission to accelerate plans to generate the carbon-free fuel** from renewables, state-owned **Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)** signed a pact with **Greenstat Norway** for setting up a **Centre of Excellence on Hydrogen**.
- Indian government, Government of **Nagaland** and the **World Bank** signed a **\$68 million** project to enhance the governance of schools across Nagaland as well as to improve teaching practices and learning environments in select schools.
- Development of a multi-modal logistics park (MMLP) and feasibility to run a ferry service between **Chennai** and Karaikal in Puducherry are some of the projects for which **MoUs** will be **signed** with various agencies by the **Chennai Port Trust (ChPT)** at the **Maritime India Summit 2021** to be held online from March 2 to 4.
- **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** and the **Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)** have signed a **memorandum of understanding to support the development, conduct and promotion of health research in the country**.
- In the **next three to five years**, students in Telangana will get a one-of-its-kind innovation centre.
- The **Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA)** and the **National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC)** have inked a memorandum of understanding to synergies their various programmes in the interest of export-oriented capture and culture of fisheries and allied sectors for bringing better value to the stakeholders.
- **India and Mauritius** have signed Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA).
- **India and Uzbekistan** agreed to strengthen multilateral cooperation.

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- The Ministry of Corporate Affairs and Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs have signed an **MoU** for exchange of data for enhancing ease of doing business in India and improving overall regulatory enforcement.
- A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the **Inland Waterways Authority of India** and the **MOL (Asia Oceania) Limited** for transportation of Liquefied Natural Gas through barges on National Waterways-1 and National Waterways-2.
- The Ministry of Corporate Affairs and Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs signed a **Memorandum of Understanding in New Delhi** for data exchange between the two organisations.

Sports:

- The **BCCI** will not be conducting its premier **first-class domestic tournament Ranji Trophy** for the first time in **87 years** as the parent body opted for the **Vijay Hazare Trophy**.
- **BCCI secretary Jay Shah** was unanimously elected as the **president of the Asian Cricket Council (ACC)** at its **Annual General Meeting (AGM)**.
- India's 24-member shooting contingent topped the medals tally in the first Asian Online Shooting Championship.
- **Dinesh Karthik-led Tamil Nadu** clinched their second national T20 championship as they beat **Baroda by seven wickets** in the final of **Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 Trophy** in Ahmedabad.
- Former pacer **Merv Hughes** has been inducted into the **Australian Cricket Hall of Fame**, the country's board (CA) announced.
- Union Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports **Kiren Rijiju** launched a breakthrough **Reference Material** for use in chemical testing.
- **Fast bowler Ashoke Dinda, 36**, has retired from all forms of the game after **15 years** in Bengal cricket.

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- **India's wicketkeeper-batsman Rishabh Pant** has been nominated for the **ICC Men's Player of the Month** award along with England skipper Joe Root and Ireland's Paul Stirling.
- **Joe Root**, the England captain, sent India on a leather hunt, becoming the **first player in history to score a double century in his 100th Test match**.
- In **Kargil Ladakh**, **Drass Red** has won the **13th CEC Cup Ice Hockey Championship** beating Hockey Club Chiktan team in the Final match.
- Former captain **Steve Smith** claimed his **third Allan Border Medal** while **Beth Mooney** bagged her **maiden Belinda Clarke Award**, the top two honours of the Australian Cricket Awards.
- The **International Cricket Council (ICC)** announced the winners of the **inaugural ICC Player of the Month Awards** which recognise and celebrate the best performances from **both male and female cricketers** across all forms of international cricket throughout the year.
- The **International Cricket Council (ICC)** has announced **Indian edu-tech company BYJU'S** as its **global partner from 2021 to 2023**.
- Veteran fast bowler **Ishant Sharma** became the **sixth Indian and the third pacer from the country to take 300 wickets in Test cricket**.
- Indian captain **Virat Kohli** has slipped to **No. 5 in the latest ICC Men's Test Player Rankings**.
- Former India wicketkeeper-batsman **Naman Ojha** announced his **retirement from all forms of cricket**.
- The **Mohali-based IPL franchise** formally known as **Kings XI Punjab** were **renamed as Punjab Kings**, ahead of the **2021 auctions due to be held in Chennai on February 18**.
- **India's Ankita Raina** On February 19 won her maiden **WTA title** as she and her **Russian partner Kamilla Rakhimova** clinched the doubles event in the **Phillip Island Trophy in Melbourne**.

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- Star paddler Manika Batra clinched her **second title** by **defeating Reeth Rishya 4-2** in the women's singles final of the **Senior National Table Tennis Championship**
- Japan's Naomi Osaka Has won the **Women's single title** in the **Australian open 2021**.
- Indian Premier League Governing Council chairman Brijesh Patel revealed at the **IPL 2021 Auction** that **VIVO** is back as the title sponsor of the league.
- Sri Lanka fast bowler **Dhammika Prasad** has announced his **retirement from international cricket**.
- South-African all-rounder **Chris Morris** became the **costliest player** in the history of **Indian Premier League (IPL) auction** when Rajasthan Royals snapped him up for **Rs 16.25 crore** in the **2021 auction** in Chennai.
- The **International Olympic Committee (IOC)** has named **Brisbane, Australia** as the preferred bidder to host the **2032 Olympic Games**.
- **PM Modi** will virtually inaugurate and deliver the inaugural address at the **2nd Khelo India National Winter Games** on **February 26, 2021**.

Defence:

- The **India-US joint military exercise "Yudh Abhyas 20"** commenced in **Mahajan Field Firing Range** of Bikaner district in Rajasthan.
- India's Ministry of Defence (MoD) and **Defence Public Sector Undertaking (DPSU) Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)** have signed a contract for procurement of **Software Defined Radio Tactical (SDR-Tac)** worth over **₹1,000 crore**.
- **Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)** inducted **women commandos** in its **anti-Naxal Commando Battalion for Resolute Action (CoBRA) unit** which will undergo training and then will be sent to Naxal-hit areas.

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- The **Indian Army** has laid the foundation stone of the tallest '**Iconic National Flag**' at the famous **ski-resort of Gulmarg in Jammu and Kashmir**.
- India** successfully test fired indigenously-developed anti-tank guided missile systems '**Helina**' and '**Dhruvastra**', paving their induction into the **Army and the Indian Air Force** respectively.
- The **Indian and Indonesian navies** carried out a **military exercise in the Arabian sea to enhance operational interoperability and overall cooperation**.

Awards & Honours:

Name of the Person	Awarded as
Robert Irwin	Wildlife Photographer of the Year People's Choice Award
Tamil film Koozhangal	Tiger Award in the competition section of the International Film Festival of Rotterdam.
Manasa Varanasi	winner of VLCC Femina Miss India World 2020.
Muthalankurichi Kamarasu	Tamil Semmal award winner
S Hareesha's novel Meesha	Best novel for the year 2019 by Kerala Sahitya Akademi.
ITC Grand Chola Hotel, Guindy	Swachh Hotel' award
UST Company	'Top Employer'
Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister, Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy	Skoch Chief Minister of the Year Award.
Bharat Biotech	Genome Valley Excellence Award for 2021
Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB)	Asia Environmental Enforcement Award-2020
'Amar Ekushey'	International Mother Language Award in Bangladesh
Uttar Pradesh	Award for fastest implementation of Pradhan mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana.
Andhra Pradesh State Road Transport	Digital Technology Sabha Award

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Corporation (APSRTC)	
Telangana State Southern Power Distribution Company Limited (TSSPDCL)	'ICC - 8th Innovation with Impact Awards 2020',

- Music composer **AR Rahman** and social activist from **Saidapet Hari Krishnan** were among the **14** people who were presented the **fourth edition** of the **Alert Being Awards 2020** by the **NGO ALERT**, for their Good Samaritan work.
- Chief Minister **Pinarayi Vijayan** presented the 2019 **Kerala State Film Awards** and the **J C Daniel Award** at a function .
- **Lijo Jose Pellissery's Jallikattu** is officially out of the race for the Oscars in the Best International Feature Film category
- At a time when many children could not make the most of their free time during the lockdown induced by the pandemic, a **15-year-old girl** from a remote village in Mysuru took it as an opportunity to try her hands at '**gourd art**'.
- The **SERB Women Excellence Award** was announced on the occasion of **International Day of Women and Girls in Science 2021**.
- The High Commission of India in Dhaka announced the winners of the writing competition on the subject '**What Liberation means to me**' for the youth of Bangladesh.
- **Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan** presented the **National Bal Shree awards** to **M Madhurima, S Ananthan and K Prajwal** at **Cliff House**.
- Three children from the state have been selected for the national bravery awards instituted by the **Indian Council for Child Welfare (ICCW)**.
- The **Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)** has bagged six awards for its efforts in the field of communication at the **PRSI National Awards-2020** conferred upon by the Public Relations Society of India.

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- **Chemicals and Fertilizers Minister DV Sadananda Gowda** will present the 10th National Awards for Technology Innovation in Petrochemicals and Downstream Plastics Processing Industry in New Delhi.
- The **Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival Awards 2021**, has **honoured late actor Sushant Singh Rajput** with the **Critic's Best Actor** accolade in the award ceremony.
- The **Akshaya Oorja Awards 2019**, instituted by the **Agency for Non-conventional Energy and Rural Technology (ANERT)**, were distributed here y at the agency's headquarters.
- **Anjali Bharadwaj**, an Indian social activist working on issues of transparency and accountability, is one of the **12 "courageous" individuals named by the Biden** administration for the newly-instituted **International Anti-Corruption Champions Award**.
- **Vijayawada Postal Division** **bagged five AP Circle level awards** in Aadhaar (first place), Sukanya Samridhi Yojana (first place), postal life insurance (second place), India Post Payments Bank (second) and Philately (second) for the financial year 2019-20.

Science & Technology:

- **NASA** has chosen **SpaceX** to provide **launch services** for its **upcoming two-year astrophysics mission** slated to kick off in **June of 2024**.
- A new intergovernmental organisation called **Square Kilometre Array Observatory (SKAO) Council** has been formed with the intention of building the **world's largest radio telescope**.
- **Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Steel Dharmendra Pradhan** launched the Investment Corner under the Project Development Cell (PDC), on the revamped website of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
- In its first mission in 2021, **India's space agency ISRO** planned to launch on **February 28 Brazilian satellite Amazonia-1** and **three Indian payloads**, including one built by a home-grown start-up.

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Books & Authors:

- Tibetan spiritual leader the **Dalai Lama** has come out with his new book titled '**The Little Book of Encouragement**', in which he has shared quotes and words of wisdom to promote human happiness.
- **Hunter Biden, son of President Joe Biden** and an ongoing target for conservatives, has a memoir coming out **April 6, 2021**.
- Former **vice president Hamid Ansari** released a book titled as **By Many a Happy Accident**.
- Entrepreneur-author **Sangeet Paul Choudary** explains the importance of platform business models, the forces that power their rapid scale and the factors that will cement their dominance in a post-pandemic world in his new book.
- A book titled **Turn Around India: 2020- Surmounting Past Legacy** – creating economic awareness among masses authored by **R.P. Gupta** was launched by **Mr Jual Oram, Hon'ble M.P. & Chairperson Standing Committee on Defence, Government of India**.
- **Peter Mukerjee** has come out with his memoir '**Starstruck: Confessions of a TV executive**'
- Former **Miss World and actor Priyanka Chopra Jonas** created ripples when she announced her memoir titled **Unfinished**.
- Director **Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari (Bareilly Ki Barfi, Panga)** has turned novelist with her debut fiction novel, '**Mapping Love**'.
- Vice-President **M Venkaiah Naidu** released a book '**Maverick Messiah**' on February 18, 2021.
- Veteran actor **Kabir Bedi** will tell the story of his life "with raw emotional honesty" in his memoir which will be published this April.



Monthly One Liners - February 2021

Days & Themes:

Days	Celebrated as
February 1	Indian Coast Guard Day
February 2	World Wetlands Day
February 4	International Day of Human Frater
February 6	International Day of Zero Toleranc
February 8	International Epilepsy Day
February 9	Safer Internet Day
February 10	World Pulses Day
February 10	National Deworming Day
Second Monday of February	International Epilepsy Day
February 11	International Day of Women and G
February 11	World Unani Day
February 12	National Productivity Day
February 13	World Radio Day
February 13	National Women's Day
February 14	Black Day for India
February 17	World Human Spirit Day
February 18 to February 27	Taj Mahotsav



Monthly One Liners - February 2021

February 20	World Day of Social Justice
February 21	International Mother Language Day
February 22	World Thinking Day
Third Saturday of February" every year.	World Pangolin Day
February 24	Central Excise Day

Obituary:

Name of the Person	Field	Birth Place
Paul Crutzen	Nobel Laureate- Chemistry	Netherlands
Hilton Valentine	Animals Guitarist	United Kingdom
Cicely Tyson	Hollywood Actress	United States
Christopher Plummer	Music Star	Canada
Bansi Kaul	Founder of Rang Vidushak and theatre director	Srinagar
Akhtar Ali	Tennis Legend	
George Shultz	Former US Secretary	United States
Bruce Taylor	All Rounder	New Zealand
Rajiv Kapoor	Actor	Mumbai
Ezra Moseley	Fast Bowler	West Indies
Carlos Menem	President of Argentina	Argentina
M Rama Jois	Former Bihar-Jharkhand governor and noted jurist Justice (Retd.)	Shimoga, Karnataka
B K Mahapatra	Major General (retired)	Odisha



Monthly One Liners - February 2021

Capt Satish Sharma	Congress leader and former union minister	Secundrabad, Andhra Pradesh
Rahul Khullar	Former TRAI Chief	

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