

Weekly One Liners 3rd to 9th June 2019

National Affairs

- In a first, a **25-year-old** engineering graduate from **Odisha** has become the youngest **Member of Parliament** to the **17th Lok Sabha**.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi set up two Cabinet committees** to deal with the two crucial issues. Both the panels, respectively **on Investment and Growth** and **on Employment and Skill Development**, will be headed by the prime minister.
- **Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC)** has become the **first ever project in the country to receive power generated from a waste-to-energy plant**.
- On the occasion of the **fifth Telangana State Formation Day on 02nd June 2019**, President **Ram Nath Kovind** and **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** have extended their wishes to the people of the state.
- **Madhya Pradesh Cabinet** has passed a resolution to increase reservation quota for **Other Backward Classes (OBC)** from existing **14% to 27%**.

International Affairs

- **The US will end preferential trade status for India**, President **Donald Trump** has confirmed amid a deepening row over protectionism.
- **UAE's Federal Authority for Identity and Citizenship (ICA)** has issued the **first Golden Residence Permit in Abu Dhabi**, as part of the **Investors Permanent Residence System** aimed to attract investors, entrepreneurs and qualified individuals who meet its criteria.
- **In Russia, the first tourist train** traveling through **Russia's Arctic region** and on to Norway set off from **St. Petersburg station** with 91 passengers aboard for the inaugural trial journey.

Agreements/MoUs Signed

- **Airports Authority of India (AAI)** and **aerospace major Boeing** announced the signing of a **technical assistance agreement** to develop an air traffic management roadmap which will improve airspace utilization and help maintain efficient aircraft operations.
- **IndianOil, Bharat Petroleum Corporation (BPCL)** and **Hindustan Petroleum Corp Ltd (HPCL)** had signed a joint venture in New Delhi for **Kandla-Gorakhpur LPG Pipeline Project**.
- **The Centre, the Tamil Nadu Government** and the **World Bank** have signed a **\$287-million loan**

agreement for the **Tamil Nadu Health System Reform Programme (TNHSRP)**.

Summits and Conferences

- **Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan**, chaired a **high-level meeting** to review the status of the **Revised National Tuberculosis Control Program (RNTCP)** in **New Delhi**.
- **14th summit of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)** held in **Mecca, Saudi Arabia** was hosted by **Saudi King Salman bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud**.
- **'2nd Global Disability Summit'** will be held in **Buenos Aires, Argentina**. The Indian delegation will be headed by **Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Thaawarchand Gehlot**.
- **Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman** will attend the **two-day meeting of G-20 Finance Ministers and central bank governors in Japan**.
- **Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal** is leading the Indian delegation for the **two-day G20 Ministerial meeting on Trade and Digital Economy** beginning at **Tsukuba city in Japan**.

Banking/Economy/Business News

- **ONGC, India's top oil and gas producer**, has **topped Indian Oil Corp (IOC)** to regain the crown of being the country's **most profitable public sector company**.
- **Tata Motors-owned Jaguar Land Rover** has joined hands with **BMW** to develop next-generation electric drive systems.
- **Overseas investors pumped more than 9,000 crore rupees** into the Indian capital markets in last month on expectations of more business-friendly measures.
- **India's goods and services tax (GST)** revenue collections crossed **Rs 1 lakh crore** for the **third straight month in May to Rs 1,00,289 crore**, despite the slowdown in the industrial activities.
- Global efforts to impose a **unified tax policy on Google, Facebook and other internet giants** have cleared a major hurdle ahead of a **G20 summit in Japan**.
- **World Bank** retained its forecast of **India's growth rate at 7.5%** for the current financial Year 2019/20.
- **2nd Bi-Monthly monetary policy statement** has been released. Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) at its meeting decided to:

- Reduce the policy repo rate under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) by 25 basis points to 5.75% from 6.00% with immediate effect.
- Consequently, the reverse repo rate under the LAF stands adjusted to 5.50%, and the marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate to 6.0%.
- **The country's foreign exchange reserves** increased by **USD 1.875 billion to USD 421.867 billion** in the week ending 31st May 2019. Reserve Bank weekly data released showed that **foreign currency assets**, which is a major component of the overall reserves, rose by **USD 1.946 billion to USD 394.134 billion**.
- The **RBI has slapped** a penalty of **Rs. 2 crores on Kotak Mahindra Bank** for the non-state lender's failure to adhere to the regulator's diktat **on promoter shareholding**.

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Appointments/Resignations

- In the Central American country of **El Salvador**, **Nayib Bukele** has been sworn-in as the **nation's President**.
- **Chattisgarh government** appointed a new advocate general, **Satish Chandra Verma** with immediate effect, replacing **Kanak Tiwari on the post**.
- **Ajit Doval** has been granted cabinet status and **five more years as the National Security Adviser (NSA)**.
- **Ujjivan Small Finance Bank** has appointed **Flipkart founder Sachin Bansal** as its **independent director**.
- **Axis Bank** stated that the Reserve Bank of India has approved the appointment of **Rakesh Makhija as chairman of the bank**.
- The election was held in the **72nd WHO Assembly in Geneva** where the CAG **Rajiv Mehrishi** was elected with a majority (**90 out of 162 votes**) in the first round of voting itself.
- **Renowned scientist and cyclone warning specialist Mrutyunjay Mohapatra** was appointed

as the **chief of India Meteorological Department (IMD)**.

- **IT Industry icon Azim Premji** will retire as **Executive Chairman of Wipro** with effect from 30th July 2019. His son **Rishad Premji, Chief Strategy Officer and a board member, will take over as the Executive Chairman of the company**.
- **Justice Dhirubhai Naranbhai Patel** was sworn in as **Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court**.
- **The Jammu and Kashmir government** has removed **J&K Bank Chairman Parvez Ahmad** and appointed **RK Chibber** as interim chairman of the lender.

Defence News

- **Air Chief Marshal Birender Singh Dhanoa** has left for Sweden on a four-day official visit.
- India has successfully test fired **Brahmos Supersonic Cruise Missile** from Chandipur in Odisha. Described as the **world's fastest supersonic cruise missile with high rate of precision** and accuracy, **BrahMos** can be fired from land, sea and air.

Awards and Recognitions

- **World Health Organization** has selected the **Rajasthan government's Medical & Health Department** for its award this year in recognition of its achievements in the field of tobacco control.
- **Former President Pratibha Patil** was bestowed on the **highest civilian award of Mexico "Orden Mexicana del Aguila Azteca"** (Order of the Aztec Eagle) **for foreigners**.
- **Malayalam Actor Sheela J.C.** has won the **J.C. Daniel Award**, the highest honour in Malayalam cinema. She is **only the second woman to get it**, after **Aranmula Ponnamma** in 2005.
- In the United States, **Google's India-born CEO Sundar Pichai and Nasdaq president Adena Friedman** have been chosen for the **prestigious Global Leadership Awards 2019** by business advocacy group **USIBC**.

Ranks and Reports

- **Jay-Z** has been named the **world's first billionaire rapper by Forbes**.
- The report on 'Benchmarking India's Payment Systems' which was released mentions that the country is "strong" in areas like having necessary laws and cash in circulation per capita.
- India ranked 95th out of 129 countries in **Global Gender Equality Index**. **The list was topped by Denmark**.

- Mumbai ranked first in the study, 'Traffic Index-2018', compiled by location technology specialist TomTom, with a **congestion level of 65%**.

Books and Authors

- "Cricket World Cup: The Indian Challenge" – a book on the history of the tournament from an Indian perspective by veteran broadcaster and **writer Ashis Ray** – has been formally unveiled.

Schemes and Committees

- **Telangana Government** has issued a notification to extend the Rythu Bandhu scheme for 2019-20 while enhancing the amount from **Rs 4000 to Rs 5000**.
- **Rajasthan government** has increased the financial assistance given to school girls under the 'Aapki Beti' scheme and ex-gratia payment to the families of polling personnel who die during election duty.
- **The Kasturirangan committee** has revised the Draft **New National Education Policy** and effected some changes in the three-language formula.
- The **Nandan Nilekani committee** has suggested a host of measures, including elimination of charges, round-the-clock **RTGS and NEFT facility**, and duty-free import of point-of-sales machines.

Sports News

- In **Football**, **Liverpool breezed** past Tottenham at Madrid to win the **Champions League for the sixth time**.
- **Indian junior women's hockey** team clinched the **Cantor Fitzgerald U21 International 4-Nations title** after beating Ireland 1-0 in the final at **Dublin, Ireland**.
- Third seed **Sidharth Rawat defeated Rio Noguchi of Japan** to clinch his maiden title in the **\$25,000 ITF men's Futures tennis tournament**.
- **Sunil Chhetri** became the most capped India player by **surpassing Bhaichung Bhutia's 107 international matches**.
- 2019 FIFA Women's World Cup is the 8th edition of the FIFA Women's World Cup that will be held in nine cities across France.
- In French Open Tennis, **Australian Ashleigh Barty** won her **first Grand Slam singles** title after easing past **Czech teenager Marketa Vondrousova** in straight sets in the women's final.
- In the **International Hockey Federation (FIH) Men's Hockey** Series Finals match played at Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar, **Japan defeated Mexico** by a goal margin of 3-1.

Important Days

- **Financial Literacy Week 2019** to be observed from **June 3-7 on the theme of "Farmers"** and how they benefit by being a part of the formal banking system.
- **Food and Agriculture Organisation** of the United Nations (FAO) selected June 1st as World Milk Day. Theme: "**Drink Milk: Today & Everyday**".
- **International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression** is a United Nations observance each on **04th June**.
- **United Nations General Assembly** declared **3 June** as **International World Bicycle Day**.
- **World Environment Day** is celebrated every year on **June 5th** in more than 100 countries. Theme: '**Beat Air Pollution**'.
- **International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing** is organized every year on **5th June**.
- **World Food Safety Day** is observed every year on **7th June**. Theme: '**Food Safety, Everyone's Business**'.
- **World Oceans Day** takes place every **8 June**. The theme of World Oceans Day 2019 is '**Gender and the Ocean**'.

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Obituaries

- **Actor-singer Ruma Guha Thakurta**, who featured in films such as **Jwar Bhata, Ganga and 36 Chowringhee Lane** while straddling an equally successful playback career, died aged 84.
- **Veteran comedian, film and theatre actor Dinyar Contractor** passed away aged 79.
- **Lennart Johansson**, who oversaw the introduction of the Champions League during a 17-year reign as president of European soccer's governing body, has died.
- **Six-time Grammy-winning musician Malcolm John Rebennack**, better known as **Dr John**, passed away aged 77.

Miscellaneous News

- **The 10th National Science Film Festival of India (NSFFI)** will be organised in Tripura in January and February 2020.
- **Abu Dhabi-based** Indian retail tycoon **MA Yusuff Ali** has become the first expat to get the **UAE's first gold card permanent residency**.

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- **L&T Financial Services' (LTFS) 'Digital Sakhi'**, an educational programme aimed at digital financial inclusion of rural women, was launched in two villages of Villupuram district in Tamil Nadu.
- **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)** has launched a **Fiscal Performance Index (FPI)** to assess state and central budgets.
- **Maldives** will confer '**Nishan Izzuddin**' award on **Prime Minister Narendra Modi**. It is the highest award to honour foreign nationals.