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The first question that might come to your mind is “Is that even possible to use each second of your time effectively?” or “Do I even have that much spare time?” Let's help you by looking over the top time drainers of your daily routine:

- On an average, a person spends 67 minutes per day eating and drinking beverages while watching their favorite TV series.
- Travelling is one of the most overlooked time drainers. CNBC claims that the average commute is a little over 50 minutes per day.
- 44% of people waste tons of time just sitting in the traffic, while others keep scrolling through their feeds.
- Digital Information World suggests that people spend 2 hours and 22 minutes on social media.
- More often unproductive chats on WhatsApp are the major time drainers where you waste your time on without even knowing how much time is spent.

Adding up all these, you spend nearly **4 hours** daily or 1/6th of your day doing a whole lot of **NOTHING!** Over the course of a week that amounts to over **28 hours** of wasted time, and more than **1460 hours** or **52,560,000 seconds** annually!! Scary! Isn't it?

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National & States Affairs

51. On December 3, the occasion of International Day of Disabled Persons, Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde announced to set up a separate Divyang Welfare Department for differently-abled people with a fund allocation of Rs 1,143 crore. Maharashtra is the first state to have such a department. The government has created 2,063 posts for the new department which will formulate policies for the welfare of the disabled. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra – first state to set up a separate ‘Divyang Welfare Department’ for differently-abled people
- Fund allocation for this purpose – Rs 1,143 Crore
- Maharashtra: CM – Eknath Shinde | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

52. On December 5, Adani Green Energy Ltd (AGEL) has commissioned a 450 MW wind-solar hybrid power plant in Rajasthan. With the new hybrid plant in Jaisalmer, Adani Green Energy has the largest operational hybrid power generation capacity of 1,440 MW. AGEL has a total operational generation capacity of 7.17 GW, making it the world’s largest wind-solar hybrid power farm developer. The plant has Power Purchase Agreements (PPA) with SECI (Solar Energy Corporation of India) at Rs 2.67/kwh for 25 years. The new hybrid power plant consists of 420 MW solar and 105 MW wind plants. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Adani Green – commissioned a 450 MW wind-solar hybrid power plant in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan
- AGEL became world’s largest wind-solar hybrid power farm developer with operational generation capacity of 7.17 GW
- HQs of Adani Green Energy Ltd – Ahmedabad, Gujarat | MD & CEO – Vneet S. Jaain

53. On December 2, Experts from the Gurugram-based Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) and England-based University of Leicester have been awarded a prestigious grant of nearly Euro 10 million by the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR), UK to help improve the health outcomes. The grant also aims to re-orient health systems to effectively address multiple long-term conditions (MLTCs) or multimorbidity in India and Nepal. The researchers will collaborate with the All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS), Jodhpur, Health Related Information Dissemination Amongst Youth (HRIDAY), Delhi, and Kathmandu Medical College (KMC), Kathmandu. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PHFI (Haryana) + University of Leicester (UK) = received a grant of Euro 10 million from National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR), UK

54. On December 6, Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar approved the formation of an Advisory Group for streamlining the development of the Bamboo sector. The Advisory Group has a representation of various stakeholders including academicians, researchers, innovators, progressive entrepreneurs, designers, farmer leaders, marketing specialists, and policymakers. The inter-ministerial and public-private consultation is envisaged to help revamp the developmental architecture of the sector by incorporating synergy between all the sections related to the bamboo value chain. The restructured ‘National Bamboo Mission (NBM)’ was launched during 2018-19 as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme. The NBM was initially launched in 2006-07. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Singh Tomar – approved the formation of an Advisory Group for streamlining development of Bamboo sector
- ‘National Bamboo Mission’, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, was initially launched in 2006-07 (restructured in 2018-19)



55. On December 6, Hyderabad-based Goldsikka Pvt Ltd has set up a gold ATM, India's first real-time gold dispensing machine, in Hyderabad. Gold ATMs work like every other ATM. Customers can use their debit, credit cards to buy the yellow metal from the gold ATM. It was inaugurated by Telangana women commission chairperson Sunitha Lakshmareddy. Gold ATM supplies in denominations ranging from a minimum of 0.5 grams to a maximum of 100 grams. [{Read more}](#)

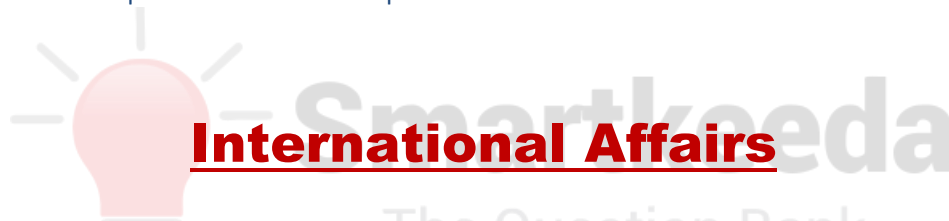
Key Points:

- Goldsikka Pvt Ltd (Hyderabad) – set up a gold ATM, India's first real-time gold dispensing machine, in Hyderabad
- Gold ATM supplies in denominations ranging from a minimum of 0.5 grams to a maximum of 100 grams
- [Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad](#) | [CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao](#) | [Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan](#)

56. The first “Sylhet-Silchar Festival” celebrating the close cultural ties between the neighbouring regions of India and Bangladesh was inaugurated in Assam's Barak Valley. Being celebrated as a two-day festival, it coincided with the 75th year of India's independence and the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Bangladesh from Pakistan. The festival was organized by the India Foundation under the aegis of the Union Ministry of Culture in association with the Bangladesh Foundation for Regional Studies. The festival celebrated the linguistic and cultural ties between the Barak Valley region of Assam, India and the Sylhet segment of Bangladesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- First “Sylhet-Silchar Festival”, celebrating the close cultural ties between India & Bangladesh – held in Assam
- The festival celebrated the linguistic and cultural ties between Barak Valley of Assam & Sylhet segment of Bangladesh
- [Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka](#) | [PM – Sheikh Hasina](#) | [President – Abdul Hamid](#)



International Affairs

57. On December 5, National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) and the Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF), which markets milk under the Amul brand, will jointly provide necessary technical support for the production of milk in Sri Lanka. The aim is to reduce Sri Lanka's dependence on imported milk products. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NDDB + Amul (GCMMF) = will jointly provide necessary technical support for the production of milk in Sri Lanka
- [HQs of NDDB – Anand, Gujarat](#) | [Chairman – Meenesh Shah](#) | [Established in – 1965](#)
- [HQs of AMUL – Anand, Gujarat](#) | [MD – Rupinder Singh Sodhi](#) | [Established in – 1946](#)

58. ‘Gaslighting’ has been named Merriam-Webster's word of the year for 2022. Merriam-Webster's definition for gaslighting is the psychological manipulation of a person, usually over an extended period of time. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ‘Gaslighting’ – named as ‘Word of the Year for 2022’ by Merriam-Webster

59. On December 5, “Goblin mode” has been chosen by Oxford English Dictionary as the Word of the Year 2022. The term refers to a type of behaviour which is unapologetically self-indulgent, lazy, slovenly, or greedy, typically in a way that rejects social norms or expectations. More than 340,000 English speakers around the world cast their vote. “Metaverse” was the second choice, followed by “#IStandWith”. “Vax” was the previous Oxford words of the year 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Goblin mode” – chosen by Oxford English Dictionary as the ‘Word of the Year 2022’



Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

60. On December 5, Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), the country's largest insurer, has increased its stake in HDFC Ltd to 5.003% following the acquisition of shares from the open market. LIC purchased 1.2 lakh shares from the open market, an increase of 0.012%. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- LIC – acquired additional 0.012% stake in HDFC Ltd, increasing its stake to 5.003% in HDFC Ltd
- HQs of LIC – Mumbai | Chairman – M. R. Kumar | Founded in – 1956 | Tagline – “Yogakshemam Vahamyaham”
- HQs of HDFC Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Deepak Parekh | VC & CEO – Keki Mistry

61. On December 2, the government launched the fourth tranche of Bharat Bond ETF, India's first corporate bond exchange traded fund. This fund is managed by Edelweiss Mutual Fund. This new Bharat Bond ETF and Bharat Bond Fund of Fund (FOF) series will mature in April 2033. The maiden offering of Bharat Bond ETF was launched in 2019. The ETF has raised Rs 29,600 Cr in its three offerings so far. Bharat Bond ETF invests only in 'AAA' rated bonds of public sector companies. Through the launch of this new series in the fourth tranche, the government proposes to raise an initial amount of Rs 1,000 Cr with a green shoe option of Rs 4,000 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The government launched 4th tranche of Bharat Bond ETF & Bharat Bond FOF series (Maturity – April 2033)
- Bharat Bond ETF – launched in 2019 as India's 1st corporate bond ETF

62. On December 5, Shriram Transport Finance and Shriram City Union Finance Ltd have been merged to form Shriram Finance Ltd. Post the merger, Shriram Finance has become the largest retail NBFC in India with a robust network of ₹40,900 crore and Assets under Management of ₹1,71,000 crore. Jugal Kishor Mohapatra has been named as the Chairman and Maya Sinha appointed as independent director. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shriram Transport Finance & Shriram City Union Finance Ltd – merged to form 'Shriram Finance Ltd'
- Shriram Finance became the largest retail NBFC in India | Net worth – ₹40,900 Cr, AUM – ₹1,71,000 Cr
- HQs of Shriram Finance Ltd – Mumbai | Chairman – Jugal Kishor Mohapatra | MD & CEO – Y. S. Chakravarti

63. On December 5, the RBI imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 5 lakh on Bharat Cooperative Bank Limited, Bengaluru, for violating certain rules. The penalty was imposed for non-adherence, violation of directions issued under Exposure Norms and statutory or other restrictions - UCBs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 5 lakh on Bharat Cooperative Bank Limited, Bengaluru
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established on – 1st April, 1935
- Total Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao

64. On December 6, AU Small Finance Bank entered into a bancassurance tie-up with ICICI Lombard General Insurance. The partnership will provide the bank's diverse customers access to the insurer's portfolio and enhance penetration across India. AU Small Finance Bank is a scheduled commercial bank, a Fortune India 500 Company, and the largest small finance bank in India. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- AU SFB + ICICI Lombard = a bancassurance tie-up
- HQs of AU SFB – Jaipur, Rajasthan | MD & CEO – Sanjay Agarwal
- HQs of ICICI Lombard – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Bhargav Das Gupta

65. On December 6, Fintech player Spice Money partnered with private sector lender Axis Bank to facilitate opening of instant, zero balance savings or current accounts for rural citizens through its Adhikari network. Through this association, Spice Money aims to bridge the rural-urban divide and bring financial inclusivity by providing access to banking products to the last mile at their doorstep. The Spice Money network, comprising more than 10 lakh Adhikaris, covers more than 18,000 pin codes, 700 districts and 5,000 blocks, serving over 10 crore households. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Spice Money + Axis Bank = partnership to facilitate opening of instant, zero balance savings or current accounts for rural citizens through its Adhikari network
- HQs of Spice Money – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | Co-Founder & CEO – Sanjeev Kumar
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry | Tagline – “Badhti ka Naam Zindagi”

66. On December 5, Federal Bank launched its latest ‘Football Fiesta’ campaign to celebrate FIFA World Cup 2022. Additionally, the bank has come out with an augmented reality (AR) filter for Instagram as part of the campaign. Moreover, it has also announced its social media contest for the public. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Federal Bank – launched its latest ‘Football Fiesta’ campaign to celebrate FIFA World Cup 2022
- HQs of Federal Bank – Aluva, Kerala | MD & CEO – Shyam Srinivasan | Tagline – “Your Perfect Banking Partner”
- HQs of FIFA – Zurich, Switzerland | President – Gianni Infantino

Defence Affairs

67. On December 3, Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) handed over ‘Authority Holding Sealed Particulars (AHSP) of Akash Weapon System (Indian Army Version)’ to Missile Systems Quality Assurance Agency (MSQAA) in Hyderabad. Akash missile system was developed by DRDO laboratory’s lab Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDL), Pune. Apart from DRDL, a number of other DRDO labs are also involved in the development of the system. Akash is the first indigenous state-of-the-art surface-to-air missile system which has been with Armed Forces for nearly a decade. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DRDO handed over ‘Authority Holding Sealed Particulars (AHSP) of Akash Weapon System’ to MSQAA, Hyderabad
- Akash missile system was developed by DRDL-DRDO along with other labs
- HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – Samir V. Kamat | Established in – 1958



Sports & Games

68. On December 4, India's Anjum Moudgil won silver in the women's 50m rifle 3 positions event at the ISSF President's Cup in Cairo, Egypt and was adjudged the second-best athlete of the year in the discipline. Anjum lost to German Anna Janssen in the gold medal match. This was India's second medal in the tournament after Rudranksh Balasaheb Patil won gold in the men's 10m air rifle competition on December 3. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Anjum Moudgil – won Silver in the women's 50m rifle 3 positions event at the "ISSF President's Cup" in Cairo, Egypt
- HQs of ISSF – Munich, Germany | President – Vladimir Lisin

69. On December 5, Arjun Erigaisi (12.5 points) clinched the Blitz title finishing ahead of Hikaru Nakaumura (11.5 points) at the 4th edition of "Tata Steel Chess India Tournament" which was held in Kolkata. In women's category, Rameshbabu Vaishali emerged as the Blitz women's champion with 13.5 points followed by Mariya Muzychuk with 12 points. Moreover, in the same 2022 Tata Steel Chess India Open, Nihal Sarin won the Rapid Men's category following by Arjun Erigaisi. In women's category, Anna Ushenina and Nana Dzagnidze got the 1st and 2nd spot respectively. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 4th edition of "Tata Steel Chess India Tournament" – held in Kolkata
- Viswanathan Anand – Brand Ambassador & Advisor of the tournament
- Blitz Men's winners: 1st – Arjun Erigaisi, 2nd – Hikaru Nakamura
- Blitz Women's winners: 1st – Rameshbabu Vaishali, 2nd – Mariya Muzychuk
- Rapid Men's winners: 1st – Nihal Sarin, 2nd – Arjun Erigaisi
- Rapid Women's winners: 1st – Anna Ushenina, 2nd – Nana Dzagnidze

70. On December 5, Portuguese football star Cristiano Ronaldo joined Saudi Arabian Al-Nassr Football Club on a two-and-a-half-year deal worth 200 million euros per season. This sponsorship will bring his wages to a record figure that will make him the highest paid athlete in sport. Cristiano Ronaldo became the first male player to score at five World Cups with a goal for Portugal against Ghana. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cristiano Ronaldo – joined Saudi Arabia's Al-Nassr Football Club on a deal worth Euros 200 million per season

71. On December 4, Indian shuttler Unnati Hooda became the first-ever Indian under-17 shuttler to clinch a medal at the Asian Junior Badminton Championships. She lost to Sarunrak Vitidsarn of Thailand in the gold medal match in the women's singles category. In the men's doubles category, the in-form duo of Arsh and Sanskar also got a silver medal. Indian shuttler Anish Thoppani clinched a silver medal in the under-15 category in the Badminton Asia U-17 & U-15 Junior Championships 2022 in Nonthaburi, Thailand. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Badminton Asia U-17 & U-15 Junior Championships 2022" – held in Nonthaburi, Thailand
- Women's singles (U-17): Gold – Sarunrak Vitidsarn (Thailand) | Silver – Unnati Hooda (India)
- Unnati Hooda – became 1st ever Indian U-17 shuttler to clinch a medal at Asian Junior Badminton Championships
- Anish Thoppani – clinched a silver medal in the U-15 category
- Arsh + Sanskar = won a silver medal in men's doubles category



72. In December 2022, India won 14 medals in total (6 gold, 1 silver and 7 bronze) at the recently concluded “Peru Para-Badminton International 2022” tournament in Lima, Peru. Sukant Kadam won Gold medal, defeating Singapore’s Chee Hiong Ang in the men’s singles SL4 category, while Nehal Gupta won the SL3 event beating Mathieu Thomas of France. In the women’s category, Nithya Sre Sumathy Sivan and Mandeep Kaur clinched the titles in the SH6 and SL3 singles sections. Indian men’s doubles pair Nehal and Breno Johann (SL3-SL4) and the women’s doubles duo of Parul Parmar and Vaishali Nilesh Patel (SL3-SU5) also claimed Gold medals in their respective categories. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India won 14 medals in total (6 gold, 1 silver & 7 bronze) at the “Peru Para-Badminton International 2022”
- 6 Gold Medals:
 - Sukant Kadam – in men’s singles SL4 event
 - Nehal Gupta – in men’s singles SL3 event
 - Nithya Sre Sumathy – in women’s singles SH6 event
 - Mandeep Kaur – in women’s singles SH3 event
 - Nehal & Breno Johann – in men’s doubles SL3-SL4 event
 - Parul Parmar & Vaishali Nilesh Patel – in women’s doubles SL3-SU5 event

73. On December 6, the All India Football Federation (AIFF) has officially withdrawn its bid to host the AFC Asian Cup 2027 in India. During its meeting on October 17, 2022, the AFC Executive Committee shortlisted bids from the AIFF and the Saudi Arabian Football Federation (SAFF) to host the AFC Asian Cup 2027. The AFC Congress was scheduled to select the ultimate host in February 2023 in Manama, Bahrain. Following India’s withdrawal, Saudi Arabia’s candidacy to host the 19th AFC Asian Cup in 2027 will be the only one presented to the AFC Congress for deliberation. The AFC Asian Cup was last hosted in the UAE in 2019, and Qatar will host the next edition in 2023. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- AIFF – withdrew its bid to host the “AFC Asian Cup 2027” in India
- In Oct, AFC Executive Committee had shortlisted bids from the AIFF & Saudi Arabian Football Federation for this
- AFC Asian Cup 2023 – will be hosted by Qatar

74. On December 5, Chief Minister of Odisha Naveen Patnaik handed over the trophy to Hockey India President Dilip Tirkey, kicking off the Trophy Tour of the “2023 FIH Men’s Hockey World Cup” to be held in Bhubaneswar & Rourkela from January 13 to 29, 2022. This will be the 15th edition of the tournament. Total 16 teams will be competing in the tournament. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Naveen Patnaik kicked off Trophy Tour of “2023 FIH Men’s Hockey World Cup” – to be held in Bhubaneswar & Rourkela
- This will be the 15th edition of the tournament | Total 16 teams will participate
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal



Arts & Cultural Affairs

75. On December 2, Baguette, the staple French bread, was inscribed into the UN's list of intangible cultural heritage (ICH) by UNESCO. The baguette is a long and thin loaf made of flour, water, salt and yeast, and is consumed as a staple in France. The French government plans to introduce an artisanal baguette day called the "Open Bakehouse Day", to enhance people's connection with the heritage. India nominated "Garba Dance" form Gujarat for inscription on UNESCO's ICH list. The elements which have been on the representative list of intangible cultural heritage from India in the past decade include Kolkata's Durga Puja (2021), Kumbh Mela (2017), Navroz (2016), Yoga (2016), traditional brass and copper craft of utensil-making among coppersmiths of Punjab (2014), Sankirtana, a ritual musical performance of Manipur (2013), and the Buddhist chanting of Ladakh (2012), Kalbelia folk songs and dance of Rajasthan, and Mudiyettu, a dance drama from Kerala (2010), Ramman, a religious festival and theatre performance of Garhwal in the Himalayas (2009), and Kutiyattam or Sanskrit theatre, Ramlila, and Vedic chanting (2008). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 'Baguette' (French Bread) – inscribed into UNESCO list of intangible cultural heritage
- India – nominated 'Garba Dance' form of Gujarat for inscription on UNESCO's ICH list
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | PM – Elisabeth Borne
- HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France | Director-General – Audrey Azoulay | Founded in – 1945 | Members – 193 Countries

Science & Technology

76. On December 6, Researchers at IIT Madras have developed and deployed a system that could generate electricity using energy from seawaves. The Ocean Wave Energy Generator system, dubbed "Sindhuja-I", was deployed by the researchers about 6 Km from the coast of Tuticorin in Tamil Nadu. Sindhuja-I can currently produce 100 watts of energy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Madras – developed and deployed "Sindhuja-I", an Ocean Wave Energy Generator system
- Director of IIT Madras – Bhaskar Ramamurthi

77. On December 2, Google launched a new app called 'Reading Mode' to support individuals with visual imparities and dyslexia to read long-form content on screen. The app works on devices running Android 9.0 or above. The app turns any app or webpage into a more accessible version. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Google – launched "Reading Mode" app to support individuals with visual imparities & dyslexia
- HQs of Google – California, US | CEO – Sundar Pichai | Founded in – 1998

78. On December 3, the United States unveiled the 'B-21 Raider' stealth bomber, the world's first sixth-generation aircraft that will soon be delivered to the US Air Force. The aircraft is developed by Northrop Grumman. B-21 will be the most maintainable bomber ever built, designed to deliver both conventional and nuclear munitions with formidable precision. The B-21 Raider is named in honour of the Doolittle Raids of World War II. The designation B-21 recognizes the Raider as the first bomber of the 21st century. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- US unveiled the 'B-21 Raider' stealth bomber, the world's first sixth-generation aircraft
- The aircraft is developed by – Northrop Grumman
- HQs of Northrop Grumman – Virginia, US | CEO – Kathy Warden
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

79. On December 3, A full-stack debt support and risk mitigation platform, Spocto, launched Innovation Lab (SIL) for Debt Collection System. It will also enable digitisation in the ecosystem of the collection. Since SIL will solicit inputs from the borrower and lender segments alike, it aims to further reduce the delinquency rate by 10% by 2025. SIL is designed to fast-track work on disruptive technologies focusing on AI/ML, big data, data security, etc. through an accelerated mechanism. The innovation lab will also launch 3-4 tech-driven initiatives that will cater to different segments: banking partners, NBFCs, collection agencies, fintech & end consumers in the Q4 of FY 2023. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Spocto – launched 'Innovation Lab for Debt Collection System'
- Spocto – aims to reduce the delinquency rate by 10% by 2025

Appointments & Resignations

80. On December 6, Meghna Ahlawat has been elected as the first female President of the Table Tennis Federation of India. While eight-time national champion Kamlesh Mehta takes over as the new Secretary General. Patel Nagender Reddy has been elected as the Treasurer. Ahlawat is the wife of outgoing TTFI president and current Deputy Chief Minister of Haryana Dushyant Chautala. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Meghna Ahlawat – elected as the first female President of the Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI)
- Kamlesh Mehta – elected as new Secretary General of TTFI
- Patel Nagender Reddy – elected as the Treasurer of TTFI
- HQs of TTFI – New Delhi | President – Meghna Ahlawat | Secretary General – Kamlesh Mehta | Established – 1926

81. On December 2, K. V. Suresh Kumar, scientist of Department of Atomic Energy, assumed charge as Chairman and Managing Director of Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Ltd (BHAVINI) at Kalpakkam in Tamil Nadu. His tenure at BHAVINI will be 3 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- K. V. Suresh Kumar – assumed charge as Chairman & MD of Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Ltd (BHAVINI)
- HQs of BHAVINI – Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu | CMD – K. V. Suresh Kumar



Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

82. On December 5, Melbourne-based Veena Nair, an Indian-origin teacher in Australia has received the “2022 Prime Minister’s Prize for Excellence in Science” for teaching in secondary schools. She has been awarded for demonstrating practical application of STEAM to students, and how they can use their skills to make a real impact in the world. The annual awards celebrate the contributions of 12 of the country’s leading scientists, innovators and science teachers. She won the Educator of the Year Award by the Design and Technology Teachers’ Association of Australia in 2018. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Veena Nair (an Indian-origin teacher) – received the “2022 Prime Minister’s Prize for Excellence in Science” by Australia
- [Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar](#) | [PM – Anthony Albanese](#)

Schemes & Initiatives

83. On December 1, under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), the government has committed to provide comprehensive insurance coverage against crop loss on account of non-preventable natural risks. PMFBY is the 3rd largest crop insurance scheme in the World and tipped to become number one in coming years as around 5 Crore farmer applications are being received under the scheme every year. The scheme was initiated in 2016. All savings bank account holders in the age 18 to 70 years in participating banks can apply for the scheme. Recently introduced Weather Information and Network Data Systems (WINDS), Yield Estimation System based on Technology (YES-Tech), Collection of Real Time Observations and Photographs of Crops (CROPIC) are some of the key steps taken under the scheme to bring in more efficiency and transparency. To address farmer grievances in real time, an integrated help line system is under beta testing in Chhattisgarh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Under PMFBY, government has committed to provide comprehensive insurance coverage against crop loss on account of non-preventable natural risks
- PMFBY was launched in 2016 | Age criteria – 18 to 70 years

Important Days & Dates

84. The Indian High Commission celebrated the 2nd “Maitri Diwas”, also known as “India-Bangladesh Friendship Day”, in Dhaka on December 6, 2022. The second Maitri Diwas marks the 50th Anniversary of India-Bangladesh Diplomatic Relations. It is on this day in 1971 that India recognized an independent and sovereign Bangladesh, ten days before Bangladesh’s liberation. The decision to mark December 6 as Maitri Diwas was taken by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina during PM Modi’s state visit to Bangladesh in March 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- December 6 – 2nd “Maitri Diwas” or “Friendship Day” (50th Anniversary of India-Bangladesh Diplomatic Relations)
- India – recognized Bangladesh as a sovereign and independent state on December 6, 1971



85. “International Volunteer Day” (IVD) aka “International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development” 2022 was observed on December 5 by UN. The day is observed annually to recognize and promote the tireless work of UN Volunteers & volunteers across the globe. In 2022, the theme of the day was “Solidarity through Volunteering”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- December 5 – International Volunteer Day or International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development
- 2022’s Theme – “Solidarity through Volunteering”
- HQs of UN Volunteers Programme – Bonn, Germany | Executive Coordinator – Toily Kurbanov

86. December 5 is observed as the ‘World Soil Day’ (WSD), to highlight the value of healthy soil and to promote the sustainable management of soil resources. The first World Soil Day was observed in 2014. World Soil Day highlights what else has to be done to protect soil despite campaigns to raise awareness of its value. Industrialization and inadequate agricultural land management both decrease soil quality. In 2022, “Soils: Where food begins” is the theme of World Soil Day. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- December 5 – World Soil Day (since 2014)
- 2022’s Theme – “Soils: Where food begins”

Obituaries

87. On December 5, Dominique Conchon-Lapierre, a French author and Padma Bhushan awardee, passed away. His 1985 novel “City of Joy”, about the hardships of a rickshaw puller in Kolkata, was a massive success. Indian government honoured him with Padma Bhushan in 2008 for Social Works. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dominique Lapierre – French author – passed away (Padma Bhushan in 2008)
- He is the author of “City of Joy” book

Meetings, Conferences and Summits

88. On December 1, the 7th edition of the “Global Technology Summit” was concluded. It was held in New Delhi in a hybrid format. The Summit is India’s annual flagship event on Geotechnology and is co-hosted by the Ministry of External Affairs and Carnegie India. The theme for this year’s Summit was “Geopolitics of Technology”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 7th “Global Technology Summit” in New Delhi co-hosted by = Ministry of External Affairs + Carnegie India
- Theme – “Geopolitics of Technology”
- Ministry of External Affairs: S. Jaishankar | Constituency – Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of External Affairs: Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, V. Muraleedharan & Meenakashi Lekhi



89. The 17th session of the UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage was held in Morocco's capital Rabat from November 28 to December 3, 2022. Total 47 new items were newly added to the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage List, including Traditional Chinese tea-making techniques and associated social practices. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 17th session of UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage – held in Rabat, Morocco
- Total 47 new items were newly added to the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage List
- [Morocco – Rabat – Dirham](#) | [PM – Aziz Akhannouch](#)
- [HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France](#) | [Director-General – Audrey Azoulay](#) | [Founded in – 1945](#) | [Members – 193 Countries](#)

90. On December 5, the Union Minister of state for Textiles, Darshana Jardosh, addressed the curtain raiser event for “Technotex 2023”. The largest event of technical textile industry in India will be held in Mumbai from February 22 to 24, 2023. The event will focus on discussions to empower startup ventures, promote knowledge exchange on best practices and develop capacities of entrepreneurial ecosystem for startups. The event will be organized by the Ministry of Textiles in collaboration with FICCI under ‘National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM)’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Technotex 2023”, the largest event of technical textile industry in India – to be held in Mumbai (in Feb 2023)
- The event will be organized under ‘National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM)’ by = Ministry of Textiles + FICCI
- [HQs of FICCI – Delhi](#) | [DG – Arun Chawla](#) | [President – Sanjiv Mehta \(Subhrakant Panda from Dec\)](#) | [Founded in – 1927](#)
- [Ministry of Textiles: Piyush Goyal](#) | [Constituency – Maharashtra](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Textiles: Darshana Vikram Jardosh](#)

91. On December 5, Union Minister for Commerce & Industry, Piyush Goyal, attended the “Millets-Smart Nutritive Food” Conclave held in New Delhi with the objective of promoting the export of millets. The Conclave was organized by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry through its apex agricultural export promotion body, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA). The Conclave was a pre-launch event of the ‘International Year of Millets - 2023’. A knowledge book on Millets prepared in association with Knowledge partner ‘Yes Bank’ was released on the occasion. India is one of the leading producers of millets in the world with an estimated share of around 41% in the global production. India's top five millet producing states are Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Piyush Goyal – attended the “Millets-Smart Nutritive Food Conclave” held in New Delhi – organised by APEDA
- A knowledge book on Millets was prepared in association with Knowledge partner Yes Bank

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

92. In the latest “Aviation Safety Rankings” released by the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), India’s position has jumped to the 48th place from the 102nd spot in 2018. The ranking, which also places it ahead of China (49), is the highest ever received by India, according to DGCA officials. The rankings are for 187 countries and assessments were done at different points of time. With a score of 85.49% each, India and Georgia are at the 48th position. The rankings are topped by Singapore with a score of 99.69%. It is followed by the UAE (98.8%) and the Republic of Korea (98.24%). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Aviation Safety Rankings” – released by the ICAO
- India – ranked 48th (from 102nd in 2018) | 1st – Singapore, 2nd – UAE, 3rd – Republic of Korea
- India shared 48th position with Georgia (85.49% score each)
- HQs of ICAO – Montreal, Canada | Council President – Salvatore Sciacchitano | Members – 193

93. The United Arab Emirates (UAE) emerged as the second largest importer of tea from India after the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) as a block. During the period from January to September 2022, UAE imported 28.58 million kilograms of tea from India, a rise of 159% from the similar nine-month period of 2021. During the nine months from January to September 2022, total exports of Indian tea stood at 165.58 million kilograms, higher than 142.55 million kilograms in 2021 in the same period. Assam is the largest producer of tea in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UAE – 2nd largest importer of tea from India | Top – Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) as a block
- UAE – imported 28.58 million kg of tea from India, rise of 159% from 2021 (Jan-Sep)
- Largest tea producer in India – Assam
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

94. According to a data released by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) on December 1, India’s unemployment rate increased to a three-month high at 8% during November. The unemployment rate in urban India was at 8.96%, while in rural areas, it was at 7.55%. Haryana had the highest unemployment rate in November at 30.6%, followed by Rajasthan at 24.5%, Jammu and Kashmir at 23.9%, Bihar at 17.3% and Tripura at 14.5%. Chhattisgarh (0.1%), Uttarakhand (1.2%), Odisha (1.6%), Karnataka (1.8%) and Meghalaya (2.1%) witnessed the least unemployment. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India’s unemployment rate according to CMIE data:
- Overall – 8% | Urban – 8.96% | Rural – 7.55%
- Highest unemployment rate in November – Haryana (30.6%) | Followed by Rajasthan at 24.5%, J & K at 23.9%
- Least unemployment – Chhattisgarh (0.1%)

95. Road traffic injuries are the second leading cause of death among children aged 5-14 years, according to the report titled “Preventing Injuries and Violence: An Overview” released by the World Health Organization (WHO). Around 96,559 children in the age group 5-14 years lost their lives in 2019 due to road traffic injuries. Road traffic injuries were the leading cause of death among youth aged 15-29 years with 2,71,990 losing their lives. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- “Preventing Injuries and Violence: An Overview” – released by WHO
- Road traffic injuries were the leading cause of death among youth aged 15-29 years
- Road traffic injuries were the second leading cause of death among children aged 5-14 years

Acquisitions & Mergers

96. On December 5, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the proposed deal of Bharat Biotech International Ltd for acquiring shares of Eastman Exports Global Clothing Pvt Ltd through a share purchase agreement. The deal has been approved under the green channel route. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCI approved the proposed deal of Bharat Biotech International – to acquire shares of Eastman Exports Global Clothing
- HQs of CCI – New Delhi | Chairperson – Sangeeta Verma | Established in – 2003
- HQs of Bharat Biotech – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Dr. Krishna Ella
- HQs of Eastman Exports Global Clothing – Tiruppur, Tamil Nadu | Chairman & MD – N. Chandran

97. On December 5, Indian billionaire Gautam Adani’s conglomerate raised its stake in New Delhi Television Ltd (NDTV) to 37.4% through an open offer, making it the biggest shareholder of one of the country’s most popular news networks, NDTV. The ports-to-energy conglomerate’s takeover of NDTV has raised fears among some journalists that one of the country’s last bastions of free media is under threat. Radhika Roy and Prannoy Roy are the founders of NDTV. Soon after Adani’s acquisition of NDTV’s founder entity, Ravish Kumar, a senior executive editor of NDTV, resigned. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Adani Group – became the biggest shareholder of NDTV by raising its stake to 37.4% through an open offer
- HQs of Adani Group – Ahmedabad, Gujarat | Chairman – Gautam Adani | MD – Rajesh Adani

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

98. On December 3, Telangana Government signed an agreement with the US-based Coinbase Inc. to jointly build a strong Web 3.0 community in the State. Coinbase will be supporting Web 3.0 entrepreneurs of Telangana through capacity-building sessions, mentorship programs, and promoting initiatives conducted with the help of Telangana’s innovation ecosystem partners. It will also provide knowledge support and act as a technical advisor for Web 3.0 related initiatives implemented by the government. Coinbase Inc. will also work with the State Government to help it develop the Web 3.0 Regulatory Sandbox, which will help organisations working in various Web 3.0 technologies to address issues to regulation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Telangana + Coinbase Inc. (US) = agreement to jointly build a strong Web 3.0 community
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan



99. On December 5, Bharti Airtel announced to partner with Meta to jointly invest in global connectivity infrastructure that would extend a subsea cable, the “2Africa Pearls”, to India. 2Africa Pearls has become one of the world’s longest subsea cable systems and aims to provide faster internet connectivity to almost 3 billion people. It would connect Africa, Europe, and Asia. The landing of 2Africa will improve the connectivity of fixed-line broadband internet in India. Airtel will partner Meta and Saudi Telecommunication Company to extend ‘2Africa Pearls’ to India. Bharti Airtel owns 3 cable landing stations, two in Chennai and one in Mumbai. Moreover, in February, Bharti Airtel boarded the SEA-ME-WE-6 undersea cable consortium to scale up its high-speed network capacity. [{Read more}](#)

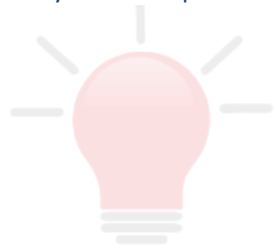
Key Points:

- Bharti Airtel + Meta + Saudi Telecommunication Company = partnership to extend ‘2Africa Pearls’ to India
- Bharti Airtel owns 3 cable landing stations, two in Chennai and one in Mumbai
- HQs of Bharti Airtel – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Gopal Vittal | Chairman – Sunil Bharti Mittal
- HQs of Meta – California, US | CEO – Mark Zuckerberg | Founded in – 2004

100. On December 2, Amara Raja Batteries signed an MoU with Telangana government to setup a research and manufacturing facilities for lithium-ion battery. The facility will be set up at Mahbubnagar district, Telangana. Moreover, the company had announced incorporation of a subsidiary called Amara Raja Advanced Cell Technologies Pvt Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amara Raja Batteries + Telangana = an MoU to setup a research & manufacturing facilities for lithium-ion battery
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan



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