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A Crucial Piece of Advice!

We find several students discussing the issue of lack of time and digging out content regarding how to use every second of your time efficiently. Some of you must be thinking, we have 86400 seconds each day, so why should we worry about just a single one? **Does a single second hold that much importance? YES!** When it comes to competition, each & every second is very crucial.

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.

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National & States Affairs

101. On December 5, Madras High Court has imposed a ban on mobile phones in Tamil Nadu's temples. Madras High Court has urged the Tamil Nadu government to impose the restriction to preserve the cleanliness and sanctity of temples. The directive was issued to the State Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowment (HR&CE) Department by the HC panel of Justices R Mahadevan and J Sathya Narayana Prasad. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Madras High Court – imposed a ban on mobile phones in Tamil Nadu's temples
- Chief Justice of Madras High Court – T. Raja (Acting)
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi

102. Reliance Jio announced its 5G services in around 4 cities in October, 2022. And in November, the company announced that it has made its 5G services available in all of 33 districts of Gujarat. This makes Gujarat the first state in India to get 100% Jio True 5G coverage. As the 5G services are still in beta trial, they are available on invite-only basis. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Reliance Jio – has made its 5G services available in all of 33 districts of Gujarat
- Gujarat – the first state in India to get 100% Jio True 5G coverage (in beta trial)
- HQs of Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd – Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Akash Ambani

103. Uttarakhand has hired the US-based McKinsey, a global management consultancy, to help the state in achieving the target of doubling its Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) in the next 5 years. The State has the target of doubling GSDP from ₹2.73 lakh crore to ₹5.5 lakh crore by achieving a CAGR of 15% in the next 5 years. The government has signed a two-year agreement with the company under 'Shashakt (empowered) Uttarakhand' mission. The company will work in areas like agriculture, horticulture, Urban (Brownfield and greenfield cities), service sector, infra projects (core as well as social sectors) to accelerate the income of the people and of the State. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttarakhand – hired McKinsey to help the state in achieving the target of doubling its GSDP in the next 5 years
- The state signed a two-year agreement with the company under 'Shashakt (empowered) Uttarakhand' mission
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor – Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh

104. In December, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the first phase of the 701-km "Hindu Hrudayasamrat Balasaheb Thackeray Maharashtra Samruddhi Mahamarg" in Maharashtra. The Expressway will reduce the time taken to 839-km distance between Nagpur and Mumbai, to 7 hours that currently takes at least 17 hours. The Expressway, also called 'Samruddhi Mahamarg/Corridor' or 'Nagpur-Mumbai Super Communication Expressway', built at a project outlay of ₹55,335 crore, runs past 392 villages across 10 districts. This is the second expressway in Maharashtra after the Mumbai-Pune Expressway. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Modi inaugurated "Hindu Hrudayasamrat Balasaheb Thackeray Maharashtra Samruddhi Mahamarg"
- It is also known as 'Samruddhi Mahamarg/Corridor' or 'Nagpur-Mumbai Super Communication Expressway'
- Total Length – 701 Km | Cost – ₹55,335 Crore | It connects Nagpur & Mumbai
- Maharashtra: CM – Eknath Shinde | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari



105. Airbus Beluga, the world's largest aircraft, has landed at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport in Mumbai for the first time. It's the Airbus A300-600ST, also called the 'Super Transporter'. The gigantic 56.15-metre-long whale-shaped plane can carry 47,000 kg of cargo and is used to transport oversized cargo like next-generation space material, valuable paintings and more. The aircraft entered service in January 1996. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Airbus Beluga, world's largest aircraft – landed at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport, Mumbai (1st time)
- It's the Airbus A300-600ST (Super Transporter) | Shape – Whale | Length – 56.15 metre | Capacity – 47,000 kg
- The aircraft entered service in January 1996
- HQs of Airbus – Leiden, Netherlands | CEO – Guillaume Faury

106. Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) Chairman Manoj Kumar inaugurated its "Re-Hab Project" (Reducing Human Attacks using Honey Bees) at village Chausla of Nainital district, Uttarakhand in an attempt to safeguard humans and farmers' crops from elephant attacks. KVIC has already the Re-Hab project in 7 states - Karnataka, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Assam and Odisha, as the elephant attacks are common in these areas. Under this project, fencing of bee boxes is installed in areas from where elephants move towards the human settlements and farmers' agriculture. The initiative of Re-Hab project will be run by KVIC at select locations for a period of one year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- KVIC – inaugurated its "Re-Hab Project" (Reducing Human Attacks using Honey Bees) at Chausla, Nainital, Uttarakhand
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor – Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh
- HQs of KVIC – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Manoj Kumar | CEO – Preeta Verma | Founded in – 1956

107. 'Yaanam', a non-feature film, was screened under the Indian Panorama section at the 53rd edition of the 'International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2022' at Goa. It is the first science documentary in the Sanskrit language in the history of world cinema. It is based on the autobiographical book "My Odyssey: Memoirs of the Man Behind the Mangalyaan Mission" by former space chairman Padma Bhushan, Dr K. Radhakrishnan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 'Yaanam', a non-feature film, was screened at 53rd IFFI 2022 in Goa
- It is the first science documentary in the Sanskrit language in the history of world cinema
- "My Odyssey: Memoirs of the Man Behind the Mangalyaan Mission" book – by Dr K. Radhakrishnan

108. Under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, Ministry of Culture in association with Department of Post unveiled "Daakroom", the renowned letter writing carnival at the Gandhi Darshan at Raj Ghat, New Delhi. The one-of-a-kind letter writing event is aimed to give a digital detox with the aim of reviving the art of letter writing in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Culture + Department of Post = unveiled "Daakroom", the renowned letter writing carnival in New Delhi
- Minister of Culture: G. Kishan Reddy | Constituency – Secunderabad, Telangana
- MoS in Minister of Culture: Arjun Ram Meghwal & Meenakshi Lekhi

109. Indian Railways plans to introduce "Tilting Trains" in India by 2025-26. The technology will be used in manufacturing almost 100 of the 400 Vande Bharat trains. The technology will enable trains to maneuver curves at higher speeds, just as a motorbike on a winding road. They tilt while negotiating a bend or curve on the track. Such trains are now operational in 11 countries. The Indian Railways is also preparing to become a major exporter of the Vande Bharat trains by 2026. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Indian Railways – plans to introduce “Tilting Trains” in India by 2025-26
- The technology will be used in manufacturing almost 100 of the 400 Vande Bharat trains
- Indian Railways – also plans to become a major exporter of the Vande Bharat trains by 2026
- [HQs of Indian Railways – New Delhi](#) | [Chairman & CEO – Vinay Kumar Tripathi](#)

International Affairs

110. The proposal to downgrade the status of Southern White Rhino from ‘Appendix I’ to ‘Appendix II’ was accepted at the 19th Conference of Parties (COP19). The COP19, organised by Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) in Panama City, accepted the proposal by Botswana and Namibia to degrade the status. Wild animal species listed in Appendix I include those threatened with extinction. The animals named under Appendix II may not necessarily be threatened with extinction, but trade of such species should be controlled to ensure it does not threaten their existence. Namibia’s white rhino population is estimated to be around 1,237 individuals. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The proposal to downgrade the status of Southern White Rhino from ‘Appendix I’ to ‘Appendix II’ was accepted at the COP19 to CITES in Panama
- The proposal to degrade the status was made by – Botswana & Namibia
- [Botswana – Gaborone – Pula](#) | [President – Mokgweetsi Masisi](#)

111. On December 3, NATO member and Russia’s neighbor Estonia signed a deal worth over USD 200 million to procure the High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS) from the US. HIMARS rockets have ranges of 70-300 kilometers (43-186 miles). Lockheed Martin Corp. is expected to make the first deliveries in 2024. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Estonia – signed a deal worth over \$200 million to procure High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS) from the US
- HIMARS: Built by – Lockheed Martin (US) | Range – 70-300 Km
- [Estonia – Tallinn – Euro](#) | [President – Alar Karis](#) | [PM – Kaja Kallas](#)

112. India has sent a team of three geologists to Argentina to assess potential lithium deposits and possible acquisition opportunities in the Latin American nation. The team comprises one geologist each from Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd (MECL), KABIL (Khanij Bidesh India Ltd) and the Geological Survey of India (GSI). The team of geologists will be there for 15 days to carry out the exercise of assessing feasibility of lithium reserves in Argentina’s Catamarca province. Lithium is the key component of batteries and other electronics including in rechargeable batteries (used in EVs) and energy storage solutions. With 8 million tons, Chile has the world’s largest known lithium reserves, followed by Australia (2.7 million tons), Argentina (2 million tons) and China (1 million tons). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India has sent a team of three geologists to Argentina to assess potential lithium deposits
- Chile – has the world’s largest known lithium reserves (followed by Australia & Argentina)
- [Argentina – Buenos Aires – Peso](#) | [President – Alberto Fernandez](#)





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Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

113. On December 5, in an industry-first move, Razorpay in partnership with Axis Bank announced the platform's readiness to support credit card transactions on Unified Payments Interface (UPI). Now, with RuPay credit cards being enabled on UPI, Razorpay merchants can begin accepting credit card payments on UPI. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Razorpay + Axis Bank = enabled merchants to accept credit card payments via UPI (in an industry-first move)
- HQs of Razorpay – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO & Co-founder – Harshil Mathur
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry | Tagline – “Badhti ka Naam Zindagi”

Sports & Games

114. On December 6, the 16-year-old Mumbai player, Aditya Mittal, has become India's 77th Chess Grandmaster. He secured 3 GM norms, crossed 2,500 ELO points mark during the 6th round of the Ellobregat Open tournament in Spain. He drew the game against Spain's No.1 Francisco Vallejo Pons to achieve the feat. To become a GM, a player has to secure three GM norms and cross the live rating of 2,500 ELO points. Mittal is the 5th Indian to achieve the GM title in 2022 after Bharath Subramaniam, Rahul Srivatshav, V Pranav V and Pranav Anand. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Aditya Mittal (Maharashtra) – became India's 77th Chess Grandmaster
- He achieved this feat against Spain's No.1 Francisco Vallejo at the 'Ellobregat Open' tournament in Spain
- A player has to secure 3 GM norms & cross the live rating of 2500 Elo points to become a GM

Science & Technology

115. “iNCOVACC (BBV154)” became the world's first intra-nasal vaccine to receive both Primary series and Heterologous booster approval from the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) under Restricted Use in Emergency Situation for ages 18 and above, in India. iNCOVACC was developed by Bharat Biotech in partnership with Washington University, St. Louis. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “iNCOVACC (BBV154)” became the world's first intra-nasal vaccine to receive both Primary series & Heterologous booster approval from CDSCO
- This vaccine is manufactured by = Bharat Biotech + Washington University, St. Louis
- HQs of Bharat Biotech – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Dr. Krishna Ella

116. In December 2022, OpenAI has launched “ChatGPT”, an artificial intelligence-powered chatbot. ChatGPT chatbot crossed 1 million users in less than a week of its launch. ChatGPT is the OpenAI's conversational chatbot which can talk back almost as another human being would do. Once a user signs up for ChatGPT, they can use the chatbot to have a conversation, and the expectation is that it will give reasonably intelligent answers in the form of an essay. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- OpenAI – launched “ChatGPT”, an artificial intelligence-powered chatbot
- HQs of OpenAI – California, US | CEO – Sam Altman

117. Researchers from Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Thiruvananthapuram and IIT Indore have developed a new Artificial Light-Harvesting System that can efficiently capture light for power conversion by mimicking photosynthesis, the process by which plants absorb sunlight and produce sugars. The results of the study have been published in Chemical Science, a journal published by the prestigious Royal Chemical Society. The paper has been co-authored by Sukhendu Mandal, Associate Professor at IISER. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IISER (Thiruvananthapuram) + IIT Indore = developed a new Artificial Light-Harvesting System, capturing light for power conversion by mimicking photosynthesis
- Director of IIT Indore – Dr. Suhas Joshi

118. A new species of head-shield sea slug of the genus Melanochlamys Cheeseman named “Melanochlamys bengalensis” was discovered from West Bengal’s Digha and adjoining places like Bakkhali, Tajpur, New Digha, Udaipur, Talsari, Chandipur and Kanika Islands (Odisha). The new species represents a distinct clade compared to the other species of the genus Melanochlamys. It is a small, 12mm-14mm long, black animal with its shell inside the body and no backbone (invertebrate). Its distribution is recorded on around a 295-kilometre stretch from Bakkhali of West Bengal to Konika Island of Odisha. The research paper on the new species has been published in the international journal, Molluscan Research, of Malacological Society of Australasia and the Society for the Study of Molluscan Diversity. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Melanochlamys bengalensis”, a new species of head-shield sea slug – discovered from Digha, West Bengal
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – CV Ananda Bose

119. On December 6, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) signed an MoU with Gurugram-based private space firm, Vyom Space Exploration and Services Private Limited, for its ‘Human and Cargo Transportation Capsule Program’. The MoU was facilitated by India’s nodal space authorization body, Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Center (In-Space). According to ISRO, the start-up is incubated under ‘JSIC’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ISRO + Vyom Space (Gurugram) = an MoU for its ‘Human and Cargo Transportation Capsule Program’
- The MoU was facilitated by – In-Space
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – S. Somanath | Formed on – August 15, 1969

Appointments & Resignations

120. On December 1, Senior bureaucrat Sanjay Malhotra took charge as the Secretary in Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance. Malhotra replaced Tarun Bajaj, who superannuated on November 30. A 1990-batch IAS officer of the Rajasthan cadre, Malhotra was working as an officer on special duty (OSD) in the revenue department. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Sanjay Malhotra – took charge as the Secretary in Department of Revenue (replacing - Tarun Bajaj)
- Ministry of Finance: Nirmala Sitharaman | Constituency – Karnataka
- MoS in Ministry of Finance: Pankaj Chaudhary & Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad

121. Vijender Sharma has been elected as the new President of Institute of Cost Accountants of India and Rakesh Bhalla as Vice-President for 2022-23. The institute, which is a statutory body set up under an Act of Parliament, comes under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vijender Sharma – elected as the new President of Institute of Cost Accountants of India for 2022-23
- Rakesh Bhalla – elected as the Vice-President of Institute of Cost Accountants of India for 2022-23
- HQs of ICAI – Kolkata, West Bengal | President – Vijender Sharma | Vice-President – Rakesh Bhalla

122. Uttar Pradesh government has appointed IPS officer Laxmi Singh as the police commissioner of Gautam Budh Nagar (Noida), making her the first woman Police Commissioner of Uttar Pradesh to head a commissionerate in the state. She is the wife of Uttar Pradesh BJP MLA Rajeshwar Singh, who previously served as a joint director in the Enforcement Directorate. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Laxmi Singh – became the first woman Police Commissioner of UP, after being appointed as Noida's Police Chief
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

123. On November 2, C. Achalender Reddy, IFS (Retd), took charge as the Chairperson of the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), Chennai, a statutory institution established by the Government of India to implement the 'Biological Diversity Act, 2002'. The National Biodiversity Authority is the Competent National Authority of India for the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- C. Achalender Reddy – took charge as the Chairperson of the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA)
- HQs of NBA – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | Chairperson – C. Achalender Reddy

124. Hinduja group flagship Ashok Leyland has appointed Sanjay V. Jorapur as its President and Head of Human Resources. Mr. Jorapur succeeds Amanpreet Singh, who would now move on to a senior role at the Hinduja Group in Mumbai. Moreover, Ashok Leyland has appointed Shenu Agarwal as MD & CEO of the company with immediate effect. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sanjay V. Jorapur – appointed as President of Ashok Leyland
- Shenu Agarwal – appointed as MD & CEO of Ashok Leyland
- HQs of Ashok Leyland – Chennai, TN | CEO – Shenu Agarwal | President – Sanjay V. Jorapur (owned by Hinduja Group)

125. On November 1, IAS Sanjay Kumar took charge as Secretary of the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education, in Shashtri Bhawan in New Delhi. Sanjay Kumar replaced Anita Karwal IAS upon her superannuation on November 30, 2022. Mr Kumar is a former Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Youth Affairs. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Sanjay Kumar – took charge as Secretary of the Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Education: Dharmendra Pradhan | Constituency – Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Education: Subhas Sarkar

126. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved extension of 16 months in service to Vinay Mohan Kwatra, (IFS:1988), as Foreign Secretary beyond the date of his superannuation on December 31, 2022. Kwatra had assumed office as Foreign Secretary on May 1, 2022, succeeding Harsh Vardhan Shringla to the post. Earlier, Kwatra was serving as India's envoy to Nepal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vinay Mohan Kwatra – tenure extended as Foreign Secretary for 16 months

127. In December 2022, legendary P. T. Usha, fondly known as the 'Payyoli Express', is elected as the first woman President of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA). She also became the first Olympian and first international medallist to head the IOA in its 95-year-old history. The 58-year-old Ms. Usha, a multiple Asian Games gold medallist and fourth-place finisher in the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics 400m hurdles final, was declared elected unopposed for the top post in the polls. Ajay H. Patel has been elected as senior Vice President, Rajlaxmi Singh Deo and Gagan Narang as Vice Presidents of the Indian Olympic Association. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- P. T. Usha ('Payyoli Express') – elected as the first woman President of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA)
- Ajay H. Patel – elected as senior Vice President | Rajlaxmi Singh Deo & Gagan Narang – elected as Vice Presidents
- HQs of IOA – New Delhi | President – P. T. Usha | Secretary General – Rajeev Mehta

128. Former Health Secretary Preeti Sudan took oath as a Member of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), according to Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions. Sudan, a 1983-batch (retired) IAS officer of Andhra Pradesh cadre, was administered the oath by UPSC Chairman Manoj Soni. Sudan was also a consultant with the World Bank. The UPSC is headed by a chairperson and can have a maximum of 10 members. With the appointment of Preeti Sudan, there is still a vacancy of 4 members in the commission. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Preeti Sudan (Former Health Secretary) – took oath as a Member of the UPSC
- UPSC is headed by a Chairperson & can have a maximum of 10 members
- HQs of UPSC – New Delhi | Chairman – Manoj Soni

129. Uttarakhand government has appointed Prasoon Joshi, the CEO and CCO of McCann Worldgroup India, as the state's Brand Ambassador. He is a lyricist, writer and artist. Joshi, a native of Uttarakhand, is a prominent and highly awarded member of the Indian advertising and media fraternity. He has been awarded the 'Padma Shri' as well as 'Young Global Leader Award' by the World Economic Forum in 2006. He was also the first Asian to become the jury president at the Cannes International Festival of Creativity in 2014 for the prestigious Titanium category. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Prasoon Joshi – appointed as Brand Ambassador of Uttarakhand (CEO & CCO of McCann Worldgroup India)
- Awards: 'Padma Shri' + 'Young Global Leader Award' by WEF



Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

130. Mina Sue Choi of South Korea won the prestigious “Miss Earth 2022” in a competition held in Okada Manila, Philippines. The 24-year-old communication student succeeded Destiny Wagner (Miss Earth 2021) of Belize and became her country’s first-ever Miss Earth winner. Australia’s Sheridan Mortlock, Palestine’s Nadeen Ayoub, and Colombia’s Andrea Aguilera finished in the Top 4 and were awarded the elemental titles of Miss Air, Miss Water, and Miss Fire, respectively. This year's competition themed “ME Loves Fauna” marked the 22nd edition of the Miss Earth pageant. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mina Sue Choi (South Korea) – won the prestigious “Miss Earth 2022” held in Philippines
- Pageant’s 3 elemental titles:
 - Miss Air – Sheridan Mortlock (Australia)
 - Miss Water – Nadeen Ayoub (Palestine)
 - Miss Fire – Andrea Aguilera (Colombia)

131. On December 6, World champion American hurdler Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone and Swedish pole vaulter Mondo Duplantis won the “World Athlete of the Year 2022” awards. McLaughlin-Levrone broke the world women's 400m hurdles record twice while Duplantis set three new world highs this year. US-born Swede Duplantis claimed the award for the second time in three years with three world records in 2022 plus the men's world indoor title in March and the world outdoor gold in July. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone (USA - Hurdler) – named “2022 Women’s World Athlete of the Year”
- Mondo Duplantis (Sweden - Pole Vaulter) – named “2022 Men’s World Athlete of the Year”

132. Actor-producer Priyanka Chopra Jonas, aeronautical engineer Sirisha Bandla, Booker-winning author Geetanjali Shree and social worker Sneha Jawale are the four Indians on the BBC’s “100 Women” list of influential figures of the year 2022. The annual list celebrates the achievements of women internationally, from grassroots volunteers to global leaders, and is used by the broadcaster to focus on women's experiences around the world through a dedicated series of interviews, documentaries and features. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “100 Most Influential Women’s List 2022” – released by BBC
- 4 Indians on the list:
 - Priyanka Chopra Jonas (Actor & Producer)
 - Sirisha Bandla (Aeronautical Engineer)
 - Geetanjali Shree (Booker Prize-winning author)
 - Sneha Jawale (Social Worker)



Important Days & Dates

133. On December 1, World AIDS Day was observed across the globe by the United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) & World Health Organization (WHO). In 2022, the theme was “Equalize”. The Red ribbon is the universal symbol of AIDS awareness and support for people living with HIV. UNAIDS is leading the global effort to end AIDS as a public health threat by 2030 as part of the Sustainable Development Goals. UNAIDS started operations in 1996. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- December 1 – World AIDS Day – by UNAIDS & WHO
- 2022’s Theme – “Equalize”
- AIDS – **A**cquired **I**mmune **D**eficiency **S**yndrome | HIV – **H**uman **I**mmunodeficiency **V**irus
- [HQs of UNAIDS – Geneva, Switzerland](#) | [Executive Director – Winnie Byanyima](#)

134. Every year on December 7, India commemorates Armed Forces Flag Day in order to raise donations for the welfare of the Armed Forces Staff. This day is observed to honour Indian soldiers, sailors, and pilots. The Defense Minister’s Committee on August 28, 1949, created the Armed Forces Flag Day Fund. The money collection is managed by the local branches of the Kendriya Sainik Board in India, which is a subsidiary of the Ministry of Defense. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- December 7 – Armed Forces Flag Day

135. International Civil Aviation Day was observed globally on December 7, 2022. International Civil Aviation Day was established in 1994 at the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Convention on International Civil Aviation by the International Civil Aviation Organization. In 1996, the United Nations General Assembly declared this day. ICAO was established on 7th December 1944. During the same year, the International Services Transit Agreement and the International Air Transport Agreement were also signed. “Advancing Innovation for Global Aviation Development” is the theme of this day till 2023. In every 5 years, the ICAO announce a special anniversary theme for this global day. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- December 7 – International Civil Aviation Day
- 2022’s Theme – “Advancing Innovation for Global Aviation Development” (until 2023)
- [HQs of ICAO – Montreal, Canada](#) | [Council President – Salvatore Sciacchitano](#) | [Members – 193](#)

Obituaries

136. Former West Indies wicket-keeper David Murray, born in Barbados, died at the age of 72. Murray played 19 Tests and 10 day one-day internationals for West Indies between 1978 and 1982 making three half-centuries. The Barbadian Cricketer received a life ban after taking part in a rebel tour of South Africa in 1983. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- David Murray (born in Barbados) – Former West Indies Cricketer – passed away
- [Barbados – Bridgetown – Barbados Dollar](#) | [PM – Mia Mottley](#) | [President – Dame Sandra Mason](#)



137. Indian Veteran Actor Vikram Gokhale passed away. He was 77. In 2010, Gokhale was bestowed with the 'National Award for Best Actor' for his outstanding work in the Marathi film 'Anumati'. In 2011, he was conferred with the 'Sangeet Natak Akademi Award' by Sangeet Natak Akademi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vikram Gokhale – Indian Veteran Actor – passed away
- Awards: 'National Award for Best Actor' (2010), 'Sangeet Natak Akademi Award' (2011)

138. Kumble Sundara Rao, former MLA from Surathkal Constituency, Yakshagana Exponent and Tala-Maddale Artist, passed away. He was 88. He was elected as an MLA for one term in 1994 for the 10th Karnataka Legislative Assembly. Rao was an exponent of Yakshagana (Tenkatittu style) and had performed as a member of Surathkal, Dharmasthala and Ira Yakshagana Melas. He also served as the first President of Karnataka State Yakshagana Academy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kumble Sundara Rao – a Politician, Yakshagana (Tenkatittu style) Exponent & Tala-Maddale Artist – passed away
- He also served as the first President of Karnataka State Yakshagana Academy

139. On December 6, noted Economist and former Union Minister Yoginder Kumar Alagh (Y. K. Alagh) passed away. He was 83. Professor YK Alagh was a distinguished scholar who was passionate about various aspects of public policy, particularly rural development, the environment and economics. He was a Former Professor Emeritus and Vice-Chairman of Ahmedabad-based Sardar Patel Institute of Economic and Social Research, and Chancellor of Central University of Gujarat. He was Member of the erstwhile Planning Commission of India. Alagh was a Rajya Sabha member from Gujarat in 1996. In 2014, he was appointed Chairman of an Expert Group on Agricultural Statistics under the National Statistical Commission. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Y. K. Alagh – a renowned Economist & a Politician – passed away (R.S. Member from Gujarat)
- He served as,
 - Former Professor Emeritus & Vice-Chairman of Sardar Patel Institute of Economic & Social Research (Ahmedabad)
 - Chancellor of Central University of Gujarat
 - Member of the erstwhile Planning Commission of India
 - Chairman of an Expert Group on Agricultural Statistics

Meetings, Conferences & Summits

140. As part of the Sweden India Nobel Memorial Week, "SHE STEM 2022", the annual event to celebrate women in the fields of science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and sustainability, was successfully held for the 3rd year in a row. The event was organised by the Embassy of Sweden in India in partnership with NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and the German Centre of Innovation and Research (DWIH New Delhi). Jan Thesleff is Ambassador of Sweden to India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 3rd edition of "SHE STEM 2022" in New Delhi – organised by Embassy of Sweden in India + AIM + DWIH, New Delhi
- Sweden – Stockholm – Krona | PM – Ulf Kristersson



141. On December 5, the occasion of the World Soil Day, NITI Aayog organized a “National Conclave on Soil Health Management for Sustainable Farming 2022” in New Delhi. The conclave was co-hosted by NITI Aayog and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH India on behalf of Germany. Union Minister Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurated the conclave. NITI Aayog and the BMZ too also signed a Statement of Intent for collaborations, with Agro Ecology being one of the priority areas. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Singh Tomar – inaugurated “National Conclave on Soil Health Management for Sustainable Farming” in Delhi
- The conclave was co-hosted by NITI Aayog + GIZ (Germany)
- [Germany – Berlin – Euro](#) | [President – Frank-Walter Steinmeier](#)

142. As many as 21 MoUs were exchanged and close to 46 Investment Intent Forms (IIF) amounting to around Rs 5.85 lakh Crore were submitted at the 3rd edition of “Make in Odisha Conclave 2022”. Arcelor Mittal JV with Nippon Steel, Adani Group, JSW Group, Vedanta Group and ReNew Power, among others, have envisaged interest in the State. The conclave was organised by the State government in collaboration with the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FICCI), in Bhubaneswar. The conclave also saw the launch of the ‘Industrial Policy Resolution 2022’ which focuses on making the State a destination of choice for industrial enterprises across the country and globally. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 3rd edition of “Make in Odisha Conclave 2022” was organised in Bhubaneswar by = Odisha Govt + FICCI
- ‘Industrial Policy Resolution 2022’ was launched during the conclave
- 21 MoUs were exchanged & 46 Investment Intent Forms (IIF) worth Rs 5.85 lakh Cr were submitted during the conclave
- [Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar](#) | [CM – Naveen Patnaik](#) | [Governor – Ganeshi Lal](#)

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

143. Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) has declined from 130 per lakh live births in 2014-16 to 97 per lakh live births in 2018-20, according to the “Special Bulletin on Maternal Mortality in India 2018-20” released by the office of the Registrar General of India. Maternal death is the death of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy. The target 3.1 of the Sustainable Development Goals set by the United Nations aims at reducing the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 1,00,000 live births. In India, Kerala has the lowest MMR of 19 per lakh live births followed by Maharashtra (33) and Telangana (43). Assam has the highest MMR of 195. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Special Bulletin on Maternal Mortality in India 2018-20” – released by the office of the Registrar General of India
- Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) has declined to 97 per lakh live births in 2018-20 (from 130 in 2014-16)
- Lowest MMR – Kerala (19) | Highest MMR – Assam (195)

144. NITI Aayog released the “Carbon Capture Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) Policy Framework and its Deployment Mechanism in India”. The report was launched by Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog, Suman Bery. The report was prepared by M. N. Dastur & Company Pvt Ltd on the valuable inputs provided by the various stakeholders from the Energy and Power Sector (E&P). The purpose of CCUS policy framework is to develop and implement a practicable framework to accelerate research and development on carbon capture, utilisation and storage in India. As India is the 3rd largest emitter of CO₂ in the world after China and the US. The government of India has committed to reducing CO₂ emissions by 50% by 2050. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- NITI Aayog – released “Carbon Capture Utilisation and Storage Policy Framework & its Deployment Mechanism in India”
- The report was launched by – Suman Bery | Prepared by – M. N. Dastur & Company
- India is the 3rd largest emitter of CO₂ in the world (after China & US)

145. India ranks 8th among the countries that are at the highest risk for mass killing in 2022 and 2023, according to the “Early Warning Project 2022-2023” released by the US-based research organisations in December 2022. There is a 7.4% or approximately one in 14 chance of a new mass killing beginning in India in 2022-2023. The Project is a joint initiative of the Simon-Skjoldt Center for the Prevention of Genocide at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and the Dickey Center for International Understanding at Dartmouth College. A mass killing, as per the report, is 1,000 or more civilians deliberately killed by armed forces over a period of a year or less, because of their membership in a particular group. Pakistan topped the list, followed by Yemen & Myanmar among all 162 countries. India has performed worse than Sudan (9th), Somalia (10th), Syria (11th), Iraq (12th), and Zimbabwe (14th rank). According to the 2021-2022 report, India was ranked in the second position. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Early Warning Project 2022-2023”
 - India ranks 8th among the countries that are at the highest risk for mass killing in 2022-23 (from 2nd in 2021-22)
 - There is a 7.4% or approximately one in 14 chance of a new mass killing beginning in India in 2022-2023
 - Pakistan topped the list, followed by Yemen & Myanmar among all 162 countries

146. The road transport and highways sector has the maximum number of delayed projects at 243, followed by railways at 114 and the petroleum sector at 89, as per the latest “Flash Report on Infrastructure Projects for October 2022” by Government of India. The Infrastructure and Project Monitoring Division (IPMD) is mandated to monitor central sector infrastructure projects costing Rs 150 crore and above based on the information provided on the Online Computerised Monitoring System (OCMS) by the project implementing agencies. The IPMD comes under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. The report showed that the Muneerabad-Mahaboobnagar rail project is the most-delayed project. It is delayed by 276 months. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Flash Report on Infrastructure Projects for October 2022” – released by Government of India
- Maximum No. of delayed projects – Road Transport & Highways (243) | Followed by – Railways (114) & Petroleum (89)
- Most-delayed project – Muneerabad-Mahaboobnagar Rail Project
- IPMD is mandated to monitor central sector infrastructure projects costing Rs 150 Cr & above
- IPMD – comes under Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation

147. 87.1 lakh new formal jobs were created across India in the first half of the ongoing financial year 2022-23 (H1 FY23), according to an analysis of the data put out by the Employees’ Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO). This is a 35% increase compared to the year-ago period. In the first halves of FY21 and FY22, 24.6 lakh and 64.72 lakh formal jobs were created in the country, respectively. In this fiscal, most jobs were created in September - 16.82 lakh. EPFO data shows that a major proportion of these jobs were created in the Expert Services sector. More than 36 lakh jobs were included in the category, which consists manpower agencies, private security agencies and small contractors. It is then followed by Trading-Commercial Establishments and Engineering. Maharashtra created the maximum number of jobs, followed by Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- EPFO's Data: 87.1 lakh new formal jobs were created across India in H1 FY23 (35% increase compared to H1 FY22)
- Maximum Jobs were created in: Sector – Expert Services sector | State – Maharashtra

148. Financing for nature-based solutions (NbS) needs to be doubled to deal with multiple global crises of climate change, biodiversity loss and land degradation, according to the “State of Finance for Nature Report 2022” released by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) along with the Economics of Land Degradation initiative of Germany, UNCCD, and European Commission, on December 1, 2022. The current global investments in NbS are around \$154 billion (Rs 12,49.44 crore) per year, which needs to be increased to \$384 billion by 2025, according to the report. The IMF warns of the ‘darkest hour’ in 2023 for global growth. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “State of Finance for Nature Report 2022” – released by UNEP
- Current global investments in NbS are around \$154 billion per year, which needs to be increased to \$384 billion by 2025
- HQs of UNEP – Nairobi, Kenya | Executive Director – Inger Andersen | Founded in – 1972

Ordinance, Bills & Acts

149. On December 3, Chhattisgarh Assembly unanimously passed two amendment bills related to reservation in government jobs and admission in educational institutions in proportion to population of different categories, taking the total quota in the state to 76%. The “Chhattisgarh Public Service (Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes Reservation) Amendment Bill” and “Chhattisgarh Educational Institutions (Reservation in admission) Amendment Bill”, were passed. As per the bills, Scheduled Tribes will get quota of 32%, Other Backward Classes 27%, Scheduled Caste 13%, while 4% has been provisioned for Economically Weaker Section (EWS) in public employment and admissions in educational institutions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chhattisgarh – passed two amendment bills related to reservation in Govt jobs & admission in Educational Institutions
- Total reservation quota in Chhattisgarh – 76% (32% for ST, 27% for OBC, 13% for SC & 4% for EWS)
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnership

150. On December 6, India's External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and his German counterpart Annalena Baerbock signed a mobility partnership pact in New Delhi, which aims to facilitate Mobility and Employment opportunities for fostering the exchange of skills and talents. The agreement also includes the Academic Evaluation Center in New Delhi, 18 months extended residence permits to students, 3,000 job seeker visas annually, liberalised short stay multiple entry visas and streamlined readmission procedures. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Germany = signed an agreement on ‘Comprehensive Migration & Mobility Partnership’ in New Delhi
- Germany – Berlin – Euro | President – Frank-Walter Steinmeier





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