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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.
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INDEX

National & States Affairs	6
International Affairs	8
Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs	9
Defence Affairs	12
Sports & Games	13
Science & Technology	13
Appointments & Resignations	14
Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes	14
Schemes & Initiatives	15
Important Days & Dates	16
Books & Authors	17
Obituaries	17
Meetings, Conferences and Summits	18
Ranks, Reports & Serveys	18
Amount & Agreements	20
Acquisitions & Mergers	20
MoUs, Collaborations & Partnership	20



National & States Affairs

201. On December 10, Cyclone Mandous crossed the north Tamil Nadu coast near Mamallapuram. The cyclone claimed five lives. Cyclone Mandous had emerged as a strong cyclone as it maintained a wind speed of 65-75 kmph gusting to 85kmph as it entered the land. Its name has been given by UAE. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cyclone Mandous – hit north Tamil Nadu coast near Mamallapuram
- The name ‘Mandous’ has been given by – UAE
- [UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham](#) | [President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan](#)

202. With an aim to end the Great Indian Red Tape, Saharsa became the first district of Bihar to be declared paperless. Red tape is a derisive term for excessive regulation or rigid conformity to formal rules that is considered redundant or bureaucratic and hinders or prevents action or decision-making. Idukki in Kerala became paperless in 2012 and Hyderabad in 2016. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Saharsa – became the first district of Bihar to be declared paperless
- [Bihar: Capital – Patna](#) | [CM – Nitish Kumar](#) | [Governor – Phagu Chauhan](#)

203. On December 7, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) floated a consultation paper about the potential introduction of Calling Name Presentation (CNAP). The feature would provide the called individual with information about the calling party (similar to ‘Truecaller’ and ‘Bharat Caller ID & Anti-Spam’). It is to ensure that telephone subscribers are able to make an informed choice about incoming calls and curb harassment by unknown or spam callers. Comments to the consultation paper are invited until December 27. The regulator has proposed four models for facilitating the CNAP mechanism. The first model involves each telecom service provider (TSP) establishing and operating a CNAP database of its subscribers. In the second model, the operator of the calling entity shares its CNAP database with the receiver’s operator. The third model envisages a third party operating a centralised database. The fourth model would require that each TSP maintain a CNAP database and retain a copy of a synchronised central database operated by a third party. DoT has requested TRAI to explore the feasibility and network readiness of providing CNAP to all telephone subscribers, including feature-phone users. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- TRAI – floated a consultation paper about the potential introduction of ‘Calling Name Presentation (CNAP)’
- The feature would provide the called individual with information about the ‘calling party’
- TRAI – has proposed 4 models for facilitating the CNAP mechanism
- [HQs of TRAI – New Delhi](#) | [Chairman – P. D. Vaghela](#) | [Established in – 1997](#)

204. Kirit Parikh Committee, which was constituted in September to review gas prices in India, has recommended in its report that India should have completely free and market-determined pricing for natural gas extracted from legacy fields and remove all caps by January 1, 2027. Till then, the committee has suggested a floor price of \$4 per MMBtu (metric million British thermal unit) be kept in place to cover the cost of gas production by Oil India (OIL) and the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC). The committee has also recommended a ceiling price of \$6.5 per mmBtu, which may be increased yearly by about \$0.5 per mmBtu till 2027. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Kirit Parikh Committee: India should have free & market-determined pricing for Natural Gas by January 1, 2027
- Till then, the committee has suggested a price band of \$4 to \$6.5 per MMBtu

205. On December 7, union minister Ashwini Vaishnaw informed the Parliament that the Indian Railways will build 100 Gati Shakti cargo terminals in the next 3 years. Such terminals will be developed under the Gati Shakti Cargo Terminal (GCT) Policy from 2022-23, 2023-24 & 2024-25. Twenty-two Gati Shakti cargos have already been commissioned, while 125 applications for development of such terminals have been received and 79 in-principle approvals have been granted. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Railways – to build 100 Gati Shakti cargo terminals in the next 3 years
- The terminals will be developed under ‘Gati Shakti Cargo Terminal (GCT) Policy’ from 2022-23, 2023-24 & 2024-25
- [HQs of Indian Railways – New Delhi](#) | [Chairman & CEO – Vinay Kumar Tripathi](#)

206. On December 8, the government has extended the “Rooftop Solar Programme” till March 31, 2026 and asked consumers not to pay any additional charge for solar installations as the subsidy under the programme will be available until the target under the programme is achieved. The subsidy under National Portal has been fixed at Rs 14,588 per kW (for capacity up to 3 kW) for the entire country. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Government has extended the “Rooftop Solar Programme” till March 31, 2026
- The subsidy under program has been fixed at Rs 14,588 per kW (for capacity up to 3 kW)

207. On December 7, Meghalaya government in partnership with startup TechEagle has unveiled Asia’s first drone delivery hub and network which is aimed at providing universal access to healthcare for the people in the state. The project is aimed at delivering vital supplies like drugs, diagnostic samples, vaccines, blood and blood components quickly and safely to different regions of the state using a dedicated drone delivery network. The first official drone flight took off from Jengjal Sub Divisional Hospital. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Meghalaya + TechEagle = unveiled Asia’s first drone delivery Hub & Network
- [Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong](#) | [CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma](#) | [Governor – B. D. Mishra \(addi. charge\)](#)

208. On December 9, StocX.in, an online unlisted securities portal, has launched India’s first private market index known as “StocX Private Market Index (SPMI)”. Until now, there was no way to track the price movements of privately traded securities (i.e the stocks of companies that are not yet listed in the stock market). StocX.in claims to have achieved this by using the concepts of indexing & basic statistics. The index is built using a methodology known as ‘Change Percentage’. The index is computed using 1000 as the base value as on 1 January, 2022. StocX.in is an information portal owned and operated by Blackvolt Digital Private Limited. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- StocX.in – launched India’s first private market index known as “StocX Private Market Index (SPMI)”
- The index is built using a methodology known as ‘Change Percentage’ | It is computed using 1000 as the base value
- StocX.in is owned & operated by Blackvolt Digital Pvt Ltd (Gurgaon, Haryana)



209. On December 6, the government has approved the Print and Digital Media Association (PADMA) as a self-regulatory body for publishers of news and current affairs across the country. The organisation with 47 digital news publishers on board will look at grievances related to digital media news content on their platforms. The organisation will be headed by former HC Judge Mool Chand Garg and have part-time member of Prasar Bharati Ashok Kumar Tandon and journalist Manoj Kumar Mishra as members. PDMA shall perform functions laid down in the sub rules (4) and (5) of rule 12 for the purpose of redressing grievances related to the code of ethics under the rules. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PADMA – is approved as a self-regulatory body for publishers of news & current affairs
- The organisation will be headed by – former HC Judge Mool Chand Garg

International Affairs

210. On December 6, Indonesia's Parliament passed revision of its penal code that criminalizes extramarital sex for citizens and visiting foreigners alike. The amended criminal code makes sex outside marriage punishable by a year in jail and cohabitation by six months, but adultery charges must be based on police reports lodged by their spouse, parents or children. The code maintains that abortion is a crime, but it adds exceptions for women with life-threatening medical conditions and for rape, provided that the foetus is less than 12 weeks old, in line with what is already regulated in the 2004 Medical Practice Law. Indonesia, the world's fourth most populous nation and third largest democracy, proclaimed independence August 17, 1945. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indonesia – criminalized Extramarital Sex or Adultery
- [Indonesia – Jakarta – Rupiah](#) | [President – Joko Widodo](#)

211. On December 6, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), organized an opening ceremony for the International Year of Millets 2023 (IYM2023) in Rome, Italy. Millets are nutritious and can be cultivated in semi-arid zones besides consuming less water for irrigation. Raising awareness to create 'Millet Mindfulness' is an important part of this movement. A pledge to include millets in their everyday food was also undertaken on the occasion. To mark the significance of the day in India, several initiatives have been taken by the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DA&FW). The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has also shared his vision to make IYM 2023 a 'People's Movement' alongside positioning India as the 'Global Hub for Millets'. In April 2018, Millets were rebranded as "Nutri Cereals", and the year 2018 was declared as the National Year of Millets. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- FAO – organized an opening ceremony for the "International Year of Millets 2023 (IYM2023)" in – Rome, Italy
- In April 2018, Millets were rebranded as "Nutri Cereals"
- 2018 – was declared as the 'National Year of Millets'
- [HQs of FAO – Rome, Italy](#) | [DG – QU Dongyu](#) | [Formation – 16th October, 1945](#)

212. On December 9, Japan announced to jointly develop its next-generation fighter jet, Mitsubishi F-X fighter jet, with the UK and Italy, for deployment by 2035. The Mitsubishi F-X fighter jet will replace the aging fleet of F-2 that Japan previously developed with the United States. Under the fighter jet agreement, Japan's Mitsubishi Heavy Industries will partner with British defence contractor BAE Systems PLC. Italy's Leonardo S.p.A will be a key player in the project. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Japan – announced to jointly develop ‘Mitsubishi F-X fighter jet’, with the UK & Italy, for deployment by 2035
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Fumio Kishida

213. The United Nations Panel recommended that Australia’s Great Barrier Reef should be listed as a world heritage site that is “in danger”, citing the world’s biggest coral reef ecosystem was significantly impacted by climate change and warming of oceans. Australia’s recently elected Labor government has pledged to spend \$1.2 billion (\$800 million) in coming years to protect the reef. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UN Panel recommended: Australia’s Great Barrier Reef should be listed as a world heritage site that is ‘in danger’
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Anthony Albanese

Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

214. On December 7, the RBI’s 5th bi-monthly Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) met and released the Monetary Policy Statement, “2022-23 Resolution of the MPC”. The RBI hiked the key repo rate by 35 basis points (bps) to 6.25% from 5.90% in its December 2022 meeting, continuing its fight against inflation. Consequently, the standing deposit facility (SDF) rate stands adjusted to 6%, and the marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate to 6.50%. Reverse Repo Rate, Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR), and Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) were kept unchanged at 3.35%, 4.50%, and 18%, respectively. India’s real GDP forecast is slashed to 6.8% for FY23, from 7% estimated in September 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI’s 5th Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) report – released on December 7, 2022
- Latest rates:
 - Repo rate – 6.25% | Reverse Repo Rate – 3.35% | Bank Rate or MSF – 6.50%
 - CRR – 4.50% | SLR – 18% | SDF – 6%
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

215. On December 8, Mumbai-based PayMate India received in-principle authorization from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to operate as a payment aggregator (PA), subject to the guidelines on regulation of payment aggregators (PAs) and payment gateways (PG) dated March 17, 2020 (RBI Guidelines). Payment aggregators are entities which facilitate merchants and businesses to make and receive payments, pool and transfer them to the merchants within a time frame prescribed by the RBI Guidelines. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PayMate India – received in-principle authorization from the RBI to operate as a Payment Aggregator (PA)
- HQs of PayMate India – Mumbai | Chairman & MD – Ajay Adishesan

216. On December 8, IndusInd Bank announced its tie-up with non-banking finance company SV Credit Line for a co-lending agreement for Rs 500 Crore loan exclusively to women borrowers. The agreement will help rural women access to affordable loans which they could use for a wide range of economic activities such as agriculture, animal husbandry, trading and local manufacturing, among others. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- IndusInd Bank + SV Credit Line = a co-lending agreement for Rs 500 Cr loan exclusively to women borrowers
- HQs of IndusInd Bank – Pune, MH | MD & CEO – Sumant Kathpalia | Tagline – “We Make You Feel Richer”
- HQs of SV Credit Line – Gurugram, Haryana | Founder & CEO – Vijay Parekh

217. On December 8, Paisabazaar and RBL Bank launched a new co-created credit card ‘Duet’. The card offers two credit offerings-cashback on purchases made through the card and a line-of-credit from RBL bank that enables instant transfer of money into the bank account. Duet is a lifetime free credit card from RBL Bank, with easy to understand direct cashback benefits. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Paisabazaar + RBL Bank = launched a new co-created credit card ‘Duet’
- HQs of Paisabazaar – Gurugram, Haryana | CEO & Co-founder – Naveen Kukreja
- HQs of RBL Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – R. Subramaniakumar | Chairman – Prakash Chandra

218. On December 8, HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company, a leading general insurance company of India, partnered with NIIT, a global talent development corporation, for the “HDFC ERGO Technocrat - Advance Dot Net Developer Program”, to create a large pool of developers. The program will create ready-to-deploy talent, who can play a pivotal role in offering technology powered insurance solutions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC ERGO + NIIT = partnership to launch the “HDFC ERGO Technocrat - Advance Dot Net Developer Program”
- HQs of HDFC ERGO General Insurance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Ritesh Kumar
- HQs of NIIT – Gurgaon, Haryana | CEO – Sapnesh Lalla

219. On December 8, ASK Asset & Wealth Management (ASK Capital) received approval from the Central Bank of Ireland to launch an India-based fund, “ASK Indian Entrepreneur Fund”, through the UCITS route. ASK is the fourth asset or wealth management firm in India to receive approval for an UCITS (Undertakings for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities) fund. Kotak AMC, Whiteoak Capital and UTI AMC already have such funds. UCITS is a regulatory framework of the European Commission for management and sale of mutual funds. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ASK Capital – received approval from Central Bank of Ireland to launch “ASK Indian Entrepreneur Fund” via UCITS route
- ASK Capital is the 4th asset management firm in India to receive approval for an UCITS
- **Undertakings for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities** is a regulatory framework of European Commission
- HQs of ASK Capital – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Sameer Koticha | MD & CEO – Sunil Rohokale



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Defence Affairs

220. On December 5, President Droupadi Murmu approved the introduction of a new design for the President's Standard and Colour and Indian Navy Crest for the Indian Navy, which was unveiled at Visakhapatnam. The new Design draws inspiration from our history. The new design of the President's Standard and Colour comprises three main constituents - the National Flag, the State Emblem underscribed with 'Satyamev Jayate' in Golden Colour, and a Navy Blue - Gold Octagon. It also includes the motto of the Indian Navy 'Sam No Varunah' in golden Devnagri script. This design was inspired by the erstwhile Naval Ensign. The Golden State Emblem signifies 'Power, Courage, Confidence and Pride' whilst the Navy Blue - Golden Octagon shape draws inspiration from Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. The Indian Navy was the first among the three Services to be awarded the President's Colour on May 27, 1951, by the then President Dr Rajendra Prasad. The 22nd Missile Vessel Squadron was the first Naval Combatant Squadron to be honoured with the President's Standard. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Droupadi Murmu – approved a new design for the President's Standard & Colour & Indian Navy Crest for Indian Navy
- President's Standard and Colour comprises 3 main constituents:
 - National Flag
 - State Emblem underscribed with 'Satyamev Jayate' in Golden Colour
 - A Navy Blue - Gold Octagon
- Indian Navy – was the first among the 3 Services to be awarded the President's Colour on May 27, 1951
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950
- Motto of the Indian Navy – 'Sam No Varunah'

221. Indian Army's Sudarshan Chakra Corps carried out the 'Sudarshan Prahar' exercise in the deserts of Rajasthan. It was conducted by Shahbaaz Division of Sudarshan Chakra Corps. The exercise involved synergised application of offensive power supported by new technologies in an integrated all-arms environment, showcasing high level of professionalism and offensive spirit. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Army – carried out the 'Sudarshan Prahar' exercise in deserts of Rajasthan
- It was conducted by – Shahbaaz Division of Sudarshan Chakra Corps
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande | Vice Chief – Lt. General Baggavalli Somashekar Raju

222. On December 9, Indian Navy ships Kochi, Kavaratti and Sumedha arrived in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh to participate in the maiden "International Fleet Review 2022 (BN IFR-22)" conducted by the Bangladesh Navy (BN). IFR-22 was conducted by BN to commemorate the Birth Centenary of the Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the Independence of Bangladesh. INS Kochi (based at Mumbai), INS Kavaratti (based at Visakhapatnam) and INS Sumedha (based at Visakhapatnam) are indigenously designed and developed guided missile stealth Destroyer, anti-submarine Corvette and Off-shore Patrol Vessel, respectively. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- INS Kochi + INS Kavaratti + INS Sumedha = participated in the maiden "International Fleet Review 2022 (BN IFR-22)" conducted by Bangladesh Navy
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid



Sports & Games

223. The three women umpires namely Vrinda Rathi, Janani Narayan, and Gayathri Venugopalan will, for the first time, officiate on-field in Ranji Trophy matches this season with the BCCI deciding to draft women umpires in the men's domestic circuit. Until now, the BCCI had never given women an opportunity to officiate as on-field umpires in men's senior tournaments. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vrinda Rathi, Janani Narayan & Gayathri Venugopalan – will officiate on-field in Ranji Trophy matches (for the first time)
- HQs of BCCI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | President – Roger Binny | Secretary – Jay Shah | Founded in – 1928

224. On December 10, Indian batter Ishan Kishan scored a double century off just 126 balls. Ishan Kishan has become fastest player to smash double-century in Men's ODI. He became the seventh batter in the world to achieve the feat and fourth from India after Sachin Tendulkar, Rohit Sharma and Virender Sehwag. He scored this in the third and final ODI match of the series against Bangladesh. This is also now the highest individual score against Bangladesh by any batter in men's ODI. He broke the record of Chris Gayle who reached the 200-run mark in 138 balls against Zimbabwe in 2015. Ishan Kishan has become fastest player to smash double-century in Men's ODI. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ishan Kishan – became fastest player to smash double-century in Men's ODI in 126 balls (against Bangladesh)
- He is 7th batter in the world and 4th from India after Sachin Tendulkar, Rohit Sharma & Virender Sehwag
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

225. On December 4, Indian shuttler Unnati Hooda finished with a silver medal in the women's singles U-17 event at Badminton Asia U-17 & U-15 Junior Championships 2022 in Nothaburi, Thailand. Men's U-15 singles player Anish Thoppani and U-17 men's doubles pair of Arsh Mohammad and Sanskar Saraswat also bagged silver medals for India. Unnati Hooda is the first Indian to enter the U-17 women's singles final at the Asia Junior Championships. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Badminton Asia U-17 & U-15 Junior Championships 2022 – held in Nothaburi, Thailand
- Unnati Hooda – won a silver medal in the women's singles U-17 event | Anish Thoppani (U-15) – also won silver medal
- Arsh Mohammad + Sanskar Saraswat (U-17) – bagged silver medals for India in men's doubles
- Thailand – Bangkok – Thai Baht | PM – Prayut Chan-o-cha

Science & Technology

226. On December 8, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully tested the booster motor called "PSOM-XL" at its rocket port in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh. It has been developed by Economic Explosives Limited, Nagpur, an arm of Solar Industries India Limited. This is the first step in the end-to-end production of PSLV through the industry. The commercial arm of Department of Space (DoS), NewSpace India Ltd, has selected the HAL-L&T led consortium to make five PSLV-XL rockets. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- ISRO successfully tested the booster motor called "PSOM-XL" at Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh
- The booster motor is developed by Economic Explosives Ltd (Nagpur) for ISRO's 'PSLV-XL' rockets
- HAL-L&T led consortium is selected to make five 'PSLV-XL' rockets
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – S. Somanath | Formed on – August 15, 1969

Appointments & Resignations

227. The International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) has elected China's Liu Shiwen and India's Sharath Kamal Achanta as the joint chairs of its Athletes' Commission (AC) at an election that took place in Amman, Jordan. Shiwen and Sharath will lead the AC together, with joint chairs elected to the ITTF's AC for the first time. The other members of the Athletes' Commission are Omar Assar, Ingela Lundback, Jon Persson, Daniely Rios, Melissa Tapper and Kelly Van Zon. As part of being elected Chairs of the commission, Shiwen and Sharath also became members of the ITTF Executive Committee. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Liu Shiwen (China) + Sharath Kamal (India) = elected as the joint chairs of ITTF's Athletes' Commission (AC)
- Shiwen & Sharath also became members of the ITTF Executive Committee
- HQs of ITTF – Lausanne, Switzerland | President – Petra Sorling | CEO – Steve Dainton

228. On December 8, Sushmita Shukla, an Indian-origin veteran of the insurance industry, is appointed as First Vice President and Chief Operating Officer (COO) at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, making her the second-ranking officer at the prominent institution. Her appointment will be effective from March 2023. John Williams is the President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the New York Fed. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sushmita Shukla – appointed as First Vice President & Chief Operating Officer at Federal Reserve Bank of New York
- President & CEO of New York Fed – John Williams
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

229. India's 17-year-old Manisha Ramadass from Tamil Nadu was named as the "Female Para-Badminton Player of the Year 2022" by the Badminton World Federation (BWF). She won 32 out of her 34 Women's Singles SU5 matches in 2022. Japanese badminton player Daiki Kajiwara was named as the "BWF Male Para-Badminton Player of the Year 2022". Denmark's Viktor Axelsen was named the "BWF Male Player of the Year 2022". Japan's Akane Yamaguchi was named "BWF Female Player of the Year 2022". While Fajar Alfian & Muhammad Rian were named the "BWF Most Improved Players of the Year 2022". 21-year-old from Japan, Kodai Naraoka, was named the "Eddy Choong Most Promising Player of the Year 2022". And China's mixed doubles duo Zheng Siwei & Huang Yaqiong were named "BWF Pair of the Year 2022". While Germany's duo Thomas Wandschneider & Rick Cornell Hellman the "BWF Para Badminton Pair of the Year 2022". [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- BWF Player of the Year Awards 2022:
 - BWF Male Player of the Year: Viktor Axelsen (Denmark)
 - BWF Female Player of the Year: Akane Yamaguchi (Japan)
 - BWF Pair of the Year: Zheng Si Wei/Huang Ya Qiong (China)
 - BWF Most Improved Player of the Year: Fajar Alfian/Muhammad Rian Ardianto (Indonesia)
 - Eddy Choong Most Promising Player of the Year: Kodai Naraoka (Japan)
 - BWF Male Para Badminton Player of the Year: Daiki Kajiwarra (Japan)
 - BWF Female Para Badminton Player of the Year: Manisha Ramadass (India)
 - BWF Para Badminton Pair of the Year: Thomas Wandschneider/Rick Cornell Hellman (Germany)

230. On December 9, Former tennis star Ashleigh Barty won Australia's prestigious "Don Award" for the second time in her career. She also became the third after hurdler Sally Pearson (2012 and 2014) and pole vaulter Steve Hooker (2008 and 2009) to win the award twice. Ash Barty won 3 Grand Slams in her career. Barty's latest victories include the Wimbledon Open 2021 and the French Open 2019. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ashleigh Barty (Australia - Former Tennis Player) – won Australia's prestigious "Don Award" for the second time
- She is the 3rd person to receive this award after Sally Pearson & Steve Hooker

231. On December 6, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is awarded the title of "Global Ambassador for Diabetes" at the World Diabetes Congress 2022 held in Lisbon, Portugal. Tarik Ahsan, Ambassador of Bangladesh to Portugal received the award on behalf of the Prime Minister. Participants included doctors, health professionals and medical personnel. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- World Diabetes Congress 2022 – held in Lisbon, Portugal
- Sheikh Hasina – awarded the title of "Global Ambassador for Diabetes"
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

Schemes & Initiatives

232. The first phase of the "Nirogi Haryana" scheme was launched by President of India Droupadi Murmu in the presence of Haryana Governor Bandar Dattatreya and Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar in Kurukshetra. In the scheme, Antodaya families would be provided intensive health check-up free of cost. Six categories have been identified as per various age groups. Comprehensive health check-up and other tests will be performed as per age-related categories to rule out/screen communicable/non-communicable diseases. All beneficiaries will be assessed on over 25 parameters. If any disease is detected/diagnosed, further investigation and treatment will be provided free of cost. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- President Droupadi Murmu – launched "Nirogi Haryana" scheme
- Antodaya families would be provided intensive health check-up & treatment free of cost
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandar Dattatreya



Important Days & Dates

233. The 55th Submarine Day was commemorated at Eastern Naval Command to mark the formation of Indian Navy's submarine arm with the commissioning of its first submarine, erstwhile INS Kalvari, on December 8, 1967. The ceremony was held at the Submarine Cenotaph at INS Virbahu, at ENC, the mother base of Indian submarines, which was commissioned on May 19, 1971. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- December 8 – 55th Submarine Day (commemorated at - Eastern Naval Command)
- INS Kalvari – first submarine of Indian Navy's submarine arm was commissioned on December 8, 1967
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950
- Motto of the Indian Navy – 'Sam No Varunah'

234. Every year Human Rights Day is celebrated on December 10. It commemorates the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 1948. This year marks the 74th anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the 72nd Human Rights Day. Human Rights Day was formally established in 1950, following the adoption of UNGA Resolution 423. For 2022, the theme was "Dignity, Freedom, and Justice for All". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- December 10 – 72nd Human Rights Day
- UNGA adopted the "Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)" on December 10, 1948
- 2022's Theme – "Dignity, Freedom, and Justice for All"

235. The "International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of this Crime" or "UN International Day of Victims of Genocide" is observed annually on December 9. It is observed to raise awareness about genocide and the role of the United Nations' 'Genocide Convention' in preventing it. 2022 marked the 74th anniversary of the adoption of 'Genocide Convention' which was adopted in 1948 by UN General Assembly. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- December 9 – UN International Day of Victims of Genocide
- 2022 marked 74th anniversary of the adoption of 'Genocide Convention' | Adopted in 1948 by UNGA

236. On December 1, Nagaland celebrated its 60th statehood day. Nagaland became a separate state in 1963. Nagaland is the first State in the northeast to be bifurcated from Assam as the 16th State of the Indian Union. In April 2022, the area of coverage of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA) saw a reduction for the first time in decades, with the Central government lifting 15 police station areas out of the purview of AFSPA in Nagaland. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- December 1 – 60th statehood day of Nagaland
- Nagaland is 16th state of Indian Union & became a separate state in 1963
- Nagaland: Capital – Kohima | CM – Neiphiu Rio | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi (addi. charge)



237. International Anti-Corruption Day (IACD) is observed annually on December 9 to raise public awareness on the malpractice of corruption and its harmful effects on progress and development. The theme for International Anti-Corruption Day 2022 was “Uniting the World Against Corruption”. The UN General Assembly adopted the United Nations Convention against Corruption on October 31, 2003. The Assembly also designated December 9 as International Anti-Corruption Day. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- December 9 – 20th International Anti-Corruption Day (since 2003)
- 2022’s theme – “Uniting the World Against Corruption”

Books & Authors

238. Former Air Marshal P. V. Iyer has authored a book titled “Fit At Any Age: A Practitioner’s Guide”. In this book, the Air Force veteran shared his fitness mantras and regimes that will leave any reader motivated. At the age of 92, he runs roughly 7-8 kms a day, which takes him around 2 hours to complete, and then proceeds to work out for another 90 minutes or so at his home gym. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Fit At Any Age: A Practitioner’s Guide” book – authored by Former Air Marshal P. V. Iyer

239. Simon Sebag Montefiore, award-winning British historian and writer, has authored a new book titled “The World: A Family History”. In this book, Montefiore tells how humanity evolved by the stories of different and famous families. The book was published by Hachette India. Some of Montefiore’s previous books are: ‘Stalin: The Court of The Red Tsar’, ‘Jerusalem: The Biography’, ‘Written in History: Letters That Changed the World’, among others. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The World: A Family History” book – authored by Simon Sebag Montefiore (British Historian & Writer)
- Published – Hachette India

240. Gautaam Borah, a senior management professional, authored a new book titled “Nalanada - Until we Meet Again”. The book was launched by legendary writer Ruskin Bond. Mr. Borah is the author of the widely acclaimed book ‘Monetising Innovation’. The book is a gripping story of romance, vengeance, and an age-old mystery. It’s a story of Neil and Aanchal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Nalanada - Until we Meet Again” book – authored by Gautaam Borah
- The book was launched by legendary writer Ruskin Bond

Obituaries

241. On December 8, Renowned artist and writer Manohar Devadoss died in Chennai. He was 85. Mr. Devadoss has written several books and illustrated them. His last book titled “Madras Inked: Impressions of an Artist and an Architect” was co-authored by Sujatha Shankar. A Padma Shri awardee, Mr. Devadoss hailed from Madurai. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Manohar Devadoss – a renowned Artist & Writer – passed away (Padma Shri awardee)
- His last book – “Madras Inked: Impressions of an Artist and an Architect” (co-authored by Sujatha Shankar)

242. In December 2022, Nick Bollettieri, the Tennis Coach whose famed Florida tennis academy changed the face of the game by producing some of its greatest players, died at the age of 91. A pioneering mentor who coached 10 world number ones, he was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in 2014. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nick Bollettieri (US) – a renowned Tennis Coach – passed away

Meetings, Conferences & Summits

243. On December 8, the 9th World Ayurveda Congress (WAC) was inaugurated at Panaji, Goa. The theme of the congress was “Ayurveda For One Health”. The third edition of the ‘Ayushman’ comic book series was also released at the event. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) and Rosenberg’s European Academy of Ayurveda, Germany, to facilitate advanced studies in traditional Indian medicine systems. The World Ayurveda Congress & Arogya Expo 2022 was also held in Goa from 8-11 December to strengthen the Ayurveda sector, envision its future, and facilitate interaction between professionals and consumers to boost Ayurveda commerce. The market size of AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy) in the country has grown from \$3 billion in 2014 to over \$18 billion now. The AYUSH industry grew 17% year-on-year during 2014-2020, while the Ayurveda market is forecast to grow at 15% CAGR from 2021-2026. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 9th World Ayurveda Congress (WAC) – inaugurated at Panaji, Goa
- Theme – “Ayurveda For One Health”
- 3rd edition of the ‘Ayushman’ comic book series was also released at the event
- AIIA + European Academy of Ayurveda (Germany) = to facilitate advanced studies in traditional Indian medicine systems
- HQs of AIIA – New Delhi | Director – Tanuja Manoj Nesari
- Ministry of AYUSH: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency – Majuli, Assam
- MoS in Ministry of AYUSH: Munjapara Mahendrabhai

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

244. Passport Index 2022 published by Arton Capital ranked the world’s strongest and weakest passports. India ranked 87 in the world’s strongest passport list, while UAE ranked first in the rating of passports for 2022. With a UAE passport travellers can enter to 180 countries hassle-free. UAE was followed by Germany, Sweden, Finland, Luxembourg, Spain France. While Afghanistan stood last, Pakistan stood at 94. Japan ranked 24 as it had easy access to 171 countries. Japan’s passport was ranked as the world’s best earlier this year in a list published by Henley & Partners. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- “Passport Index 2022” published by Arton Capital
- India – 87th | 1st – UAE, 2nd – Germany, 3rd – Sweden
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

245. The World Trade Organization (WTO) released the “Goods Trade Barometer” which states that the Global Economy, hit by strong headwinds and weakening import demand, may see slowdown in trade growth in December 2022 and into 2023. The Barometer provides real-time information on the trajectory of world trade relative to recent trends. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Goods Trade Barometer” – released by World Trade Organization
- Goods Trade Barometer: Global Economy may see slowdown in trade growth in December 2022 and into 2023
- HQs of WTO – Geneva, Switzerland | 7th DG – Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala (Nigeria) | Members – 164 | Founded – 1995

246. Global renewable power capacity is set to double over the next 5 years, driven by energy security concerns in the wake of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, announced by the International Energy Agency (IEA) in an annual report on the Outlook for Renewables. The IEA stated that renewable power capacity worldwide is expected to grow by 2,400 gigawatts (GW), which is equal to the entire power capacity of China, by 2027. Renewables are set to account for over 90% of global electricity expansion over the next 5 years, overtaking coal, to become the largest source of global electricity by early 2025. Global solar photovoltaic capacity is set to almost triple by 2027, becoming the largest source of power capacity in the world, while wind capacity is set to almost double. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ‘Annual Report on the Outlook for Renewables’ – released by the IEA
- Global Renewable Power Capacity is set to double over the next 5 years (to grow by 2,400 GW by 2027)
- Renewables are set to become the largest source of global electricity by early 2025
- Global solar photovoltaic capacity is set to almost triple by 2027, becoming the largest source of power capacity
- HQs of IEA – Paris, France | Executive Director – Dr. Fatih Birol | Member countries – 30

247. Two Indian manufacturers of weapons and providers of military services retained their place in SIPRI’s “2021 Top 100 Defence Companies List” released on December 5, 2022. The two companies are Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) at rank 42 and Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) at rank 63 in the list of 100 companies. In 2020, HAL was ranked 42nd, BEL was placed at rank 66th and OFB at 60th place. The total arms sales of the world’s Top 100 totalled \$592 billion in 2021. Country-wise, in the 2021 list, US companies topped with a share of 51% of the total arms sales, followed by Chinese companies with 18%, and UK firms with 6.8%. India is the world’s second-biggest importer of weapons after Saudi Arabia and is also the world’s third-biggest spender on defence after the US and China. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “2021 Top 100 Defence Companies List” – released by SIPRI
- Two Indian Companies (HAL at 42 & BEL 66) – featured in the list which was dominated by firms from US, China & UK
- India is the world’s 2nd-biggest importer of weapons (after Saudi Arabia), and 3rd-biggest spender on defence



Amount & Agreements

248. On December 9, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) signed an agreement to extend up to \$200 million currency swap facility to Maldives Monetary Authority (MMA) under the SAARC Currency Swap Framework. This agreement will enable the MMA to make drawals in multiple tranches up to a maximum of \$200 million from the RBI. The SAARC Currency Swap Framework came into operation on November 15, 2012. In 2020, the RBI had signed a similar pact for extending up to \$400-million currency swap facility to Sri Lanka. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI + Maldives = agreement to extend up to \$200 million currency swap facility under SAARC Currency Swap Framework
- The SAARC Currency Swap Framework came into operation on – November 15, 2012
- Maldives – Male – Maldivian rufiyaa | President – Ibrahim Mohamed Solih
- 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

Acquisitions & Mergers

249. On December 8, Jindal Steel and Power (JSP) Limited acquired debt-laden Monnet Power for Rs 410 crore through insolvency route. The transaction for the Odisha-based 1,050 MW power asset was completed on December 7. The new asset will provide power to JSP's steel plant in Angul, which is in expansion mode. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jindal Steel & Power – acquired debt-laden Monnet Power (Angul, Odisha) for Rs 410 Cr
- HQs of Jindal Steel & Power – New Delhi | Chairman – Naveen Jindal | MD – Bimlendra Jha

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

250. The Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) and the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) signed an MoU to launch the project titled “History of Indian Science and Technology”. They have decided to work together to trace the history of India’s contribution in the field of Science & Technology using evidence from ancient scriptures, with the objective of establishing India as the “Vishwa Guru” (Global Leader) in several scientific domains. The project, which will cost ₹1.5 Crore, will see the production of 6 volumes, two each dedicated to the ancient, medieval and modern periods. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICHR + ISRO = an MoU to launch the project titled “History of Indian Science and Technology”
- HQs of ICHR – New Delhi | Chairman – Raghuvendra Tanwar
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – S. Somanath | Formed on – August 15, 1969





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