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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.

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

251. On November 10, National Mineral Development Corporation's (NMDC) vigilance department released the first edition of its in-house vigilance magazine "Subodh" at the Head Office in Hyderabad. The magazine will be released every quarter. Through this magazine, NMDC Vigilance strives to stress on the importance of the monitoring system and the prevalence of the noteworthy practices in the organization. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NMDC's vigilance department released the first edition of its in-house vigilance magazine "Subodh"
- [HQs of NMDC – Hyderabad, Telangana](#) | [CMD – Sumit Deb](#) | [Founded on – November 15, 1958](#)

252. On November 11, Narendra Modi flagged off south India's first Vande Bharat Express train, connecting Mysuru and Chennai via Bengaluru, at KSR Railway Station in Bengaluru. This is the 5th Vande Bharat Express train in the India and it will enhance connectivity between Chennai, Bengaluru and Mysuru. The Prime Minister also flagged off the 'Bharat Gaurav Kashi Darshan' train. Pilgrims and tourists of Karnataka will be able to visit Kashi, Ayodhya and Prayagraj with ease. Indian Railways launched the operation of the theme-based Bharat Gaurav train in November 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – flagged off South India's 1st (overall 5th) Vande Bharat Express train
- It will enhance connectivity between Chennai, Bengaluru and Mysuru
- PM Modi flagged off 'Bharat Gaurav Kashi Darshan' train to connect Karnataka with Kashi, Ayodhya & Prayagraj
- Indian Railways launched theme-based Bharat Gaurav train in November 2021
- [HQs of Indian Railways – New Delhi](#) | [Chairman & CEO – Vinay Kumar Tripathi](#)

253. On November 11, Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) has been awarded the work to develop India's first Multi-Modal Logistics Park (MMLP) at Mappedu in Thiruvallur district of Tamil Nadu. It is estimated to cater to 7.17 Million Metric Tonne (MMT) cargo in horizon period of 45 years. It is estimated to cater to 7.17 Million Metric Tonne (MMT) cargo in horizon period of 45 years. A government special purpose vehicle (SPV) was formed for the same amongst National Highways Logistics Management Limited, Rail Vikas Nigam Limited, Chennai Port Authority, and Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Reliance Industries – awarded the work to develop India's first Multi-Modal Logistics Park (MMLP) in Thiruvallur, TN
- [HQs of Reliance Industries Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [Chairman – Mukesh Ambani](#) | [Founded in – 1973](#)
- [Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai](#) | [CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin](#) | [Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi](#)

254. On November 4, The Supreme Court, exercising its power under Article 142, removed the limit of Rs 15,000 monthly salary for joining pension fund scheme. A bench of CJI UU Lalit, Justices Aniruddha Bose and Sudhanshu Dhulia upheld the provisions of the Employees' Pension (Amendment) Scheme, 2014, as "legal and valid" but also read down certain provisions of the scheme concerning the employees. Before the amendment, every employee who became a member of EPF scheme, 1952 (EPS) as of November 16, 1995, could avail EPS and the maximum pensionable salary cap was Rs 6500. The 2014 scheme had introduced changes in paragraph 11(3) of EPS, 1952 and inserted paragraph 11(4) of EPS scheme. Paragraph 11(3) had raised the cap from Rs 6500 to Rs 15000. An additional obligation was also created for the members whose salary exceeded Rs 15,000 to contribute at the rate of 1.6% of the salary. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Supreme Court – removed the limit of Rs 15,000 monthly salary for joining EPF scheme
- The maximum pensionable salary cap in the 'EPF scheme, 1952' was Rs 6500
- Present Chief of Justice of the Supreme Court of India – Justice Dhananjaya Y. Chandrachud (50th)
- Retirement age: Chief Justices & Judges of HC – 62 years | Chief Justice of India & judges of the SC – 65 years
- HQs of EPFO – New Delhi | CEO – Neelam Shami Rao | Established in – 1952

255. On November 11, in a bid to give a push to inland waterways, India is planning to launch the world's longest river cruise between Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh and Dibrugarh in Assam in January 2023. During its 50-day journey, the "Ganga Vilas" cruise will cover a distance of 4,000 km and also pass through Bangladesh. The cruise is expected to run on a PPP model. The Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) has signed an MoU with Antara Luxury River Cruises and JM Baxi River Cruises for this. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The world's longest river cruise, "Ganga Vilas", will start between Varanasi in UP & Dibrugarh in Assam (in Jan 2023)
- 50-day journey will cover a distance of 4,000 km
- HQs of IWAI – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | Chairman – Sanjay Bandopadhyay

256. The 53rd International Film Festival of India (IFFI) was held in Goa from November 20 to November 28. The IFFI was opened with Austrian film Alma and Oskar. The movie is directed by Dieter Berner. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 53rd International Film Festival of India – held in Goa
- Opening Movie – Alma and Oskar (Austria) | Director – Dieter Berner
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – P. S. Sreedharan Pillai
- Austria – Vienna – Euro | President – Alexander Van der Bellen | Chancellor – Karl Nehammer

257. On November 11, the Union Minister of Power and New and Renewable Energy, R. K. Singh, launched the "Green Energy Open Access Portal" with an aim to ensure affordable, reliable, sustainable, and green energy for all and in continuation of several initiatives to promote clean and green energy by the Government of India. The web portal was developed by Power System Operation Corporation Limited (POSOCO) which is also the nodal agency for the implementation of this portal. Any consumer with a connected load of 100 kW or above can get Renewable Energy through open access from any Renewable Energy generating plant set up by himself; or by any developer. The open access has to be granted within 15 days. The application for open access can be made on this portal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- R. K. Singh – launched the "Green Energy Open Access Portal" – developed by POSOCO
- Any consumer with a connected load of 100 kW or above can get Renewable Energy through open access

258. On November 9, the government has designated National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) as the implementing agency for setting up of 100 fodder-centric Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) during this fiscal FY 2022-23 to address the fodder deficit situation in India. In 2020, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying had proposed the establishment of fodder-centric FPOs and requested the Agriculture Ministry to allow such FPOs under the central scheme 'Formation and Promotion of 10,000 new FPOs'. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Government has designated NDDB as the implementing agency for setting up of 100 fodder-centric FPOs during FY23
- It is a part of the central scheme 'Formation and Promotion of 10,000 new FPOs'
- HQs of NDDB – Anand, Gujarat | Chairman – Meenesh Shah | Established in – 1965

259. On November 10, the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) announced a \$50 million (approximately ₹400 Crore) trust fund to fund Disaster-Resilient Infrastructure Systems in developing countries and island nations which face the greatest threats from climate change. The fund, called the "Infrastructure Resilience Accelerator Fund (IRAF)", was announced at the India Pavilion, at the ongoing COP27 summit in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt. The IRAF will be managed by the United Nation Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office, New York. It will be supported by the governments of India, the United Kingdom, Australia and the European Union. The CDRI is an international partnership launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in September 2019. Since the CDRI's launch, 31 countries, 6 international organisations and 2 private sector organisations have joined as its members. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CDRI – announced a \$50 million (₹400 Cr) trust fund called the "Infrastructure Resilience Accelerator Fund (IRAF)"
- IRAF will be managed by UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office, New York | Supported by = India + UK + Australia + EU
- HQs of CDRI – New Delhi | Member countries – 31 | Member Organisations – 8 | Founded in – 2019

260. On November 12, in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, President Droupadi Murmu launched "e-KUMBH" (Knowledge Unleashed in Multiple Bharatiya Languages) portal in which engineering courses and books would be available in 12 scheduled Indian languages. Ms. Murmu also released engineering books of All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) in Odia language and glossary of 50,000 technical terms in Odia language developed by Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology (CSTT). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- President Droupadi Murmu – launched "e-KUMBH" portal to provide engineering books in 12 Indian languages
- KUMBH – Knowledge Unleashed in Multiple Bharatiya Languages
- She also released engineering books of AICTE in Odia language & glossary of 50,000 technical terms in Odia
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

261. On November 10, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik announced that Odisha government is aiming at making Odisha slum-free by the end of 2023. He launched a survey using drones to facilitate a process to provide land deeds to slum-dwellers in 5 municipal areas across the state under the state government's 'Jaga Mission' programme. During an event, Patnaik declared Hinjili and Digapahandi towns in Gajman district as 'slum free' and dedicated 707 'Biju Adarsh Colonies' in 33 urban areas. For the land survey using drones, the authorities of 'Jaga Mission' also signed an MoU with Tata Steel Foundation to identify slum dwellers and areas under the jurisdiction of the 5 municipal corporations. Tata Steel Foundation will provide technical support for the purpose. The state government had launched the 'Jaga Mission' in 2017. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Odisha – aims to be 'slum-free' by the end of 2023 | 'Jaga Mission' of Odisha – launched in 2017
- A survey was launched using drones to facilitate a process to provide land deeds to slum-dwellers in 5 municipal areas
- 'Jaga Mission' programme + Tata Steel Foundation = an MoU to identify slum dwellers in 5 municipal areas
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

262. On November 14, the Union Minister for Labour & Employment, Bhupender Yadav, launched “Employees’ State Insurance Corporation’s (ESIC) Online Maternity Benefit Claim” facility which will allow women members of the ESIC scheme to claim maternity benefits online. It was launched during the commemoration of 102nd birth anniversary of Dattopant Thengadi at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. Payment at the rate of 100% of wages is paid for 26 weeks as maternity benefit to the insured woman by ESIC to compensate for the loss of income during the period. A total of 18.69 lakh women beneficiaries have been provided maternity benefit of Rs 37.37 crore during 2021-22. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bhupender Yadav – launched “ESIC’s Online Maternity Benefit Claim” facility for its women members
- Payment at the rate of 100% of wages is paid for 26 weeks as maternity benefit to the insured woman by ESIC
- [HQs of ESIC – New Delhi](#) | [DG – Rajendra Kumar](#)

263. Hero MotoCorp, India’s largest two-wheeler manufacturer, has finally launched its first-ever electric scooter called the “Vida V1”. Hero MotoCorp hosted the grand launch event of Vida V1 electric scooter at the ‘Hero Global Centre of Innovation and Technology (CIT)’ in Jaipur, Rajasthan. The company is offering the Vida V1 electric scooter in two variants: Vida V1 Plus and Vida V1 Pro. Initially, they will be available only in Delhi, Bengaluru, and Jaipur. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hero MotoCorp – launched its first-ever electric scooter called the “Vida V1”
- [HQs of Hero MotoCorp – New Delhi](#) | [Chairman & CEO – Pawan Munjal](#)



International Affairs

264. On November 8, at the 27th Session of Conference of Parties (COP27), this year’s UN climate summit held in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, the Mangrove Alliance for Climate (MAC) was jointly launched by the UAE and Indonesia with India as a partner. The move will see New Delhi collaborating with Sri Lanka, Indonesia and other countries to preserve and restore the mangrove forests in the region. An initiative led by the UAE and Indonesia, the MAC includes India, Sri Lanka, Australia, Japan, and Spain. It seeks to educate and spread awareness worldwide on the role of mangroves in curbing global warming and its potential as a solution for climate change. The UAE’s COP26 pledge is to plant 100 million mangroves by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UAE & Indonesia – jointly launched the “Mangrove Alliance for Climate (MAC)” at COP27, Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt
- MAC (led by UAE & Indonesia) includes: India, Sri Lanka, Australia, Japan & Spain
- UAE’s COP26 pledge is to plant 100 million mangroves by 2030
- [UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham](#) | [President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan](#)
- [Indonesia – Jakarta – Rupiah](#) | [President – Joko Widodo](#)

265. On November 7, Spain and Senegal led 30 countries and 20 organisations to launch the “International Drought Resilience Alliance (IDRA)” at the 27th Conference of Parties (COP27) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) at Sharm El-Sheikh in Egypt. The alliance pledged to drive change in how the world tackles the growing drought risks: Moving from emergency response to building long-term resilience. Droughts have increased in frequency by 29% since 2000, with around 55 million people affected every year, according to the latest “Drought in Numbers” report compiled by the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Spain & Senegal – jointly launched the “International Drought Resilience Alliance (IDRA)” at COP27 in Egypt
- “Drought in Numbers” report – released by UNCCD
- HQs of UNCCD – Bonn, Germany | Executive Secretary – Ibrahim Thiaw

266. Pakistan's Finance Minister Ishaq Dhar announced the complete elimination of Riba (interest) in the country and move towards an ‘interest-free’ banking system under the Islamic law by 2027. According to the Federal Shariat Court (FSC), the prevailing interest-based banking system in Pakistan was against the Sharia law as interest was absolute in all its forms according to the injunctions of Islam. The first petition for the abolition of the interest-based banking system in the country was filed in the FSC on June 30, 1990. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pakistan – announced complete elimination of Riba (interest) and move towards ‘interest-free’ banking system by 2027
- Pakistan – Islamabad – Pakistani Rupee | PM – Shehbaz Sharif | President – Arif Alvi

267. On November 7, Saudi Arabia’s Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman said, the Saudi Arabia would contribute \$2.5 billion to the “Middle East Green Initiative” over the next 10 years, and host its headquarters. The required amount for the fund's clean energy projects is \$10.4 billion. The Middle East Green Initiative was launched by Saudi Arabia in 2021 as part of efforts to reduce regional carbon emissions from regional hydrocarbon production by more than 60%. It also plans to plant 50 billion trees across the Middle East and restore an area equivalent to 200 million hectares of degraded land. The initiative will help reduce global carbon levels by 2.5%. Saudi Arabia plans to rely on renewables for 50% of its electricity generation by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Saudi Arabia – to contribute \$2.5 billion to the “Middle East Green Initiative” over the next 10 years
- ‘Middle East Green Initiative’ was launched by Saudi Arabia in 2021
- The initiative will help reduce global carbon levels by 2.5%
- Saudi Arabia – Riyadh – Saudi Riyal | PM – Mohammed bin Salman Al Saud | King – Salman bin Abdulaziz

268. On November 7, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) released the “Executive Action Plan of Early Warnings for All” during a roundtable meeting at the 27th Conference of Parties (COP27) to the UNFCCC. This global early warning system is developed for extreme weather events intensified by climate change. The initial investment for delivering early warning systems for all by 2027 will be nearly \$3.1 billion. The initial investments represent 6% of the \$50 billion requested for adaptation financing. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- WMO – released the “Executive Action Plan of Early Warnings for All” at COP27 to the UNFCCC in Egypt
- The initial investment for delivering early warning systems for all by 2027 will be nearly \$3.1 billion
- HQs of WMO – Geneva, Switzerland | SG – Petteri Taalas | President – Gerhard Adrian | Established in – 1950

269. On November 11, the US Department of Treasury removed India along with 4 other countries - Italy, Mexico, Thailand and Vietnam, from its Currency Monitoring List. Currently, China, Japan, Korea, Germany, Malaysia, Singapore, and Taiwan are the seven economies that are a part of the current monitoring list. The US treasury department puts a trading partner on the watchlist if that country had intervened in the currency market by higher levels than 2% of its GDP over a 12-month period, and had a current account surplus of 2% of GDP and a trade surplus with the US. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- US Department of Treasury removed India from its 'Currency Monitoring List'
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

270. On November 11, Arzooo partnered with HDFC Bank to launch Purchase cards that have been exclusively designed for offline retailers. The aim is to roll out over 1 lakh such credit cards over the next 12 months. The key feature of this card is that it offers interest-free credit for up to a month and a credit limit of up to Rs 1 crore. Over 40,000 retail partners who are already on the Arzooo platform will now be able to manage their working capital much more efficiently. Arzooo is India's largest and fastest-growing retail tech start-up organizing the highly fragmented physical retail and digitalizing them. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Arzooo + HDFC Bank = partnership to launch 'Purchase Cards' exclusively designed for offline retailers
- HQs of Arzooo – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Co-Founder & CEO – Khushnud Khan
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your World”

271. On November 10, ICICI Lombard launched 14 new Insurance solutions across Health, Motor and Corporate segments. The offerings are propelled by the recently introduced “Use and File” framework from IRDAI and new types of risks emerging in all sectors be it pandemic, climate change or data privacy. The company also has the “IL take care app” which allows the policy holders to speak to doctors for assistance. The app allows the consumer to enter their details which would then be sent to the relevant specialist who would then provide assistance and prescription via WhatsApp. The newly launched products include Golden Shield focuses on the senior citizens, Health AdvantEdge for worldwide international cover, BeFit for cashless OPD policy, Motor floater Insurance which allows a single policy with a single renewable date and premium for all motor policies, Pay-As-You-Use (PAYU) Plan, and Club Royale Home Insurance for corporate segment etc. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICICI Lombard – launched 14 new Insurance solutions across Health, Motor and Corporate segments
- ICICI Lombard app name – “IL take care App”
- HQs of ICICI Lombard – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Bhargav Das Gupta

272. In November 2022, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) approved the merger of Pune-based Sharada Sahakari Bank and Pune-based Cosmos Co-operative Bank. As a result of the merger, Cosmos' total business increased by around Rs 550 crores, and its branches also grew to 152 across India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI approved the merger of Sharada Sahakari Bank (Pune) & Cosmos Co-operative Bank
- HQs of Cosmos Co-operative Bank – Pune, Maharashtra | Chairman – Milind Kale | MD – Apekshita Thipsay

273. The European Central Bank (ECB) doubled its key interest rate to the highest level in more than a decade, intensifying its broadside against record inflation in the face of a likely recession. The European Central Bank doubled its key interest rate to the highest level in more than a decade, intensifying its broadside against record inflation in the face of a likely recession. That brings the deposit rate, which was below zero recently in July, to 1.5% now. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- ECB doubled its key interest rate to 1.5%, the highest level in more than a decade
- HQs of ECB – Frankfurt, Germany | President – Christine Lagarde

274. On November 11, Union Bank of India celebrated its 104th foundation day on 11 November, 2022. UBI is India's 5th largest public sector bank, was established on 11th November 1919. On this occasion, the bank launched a super app called the 'Union Vyom' app, a one-stop solution for all financial products. Moreover, 'Union SARAS' (Stressed Asset Recovery Automated Solution) was launched to offer the best & most effective automated recovery systems for stressed assets. Other products that were launched on this occasion includes - Union Sparsh, a touch debit card, specially designed for the visually impaired, Union Muskaan, a zero-balance saving account for children of 0-18 years age, Union Digi-Sahaj, an online account opening platform to open a saving account instantly, etc. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UBI celebrated its 104th foundation day on 11 November, 2022
- On this occasion, the bank launched:
 - 'Union Vyom' app
 - 'Union SARAS' portal
 - 'Union Sparsh', a touch debit card for the visually impaired
 - 'Union Muskaan', a zero-balance saving account for children
 - 'Union Digi-Sahaj', an online account opening platform
- HQs of UBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – A. Manimekhalai | Tagline – “Good People to Bank With”



Defence Affairs

275. On November 10, The Indian Army launched a single-window facility named the 'Veerangana Sewa Kendra (VSK)' for welfare and grievance redressal of 'Veer Naris' with a motto of 'Taking Care of Our Own, No Matter What'. The widow of a member of the armed forces, who has laid down his life for the nation, whether in war or in a military operation, is called a 'Veer Nari'. Veer Naris are employed as VSK staff to maintain inherent connect and empathy with the beneficiaries. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Army – launched single-window facility named 'Veerangana Sewa Kendra (VSK)' for 'Veer Naris'
- Motto – 'Taking Care of Our Own, No Matter What'
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande | Vice Chief – Lt. General Baggavalli Somashekar Raju

Sports & Games

276. Maharashtra-based weightlifter Akanksha Vyavahare created three new national records in the 40kg weight category at the Khelo India National Ranking Women's Weightlifting tournament. The weightlifter, who was also a part of the Target Olympic Podium Scheme, created records in Snatch, Clean and Jerk, and Total. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Akanksha Vyavahare (Maharashtra) – created 3 new national records at Khelo India Women's Weightlifting tournament
- The weightlifter was also a part of the Target Olympic Podium Scheme





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Science & Technology

277. On November 10, Union Minister of state for Science & Technology, Jitendra Singh, dedicated India's first national repository for life science data 'Indian Biological Data Center (IBDC)' to the nation, located in Faridabad, Haryana. Supported by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), IBDC is established at Regional Centre of Biotechnology (RCB), Faridabad with a data 'Disaster Recovery' site at NIC, Bhubaneshwar. It has a data storage capacity of about 4 petabytes and houses the 'Brahm' High Performance Computing (HPC) facility. IBDC has started nucleotide data submission services via two data portals namely - 'Indian Nucleotide Data Archive (INDA)' and 'Indian Nucleotide Data Archive - Controlled Access (INDA-CA)'. IBDC also hosts an online dashboard for the genomic surveillance data generated by the INSACOG labs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jitendra Singh – dedicated first 'Indian Biological Data Center (IBDC)' to the nation, located in Faridabad, Haryana
- It has a data storage capacity of about 4 petabytes & houses the 'Brahm' High Performance Computing (HPC) facility
- [Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya](#)

278. On November 12, China successfully launched its cargo spacecraft "Tianzhou-5" onboard 'Long March-7 Y6' rocket to deliver supplies for its space station, the construction of which is expected to be completed by the end of 2022. The cargo craft is expected to conduct a fast-automated rendezvous and docking with the space station combination. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China – successfully launched its cargo spacecraft "Tianzhou-5" onboard 'Long March-7 Y6' rocket
- [China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping](#)

279. On November 14, the NASA selected Pratt & Whitney to develop advanced engine technologies to reduce fuel consumption and emissions for next generation single-aisle aircraft under the Hybrid Thermally Efficient Core (HyTEC) project. The HyTEC project is part of NASA's Sustainable Flight National Partnership, which will enable breakthrough innovations in support of the aviation industry's goal to significantly reduce CO₂ emissions by 2050. The project includes developing and testing the fuel and air mixers for optimal efficiency and then measuring the emissions and noise emitted using Jet A fuel and high blends of SAF. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NASA + Pratt & Whitney (US) = to develop low-emission aviation engine tech for next generation single-aisle aircraft
- It will be developed under the 'Hybrid Thermally Efficient Core (HyTEC)' project of NASA
- [HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., US | Administrator – Bill Nelson | Founded in – 1958](#)

Appointments & Resignations

280. On November 1, Bhanu Prakash Srivastava has been given additional charge of the post of Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) Chairman and Managing Director as Dinesh Kumar Batra superannuated on October 31. Srivastava currently functioning as the Director (Other Units) along with the additional charge of CMD of BEL. He has made major contributions toward sustained business growth and profitability in the areas of radio & data equipment, military and telecom switching equipment, C4I systems for civil & military applications, radars for army, Air Force and Navy, Sonars, Fire Control Systems & Communication systems for Navy, Surface-to-Air Missile project for Naval Ships, etc. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Bhanu Prakash Srivastava – appointed as the CMD of BEL (additional charge)
- HQs of BEL – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CMD – Bhanu Prakash Srivastava (addi. charge)

281. On November 12, the ICC board has unanimously re-elected Greg Barclay as the Independent Chair of the International Cricket Council (ICC) for a second two-year term. Barclay was unopposed following the withdrawal of Tavengwa Mukuhliani from the process. Barclay, a New Zealand-based commercial lawyer, was originally appointed as the ICC Chair in November 2020. He was previously the Chair of New Zealand Cricket (NZC) and was a director of the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2015. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Greg Barclay – reappointed as Chairman of the ICC for a second 2-year term
- HQs of ICC – Dubai, UAE | Chairman – Greg Barclay | CEO – Geoff Allardice | Members – 108 countries

282. On November 11, C. Anandharamakrishnan assumed charge as Director of the National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology (NIIST), a Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) facility in Thiruvananthapuram. He is an expert in chemical engineering and food processing. The NIIST will focus on need-driven research, lab-to-land transformation of technologies and human resource development. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- C. Anandharamakrishnan – assumed charge as Director of CSIR-NSIIT, Thiruvananthapuram
- HQs of CSIR – New Delhi | President – Narendra Modi | DG – Nallathamby Kalaiselvi | Established in – 1942
- HQs of CSIR-NSIIT – Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala | Director – C. Anandharamakrishnan

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

283. On November 7, Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) was conferred the 'Urban Infra Business Award 2022' for its contributions in line with the Government's 'Make in India initiative' & for the transformation of Metro and Rail commutation in India. The award has been instituted by Urban Infra Communication Pvt Ltd. In order to complete the various indigenous programmes in rail and metro commutation, an Intelligent Transportation Lab has been established as a reference set-up at BEL's Central Research Laboratory-Ghaziabad. BEL signed an MoU with the Research Design and Standards Organisation (RDSO) for developing technology solutions such as Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS), Centralised Intelligent Kavach Monitoring System (CIKMS), and Augmented Reality (AR) / Virtual Reality (VR) based Simulator. Moreover, BEL has signed an MoU with DMRC for the development of indigenous Communication Based Train Control (i-CBTC) System. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BEL – was conferred the 'Urban Infra Business Award 2022' for its contributions in 'Make in India initiative'
- The award has been instituted by – Urban Infra Communication Pvt Ltd
- BEL + RDSO = an MoU for developing technology solutions
- BEL + DMRC = an MoU for the development of indigenous Communication Based Train Control (i-CBTC) System
- HQs of BEL – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CMD – Bhanu Prakash Srivastava



284. On November 11, The Food Safety and Standard Association of India (FSSAI) awarded Bhopal Railway Station a 4-star 'Eat Right Station' certification for providing "high-quality, nutritious food to passengers". Railway stations are awarded the certificate after an FSSAI-empowered third-party audit agency rates them on a scale of 1 to 5 for food storage and hygiene practices. The certification is part of the 'Eat Right India' movement- a large-scale effort by FSSAI to transform the country's food system to ensure safe, healthy and sustainable food for all Indians. Chandigarh Railway station was the 5th Indian railway station to receive a 5-star 'Eat Right Station' certification in September 2021. The other railway stations with this certification include Anand Vihar (Delhi), Chhatrapati Shivaji (Mumbai), Mumbai Central (Mumbai), and Vadodara Railway Station. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bhopal Railway Station – is awarded a 4-star 'Eat Right Station' certification by FSSAI
- The certification is part of 'Eat Right India' movement by FSSAI to ensure safe, healthy & sustainable food for all Indians
- 5 Railway stations to get 5-star rating – Chandigarh, Anand Vihar, Chhatrapati Shivaji, Mumbai Central & Vadodara
- HQs of FSSAI – New Delhi | Chairperson – Rita Teotia | CEO – Arun Singhal
- Ministry of Railways: Ashwini Vaishnav | Constituency – Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Railways: Danve Raosaheb Dadarao & Darshana Vikram Jardosh

Important Days & Dates

285. On November 8, The UN General Assembly (UNGA) has adopted a resolution to designate November 18 every year as the "World Day for the prevention of and healing from child sexual exploitation, abuse and violence". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 18 – "World Day for the prevention of and healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Violence"
- HQs of UNGA – New York, US | President – Csaba Korosi (Hungary) | Member Countries – 193

286. 'Public Service Broadcasting Day' is held every year on November 12, commemorating Mahatma Gandhi's first and last radio address in 1947. He addressed more than two lakh refugees of the Kurukshetra camp after having been unable to go there personally on this date in 1947. On November 12, 2000, then Information and Broadcasting Minister Sushma Swaraj had declared the day as 'Public Service Broadcasting Day' or 'Jan Prasaran Divas'. Jan Prasar had been collaborating with the AIR to organise this event. On November 12, Jan Prasar withdrew its collaboration with All India Radio (AIR) for the Public Broadcasting Day service. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 12 – 'Public Service Broadcasting Day' or 'Jan Prasaran Divas' (Since 2001)
- It commemorates Mahatma Gandhi's first and last radio address in 1947
- HQs of AIR – New Delhi | DG – Vasudha Gupta

287. Jharkhand, also known as the "The Last of forest", celebrates its State Foundation Day on November 15 every year. Jharkhand was carved out of Bihar in 2000 as the 28th state of India after the Parliament passed the Bihar Reorganization Act, 2000. The Jharkhand Cabinet has approved four ambitious schemes to promote education and skill development of students and youths. The schemes include Higher and Technical Education department's Mukhya Mantri Shiksha Prothsahan Yojana (MMSPY), Eklavya Prasikshan Yojana (EPY) and Guruji Student Credit Card Yojana (GSCCY), and Labour department's Mukhya Mantri Sarathi Yojana (MMSY). The cabinet also approved hike in dearness allowance of the state government employees as per the sixth pay commission from 203% to 212%. The cabinet also approved Rs 461 Cr for construction of 3.5-km high-level bridge over the Swarnreka river from Sakchi to Mango and Azad Basti. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- November 15 – State Foundation Day of Jharkhand
- Jharkhand – carved out of Bihar in 2000 as the 28th state of India
- Jharkhand launched following 4 schemes on its state foundation day:
 - Mukhya Mantri Shiksha Prothshahan Yojana,
 - Eklavya Prasikshan Yojana,
 - Guruji Student Credit Card Yojana
 - Mukhya Mantri Sarathi Yojana
- Jharkhand Cabinet approved hike in DA of state government employees as per 6th pay commission from 203% to 212%
- [Jharkhand: Capital – Ranchi | CM – Hemant Soren | Governor – Ramesh Bais](#)

288. ‘World Quality Week’ is an annual campaign celebrated by the CQI, which raises awareness of the quality management profession globally. In 2022, November 7 to 11 was celebrated as World Quality Week. Previously, the CQI devoted one day in November for its world quality celebration. Since November 2021, it has been moved to a week-long campaign. In 2022, the theme was “Quality conscience: Doing the Right Thing”. World Quality Day is marked on the 2nd Thursday of November. This year, World Quality Day falls on November 10. The Chartered Quality Institute (CQI), a business entity with offices in London, established World Quality Day in 1919. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 7 to 11 – World Quality Week (WQW) 2022
- Theme – “Quality conscience: Doing the Right Thing”
- November 10 (2nd Thursday) – World Quality Day (since 1919)

289. National Education Day is celebrated every year on November 11 as it marks the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, who was India’s first education minister after independence. He served as the education minister from August 15, 1947 till February 2, 1958, and passed away in Delhi on February 22, 1958. He also assisted in shifting the university campus from Aligarh to New Delhi in 1934. He also oversaw the establishment of the Department of Education of the University of Delhi, the first Indian Institute of Technology in 1951 and the University Grants Commission in 1953. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 11 – National Education Day (birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad)
- Maulana Abul Kalam Azad – was India’s first education minister after independence (August 15, 1947 - February 2, 1958)

290. ‘World Pneumonia Day’ is observed every year on November 12. Pneumonia is a lung-based infection caused by bacteria, viruses, and fungi. The theme for this year’s World Pneumonia Day was “Championing the fight to stop pneumonia”. The day first came into effect on November 12, 2009, under the initiative named ‘Stop Pneumonia’. Later, WHO and UNICEF introduced an integrated plan to prevent and control the disease globally. The reason behind observing this day is to aim for zero deaths caused by pneumonia by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 12 – World Pneumonia Day (since 2009)
- 2022’s Theme – “Championing the fight to stop pneumonia”
- This day is observed to aim for zero deaths caused by pneumonia by 2030



291. The Usability Professionals Association established 'World Usability Day', also known as 'Make Things Easier Day', in 2005. It is observed every year on the second Thursday in November. This year, it fell on 10 November. In 2022, the theme was "Our Health". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 10 (2nd Thursday) – 'World Usability Day' or 'Make Things Easier Day' (since 2005)
- 2022's theme – "Our Health"

Obituaries

292. On November 10, Renowned Mathematician and Professor, Dr. Rangasami Lakshminarayan Kashyap (RL Kashyap), passed away at the age of 84. He was awarded the Padma Shri in 2021 by the central government for his considerable service in the field of Literature and Education for studying the Vedas. Kashyap received many international awards for his immense contributions to the fields of science and technology. Kashyap also wrote more than 250 research papers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RL Kashyap – Renowned Mathematician & Professor – passed away
- He was awarded the Padma Shri in 2021 for Literature & Education

Meetings, Conferences and Summits

293. On November 10, Union Agriculture Minister, Narendra Singh Tomar, chaired the 2nd "BIMSTEC Agriculture Ministers Meeting" hosted by India. This meeting adopted the Action Plan for Strengthening BIMSTEC Agricultural Cooperation (2023-2027). An MoU between the BIMSTEC Secretariat and the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) was signed and approval was given to bring Fisheries and Livestock sub-sectors under the Agricultural Working Group. The 5th BIMSTEC Summit held in Colombo in March, 2022 on enhancing regional cooperation between BIMSTEC nations for food security, peace and prosperity in the region. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Singh Tomar – chaired the 2nd "BIMSTEC Agriculture Ministers Meeting" hosted by India
- This meeting adopted the 'Action Plan for Strengthening BIMSTEC Agricultural Cooperation (2023-2027)'
- 5th BIMSTEC Summit was held in Colombo (in March, 2022)
- HQs of BIMSTEC – Dhaka, Bangladesh | Secretary General – H. E. Mr. Tenzin Lekphell | Established in – 1997
- BIMSTEC countries: 7 – Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Myanmar & Thailand | Current Chair – Thailand

294. On November 10 to 12, Telemedicine Society of India (TSI) hosted "Telemedicon 2022", the 18th edition of the 'International Telemedicine Conference' in Kochi. Telemedicon 2022 is an annual global conference for healthcare professionals, health insurance providers and others. The theme of the event was "Strengthening Health Systems Through Sustainable Telemedicine and Digital Health". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kochi – hosted 18th 'International Telemedicine Conference' or "Telemedicon 2022" by Telemedicine Society of India
- Theme – "Strengthening Health Systems Through Sustainable Telemedicine and Digital Health"
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan



295. On November 9 to 11, the '42nd International Congress of the Indian National Cartographic Association' (INCA) was organised by the National Hydrographic Office (NHO), Dehradun. The Chief Hydrographer to the Govt. of India, Vice Admiral Adhir Arora, is the current President of INCA. The INCA was founded in 1979. The focal theme for the 42nd INCA Congress was "Digital Cartography to Harness Blue Economy". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 42nd International Congress of the INCA' – organised by the National Hydrographic Office (NHO) at Dehradun
- Focal Theme – "Digital Cartography to Harness Blue Economy"
- HQs of INCA – Hyderabad | President – Vice Admiral Adhir Arora (Chief Hydrographer of India) | Founded – 1979

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

296. On November 9, The Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat released the 'Dynamic Ground Water Resource Assessment Report' for 2022. The assessment was carried out jointly by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) and States/UTs. The total annual ground water recharge for the entire country is 437.60 billion cubic meters (BCM) and annual ground water extraction for the entire country is 239.16 BCM. Out of total 7089 assessment units, 1006 units categorized as 'Over-exploited'. 87% of total annual groundwater extraction is for irrigation use. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gajendra Singh Shekhawat – released the 'Dynamic Ground Water Resource Assessment Report' for 2022
- Total annual ground water recharge for the entire country is – 437.60 billion cubic meters (BCM)
- Manual ground water extraction for the entire country is – 239.16 BCM
- 87% of total annual groundwater extraction is for irrigation use
- 1006 assessment units (out of total 7089) categorized as 'Over-exploited'
- Ministry of Jal Shakti: Gajendra Singh Sekhawat | Constituency – Jodhpur, Rajasthan
- MoS for Jal Shakti & Food Processing Industries – Prahlad Singh Patel

Amount & Agreements

297. On November 10, Bangladesh and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) have finalised a preliminary agreement under which the IMF will provide a \$4.5 billion support package to stabilise Bangladesh's Economy and protect the vulnerable people. The amount will be disbursed in 7 installments till December 2026. Bangladesh is the third South Asian nation after Sri Lanka and Pakistan to secure a bailout package from the IMF to tide over the sharp rise in food and energy prices caused by the coronavirus pandemic and the global inflation due to the Russia-Ukraine war. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IMF – agreed to provide \$4.5 billion support package to stabilise Bangladesh's Economy & protect the vulnerable people
- HQs of IMF – Washington, D.C., USA | MD & Chairperson – Kristalina Georgieva | Member countries – 190
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid



Acquisitions & Mergers

298. On November 10, Adani Power signed an MoU to sell 100% stake in its wholly-owned subsidiary Support Properties Private Ltd (SPPL) to AdaniConnex Private Ltd (ACX) at an enterprise value of Rs 1,556.5 crore. ACX is a 50:50 joint venture between Adani Enterprises Limited and EdgeConneX. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Adani Power – to sell its 100% stake in Support Properties Pvt Ltd (SPPL) to AdaniConnex Private Ltd (ACX)
- ACX is a 50:50 JV between = Adani Enterprises + EdgeConneX
- HQs of Adani Power Ltd – Ahmedabad, Gujarat | Chairman – Gautam Adani | MD – Anil Sardana

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

299. On November 10, Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) signed an MoU with Gurugram-based Veddis Foundation to support setting up of effective governance systems under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM). The partnership is for 3 years and is non-financial in nature. As per the MoU, Veddis Foundation will establish a PMU in the Rural Livelihood (RL) Division of Ministry of Rural Development for the next 5 years. The MoU will also strengthen state capacities, establish innovative models and implement the national strategy for Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI) and SHG convergence. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoRD + Veddis Foundation = an MoU to support setting up of effective governance systems under 'DAY-NRLM'
- Veddis Foundation (Gurugram) – will establish a PMU in the Rural Livelihood (RL) Division of MoRD
- Minister of Rural Development: Giriraj Singh | Constituency – Begusarai, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Rural Development: Faggansingh Kulaste & Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti

300. On November 9, Defence public sector undertaking Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) signed an MoU with Aerosense Technologies Pvt Ltd for co-operation in the development and marketing of drones and soft kill aerial anti-drone. The tie-up would enable the two companies design and develop drones and soft kill aerial anti-drone systems. Besides, the two would explore marketing and sale of drone-based solutions for applications in defence and civilian domains for the domestic and export markets. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BEL + Aerosense Technologies = an MoU for the development & marketing of Drones & Soft Kill Aerial Anti-Drone
- HQs of BEL – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CMD – Bhanu Prakash Srivastava





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