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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

**551.** On October 21, Chhattisgarh launched an initiative to conduct Jail Lok Adalat for speedy disposal of cases and became the first state in India to do so. A state-level Jail Lok Adalat was held for the first time in all 33 jails of the state on October 15, during which 448 prisoners were released. The Jail Lok Adalat will be held every working Saturday in all jails of the state. The state has five central jails, 12 district jails and 16 sub-jails and most of them are overcrowded. The Jail Lok Adalat will cover cases which are heard in the CJM courts related to theft, house trespass, minor brawl etc. Jail Lok Adalat will cover the cases of prisoners who are languishing in jails despite being granted bail or first-time offenders of crimes that are not heinous in nature. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Chhattisgarh – became the first state in India to conduct ‘Jail Lok Adalat’ for speedy disposal of cases
- Jail Lok Adalat will cover the cases of theft, first-time offenders of crimes that are not heinous in nature etc

**552.** On October 20, the Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board (JSPCB) launched a website in a bid to provide data on air pollutants being emitted from industrial units. This will act as a data disclosure platform and bring transparency to a state government’s rating programme that categorises industrial units on a scale of one to five stars based on their particulate matter emissions. Particulate matter contains microscopic solids or liquid droplets that are so small that they can be inhaled and cause serious health problems. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Jharkhand SPCB – launched a website in a bid to provide data on air pollutants being emitted from industrial units
- Jharkhand: Capital – Ranchi | CM – Hemant Soren | Governor – Ramesh Bais

**553.** On October 22, PM Narendra Modi launched the “Rozgar Mela” for 10 lakh central government jobs via video conferencing. On this occasion, he virtually handed over the appointment letters to the 75,000 newly inducted appointees. The 75,000 new recruits will join 38 Ministries and Departments at Group A, Group B (Gazetted), Group B (Non-Gazetted) and Group C levels. The recruitments are being either being done directly by ministries and departments or through recruiting agencies such as Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), Staff Selection Commission (SSC), and Railway Recruitment Board. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- PM Narendra Modi – launched the “Rozgar Mela” for 10 lakh central government jobs
- He handed over the appointment letters to the 75,000 newly inducted appointees

**554.** On October 23, SJVN Ltd announced the commissioning of 75 MW Solar Power Projects in Parasan Solar Park, located at Tehsil Kalpi of Uttar Pradesh. This project will be third commissioned Solar project of the SJVN besides two hydro and two wind projects and with commissioning of this project, the installed capacity of SJVN will now be 2091.5 MW. The cost of Construction/Development of this project is ₹392.3 Crore. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- SJVN Ltd – announced the commissioning of 75 MW Solar Power Projects in Parasan Solar Park, at Tehsil Kalpi, UP
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel



**555.** On October 25, Coca-Cola's lemon drink Sprite has become a billion-dollar brand in annual sales in India. Sprite is the second brand in Coca-Cola India's portfolio to breach billion dollars in annual sales, after Thums Up. Thums Up had become a billion-dollar brand in annual sales in 2021 in India, which is Coca-Cola's 5<sup>th</sup> largest market globally. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Coca-Cola's lemon drink brand, Sprite – has become a billion-dollar brand in annual sales in India
- Other famous brands of Coca-Cola: Thums Up, Fanta, Coke, etc.
- HQs of Coca-Cola – Georgia, US | Chairman & CEO – James Quincey

**556.** The Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) is likely to import five 'Grant Zebras' (two male and three female) for its Rajiv Gandhi Zoological and Wildlife Research Centre in Katraj, Maharashtra. The civic body will spend an estimated Rs 1.33 Crore for the transportation of the animals. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Pune MC – to import 5 'Grant Zebras' for its Rajiv Gandhi Zoological & Wildlife Research Centre in Katraj, Maharashtra
- Maharashtra: CM – Eknath Shinde | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

## International Affairs

**557.** On October 21, Mayor Eric Adams announced that Diwali will be a public school holiday in New York City starting from 2023. This step will encourage children to learn about the festival of lights. According to New York State education laws, there must be a minimum of 180 days of school instruction. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Diwali will be a public school holiday in New York City starting from 2023
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President – Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP – Kamala Harris

**558.** On October 25, New Zealand passed the "Plain Language Act", which will require the country's officials to use simple, easily understood English language in official documents and on websites. The Labour Party's Rachel Boyack, member of New Zealand's Parliament from Nelson, introduced the Plain Language Bill in the Assembly last year. Accessibility and inclusivity are the primary motivation behind the Bill. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- New Zealand – passed the "Plain Language Act" to use simple, easily understood English language in official documents
- New Zealand – Wellington – Dollar (NZD) | PM – Jacinda Ardern

**559.** On October 22, Pakistan and China have decided to launch three new corridors besides the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). The three are China-Pakistan Green Corridor, China-Pakistan Health Corridor, and the China-Pakistan Digital Corridor. The new corridors would become sources of strengthening Pakistan-China ties and will provide a new unshakable bond of the proximity of the two nations. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Pakistan + China = to launch three new corridors besides the CPEC
- The three new corridors are:
  - China-Pakistan Green Corridor
  - China-Pakistan Health Corridor
  - China-Pakistan Digital Corridor
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping
- Pakistan – Islamabad – Pakistani Rupee | PM – Shehbaz Sharif | President – Arif Alvi

**560.** In October 2022, Cyclone Sitrang severely damaged 10,000 homes in Bangladesh and more than 6,000 hectares (15,000 acres) of crops were also destroyed. This tropical storm lashed Bangladesh left at least 35 people dead. Tropical Storm Sitrang brewed in the Bay of Bengal and it was named by Thailand. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bangladesh – was severely hit by ‘Cyclone Sitrang’ in October (named by Thailand)
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

**561.** In October 2022, Australia approved the commercial cultivation of the genetically modified Indian mustard species called ‘Brassica juncea’ for herbicide tolerance. So far, the canola (*Brassica napus*) is the only genetically modified mustard variety that has been cleared for commercial application. Canola is a temperate species of mustard. The indigenous GM mustard variety has been developed by Deepak Pental and a team of scientists at University of Delhi. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Australia – approved the commercial cultivation of the GM Indian mustard species called ‘Brassica juncea’
- The GM mustard is developed by – Deepak Pental and a team of scientists at University of Delhi
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Anthony Albanese

## **Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs**

**562.** On October 20, Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) modified the equity allocation standards for Tier 1 and Tier II National Pension System (NPS) accounts. According to the new regulation, subscribers can allocate up to 75% of their funds to equity (E) under active choice in Tier-I accounts and 100% of the subscriber’s contribution to Asset Class E (Equity) in Tier-II accounts once they turn 51 years of age. However, when a subscriber reaches the age of 51, the 75% cap on asset class E is lowered by 2.5% annually and reallocated to government securities. NPS subscribers currently have the option, to choose any one of the registered Pension Funds and actively allocate their contributions across four asset classes: equity (E), corporate bonds (C), government securities (G), and alternate assets (A) with “Active Choice” option. [{Read more}](#)





### Key Points:

- PFRDA – modified the equity allocation standards for Tier 1 and Tier II NPS accounts
- Subscribers can allocate up to 75% of funds to equity (E) under active choice in Tier-I accounts once they turn 51 years
- Subscribers can allocate up to 100% of Asset Class E under active choice in Tier-II accounts once they turn 51 years
- NPS subscribers have option to choose from 4 asset classes – Equity (E), Corporate Bonds (C), Government Securities (G), & Alternate Assets (A)
- HQs of PFRDA – New Delhi | Chairperson – Supratim Bandyopadhyay | Founded in – 2003

**563.** On October 22, ICICI Bank's board of directors has reappointed Sandeep Bakhshi as the managing director (MD) and chief executive officer (CEO) for a period of three years. The tenure Sandeep Bakhshi was till October 3, 2023. The reappointment period is from October 4, 2023 to October 3, 2026. He was appointed as the bank's MD and CEO since October 15, 2018. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Sandeep Bakhshi – reappointed as MD & CEO of ICICI bank
- HQs of ICICI Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Sandeep Bakhshi | Taglines – “Hum Hain Na!” & “Khayal Apka”

**564.** For the first time since the implementation of the monetary policy framework in 2016, the Reserve Bank submitted a report to the government on its failure to keep the retail inflation rate below 6% for three consecutive quarters beginning January 2022. The monetary policy framework, which came into effect about six years ago, mandates the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to maintain retail inflation at 4% with a margin of 2% on either side. Section 45ZN of the RBI Act, 1934 deals with failure to maintain the inflation target. The central government retained the inflation target at 4% (with the upper tolerance level of 6% and the lower tolerance level of 2%) for the 5-year period April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2026. The MPC held its first meeting in October 2016. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- RBI – submitted a report to government on its failure to keep retail inflation rate below 6% for 3 consecutive quarters
- 'Section 45ZN' of the 'RBI Act, 1934' deals with failure to maintain the inflation target
- The MPC held its first meeting in October 2016
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established on – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935
- Total Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao

## Sports & Games

**565.** On October 24, Max Verstappen of Red Bull Team won 2022 United States Grand Prix. Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes) finisher the race at 2nd spot. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Max Verstappen (Belgian-Dutch - Red Bull) – won the F1 “US Grand Prix 2022”



**566.** On October 23, China won 4 titles out of 5 on final day at the “Denmark Open 2022”, a badminton tournament, in Odense, Denmark. China's Shi Yuqi won Men's Singles title by defeating Malaysia's Lee Zii Jia. China's He Bingjiao won Women's Singles title by defeating China's Chen Yufei. Indonesia's Fajar Alfian & Muhammad Rian won Men's Doubles title by defeating Indonesia's Marcus Fernaldi Gideon & Kevin Sanjaya Sukamuljo. Ardianto China's Chen Qingchen & Jia Yifan won Women's Doubles title by defeating South Korea's Baek Ha-na & Lee So hee. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- China won 4 titles out of 5 on final day at the “Denmark Open 2022” (Badminton tournament):
  - Men's Singles: Shi Yuqi (China) – defeated Lee Zii Jia (Malaysia)
  - Women's Singles: He Bingjiao (China) – defeated Chen Yufei (China)
  - Men's Doubles: Fajar Alfian & Muhammad Rian (Indonesia) – defeated Marcus & Kevin (Indonesia)
  - Women's Doubles: Chen Qingchen & Jia Yifan (China) – defeated Baek Ha-na & Lee So hee (South Korea)

**567.** On October 24, in wrestling, teenager Aman Sehrawat made history as he became the first Indian wrestler to win a Gold medal at the ‘U-23 World Wrestling Championships’ in Pontevedra, Spain. The 16-year-old Aman Sehrawat beat junior European silver-medallist Ahmet Duman of Turkey 12-4 in the final to win the gold. Aman Sehrawat also won a silver medal at the U20 Asian championship earlier this year. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Aman Sehrawat (Haryana) – became the first Indian wrestler to win Gold at the ‘U-23 World Wrestling Championships’
- The Championship was held in Pontevedra, Spain



**568.** On October 22, NASA released detailed images of the Pillars of Creation taken by the Near Infrared Camera (NIRCam) of the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST). JWST is jointly operated by NASA, the European Space Agency and the Canadian Space Agency. The Pillars of Creation were first made famous when NASA's Hubble Space Telescope captured an image of them in 1995. These pillars appear like rock formations three towers of gas and dust. The Pillars of Creation are part of the Eagle Nebula, also known as Messier 16. The Eagle Nebula was discovered in 1745 by Swiss astronomer Jean-Philippe Loys de Cheseaux, and is located 6,500 light-years from the earth in the constellation Serpens. The pillars are essentially very dense clouds of molecular hydrogen gas and dust having hot newborn stars in the vicinity throw ultraviolet light in their direction. This can potentially simplify the understanding of how stars form and burst out of clouds of dust and gas. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NASA – released detailed images of the ‘Pillars of Creation’ taken by – James Webb Space Telescope
- JWST is jointly operated by = NASA + ESA + Canadian Space Agency
- HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., US | Administrator – Bill Nelson | Founded in – 1958

**569.** On October 21, ‘Allmania multiflora’, a new species of plant, was discovered on the granite hillocks of Palakkad in Kerala. The species has been identified as a new species of the genus Allmania. The species is quite special from both the botanical and conservation points of view. An annual herb that grows to a height of about 60 cm, Allmania multiflora is only the second species of this genus identified so far anywhere. The discovery was published in the journal Phytotaxa. Allmania multiflora has been so named for having a higher number of florets within an inflorescence. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- 'Allmenia multiflora', a new species of plant – discovered on the granite hillocks of Palakkad, Kerala
- The plant grows to a height of about 60 cm | The discovery was published in the journal 'Phytotaxa'
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

## Appointments & Resignations

**570.** On October 21, Jaxay Shah has been appointed as the chairman of Quality Council of India (QCI) for a period of three years. He succeeds the former McKinsey India chief Adil Zainulbhai. Shah founded one of India's largest infrastructure conglomerates, the Savvy Group in 1996 and held the position of national chairman of CREDAI, the apex body of private real estate developers in India. QCI was established in 1997 through a cabinet note by the Government of India. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Jaxay Shah – appointed as the chairman of QCI
- HQs of QCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Jaxay Shah | Secretary General – Dr. Ravi P. Singh | Established – 1997

**571.** On October 26, Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) appointed Sangeeta Verma, Member-CCI, as Acting Chairperson of Competition Commission of India (CCI). She has been appointed as Acting Chairperson for three months or till any further orders. This appointment came after the incumbent CCI Chief, Ashok Kumar Gupta, resigned office after a 4-year tenure. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Sangeeta Verma – appointed as Acting Chairperson of the Competition Commission of India (CCI)
- HQs of CCI – New Delhi | Chairperson – Sangeeta Verma | Established in – 2003

**572.** On October 21, PNB Housing Finance has appointed Girish Kousgi as its Managing Director and CEO. Prior to joining PNB Housing Finance, Kousgi served as the MD & CEO of Can Fin Homes. Kousgi replaces Hardayal Prasad who has resigned from his role as MD & CEO of PNBHF. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Girish Kousgi – appointed as MD & CEO of PNB Housing Finance (replacing - Hardayal Prasad)
- HQs of PNBHF – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Girish Kousgi | Tagline – "Ghar Ki Baat"

**573.** On October 26, Managing Committee of the Indian Banks' Association (IBA) re-elected A. K. Goel (Managing Director & CEO of Punjab National Bank) as the Chairman of the Association for the term 2022-23. The Committee also elected 3 Deputy Chairmen: Dinesh Kumar Khara (Chairman of SBI), A S Rajeev (MD & CEO of Bank of Maharashtra), and Madhav Nair (Country Head & CEO of Mashreq Bank PSC). N Kamakodi (MD & CEO of City Union Bank) has been elected as the Honorary Secretary. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- A. K. Goel – re-elected as the Chairman of Indian Banks' Association for the term 2022-23
- Committee also elected 3 Deputy Chairmen: Dinesh Kumar Khara, A S Rajeev & Madhav Nair
- HQs of IBA – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Atul Kumar Goel | Established in – 1946



**574.** On October 25, the Joe Biden administration has appointed senior foreign service officer Elizabeth Jones as the Charge d’Affaires ad interim at the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi. Ms. Jones was the coordinator for Afghan relocation efforts recently. Elizabeth Jones will replace Patricia A Lacina who assumed charge on September 9, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Elizabeth Jones – appointed as the Charge d’Affaires ad interim at the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi
- Elizabeth Jones will replace Patricia A Lacina
- [US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar](#) | [46<sup>th</sup> President – Joe Biden](#) | [49<sup>th</sup> VP – Kamala Harris](#)

**575.** On October 26, Dr Shefali Juneja was named the Chairperson of the Air Transport Committee (ATC) of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), a specialized agency of the United Nations, becoming the first Indian in 28 years to do so. Juneja, a 1992 batch IRS officer (Income Tax cadre), served as the joint secretary in the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) before joining the ICAO. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Shefali Juneja – named the Chairperson of the Air Transport Committee (ATC) of International Civil Aviation Organization
- [HQs of ICAO – Montreal, Canada](#) | [Council President – Salvatore Sciacchitano](#) | [Members – 193](#)

## **Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes**

**576.** On October 21, Satyajit Ray’s feature “Pather Panchali” of 1955 has been declared the best Indian film of all time by International Federation of Film Critics. The film has received the number one slot in the top ten films in the history of Indian cinema list. The movie is based on Bibhutibhushan Bandyopadhyay’s 1929 Bengali novel of the same name, “Pather Panchali” was Ray’s directorial debut. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Pather Panchali – declared the ‘Best Indian Film of All Time’ by International Federation of Film Critics
- The movie was Satyajit Ray’s debut movie
- The movie is based on – a Bengali novel (1929) of same name authored by – Bibhutibhushan Bandyopadhyay

**577.** On October 26, National Industrial Security Academy (NISA), in Hyderabad, Telangana, won the prestigious Union Home Minister’s Trophy for the “Best Police Training Institute” under the Gazetted Officers (GO) Training Institutes category for 2020-21. NISA is a training institute of CISF (Central Industrial Security Force). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- National Industrial Security Academy – won the “Best Police Training Institute” trophy by the MHA
- NISA (Hyderabad, Telangana) – a training institute of CISF
- [HQs of CISF – New Delhi](#) | [DG – Sheel Vardhan Singh](#) | [Motto – ‘Protection & Security’](#) | [Founded in – 1969](#)







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# Schemes & Initiatives

**578.** On October 28, the Meghalaya government signed an MoU with the Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGFTMSE) to implement the 'Meghalaya Credit Guarantee Scheme' (MCGS) & help facilitate flow of credit to MSME borrowers. Currently, the loans taken by MSME borrowers are covered under Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE) against a risk coverage of 75% of the loan amount under various MSME schemes. The launching the MCGS increases the coverage guarantee up to a maximum of 95% and will minimize the risk and encourage collateral free lending. Earlier in Sep, Assam had two similar MoUs with CGFTMSE. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Meghalaya + CGFTMSE = MoU to implement Meghalaya Credit Guarantee Scheme & facilitate flow of credit to MSMEs
- MCGS – increases the coverage guarantee up to a maximum of 95% (unlike 75% in various MSME schemes)
- **Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong | CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor – B. D. Mishra (addi. charge)**

**579.** On October 25, Delhi Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena launched a one-time property tax amnesty scheme "SAMRIDDHI 2022-23". It is a people-friendly initiative of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi which will provide a big relief to the residents and encourage property owners to get rid of long-pending disputes and related harassment. SAMRIDDHI, an acronym for Strengthening and Augmentation of Municipal Revenue for Infrastructure Development in Delhi, will start on October 26 and end on March 31, 2023, with no further extensions. Under the scheme, residential property owners can pay just the principal property tax amount of the current and of the past 5 years. For commercial properties, owners can pay the principal amount case of the last 6 years and get a waiver on past pending dues. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Delhi Govt – launched a one-time property tax amnesty scheme "SAMRIDDHI 2022-23"
- SAMRIDDHI – Strengthening and Augmentation of Municipal Revenue for Infrastructure Development in Delhi
- The scheme will start on October 26 and end on March 31, 2023
- **Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Vinai Kumar Saxena | Chief Secretary – Naresh Kumar**

**580.** On October 23, Delhi government launched anti-firecracker campaign – 'Diya Jalao, Patake Nahi' to promote a pollution-free festival of Diwali. Due to bursting of firecrackers, the air pollution level goes up which can develop health problems in people. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Delhi – launched 'Diya Jalao, Patake Nahi', anti-firecracker campaign
- **Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Vinai Kumar Saxena | Chief Secretary – Naresh Kumar**

**581.** On October 20, the 'Honesty Shops' were opened in about 15 schools in Ernakulam district of Kerala as part of the 'Student Police Cadet (SPC)' project to gift some valuable lessons on trust, truth and integrity for students. There is no salesman at these counters and students can drop the money for each item at the collection box kept on a table. They can walk in, choose the item of their choice and pay for it based on the price list displayed. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- 'Honesty Shops' were opened in about 15 schools in Ernakulam, Kerala as part of the 'Student Police Cadet (SPC)' project
- **Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan**



**582.** On October 22, Upper Bhadra scheme became the first national project of Karnataka. This scheme has got the approval of the PIB and has been sent to Union Jal Shakti Minister to get it passed in the Union cabinet. Once the approval comes through, the grants will come to start the works. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 'Upper Bhadra' scheme – the first national project of Karnataka
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thawarchand Gehlot

## **Important Days & Dates**

**583.** World Polio Day is observed on October 24 every year to raise awareness for polio vaccination & eradication of polio. Polio is caused by an RNA virus. The World Polio Day was established by 'Rotary International' to commemorate the birth anniversary of Jonas Salk, who led the first team to develop a vaccine against poliomyelitis. The theme for World Polio Day 2022 is "A healthier future for mothers and children". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- October 24 – World Polio Day (Birth anniversary of Jonas Salk)
- 2022's Theme – "A healthier future for mothers and children"

**584.** "UN Disarmament Week" is celebrated from October 24 to October 30 to promote awareness & better understanding of disarmament issues. United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) provides substantive & organizational support for norm-setting in the area of disarmament through the work of the General Assembly. UNODA was established in January 1998 as the Department for Disarmament Affairs. It was originally established in 1982 upon the recommendation of the General Assembly's 2<sup>nd</sup> special session on disarmament. In 2007, it became the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- October 24 to 30 – UN Disarmament Week
- HQs of UNODA – New York | Under Secretary General – Ms. Izumi Nakamitsu

**585.** International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week (ILPPW) takes place every year during the third week of October. In 2022, it was observed during 23 - 29 October. In its 10th edition, the Week is an initiative of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (Lead Paint Alliance), which is jointly led by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Health Organization. The focus of this year's campaign "Say No to lead poisoning". The ILPPW event was organized by the Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science and Technology of the University of Nairobi. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- October 23 – 29 (3<sup>rd</sup> week of Oct) – 10<sup>th</sup> International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week
- Focus of 2022's campaign – "Say No to lead poisoning"
- HQs of UNEP – Nairobi, Kenya | Executive Director – Inger Andersen | Founded in – 1972
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194 | Founded in – 1948



**586.** IIT Madras launched a 'Punch the Plastic' drive on the occasion of "World Sustainability Day" which is observed across the globe on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of October. This year, the day was observed on October 26. The Institute launched an initiative to collect dry, clean plastic, such as non-recyclable food packaging material, and recycle them through pyrolysis. A hackathon to develop user-friendly, monkey-proof model for disposal of wet and dry waste is among the initiatives planned as part of the drive. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- October 26 (4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of Oct) – World Sustainability Day
- IIT Madras – launched a 'Punch the Plastic' drive to collect dry & clean plastic
- [Director of IIT Madras – Bhaskar Ramamurthi](#)

**587.** The United Nations celebrates World Development Information Day every year on October 24. The UN General Assembly in 1972 established the World Development Information Day to direct people's attention toward developmental problems and the need to strengthen international cooperation to solve them. The UN General Assembly in 1964 established The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). UNCTAD is a part of the UN secretariat. To promote prosperity among all countries the UN has proposed 17 Sustainable Development Goals. These goals recognize and address the global challenges targeted to be achieved by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- October 24 – World Development Information Day – by UN
- [HQs of UN – New York, US](#) | [Secretary-General – Antonio Guterres](#) | [Established in – October 24, 1945](#)
- [HQs of UNCTAD – Geneva, Switzerland](#) | [Secretary-General – Rebeca Grynspan](#) | [Established in – 1964](#)

**588.** On October 18, 2022, the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) celebrated its centenary after 100 years of broadcasting, technological innovation, ambitious programming, and controversy. The corporation was officially founded on October 18, 1922 in London, UK. BBC World Service broadcasts in 41 languages to about 364 million people a week globally. For the last 100 years, the broadcaster has stuck firm with its original mission statement: to 'Inform, Educate and Entertain'. Television programmes began in 1936. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- On October 18 – BBC celebrated its centenary after 100 years of broadcasting
- [BBC World Service broadcasts in 41 languages](#) | [BBC's original mission statement: to 'Inform, Educate and Entertain'](#)
- [HQs of BBC – London, UK](#) | [DG – Tim Davie](#) | [Founded in – 1992](#)

**589.** The 61<sup>st</sup> Raising Day of Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force (ITBP) was commemorated on October 24 at the Basic Training Centre in Bhanu near Chandigarh. Raised on October 24, 1962 to guard the India-China border, it was formerly known as a guerrilla force because of the nature of duty assigned to it. The force guards the high altitude Himalayan border extending over 3,488 kms from the Karakoram Pass in Ladakh to the Lipulekh Pass in Arunachal Pradesh, including the India-Nepal-China Trijunction. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- October 24 – 61<sup>st</sup> raising day of ITBP
- [HQs of ITBP – New Delhi](#) | [DG – Anish Dayal Singh](#) | [Established on – October 24, 1962](#)





## Obituaries

**590.** On October 25, National award recipient director of Bengali films, Pinaki Chaudhuri passed away. He was suffering from lymphoma, a cancer of the lymphatic system. He got two national awards for 'Shanghaath' (Conflict) in 1996 and for 'Ballygunge Court' in 2007. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Pinaki Chaudhuri – Director of Bengali films – passed away

**591.** On October 22, Austrian billionaire Dietrich Mateschitz, the founder and owner of energy drink company Red Bull, died at the age 78 after a serious illness with cancer. He was considered the richest man in Austria. Mateschitz was also the founder and owner of Red Bull Racing, a Formula 1 racing team based in Milton Keynes, Britain. He had taken over the football club SV Austria Salzburg, now known as 'Red Bull Salzburg'. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Dietrich Mateschitz – an Austrian billionaire & Businessman – passed away
- Founder & Owner of: Energy drink company 'Red Bull' & Formula 1 racing team 'Red Bull Racing'

## Meetings, Conferences & Summits

**592.** In October 2022, MoS S V Muraleedharan, who was on an official visit to Senegal from October 24-25, attended the 8<sup>th</sup> edition of the Dakar International Forum on Peace and Security in Dakar. Being held annually since 2014, the Dakar Forum has become a key event for decision-makers involved in Africa. This is the first time that India is participating in the Forum at a Ministerial level. As per DGCI, Government of India, statistics, Indian exports to Senegal in 2018-19 touched \$639 mn and imports from Senegal \$658 million. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- S V Muraleedharan – attended the 8<sup>th</sup> edition of the Dakar International Forum on Peace and Security
- Ministry of External Affairs: S. Jaishankar | Constituency – Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of External Affairs: Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, V. Muraleedharan & Meenakshi Lekhi
- Senegal – Dakar – CFA franc | President – Macky Sall | PM – Amadou Ba

## Ranks, Reports & Surveys

**593.** On October 25, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) released a report titled "The Coldest Year of the Rest of Their Lives". The report calls for protecting children from the escalating impacts of heatwaves. Already, around 559 million children are exposed to high heatwave frequency. This report provides yet more evidence that children are on the front lines of the climate crisis. By 2050, virtually every child on earth, over 2 billion children, is forecast to face more frequent heatwaves, regardless of whether the world achieves a 'low greenhouse gas emission scenario' with an estimated 1.7 degrees of warming in 2050 or a 'very high greenhouse gas emission scenario' with an estimated 2.4 degrees of warming in 2050. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- “The Coldest Year of the Rest of Their Lives” report – released by UNICEF
- The report calls for protecting children from the escalating impacts of heatwaves
- Every child on earth, over 2 billion children, is forecast to face more frequent heatwaves – by 2050
- HQs of UNICEF – New York, US | Executive Director – Catherine Russell | Established in – 1946

## Amount & Agreements

**594.** On October 21, Competition Commission of India (CCI) imposed a provisional penalty of Rs 1,337.76 Cr (\$162 million) on Google for ‘abusing its dominant position’ in multiple categories related to the Android mobile device ecosystem in the country. Google will have to allow users to choose their default search engine during the initial device setup. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) also ordered Google not to offer any incentives to smartphone makers for exclusively carrying its search services. The CCI has given Google 30 days to provide the requisite financial details and supporting documents. In 2018, CCI had imposed a fine of Rs 136 Cr on Google for unfair business practices in the Indian market for online search. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- CCI – imposed a provisional penalty of Rs 1,337.76 Cr (\$162 million) on Google for ‘abusing its dominant position’
- CCI – ordered Google not to offer any incentives to smartphone makers for exclusively carrying its search services
- HQs of Google – California, US | CEO – Sundar Pichai | Founded in – 1998

## Acquisitions & Mergers

**595.** On October 25, Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) announced to demerge its financial services arm, Reliance Strategic Investments Limited (RSIL), and list it on the Indian stock exchanges. RSIL is currently a wholly-owned subsidiary of RIL and an RBI-registered non-deposit-taking NBFC. The new arm will be known as Jio Financial Services Ltd (JFSL). The demerger will be done through a ‘share-swap arrangement’, Shareholders of RIL will get one share of JFSL for every share held by them. The transaction is subject to customary statutory and regulatory approvals, including from NCLT, stock exchanges, SEBI and RBI. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- RIL – to demerge its financial services arm ‘RSIL’ and list it on the Indian stock exchanges
- The new arm will be known as ‘Jio Financial Services Ltd (JFSL)’ | It is RBI-registered non-deposit-taking NBFC
- HQs of Reliance Industries Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Mukesh Ambani | Founded in – 1973

# MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

**596.** On October 21, SAP India in collaboration with Amazon Web Services (AWS) has launched SAP Industry Knowledge Exchange (SAP IKEX). The Knowledge Exchange is aimed at accelerating India's journey to 'Amrit Kaal,' and driving the country's inclusive digital transformation with sustainable development. The Knowledge Exchange confluence will be based on three pillars which are - Establishment of an industry board, Co-innovation with industries & Improvement of regulatory and policy inputs. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- SAP India + AWS = launched SAP Industry Knowledge Exchange (SAP IKEX)
- HQs of AWS – Seattle, Washington, US | CEO – Adam N. Selipsky
- HQs of Amazon – Seattle, US | CEO – Andy Jassy | Incorporated in – 1994
- HQs of Amazon India – Hyderabad, Telangana | Country Head – Amit Agarwal

**597.** On October 25, Tata Steel's Dutch arm, Tata Steel Europe, signed an MoU with Ford to supply Ford's plants in Europe with green steel. Tata plans to start producing green steel (steel made without using fossil fuels) in 2030 at its plant in IJmuiden, Netherlands. This MoU would help Ford meet its target of having zero emissions at its European facilities, logistics and suppliers by 2035. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Tata Steel's Dutch arm + Ford = an MoU to supply Ford's plants in Europe with green steel
- Tata Steel – plans to start producing green steel (made without using fossil fuels) in 2030 at its plant in Netherlands
- HQs of Tata Steel Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – T. V. Narendran
- HQs of Ford – Michigan, US | CEO – Jim Farley

**598.** On October 20, Pharmaceutical giant Novartis has signed a licensing agreement increasing access to a vital leukaemia treatment, marking the first-ever such agreement for a cancer drug. The deal will give selected manufacturers the opportunity to develop, manufacture and supply generic versions of nilotinib, a twice-daily oral medication used to treat chronic myeloid leukaemia (CML). The drug is listed on the World Health Organization's List of Essential Medicines for the treatment of adults and children over the age of one suffering from CML. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Novartis – signed a licensing agreement increasing access to a vital leukaemia treatment (for CML)
- This is the first agreement for a Cancer drug | CML – Chronic Myeloid Leukaemia
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194 | Founded in – 1948

**599.** On October 25, North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Limited (NEEPCO), a CPSE under Ministry of Power, signed Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with Government of Meghalaya for the development of two hydro projects of 50 MW & of 100 MW in the state. The state currently has a capacity to produce only 350 MW of power, while the requirement is 650 MW. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- NEEPCO + Meghalaya = an MoA for the development of two hydro projects of 50 MW & of 100 MW in the state
- HQs of NEEPCO – Shillong, Meghalaya | MD & Chairman – Rajeev Kumar Vishnoi (additional)
- Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong | CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor – B. D. Mishra (addi. charge)



**600.** On October 25, Jakson Green Pvt Ltd signed an MoU with the Rajasthan government to invest Rs 22,400 Crore to set up a Green Hydrogen and Green Ammonia project in the state. Jakson Green will set up a 3,65,000 tons per annum Green Hydrogen & Green Ammonia plant along with an integrated hybrid renewable power complex in a phase wise manner. The project is expected to generate over 32,000 direct and indirect employment opportunities. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Jakson Green + Rajasthan = an MoU to invest Rs 22,400 Crore to set up a Green Hydrogen & Green Ammonia plant
- HQs of Jakson Green – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | Chairman & MD – Sameer Gupta
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra







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