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

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National & States Affairs

651. In October 2022, Goa government announced to come up with a mobile application, which will be a common platform for the entire taxi industry in the State. The issue was raised during the last Legislative Assembly session, during which the government had clarified that a mobile app will be introduced to bring all taxi operators together on one platform. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Goa – to come up with a common mobile application for the entire taxi industry in the State
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – P. S. Sreedharan Pillai

652. On October 31, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar launched the “CM dashboard” and said the portal will have real-time data of all departments and decisions taken on major schemes. The CM also launched a dedicated “e-Uphar” or “e-Upphar” portal to auction gifts received by him. The base bid amount would be fixed and payment would be directly transferred to the Chief Minister Relief Fund. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Haryana CM – launched the “CM dashboard” to provide real-time data of all departments
- Haryana CM – also launched a dedicated “e-Uphar” portal to auction gifts received by him
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya

653. On October 22, Shiprocket, a shipping and logistics solutions provider, has gone live on the government’s Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) and made its first successful transaction. Shiprocket is the first inter-city logistics provider to plug into the ONDC network, enabling sellers from all segments to ship products to cities and towns across India. ONDC and Shiprocket are working to enable warehousing-as-a-service on the network. This will allow small and medium businesses to provide same-day shipping services to their customers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shiprocket – has gone live on ONDC and made its first successful transaction
- Shiprocket (backed by Zomato) – became India’s 106th unicorn
- ONDC, a ‘Section 8’ company, is an initiative of Ministry of Commerce & Industry

654. On October 31, Chief Justice of India-designate Justice D Y Chandrachud inaugurated two campaigns of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) aimed at inculcating the spirit of inclusivity. Two campaigns are - ‘Empowerment of Citizens through Legal Awareness and Outreach’ and ‘Haq_hamara_bhi_hai@75’. According to NALSA, the vision of the two-week pan-India campaigns, from October 31 to November 13, is to work at the grassroot levels and build capacity for the incapacitated. The campaign ‘Haq_hamara_bhi_hai@75’ is aimed at providing basic legal assistance to undertrial prisoners and children in conflict with law. ‘Empowerment of Citizens through Legal Awareness and Outreach’ campaign aims to be fundamental in decreasing the vulnerability of the marginalised strata of the society. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Justice D Y Chandrachud – inaugurated two campaigns of the NALSA
- 2 Campaigns: ‘Empowerment of Citizens through Legal Awareness and Outreach’ & ‘Haq_hamara_bhi_hai@75’
- HQs of NALSA – New Delhi | Executive Chairman – Justice D. Y. Chandrachud | Founded in – 1995



655. On October 31, Income Tax Department (ITD) has launched the HARIT Aaykar (Hariyali Achievement Resolution by Income Tax) initiative. Under this initiative, the Department resolves to increase the green cover by planting trees and creating micro-forests in and around Income Tax Department's buildings and other public areas. Under the HARIT Aaykar initiative, the first of such micro-forests was inaugurated near Attari border in Punjab on October 31. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Income Tax Department – launched the 'HARIT Aaykar' initiative to create micro-forests in & around its buildings
- The first such micro-forest was inaugurated – near Attari border in Punjab
- HARIT – Hariyali Achievement Resolution by Income Tax
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Bhagwant Mann | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

656. On October 27, Haryana government has made the registration of pet dogs mandatory in the state, amid an increase in the recent incidents of dog bites and attacks. No person will be allowed to keep a dog without a licence and for this, the pet owners will have to get themselves registered on the 'Saraal Portal'. If a person is found violating the rules, a fine of Rs 5,000 will be imposed. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Haryana – made the registration of pet dogs mandatory in the state through the state government's 'Saraal Portal'
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya

657. On October 28, the government is planning to establish centrally appointed Grievance Appellate Committees (GACs) within a period of three months of the notice of amendments to the Information Technology (IT) Rules of 2021 under the IT Act. The objective behind setting up these committees is to provide users of social media sites like Facebook and Twitter with an alternative dispute resolution method. A 3-person Grievance Appellate Committee will comprise a chairperson and two full-time members chosen by the central government. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Government is planning to establish centrally appointed GACs
- GACs will be established within 3 months of the notice of amendments to the 'IT Rules of 2021' under the IT Act
- A GAC will comprise 3 persons (A chairperson & 2 full-time members chosen by the central government)

658. On October 28, Union Minister of State for Rural Development, Faggan Singh Kulaste, inaugurated "Saras Food Festival 2022" in New Delhi which was organised from October 28 to November 10. On this occasion, the Minister also launched the e-commerce portal www.esaras.in for better and more effective marketing of Saras products prepared by women of self-help groups. Ministry of Rural Development took steps to establish Saras stalls by women SHGs in all State capitals, major cities and metros, airports and railway stations for widening the reach of marketing. About 150 women entrepreneurs and members of self-help groups from 18 states participated in this event. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Faggan Singh Kulaste – inaugurated "Saras Food Festival 2022" in New Delhi
- The festival was organised by – Ministry of Rural Development
- Minister of Rural Development: Giriraj Singh | Constituency – Begusarai, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Rural Development: Faggansingh Kulaste & Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti

659. On October 31, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the OYO Ekta houseboat in the vicinity of the Statue of Unity in Gujarat's Ekta Nagar district on the occasion of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel birth anniversary. Gujarat's first houseboat is an attempt to support Honorable Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Government of Gujarat's vision to establish Statue of Unity as one of the world's most popular tourist attractions. The houseboat is 90 ft. long and 20 ft. wide. The houseboat is a part of OYO's attempt to encourage indigenous tourism experiences in the region. Ekta Nagar was earlier known as Kevadia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – inaugurated the 'OYO Ekta' houseboat in the vicinity of the Statue of Unity in Ekta Nagar, Gujarat
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat

International Affairs

660. On October 31, Swiss transport company, the Rhaetian Railway broke the world record by deploying the longest passenger train. The RhB achieved the feat during the event marking the 175th anniversary of the commencement of the domestic railway system of Switzerland. The Rhaetian Railway deployed a train 1,906 meters in length, with 100 wagons and 25 four-car Capricorn EMUs, which travelled through the Albula Valley in Grisons Alps, classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The train ran through the UNESCO World Heritage Site for 24.9 Km. The train weighed a colossal 2990 tons and maintained an average speed of 30-35 km per hour. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rhaetian Railway (Switzerland) – broke the world record by deploying the longest passenger train
- The train was 1,906 meters in length, with 100 wagons weighed 2990 tons & maintained average speed of 30-35 kmph
- It also travelled through the Albula Valley in Grisons Alps (a UNESCO World Heritage site)
- Switzerland – Bern – Swiss Franc | President – Guy Parmelin

Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

661. On October 26, IRDAI set up a 24-member committee to develop and suggest an affordable and comprehensive cover for the rural population. The panel will be headed by Thomas M Devasia. While the proposed cover will be a benefit based / parametric structure, called Bima Vistaar, the IRDAI has also asked the panel to recommend a regulatory framework for the cover. The committee will explore and recommend on how to bring about synergies in the working and operations of Bima Vahak, Bima Vistaar and the digital platform Bima Sugam. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IRDAI – set up 24-member committee to develop insurance cover for rural population
- The committee will be headed by – Thomas M Devasia
- HQs of IRDAI – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Debasish Panda



662. On October 31, the Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has extended the time for asset management companies (AMCs) to implement its order on direct buying and selling ETFs (exchange-traded funds) to May 1, 2023. It was to be implemented on July 1, 2022, before delaying it to November 1, 2022, and again till May 1, 2023. It is aimed at enhancing the liquidity of the exchange-traded fund (ETF) units by facilitating their direct transactions with the respective AMCs for an order value of more than Rs 25 crore. Hence, the rule allows big investors, with a minimum order of Rs 25 crore, to place order it directly with the AMC instead of the stock exchange. Moreover, the SEBI, in collaboration with the BSE and NSE, is all set to develop a system to mitigate risk of cyber-attacks. The new system is expected to go live by March 2023. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI extended the time for AMCs to implement SEBI's order on direct buying & selling ETFs to May 1, 2023
- The rule allows big investors, with a minimum order of Rs 25 Cr, to place order it directly with the AMC
- SEBI + BSE + NSE = to develop a system to mitigate risk of cyber-attacks (to go live by March 2023)
- [HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch](#) | [Established in – 1992](#)

663. On October 27, IRDAI set up a committee for two years, to give suggestions for increasing health insurance coverage in the country. The 15-member committee is headed by Rakesh Joshi. The committee will identify challenges in carrying out health insurance business and make recommendations to facilitate ease. Health insurance premiums posted 18.9% year-on-year (YoY) growth in H1FY23, compared to 28.8% growth in the same period last year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IRDAI – set a 15-member committee to give suggestions for increasing health insurance coverage
- The committee is headed by – Rakesh Joshi
- [HQs of IRDAI – Hyderabad, Telangana](#) | [Chairman – Debasish Panda](#)

664. On October 28, Healthsure has partnered ManipalCigna Health Insurance to launch India's first flexi top-up insurance which allows employees to personalize and upgrade their corporate health insurance plans. By paying a nominal add-on premium, employees can upgrade their cover, which can even be continued in a personal capacity post-employment. Flexi-top up is powered by Healthsure's technology platform through which a policy is issued digitally within 30 seconds of making a purchase. This policy does not require any extra loading premium for pre-existing diseases, nor does it have a co-payment clause. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Healthsure + ManipalCigna Health Insurance = partnered to launch India's first flexi top-up insurance
- [HQs of Healthsure – Mumbai, MH](#) | [CEO – Anuj Parekh](#)

665. On October 28, SEBI suspended the registration of Registrar to Issue and Share Transfer Agent (RTA) Satellite Corporate Services (SCS) for three months as it did not carry out its fiduciary responsibility to its client. SEBI shall appoint an auditor before restoration of the SCS certificate of registration, and satisfy itself that SCS has fully complied with all relevant guidelines/circular to carry out its business in the best interest of the securities market. SEBI found that SCS had less than 50% of the specimen signatures with respect to its client companies available with it. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI – suspended the registration of RTA Satellite Corporate Services (SCS) for 3 months
- [HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch](#) | [Established in – 1992](#)



666. On October 27, BSE Technologies, a subsidiary of BSE, announced the launch of KYC Registration Agency (KRA), which maintains KYC records of investors in an electronic form. KRA is a SEBI-regulated intermediary that grants the market participants authorisation for investors' Know Your Client (KYC), which is mandatory for investment in the securities market. In April, SEBI issued fresh guidelines for KRAs whereby such agencies will have to independently validate the KYC records of all clients from July 1. KRAs need to independently validate records of those clients (existing as well as new) whose KYC has been completed using Aadhaar as an Officially Valid Document (OVD). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BSE Technologies – announced the launch of KRA
- KRA – a SEBI-regulated intermediary that grants the market participants authorisation for investors' KYC
- KRAs – independently validate records of those clients whose KYC has been completed using Aadhaar as an OVD
- [HQs of BSE – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [Chairman – Subhash Sheoratan Mundra](#) | [MD & CEO – Ashish kumar Chauhan](#)

667. In October 2022, SEBI approved the government's proposal to convert dues of over \$1.92 billion by telecom operator Vodafone Idea to equity. SEBI's guidelines state that only stakes up to 10% can be classified as public shareholding. Vodafone Idea has decided to opt for converting about Rs 16,000 Cr of interest liability payable to the government into equity which will amount to around 33% stake in the company while promoters' holding will come down from 74.99% to 50%. The government's stake in Vodafone after the conversion could be more than 30% which would make it one of the largest shareholders in the company along with UK's Vodafone Group and Aditya Birla Group. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI – approved the government's proposal to convert dues of over \$1.92 billion by Vodafone Idea to equity
- [HQs of Vi Ltd – Mumbai](#) | [MD & CEO – Akshaya Moondra](#) | [Non-Executive Chairman – Himanshu Kapania](#)
- [HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch](#) | [Established in – 1992](#)

668. In October 2022, Tata AIA Life Insurance partnered with Medix, a global company specialising in medical management solutions, to provide TATA AIA customers with access to a local and global network of certified medical specialists to manage their medical treatment related to serious illnesses. Through this partnership, customers in India will have access to the Personal Medical Care Management (PMCM) facility, which provides top-notch medical assistance. According to a Harvard University research, India has 5.2 million medical errors per year. 80% of these failures are caused by cancer (38%), vascular events (29%), and infectious disorders (13%). Medix was established to focus the best available research, expertise, treatments, and innovation on medical needs. They are operating in more than 90 nations. With this launch, Tata AIA offers consumers in India will have access to the well-known Vitality platform, which is now available in 40 countries. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tata AIA Life Insurance + Medix = partnered to offer specialised 'Critical illness' services
- Tata AIA offers consumers in India – can access to the well-known Vitality platform
- Harvard University research: India has 5.2 million medical errors per year of which 38% caused by cancer, 29% by vascular events, and 13% by infectious disorders
- [HQs of Tata AIA Life – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [MD & CEO – Naveen Tahilyani](#)



669. On October 27, Infibeam Avenues, which operates CCAvenue, has received an in-principle approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to operate as a payment aggregator (PA). It joins a list of entities who have received the in-principle approval from RBI for a PA licence. Several payment providers such as Razorpay, Pine Labs, Stripe, 1Pay, Innoviti Payments, MSwipe, and a few others have received in-principle nod from the RBI for a PA license. PAs are entities that facilitate e-commerce sites and merchants to accept various payment instruments from the customers for completion of their payment obligations without the need for merchants to create a separate payment integration system of their own. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Infibeam Avenues – received in-principle approval from the RBI to operate as a PA
- HQs of Flipkart – Bangalore, Karnataka | Chairperson – Binny Bansal | CEO – Kalyan Krishnamurthy
- HQs of Spices Board of India – Kochi, Kerala | Chairman – A. G. Thankappan

Defence Affairs

670. On October 26, India started 29th edition of the Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX). It is conducted in two phases – Harbour Phase at Visakhapatnam followed by the Sea Phase in Bay of Bengal. The Sea Phase involves advanced surface, anti-air warfare and anti-submarine warfare exercises, including weapon firings in the Bay of Bengal. SIMBEX series of exercises began in 1994 and were initially known as Exercise Lion King. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Singapore = conducted 29th edition of SIMBEX at Visakhapatnam (Harbour Phase) & Bay of Bengal (Sea Phase)
- SIMBEX – began in 1994 and initially known as Exercise Lion King
- Singapore – Singapore – Dollar | PM – Lee Hsien Loong | President – Halimah Yacob

671. On October 31, Rear Admiral Jonathan Earley, Commander of Australian Fleet, along with other Commanders onboard HMAS Anzac arrived in Visakhapatnam as part of the Indo-Pacific Endeavour 2022. The third edition of Indo-Pacific Endeavour (IPE)-2022 focused on furthering the military and national commitment between the friendly countries in the Indo-Pacific region. For the first time, amphibious operations and exercise have been included in the IPE-2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Australian Fleet onboard HMAS Anzac – arrived in Visakhapatnam as part of the 3rd edition of 'IPE-2022'
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Anthony Albanese
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati | CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

672. On October 26, Indian Air Force (IAF) and French Air and Space Force (FASF) began a bilateral exercise, named 'Garuda VII' at Air Force Station Jodhpur. It will be concluded on November 12, 2022. This joint exercise will provide a platform for both the countries to enhance operational capability and interoperability, while also sharing best practices. This is the 7th edition of the bilateral exercise. The first, third and fifth editions were conducted in India in 2003, 2006 and 2014 at Air Force Stations Gwalior, Kalaikunda and Jodhpur, respectively. The second, fourth and sixth editions were conducted in France in 2005, 2010 and 2019. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- India + France = began 7th edition of bilateral exercise 'Garuda' at Air Force Station Jodhpur
- 1st edition was conducted in 2003 in India at Air Force Station Gwalior
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | PM – Elisabeth Borne
- HQs of IAF – New Delhi | Chief – Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari | Vice Chief – Air Marshal Sandeep Singh

Sports & Games

673. In October 2022, Western Air Command, Indian Air Force (IAF) won the Air Force Lawn Tennis Championship 2022-23 held at Head Quarter MC, Vayusena Nagar, Nagpur. The Championship was inaugurated by Air Marshal Vibhas Pande, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, HQ MC on 17 October 2022. The Championship was held in two events namely, Team Championship and Open Singles. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Western Air Command – won the Air Force Lawn Tennis Championship 2022-23 held in Nagpur
- HQs of IAF – New Delhi | Chief – Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari | Vice Chief – Air Marshal Sandeep Singh

674. On October 27, India finished second in the tally behind China in the ISSF Rifle/Pistol World Championships 2022 held in Cairo, Egypt. Indian shooting contingent finished with a total of 34 medals, which include 12 golds, 9 silvers and 13 bronze medals. Senior and Junior World Championships went ahead parallel in Cairo and the medal tally is consolidated one. Junior pistol shooter Udhayveer Sidhu finished with two individual golds and a team bronze as a standout. Rudranksh Patil clinched a gold in men's 10 m air rifle. For complete list of medals won by Indian players: [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – finished 2nd in ISSF Rifle/Pistol World Championships 2022 held in Cairo, Egypt | 1st – China
- India won – 12 golds + 9 silvers + 13 bronze
- Egypt – Cairo – Egyptian Pound | President – Abdel Fattah el-Sisi

Persons in News

675. On October 29, Dr Bhumika Gala was conferred with the "Gau Bharat Bharati Award" by the Governor of Maharashtra, Bhagat Singh Koshyari. Dr Bhumika Gala Creates History by completing 300 World Records at just 20 years old. Dr Bhumika Gala achieved her 300th world record for the youngest crystal collector and youngest Ph.D. holder in Metaphysics. She has a collection of over 1050 kg of crystals from all over the world, which makes her the youngest crystal collector in India. Dr Bhumika is also the youngest Holy Fire Karuna Reiki master. Recently she was titled with the 'International Icon Award 2022'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr. Bhumika Gala – conferred with the "Gau Bharat Bharati Award" by Maharashtra
- She completed 300 World Records at just 20 years old
- Her 300th world record – the youngest crystal collector & youngest Ph.D. holder in Metaphysics
- Maharashtra: CM – Eknath Shinde | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari





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Science & Technology

676. In October 2022, Researchers from IIT Kanpur have found a solution for retrofitting old non-earthquake-resistant buildings with a technology called 'Semi-Confined Unreinforced Brick Masonry' (SC-URBM). SC-URBM can significantly enhance the energy dissipation capacity and ductility of the retrofitted building without compromising its strength. The SC-URBM technology can resolve the problem of spread of settlements in earthquake-prone areas with constructions that have been built without following earthquake-preventive building codes. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Kanpur – developed a technology called SC-URBM (Semi-Confined Unreinforced Brick Masonry)
- The technology is for retrofitting old non-earthquake-resistant buildings
- [Director of IIT Kanpur – Abhay Karandikar](#)

677. On October 27, Indian scientists have developed an indigenous Overhauser Magnetometer, one of the most accurate magnetometers extensively used by all magnetic observatories around the world. In order to reduce dependence on imports, the Indian Institute of Geomagnetism (IIG), an autonomous research institution under DST, Government of India, has developed the magnetometer as part of its technology development program. IIG is located in Mumbai, Maharashtra. It would also be of potential help to develop a sensitive magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) instrument. It would reduce the cost of sampling and sensing experiments essential for geomagnetic sampling. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIG (Mumbai) – developed an indigenous Overhauser Magnetometer (OM)
- It would reduce dependence on imports, and cost of experiments
- [HQs of IIG – Mumbai, MH | Director – Professor A P Dimri | Established – 1971](#)

Appointments & Resignations

678. On October 26, Emami Ltd has signed Bollywood actor Akshay Kumar as the new brand ambassador for its BoroPlus ayurvedic antiseptic cream. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Akshay Kumar – appointed as brand ambassador of BoroPlus ayurvedic antiseptic cream by – Emami Ltd

679. On October 25, the Government of India has appointed Mata Amritanandamayi as the Chair of Civil 20 (C20), an official engagement group of the G20. The G20 members consist of 19 countries plus the European Union. C20 is the platform of G20 for civil-society organisations (CSOs) to bring forth non-government and non-business voices to the G20 leaders. India will assume the Presidency of the G20 for one year from December 1, 2022 to November 30, 2023. The next G20 Leaders' Summit will take place in New Delhi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mata Amritanandamayi – appointed as the Chair of Civil 20 (C20), an official engagement group of the G20
- India – to assume the Presidency of the G20 for 1 year from December 1, 2022
- [Presidency of G20 Summit: 2022 – Indonesia | 2023 – India | 2024 – Brazil](#)



680. In October 2022, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the proposal to re-assign senior S Kishore as chairman of Staff Selection Commission (SSC). ACC has also cleared an extension for IAS officer Pramod Kumar Tiwari to remain at the helm of Bureau of Indian Standards as Director General. ACC has also approved extension in temporary upgradation of the post of Director, Special Protection Group to Director General level. The post is presently held by Shri Arun Kumar Sinha. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- S Kishore – re appointed as SSC chairman by ACC
- Pramod Kumar Tiwari – got the extension to remain the DG of BIS
- ACC – Upgraded post of Director to DG for Special Protection Group (currently held by Arun Kumar Sinha)
- [HQs of SSC – New Delhi | Chairman – S. Kishore](#)
- [HQs of BIS – Manek Bhawan, Old Delhi | Director General – Pramod Kumar Tiwari](#)

681. In October 2022, Hormuzd Masani, Secretary General of the Audit Bureau of Circulations, (ABC) has been re-appointed as the Treasurer of the International Audit Bureau of Certification (IFABC) for the term 2022-2024. He has also been appointed as the President of the Asia Pacific Audit Bureau of Certification (APABC). He has been the Secretary General of ABC India since December 1998. Established in 1948, ABC India is the founder member of the International Federation of Audit Bureau of Certification (IFABC). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hormuzd Masani – re-appointed as Treasurer of IFABC for 2022-24
- Hormuzd Masani – Secretary General of ABC (since 1998)



Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

682. On October 26, SS Rajamouli's 'RRR-Rise Roar Revolt' won the best international film award at the 50th Anniversary 'Saturn Awards' held in Los Angeles, US. Saturn Awards are presented by the Academy of Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror Films. The awards, given to genre-fiction films, are considered the first stop in the run up to the Oscars. RRR beat titles like Downton Abbey: A New Era, Eiffel, I'm Your Man, Riders of Justice, and Silent Night to take home the award for the best international film at the 2022 awards. RRR has now become the second Indian film to win this award. The first one was for Baahubali: The Conclusion. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RRR – won the 47th best international film award at the 50th Anniversary 'Saturn Awards' held in Los Angeles, US
- RRR – Rise Roar Revolt | The first movie to win this award – 'Baahubali: The Conclusion'
- Saturn Awards – presented by 'Academy of Science Fiction, Fantasy & Horror Films' located in – Los Angeles, California
- [US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris](#)

683. On October 31, A total of 63 police officers have been awarded the special medal. Those awarded belonged to Telangana, Punjab, Maharashtra and Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir as well as Delhi. The medals were awarded at the 'Run For Unity' event to mark the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. They were awarded "Union Home Minister's Special Operation Medal" for the Year- 2022, by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) for four special operations conducted by them in areas of terrorism, border action, arms control, prevention of narcotics smuggling and rescue operations. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- MHA – awarded “Special Operation Medal” to 63 police officers to mark birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
- Ministry of Home Affairs: Amit Shah | Constituency – Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Home Affairs: Nityanand Rai, Ajay Kumar & Nisith Pramanik

Important Days & Dates

684. October 26 is celebrated as the ‘Accession Day’ in Jammu and Kashmir every year to commemorate the day when Maharaja Hari Singh signed the Instrument of Accession in 1947, making Jammu & Kashmir an integral part of India. This day was officially made a public holiday in 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 26 – ‘Accession Day’ in J & K
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

685. World Psoriasis Day has been celebrated on October 29 for more than a decade. Each year, the global community in over 50 countries unites to raise awareness and call for action in support of people with living with psoriatic disease. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 29 – World Psoriasis Day

686. Every year on October 28, “International Animation Day (IAD)” is marked and celebrated across the world. On this day, in the year 1892, the birth of animation took place as the first public performance of projected moving images at the renowned Emile Reynaud’s Theatre Optique in Paris. The day was introduced and initiated globally in 2002 by the International Animated Film Association (ASIFA), which is a member of the UNESCO. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 28 – ‘International Animation Day’ (IAD) – by ASIFA (since 2002)
- ASIFA – a member of the UNESCO

687. “International Internet Day” is marked annually on 29 October. The day commemorates the anniversary of the first message “login” that was sent between two computers on 29 October, 1969 through ‘ARPANET’, the predecessor of the Internet. The number of active Internet users in India is expected to rise by 45% from 2020 to 2025. Internet penetration is highest in Maharashtra, Goa and Kerala while it is the lowest in Bihar, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand. India ranked 122nd globally in terms of mobile Internet download speed as per data obtained in July, 2021. In terms of broadband internet speed, India ranked 68th. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 29 – International Internet Day
- The day commemorates the anniversary of the first message “login” sent between 2 computers on 29 October, 1969
- ‘ARPANET’ – was the predecessor of the Internet



688. Every year, October 31 is marked as National Unity Day or Rashtriya Ekta Diwas in India to observe Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's birth anniversary. Sardar Patel was popularly called the Iron Man of India. He played a prominent role in forming states and bringing them together under the Union of India after independence. He was appointed as the first Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister of independent India. This year, India is celebrating Sardar Patel's 147th birth anniversary. The Indian government declared Patel's birthday National Unity Day in 2014. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 31 – “National Unity Day” or “Rashtriya Ekta Diwas” (since 2014)
- The day marks the 147th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

689. ‘International Open Access Week’ is celebrated worldwide to create awareness about the open access scholarly publishing among researchers and publishers. In 2022, the theme of the week was “Open For Climate Justice”. It is celebrated globally during the last full week of October. In the year 2022, The International Open Access Week, entered in its fifteenth year of celebration. CSIR-NIScPR is the one of largest Open Access publishers of India which publishes 15 Diamond Open Access scholarly journals. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- International Open Access Week – celebrated during the last full week of October
- 2022's Theme – “Open For Climate Justice”

Books & Authors

690. A new book titled “DELHI UNIVERSITY: Celebrating 100 Glorious Years” was released in October 2022. The book has been edited by Hardeep Singh Puri. The foreword is written by Amitabh Bachchan. The book is Published by Rupa Publications India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “DELHI UNIVERSITY: Celebrating 100 Glorious Years” book – edited by Hardeep Singh Puri
- Foreword of the book is written by – Amitabh Bachchan
- Publisher – Rupa Publications India

Obituaries

691. On October 27, Pierre Soulages, the French abstract artist best known for painting most of his works in black, died at the age of 102. Since his first exhibition in 1947, when he was 27 years old, Soulages has used the color black. In 2014, President François Hollande of France described him as the ‘World’s Greatest Living Artist’. His legacy included producing from 1987 to 1994 some 104 stained-glass windows for the Romanesque Sainte-Foy de Conques abbey. He was only the third artist to have a solo show at the museum during his lifetime, joining Marc Chagall and Pablo Picasso. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pierre Soulages (France) – a Painter, Printmaker & Sculptor – passed away
- He is best known for painting most of his works in ‘black’



Meetings, Conferences & Summits

692. On October 27, the chief ministers of eight states and home ministers and deputy chief ministers of 16 states gathered in Faridabad, Haryana for a two-day 'Chintan Shivir' (brainstorming session) on internal security. Union Home Minister Amit Shah chaired the session. The aim of the session was to prepare an action plan to implement 'Vision 2047' and 'panch pran' (five pledges) announced by PM Modi during his Independence Day speech this year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 'Chintan Shivir' on internal security – held in Faridabad, Haryana to implement PM Modi's 'Vision 2047' & 'Panch Pran'
- Amit Shah – chaired the session
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya

693. The second edition of Naval Commanders' Conference of 2022 was conducted from 31 Oct to 03 Nov 22 at New Delhi. The conference serves as a platform for Naval Commanders to discuss important maritime matters at the military-strategic level through an institutionalised forum. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 2nd Naval Commanders' Conference – conducted in New Delhi
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Vinai Kumar Saxena | Chief Secretary – Naresh Kumar

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

694. On October 27, according to a report titled "Decarbonising India: Charting a Pathway for Sustainable Growth" released by McKinsey & Company, India's decarbonisation will require an estimated \$12.1 trillion (5.9% of GDP) of green investments until 2050 for the 'accelerated' scenario. India's net Green House Gas (GHG) emissions will rise to 11.8 gigatons of carbon dioxide equivalent by 2070 from the 2.9 gigatons in 2019. India has committed to net zero emissions by 2070. As per earlier estimates, the shift to net zero by 2070 will require \$10 trillion worth investments. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Decarbonising India: Charting a Pathway for Sustainable Growth" report – released by McKinsey & Company
- India's decarbonisation will require an estimated \$12.1 trillion of green investments until 2050 for 'accelerated' scenario

695. On October 29, the World Health Organisation (WHO) released the "Global TB Report 2022". The report has counted India among 8 nations accounting for two-thirds of the total patient count. India has, in fact, performed far better on major metrics as compared to other countries over time. India's TB incidence for the year 2021 is 210 per 1,00,000 population - compared to the baseline year of 2015 (incidence was 256 per lakh of population in India); there has been an 18% decline which is 7% points better than the global average of 11%. These figures also place India at the 36th position in terms of incidence rates (from largest to smallest incidence numbers). The WHO report mentioned that the number of people newly diagnosed with TB across the world is 6.4 million in 2021. India was among the three countries (other two are Indonesia & Philippines), that accounted for most of the reduction in 2020 (67% of the global total). [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- “Global TB Report 2022” – released by the WHO
- India’s TB incidence for the year 2021 is 210 per 1,00,000 population (compared to baseline year of 2015)
- India – 36th spot in terms of TB incidence rates

696. According to the latest report from UNHCR published in October 2022, the number of people forcibly displaced from their homes due to persecution, conflict, violence, human rights violations and events seriously disturbing public order globally surged to 103 million in the first half of 2022. This is an increase of 13.6 million, or 15%, compared to the end of 2021. The total number of refugees and people in need of international protection worldwide rose by 24% from 25.7 million at the end of 2021 to 32 million by mid-2022. During the same period, significant displacements of people were also reported in the Tigray region of Ethiopia, as well as in Myanmar, Burkina Faso, the Central African Republic, Mozambique and Congo. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UNHCR Report: 103 million people forcibly displaced worldwide due to persecution, conflict, violence, & human rights violations etc
- HQs of UNHCR – Geneva, Switzerland | Head – Filippo Grandi

Acquisitions & Mergers

697. On October 27, Global investment firm Kohlberg Kravis Roberts (KKR) announced to acquire Ness Digital Engineering from The Rohatyn Group in a deal estimated to be worth \$500 million. Headquartered in Teaneck, New Jersey, Ness is a provider of digital transformation services that specialises in building digital software products and platforms. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- KKR – to acquire Ness Digital Engineering from the Rohatyn Group
- HQs of KKR & Co. Inc. – New York, US | Co-Founder and Co-Executive Chairman – Henry R. Kravis

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

698. On October 26, National Institute Of Technology, Silchar, (NIT Silchar) and National Highways Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL) signed an MoU to boost cooperation in the field of highway engineering and other infrastructure works. NHIDCL has signed agreements with several IITs and other institutions to promote innovation in highways construction. It has signed MoUs with CSIR-CRRI, IIT Roorkee, IIT Kanpur, IIT Patna, NIT Srinagar, NIT Agartala and NSDC during the current year 2022-23. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NIT Silchar + NHIDCL = am MoU to boost cooperation in the field of highway engineering and other infrastructure works
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi



699. On October 28, Bharat Electronics (BEL) signed an agreement with Hyderabad-headquartered Meslova Systems, for cooperation in the areas of artificial intelligence and machine learning (AI&ML) for air defence (AD) systems/platforms for the Armed Forces. BEL also signed an agreement with Triton Electric Vehicle (TEV), for the manufacture of hydrogen fuel cells. [{Read more}](#)

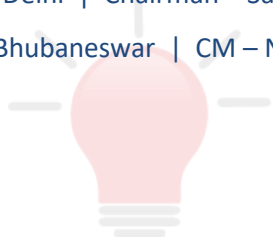
Key Points:

- BEL + Meslova (Hyderabad) = MoU for cooperation in AI&ML for air defence (AD) systems/platforms for Armed Forces
- BEL + TEV = agreement for the manufacture of hydrogen fuel cells
- HQs of BEL – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CMD – Dinesh Kumar Batra (addi. charge)

700. On October 28, SAIL and the Airport Authority of India (AAI), signed an Operation and Management (O&M) agreement to facilitate commercial operations from Rourkela, Odisha through its Rourkela Steel Plant. The Ministry of Civil Aviation has provided financial support for the up-gradation of this airport. The commencement of air services is also important in view of the forthcoming Hockey World Cup, where 20 out of the total 44 matches are being held at Rourkela in January 2023. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SAIL + AAI = O&M agreement to facilitate commercial operations from Rourkela, Odisha through its Rourkela Steel Plant
- Hockey World Cup 2023 – will be held in Odisha in January 2023
- HQs of SAIL – New Delhi | CEO – Soma Mondal | Founded on – January 24, 1973
- HQs of AAI – New Delhi | Chairman – Sanjeev Kumar
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal



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