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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.
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The Question Bank



National & States Affairs

351. In October 2022, the Telangana government issued an order to increase reservation for the Scheduled Tribe communities from 6% to 10%. The order by the Tribal Welfare Department stated that the enhanced reservations would apply in Educational Institutions and to Services under the state government with immediate effect. With the latest order, reservations for various sections in the state have gone up to 54%. Telangana Assembly had initially passed a Bill in April 2017 for enhancing the reservation of the ST population to 10%. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Telangana – increased reservation for the ST communities from 6% to 10%
- Reservations for various sections in the state have gone up to – 54%
- [Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan](#)

352. The UNSC’s counter-terrorism meeting will be hosted in Mumbai and Delhi on 28 and 29 October, respectively. The overarching theme of the meeting would be ‘countering the use of new and emerging technologies for terrorist purposes’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mumbai + Delhi = will host the UNSC’s counter-terrorism meeting
- Theme – ‘Countering the Use of New and Emerging Technologies for Terrorist Purposes’
- [HQs of UNSC – New York, US | Presidency in August – China \(July – Brazil | Sep – France\)](#)

353. On October 23, the Indian Railways decided to introduce a freight version of the semi-high speed Vande Bharat Express christened “Freight EMU”. Its first service will be operated between the Delhi-NCR and Mumbai regions. These trains will serve as a superfast parcel service aimed at capturing high-value and time-sensitive cargo consignments currently being moved via other forms of transport. Vande Bharat freight trains have been designed for palletised container transportation at a speed of 160 km/hour. The Integral Coach Factory (ICF) in Chennai, which is manufacturing Vande Bharat trains, is expected to roll out the first freight EMU rake on the Vande Bharat platform in December, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Railways – to introduce Vande Bharat freight train christened “Freight EMU”
- Its first service will be operated between the Delhi-NCR and Mumbai (max speed – 160 km/hour)
- It is manufactured by – Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai
- [HQs of Indian Railways – New Delhi | Chairman & CEO – Vinay Kumar Tripathi](#)

354. On October 16, Union Minister for Railways, Communications and Electronics & Information Technology, Ashwini Vaishnaw, inaugurated India’s First Aluminum Freight Rake - “61 BOBRNALHSM1” at Bhubaneswar Railway Station in Odisha. The rake’s destination is Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh. This is a dedicated effort for ‘Make in India’ program as it has been fully designed and developed indigenously in collaboration with RDSO, HINDALCO and Besco Wagon. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ashwini Vaishnaw – inaugurated India’s 1st Aluminum Freight Rake “61 BOBRNALHSM1” at Bhubaneswar Railway Station
- The rake is developed indigenously in collaboration with = RDSO + HINDALCO + Besco Wagon
- [Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal](#)



355. On October 14, After the launch of the 4th Vande Bharat Express train from Delhi to Una, India is set to get its 5th Vande Bharat Express train in November, 2022. The train will run on Chennai-Bengaluru-Mysuru route. India launched its first Semi High-Speed Train, “Vande Bharat Express” in 2019. This train runs on the New Delhi-Kanpur-Allahabad-Varanasi route. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India is set to get its 5th Vande Bharat Express train in November | It will run on – Chennai-Bengaluru-Mysuru route
- The first Vande Bharat Express train was launched in 2019 (New Delhi-Kanpur-Allahabad-Varanasi route)

356. In October 2022, an Ethiopian delegation led by Ethiopia’s Agricultural Minister Dr. Meles Mekonen Yimer was in Andhra Pradesh to study the first-of-its kind Rythu Bharosa Kendras (RBKs), which have been set up by the Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy government. Set up for the first time in India, the RBKs are unique seeds-to-sales, single-window service centres for farmers that have been set up across Andhra Pradesh. They are a one-stop solution to all farmers’ needs and grievances. RBKs sell pre-tested quality seeds, certified fertilisers and animal feed. Over 10,700 RBKs, multi-functional kiosks with digital Aadhar authentication equipment, have been set up across the state. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- An Ethiopian delegation visited the first-of-its kind “Rythu Bharosa Kendras (RBKs)” set by Andhra Pradesh government
- RBKs are unique seeds-to-sales, single-window service centres for Farmers
- [Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati | CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan](#)

357. On October 14, Google Cloud announced its empanelment by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), allowing it to apply cloud technology to solve complex problems for government organizations. With the empanelment, referred to as the MeitY accreditation, Google is now positioned to fully partner with India’s public sector organisations to become an active participant in India’s digital transformation initiatives, especially “Project Meghraj” that aims at making a multi-level, national cloud-sharing foundation giving affordable, secure, and safe data storage for everyone. Google’s rivals such as Microsoft, IBM, Amazon Web Services (AWS) and Oracle, among others, have already received approval from MeitY to procure and initiate digital transformation projects. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Google Cloud – received MeitY accreditation to partner with India’s public sector firms to apply cloud technology
- “Project Meghraj” – related to Cloud Technology
- [HQs of Google – California, US | CEO – Sundar Pichai | Founded in – 1998](#)
- [CEO of Google Cloud – Thomas Kurian](#)

358. Madhya Pradesh became the first State in India to start the MBBS (Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery) Course in Hindi. As part of it, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, on October 16, released textbooks in Hindi of three subjects for MBBS students. The MBBS course in Hindi was launched as part of the National Education policy and soon it will be started in other languages also. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Madhya Pradesh – became the first State in India to start the MBBS Course in Hindi
- [Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel](#)

359. The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) has been implementing a focused bilateral collaborative programme known as the “Indo-US Vaccine Action Programme (VAP)”, jointly with the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), USA, since July 1987. The current five-year VAP Joint Statement has been extended till 2027. The meeting for this purpose was convened on the National Institutes of Health (NIH) campus in Bethesda, Maryland, US. As per practice, a ‘Rama-Robbins Lecture’ was organized in the remembrance of Late Prof. V. Ramalingaswami and Late Prof. Fred Robbins. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Indo-US Vaccine Action Programme (VAP)” – extended till 2027
- VAP is jointly implemented by = Dept. of Biotechnology (India) + National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases (US)
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

International Affairs

360. As of October 2022, Indian government is considering a proposal from Sri Lanka to export a number of Gaurs, or Indian Bisons, to Sri Lanka to revive the population of gavaras that have been extinct in the island since the end of the 17th century. If the project is cleared, it would be the first such agreement between India and Sri Lanka, and part of a global trend of “Wildlife or Zoological Diplomacy”. The Indian gaur, a reclusive beast that lives in the wild, is the largest wild bovine that is a protected species and included in ‘Schedule I’ of the ‘Wild Life Protection Act, 1972’ and listed as ‘Vulnerable’ in the IUCN Red List. There are about 13,000 to 30,000 gaurs in the world with approximately 85% of the population present in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sri Lanka – requested Indian government to translocate ‘Indian Bisons’ (Gaurs) for its reintroduction
- Indian Bisons are included in ‘Schedule I’ of ‘Wild Life Protection Act, 1972’ & listed as ‘Vulnerable’ in the IUCN Red List
- Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan Rupee
- PM – Dinesh Gunawardena | President – Ranil Wickremesinghe

Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

361. On 16 October, PM Modi dedicated 75 Digital Banking Units (DBUs) across 75 districts with an aim to promote financial inclusion. This Digital Banking Units will empower digital services and provide a robust digital banking infrastructure for the country. DBUs will improve banking and financial management, promote transparency and also promote financial inclusion. As part of the Union budget speech for 2022-23, the finance minister had announced the setting up of the 75 DBUs in 75 districts of the country to commemorate the 75 years of independence of our country. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Modi – dedicated 75 DBUs across 75 districts to promote financial inclusion



Sports & Games

362. On October 14, Indian teenager Rudranksh Balasaheb Patil, created history in Cairo, Egypt, pulling off a dramatic 17-15 victory over Italy's Danilo Dennis Sollazzo in the Gold medal match and was crowned World Champion in the Men's 10m Air Rifle at the "International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Championship 2022". India's last World Champion in the men's air rifle event was Abhinav Bindra in 2006. With this win, he also secured the quota for "2024 Paris Olympics". Moreover, the Indian men's 10m air rifle troika of Rudranksh Balasaheb Patil, Kiran Ankush Jadhav and Arjun Babuta won India's fifth Gold medal in the ISSF World Championship, routing China 16-10 in the title round. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rudranksh Balasaheb Patil – won Gold in Men's 10m Air Rifle at the "ISSF World Championship 2022" in Cairo, Egypt
- Rudranksh Patil + Kiran Ankush Jadhav + Arjun Babuta = won India's 5th Gold medal in the ISSF World Championship
- HQs of ISSF – Munich, Germany | President – Vladimir Lisin

363. Kenya's Amos Kipruto and Ethiopia's Yalemzerf Yehualaw won the 2022 TCS London Marathon in men's and women's category respectively. It was the 42nd edition of the event. For the third year, the virtual TCS London Marathon was held on the same day, with participants able to take on the 26.2-mile challenge wherever they are in the world between 00:00 and 23:59 on Sunday 2 October. It was the third and final time the event was held in the autumn, having been moved from the traditional April slot due to the Covid-19 pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amos Kipruto (Kenya) – won 2022 TCS London Marathon in men's category
- Yalemzerf Yehualaw (Ethiopia) – won 2022 TCS London Marathon in women's category
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Rishi Sunak | New King – King Charles III
- Kenya – Nairobi – Kenyan Shilling | President – William Samoei Ruto
- Ethiopia – Addis Ababa – Ethiopian Birr | President – Sahle-Work Zewde | PM – Abiy Ahmed

364. On October 16, India defeated Sri Lanka by 8 wickets to win the "Women's Asia Cup 2022" held in Sylhet International Cricket Stadium, Bangladesh. Renuka Singh was named the 'Player of the Match'. While Deepti Sharma was adjudged the 'Player of the Tournament'. The 2022 Women's T20 Asia Cup was the 8th edition of the Women's Asia Cup tournament. Bangladesh were the defending champions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – won the "Women's Asia Cup 2022" (8th edition) held in Sylhet, Bangladesh (defeating - Sri Lanka)
- Player of the Match: Renuka Singh | Player of the Tournament: Deepti Sharma

365. Qatar will host the '2023 AFC Asian Cup' (18th edition) for the 3rd time while India and Saudi Arabia have been shortlisted for the 2027 edition, announced by the Asian Football Confederation Executive Committee. 2023 AFC Asian Cup was earlier scheduled to be hosted by China. The 24-team Asian Cup is now likely to be shifted from its original dates in June and July to later in 2023, or even into early 2024. The AFC Asian Cup is held every 4 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Qatar – will host the '2023 AFC Asian Cup' (for the 3rd time)
- India & Saudi Arabia – shortlisted for the '2027 AFC Asian Cup'
- Qatar – Doha – Riyal | PM – Khalid bin Khalifa bin Abdulaziz Al Thani



Arts & Cultural Affairs

366. Meghalaya hosted the four-day long mega global adventure sports spectacle - "Megha Kayak Festival 2022" (5th edition) starting on October 13 at the Umtrew River in Umtham village. It witnessed over 100 participants from close to 20 countries across the globe. The festival included white water Kayaking events in three competition categories - Downriver Time Trial, Extreme Slalom and Downriver Freestyle. "Khasiana", a female clouded leopard, was the mascot of the event. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Meghalaya – hosted the "Megha Kayak Festival 2022" (5th edition) at the Umtrew River in Umtham village
- Mascot – "Khasiana", a female Clouded Leopard
- Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong | CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor – B. D. Mishra (addi. charge)

Science & Technology

367. On October 14, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is developing a Next-Gen Launch Vehicle (NGLV), which will replace operational systems like the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV), announced by ISRO Chairman S. Somanath, during the three-day "Engineers Conclave 2022", held at the Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC), Valiyamala in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. NGLV will feature semi-cryogenic propulsion (refined kerosene as fuel with liquid oxygen as oxidiser) for the booster stages which is cheaper and efficient. During his address, Mr. Somanath also announced that the ISRO has proposed "Bharat Krishi Satellite" programme for supporting India's agriculture sector. Mr. Somanath said a minimum of two satellites will be needed to guarantee adequate coverage of the entire agricultural area of India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ISRO – is developing a Next-Gen Launch Vehicle (NGLV) which is expected to replace 'PSLV'
- ISRO – has proposed "Bharat Krishi Satellite" programme for supporting India's agriculture sector
- Minimum 2 satellites will be needed to cover the entire agricultural area of India
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – S. Somanath | Formed on – August 15, 1969

368. In October 2022, Serbian scientists have named a new species of beetle after tennis legend Novak Djokovic due to its speed, strength, flexibility, durability and ability to survive in a difficult environment. It is named 'Duvalius Dokovici'. The insect, which belongs to the Duvalius genus of ground beetles that are present in Europe, was discovered several years ago in an underground pit in western Serbia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Serbian scientists named a new species of beetle after tennis legend Novak Djokovic (named 'Duvalius Dokovici')
- Serbia – Belgrade – Serbian Dinar | President – Aleksandar Vucic | PM – Ana Brnabic

369. On October 14, the researchers have identified a new genus and two new species of semi-terrestrial freshwater crabs from separate locations in the southern arm of the Western Ghats in Kerala. The discovery was published in the journal Zoological Studies. The new species have been named 'Pavizham gavi' and 'Rajathelphusa brunnea'. Pavizham, Malayalam for red coral, is a new genus of semi-terrestrial freshwater crab. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A new genus & two new species of semi-terrestrial freshwater crabs – discovered in Kerala
- Two new species were named – 'Pavizham gavi' & 'Rajathelphusa brunnea' | 'Pavizham' is a newly discovered genus
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan



Appointments & Resignations

370. On October 16, Paytm Payments Bank has appointed Deependra Singh Rathore as the interim Chief Executive Officer (CEO), in addition to his role as Chief Product & Technology Officer. PPBL will announce the name of the new full-time CEO after receiving regulatory approvals. Satish Kumar Gupta, who was the bank's CEO, retired in October. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Deependra Singh Rathore – appointed as interim CEO of Paytm Payments Bank (succeeding - Satish Kumar Gupta)
- HQs of PPBL – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | CEO – Deependra Singh Rathore (interim)

371. On October 7, Suzlon Energy announced the appointment of Vinod R Tanti as its Chairman and Managing Director with immediate effect for the next three years. The announcement came after demise of Suzlon Energy founder Tulsi Tanti, who was holding the position of Chairman and Managing Director, on October 1, 2022. The board also approved the appointment of Girish R Tanti as the Executive Director designated as the Executive Vice Chairman of the company with immediate effect for a period of three) years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vinod R Tanti – appointed as CMD of Suzlon Energy
- Girish R Tanti – appointed as Executive Director designated as the Executive Vice Chairman
- HQs of Suzlon Energy – Pune, MH | CMD – Vinod R Tanti

372. On October 17, JPMorgan Chase & Co. named former Reliance Industries Executive Navin Wadhvani as the head of its Indian investment banking business, under a slew of management changes for the Asia-Pacific region. JPM also appointed Kaustubh Kulkarni as Senior Country Officer for India from November 1, 2022. Kulkarni will continue in his role as Vice Chair of Asia Pacific business of JPM. Kulkarni succeeds Madhav Kalyan. Moreover, P. D. Singh, currently JPM's head of corporate banking in India, has been named interim CEO of JP Morgan Chase Bank India from November 1, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Navin Wadhvani – appointed as the head of Indian investment banking business of JPMorgan Chase & Co.
- Kaustubh Kulkarni – appointed as Senior Country Officer for India of JPMorgan Chase & Co.
- P. D. Singh – appointed as interim CEO of JP Morgan Chase Bank India
- HQs of JPMorgan Chase & Co. – New York, US | President – Daniel E. Pinto

373. On October 17, a Retired civil servant and current Chairman of the Board of HDFC Bank, Atanu Chakraborty, is appointed as the Independent Chairman of the board of Chennai-based debt marketplace, Yubi (formerly CredAvenue). Gaurav Kumar is the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Yubi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Atanu Chakraborty – appointed as the Independent Chairman of Yubi (formerly CredAvenue)
- HQs of Yubi – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | Founder & CEO – Gaurav Kumar





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Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

374. On October 14, Pench Tiger Reserve, Maharashtra, was awarded with prestigious “SKOCH Gold Award” for ‘Climate Resilience Building and Livelihood Promotion Through Development of Bio-Reserve Forest Areas on Degraded Forest Land’. The Southern part of this tiger reserve area in Madhya Pradesh is Pench Tiger Reserve, Maharashtra. And this Maharashtra’s part has received the award. Otherwise, the reference to Pench is mostly to the tiger reserve in Madhya Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pench Tiger Reserve – awarded with prestigious “SKOCH Gold Award” for ‘Climate Resilience Building and Livelihood Promotion Through Development of Bio-Reserve Forest Areas on Degraded Forest Land’
- Pench Tiger Reserve – located in Maharashtra (as well Madhya Pradesh)
- Maharashtra: CM – Eknath Shinde | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

Schemes & Initiatives

375. On October 17, Prime Minister Narendra Modi released the 12th instalment of financial benefit worth Rs 16,000 Cr to eligible farmers under the flagship PM-KISAN scheme. With this, the total amount transferred to around 11 Cr beneficiaries is expected to cross Rs 2.16 lakh Cr. The scheme was launched in February 2019 but is being implemented with effect from December 2018. In this scheme, eligible farmers are provided with a financial benefit of Rs 6,000 per year in three equal instalments of Rs 2,000 every four months. PM-KISAN is a central sector scheme with 100% funding from the Centre. State governments and UT administrations identify the farmer families that are eligible for support as per scheme guidelines. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – released 12th instalment of financial benefit worth Rs 16,000 Cr to farmers under PM-KISAN scheme
- PM-KISAN – launched in February 2019 but implemented with effect from December 2018

Important Days & Dates

376. On October 13, Union AYUSH Minister Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated the ‘curtain raiser’ for the 9th World Ayurveda Congress (WAC) and Arogya Expo. The event, supported by the Central and State Governments and Ministry of AYUSH, will be held in Goa from December 8 to 11, 2022. Around 5,000 Ayurveda stakeholders from across the world are expected to attend it. The focal theme of the event is “Ayurveda for One Health”. The All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), New Delhi, is the nodal Agency for the implementation of the programme. The motto of this year’s Ayurveda Day celebration would be “Har Din Har Ghar Ayurveda” (Ayurveda Everyday, Ayurveda Everywhere). Ayurveda Day is celebrated on Dhanvantari Jayanti on October 23. Union Minister of State Shripad Yesso Naik said the World Health Organisation (WHO) is part of the WAC for the first time this year. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- 9th World Ayurveda Congress (WAC) & Arogya Expo – will be held in Goa
- Theme – “Ayurveda for One Health”
- October 23 (Dhanvantari Jayanti) – Ayurveda Day
- Motto of 2022's Ayurveda Day – “Har Din Har Ghar Ayurveda”
- HQs of AIIA – New Delhi | Director – Tanuja Manoj Nesari
- Ministry of AYUSH: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency – Majuli, Assam
- MoS in Ministry of AYUSH: Munjapara Mahendrabhai

377. October 17 is observed as International Day for The Eradication of Poverty. The day is observed to spread awareness of the issues related to poverty and the violation of the rights of human beings. In 1992, the United Nations officially declared October 17 as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. This year marks the 30th anniversary of International Day for the eradication of poverty. The umbrella theme for International Day for the Eradication of Poverty 2022 is ‘Dignity for all in practice.’ [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 17 – 30th International Day for The Eradication of Poverty (since 1992)
- 2022's Theme – ‘Dignity for all in practice’

378. World Food Day is observed annually on 16 October to highlight the millions of people worldwide who cannot afford a healthy diet and the need for regular access to nutritious food. The theme for 2022 is “Leave NO ONE behind”. World Food Day was established in November 1979. It is an initiative by the Food & Agricultural Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations. This day marks the anniversary of the founding of the FAO. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 16 – World Food Day by – FAO (since 1979)
- 2022's Theme – “Leave NO ONE behind”
- HQs of FAO – Rome, Italy | DG – QU Dongyu | Formation – 16th October, 1945

379. Every year, October 17 is celebrated as World Trauma Day with a view to prevent the increasing rate of accidents and injuries causing death and disability across the world. The day was created in New Delhi, India, in 2011. The theme of World Trauma Day 2022 for 2022 is “help”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 17 – World Trauma Day
- 2022's Theme – “Help”



Books & Authors

380. The English translation of award-winning book “Lata: Sur-Gatha” (Lata: A Life in Music), on the life and times of iconic singer Lata Mangeshkar, will be released in January 2023, announced by Penguin Random House India (PRHI) on the eve of the 93rd birth anniversary of the late Bharat Ratna awardee Lata Mangeshkar. The book was originally written in Hindi by writer-poet Yatindra Mishra, and it is translated by noted writer and translator Ira Pande. The book has won the 64th National Film Award and the MAMI Award for Best Writing on Cinema (2016-17). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- English translation of “Lata: Sur-Gatha” book – to be released in January 2023 (translated by – Ira Pande)
- The book was originally written in Hindi by – Yatindra Mishra

381. On October 17, Sahil Seth, IRS Joint Commissioner GST, Custom & Narcotics and youth influencer, launched his book titled “A Confused Mind Story”. The book is based on the contrast between the spiritual and material world. The book depicts the answers behind the confusion of the common man in day-to-day life and explains the rationale behind the meaning of life and belief system. The book is published by Blue Rose Publication House. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “A Confused Mind Story” – authored by Sahil Seth
- Published by – Blue Rose Publication House

Meetings, Conferences & Summits

382. On October 10, the Department for Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade (DPIIT) hosted the “Conference on B20 Indonesia Global Dialogue” in partnership with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in New Delhi, with the aim of aligning the perspectives of Indian industry with the policy recommendations of B20 Indonesia. Business 20 (B20), formed in 2010, is the official G20 dialogue forum with the global business community. The Indian Government side was represented by Amitabh Kant, India’s Sherpa to G20, Anurag Jain, Secretary of DPIIT, and other senior officers from DPIIT. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Conference on B20 Indonesia Global Dialogue” – hosted in New Delhi by = DPIIT + CII
- Business 20 (B20) was formed in – 2010
- Indian Government side was represented by – Amitabh Kant (India’s Sherpa to G20)
- HQs of DPIIT – New Delhi | DPIIT works under – Ministry of Commerce & Industry
- HQs of CII – New Delhi | President – Sanjiv Bajaj | VC – Sanjiv Puri | DG – Chandrajit Banerjee | Founded in – 1895
- Indonesia – Jakarta – Rupiah | President – Joko Widodo

383. On October 18, the “India-Africa Defence Dialogue (IADD)” was held on the sidelines of DefExpo 2022 in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. The IADD’s theme was “Adopting Strategy for Synergizing and Strengthening Defence and Security Cooperation”. 50 African countries, including 20 Defence Ministers, 7 CDS/Service Chiefs and 8 Permanent Secretaries participated in the Dialogue. The IADD, as a part of DefExpo 2022, showcased to the African nations the growing prowess of the domestic defence industry, which is one of the major drivers of the nation’s resolve to achieve ‘Make in India, Make for the World’ as envisioned by the Prime Minister. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- “India-Africa Defence Dialogue (IADD)” – held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- IADD’s Theme – “Adopting Strategy for Synergizing and Strengthening Defence and Security Cooperation”

384. On October 10, the 4th “Heli-India Summit 2022” was held at Sher-e-Kashmir International Conference Centre in Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir with the theme of “Helicopters for last Mile Connectivity”. While inaugurating the summit, Minister of Civil Aviation, Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, said that a Civil Enclave will be built in Jammu at a cost of Rs 861 Cr and the Srinagar’s present terminal will be expanded 3 times from 20,000 square meters to 60,000 square meters at a cost of Rs 1500 Cr. The 3rd Heli-India Summit was held at Dehradun, Uttarakhand. During the 3rd summit, the 8 Sankalps which were taken include - providing Heli-Sewa Portal, Heli-Disha, Helicopter Accelerator Cell, etc. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 4th “Heli-India Summit 2022” – held at Sher-e-Kashmir International Conference Centre in Srinagar, J & K
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

385. On October 17, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated 600 ‘Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samruddhi Kendras (PMKSK)’ under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers. He also launched the ‘Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Urvarak Pariyojana’ aka ‘One Nation One Fertilizer’ during the two-day event “PM Kisan Samman Sammelen 2022” at Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) in New Delhi. PMKSK will cater to the needs of the farmers in the country and provide agri-inputs (fertilizers, seeds, implements) including testing facilities for soil, seeds and fertilizers. Under the ‘One Nation One Fertilizer’, companies will market all subsidised fertilisers under a single brand ‘Bharat’. During the event, the PM also launched ‘Indian Edge’, an e-magazine on fertilisers. It will provide information on domestic and international fertiliser scenarios. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ‘PM Kisan Samman Sammelen 2022’ – held at IARI, New Delhi
- Narendra Modi – inaugurated 600 ‘Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samruddhi Kendras (PMKSK)’
- Narendra Modi – also launched the ‘Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Urvarak Pariyojana’ or ‘One Nation One Fertilizer’
- Narendra Modi – also launched ‘Indian Edge’, an e-magazine on fertilisers
- Under the ‘One Nation One Fertilizer’, companies will market all subsidised fertilisers under a single brand ‘Bharat’

386. The 11th Sustainable Mountain Development Summit (SMDS-XI) was held in Leh, Ladakh from October 10-12, 2022. The Summit is aimed at reducing the negative impacts of tourism while harnessing its positive contributions to building Climate and Socio-Ecological Resilience and Sustainability. The Summit was themed on “Harnessing Tourism for Sustainable Mountain Development”. The SMDS is a flagship annual event of Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI), a civil society-led forum working across the Indian Himalayan Region (IHR) that comprises 10 mountain states, two union territories and four hill districts. In addition to the central event, two integral components of the SMDS include the Mountain Legislators’ Meet (MLM) and the Indian Himalayan Youth Summit. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 11th Sustainable Mountain Development Summit (SMDS-XI) was held in – Leh, Ladakh
- Theme – “Harnessing Tourism for Sustainable Mountain Development” | SMDS – a flagship annual event of IMI
- IMI – a civil society-led forum working across the IHR that comprises 10 mountain states, 2 UTs & 4 hill districts
- Mountain Legislators’ Meet (MLM) & the Indian Himalayan Youth Summit – were also part of the SMDS event
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R. K. Mathur



387. On October 12-13, Minister of State for External Affairs, Meenakshi Lekhi led the Indian delegation at 6th “Summit of Conference of Interaction & Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA)” at Astana, Kazakhstan. The CICA is a multi-national forum for strengthening cooperation towards promoting peace, security and stability in Asia. It was founded by the first President of Kazakhstan Elbasy Nursultan Nazarbayev, on 5 October 1992, at the 47th Session of the UNGA. MoS Meenakshi Lekhi visited Georgia prior to the Kazakhstan tour from 10-11 October. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Meenakshi Lekhi – led the Indian delegation at 6th “Summit of Conference of Interaction & Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA)” at Astana, Kazakhstan
- [Kazakhstan – Astana – Tenge](#) | [President – Kassym-Jomart Tokayev](#) | [PM – Alikhan Smailov](#)

388. On October 14, Union Minister for Power and New & Renewable Energy, R. K. Singh, inaugurated the “Conference of Power and Renewable Energy Ministers of State/UTs” in Udaipur, Rajasthan. It was informed that India is the only major economy whose actions are in line with limiting global temperature rise to sub 2 degree. India’s per capita emissions are only 1/3rd of the world’s average, however the same of developed countries are at 3-5 times the world’s average. The report on performance of Power Utilities was also released during the conference by Power Finance Corporation (PFC). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Conference of Power and Renewable Energy Ministers of State/UTs” – inaugurated in Udaipur, Rajasthan by R. K. Singh
- PFC – released the report on performance of Power Utilities during the conference
- [HQs of PFC Ltd – New Delhi](#) | [CMD – Ravinder Singh Dhillon](#)
- [Ministry of Power and Ministry New & Renewable Energy: Raj Kumar Singh](#) | [Constituency – Arrah, Bihar](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Power: Krishan Pal Gurjar](#)

389. The Indian National Committee World Mining Congress, under the patronage of the Ministry of Coal, organized the first “National Coal Conclave and Exhibition” during 16-17 October, 2022 under the theme of “Indian Coal Sector - Sustainable Mining towards Aatmanirbhar Bharat”. The event provided a platform for policy makers, public and private sector mining companies. The focus area of the conclave was on three major subjects - Fuel Self-Sufficiency in Power Sector, Aatmanirbhara in Steel making for Coal, and Technology & Sustainability. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- First “National Coal Conclave and Exhibition” – organised by Indian National Committee World Mining Congress
- Theme – “Indian Coal Sector - Sustainable Mining towards Aatmanirbhar Bharat”

390. The “All India Conference of Law Ministers and Law Secretaries” was organised by the Ministry of Law and Justice from October 14 to 16, 2022 at Ekta Nagar, Gujarat, where Law Ministers & Law Secretaries from States and Union Territories participated. The keynote address was delivered by Union Minister of Law and Justice, Kiren Rijiju. This initiative will provide a forum for discussion on a variety of topics relating to India’s legal system so that policymakers may develop a road map for the country’s future. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “All India Conference of Law Ministers & Law Secretaries” – organised by Ministry of Law & Justice in Gujarat
- [Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar](#) | [CM – Bhupendra Patel](#) | [Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat](#)
- [Ministry for Law & Justice: Kiren Rijiju](#) | [Constituency – Arunachal West](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Law & Justice – S. P. Singh Baghel](#)



Ranks, Reports & Surveys

391. On October 16, India ranked 107 out of 121 countries in the “Global Hunger Index 2022” with its child wasting rate at 19.3%, being the highest in the world. With a score of 29.1, the level of hunger in India has been labelled ‘serious’. In Asia, Afghanistan with a rank of 109 is the only country behind India. Neighbouring countries - Pakistan (99), Bangladesh (84), Nepal (81) and Sri Lanka (64) have all fared better than India. South Asia, the region with the world’s highest hunger level, has the highest child stunting rate and by far the highest child wasting rate in the world. The Global Hunger Index (GHI) is a tool that attempts to measure and track hunger globally as well as by region and by country, prepared by European NGOs of Concern Worldwide and Welthungerhilfe. The 2022 Global Hunger Index is the 17th edition since 2006. 17 countries including China, Belarus and Turkey have the top rank in Global Hunger Index 2022, with a score less than 5. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Global Hunger Index 2022” (17th edition) – prepared jointly by Concern Worldwide & Welthungerhilfe
- India – ranked 107th with a score of 29.1 | The level of hunger in India has been labelled ‘serious’
- The region with the world’s highest hunger level – South Asia | 17 countries topped the Index with a score less than 5

392. According to the ‘Report on Value of Output from Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing Sectors’ released in October 2022 by the National Statistical Office (NSO) under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), Andhra Pradesh emerged as Top Performer in agriculture & allied Gross Value Output (GVO). Andhra Pradesh, with ₹2,03,638.5 Crore combined gross value output (GVO) in the agriculture, forestry and fishing sectors, has registered more than 90% growth in nine years to 2019-20, the highest among all the states, while Kerala is the only state to have recorded a negative growth of over 10%. Madhya Pradesh was the top State in recording the highest 56.7% growth in only crops (agri and commercial both) in 2019-20. Andhra Pradesh’s growth in crops was 48% in 2019-20. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ‘Report on Value of Output from Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing Sectors’ – released by NSO, under MoSPI
- Andhra Pradesh – emerged as Top Performer in agriculture & allied Gross Value Output (GVO)
- Madhya Pradesh – emerged as Top Performer in Crops (agri & commercial both) in 2019-20
- Kerala – the only state to have recorded a negative growth of over 10%

393. Indians studying in economically developed countries are the most likely among all foreign students to stay back in their host country and join the local workforce, according to the “International Migration Outlook 2022” report by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). The report provides an overview of trends in international migration flows and policies up until 2021 by putting the spotlight on the countries of origin and destination of students signing up for academic degrees in OECD countries. The OECD is a grouping of predominantly developed economies. Students from China (22%) and India (10%) account for the largest share of foreign students in OECD countries.

[{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “International Migration Outlook 2022” report – by the OECD
- Students from China (22%) & India (10%) – account for the largest share of foreign students in OECD countries
- HQs of OECD – Paris, France | Secretary-General – Mathias Cormann | Member countries – 38



394. The number of poor people in India dropped by about 415 million in a 15-year period between 2005-06 and 2019-21, a historic change, according to the “Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)” released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative (OPHI). Globally, 19.1% or 120 Crore people of the total 610 Crore people, across 111 developing countries, live in multidimensional poverty. India has the largest number of poor people at 22.8 Crore, followed by Nigeria at 9.6 Crore. Sustainable Development Goal 1, one of the 17 SDGs established by the United Nations in 2015, calls for the end of poverty in all forms and to reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions by 2030. The official wording is: “No Poverty”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)” – released by UNDP & OPHI
- The number of poor people in India dropped by about 415 million between 2005-06 & 2019-21
- 19.1% or 120 Cr people of the total 610 Crore live in multidimensional poverty | Highest in – India (22.8 Cr)
- ‘SDG 1 : No Poverty’ – calls for the end of poverty in all forms
- [HQs of UNDP – New York, US](#) | [Administrator – Achim Steiner](#) | [Founded in – 1965](#)

395. On October 14, the United Nations Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) released the report titled the “Global Status of Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems - Target G” on the occasion of International Day of Disaster Risk Reduction. The analysis was made with data from the Sendai Framework Monitor (SFM), an online tool where member countries report their progress on the targets outlined in the Sendai Framework (2015-2030). The framework is a global blueprint for disaster risk reduction and prevention. Of the seven targets in the framework, Target G aims to substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments to the people by 2030. The number of countries that have Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (MHEWS) vary from region to region. However, on average, at least 40% of countries in every region reported that they operate a MHEWS. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Global Status of Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems - Target G” – released by UNDRR + WMO
- The analysis was made with data from an online tool ‘Sendai Framework Monitor (SFM)’
- At least 40% of countries in every region reported that they operate a Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (MHEWS)
- [HQs of UNDRR – Geneva, Switzerland](#) | [Head – Mami Mizutori](#)
- [HQs of WMO – Geneva, Switzerland](#) | [SG – Petteri Taalas](#) | [President – Gerhard Adrian](#) | [Established in – 1950](#)

396. India has the potential to attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) flows of \$475 billion in the next 5 years due to the focus on reforms and economic growth, according to a report titled “Vision - Developed India: Opportunities and Expectations of MNCs” released by the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) and Ernst & Young (EY) on October 16. The report noted that FDI in India has seen a consistent rise in the last decade, with FY 2021-22 receiving FDI inflow of \$84.8 billion. The report added that 71% of MNCs working in India consider the country an important destination for their global expansion. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Vision - Developed India: Opportunities and Expectations of MNCs” report – released by CII & EY
- India has the potential to attract FDI flows of \$475 billion in the next 5 years
- India’s FDI inflow in FY 2021-22 – \$84.8 billion

397. On October 16, Haryana has emerged as the Best-governed among 18 Big States of the country, while Sikkim has topped in the category of 10 Smaller States, according to the “Public Affairs Index 2022” prepared by a Bengaluru-based think tank, Public Affairs Centre (PAC). Haryana topped among the major states with a score of 0.6948, followed by Tamil Nadu & Kerala. In PAI 2022, the analysis of governance experienced a shift from the framework of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to a constitutionally enshrined Principle of Justice. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Public Affairs Index 2022” – prepared by Public Affairs Centre (Bengaluru)
- Haryana – topped among Big States | Sikkim – topped among Small States

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

398. On October 14, Global Alliance for Mass Entrepreneurship (GAME) signed an MoU with DAY-National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) to enable financial access for the growth of 10 lakh women entrepreneurs over 3 years. As per the MoU, GAME and NRLM will strengthen non-farm livelihoods by building the capacity of women entrepreneurs (WEs) to access finance and grow their enterprises. The programme will focus on capacity building of stakeholders and bankers from public sector banks, digitally-led NBFCs and small finance banks. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- GAME + DAY-NRLM = an MoU to enable financial access for the growth of 10 lakh women entrepreneurs

399. On October 15, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS), Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) and the National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU) signed MoU for setting up the testing facility for dietary supplements. Dietary supplements are substances used to add nutrients to the diet or to lower the risk of health problems. It includes vitamins, minerals, herbs, botanicals, enzymes, amino acids, or other dietary ingredients. It is an important step forward in implementing the recently enacted National Anti-Doping Act, 2022, by Government of India. As of now, no testing facility available in India for ensuring the absence of Prohibited Substance in the dietary supplements. To overcome this shortcoming and to ensure quality Dietary Supplements for sportspersons, a testing facility will be created at the NFSU, Ahmedabad, in collaboration with the FSSAI. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports + FSSAI + NFSU = an MoU for setting up the testing facility for dietary supplements
- The testing facility will be created at – NFSU, Ahmedabad
- HQs of FSSAI – New Delhi | Chairperson – Rita Teatia | CEO – Arun Singhal

400. Garuda Aerospace and Lockheed Martin Canada CDL Systems have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to integrate Garuda Aerospace’s Made-In-India drones with Lockheed Martin Canada CDL Systems’ advanced uncrewed aerial systems (UAS) software solutions for defence and commercial purposes. MS Dhoni is the brand ambassador of Garuda Aerospace. Garuda Aerospace has been termed as India’s most valuable start-up and expects to be India’s first drone unicorn start-up in the near future. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Garuda Aerospace + Lockheed Martin Canada = an MoU to integrate Drones and Software Solutions
- MS Dhoni – Brand ambassador of Garuda Aerospace







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