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A Crucial Piece of Advice!

We find several students discussing the issue of lack of time and digging out content regarding how to use every second of your time efficiently. Some of you must be thinking, we have 86400 seconds each day, so why should we worry about just a single one? **Does a single second hold that much importance? YES!** When it comes to competition, each & every second is very crucial.

The first question that might come to your mind is “Is that even possible to use each second of your time effectively?” or “Do I even have that much spare time?” Let's help you by looking over the top time drainers of your daily routine:

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

Adding up all these, you spend nearly **4 hours** daily or 1/6th of your day doing a whole lot of **NOTHING!** Over the course of a week that amounts to over **28 hours** of wasted time, and more than **1460 hours** or **52,560,000 seconds** annually!! Scary! Isn't it?

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National & States Affairs

401. On October 14, Jio topped the 4G network speed chart in terms of average download and upload speed for the first time. Vi was leading the chart for the last several quarters in the uploading speed segment. While Jio's 4G upload speed marginally improved to 6.4 megabit per second, the speed on Vodafone Idea (Vi) network dropped to 5.9 mbps in September from 6.7 mbps in August. Jio continued to maintain its leadership in the 4G download chart. Jio recorded an average download speed of 19.1 mbps. It was followed by Airtel, which recorded a download speed of 14 mbps, followed by Vi at 12.7 mbps. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jio – topped the 4G network speed chart in terms of average download and upload for the first time | 2nd – Vi
- Average Downloading Speed: Jio –19.1 mbps | Airtel – 14 mbps | Vi – 12.7 mbps
- HQs of Vi Ltd – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Akshaya Moondra | Non-Executive Chairman – Himanshu Kapania
- HQs of TRAI – New Delhi | Chairman – P. D. Vaghela | Established in – 1997

402. On October 17, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) is setting up India's first Sports Helmet Testing Facility in Meerut, Uttar Pradesh. A proposal for setting up such a testing centre was sent to the ministry under the 'Hub and Spoke' model by the MSME's regional technological development centre in Meerut. The centre at Meerut will be ready in 4 months and the entire project will cost around Rs 3 Crore. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoMSME is setting up India's first Sports Helmet Testing Facility in Meerut, Uttar Pradesh
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

403. On October 13, the central government approved construction of a cable stayed-cum-suspension bridge across Krishna river connecting Telangana and Andhra Pradesh and passing through the Nallamala forest range. The three-km long bridge will reduce the distance between Hyderabad and Tirupati by 80 km. The bridge has been approved by the Central government at the total cost of ₹1,082.56 Cr with a construction period of 30 months. Once completed, the bridge across the Krishna River would be second of its kind in the world and first in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Centre – approved construction of cable stayed-cum-suspension bridge connecting Telangana & Andhra Pradesh
- It will be built across Krishna river & passing through the Nallamala forest range
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati | CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

404. In October 2022, Madhya Pradesh Wildlife Board approved a new reserve, to be called 'Durgavati Tiger Reserve', for tigers of Panna Tiger Reserve (PTR), one-fourth of which will get submerged due to the linking of the Ken-Betwa rivers. The 2,339 Square Km new tiger reserve will spread across Narisinghpur, Damoh and Sagar districts. As part of a wildlife management plan for Panna in wake of the Ken-Betwa river linking project, the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) had asked Uttar Pradesh and MP governments to notify new tiger reserves. The two state governments, with the Centre, are implementing a ₹44,605 Crore river-linking project to end the water crisis in Bundelkhand region. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Madhya Pradesh – approved a new reserve to be called ‘Durgavati Tiger Reserve’ for tigers of Panna Tiger Reserve
- ‘Ken-Betwa Rivers Linking Project’ – between Madhya Pradesh & Uttar Pradesh (worth ₹44,605 Cr)
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel

405. On October 17, Union Minister of state for Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Rajeev Chandrasekhar, flagged off the first SemiconIndia FutureDesign roadshow in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, as part of the efforts to give a boost to the semiconductor design industry in India. Reposing faith in PM Narendra Modi’s pitch for ‘Atmanirbhar Bharat’ and IndiaTechade, Gujarati Industrialists and High Net Worth Individuals (HNIs) invested Rs 1500 Crore for catalyzing the Gujarat’s Startup ecosystem. The minister also launched the ISRO tested and qualified NavIC Receiver Chipsets at the event.

[{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajeev Chandrasekhar (MeitY) – flagged off the first ‘SemiconIndia FutureDesign Roadshow’ in Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- Gujarati Industrialists & HNIs invested Rs 1500 Crore for catalyzing the Gujarat’s Startup ecosystem
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat

International Affairs

406. On October 14, Japan approved repealing a law that requires a pregnant woman seeking a divorce to wait for at least 100 days before marrying again. The law was designed to make it easier to identify the father of the child, who will be legally responsible for the finances of the infant. The administration will present the updated civil code to the current legislative session. The new law will also take away parents’ right to discipline their children to the necessary extent. As per the World Economic Forum’s annual Global Gender study, Japan stood at 116th place out of 146 nations in the year 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Japan – repealed a law requiring a pregnant woman to wait for at least 100 days before marrying again
- Japan – ranked 116th place as per World Economic Forum’s annual Global Gender study
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Fumio Kishida

Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

407. On October 17, Karnataka Bank launched a term deposit scheme, ‘KBL Centenary Deposit Scheme’, as a precursor to its centenary year in 2023-24. This deposit will be for a period of 555 days with interest rate of 7.20%. The rate of interest will be 7.60% for senior citizens. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Karnataka Bank – launched a term deposit scheme, ‘KBL Centenary Deposit Scheme’
- Deposit period – 555 days | Interest rate – 7.20%
- HQs of Karnataka Bank – Mangalore, Karnataka | CEO – Mahabaleshwara M. S. | Chairman – Pradeep Kumar Panja



408. October 19, Life Insurance Corporation of India launched a new life insurance plan dubbed Dhan Varsha (Plan No. 866). It is a close-ended plan. If the life assured unfortunately passes away during the policy term, this plan will give cash support for the family. On the date of maturity, it also offers a guaranteed lump payment amount for the remaining assured life. It is a non-linked, non-participating, individual, savings, single premium life insurance plan which offers a combination of protection and savings. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- LIC – launched a new a close-ended life insurance plan dubbed ‘Dhan Varsha’
- HQs of LIC – Mumbai | Chairman – M. R. Kumar | Founded in – 1956 | Tagline – “Yogakshemam Vahamyaham”

409. On October 18, the government created exclusive benches to deal with cases above Rs 100 Crore at Debts Recovery Tribunals (DRTs) in Chennai, Mumbai and Delhi, agreeing to a long-standing demand by banks to get more focus on high-value cases. The fresh push by the government comes even as bankruptcy cases in the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) are languishing due to delays. Separately, the government has also called for applications to fill present and future vacancies in DRT courts to ensure a speedy recovery. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Govt created exclusive benches to resolve cases above ₹100 Cr at Debts Recovery Tribunals in Chennai, Mumbai & Delhi
- President of the NCLT – Ramalingam Sudhakar | Created in 2016 – by Eradi Committee

410. On October 18, Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services announced a strategic partnership with India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) to further enhance credit access to a larger customer base. As a part of this alliance, India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) will provide Lead referral services to MMFSL for Passenger Vehicles, 3-Wheeler, Tractor and Commercial Vehicle Loan categories and provide cash EMI deposit facility to existing MMFSL Customers at Post Offices. As a pilot, this scheme would first go live in IPPB branches in the states of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MMFS + IPPB = partnership to further enhance credit access to a larger customer base
- This scheme would first go live in IPPB branches in – Maharashtra & Madhya Pradesh
- HQs of IPPB – New Delhi | Chairman – Vineet Pandey | MD & CEO – J Venkatramu | Established on – 1st Sep, 2018
- HQs of MMFS – Mumbai, MH | Vice Chairman & MD – Ramesh Iyer | Non-Executive Chairman – Anish Shah

411. On October 18, AI-driven financial wellness platform, CASHe, partnered with Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC), to provide a ‘Travel Now Pay Later’ (TNPL) payment option on its travel app, IRCTC Rail Connect. This will enable travellers of Indian Railways to book their rail tickets instantly and pay for it later in pocket-friendly EMIs. CASHe’s unique proposition lies in its proprietary AI-based algorithm platform - Social Loan Quotient (SLQ). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CASHe + IRCTC = partnership to provide a ‘Travel Now Pay Later’ (TNPL) payment option on ‘IRCTC Rail Connect’ app
- HQs of CASHe – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Founder & Chairman – V. Raman Kumar
- HQs of IRCTC – New Delhi | Chairman & MD – Rajni Hasija (addi. Charge)

412. On October 17, SBI General Insurance has tied up with Gupshup, a leader in conversational engagement to offer a new insurance policy, renew an existing one, intimate claims and more, through WhatsApp. Customers across the country can buy insurance from SBI General by sending a ‘Hi’ and Gupshup’s chat bot will guide users through a simple and secure buying process. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBI Gen Ins + Gupshup = tied up to offer/renew insurance policies & intimate claims through WhatsApp
- HQs of SBI Gen Ins. – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Kishore Kumar Poludasu | Tagline – “Suraksha aur Bharosa Dono”

413. On October 18, Fintech firm Cygnet has received in-principle approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to operate as a non-banking financial company (NBFC) account aggregator (AA). Account Aggregator is one of the largest open financing data-sharing protocols regulated by the RBI. RBI, SEBI, IRDAI and PFRDA are already in various stages of integration with the account aggregator ecosystem as Financial Information Providers (FIP). With the addition of GSTN as a FIP, along with banks and financial institutions, this will play an important role in unleashing the flow-based credit facility to the otherwise underserved SME sector. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cygnet (Fintech firm) – received approval from RBI to operate as a NBFC account aggregator
- Account Aggregator – one of the largest open financing data-sharing protocols regulated by RBI
- RBI, SEBI, IRDAI, PFRDA & GSTN – integrates with account aggregator ecosystem as FIP
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established on – 1st April, 1935
- Total Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao

Defence Affairs

414. On October 16, Russia submitted its technical proposals in response to India’s request, the Army had issued a Request For Information (RFI) for the procurement of 350 light tanks weighing less than 25 tonnes in a phased manner. Russia will field its Sprut-SDM1 light amphibious tank for the Indian Army’s tender. Following the standoff with China in eastern Ladakh, the Indian Army is prioritising the procurement of a light tank, named ‘Zorawar’, for deployment in the mountains. The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Larsen & Toubro (L&T) are also jointly developing a light tank as per the Army’s specifications. In the last two years China has deployed the third-generation modern light tank ZTQ 15 (Type 15), latest ZTL-11 wheeled Armoured Personnel Carriers and the CSK series of assault vehicles along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Russia – submitted technical details of Sprut-SDM1 light amphibious tank for Indian Army’s Tender
- Indian Army – is prioritising the procurement of a light tank, named ‘Zorawar’
- DRDO + L&T = developing a light tank as per the Army’s specifications
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin





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इस खेल में कोई वित्तीय जोखिम नहीं है और इसकी आदत लग जाए तो अच्छा है।

Sports & Games

415. On October 17, Dommaraju Gukesh became the youngest chess player ever to beat Magnus Carlsen as World Chess Champion at 16 years, 4 months and 20 days of age. He defeated Carlsen in the 9th round of the Aimchess Rapid on the Meltwater Champions Chess Tour. It was the second time in two days where Carlsen was shocked by an Indian. On October 16, Arjun Erigaisi had shocked the world champion. In February 2022, Praggnanandhaa Rameshbabu had also defeated Carlsen. He was 16 years, 6 months and 10 days old at that time. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- D. Gukesh – became the youngest chess player ever to beat Magnus Carlsen as World Chess Champion
- R Praggnanandhaa & Arjun Erigaisi have also defeated magnus Carlsen

416. On October 16, the UAE's Aayan Khan, the 16-year old allrounder, is the youngest player to feature in the men's T20 World Cup at Simonds Stadium in Geelong, Australia. Aayan broke Pakistan pacer Mohammad Amir's record who had played his first T20 World Cup when he was 17 years and 55 days old. Netherlands' Stephan Myburgh, at 38 years and 230 days, is the oldest in the 2022 T20 World Cup at present. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Aayan Khan (UAE) – the youngest player to feature in the 'Men's T20 World Cup' in Geelong, Australia
- Aayan broke Pakistan pacer Mohammad Amir's record of 17 years & 55 days
- Stephan Myburgh (Netherlands) – the oldest in the '2022 T20 World Cup'

417. On October 18, Karim Benzema won the "Men's Ballon d'Or (Golden Ball Award) 2022" for the first time after a brilliant season with Real Madrid. He became the 5th Frenchman to win the prize. The 66th edition of the Ballon d'Or Ceremony was held in Paris, France. Spanish player Alexia Putellas won the women's trophy for the second straight year following another standout season with Barcelona. In other awards, the "Kopa Trophy" for the best under-21 player went to Barcelona midfielder Gavi (Pablo Martin Paez Gavira), while Robert Lewandowski won the "Gerd Mller Award" for the best striker of the year. The Lev Yashin Award for Best goalkeeper went to Real Madrid's Thibaut Courtois. "Club of the Year 2022" award went to Manchester City FC. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 66th edition of the 'Ballon d'Or Ceremony' – held in Paris, France
- Karim Benzema (France) – won the "Men's Ballon d'Or (Golden Ball Award) 2022" for the first time
- Alexia Putellas (Spain) – won the "Women's Ballon d'Or (Golden Ball Award) 2022" for the second straight year
- Gavi – won the "Kopa Trophy" for the 'Best under-21 Player'
- Robert Lewandowski – won the "Gerd Mller Award" for the 'Best Striker of the Year'
- Manchester City FC – won the "Club of the Year 2022" award

418. On October 18, Jyothi Yarraji won the 110m women's hurdles race, clocking within 12.82 seconds at the 61st "National Open Athletics Championships" in Bengaluru. With this, Jyothi rewrote her own national record and became the first Indian woman to finish 110m hurdle race under the crucial 13-second mark. James Hillier was her coach. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 61st "National Open Athletics Championships" – held in Bengaluru, Karnataka
- Jyothi Yarraji – won the 110m women's hurdles race, clocking within 12.82 seconds, at the championship
- With this, she became the first Indian woman to finish 110m hurdle race under the crucial 13-second mark



419. The first Khelo India Women's Judo National League was scheduled to be held from October 20 to 23, 2022 in IG Stadium, New Delhi. The league, which is a National Ranking tournament for women Judokas of 4 Zones, was organised by the Judo Federation of India and the Department of Sports, under Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. The total prize money of the tournament across 31 weight categories was Rs 24.43 Lakh. The tournament was organized across 4 age groups - Sub Junior (12-15 years), Cadet (15-17 years), Junior (15-20 years) and Senior (15 years and above). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 1st 'Khelo India Women's Judo National League' – organised by JFI & Dept of Sports in IG Stadium, New Delhi
- The league was organized across 4 age groups: Sub Junior, Cadet, Junior & Senior
- [HQs of JFI – New Delhi](#) | [President – Partap Singh Bajwa](#)

420. On October 17, Manish Sureshkumar and Vaidehi Chaudhari won the Men's and Women's Singles titles respectively in the "Fenesta Open National Tennis Championship" in New Delhi. Manish defeated Digvijay Pratap Singh, while Vaidehi defeated Sai Samhitha Chamarthi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Fenesta Open National Tennis Championship" – held in New Delhi
- Men's singles title – Manish Sureshkumar | Women's Singles title – Vaidehi Chaudhari

Persons in News

421. On October 10, Jagriti Yadav, a 20-year-old woman from Lucknow, became the top boss at the British High Commission in India for a day after winning a competition that was aimed at empowering the next generation of women as trail-blazers. The High Commission organises 'High Commissioner for a Day' competition annually to celebrate the International Day of the Girl Child (October 11). Jagriti is the sixth winner of the India edition of the 'High Commissioner for a Day' competition organised annually since 2017. She also launched a book alongside Ajay Kumar Sood, the Principal Scientific Adviser to the government of India, honouring 75 Indian Women in STEAM. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jagriti Yadav – won the 'High Commissioner for a Day' competition at the British High Commission in India
- She also launched a book honouring 75 Indian Women in STEAM
- This competition is organised annually to celebrate the 'International Day of the Girl Child' on – October 11

Science & Technology

422. ISRO and NASA have been working together to build a state-of-the-art Earth observation satellite called 'NISAR'. NISAR (NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar) will work along the lines of the European Space Agency's (ESA) Sentinel 1. In 2014, ISRO and NASA signed an MoU to work together on a new radar satellite for Earth observation. NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) will be responsible for the L-band SAR for the satellite. ISRO will spearhead the SAR's S-band. The frequencies used for L-band and S-band are 1.25 GHz and 3.22 GHz, respectively. NISAR will be able to capture the changes above the ground and under it. Both agencies have hinted to launch NISAR in Q1 2023. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- ISRO + NASA = working together to build a state-of-the-art Earth observation satellite called 'NISAR'
- NISAR – NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar
- NASA – will be responsible for the L-band SAR for the satellite & India will be responsible for S-band for the Satellite
- HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., US | Administrator – Bill Nelson | Founded in – 1958
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – S. Somanath | Formed on – August 15, 1969

423. On October 11, The University of Hyderabad (UoH), CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) and VINS Bioproducts Limited together announced the successful completion of Phase-2 clinical trials of VINCOV-19, "India's first antidote and a cure against SARS-CoV-2 virus". Phase 2 clinical trials were conducted across multiple centres in the country on over 200 patients. It included testing of the antidotes against the Omicron variant to ensure maximum coverage against the virus and its known mutations. VINCOV-19 contains Equine polyclonal antibodies (EpAbs) against the Covid-19 virus. It comprises highly purified F(ab')₂ antibody fragments that have a high neutralizing capacity against the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

[{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UoH + CSIR-CCMB + VINS Bioproducts = successfully completion Phase-2 clinical trials of VINCOV-19
- VINCOV-19 – "India's first antidote and a cure against SARS-CoV-2 virus"
- VINCOV-19 – contains Equine polyclonal antibodies (EpAbs) against the Covid-19 virus
- HQs of CSIR-CCMB – Hyderabad, Telangana | Director – Vinay K. Nandicoori



424. On October 17, the Swedish parliament elected Ulf Kristersson, the conservative Moderate Party leader of the Liberals, as the Prime Minister of Sweden. Although his coalition of three parties lacks a majority, prime ministers in Sweden are permitted to rule as long as there is no parliamentary majority against them. He replaced Magdalena Andersson. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ulf Kristersson (The Liberals) – elected as the new Prime Minister of Sweden (replacing - Magdalena Andersson)
- Sweden – Stockholm – Krona | PM – Ulf Kristersson

425. On October 13, National spokesperson of BJP and Bhubaneswar MP Aparajita Sarangi has been elected to the executive committee of Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU) held in Kigali, Republic of Rwanda. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Aparajita Sarangi – elected to the Executive Committee of IPU held in Kigali, Republic of Rwanda
- Rwanda – Kigali – Rwandan Franc | President – Paul Kagame
- HQs of IPU – Geneva, Switzerland | President – Duarte Pacheco | SG – Martin Chungong | Formed in – 1889

426. On October 14, Partha Satpathy has been appointed the next Indian Ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina. Satpathy was serving as the Ambassador of India to Hungary. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Partha Satpathy – appointed the next Indian Ambassador to Bosnia & Herzegovina
- [Bosnia and Herzegovina – Sarajevo – Convertible Marka](#) | [Chairman of the Presidency – Zeljka Cvijanovic](#)

427. On October 18, Former Indian cricket team star and member of the 1983 World Cup-winning team Roger Binny was named as the 36th President of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). He replaced former India captain Sourav Ganguly. Mr. Rajeev Shukla and Mr. Jay Shah have been elected as Vice President & Secretary respectively. Binny has also worked as the Karnataka State Cricket Association President. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Roger Binny (former cricketer) – named as the 36th President of the BCCI (replacing - Sourav Ganguly)
- Rajeev Shukla – elected as Vice President | Jay Shah – elected as Secretary
- [HQs of BCCI – Mumbai, MH](#) | [President – Roger Binny](#) | [Secretary – Jay Shah](#) | [Founded in – 1928](#)

428. On October 17, the Board of GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals (GSK India) appointed Bhushan Akshikar as managing director of the company for a period of 4 years effective from December 1, 2022. Akshikar succeeds Sridhar Venkatesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bhushan Akshikar – appointed as MD of GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals for 4 years (succeeding - Sridhar Venkatesh)
- [HQs of GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [MD – Bhushan Akshikar](#)

429. On October 16, Indian National Congress (INC) elected Mallikarjun Kharge as its 98th president. Kharge defeated fellow senior MP from Thiruvananthapuram, Shashi Tharoor, in the PCC elections held on October 17. The party has chosen a non-Gandhi leader after over two decades. Kharge is the second Dalit Congress president in five decades since Jagjivan Ram became the party chief in 1970. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mallikarjun Kharge – elected as the 98th president of INC (defeating - Shashi Tharoor)
- He is the second Dalit Congress president in 5 decades since Jagjivan Ram became the party chief in 1970

430. On October 18, Adani Group appointed Arun Bansal as chief executive officer of Adani Airport Holdings Ltd, an arm of Adani Enterprises Ltd. Bansal will join Adani Group from Ericsson where he served as senior vice president and head of market area Europe and Latin America. In September 2020, Adani Group acquired controlling stake in Mumbai International Airport Ltd and Navi Mumbai International Airport from GVK Airport Developers. B. V. J. K. Sharma will continue to be the chief executive officer at Navi Mumbai International Airport and Prakash Tulsiani as chief executive officer of Mumbai International Airport Ltd. Arun Bansal replaced Malay Mahadevia, who is currently a full-time director at Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Arun Bansal – appointed as CEO of Adani Airport Holdings Ltd
- [HQs of Adani Airport Holdings Ltd – Ahmedabad, Gujarat](#) | [CEO – Arun Bansal](#)



431. On October 17, World Bank appointed Michel Lino as a “Neutral Expert” and Sean Murphy as the Chairman of the Court of Arbitration regarding the Kishenganga and Ratle hydroelectric power plants, in view of disagreements and differences between India and Pakistan over the 1960 Indus Water Treaty. India and Pakistan signed the treaty in 1960, with the Washington-based World Bank being a signatory. India and Pakistan disagree over whether the technical design features of Kishenganga and Ratle hydroelectric power plants contravene the Treaty. Under the Indus Water Treaty (IWT), all the waters of the eastern rivers - Sutlej, Beas, and Ravi - amounting to around 33-million-acre feet (MAF) annually is allocated to India for unrestricted use. The waters of western rivers - Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab - amounting to around 135 MAF annually have been assigned largely to Pakistan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sean Murphy – appointed as the Chairman of the Court of Arbitration (by World Bank)
- Michel Lino – appointed as a “Neutral Expert” (by World Bank)
- ‘1960 Indus Water Treaty’ was signed between India & Pakistan with World Bank being a signatory
- According to treaty:
 - Waters of the Sutlej, Beas & Ravi – assigned to India
 - Waters of Indus, Jhelum & Chenab – largely assigned to Pakistan
- [HQs of World Bank – Washington D.C., US](#) | [Members – 189](#) | [President – David Malpass](#) | [MD & CFO – Anshula Kant](#)

432. On October 16, Apoorva Srivastava, a diplomat in the Indian Foreign Service, was appointed to serve as India’s Ambassador to the Slovak Republic. Both countries also enjoy extensive political cooperations. They have concluded agreements ranging from defence and air services to economics and culture. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Apoorva Srivastava – appointed to serve as India’s Ambassador to the Slovak Republic (Slovakia)
- [Slovakia – Bratislava – Euro](#) | [President – Zuzana Caputova](#) | [PM – Eduard Heger](#)

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

433. October 17, American historian and internationally acclaimed scholar of South Asian history and Islam, Barbara D Metcalf received the Sir Syed Excellence International Award for 2022. The annual award is given by the Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) on its founder Sir Syed Ahmad Khan’s birth anniversary. This year, AMU is marking the 205th anniversary of Sir Syed. The award is named in honour of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan (1817-1898), one of the foremost social and political reformers of modern India. He founded the Muhammadan Anglo-Oriental (MAO) College in 1875. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Barbara D Metcalf – received the ‘Sir Syed Excellence International Award’ for 2022 given by AMU
- Sir Syed Ahmad Khan – founder of Aligarh Muslim University
- [Chancellor of AMU – Dr Syedna Mufaddal Saifuddin](#)



434. On October 17, Sri Lankan writer Shehan Karunatilaka won the Booker Prize for his second novel 'The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida', about a dead war photographer on a mission in the afterlife. This year's shortlist of Booker Prize contenders included British author Alan Garner's Treacle Walker, Zimbabwean author NoViolet Bulawayo's Glory, Small Things Like These by Irish writer Claire Keegan, U. S. author Percival Everett's The Trees and Oh William! by U. S. author Elizabeth Strout. Booker Prize was first awarded in 1969. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shehan Karunatilaka (Sri Lanka) – won the 'Booker Prize 2022' for his novel 'The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida'
- Booker prize was first awarded in – 1969
- Other shortlisted authors & their books:
 - 'Treacle Walker' – authored by Alan Garner
 - 'Glory' – authored by NoViolet Bulawayo
 - 'Small Things Like These' – authored by Claire Keegan
 - 'The Trees' – authored by Percival Everett
 - 'Oh William!' – authored by Elizabeth Strout

Important Days & Dates

435. On October 20, 1962, India's northern neighbour, China dispatched an assault on the country's borders. During the following weeks, the world saw an inspiring show of fundamental solidarity, which was the solidarity of the Indian public. Since then, India started observing "National Solidarity Day" on October 20 in the wake of the mortifying thrashing of the Indian military because of China in 1962. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 20 – National Solidarity Day

436. World Anaesthesia Day (also known as National Anaesthesia Day or Ether Day in some countries) is celebrated every year globally on 16 October to commemorate the first successful demonstration of diethyl ether anaesthesia in 1846. In 2022, the theme was "Medication Safety". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 16 – World Anaesthesia Day or National Anaesthesia Day or Ether Day
- 2022's Theme – "Medication Safety"

437. World Kuchipudi Day is celebrated on the October 15 to preserve art and support the artists. The 3rd World Kuchipudi Natyotsavam was organised for 3 days starting from October 14 in Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh. The Kuchipudi Dance Festival was organised in commemoration of the 93rd birth anniversary of world-renowned Kuchipudi dance artiste, Vempati China Satyam. Around 3,000 Kuchipudi artistes from Andhra Pradesh and Telangana took part in the dance festival. Two dances choreographed by China Satyam, Pedda Vinayaka Kautham and Koluvaiva, were performed by them. Moreover, Dr. Vempati China Satyam Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Bala Kondala Rao. Similarly, Kumari Lanka Annapoorna Devi Lifetime Achievement Award was given to Vanaja Uday, while the Dr. Sobha Naidu Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Padmaja Reddy. Also, Vempati Venkat Seva Puraskar was given to Srikant Raghupatruni. [{Read more}](#)



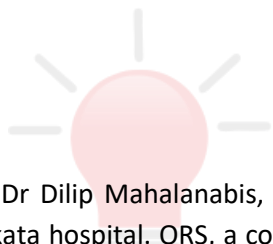
Key Points:

- October 15 – World Kuchipudi Day
- 3rd World Kuchipudi Natyotsavam – organised in Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh
- The dance festival marks the 93rd birth anniversary of Vempati China Satyam, a world-renowned Kuchipudi dance artiste
- Dr. Vempati China Satyam Lifetime Achievement Award – Bala Kondala Rao
- Kumari Lanka Annapoorna Devi Lifetime Achievement Award – Vanaja Uday
- Dr. Sobha Naidu Lifetime Achievement Award – Padmaja Reddy
- Vempati Venkat Seva Puraskar – Srikant Raghupatruni

438. The 8th World Forest Week (WFW 2022) was observed by the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) from September 29 to October 7, 2022 with the theme of "Growing a Better Planet". WFW2022 was structured around the priority areas outlined in the 'FAO Strategic Framework 2022-2031' with its vision of a sustainable and food secure world for all. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- September 29 to October 7 – 8th World Forest Week – by FAO
- Theme – "Growing a Better Planet"



Obituaries

439. On October 16, Dr Dilip Mahalanabis, a physician who pioneered the discovery of Oral Rehydration Solution (ORS), passed away at a Kolkata hospital. ORS, a combination of water, glucose and salts, is a simple and cost-effective method of preventing dehydration and is an effective remedy for dehydration. Dr Mahalanabis was working in overflowing refugee camps during the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation war when he came up with ORS. He was born on November 12, 1934 in West Bengal. In India, July 29 is observed as ORS Day. WHO recommends a combination of sodium chloride, anhydrous glucose, potassium chloride and Trisodium citrate dihydrate as the ORS formula. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr Dilip Mahalanabis (West Bengal) – a physician who pioneered the discovery of ORS – passed away
- July 29 – ORS Day – observed in India
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – La. Ganesan

Meetings, Conferences & Summits

440. On October 14, India participated at the 6th East Asia Summit Education Minister's Meeting held in Hanoi, Vietnam. Ms. Neeta Prasad, Joint Secretary (International Cooperation) Ministry of Education virtually addressed the gathering. PM SHRI scheme under which more than 14,500 schools will be developed across India with all components of NEP 2020 as exemplar schools. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Ms. Neeta Prasad – attended the 6th “East Asia Summit Education Minister’s Meeting” – held in Hanoi, Vietnam
- Vietnam – Hanoi – Vietnamese dong | PM – Pham Minh Chinh | President – Nguyen Xuan Phuc
- Ministry of Education: Dharmendra Pradhan | Constituency – Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Education: Subhas Sarkar

441. On October 19, Cashfree Payments launched ‘Card issuance Stack’, under the ambit of their solution called “Issuance”. This move aims to enable both fintech and platform-based businesses to launch prepaid cards and wallets for all three target audience groups - partners, customers and employees. Cashfree’s Issuance is a wallet and prepaid issuance application programming interface (API). Additionally, this newly-launched API can be clubbed with Cashfree Payments’ Payment Gateway and Payouts for a more robust card system. Firms may also have a choice to launch both mono- and co-branded prepaid cards. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cashfree Payments – launched ‘Card issuance Stack’, under the ambit of their solution called “Issuance”
- HQs of Cashfree Payments – Bengaluru, Karnataka | HQs of EasyTransfer – Singapore

442. The national coordinators of the SCO met during October 17-18. India is expected to host the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit before the G20 Summit, which will be held in New Delhi in September 2023. India took over the SCO presidency following the summit in Uzbekistan’s Samarkand. Pakistan and China also sent officials to participate in the closing ceremony of a counter-terrorism exercise hosted by India under the framework of the SCO Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS). India was the chair of RATS till recently. The next RATS exercise will be organised in China in 2023. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India took over the SCO presidency following the summit in Uzbekistan’s Samarkand | India – to host next SCO Summit
- G20 Summit – to be held in New Delhi in Sep 2023
- India – chaired the ‘SCO RATS Exercise 2022’ | ‘SCO RATS Exercise 2023’ – to be organised in China
- Uzbekistan – Tashkent – So’m | President – Shavkat Mirziyoyev
- HQs of SCO – Beijing, China | SG – Zhang Ming | Present Member Countries – 8 | Current Presidency – India

443. On October 21, Hardeep Singh Puri inaugurated the three-day South Asian geoscience conference called ‘GEO India 2022’ in the Pink City. Over a hundred experts from India and other countries including the United States, Norway and the European Central participated to discuss share the latest researches on improved production of natural gas and oil. The conference brainstormed on the role of oil and gas in the context of energy transition in the fast-changing world. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hardeep Singh Puri – inaugurated South Asian geoscience conference called ‘GEO India 2022’ – held in Jaipur, Rajasthan
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra



444. Indian Coast Guards (ICG) hosted 18th Heads of Asian Coast Guard Agencies Meeting (HACGAM) in coordination with HACGAM secretariat at New Delhi from 14-18 Oct 22. A total of 55 participants from 18 countries including 02 International Organisation participated in the 18th HACGAM. HACGAM is a multilateral forum of 23 countries. The 1st HACGAM was hosted by Japan Coast Guard in 2004 at Tokyo. This is the only forum where all the heads of Asian CG agencies congregate. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICG – hosted 18th HACGAM at New Delhi from 14-18 Oct
- HACGAM – a multilateral forum of 23 countries | 1st HACGAM was hosted by – Japan Coast Guard in 2004 at Tokyo
- HQs of ICG – New Delhi | DG – Virender Singh Pathania | Founded in – 1977

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

445. In next 5 years, India, by overtaking Germany and Japan, may become the 3rd biggest Economy after the United States and China by FY28, according to the International Monetary Fund's "World Economic Outlook" database. As per the numbers presented by IMF, the per capita GDP of India will reach \$3,652 in 2027 as compared to \$2,466 in 2022. India's economy is projected to be \$4.94 trillion by 2026-27 and to hit the \$5.36 trillion mark by FY28. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "World Economic Outlook" database – released by IMF
- IMF: India may become the 3rd biggest Economy after the US & China by FY28 (by overtaking - Germany & Japan)
- HQs of IMF – Washington, D.C., USA | MD & Chairperson – Kristalina Georgieva | Member countries – 190

446. India stood at 41 position out of 44 countries in 2022 with marginal improvement in its index value compared to 40th position out of 43 countries, according to the "2022 Mercer CFS Global Pension Index" assessed in 2021. The Survey suggest that India needs to boost coverage under private pension arrangements and strengthen its regulatory framework to bring more and more of its workers under the social security net. According to the survey, India had an overall index value of 44.4 in 2022, up from 43.3 in 2021 but lower than 45.7 for 2020. Globally, Iceland had the highest overall index value (84.7), closely followed by the Netherlands (84.6) and Denmark (82.0). Thailand had the lowest index value (41.7) while Portugal is the new entrant to the global ranking. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 2022 Mercer CFS Global Pension Index: 1st – Iceland (84.7), 2nd – Netherlands (84.6), 3rd – Denmark (82.0)
- India (44.4) – ranked 41st | Lowest Index value – Thailand (41.7) | New entrant to the Index – Portugal

447. On October 17, the "One Health Joint Plan of Action (2022-26)" was launched by the quadripartite - the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, founded as OIE). This first joint plan on One Health aims to create a framework to integrate systems and capacity so that we can collectively better prevent, predict, detect, and respond to health threats. The plan provides a set of activities that aim to strengthen collaboration, communication, capacity building, and coordination across all sectors responsible for addressing health concerns at the Human-Animal-Plant-Environment interface. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- “One Health Joint Plan of Action (2022-26)” – launched by FAO + UNEP + WHO + WOAH
- The plans works together for addressing health concerns of Human, Animal, Plant & Environment
- HQs of FAO – Rome, Italy | DG – QU Dongyu | Formation – 16th October, 1945
- 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
- HQs of WOAHA – Paris, France | DG – Dr. Monique Eloit

448. In the month of September, India dropped one spot in both median mobile data and fixed broadband speeds, according to Ookla’s “Speedtest Global Index (Sep 2022)”. Previously, India was ranked 117 and 78 in median mobile data and fixed broadband speeds globally in August. But the September’s report now places India at 118th and 79th positions, respectively. But despite the drop in rank, the median download speeds on mobile networks increased slightly from 13.52 Mbps in August to 13.87 Mbps in September. Another Ookla survey shows that 89% of Indian customers intend to update to 5G. China's Shanghai is the fastest city with a median download speed of 158.63 Mbps for mobile networks, while Beijing, China led with 238.86 Mbps for fixed broadband in September 2022. Thus, China tops the Speedtest Global Index in both segments, while Norway tops for overall global median mobile speeds. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Speedtest Global Index (Sep 2022)” – by Ookla
- In Sep 2022: India’s rank in median mobile data – 118th | In fixed broadband speeds – 79th
- Fastest city for mobile networks – Shanghai | Fastest city for fixed broadband – Beijing
- China – tops the Speedtest Global Index in both segments | Norway – tops for overall global median mobile speeds

Acquisitions & Mergers

449. On October 18, Adani Defence Systems & Technologies signed a definitive agreement to acquire Air Works, India’s biggest and highly diversified independent MRO with the largest pan-India network presence across 27 cities. The Adani Group-backed company will acquire Air Works at an enterprise value of ₹400 Cr. Air Works is the oldest MRO in India and was established in 1951. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Adani Defence Systems & Technologies – to acquire Air Works for Rs 400 Cr
- Air Works Group – India’s oldest and biggest independent MRO
- HQs of Air Works – Gurgaon | MD & CEO – D Anand Bhaskar | Established in 1951



MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

450. On October 18, Ericsson and Nokia have inked multi-year supply contracts with Jio for supplying 5G network equipment. Jio will deploy a standalone 5G network which will interwork with its 4G network and will enable it to provide services such as machine to machine communication, network slicing and ultra-low latency. Bharti Airtel is deploying a non-standalone network for its 5G services and has selected Samsung, in addition to the two European gear makers for its network. Jio plans to expand countrywide coverage by December 2023. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ericsson & Nokia + Jio – multi-year supply contracts to supply 5G network equipment
- Bharti Airtel – selected Samsung for its 5G services
- HQs of Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd – Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Akash Ambani
- HQs of Nokia – Espoo, Finland | CEO – Pekka Lundmark





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