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- Travelling is one of the most overlooked time drainers. CNBC claims that the average commute is a little over 50 minutes per day.
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- Digital Information World suggests that people spend 2 hours and 22 minutes on social media.
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National & States Affairs

551. On November 21, West Bengal government announced to introduce a new mining policy under which private landowners will get a licence to mine minerals like black stone, limestone and others to expand revenue generation scope for the state. The new policy aims to overcome land acquisition hurdles for mining 'minor minerals' and curbing illegal excavation in the state. If minerals are found in private lands, the government cannot auction those lands, so illegal mining thrives there. Now, after introducing the policy, the government will have revenue by auctioning those lands. The government will have a centralised portal where an individual or a group having a stretch of at least one hectare with a mineral reserve can apply for a mining licence. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- West Bengal – announced to introduce a new Mining Policy under which private landowners will get a licence to mine
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – CV Ananda Bose

552. On November 20, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) launched a training module for Child Welfare Committees to enhance knowledge and improve skills of its members in delivering effective and timely service for protection and rehabilitation of children. The module is a 15-day programme for training CWCs. The NCPCR also launched the 'GHAR - GO Home and Re-Unite' (Portal for Restoration and Repatriation of Child) which addresses the amended roles of CWCs and District Child Protection Officer (DCPOs) for children in need of care and protection. 'GHAR - GO Home and Re-Unite' portal is developed by NCPCR and it aims to addresses the amended roles of CWCs and district child protection units in matters where children are in need of care and protection. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NCPCR – launched a training module for CWCs to enhance knowledge & improve skills of its members
- NCPCR also launched the 'GHAR - GO Home and Re-Unite' portal (developed by – NCPCR)
- HQs of NCPCR – New Delhi | Chairman – Priyank Kanongoo | Motto – 'भविष्यो रक्षति रक्षितः'

553. On November 19, In a first, three transgender persons have made it to the final tentative list of Graduate Primary Teachers (GPT) in Karnataka. In 2022, the Karnataka government had provided 1% reservation in GPT recruitment for transgender persons. The three on the list are Suresh Babu from Chikkaballapura district, Ravikumar Y.R. from Madhugiri, and Ashwathama from Raichur. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 3 transgender persons have made it to the final tentative list of Graduate Primary Teachers (GPT) in Karnataka
- Karnataka – provided 1% reservation in GPT recruitment for transgender persons
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot

554. On November 22, PM Narendra Modi addressed a 'Rozgar Mela' via video conferencing, in Jammu and distributed over 71,000 appointment letters to new recruits at 45 locations across India, except Gujarat & Himachal Pradesh the Model Code of Conduct was in force by the Election Commission of India. The PM also launched 'Karmyogi Prarambh', a special online orientation course designed for new appointees in government departments. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – addressed 'Rozgar Mela' & distributed over 71,000 appointment letters to new recruits at 45 locations
- He also launched 'Karmyogi Prarambh', a special online orientation course for new appointees in government dept



555. On November 18, Maharashtra Government announced to double the pension of freedom fighters from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 20,000 per month. Accordingly, freedom fighters associated with India's freedom struggle, Marathwada Mukti Sangram and Goa Liberation Movement will benefit from this decision. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra – announced to double the pension of freedom fighters from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 20,000 per month
- Maharashtra: CM – Eknath Shinde | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

556. On November 22, Tamil Nadu government issued a notification declaring Arittapatti and Meenakshipuram villages in Madurai district as “Arittapatti Biodiversity Heritage Site”, the first biodiversity heritage site in the state. It is India's 35th Biodiversity Heritage Site. The site comprises 139.63 hectares. To prevent the loss of biodiversity and to preserve the cultural and architectural heritage of bygone times, the State government, upon the recommendation of the Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board has declared Arittapatti a biodiversity heritage site. The declaration of the site has been made under the Section 37 of the ‘Biological Diversity Act, 2002’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tamil Nadu – declared an area in Arittapatti & Meenakshipuram villages as “Arittapatti Biodiversity Heritage Site”
- It is Tamil Nadu's 1st & India's 35th Biodiversity Heritage Site
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi

557. On November 25, The Union government unveiled a framework of standards to curb fake reviews on e-commerce websites. The framework, ‘Indian Standard (IS) 19000:2022’, has been prepared by the Bureau of Indian Standards and came into effect from November 25. The standards are for every online platform which publishes consumer reviews. Industry players like Tata Sons, Amazon, Flipkart, Reliance Retail, Google, Meta (Facebook), Swiggy and Zomato participated in the consultation process of finalization of the standards on fake reviews. CII, FICCI and NASSCOM were also part of the consultation process. The standard provides for responsibilities of organization including developing a code of practice, and necessary stipulations for terms and conditions like accessibility, criteria, and ensuring content does not contain financial information etc. The standard also provides for methods for verification of review author to check traceability and genuineness of the review author. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Govt unveiled a framework of standards (Indian Standard 19000:2022) to curb fake reviews on e-commerce websites
- The framework is prepared by – Bureau of Indian Standards
- HQs of BIS – Manek Bhawan, Old Delhi | Director General – Pramod Kumar Tiwari

558. An annual show, “Air Fest 2022”, showcasing maneuvers of planes & helicopters in the arsenal of the Indian Air Force (IAF), was organised at Head Quarters Maintenance Command, Vayusena Nagar in Nagpur, Maharashtra. The Air Fest was conducted as a part of the ‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’. During the show, a team of four ‘Sarang’ advanced light helicopters showed heart throbbing maneuvers. These helicopters are indigenously manufactured by HAL-Hindustan Aeronautics Limited. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- An annual show, “Air Fest 2022”, showcasing maneuvers of planes & helicopters – organised in Nagpur, Maharashtra
- 4 ‘Sarang’ advanced light helicopters were used for this show
- HQs of IAF – New Delhi | Chief – Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari | Vice Chief – Air Marshal Sandeep Singh



559. On November 22, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurated the “UNESCO-India-Africa Hackathon 2022” at the Gautam Buddha University campus in Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh. The Hackathon brought together young brains from 22 countries along with India who collaborated to conceptualise innovative technology-based solutions for the daunting problems faced by humanity and also to promote a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship in the younger generations. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh – inaugurated “UNESCO-India-Africa Hackathon 2022” at Gautam Buddha University, Greater Noida
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

560. On November 19, Union Minister for Tribal Affairs Arjun Munda announced that the government has decided to set up 100 archery academies in India to promote talent amongst tribal children by nurturing their archery skills. He informed that the government is setting up Eklavya Model Residential School and implementing ‘Pradhan Mantri Adi Adarsh Gram Yojna’ which aims at mitigating gaps and providing basic infrastructure in villages with significant tribal population. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Govt has decided to set up 100 Archery Academies in India to promote talent amongst tribal children

561. In November 2022, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has given environmental clearance for the Centre’s ambitious Rs 72,000 crore multi-development projects in Greater Nicobar Island. The Indian government’s ambitious plans include development of an international container transshipment terminal, a military-civil dual use airport, a solar power plant and an integrated township. The port and development will be controlled by the Indian Navy. The Greater Nicobar Island is occupied by the Shompen and Nicobarese tribes. The project area falls near two national parks - Galathea Bay National Park and Campbell Bay National Park - both located in Andaman and Nicobar Islands. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoEFCC gave environmental clearance for Rs 72,000 Cr multi-development projects in Greater Nicobar Island
- The port and development will be controlled by the Indian Navy
- The project area falls near two national parks - Galathea Bay National Park & Campbell Bay National Park

562. On November 21, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare announced a “National Suicide Prevention Strategy”, the first of its kind in India, with time-bound action plans and multi-sectoral collaborations to achieve reduction in suicide mortality by 10% by 2030. The strategy broadly seeks to establish effective surveillance mechanisms for suicide within the next 3 years, establish psychiatric outpatient departments that will provide suicide prevention services through the District Mental Health Programme in all districts within the next 5 years, and to integrate a mental well-being curriculum in all educational institutions within the next 8 years. In India, more than 1 lakh lives are lost every year to suicide, and it is the top killer in the 15-29 years category. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare – announced “National Suicide Prevention Strategy”, the first of its kind in India
- It aims to achieve reduction in suicide mortality by 10% by 2030
- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Mansukh L. Mandaviya | Constituency – Palitana, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Bharati Pravin Pawar



International Affairs

563. On November 21, QatarEnergy (formerly Qatar Petroleum) signed a 27-year natural gas supply deal with China. It is the “longest” gas supply deal as it strengthened ties with Asia at a time when Europe is scrambling for alternative sources. The state energy company will send four million tonnes of liquefied natural gas annually from its new North Field East project to China Petroleum and Chemical Corporation (Sinopec). Asian countries led by China, Japan and South Korea are the main market for Qatar’s gas, which is increasingly being sought by European countries since Russia’s invasion of Ukraine. China is the first country to seal a deal for North Field East. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Qatar + China = signed the longest natural gas supply deal (27 years)
- China – the first country to seal a deal for North Field East
- Qatar – Doha – Riyal | PM – Khalid bin Khalifa bin Abdulaziz Al Thani
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

564. On November 21, Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB) has bagged the National Award from Pension Fund regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) for significant enrolment under Atal Pension Yojana (APY). So far, the bank has enrolled 3,34,687 (cumulative) accounts under APY. During 2022-23, the bank enrolled 69,132 accounts against the target of 50,320. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- KVGB – received the National Award from PFRDA for significant enrolment under ‘Atal Pension Yojana (APY)’
- HQs of KVGB – Dharwad, Karnataka | Chairman – P. Gopi Krishna | Sponsored by – Canara Bank

565. On November 22, Flipkart’s “SuperCoins reward program” and Axis Bank partnered to launch “Super Elite Credit Card”. The card will enable Flipkart customers to earn a total of 8 SuperCoins for every ₹100 spent and a maximum of 200 SuperCoins can be earned on every successful transaction. Flipkart Plus customers earn a total of 16 SuperCoins for every ₹100 spent and they can earn a maximum of 400 SuperCoins on every successful transaction on Flipkart. SuperCoins are rewards that consumers can earn on each purchase across Flipkart, Myntra, and Cleartrip. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Flipkart + Axis Bank = partnered to launch “Super Elite Credit Card”
- HQs of Flipkart – Bangalore, Karnataka | Chairperson – Binny Bansal | CEO – Kalyan Krishnamurthy
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry | Tagline – “Badhti ka Naam Zindagi”

566. On November 22, Airtel Payments Bank launched face authentication-based savings bank account opening for customers to further ease the account opening process. Airtel Payments Bank is the first payments bank in the country to offer this facility. The new facility will help business correspondents (BCs) of the bank to open an account just by undertaking face authentication e-KYC. This KYC facility uses AI/ML-based face authentication RD application that helps in the prevention of fraudulent activities by cross-checking individual’s photo with the image captured in Aadhaar and allows secure customer onboarding. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- APB – first payments bank in India to launch face authentication-based Savings Bank Account opening facility
- HQs of APB – New Delhi | CEO – Anubrata Biswas | Founded in – 2017

567. On November 22, ICICI Bank launched two new products - Loan against Deposits (LAD) and Dollar Bonds for its NRI customers at its branch in GIFT City, Gujarat. ICICI Bank is the first bank to offer these products in GIFT City. Loan against Deposits is a loan in foreign currency against a deposit in India (including Rupee NRE FDs). While Dollar Bonds are an alternate investment option for NRIs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICICI Bank – first bank to launch ‘Loan against Deposits (LAD)’ & ‘Dollar Bonds’ in GIFT City for its NRI customers
- HQs of ICICI Lombard – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Bhargav Das Gupta

568. On November 21, Kotak Mahindra General Insurance Company launched its add-on “Meter” (switch on/switch off) cover for its Private Car insurance policy. With the launch, Kotak General Insurance has become the first company in the country to offer a cashback via an add-on for private car insurance policy. Through a Switch ON and OFF feature on the mobile application, customers are awarded a reward day for every continuous 24 hours, the cover is turned off, when the vehicle is not in use. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kotak Mahindra General Insurance – launched add-on “Meter” (switch on/off) cover for its Private Car insurance policy
- HQs of Kotak Mahindra General Insurance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Suresh Agarwal

569. On November 22, Federal Bank launched a deposit scheme for NRIs titled ‘Deposit Plus’. The scheme offers a higher interest rate than the existing NRE fixed deposits. The maximum interest rate offered in Deposit Plus scheme is 7.50% for a tenure of 700 days. The interest accrued on this scheme will be added to the principal (re-investment plan) on a quarterly basis. The deposits cannot be closed prematurely; however, customers have the option of availing loans up to 75% of the deposit amount in the event funds are required prior to maturity. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Federal Bank – launched a deposit scheme titled ‘Deposit Plus’ for NRIs
- The maximum interest rate offered in Deposit Plus scheme is 7.50% for a tenure of 700 days
- HQs of Federal Bank – Aluva, Kerala | MD & CEO – Shyam Srinivasan | Tagline – “Your Perfect Banking Partner”

570. On Monday 21, HDFC Bank partnered with Flywire Corporation to help Indian payers to easily pay international education fees to higher education institutions digitally. Students can make the payment in Indian rupees while institutions will be able to accept payments on time in the local currency and they can both have full transparency into the transaction history. They will be able to get a fully digital checkout experience for their transactions, ranging from application fees to tuition payments. The integration also streamlines the compliance process for Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS), which are guidelines set by the Reserve Bank of India that enable Indian residents to remit up to \$250,000 USD overseas, per financial year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC Bank + Flywire Corporation = partnered to help Indian students to easily pay international education fees
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your World”



571. On November 22, BillBox introduced TapTap, a wearable device facilitating contactless payments, in association with NSDL Payments Bank and Visa. It would be connected via a mobile app to facilitate payments at point-of sale machines at merchants' outlets. Billbox is a solution provider in the payments and merchant ecosystem in India. TapTap is a programme manager and fintech in prepaid and gift card programmes. The device is available in multiple formats and the chip can be purchased online for ₹1,499 plus taxes. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BillBox + NSDL Payments Bank + Visa = introduced 'TapTap', a wearable device facilitating contactless payments
- HQs of NSDL Payments Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Abhijit Kamalapurkar
- HQs of Visa – Foster City, California | CEO – Alfred F. Kelly | Founded in – 1958

572. On November 21, Bank of Baroda entered into an alliance with AEREM Solutions Pvt Ltd (ASPL) and its subsidiary, AEREM Finance Pvt Ltd (AFPL), for financing of Solar Rooftop projects for captive use by MSMEs. Under the agreement, the public sector bank will provide collateral-free loans at affordable rates to MSMEs for installation of captive solar rooftop projects. AEREM Solutions enables rooftop solar installations for MSMEs, while AEREM Finance is an NBFC registered with the Reserve Bank of India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BoB + AEREM Finance = to provide collateral-free loans to MSMEs for installation of captive solar rooftop projects
- HQs of BOB – Vadodara, Gujarat | CEO – Sanjiv Chadha | Tagline – "India's International Bank"
- HQs of AEREM Finance – Mumbai, MH | Founder and CEO – Anand Jain



Defence Affairs

573. In November 2022, Indian Navy and Royal Navy of Oman conducted the 13th edition of bilateral exercise 'Naseem Al Bahr' (Sea Breeze). The highlight of the exercise was participation of India's guided missile stealth frigate, INS Trikand, offshore patrol vessel, INS Sumitra, and Maritime Patrol Aircraft Dornier. The six-day long exercise was conducted off the coast of Oman. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Navy + Royal Navy of Oman = conducted the 13th bilateral exercise 'Naseem Al Bahr' (Sea Breeze) in Oman
- INS Trikand & INS Sumitra – participated in the exercise
- Oman – Muscat – Rial | Sultan – Haitham bin Tariq Al Said
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950

574. On November 21, South Western Command of the Indian Army conducted Integrated Fire Power Exercise, "SHATRUNASH" at MFFR in Thar desert of Rajasthan. Real time communication and sharing of common operating picture amongst various participants to overcome emerging threats were practised & skills were honed. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 'SHATRUNASH', a Fire Power Exercise – conducted by South Western Command of Indian Army in Thar Desert, Rajasthan
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande | Vice Chief – Lt. General Baggavalli Somashekar Raju
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra



Sports & Games

575. On November 19, Hyderabad hosted the first round of Indian Racing League (IRL) 2022 organised ahead of Formula E race to be held in the city on 11 February 2023. The IRL is the first ever Street Circuit Car Racing of the country and also the trial run for the track for E Formula. Hyderabad was also scheduled to host the fourth round of the event on 10th and 11th of December while Chennai was scheduled to host the second round from 25th of November and third round from 2nd of December. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hyderabad – hosted the 1st round of ‘Indian Racing League (IRL) 2022’ (4th round too)
- Chennai – hosted the 2nd & 3rd round of IRL 2022
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

576. International Olympic Committee’s (IOC) first ever “Olympic Esports Week” will take place in Singapore between June 22 and 25, 2023. In partnership with the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth, Sport Singapore and the Singapore National Olympic Committee (SNOC), the Olympic Esports Week will showcase the best of virtual sports - hybrid physical and simulated sports. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IOC’s first ever “Olympic Esports Week” – to take place in Singapore
- Singapore – Singapore – Dollar | PM – Lee Hsien Loong | President – Halimah Yacob
- HQs of IOC – Lausanne, Switzerland | President – Thomas Bach | Established in – 1894

577. On November 20, Novak Djokovic of Serbia defeated Norwegian Casper Ruud to clinch the “Nitto ATP Finals Championship” title and collect the biggest winner’s cheque in tennis history. It is his fifth title of the year. Djokovic won the title for the first time since 2015. The victory also pulled him level with Roger Federer on a record-equalling six ATP Finals titles. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Novak Djokovic (Serbia) – won the “Nitto ATP Finals Championship” title (defeating - Casper Ruud of Norway)

Persons in News

578. On November 20, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar departed for an official visit to Qatar to represent India at the inauguration of the FIFA World Cup 2022. During his visit, besides attending the inaugural ceremony, Vice President also interacted with the members of the Indian community. Next year, both countries would be celebrating 50 years of establishment of full diplomatic relations. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jagdeep Dhankhar – represented India at the inaugural ceremony of the ‘FIFA World Cup 2022’ in Qatar
- Qatar – Doha – Riyal | PM – Khalid bin Khalifa bin Abdulaziz Al Thani





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Science & Technology

579. On November 20, Researchers discovered a new species of tardigrade with sand dunes adaptations and provide new evidence that some tardigrades select places to colonise by riding inside snails. On the entire surface of the planet, from mountains to oceans to ice sheets, various tardigrade species have adapted to particular habitats. The recently discovered tardigrade is from Rokua National Park in Finland's North Ostrobothnia region, where scientists discovered it subsisting in a dune woodland on lichen and moss. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Researchers discovered a new species of tardigrade with sand dunes adaptations from Rokua National Park in Finland
- Finland – Helsinki – Euro | PM – Sanna Marin

580. On November 23, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) conducted the 200th consecutively successful launch of the "Rohini RH-200" sounding rocket from Thumba, a coastal area of Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. Former President Ram Nath Kovind was present at the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) - ISRO's lead unit on launch vehicles - to witness the launch. RH-200 is a solid motor-powered, expendable rocket capable of climbing up to a height of 70 km bearing payloads designed to study the upper atmosphere. ISRO has launched more than 1,600 RH-200 rockets so far. The '200' in the name denotes the diameter of the rocket in mm. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ISRO – conducted 200th consecutively successful launch of "Rohini RH-200" sounding rocket from Thiruvananthapuram
- '200' in the name denotes the diameter of the rocket in mm
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – S. Somanath | Formed on – August 15, 1969

581. On November 19, the ISRO's Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) has conducted the "Integrated Main Parachute Airdrop Test (IMAT)" of its crew module deceleration system for the much-awaited maiden Gaganyaan human spaceflight programme at the Babina Field Fire Range (BFFR) in Jhansi district of Uttar Pradesh. It marks a significant milestone toward realising India's ambitious Gaganyaan project. The design and development of the parachute-based deceleration system is a joint venture of ISRO and the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ISRO's VSSC – conducted the "Integrated Main Parachute Airdrop Test (IMAT)" at Babina Field Fire Range, Jhansi, UP
- The design & development of the parachute-based deceleration system is a JV of ISRO & DRDO
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – S. Somanath | Formed on – August 15, 1969

Appointments & Resignations

582. On November 21, Kassym-Jomart Tokayev won the second term as president of Kazakhstan winning 81.31% of the vote. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kassym-Jomart Tokayev – re-elected as President of Kazakhstan
- Kazakhstan – Astana – Tenge | President – Kassym-Jomart Tokayev | PM – Alikhan Smailov



583. On November 20, 10 Executive Directors (EDs) have been appointed to public sector banks (PSBs) for a 3-year period. These are: Lalit Tyagi (Bank of Baroda), Binod Kumar (Punjab National Bank), Ashok Chandra (Canara Bank), Ramasubramanian (Union Bank), Mahesh Bajaj (Indian Bank), M. Paramasivan (PNB), Subrat Kumar (Bank of India), Malladi Venkat Murali Krishna (Central Bank of India), Rahendra Saboo (UCO Bank), and Sanjay Mudaliyar (Indian Overseas Bank).

[{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 10 Executive Directors (EDs) have been appointed to public sector banks (PSBs) for a 3-year period:
- Lalit Tyagi (BoB), Binod Kumar & M. Paramasivan (PNB), Ashok Chandra (Canara Bank), Ramasubramanian (Union Bank)
- Malladi Venkat Murali Krishna (CBoI), Rahendra Saboo (UCO Bank), Sanjay Mudaliyar (IOB), Mahesh Bajaj (Indian Bank)

584. On November 21, Prof. Venu Gopal Achanta, Director, CSIR-National Physical Laboratory (CSIR-NPL), New Delhi, has been elected as a member of the prestigious International Committee for Weights and Measures (CIPM) at the 27th General Conference on Weights and Measures (CGPM) meeting during November 15 to 18, 2022 at Paris, France. CIPM is a supreme international committee, which is responsible for Development and Implementation of Weight and Measures globally. Prof. Venu Gopal Achanta is among 18 members worldwide from different countries. He is the 7th Indian to be in the prestigious international committee. At present, CGPM is represented by 64 member countries and meets every 4th year at International Bureau of Weight and Measure (BIPM), France. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Venu Gopal Achanta – elected as a member of International Committee for Weights & Measures (CIPM)
- HQs of CSIR-NPL – New Delhi | Director – Prof. Venu Gopal Achanta

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

585. On November 22, the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) announced its “2022 Champions of the Earth”, honouring a conservationist, an enterprise, an economist, a women’s rights activist, and a wildlife biologist for their transformative action to prevent, halt and reverse ecosystem degradation. Since its inception in 2005, the annual Champions of the Earth award has been awarded to trailblazers at the forefront of efforts to protect our natural world. It is the UN’s highest environmental honour. To date, the award has recognized 111 laureates. India’s Assam-based Dr Purnima Devi Barman was honoured in the Entrepreneurial Vision category. She is a wildlife biologist and leads the “Hargila Army”, an all-female grassroots conservation movement. Cameroon’s Cecile Bibiane Ndjebet, a tireless advocate for the rights of women in Africa, was honoured in the Inspiration and Action category. The UK’s Sir Partha Dasgupta, honoured in the Science and Innovation category, is an eminent economist. Peru’s Constantino (Tino) Auccha Chutas, honoured in the Inspiration and Action category, has pioneered a community reforestation model driven by local and Indigenous communities. Lebanon’s Arcenciel, honoured in the Inspiration and Action category, is a leading Environmental Enterprise. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UNEP announced “2022 Champions of the Earth (5 winners):”
 - Purnima Devi Barman (Assam, India) – a Wildlife Biologist
 - Cecile Bibiane Ndjebet (Cameroon) – a Women’s Rights Activist
 - Sir Partha Dasgupta (UK) – an Economist
 - Constantino (Tino) Auccha Chutas (Peru) – a Conservationist
 - Arcenciel (Lebanon) – an Enterprise
- HQs of UNEP – Nairobi, Kenya | Executive Director – Inger Andersen | Founded in – 1972



586. On November 17, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI), felicitated Rajendra Singh Pawar, Chairman & Founder, NIIT with 'Lifetime Achievement Award 2022' at the 8th FICCI Higher Education Excellence Awards ceremony held in Delhi. He was awarded for his immense contribution and exemplary work in the field of education as well as creating the IT Training industry. The selection of Award was done by a high-level jury panel, Chaired by Dr R. A. Mashelkar, Indian National Research Professor and Chancellor, Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai and former Director General of CSIR. The FICCI Higher Education Excellence Awards were instituted in 2014 to recognize and felicitate the achievements and excellent work done by the institutions and individuals. Established in 1927, FICCI is the largest and oldest apex business organisation in India. Pawar has also been honoured with several other prestigious awards such as 'Lifetime Achievement Award' at Dataquest ICT Awards 2019, the 'Distinguished Alumnus Award' from IIT in 1995, the Ernst & Young's 'Master Entrepreneur of the Year Award' in 1999, and The Global India Splendor Award in 2013. He has also been honoured as the 'IT man of the Year' by IT industry journal, Dataquest in 1998. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajendra Singh Pawar – awarded 'Lifetime Achievement Award 2022' at 8th FICCI Higher Education Excellence Awards
- Rajendra Singh Pawar – Chairman & Founder of NIIT | FICCI Higher Education Excellence Awards – instituted in 2014
- HQs of FICCI – Delhi | DG – Arun Chawla | President – Sanjiv Mehta (Subhrakant Panda from Dec) | Founded in – 1927

Schemes & Initiatives

587. On November 16, Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik announced to launch Mukhyamantri Sikshya Puraskar Yojana (Chief Minister Education Award Plan). Under this plan schools, students, institutes, head masters, sarpanch and school managing committee and alumna can be awarded for their excellence. An amount to the tune of Rs 100 Cr to be provided to transformed and schools under this plan. In a year about 50 thousand students will get the award. CM also launched DG locker arrangement for the Council of Higher Secondary Education. The certificates, mark sheets and other documents of students can be kept at this virtual locker. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Naveen Patnaik (Odisha) – announced 'Mukhyamantri Sikshya Puraskar Yojana'
- He also launched DG locker arrangement for the Council of Higher Secondary Education
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

588. On November 20, The Haryana government introduced Haryana Good Governance Award Scheme, 2022 (Haryana Sushasan Puraskar Yojana, 2022) to promote good governance and reward innovative human resources who make extraordinary efforts at workplace. The award scheme is applicable to all employees under group A, B, C and D category employees, including contractual and persons working under outsourcing policy. For the state level award, the winning individual or team will get a first prize of ₹ 51,000 in cash, second prize of ₹ 31,000 and third prize of ₹ 21,000. At the district level, the first prize will be a cash reward of ₹ 31,000, the second prize of ₹ 21,000 and the third prize of ₹ 11,000. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Haryana – launched "Haryana Good Governance Award Scheme, 2022 (Haryana Sushasan Puraskar Yojana, 2022)"
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya



Important Days & Dates

589. November 24 is celebrated as 'Lachit Divas' across Assam. From November 23 to 25, the 400th birth anniversary of Assam's legendary war hero Lachit Borphukan was celebrated in Delhi. Borphukan was a commander in the erstwhile Ahom kingdom and is known for his leadership in the 1671 battle of Saraighat that thwarted an attempt by Mughals to capture Assam. The 'Battle of Saraighat' was fought on the banks of Brahmaputra in Guwahati. In memory of Borphukan, the chief minister announced that a 125-foot bronze statue will be built at a cost of Rs 175 Cr at his memorial at Hollongapar in Jorhat district. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 24 – 'Lachit Divas' (400th birth anniversary of Assam's war hero Lachit Borphukan)
- A 125-foot bronze statue will be built at his memorial at Hollongapar in Jorhat district
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

590. World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims (WDR) is marked on the third Sunday of November each year. This year it falls on November 20. This global event is to memorialise the victims of road traffic accidents, who have died or were seriously injured. In 2022, the theme of the day is "Justice". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 20 – World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims 2022
- 2022's Theme – "Justice"

591. Archaeological Survey of India, Mumbai Circle celebrated the World Heritage Week at World Heritage Site Elephanta Caves from 19 to 25 November. World Heritage Week was started by UNESCO and it is celebrated by Archaeological Survey of India every year from 19 to 25 November. A site seminar was organized in collaboration with St. Xaviers College Mumbai. On 20th November, 2022 a workshop on the 'Art and Architecture of Ambernath Temple' was organized in collaboration with Asiatic Society of Mumbai. Further a Photo exhibition on the World Heritage Monuments of India and Conservation of Monuments by Archaeological Survey of India Mumbai Circle, was organised from November 23-25. 40 Properties in India have been added to the World Heritage List. Moreover, India has the 6th largest number of World Heritage Sites in the world. World Heritage Day is celebrated on April 18 every year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 19 to 25 – World Heritage Week
- ASI, Mumbai Circle – celebrated the 'World Heritage Week' at Elephanta Caves (Maharashtra)
- India has the 6th largest number of World Heritage Sites in the world with 40 properties in the list
- HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France | Director-General – Audrey Azoulay | Founded in – 1945 | Members – 193 Countries

Meetings, Conferences and Summits

592. On November 26, 25th National Conference on e-Governance was held in Katra, J & K. Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DARPG) and the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology in association with the Government of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir organized the two-day conference. The Theme of the conference was "Bringing Citizens, Industry and Government closer" [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- 25th National Conference on e-Governance – held in Katra, J & K
- Theme – “Bringing Citizens, Industry and Government closer”
- DARPG + Ministry of Electronics & IT + J & K = organized this two-day conference
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

593. On November 23, Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh participated in the 9th “ASEAN Defence Ministers’ Meeting (ADMM) Plus” in Siem Reap, Cambodia on November 23, 2022. The ADMM Plus is an annual meeting of Defence Ministers of 10 ASEAN countries and its 8 dialogue partner countries, viz., India, USA, Russia, China, Australia, Japan, New Zealand and South Korea. The year 2022 also marks the 30th Anniversary of India-ASEAN relations. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajnath Singh – participated in the 9th “ASEAN Defence Ministers’ Meeting (ADMM) Plus” held in Siem Reap, Cambodia
- 2022 marks the 30th Anniversary of India-ASEAN relations
- Cambodia – Phnom Penh – Riel | PM – Hun Sen
- Chairmanship of ASEAN 2022 – Cambodia | Secretariat of ASEAN – Jakarta, Indonesia | Members – 10

594. From November 23 to 25, the 4th edition of the Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue (IPRD), an apex-level international annual conference of the Indian Navy, was held in New Delhi with the theme of “Operationalising the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative”. The theme of IPRD-2022 was articulated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the 14th East Asia Summit (EAS) in Bangkok in 2019. The IPRD seeks to foster exchange of ideas and promote deliberations on regionally relevant maritime issues. The National Maritime Foundation (NMF) is the Navy’s knowledge partner and chief organiser of each edition of the event. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 4th edition of the Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue (IPRD) – held in New Delhi
- 2022’s Theme – “Operationalising the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative”

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

595. On November 21, Karnataka topped among all the states in terms of total installed capacity of Grid-interactive Renewable Power with a total installed capacity of 15,463 megawatts (mw), according to the RBI publication. Tamil Nadu, with 15,225 mw, came at the second; while Gujarat, with 13,153 mw, was at third position. According to Indian Energy Exchange (IEX), Karnataka distribution companies (Discoms) had become the top seller of renewable energy under the Green Term Ahead Market (GTAM). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Karnataka (15,463 MW) – topped in terms of total installed capacity of Grid-interactive Renewable Power
- 2nd – Tamil Nadu (15,225) | 3rd – Gujarat
- Karnataka Discoms have become the top seller of RE under the Green Term Ahead Market (GTAM)



596. On November 22, Hindustan Zinc Limited is among the top 3 sustainable companies globally in Metal and Mining Sector. With a score of 80, the company ranked 3rd globally in the Metal and Mining Sector in the latest S&P Global's "Corporate Sustainability Assessment (CSA) 2022". The company retained its first position in Asia Pacific for the 4th consecutive year. Canada-based Teck Resources topped CSA 2022 in Metal and Mining Sector. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Corporate Sustainability Assessment (CSA) 2022" – released by S&P Global (US)
- Hindustan Zinc – ranked 3rd globally in Metal & Mining Sector as per 'S&P CSA 2022' | Top – Tech Resources (Canada)

597. According to Deloitte's latest report titled "Work toward Net Zero: The Rise of the Green Collar Workforce in a Just Transition", more than 800 million jobs, about one-quarter of the global workforce, are highly vulnerable to being disrupted by climate change, from weather extremes to the impacts of transitioning to a low-carbon economy. A Green Collar workforce will be characterized by new types of work, skills, and occupation, and will remake our economy of the future. According to the analysis, 80% of the skills required in the Green Collar workforce (workers with new skills) are used in the current workforce. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Work toward Net Zero: The Rise of the Green Collar Workforce in a Just Transition" report – released by Deloitte (UK)
- More than 800 million jobs are highly vulnerable to being disrupted by climate change

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

598. In November 2022, on the sidelines of COP27 in Egypt, Praj Industries Limited (Praj) signed an MoU with Egyptian Sugar and Integrated Industries Company (ESIIC) of Egypt. As a part of this MoU, Praj and ESIIC will develop infrastructure, help formulate policy framework, and create awareness to mainstream bioeconomy in Egypt. They will set up 1st and 2nd Generation ethanol projects in Egypt. Moreover, while speaking at the launch of the Mangrove Alliance for Climate (MAC) at COP27, Union minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bhupender Yadav, said that India has committed in its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to create an additional carbon sink of 2.5-3.0 billion tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent through additional forest and tree cover by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Praj + ESIIC (Egypt) = an MoU to develop infrastructure & create awareness to mainstream bioeconomy in Egypt
- India has committed to create carbon sink of 2.5-3 billion tonne of CO2 equivalent by 2030
- HQs of Praj Industries – Pune, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Shishir Joshipura

599. On November 21, India and the European Union (EU) signed an agreement on cooperation in hi-tech areas such as climate modelling and quantum technologies, building on the Trade and Technology Council launched by the two sides. The 'Intent of Cooperation on High Performance Computing (HPC), Weather Extremes and Climate Modelling and Quantum Technologies' was signed by the ministry of electronics and IT (MeitY) and the European Commission's Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology (DG CONNECT). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MeitY + EU = an agreement on cooperation in Hi-tech areas
- HQs of EU – Brussels, Belgium | Member Countries – 27
- President of European Parliament – Roberta Metsola
- President of European Council – Charles Michel
- President of European Commission – Ursula von der Leyen



600. On November 20, TReDS platform M1xchange signed an MoU with the MSME Ministry to enable MSMEs with 'Udyam registration' register on M1xchange to discount their invoices. The MoU was signed during the national seminar on the growth and development of MSMEs in Imphal, Manipur. According to the company, it has facilitated bill discounting of more than Rs 37,000 crores to over 14,000 MSME suppliers across 1,400 towns in India with the payments for the invoices discounted credited to MSMEs within 24 hours. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- M1xchange + MSME Ministry = an MoU to enable MSMEs with 'Udyam registration' register on M1xchange
- HQs of M1xchange – Gurugram, Haryana | CEO – Sundeep Mohindru
- Ministry of MSME: Narayan Rane | Constituency – Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg, Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of MSME: Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma





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