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

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National & States Affairs

651. On November 24, the government of India has approved the continuation of the Interest Subvention Scheme (ISS) with modification for the financial years 2022-23 and 2023-24. The RBI said the interest rate for short-term loans up to Rs 3,00,000 through Kisan Credit cards (KCC) will be 7% and interest subsidy (subvention) will be 1.5% for the current financial year (FY23) and next financial year (FY24). The farmers who repay loans promptly will get an additional 3% subsidy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Govt approved the continuation of the Interest Subvention Scheme (ISS) with modification for FY23 & FY24
- Interest rate for short-term loans up to Rs 3 lakh through KCC will be 7% | Interest subvention – 1.5%
- Farmers who repay loans promptly will get an additional 3% subsidy

652. On November 25, Pralhad Joshi became India's first Union Coal Minister to visit the Jhanjra mine of Eastern Coalfields Ltd (ESL) in West Bengal, which is also the country's highest producing underground mine. Jhanjra underground mine has a depth of 225 metres. At 3.5 million tonnes per year (MTPA) capacity, this is the highest coal producing mechanised underground mine of India. The minister also visited the Sonepur Bazari mine of ESL in West Bengal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pralhad Joshi – became India's first Union Coal Minister to visit Jhanjra mine of Eastern Coalfields
- Jhanjra mine (India's highest coal producing underground mine) – located in West Bengal
- Sonepur Bazari mine of ESL – also located in West Bengal
- [West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata](#) | [CM – Mamta Banerjee](#) | [Governor – CV Ananda Bose](#)

653. On November 24, India's proposal for transferring Leith's Softshell Turtle (*Nilssonina leithi*) from Appendix II to Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild fauna and flora (CITES) has been adopted by the Conference of Parties (CoP) to CITES in its 19th Meeting in Panama. The proposal was introduced by Chandra Prakash Goyal, Director General of Forests & Special Secretary, MoEFCC. Leith's Softshell Turtle is a large fresh water soft-shelled turtle which is endemic to peninsular India. The population of this turtle species is estimated to have declined by 90% over the past 30 years such that the species is now difficult to find. It is classified as 'Critically Endangered' by the IUCN. The species is listed on 'Schedule IV' of the 'Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972', which gives it protection from hunting as well as trade. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India's proposal for transferring Leith's Softshell Turtle (*Nilssonina leithi*) from Appendix II to Appendix I of CITES has been adopted by the CoP to CITES
- The proposal was introduced by – Chandra Prakash Goyal
- 'Nilssonina leithi' is classified as 'Critically Endangered' by the IUCN
- 'Schedule IV' of the 'Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972' – gives such species protection from hunting as well as trade

654. In November 2022, Power Finance Corporation (PFC) has sanctioned a loan of Rs 3,940 Crore for the construction of the Machilipatnam Greenfield Seaport in Andhra Pradesh. The Machilipatnam port will be constructed on nearly 4,000 acres in two phases as per the master plan. The estimated cost of the Machilipatnam port is Rs 5,253.89 crore. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- PFC – sanctioned a loan of Rs 3,940 Cr for the construction of Machilipatnam Greenfield Seaport in Andhra Pradesh
- HQs of PFC Ltd – New Delhi | CMD – Ravinder Singh Dhillon

655. In November 2022, Amazon Web Services (AWS) launched its second infrastructure region in India. The AWS Asia Pacific (Hyderabad) Region is the second region in India after Mumbai. The AWS Asia Pacific (Hyderabad) Region consists of three Availability Zones. It will support an average of 48,000 external jobs annually through a planned investment of over \$4.4 billion (about Rs 36,300 Cr) in India by 2030. This will give AWS customers access to advanced AWS technologies and greater choice for running their applications and serving end users from data centers located in India. In October, it launched an AWS Local Zone in New Delhi, the first international zone outside the United States. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- AWS – launched its 2nd infrastructure region in India (Asia Pacific Region) in Hyderabad | 1st – Mumbai
- It will support average 48,000 external jobs annually in India by 2030
- HQs of AWS – Seattle, Washington, US | CEO – Adam N. Selipsky

656. On November 25, Union Minister for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Giriraj Singh, launched a month-long campaign titled, “Nai Chetna-Pahal Badlav Ki” with the theme of ‘Elimination of Gender-Based Violence’ in New Delhi. It is a community-led National Campaign against gender-based discrimination of Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM). The campaign was conducted as a ‘Jan Andolan’ (people’s movement) in all the States/UTs of India from November 25 to December 23, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Giriraj Singh – launched a month-long campaign titled, “Nai Chetna-Pahal Badlav Ki” in New Delhi
- Theme of campaign – ‘Elimination of Gender-Based Violence’
- It is a community-led National Campaign against gender-based discrimination of ‘DAY-NRLM’

657. On November 27, India invited Egyptian President General Abdel Fattah El-Sisi as the Chief Guest to the Republic Day Parade in 2023. It is the first time that an Egyptian President will be the chief guest on India’s Republic Day. India and Egypt are marking the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties. In October 2022, External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar visited Egypt to review bilateral ties between the two nations. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – invited Egyptian President General Abdel Fattah El-Sisi as the Chief Guest to the Republic Day Parade in 2023
- Egypt – Cairo – Egyptian Pound | President – Abdel Fattah el-Sisi

658. On November 25, the Central government has constituted a committee to review the implementation of the “Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)” scheme, especially to assess the programme’s efficacy as a poverty alleviation tool. The committee is headed by former Rural Development secretary Amarjeet Sinha. The ‘Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act’ was passed in 2005, and the demand-driven scheme guarantees 100 days of unskilled work per year for every rural household that wants it. There are currently 15.51 crore active workers enrolled under the scheme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Central Govt constituted a committee to review the implementation of ‘MGNREGA’ scheme – headed by Amarjeet Sinha
- The ‘Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act’ was passed in 2005
- The scheme guarantees 100 days of unskilled work per year for every rural household



659. On November 24, Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB) developed a mobile app which will serve as a common platform for accessing the services of e-vehicle charging stations. The app, christened KeMapp is short for 'Kerala E-Mobility App'. Minister for Electricity K. Krishnankutty formally launched the app at 'ewaTTs '22,' an e-mobility conclave organised by the KSEB. KeMapp replaces four software solutions for charging-station operations provided by different vendors who had established the stations for KSEB. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- KESB – developed a mobile app named 'KeMapp' for accessing services of e-vehicle charging stations
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

660. On November 23, E-commerce firm Meesho has become the 4th unicorn to join the state-run Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC), after Paytm, Shiprocket and Dunzo. Meesho's ONDC pilot will be launched in Bangalore and later rolled out in other locations over a few months. Unicorns are privately held start-ups valued at \$1 billion or more. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Meesho – became the 4th unicorn to join ONDC (after Paytm, Shiprocket & Dunzo)
- HQs of Meesho – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Founder & CEO – Vidit Aatrey

661. On November 25, Odisha government plans to launch a new "e-detection portal" that will track down all the vehicles plying without proper documents, on national highways across the state with effect from January 1, 2023. The state government has also released a list of documents in this regard, which will be mandatory for all the vehicles. Among the list of documents include registration certificate, fitness certificate and permit if it is a transport vehicle, insurance, and a Pollution Under Control Certificate (PUCC) for all vehicles and driving license for all vehicle drivers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Odisha – plans to launch "e-detection portal" to track down all the vehicles plying on NHs without proper documents
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

International Affairs

662. On November 24, India announced to send a utility helicopter unit to the UN peacekeeping operations in Mali, where the government is battling Islamist terrorists. Mali is facing with a crisis as several countries have withdrawn or announced plans to withdraw from it. The utility helicopter unit from India that is to be deployed in March will provide support to our forces and are critical for early warning and rapid response to protect civilians. Bangladesh and Pakistan will each be sending an armed helicopter unit to the operation known as Multidimensional Integrated Stabilisation Mission in Mali (MINUSMA). India does not have troops deployed with MINUSMA. MINUSMA is one of the deadliest operations having claimed the lives of 292 peacekeepers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – announced to send a helicopter unit to Mali under the UN peacekeeping operation known as 'MINUSMA'
- MINUSMA – Multidimensional Integrated Stabilisation Mission in Mali
- Mali – Bamako – CFA franc | Interim President – Col. Assimi Goita | Interim PM – Col. Abdoulaye Maiga



Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

663. On November 25, Walmart-owned PhonePe started the process of acquiring buy-now-pay-later (BNPL) fintech startup ZestMoney. ZestMoney, founded in 2015, has raised about \$140 million till date from marquee investors. In fiscal 2022, ZestMoney's revenues rose to ₹145 Cr from ₹89 Cr in FY21, while losses jumped to ₹398.8 Cr from ₹125.8 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PhonePe – to acquire buy-now-pay-later (BNPL) fintech startup, ZestMoney
- HQs of PhonePe – Bangalore, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Sameer Nigam | Founded in – 2015

664. As of November 24, a social safety net product called “Bima Vistaar” is set to be launched on the IRDAI’s pet project “Bima Sugam”. In October, the IRDAI had formed a 24-member committee, headed by Thomas Devasia, to develop an affordable, accessible and comprehensive cover “Bima Vistaar” for rural population on benefit based parametric structure.

[{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A social safety net product called “Bima Vistaar” is set to be launched on the IRDAI’s pet project “Bima Sugam”
- IRDAI had formed a 24-member committee headed by Thomas Devasia
- HQs of IRDAI – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Debasish Panda

665. On November 24, Punjab National Bank (PNB) received approval of Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM), Ministry of Finance, to divest its entire stake in UTI Asset Management Company as part of its non-core asset sale plan to shore up its capital base. The bank holds 15.22 per cent stake in UTI AMC worth around Rs 1300 Cr at current valuation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PNB – received approval from DIPAM to divest its entire stake in UTI AMC
- HQs of PNB – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Atul Kumar Goel | Tagline – “The Name You Can Bank Upon”

666. On November 23, Public sector Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) entered into an agreement with broking partner SMC Global to serve clients interested in opening savings, demat and trading accounts together. As part of expansion of services in addition to the existing full-service brokerage plan, SMC Global has offered a new brokerage plan 'Discount Brokerage' for its existing and new clients through the bank. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IOB + SMC Global = an agreement to serve clients interested in opening savings, demat & trading accounts together
- HQs of IOB – Chennai, TN | MD & CEO – Partha Pratim Sengupta (till Dec’22) | Tagline – “Good people to grow with”

667. In November 2022, Sany Bharat signed an MoU with Union Bank of India to make equipment financing an easy, efficient, and simple process. Buyers of Sany equipment can now avail a loan of up to 90% of the equipment cost. The flexible payment options offered by the bank will facilitate Sany customers to manage cash flow and help in loan repayment. Union Bank of India has opened funding for retail and construction Equipment Sector from 10 lakhs loan to Rs. 50 Cr. Sany Bharat offers the widest range of Construction Machinery in India & South Asia. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Sany Bharat + Union Bank of India = an MoU to make equipment financing an easy, efficient & simple process
- Buyers of Sany equipment can now avail a loan of up to 90% of the equipment cost
- HQs of UBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – A. Manimekhalai | Tagline – “Good People to Bank With”

668. On November 25, Accretive Cleantech Finance Private Ltd, operating as ‘Ecofy’, received regulatory approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to operate as a non-deposit taking non-banking financial company (NBFC). Ecofy has been promoted by Eversource Capital. Ecofy will lend to individuals and small businesses to accelerate the transition towards a net zero carbon world. The company will offer financial solutions for green asset classes such as electric vehicles (2 and 3-wheelers), rooftop solar and energy-efficiency SMEs. Ecofy is born digital and uses technology to improve every aspect of the customer experience. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ecofy – received regulatory approval from the RBI to operate as non-deposit taking NBFC
- Ecofy is been promoted by – Eversource Capital
- 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

669. On November 25, Honda Cars India signed an MoU with IDBI Bank to offer a host of finance schemes for its customers. According to the company, this collaboration between HCIL and IDBI Bank will allow customers to avail of hassle-free affordable financing options and schemes for purchasing Honda Car models. The benefits will include attractive interest rates, minimum processing charges, maximum loan amount and maximum re-payment period. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Honda Cars India + IDBI Bank = an MoU to offer hassle-free financing options for purchasing Honda Car models
- HQs of IDBI Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD CEO – Rakesh Sharma | Chairman – M. R. Kumar | Established in – 1964

Defence Affairs

670. Indian Air Force conducted the Annual Joint Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Exercise “Samanvay 2022” from November 28-30, 2022 at Air Force Station in Agra. The exercise aims to provide a unique platform for the exchange of domain knowledge, experience and best practices with the participating Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) member countries. The aim of the exercise includes promoting a synergistic approach by involving various institutions like the Armed Forces, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), Border Roads Organisation (BRO), India Meteorological Department (IMD) and the Civil Administration. In India, NDMA is the apex statutory body for disaster management. It was formally constituted on 27th September 2006, in accordance with the Disaster Management Act, 2005 with Prime Minister as its Chairperson. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ‘Samanvay 2022’, an annual joint HADR Exercise conducted by IAF – in Agra, UP
- HQs of NDMA – New Delhi | Headed by – Prime Minister of India | Established in – 2005
- HQs of IAF – New Delhi | Chief – Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari | Vice Chief – Air Marshal Sandeep Singh



Sports & Games

671. On November 22, 22-year-old Pranay Sharma of India created history by winning Gold medal in “WKF Series A World Championship” held at Jakarta, Indonesia from 18 to 20 November 2022. With his outstanding performance he defeated Japan, Turkey, England, Australia, Indonesia and Ukraine. This is the first medal ever won by any Indian in Karate championship of world level. In the Men’s 67 kg Kumite Final, he defeated Ukraine’s Davyd Yanovskiy. Pranay is the son of famous coach and renowned Karate personality Bharat Sharma. Pranay is 4 times National Champion, 2 times SGFI Gold Medalist & 9 times State Gold Medalist. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pranay Sharma – won Gold medal in the “WKF Series A World Championship” held at Jakarta, Indonesia
- This is the first medal ever won by any Indian in Karate championship of world level
- In the Men’s 67 kg Kumite Final, he defeated Davyd Yanovskiy (Ukraine)

672. On November 24, Portugal national football team’s Captain Cristiano Ronaldo became the first player ever to score in 5 different World Cup tournaments. He reached this milestone after he converted a penalty in the 65th minute against Ghana in their Group H match, in Qatar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cristiano Ronaldo (Portugal) – became the first player ever to score in 5 different World Cup tournaments

673. France’s Stephanie Frappart became the first woman referee in a ‘Men’s FIFA World Cup’ match in Qatar. She became the first woman to take charge of a World Cup game in the competition’s 92-year history. It is not Frappart’s first record. In 2021, she became the first woman to referee a men’s World Cup qualifying match. She became one of three female referees to be selected in the pool for the World Cup in May, along with Rwanda’s Salima Mukansanga and Yoshimi Yamashita of Japan. Brazil’s Neuza Back and Mexican Karen Diaz Medina are the other women officials who have been designated for the same fixture. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Stephanie Frappart (France) – became the first woman referee in a ‘Men’s FIFA World Cup’ match in Qatar
- Salima Mukansanga (Rwanda) + Yoshimi Yamashita (Japan) = have also been named among the tournament’s referees

674. In November 2022, as many as 5 ‘List A’ records in men’s cricket were rewritten at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru as Tamil Nadu defeated Arunachal Pradesh in their Elite Group C match of the “Vijay Hazare Trophy 2022”. Wicketkeeper-batter Narayan Jagadeesan shattered the world record by hammering 277 off 141 runs and broke the world record for the highest individual score in men’s List A cricket. With this, Tamil Nadu became the first team to breach 500-mark in List A cricket. Jagadeesan also became the first player to score hundreds in 5 consecutive innings in men’s List A cricket. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narayan Jagadeesan (Tamil Nadu) – broke the world record for the highest individual score in men’s List A cricket
- Tamil Nadu – became the first team to breach 500-mark in List A cricket
- Tamil Nadu – defeated Arunachal Pradesh in their Elite Group C match of the “Vijay Hazare Trophy 2022”
- Narayan Jagadeesan – also became the first player to score hundreds in 5 consecutive innings in men’s List A cricket





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Persons in News

675. On November 24, John McFall, aged 41, is the first astronaut with a physical impairment, or para-astronaut, to be recruited by the European Space Agency (ESA) in a move to remove the hindrance that prevents disabled individuals from participating in space missions. Dr Rosemary Coogan and Dr Meganne Christian will also accompany John McFall in the mission. Remarkably, Dr Rosemary Coogan is the first UK woman to join ESA as a career astronaut. John McFall is a British Paralympic sprinter as well as ESA astronaut now. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- John McFall (UK) – is the first astronaut with a physical impairment, or para-astronaut, to be recruited by the ESA

Science & Technology

676. China plans to build its first base on the moon by 2028, ahead of landing astronauts there in subsequent years as the country steps up its challenge to NASA's dominance in space exploration. The base is intended to be the first outpost on the moon's South Pole, an area scientists think is the best place to find water. The lunar base will likely be powered by nuclear energy. Its basic configuration will consist of a lander, hopper, orbiter and rover, all of which would be constructed by the Chang'e 6, 7 and 8 missions. In 2019, China became the first country to land a rover on the far side of the moon, and later brought back its first lunar samples. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China – plans to build its first base on the moon by 2028
- The base is intended to be the first outpost on the moon's South Pole, the best place to find water on the moon
- China became the first country to land a rover on the far side of the moon in 2019
- [China – Beijing – Renminbi](#) | [President – Xi Jinping](#)

Appointments & Resignations

677. On November 24, Long-time opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim was sworn in as Malaysia's Prime Minister. Malaysia's king, Sultan Abdullah Sultan Ahmad Shah, named Mr. Anwar, 75, as the nation's 10th PM. Anwar Ibrahim succeeded Ismail Sabri Yaakob. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Anwar Ibrahim – sworn in as 10th Prime Minister of Malaysia (succeeding - Ismail Sabri Yaakob)
- [Malaysia – Kuala Lumpur – Ringgit](#) | [PM – Anwar Ibrahim](#) | [King – Al-Sultan Abdullah](#)

678. On November 25, the acting Chairman of the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), Meenesh C. Shah, whose term ended on November 30, has been promoted as Managing Director from Executive Director by the Board of Directors of NDDB. The post of Managing Director was lying vacant after Dilip Rath was elevated as Full-time Chairman of NDDB in 2016. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Meenesh C. Shah – promoted as Managing Director (from Executive Director) to the board of NDDB
- [HQs of NDDB – Anand, Gujarat](#) | [MD – Meenesh C. Shah](#) | [Established in – 1965](#)



679. On November 29, General Syed Asim Munir, Pakistan's former spymaster, assumed charge as Pakistan's new (17th) Army Chief, replacing General Qamar Javed Bajwa, who retired after two consecutive 3-year terms. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- General Syed Asim Munir – assumed charge as Pakistan's new (17th) Army Chief
- [Pakistan – Islamabad – Pakistani Rupee](#) | [PM – Shehbaz Sharif](#) | [President – Arif Alvi](#)

680. On November 25, India won the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) Vice Presidency and Strategic Management Board (SMB) Chair for the 2023-25 term. Vimal Mahendru will be the IEC Vice President representing India. International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is an international standard setting body that publishes international Standards for all electrical, electronic and related technologies. Standardisation Management Board (SMB) is an apex governance body of IEC responsible for technical policy matters. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – won the International Electrotechnical Commission's (IEC) Vice Presidency
- Vimal Mahendru – appointed as the Vice President of IEC
- India – won the Strategic Management Board (SMB) Chair for the 2023-25 term

681. In November 2022, Indian-American Punit Renjen announced to retire as Deloitte Global CEO on December 31. He would be replaced by Joe Ucuzoglu. Under Mr. Renjen's leadership, Deloitte launched WorldClass - a global effort to prepare 100 million underprivileged people for a world of opportunity. He also spearheaded Deloitte's World Climate initiative. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Punit Renjen – announced to retire as CEO of Deloitte Global
- Joe Ucuzoglu – will be appointed as the next CEO
- [HQs of Deloitte – London, UK](#) | [CEO – Punit Renjen \(after Dec 31 - Joe Ucuzoglu\)](#)

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

682. On November 22, Steven Spielberg will be honoured for his life's work at the 73rd Berlin International Film Festival in February 2023. He will be awarded an honorary Golden Bear, the annual event's top prize, for a body of work that comprises more than 100 movies and series. Mr. Steven is an American director, producer and screenwriter. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Steven Spielberg – to be honoured an honorary Golden Bear at the 73rd 'Berlin International Film Festival' in Feb 2023

683. On November 22, the International Academy of Television Arts & Sciences announced that a period drama "The King's Affection", starring popular stars Park Eun-bin and Rowoon, has become the first Korean-language series to win an "International Emmy Award". The 20-episode show is titled 'Yeonmo' in Korean and it is directed by Song Hyun-wook. The 50th edition of International Emmy Awards ceremony was held in New York, US. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 50th edition of International Emmy Awards ceremony – held in New York, US
- "The King's Affection" – became the first Korean-language series to win an "International Emmy Award"
- Director of the movie – Song Hyun-wook



Important Days & Dates

684. National Milk Day is observed on November 26 every year to highlight the importance of milk and its benefits. 2022 marks the 101st birth anniversary of Dr. Verghese Kurien, known as the Father of the White Revolution in India, as well as Milkman of India. Dr Verghese Kurien was honoured with Padma Vibhushan in the field of Science and Engineering in 1999. India ranks first in Global Milk Production. India contributes 23% of global milk production. Production increased from 17 MT in 1950-51 to 209.96 MT in 2020-21. The day was started by the Indian Dairy Association (IDA). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 26 – National Milk Day
- Dedicated to – 101st Birth Anniversary of ‘Dr Verghese Kurien’ (The father of India’s White Revolution)
- India – the largest producer of milk in the world (209.96 MT in 2020-21 or 23% of global milk production)

685. The “Constitution Day” or “Samvidhan Divas” is celebrated on November 26 every year. This day, also called the “National Law Day”, commemorates the formal adoption of the Constitution of India by the Constituent Assembly on November 26, 1949. However, the Constitution of India came to force on January 26, 1950 - celebrated as the Republic Day. National Constitution Day 2022 was celebrated under the theme of “India: The Mother of Democracy (Bharat: Loktantra Ki Janani)” as declared by UGC. In 2016, on the 125th birth anniversary of Dr. BR Ambedkar, Indian Union Cabinet announced to celebrate this day for the first time to impart constitutional values among residents. Indian constitution is the largest written constitution in the world. It took around 2 years 11 months 18 days to prepare the Indian Constitution. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 26 – Constitution Day or Samvidhan Divas or National Law Day
- 2022’s Theme – “India: The Mother of Democracy (Bharat: Loktantra Ki Janani)”
- On November 26, 1949 – the Constitution of India was adopted (Effective from – January 26, 1950)

Books & Authors

686. On November 24, Union Education & Skill Development Minister Shri Dharmendra Pradhan released the book “India: The Mother of Democracy” prepared and published by Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) in New Delhi. The book is an attempt to showcase the democratic ethos ingrained in India since the dawn of civilisation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dharmendra Pradhan – released the book “India: The Mother of Democracy”
- The book is prepared & published by – Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR)
- HQs of ICHR – New Delhi | Chairman – Raghuvendra Tanwar

Meetings, Conferences and Summits

687. On November 25, the World Antimicrobial Awareness Week 2022 concluded with the Muscat Ministerial Manifesto on AMR being agreed upon at the 3rd “Global High-level Ministerial Conference on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)” in Oman. The theme of the conference was “The AMR Pandemic: From Policy to One Health Action”. Through the Manifesto, the countries also committed to revise and effectively implement National Action Plans (NAP) for AMR and strengthen surveillance systems. The Manifesto has been endorsed by 34 of the 45 countries that participated at the conference. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- 3rd “Global High-level Ministerial Conference on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)” – held in Muscat, Oman
- Theme of the conference – “The AMR Pandemic: From Policy to One Health Action”
- [Oman – Muscat – Rial](#) | [Sultan – Haitham bin Tariq Al Said](#)

688. The 22nd Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Council of Ministers (COM) meeting was chaired by Bangladesh. Minister of State for External Affairs and Education Dr. Rajkumar Ranjan Singh arrived in Dhaka to attend the meeting of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) in Dhaka. The Council of Ministers Meeting was preceded by the 24th Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials (CSO) held on 22-23 November. Bangladesh assumed the position of the IORA Chairship at the 21st IORA COM Meeting in Dhaka held on 17 November 2021. “Harnessing the opportunities of the Indian Ocean sustainably for inclusive development” is the theme for the IORA during the Chairmanship of Bangladesh between 2021-23. IORA is an inter-governmental organisation that aims to promote sustained growth and balanced development within the Indian Ocean region. Established on 7 March 1997, Council of Ministers (COM) is its apex body that meets annually while the committee of senior officials (CSO) meets twice a year to review progress on its agenda and consider recommendations to implement policies and projects. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajkumar Ranjan Singh – represented India at the 22nd IORA Council of Ministers meeting – chaired by Bangladesh
- 24th Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials (CSO) – also held in Bangladesh
- Bangladesh – assumed the IORA Chairship at the 21st IORA COM Meeting held in Dhaka in 2021
- IORA Theme between 2021-23 – “Harnessing the opportunities of Indian Ocean sustainably for inclusive development”
- [Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka](#) | [PM – Sheikh Hasina](#) | [President – Abdul Hamid](#)
- [HQs of IORA – Ebene, Mauritius](#) | [Chairship – Bangladesh](#)

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

689. On November 24, British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and his wife Akshata Murty have made their debut on the UK’s ‘Asian Rich List 2022’. Sunak and his wife are ranked 17th on the list, with an estimated wealth of 790 million pounds. The list is topped by the Hinduja family for the 8th consecutive time with an estimated wealth of 30.5 billion pounds. Lakshmi Mittal and his son Aditya (12.8 billion pounds) and Prakash Lohia and family (8.8 billion pounds) and Nirmal Sethia (6.5 billion pounds) are other richest on the list. The declaration of the list was made at the 24th annual Asian Business Awards at the Westminster Park Plaza hotel, London, UK. The list features total 101 richest Asians in the UK. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rishi Sunak + Akshata Murty = made their debut on the UK’s ‘Asian Rich List 2022’ (17th rank)
- Hinduja family – topped the list for the 8th consecutive time (30.5 billion pounds)

690. India has emerged as the second most coveted investment market after the United States for sovereign wealth funds and public pensions funds in 2022, according to a study by asset manager Invesco. Among developing nations, India has overtaken China as the most popular emerging market, having climbed to No. 2 in 2022 from No. 9 in 2014. China currently ranks at 6th place. Average annual returns for sovereign investors over the past decade stood at 6.5% and, for sovereign wealth funds alone, at 10% in 2021. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- India – emerged as 2nd most coveted investment market for sovereign wealth funds & public pensions funds in 2022
- 1st – US | China – 6th

691. On November 24, India added 1.2 gigawatt (GW) of rooftop solar during the January to September period of calendar year (CY) 2022, an 11% decrease compared to the same period last year, according to Mercom India Research's "Rooftop Solar Market Report Q3 2022". India added 320 megawatt (MW) of rooftop solar in the Q3 of the CY22. At the end of Q3 2022, cumulative rooftop solar installations reached 8.3 GW, as per the report. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Rooftop Solar Market Report Q3 2022" – released by Mercom India Research
- India added 1.2 GW of rooftop solar during January to September period of CY 2022 (11% decrease compared to CY'21)
- At the end of Q3 2022, cumulative rooftop solar installations reached 8.3 GW

692. In November 2022, Mumbai became the first Indian city to be added to the A-list in the 5th "Annual Cities Report" published by CDP. CDP is a non-profit organisation that runs the world's environmental disclosure system for and recognises the important role that cities play in taking bold actions to mitigate and adapt to climate change. 122 cities across the globe have been named as leaders in environmental action and transparency in 2022 by CDP. Mumbai is the most populous city in India, and, globally, the 7th largest in terms of population. Mumbai has recently released its first-ever Climate Action Plan in 2022, 'Towards a Climate Resilient Mumbai'. It outlines the aims to reach net-zero carbon neutrality by 2050. The Climate Action Plan has laid down a 30-year roadmap for the city to tackle the challenges of climate change, by adopting inclusive and robust mitigation and adaptation strategies. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mumbai – became the first Indian city to be added to the 'A-List' in the 5th "Annual Cities Report" published by CDP
- Mumbai – released its first-ever Climate Action Plan in 2022, 'Towards a Climate Resilient Mumbai'
- Mumbai – most populous city in India and 7th most populous city globally

693. On November 24, the 16th "Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) - Quarterly Bulletin (July-September 2022)" was published by the National Statistical Office (NSO). India's unemployment rate for people aged 15 years and above in urban areas eased to 7.2% (9.4% in female & 6.6% in male) during this period, from 9.8% a year earlier. Labour force participation rate in CWS (Current Weekly Status) in urban areas for persons aged 15 years and above increased to 47.9%. Worker Population Ratio (WPR) in CWS in urban areas for persons aged 15 years and above stood at 44.5% in July-September, 2022. NSO launched PLFS in April 2017. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 16th "Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) - Quarterly Bulletin (July-September 2022)" – released by NSO
- UR for persons aged 15 years & above in urban areas declined to – 7.2% (6.6% among males & 9.4% among females)
- WPR in CWS in urban areas for persons aged 15 years & above stood at – 44.5%
- NSO launched 'PLFS' in April 2017

694. UK businesses in India have rated Maharashtra the highest amongst States in terms of the operating environment, followed by Gujarat & Chandigarh, as per the UK India Business Council's (UKIBC) annual "Doing Business in India Report 2022". The findings of the report are derived from a survey of 111 UK businesses and higher education institutions, according to UKIBC. Improving turnaround time of approvals and bureaucratic processes is the most desired reform by UK businesses, chosen by 54% of businesses surveyed. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Doing Business in India Report 2022” – released by UKIBC
- Maharashtra – rated the highest amongst States in terms of the operating environment by UK businesses in India
- Most desired reform by UK businesses – ‘Improving turnaround time of approvals and bureaucratic processes’
- HQs of UKIBC – London, UK | CEO – Dickie McCallum

Amount & Agreements

695. On November 25, Water technology player VA Tech Wabag signed an agreement with Asian Development Bank (ADB) to raise Rs 200 crore through unlisted non-convertible debentures (NCDs) carrying a 5-year and 3-month tenor. This NCD will be subscribed by ADB over a 12-month period. The Rs 200 crore capital raised through this NCD issuance will be used towards working capital requirements of Wabag. This project is ADB’s first private sector financing in India’s water sector.

[{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- VA Tech Wabag + ADB = an agreement to raise Rs 200 Crore through unlisted NCDs carrying a 5-year & 3-month tenor
- This project is ADB’s first private sector financing in India’s water sector
- HQs of VA Tech Wabag – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | CEO – Rajiv Mittal
- HQs of ADB – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Members – 68 | Established in – 1966



Ordinance, Bills & Acts

696. On November 25, the Central government has released the draft “Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Act (Amendment) Bill, 2022”. In the draft legislation, it has proposed to introduce 61 amendments to the ‘Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Act, 1960’. The draft Bill has included bestiality as a crime under the new category of gruesome cruelty. A provision of a maximum of 5-year imprisonment with a minimum Rs 75,000 fine for killing an animal has been made. The draft Bill also suggests 5 freedoms of animals including freedom from thirst, hunger and malnutrition and from fear and distress, under Section 3A. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Central Govt – released the draft “Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Act (Amendment) Bill, 2022”
- The draft has proposed to introduce 61 amendments to the ‘Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Act, 1960’
- Provision for killing an animal: 5-year imprisonment with a minimum Rs 75,000 fine
- The draft Bill suggests 5 freedoms of animals: Freedom from Thirst, Hunger, Malnutrition, Fear & Distress



Acquisitions & Mergers

697. On November 26, Tata Consumer Products Ltd (TCPL) announced to acquire Bisleri International for an estimated ₹6,000-7,000 Crore. The current management will continue for two years as part of the deal. Bisleri was originally an Italian brand that set up shop in India in Mumbai in 1965. Later, Ramesh Chauhan acquired it in 1969. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tata Consumer Products – will acquire Bisleri International for an estimated ₹6,000-7,000 Cr
- Bisleri International was owned by – Ramesh Chauhan
- HQs of Tata Consumer Products Ltd – Kolkata, West Bengal | MD & CEO – Sunil D'Souza

698. On November 21, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) cleared the proposed deal of M&G Group subscribing to convertible bonds and warrants issued by Bengaluru-based Trustroot Internet Pvt Ltd under the green channel route. M&G Catalyst Capital Fund, Asia Pacific Fund and Prudential Assurance Company are collectively referred to as acquirers. Upon conversion of warrants, the acquirers will hold less than 5% stake in the company on a fully diluted basis. Trustroot Internet is primarily engaged in an online B2B e-commerce marketplace by the name of 'Udaan'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- M&G Group (UK) – received CCI's approval for subscription of Trustroot Internet's bonds & warrants
- M&G Catalyst Capital Fund, Asia Pacific Fund and Prudential Assurance Company are collectively referred to as acquirers
- Trustroot Internet is primarily engaged in an online B2B e-commerce marketplace by the name of 'Udaan'

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

699. On November 25, BSE Limited (Bombay Stock Exchange) signed an agreement with the US-based TAC Security, making it the official cyber security partner. BSE will get a holistic view of their risk-vulnerability management on a single platform using TAC Security's ESOF (Enterprise Security in One Framework). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BSE Limited + TAC Security (US) = an agreement making it the official Cyber Security Partner
- ESOF – Enterprise Security in One Framework (of TAC Security)
- HQs of BSE – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Subhash Sheoratan Mundra | MD & CEO – Ashish kumar Chauhan

700. On November 25, Plant bioscience company Absolute launched do-it-yourself crop insurance product, 'Digifasal', the first of its kind in India, in partnership with DigiSafe Insurance. The product will be introduced on Upaj, Absolute's agcloud ecosystem that provides a one-stop solution to a million farmers at every stage of crop production. Digifasal will complement the existing insurance schemes such as the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bhima Yojana and mitigate roadblocks by providing affordable insurance options to farmers. Insurance penetration in rural India is less than 4%. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Absolute + DigiSafe Insurance = launched do-it-yourself crop insurance product, 'Digifasal', the first of its kind in India
- The product will be introduced on Upaj, Absolute's agcloud ecosystem
- HQs of DigiSafe Insurance – Pune, Maharashtra





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