

# Weekly One Liners 13th to 19th of November 2023

## ICC Announced The Inclusion Of Three Cricket Maestros In The ICC Hall Of Fame

The **International Cricket Council (ICC)** recently announced the induction of **three** cricketing maestros into the coveted ICC Cricket Hall of Fame. The latest additions to this prestigious list include the explosive opener **Virender Sehwag**, Indian trailblazer **Diana Edulji**, and Sri Lankan superstar **Aravinda de Silva**. Each of these cricketing icons has left an indelible mark on the game, making them worthy recipients of this esteemed honor.

### Virender Sehwag: The Destructive Dynamo

- Virender Sehwag**, renowned as one of the most destructive batters of the modern era, has rightfully earned his place in the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame. His staggering records across formats showcase his unparalleled prowess with the bat:

Format	Matches	Runs	Average	Wickets
Tests	104	8,586	49.34	40
ODIs	251	8,273	35.05	96
T20Is	19	394	21.88	–

- He notched up **23 Test centuries**, including a monumental 319 against South Africa in 2008. His ODI contributions, highlighted by a memorable 219 against the West Indies in 2011, played a pivotal role in India's World Cup triumph in 2011.

### Diana Edulji: Spinner Extraordinaire and Trailblazer

- Diana Edulji**, a trailblazer for Indian women's cricket, has made an immense impact both on and off the field. Her playing career statistics are noteworthy:

Format	Matches	Runs	Average	Wickets
Tests	20	404	25.77	63
ODIs	34	211	16.84	46

- Edulji's significance extends beyond her playing days. **As an administrator, she championed the cause of women's cricket in India**, working towards increased employment opportunities for talented female cricketers.

### Aravinda de Silva: World Cup Winner and Elegant Batsman

- Aravinda de Silva**, a key figure in **Sri Lanka's 1996 World Cup triumph**, has rightfully earned his place in the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame. His distinguished career includes:

Format	Matches	Runs	Average	Wickets
Tests	93	6,361	42.97	29
ODIs	308	9,284	34.90	106

- De Silva's ability to adapt his game according to the situation made him a crucial player for Sri Lanka. His unforgettable unbeaten **107\* in the 1996 World Cup final** against Australia remains etched in cricketing history.

## Uttarakhand's Unique Products Gets Geographical Indication Tags

In a significant recognition of **Uttarakhand's** rich and diverse heritage, the **Geographical Indications (GI) Registry** has bestowed the coveted GI tags upon more than **15 products** from the state. These products, ranging from traditional teas to textiles and pulses, not only reflect the cultural tapestry of Uttarakhand but also hold immense economic potential.

### 1. Berinag Tea: Himalayan Elegance in Every Sip

Uttarakhand's Berinag tea, crafted from the leaves of a plant that thrives in the Himalayan wilderness, has earned a spot on the list. The unique process of compressing the leaves into a solid mass sets this tea apart. Widely sought after by London tea houses and blenders, Berinag tea showcases the region's expertise in the art of tea-making.

### 2. Bichhu Buti Fabrics: Sustainable Fashion from Himalayan Nettles

The recognition extends to Bichhu buti fabrics, made from Himalayan nettle fibers. These fabrics, known for their natural insulation properties, are ideal for clothing in both winter and summer. The hollow fibers trap air, providing a unique and sustainable solution for the fashion industry.

### 3. Uttarakhand Mandua: A Staple Delight

Uttarakhand's finger millet, known as Mandua, has been an integral part of the local diet in Garhwal and Kumaon. The acknowledgment with a GI tag underscores its significance as a staple food item, marking its distinctiveness in terms of taste and cultural importance.

### 4. Jhangora: The Himalayan Millet Marvel

Another homegrown millet, Jhangora, found in the rain-fed areas of the Himalayas in Uttarakhand, now carries the GI tag. This recognition highlights its unique characteristics and strengthens its identity as a valuable local produce.

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**5. Gahat: Medicinal Pulse of Uttarakhand**

Gahat, a crucial pulse thriving in the dry regions of Uttarakhand, has been granted a GI tag. With known medicinal uses documented in Ayurveda and traditional medicine, Gahat is not only a culinary delight but also a testament to the state's traditional medicinal knowledge.

**6. Uttarakhand Lal Chawal: Organically Grown Gem**

Organically grown in the Purola region, Uttarakhand Lal Chawal, a red rice variant, now proudly carries the GI tag. This recognition further emphasizes the uniqueness of this locally cultivated rice variety.

**Diverse Range of Recognition**

The list of GI-tagged products from Uttarakhand is extensive, covering a spectrum of items such as the Uttarakhand Kala Bhat (black soybean), Malta fruit, Chaulai (Ramdana) grain for fasting days, Buransh juice from Rhododendron arboreum flowers, Pahari Toor Dal, Uttarakhand Likhai or wood carvings, Nainital Mombatti (candles), Kumaon's Rangwali Pichhoda, Ramnagar Nainital Litchis, Ramgarh Nainital Peaches, Chamoli Wooden Ramman Masks, and Almora Lakhori Mirchis, a distinctive chili variant.

**Conclusion: A Culmination of Culture and Commerce**

The conferment of GI tags on these diverse products not only celebrates Uttarakhand's cultural wealth but also opens up new avenues for economic growth. These products, now recognized on a global scale, are poised to contribute significantly to the state's identity and economy, ensuring their legacy for generations to come.

**Memorial Park cum Freedom Fighter Museum in Ranchi.** ([Click to read complete article](#))

- Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** recently addressed the **Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue**, highlighting India's remarkable economic trajectory amidst global challenges. She predicted that **by 2027, India would surpass Japan and Germany** to become the **world's third-largest economy**, underlining the resilience of the Indian economy amid global uncertainties. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a remarkable initiative, two solar-powered 'mini-cruise' ships are set to commence operations in the sacred **Saryu River in Ayodhya**, just ahead of the inauguration of the **Ram Temple in January next year**. Varanasi-based Alaknanda Cruise, under the leadership of director Vikas Malviya, will pioneer this unique service, providing an immersive experience centered around the life and teachings of Lord Ram. The introduction of solar-powered '**Ramayana**' vessels along the Saryu River represents a harmonious blend of tradition and modernity. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a significant development, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal announced that the Indian patent office has achieved an unprecedented milestone by granting a **record-breaking 41,010 patents** in the current fiscal year, up until November 15. This remarkable figure starkly contrasts with the 2013-14 fiscal year when only 4,227 patents were granted. ([Click to read complete article](#))

**National Affairs**

- More than 22 lakh 'diyas' illuminated the banks of the Saryu river in **Ayodhya** during the **seventh edition** of the **Deepotsav**, setting a new world record for lighting a large number of lamps simultaneously at one place. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to launch the **PM-PVTG Development Mission**, a groundbreaking scheme aimed at fostering the comprehensive development of approximately 28 lakh people belonging to **Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)**. This significant event is scheduled to coincide with the birth anniversary celebration of the revered tribal freedom fighter, **Birsa Munda**, observed as **Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas** for the past three years. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to make history by becoming the first **Prime Minister to visit Ulihatu Village**, the birthplace of Bhagwan Birsa Munda. This monumental visit is scheduled for November 15th, where the Prime Minister will pay homage at the **Bhagwan Birsa Munda**

**States in the News**

- **Uttarakhand** is on the brink of making history as it prepares to become the **first state in India** to implement the **Uniform Civil Code (UCC)**. In a move towards **legal uniformity** and gender equality, the state government is set to convene a special session post-Diwali to clear the UCC Bill, marking a significant departure from the diverse personal laws that currently govern citizens based on their religious affiliations. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a significant move towards educational reform, the **Assam Cabinet** has given its nod for the merger of the **Secondary Education Board of Assam (SEBA)** and the **Assam Higher Secondary Education Council (AHSEC)**. The amalgamated entity will now be known as the '**Assam State School Education Board**' (ASSEB). This decision is aimed at **enhancing the quality and standards of school education** in the state. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Kochi**, a vibrant city in the Indian state of **Kerala**, has earned a prestigious spot on **Conde Nast Traveller's list of the best places** to visit in Asia in 2024. ([Click to read complete article](#))

**International Affairs**

- The **Joint Arab-Islamic Extraordinary Summit**, which took place in **Riyadh, Saudi Arabia**, on Saturday, November 11, 2023, wrapped up yesterday. The summit was convened to **address the escalating Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people**. Crown Prince and Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, His Royal Highness Prince **Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud**, opened the summit, welcoming leaders and representatives from member states of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and the League of Arab States. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- External Affairs Minister **Dr. S Jaishankar** embarks on a five-day official visit to the **United Kingdom**. This visit aims to strengthen the bilateral partnership between India and the UK, marked by a warm and thriving relationship. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The Iceland Met Office has issued a stark warning of a “considerable” likelihood of a **volcanic eruption** in the coming days, following a series of seismic events that have rattled the country. This seismic activity has prompted the declaration of a **state of emergency in Iceland**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a closely contested parliamentary election, **Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez** has secured a **second term**, navigating the political landscape with a razor-thin majority. The focal point of this victory is an **amnesty deal for Catalanian separatists**, a move that has polarized the nation but strategically garnered the necessary votes from lawmakers in the country’s north. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Northeast Bay of Bengal** is currently under the influence of a cyclonic storm named “**Midhili**,” causing widespread concern and disruptions in the region. Government authorities in several northeastern states have **issued alerts following substantial rainfall**, and the impact of the storm has been felt across various areas, affecting not only daily life but also cultural events. ([Click to read complete article](#))



**Agreements/MoUs Signed**

- **India** has taken a significant step towards the development of high-quality urban infrastructure with the signing of a **\$400 million** policy-based loan agreement with the **Asian Development Bank (ADB)**. The agreement, aimed at **improving service delivery and promoting efficient governance systems**, underscores the nation’s commitment to fostering planned and sustainable urbanization. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- India and the United States have taken a significant step to boost collaboration among startups and promote innovation through a memorandum of understanding (MoU) signed on November 14 in San Francisco. This partnership, established under the framework of the **India-US Commercial Dialogue**, aims to enhance innovation ecosystems and address regulatory challenges in the startup landscape. ([Click to read complete article](#))

**Books and Authors**

- Vice President released a book titled “Building Partnership: India & International Cooperation for Maritime Security” authored by Capt Himadri Das.

**Banking/Economy/Business News**

- In its recently released “**2024 India Economics Outlook**,” Morgan Stanley Research predicts that India’s economy will experience substantial growth, hovering around 6.5% for both FY2024 and FY2025. The investment bank attributes this positive outlook to the country’s resilient domestic fundamentals, strong corporate and financial sector balance sheets, and the impact of recent policy reforms. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- India’s retail inflation, as measured by the **Consumer Price Index (CPI)**, witnessed a **4-month low** in **October**, settling at **4.87%**. A combination of a supportive economic base and moderation in non-food prices contributed to this decline from **September’s 5.02%**. However, despite this apparent relief, economists express concerns about underlying issues that may impact the **Reserve Bank of India’s (RBI) Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)** decisions. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Association of Asia-Pacific Airlines (AAPA)** has announced a groundbreaking target for its **14 member airlines**, including newly inducted Air India, to **achieved 5% sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) usage by 2030**. This move aims to address the aviation industry’s carbon emissions challenges, signaling a significant demand for sustainable fuel production. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- In a significant leap forward for the telecommunications landscape in India, the **Department of Telecom (DoT)** has granted **Internet Service Provider (ISP) licenses to Jio Satellite Communications and OneWeb**. This developmental follows a year after both companies obtained permits to offer satellite communication services, marking a crucial milestone in their efforts to revolutionize internet connectivity. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **India's Wholesale Price Index (WPI)**-based inflation rate continued its downward trend, reaching a three-month low of **-0.52%** in October. This marks the seventh consecutive month of deflation, with various factors contributing to the sustained negative trajectory. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a groundbreaking move, **IndusInd Bank** has achieved the significant milestone of becoming the inaugural bank to go live as a **'Financial Information Provider' (FIP)** under the recently introduced 'Account Aggregator Framework' by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a significant move, the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** issued a directive on November 15, instructing **Bajaj Finance** to cease the sanction and disbursal of loans under two of its lending products, namely **'eCOM' and 'Insta EMI Card.'** This immediate action stems from the company's non-adherence to the existing provisions outlined in the Digital Lending Guidelines of the Reserve Bank of India. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a groundbreaking move, **Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL)**, the country's leading gas firm, has successfully executed the **world's first ship-to-ship liquefied natural gas (LNG) transfer**. This innovative approach aims to reduce shipping costs and cut emissions significantly, marking a pivotal moment for GAIL as it explores unconventional methods to enhance its business operations. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The central government has announced a substantial reduction in the **Special Additional Excise Duty (SAED)** on crude oil imports. The tax, which was previously set at Rs. 9,800 per tonne, has been slashed by 35.71% to Rs. 6,300 per tonne. This adjustment reflects the government's proactive response to the evolving dynamics of international crude oil prices. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- S&P Global, in its latest report, has forecasted robust economic growth for India in the medium term, estimating a GDP expansion ranging between **6 to 7.1 percent** annually from FY24 through FY26. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has identified rising food prices as the primary challenge to achieving its **4% Consumer Price Index (CPI) target**, according to its **'State of the Economy' report**. The central bank anticipates potential disruptions to the progress made in the past two months due to the firming up of various constituent prices. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** recently levied a substantial monetary penalty of **₹90.92 lakh** on **Axis Bank Ltd**, citing non-compliance with several key directives issued by the apex bank. The penalties were related to the **'Reserve Bank of India (Know Your Customer (KYC)) Directions, 2016,' 'Loans and Advances – Statutory and Other Restrictions,' 'Guidelines on Managing Risks and Code of Conduct in Outsourcing of Financial Services by banks,' and 'Code of Conduct for Opening and Operating Current Accounts.'** ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In the initial seven months of the financial year 2023-24 (April-October), India's export landscape witnessed notable dynamics, with the **Netherlands, the UK, and Australia** emerging as pivotal drivers of the nation's outbound shipments. Preliminary data from the commerce ministry underscores the positive impact of these markets on India's export performance during this period. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- IndusInd Bank has taken a significant leap in the realm of digital payments with the launch of its groundbreaking initiative – the **'IndusInd Bank Platinum RuPay Credit Card'** on the UPI platform. This collaboration with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) marks a pivotal moment in the evolution of seamless and versatile payment options for customers. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- India's Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) predicts a remarkable surge in the country's e-commerce exports, projecting a potential rise from the current **\$1.2 billion to an impressive \$200 billion** within the next six to seven years. The DGFT, Santosh Kumar Sarangi, shared these insights at the 'E-commerce Exports' conference organized by Ficci, underlining the vast potential inherent in India's e-commerce sector. ([Click to read complete article](#))

### Appointments/Resignations

- Rear Admiral **Rajesh Dhankhar** assumed **command of the Eastern Fleet**, a significant and prestigious position within the Eastern Naval Command. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Rishi Sunak**, upon his return from the Deepavali celebrations in his hometown of Southampton, U.K., made waves in the political landscape by resurrecting the political career of **former U.K. Prime Minister David Cameron**, appointing him to the role of **Foreign Secretary**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- US President **Joe Biden** has recently announced several key appointments, including the notable selection of **Indian American Shakuntla L Bhaya** to serve in a crucial role. According to the White House, Bhaya has been appointed as a **member of the Council of the Administrative Conference** of the United States. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has given its approval for the appointment of key individuals as directors of **Jio Financial Services**, marking a significant development in the leadership structure of the company. Isha Ambani, a prominent figure in the business world and a key player in the success of Reliance Retail, has been appointed as one of the directors. Another noteworthy addition to the board is Anshuman Thakur, a graduate in Economics and an MBA from IIM-Ahmedabad. The appointment of Hitesh Kumar Sethia as Managing Director and CEO of RSIL (presumably Reliance Strategic Investments Limited) adds further strength to the leadership team. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The Board of Directors of **Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd.** made a significant announcement on Friday, appointing **Ashok Vaswani** as Managing Director & CEO, and a key managerial personnel of the bank. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **NITI Aayog**, the eminent policy think tank of the Government of India, has recently added **four new Distinguished Fellows** to its ranks for a **period of one year**. These individuals, known for their extensive work experience and expertise in various domains, are expected to contribute significantly to addressing key social, economic, and technical challenges facing the nation. ([Click to read complete article](#))

### Defence News

- The ninth edition of the Joint Military exercise, known as "**Exercise MITRA SHAKTI-2023**," kicked off in **Aundh (Pune)**. Running from **November 16th to 29th, 2023**, the exercise aims to strengthen cooperation between the **Indian and Sri Lankan military** forces. **Exercise MITRA SHAKTI-2023** represents a significant step in promoting collaboration and understanding between India and Sri Lanka. It emphasizes the importance of joint military efforts and modern techniques in addressing challenges, ultimately contributing to regional security and stability. ([Click to read complete article](#))

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- On 16th November 2023, a significant milestone in India's naval capabilities was achieved as '**Amini**,' the **fourth** of the **Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW SWC) Project**, was successfully launched at M/s L&T Shipbuilding in **Kattupalli**. The Launch Ceremony, presided over by **Vice Admiral Sandeep Naithani**, Chief of Materiel, showcased the culmination of efforts towards indigenous shipbuilding. ([Click to read complete article](#))

### Awards and Recognitions

- World-renowned author **Salman Rushdie**, celebrated for groundbreaking works like '**The Satanic Verses**,' received the inaugural '**Lifetime Disturbing the Peace Award**' from the Vaclav Havel Center. Simultaneously, Egyptian activist Alaa Abdel-Fattah was honored with the '**Disturbing the Peace Award for a Courageous Writer at Risk**' during a ceremony held on November 14. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a groundbreaking achievement, **Pakistan-based cleantech startup She-Guard** emerged victorious at the '**ClimateLaunchpad Asia-Pacific**' finals, showcasing their innovative biodegradable and plastic-free sanitary product. The startup's mission is to transform banana crop waste into affordable, eco-friendly sanitary napkins, addressing the interconnected challenges of climate change, public health and solid waste management in Pakistan. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Maharashtra government** has chosen the esteemed playback singer and National Award winner, **Suresh Ishwar Wadkar**, as the recipient of the prestigious '**Gansamragini Lata Mangeskar Award**' for 2023. The announcement was made by Cultural Affairs Minister Sudhir Mungantiwar, recognizing Wadkar's remarkable contribution to the world of music. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **JSW Infrastructure**, a key player in the **Indian port sector and part of the JSW Group**, has recently announced the reception of a letter of award for the development of a state-of-the-art, all-weather, **deep-water greenfield port at Keni in Karnataka**. The port project, **valued at Rs.4,119 crore**, is set to be executed through a public-private partnership. This significant development is poised to enhance maritime infrastructure and boost trade in the North Karnataka region. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences** has announced that **Jimmy Kimmel** will return as the host for the **96th Academy Awards in 2024**, marking his second consecutive year and fourth overall. This decision comes after **Kimmel's successful stint in 2023**, where the ceremony garnered **18.7 million viewers**, the highest since the pre-pandemic broadcast in 2020. ([Click to read complete article](#))

**Summits and Conferences News**

- **33rd Conference of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) Regional Commission for Asia and the Pacific.** The event, slated from **November 13 to 16, 2023**, is unfolding in the city of New Delhi. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The 42nd edition of the India International Trade Fair (IITF) 2023 kicks off at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi. The esteemed event will be inaugurated by **Anupriya Patel**, the Union Minister of State for Commerce and Industry. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **6th High-Level Meeting of the India-OPEC Energy Dialogue** took place on 9 November 2023, at the OPEC Secretariat in **Vienna, Austria**. The co-chairs of the meeting were **HE Haitham Al Ghais**, Secretary General of OPEC, and **HE Hardeep Singh Puri**, Honourable Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs of the Republic of India. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is set to attend the **10th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM Plus)** in Jakarta, Indonesia, spanning from November 16th to November 17th, as announced by the Ministry of Defence. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a landmark four-hour meeting at the picturesque Filoli estate near San Francisco, **U.S. President Joe Biden and China's Xi Jinping** engaged in discussions that spanned critical issues ranging from military conflicts to drug trafficking. This meeting preceded the **Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum**, adding significance to the deliberations. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **9th edition of the Indian International Science Festival (IISF)** is set to be held at the **Campus of Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI) and the Regional Centre for Biotechnology (RCB) in Faridabad, Haryana from 17th January to 20th January 2024**. The mega science fair promises a unique blend of scientific exploration, innovation and public engagement. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **International Conference on Plant Health Management (ICPHM) 2023** is set to take place in **Hyderabad, India, from 15th to 18th November**. This significant event is organized by the **Plant Protection Association of India (PPAI)**, an institution with a rich legacy of **50 years** in advancing plant protection both nationally and internationally. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The recently concluded **Second Voice of Global South Summit** marked a significant virtual gathering hosted by India on November 17. This summit, a follow-up to the January event, showcased India's commitment to fostering collaboration among countries in Latin America, Asia, Africa, and Oceania — collectively known as the Global South. The inaugural summit, themed **"Energy Security and development: Roadmap to Prosperity,"** united 125 nations to discuss shared perspectives in preparation for the G20 Leaders Summit in September 2023. ([Click to read complete article](#))

**Ranks and Reports**

- The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has partnered with Jocata, a digital lending transformation platform, to launch a groundbreaking initiative named **'Sumpoorn'—a unique MSME Economic Activity Index**. This index aims to provide a real-time snapshot of India's vital MSME sector, which contributes significantly to the country's Gross Value Added (GVA) and exports. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **United Nations' World Meteorological Organization (WMO)** has issued a stark warning, revealing that greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere reached unprecedented levels in 2022. The surge in the three primary culprits – carbon dioxide (CO2), methane, and nitrous oxide – sets the stage for intensified climate impacts, including soaring temperatures, extreme weather events, and rising sea levels. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a recent fund manager survey (FMS) conducted by **Bank of America (BofA)**, Japan and India emerged as the most favored markets in the Asia Pacific region. The survey revealed that **Japan** holds the top position with a net 45 percent overweight, followed by **India** at 25 percent. In contrast, **Thailand, China, and Australia** are perceived as less attractive, with net underweight figures of 13 percent, 9 percent, and 9 percent, respectively. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In the dynamic world of startups and unicorns, **India** has secured the **third position** globally with an impressive count of **72 unicorn companies**. The cumulative valuation of these unicorns stands at a staggering **\$195.75 billion**, showcasing the country's growing prowess in the international startup ecosystem. ([Click to read complete article](#))

**Sports News**

- In a historic moment at the ongoing ICC Men's Cricket World Cup, **Virat Kohli**, the Former Indian cricket captain, achieved a remarkable feat by becoming the first batter in the world to score **50 One Day International (ODI) centuries**. In doing so, he surpassed the iconic **Sachin Tendulkar's record of 49 centuries**, solidifying his place as the leading century-scorer in ODI cricket. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a groundbreaking moment, Indian captain **Rohit Sharma** has left an indelible mark on cricket history by becoming the first player to hit **50 sixes in the World Cup**. Achieving this remarkable feat during the semifinal clash against New Zealand in Mumbai, the 36-year-old scored an impressive 47 runs from 29 balls, surpassing **Chris Gayle's record of 49 sixes in World Cups** with a powerful pull shot off fast bowler Trent Boult. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- In a captivating sporting environment, **Shri Hardeep Singh Puri**, Hon'ble Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Housing and Urban Affairs, inaugurated the **3rd Hockey India Senior Women Inter Department National Championship 2023** at Shivaji Stadium. The ceremony was a thrilling kickoff to an event that promises to showcase the best of women's hockey talent from across the nation. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **All India Football Federation (AIFF)** to establish a world-class football academy is set to materialize in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, on November 21, 2023. The AIFF-FIFA academy, initiated under the **FIFA Talent Development Scheme (TDS)**, will be inaugurated by Mr. Arsene Wenger, Chief of Global Football Development at FIFA. The inauguration of the AIFF-FIFA academy in Bhubaneswar marks a significant milestone in Indian football. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a historic display of skill and precision, **Mohammed Shami** etched his name in cricketing history by becoming the **first Indian bowler** to pick seven wickets in a One Day International (ODI). This extraordinary feat unfolded during India's World Cup semifinal clash against New Zealand in Mumbai. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a decision resonating with the euphoria of India's semi-final victory in the Cricket World Cup and **Virat Kohli's** extraordinary feat of completing 50 centuries in one-day cricket, a **wax statue** immortalizing the star cricketer is poised to join the distinguished ensemble at the **Wax Museum within Jaipur's Nahargarh Fort**. ([Click to read complete article](#))

### Schemes and Committees News

- In a significant move towards fostering economic empowerment and financial inclusion among persons with disabilities, the government has introduced a **one percent interest rate rebate** for divyang borrowers. This initiative is part of the **National Divyangjan Finance and Development Corporation (NDFDC)**, signaling a commitment to alleviating financial burdens and promoting responsible financial practices within this community. The government's decision entails a one percent interest rate rebate specifically designed for divyang individuals availing financial support through the NDFDC. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Indian government**, through the **Ministry of Agriculture**, is gearing up to launch a groundbreaking initiative aimed at **supporting small and marginal farmers** who face challenges in storing their produce while waiting for optimal market conditions. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- In a significant move to support coconut farmers and enhance coconut cultivation practices, the **Coconut Development Board (CDB)** has recently launched the **"Hello Naariyal" Friends of Coconut Trees (FoCT) call centre facility**. This initiative aims to provide valuable assistance to farmers in various aspects of coconut harvesting and plant management operations. ([Click to read complete article](#))

### Science and Technology News

- **Omegle**, a once-popular online chat service founded in **2009** by Leif K-Brooks, has recently announced its **shutdown after more than 14 years** of operation. The platform, which allowed individuals to connect and talk with strangers, experienced a surge in popularity but ultimately faced challenges that led to its demise. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Google** is taking a significant step in catering to the educational needs of teenagers with the launch of its **AI chatbot, Bard**. In a blog post by **Tulsee Doshi**, Google's Product Head for Responsible AI, the company outlined its commitment to creating a secure and engaging learning experience for younger users. ([Click to read complete article](#))

### Important Days News

- **World Kindness Day**, observed annually on **November 13**, is a global celebration dedicated to recognizing and promoting acts of kindness. This year's **theme** for 2023 is **"Be Kind Wherever Possible,"** which serves as a potent reminder of the universal significance of kindness that should permeate every corner of the world and every facet of our lives. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Children's Day in India** is a special occasion celebrated every year on **November 14th**. This date was chosen to honor the birthday of India's first prime minister, **Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru**, a leader who deeply cherished children and believed in their potential to shape the nation's future. The theme of this year's Children's Day, **'For every child, every right'**, underscores the commitment to uphold the rights of every child worldwide. ([Click to read complete article](#))



- World Diabetes Day, observed annually on November 14, serves as a crucial platform to bring attention to diabetes as a pressing global public health issue. The theme for World Diabetes Day 2023, "Access to Diabetes Care," underscores the importance of making diabetes care accessible to everyone. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **World Philosophy Day**, observed annually on the **third Thursday of November**, stands as a testament to the enduring significance of philosophy in the development of human thought, cultural enrichment, and individual growth. This year World Philosophy Day observed on 16th November. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **International Day for Tolerance**, observed annually on **November 16th**, serves as a global platform to champion tolerance, respect, and understanding among people of diverse backgrounds and cultures. This day, instituted by UNESCO, reaffirms the principles of human rights and equality while promoting open-mindedness, empathy, and compassion. In 2023, the theme is "**Tolerance: A Path to Peace and Reconciliation**," emphasizing the pivotal role of tolerance in building peaceful and inclusive societies. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi marked the celebration of 'Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas' at Birsa College, Khunti, Jharkhand, on 15th November 2023. Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas, also known as **Tribal Pride Day**, is celebrated to honor the **birth anniversary of the revered tribal freedom fighter, Birsa Munda**. This occasion also witnessed the release of the 15th instalment of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme, reflecting the government's commitment to support farmers and promote inclusive agricultural development. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **National Press Day**, observed on **November 16** every year in India, holds significance in acknowledging the vital role of a free and responsible press in a democratic society. The day commemorates the establishment of the **Press Council of India (PCI)**, which acts as a regulatory body for the news media in the country. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **International Students' Day 2023**, observed worldwide on Friday, **November 17**, is a special occasion that acknowledges the resilience and contributions of students globally. This day holds historical importance as it commemorates the **Nazi invasion of a university in Prague in 1939**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **National Epilepsy Day** is observed on **November 17** in India to raise awareness about epilepsy and its impact on individuals, families, and society. **Dr. Nirmal Surya**, through the Epilepsy Foundation of India, initiated this day to provide assistance to those unable to afford treatment, dispel myths, and create awareness about epilepsy symptoms and management. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **The United Nations** has designated **November 18** as the "**World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Violence**." ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Every year, **World Prematurity Day** is observed on **November 17**. The global theme for this year's World Prematurity Day is "**Small actions, big impact: Immediate skin-to-skin care for every baby everywhere**,". ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Obituaries News
- **Lala Kedarnath Aggarwal**, the visionary entrepreneur and founder of the renowned sweets and snacks brand **Bikanervala**, breathed his last at the age of 86. His journey from a humble street vendor to the chairman of a successful business empire is a testament to his indomitable spirit and dedication. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Sahara Group's visionary founder and chairman, **Subrata Roy**, breathed his last at the age of 75 in a Mumbai hospital. The news comes after a prolonged battle with illness, as stated in an official company announcement. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **N Sankaraiyah**, one of the **oldest communist leaders** in the country, passed away in a Chennai hospital after a brief illness on Wednesday morning. At the age of **102**, he had dedicated his life to the principles of communism and the struggle for a just society. Leaders of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) confirmed his demise, marking the end of an era. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Renowned art historian and prolific writer, **B. N. Goswamy**, breathed his last at the Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER) in **Chandigarh** on Friday at the age of **90**. His passing marks the end of an era in the world of art scholarship and leaves behind a legacy that has enriched the understanding of Pahari paintings. ([Click to read complete article](#))





**Miscellaneous News**

- **Pablo Picasso's** famous painting **"Femme à la montre"** ("**Woman with a Watch**") sold for a record-breaking **\$139 million** at a Sotheby's auction in New York on November 8, 2023. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a groundbreaking achievement, Indian skydiver **Shital Mahajan** has etched her name in history by jumping off a helicopter from a staggering height of **21,500 ft near the world's highest peak, Mt Everest**. This remarkable feat marks her as the first woman to accomplish such a daring skydive. Mahajan skillfully landed at **Kalapathar peak, situated at an altitude of 17,444 ft**. ([Click to read complete article](#))

**Static Takeaways**

- UNESCO Headquarters: Paris, France;
- UNESCO Founded: 16 November 1945, London, United Kingdom;
- UNESCO Head: Audrey Azoulay; (Director-General).
- Press Council of India Headquarters: New Delhi;
- Press Council of India Founder: Parliament of India;
- Press Council of India Founded: 4 July 1966, India.
- Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai is chairman of the council .
- All India Football Federation President: Kalyan Chaubey;
- All India Football Federation Founded: 23 June 1937;
- All India Football Federation HQ: Dwarka, New Delhi.
- Adobe CEO: Shantanu Narayen (1 Dec 2007–);
- Adobe Headquarters: San Jose, California, United States;
- Adobe Founders: Charles Geschke, John Warnock;
- Adobe Founded: December 1982, Mountain View, California, United States.
- Assam's Industries & Commerce Minister: Chandra Mohan Patowary
- The Chairman and Managing Director of VA Tech Wabag: Rajiv Mittal
- Singapore's Minister for Education: Mr Chan Chun Sing
- State Bank of India(SBI) Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara

- State Bank of India(SBI) Headquarters – Mumbai, Maharashtra
- State Bank of India(SBI) Established in – 1955
- State Bank of India(SBI) Tagline – The Banker to Every Indian
- Managing Director & CEO of YES BANK: Mr. Prashant Kumar
- Chief executive officer (CEO) of Jio Financial Services: Hitesh Sethia
- Official currency of Thailand: Thai baht
- Khelo India Programme was launched in the year: 2018
- Chief Marketing and Communications Officer at Mastercard: Raja Rajamannar
- Chief Executive Officer of ICC: Geoff Allardice
- Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL): Shri Mihir Kanti Mishra
- Wrestling Federation of India President: Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh;
- Wrestling Federation of India Founded: 27 January 1967;
- Wrestling Federation of India Headquartered in New Delhi, India.
- Minister of Assam for Environment and Forest: Chandra Mohan Patowary
- Competition Commission of India (CCI) was formed on: October 14, 2003.
- Chairperson of the Competition Commission of India (CCI): Ravneet Kaur.
- Minister of Assam for Environment and Forest: Chandra Mohan Patowary
- Competition Commission of India (CCI) was formed on: October 14, 2003.
- Chairperson of the Competition Commission of India (CCI): Ravneet Kaur.
- Chairman of All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE): T G Sitharam
- Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) Founded: 1 October 2003;
- Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) Headquarters: Chōfu, Tokyo, Japan.


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