

Weekly One Liners 27th Nov to 03rd of December 2023

Irish author Paul Lynch wins 2023 Booker Prize

Paul Lynch who is an Irish author won the **2023 Booker prize** for his fifth novel **'Prophet Song'** beating London-based Indian-origin author Chetna Maroo's debut novel **"Western Lane"**, at a ceremony in London last night. After being honoured with the award. The novel, Lynch's fifth, seeks to show the unrest in Western democracies and their indifference towards disasters such as the implosion of Syria. The author receives £50,000 and was presented with his trophy.

About the novel

The storyline of the book is set in imagined future Ireland that descends into oppressive rule. The story suggests that civil war leads to families' fleeing Ireland. The story centres on alternate Dublin where members of the newly formed secret police, established by a government proceed towards totalitarianism. The protagonist Eilish is a microbiologist who looks after her four children and her elderly father amid civil war following disappearance of her husband. Eilish's husband, a senior official in the Teachers' Union of Ireland goes into hiding when secret police knocks at their door.

Last Year Winner

Last year, **Shehan Karunatilaka** won the Booker prize for **'The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida,'** whose story centres on Sri Lankan civil war. A novel about political conflict won the prize for the second year in a row. Lynch the fifth Irish author to win the prize while the last Irish writer Anna Burns won the award in 2018. Booker Prize is awarded to the best novel of fiction written in English and published in UK and Ireland.

Shortlist Category

- The Bee Sting
- Western Lane
- Prophet Song
- This Other Eden
- If I Survive You
- Study for Obedience



Angkor Wat Becomes the 8th wonder of the world

Angkor Wat, located in the heart of **Cambodia**, has recently earned the prestigious **title of the 8th wonder of the world**, surpassing Italy's Pompeii. This UNESCO World Heritage Site is not only the largest religious structure in the world but also a testament to architectural brilliance and cultural significance.

About Angkor Wat

Angkor Wat is an expansive temple complex that spans approximately **500 acres and serves as the largest religious monument in the world**. Originally constructed in the **12th century by King Suryavarman II**, the temple was dedicated to the **Hindu deity Vishnu**. Over time, it transformed into a major Buddhist temple, reflecting the transition from Hinduism to Buddhism. The site is renowned for its statue of eight-armed Vishnu, revered as a protecting deity by the locals.

Historical Significance

Built in the **12th century**, Angkor Wat's history is marked by its transformation from a Hindu temple to a Buddhist sanctuary. The intricate carvings on the temple walls depict scenes from Hindu and Buddhist mythology, providing a visual journey through the religious and historical evolution of the region.

Architectural Wonder

Angkor Wat's architectural brilliance is evident in its massive scale, precise symmetry and intricate bas-reliefs. The central temple complex features five lotus-shaped towers representing **Mount Meru, a mythical abode of gods in Hindu and Buddhist cosmology**. Surrounding its outer walls is a vast moat, adding to the grandeur of this ancient marvel.

Intricate Bas-Reliefs

The walls of Angkor Wat are adorned with detailed bas-reliefs that serve as an ancient visual encyclopedia. These carvings depict scenes from Hindu epics, historical events and the daily life of the Khmer people. The level of detail in these carvings showcases the skill and craftsmanship of the artisans who contributed to this colossal project.

Cultural and Spiritual Significance

Beyond its architectural splendor, Angkor Wat holds immense cultural and spiritual importance. It remains an active religious site, attracting Buddhist monks and devotees who engage in prayer and meditation, contributing to the ongoing legacy of this historic monument.

Sunrise at Angkor Wat

One of the most iconic experiences at Angkor Wat is witnessing the sunrise over its majestic towers. As dawn breaks, the temple is bathed in **hues of pink, orange and gold**, creating a breathtaking spectacle that adds to the allure of this 8th wonder of the world.

IFFI 2023: 'Endless Borders' Wins Golden Peacock

The **54th International Film Festival of India (IFFI)** in **Goa** ended on November 28 with an award ceremony. The nine-day festival concluded at **Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Indoor Stadium in Panaji, Goa**. For the prestigious Golden Peacock, a total of 15 films comprising 12 international and 3 Indian films competed. **'Endless Borders'** took home the award. Iranian actor Pouria Rahimi Sam bagged the Best Actor award for his role in 'Endless Borders'. 'Kantara' scripted history as it became the first Kannada film to win an award at IFFI. Kannada actor and filmmaker Rishab Shetty was honoured with the Special Jury Award for his pan-Indian blockbuster film.

Legendary Hollywood actor and producer **Michael Douglas** was conferred with the **Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award** while 'Panchayat Season 2' got the Best Web Series Award. Closing Film 'The Featherweight' has its Asia premier at 54th IFFI. The American film has its Asia premier at 54th IFFI in Goa today as the closing film of the festival. Robert Kolodny, the director of the film The Featherweight.

Here's the full list of the winners of IFFI 2023

- Golden Peacock Best Film: 'Endless Borders'
- Best Actor-Male: Pouria Rahimi Sam for 'Endless Borders'
- Best Actor (Female): Melanie Thierry for 'Party of Fools'
- Best Director: Stephan Komandarev for 'Blaga's Lessons'
- Special Jury Award: Rishab Shetty For 'Kantara'
- Best Debutant Director: Reger Azad Kaya for his Syrian-Arab Republic film 'When the Seedlings Grow'
- Best Web Series: 'Panchayat Season 2'
- Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award: Michael Douglas

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Who is King Suryavarman II?

Suryavarman II, also known as Paramavishnuloka, was a king of the **Khmer Empire who ruled from 1113 to 1150 AD**. He is best known for building the Angkor Wat temple complex, which is the largest religious monument in the world.

- Suryavarman II was a devout Hindu and a skilled military leader. He expanded the Khmer Empire to its greatest extent and brought much of Southeast Asia under his control. He also oversaw a period of great cultural and artistic flourishing.
- Suryavarman II's most famous achievement is the Angkor Wat temple complex. This massive structure was built to honor the Hindu god Vishnu. It is a masterpiece of Khmer architecture and is considered one of the most important religious sites in the world.
- Suryavarman II's reign was a golden age for the Khmer Empire. He was a powerful and wise leader who left a lasting legacy on Cambodia. His achievements continue to inspire people today.

COP28: A Comprehensive Guide to Key Information

What is COP28?

COP28 is the **28th Conference of the Parties (COP)** to the **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)**. It is a global summit where world leaders, policymakers, scientists, and activists come together to discuss and take action on climate change. COP came into existence in 2010. It facilitates the exchange of best practices and innovations across vital sectors crucial to decarbonisation efforts in the areas of energy, transport, buildings, industry, finance and nature.

The COP is a crucial annual gathering where world leaders, policymakers, scientists and activists convene to find out solution to the growing challenges of climate change.

- The COP meetings act as the decision-making body of the UNFCCC in order to address the climate change.
- COP28, the 28th edition of this significant assembly, marks another pivotal moment in the ongoing fight against climate change.

Objectives of COP28

The main objectives of COP28 are to:

- Limiting the increase in global temperature to 1.5 degrees Celsius.
- Assisting the communities who are most vulnerable to the consequences of climate change.
- Achieving net-zero emissions by 2050. "Net-zero emissions by 2050" aims to balance the release of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere with their removal through human-made or natural processes by 2050.

The term "climate change" describes notable and persistent alterations to the Earth's long-term climate patterns, usually spanning decades to millions of years. These changes include differences in temperature, precipitation, wind direction, and other Earthly climate factors.

Achievements of COP

COP has already achieved a number of important milestones, including:

- **The Kyoto Protocol:** This international treaty was established in 1997 and set binding targets for industrialized countries to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.
- **The Paris Agreement:** This agreement was adopted in 2015 and aims to limit global warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius, preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius, compared to pre-industrial levels.

Challenges

Despite the progress that has been made, there are still a number of challenges that need to be addressed, including:

- The need for more ambitious emission reduction targets

- The need for more financial support for developing countries
- The need for more innovation in clean energy technologies

Initiatives by India

Despite not having legally binding emission reduction targets, India has been actively engaged in addressing climate change and implementing measures to curb greenhouse gas emissions. Prime Minister Narendra Modi articulated "**Panchamrit**" on India's climate action at the 26th session of the COP 26 held in Glasgow, United Kingdom. This Include commitment towards• Reaching 500GW Non-fossil energy capacity by 2030.

- Sourcing 50 % of its energy requirements from renewable energy by 2030.
- Reduction of total projected carbon emissions by one billion tonnes from now to 2030.
- Reduction of the carbon intensity of the economy by 45 per cent by 2030, over 2005 levels.
- To attain net zero emissions by 2070.

India has prioritized sustainable development projects like, renewable energy targets, promoting energy efficiency, implementing emissions reduction policies, to achieve its climate goals.

COP 28 is scheduled to take place in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, from November 30, 2023, to December 12, 2023. It is expected that around 70,000 participants, including the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, will attend COP28. Participants include journalists, young people, Indigenous Peoples, climate scientists, business executives, and a variety of other professionals and stakeholders.

COP28

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National Affairs

- On the auspicious occasion of **Constitution Day**, President Droupadi Murmu revealed a **statue of Dr B R Ambedkar** within the Supreme Court premises. This symbolic gesture aimed to honor the renowned architect of the Indian Constitution. The event drew the attendance of numerous judges from the Supreme Court, emphasizing the significance of commemorating Constitution Day. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In a significant move towards energy sustainability, the Indian government has announced a phased **introduction of blending compressed biogas with natural gas**. This initiative aims to bolster domestic demand, decrease reliance on natural gas imports, and contribute to India's commitment to achieving net zero emissions by 2070. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In a landmark move towards a pollution-free Varanasi, Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Housing and Urban Affairs, Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, inaugurated the city's second floating **Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Mobile Refueling Unit (MRU) station at Ravidas Ghat**. Developed by GAIL (India) Limited, this initiative signifies a significant stride in adopting sustainable energy solutions. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The Union Government has recently made a significant decision to rebrand the existing **Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centres (AB-HWCs)** as '**Ayushman Arogya Mandir**' with the tagline '**Arogyam Parmam Dhanam**.' This move, communicated through a letter to all States and Union Territories by the Union Health Ministry, aims to enhance the identity and outreach of these primary healthcare facilities. The rebranding process is expected to be completed nationwide by the end of 2023. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Bengaluru**, the bustling IT hub of India, is poised to witness a groundbreaking development in its transportation infrastructure with the announcement of a **287-km circular railway**. Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw disclosed this ambitious project during a press conference after a comprehensive review of railway projects in Bengaluru. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Nitin Gadkari** virtually marked the inauguration of '**Classic Imperial**,' a luxury cruise vessel, in Kochi. This event was a significant milestone in the efforts to promote cruise tourism in the region. The Union Minister commended the commissioning of the vessel, emphasizing the display of professional excellence and entrepreneurial skills. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Union Minister for Women and Child Development and Minority Affairs, Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani**, recently launched the **Anganwadi Protocol Divyang Children** in a national outreach program at **Vigyan Bhawan on November 28, 2023**. The event aimed to strengthen the overall well-being of Divyang children and was attended by key officials, experts and stakeholders from various ministers and organizations. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Indian government has granted approval to two multinational corporations, Siemens AG from Germany and Kyosan Electric Manufacturing Co from Japan, to deploy the automatic train collision avoidance system known as **Kavach on the Indian Railways**. This marks a significant expansion of the initiative, which was previously undertaken by three Indian companies—**Medha Servo Drives, HBL Power Systems, and Kernex Microsystems**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In a significant stride towards transforming healthcare in India, Blod.in has unveiled its groundbreaking healthcare software and logistics platform, **Blod+**. This innovation aims to revolutionize blood management and delivery, addressing the **alarming issue of blood wastage** in healthcare facilities across the country. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL)**, a key player under the **Ministry of Coal**, has achieved a significant milestone with the initiation of commercial operations at its state-of-the-art **5.0 MTPA Madhuband Washery**. The washery was formally inaugurated by Union Minister of Coal, Mines, and Parliamentary Affairs, **Shri Pralhad Joshi**, marking a momentous occasion for the coal and steel sectors in India. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** in India has embarked on a groundbreaking initiative to centralize and streamline **raw data from cities across the country**. Launched as the **Amplifi 2.0** (Assessment and Monitoring Platform for Liveable, Inclusive and Future-ready urban India) portal, this endeavor aims to facilitate data-driven policy-making, empower academics, researchers, and engage stakeholders in the urban development process. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Joshimath, a town in Uttarakhand, faced severe challenges due to landslides and ground subsidence. The high-level central committee, led by **Union Home Minister Amit Shah**, approved a comprehensive recovery and reconstruction (**R&R**) **plan amounting to ₹1,658.17 crore** to address the aftermath of these natural disasters. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- The **National Water Mission**, under the Department of Water Resources, River Development, and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, hosted the '**Jal Itihas Utsav**' at Shamsi Talab, Jahaz Mahal in Mehrauli, Delhi, on December 1, 2023, with the aim of **raising public awareness about safeguarding water heritage sites**, instilling a sense of ownership among the masses, promoting tourism, and contributing to the restoration of these historical structures. ([Click here to read the article](#))

States in the News

- Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has given the green light to 12 pivotal projects, signaling a significant **investment of Rs 84,918.75 crore**. These initiatives are poised to generate substantial employment, benefiting 42,281 individuals across various sectors. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In a significant move to stimulate the local economy, the Jammu and Kashmir administration, under the leadership of **Lt Governor Manoj Sinha**, has given the green light for the establishment of four new industrial estates in the Union Territory. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Uttar Pradesh** government recently made a significant announcement, declaring **November 25** as "**no non-veg day**" in commemoration of the birth anniversary of **Sadhu TL Vaswani**, a prominent advocate for a vegetarian lifestyle. This decision involves the closure of all slaughterhouses and meat shops in the state on that day. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Chhatrapati Shahuji Maharaj University (CSMUJ) in Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh**, has achieved a significant milestone by securing the **highest grading, A++**, from the **National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC)**. This accomplishment places CSMUJ among select state universities in Uttar Pradesh with a similar prestigious status. The university's remarkable journey from a '**B' grade in 2006 and 2015** to the top-tier '**A++**' rating reflects its dedication to academic excellence and overall institutional development. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In a landmark development, **Damoh district in Madhya Pradesh** is poised to become the home of the country's largest tiger reserve, marking a significant stride in wildlife conservation efforts. The central government has greenlit the merger of **Noradehi Sanctuary with the Durgavati Sanctuary in Damoh**, creating an expansive tiger reserve spanning an impressive **2,300 square kilometers**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Uttar Pradesh** Chief Minister **Yogi Adityanath** has given approval for the establishment of the country's inaugural **Telecom Center of Excellence in Saharanpur**. The foundation stone for this groundbreaking initiative is set to be laid on December 5, 2023, marking a significant leap in telecom and technology innovation. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- **Nagaland**, a vibrant state in the northeastern region of India, is jubilantly celebrating its **61st Statehood Day on December 1, 2023**. This marks a significant milestone in the historical journey of the Nagas, who became the **16th state of the Union of India on December 1, 1963**. The state-level function, to be held at the Nagaland Civil Secretariat Kohima, promises a day filled with cultural richness, reflections on the past and a focus on the future. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Bihar government** launched a new initiative aimed at supporting nearly 25 lakh children facing significant academic challenges in state-run schools. "**Mission Daksh**" (Dynamic Approach for Knowledge and Skill), the initiative focuses on **providing specialized Hindi, Mathematics, and English classes to students in classes 3-8 statewide**. Each teacher will **mentor only five students**, specifically those struggling with fluency in Hindi and English and facing challenges in basic Mathematics. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Shri Dharmendra Pradhan**, Union Minister for Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, marked a significant step by laying the foundation stone for the **National Skill Training Institutes (NSTI) Plus**. The initiative aims to **enhance the skills of Odisha's youth** through demand-driven and high-quality vocational education. ([Click here to read the article](#))

International Affairs

- In a significant move, Malaysia has joined Thailand and Sri Lanka to offer **30 days of visa-free travel to visitors from India**, starting from December 1. Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim also announced a similar provision for Chinese citizens. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI)** has recommended a comprehensive review of India's bilateral free trade agreements (FTAs), specifically focusing on the agreements with Singapore and Thailand. GTRI suggests that this evaluation should be carried out in conjunction with the broader Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) bloc, highlighting the interconnected nature of regional trade dynamics. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In a significant diplomatic move, **Robert Shetkintong**, the current **Ambassador of India to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia**, has been designated as the **next High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Mozambique**. This strategic appointment marks a key transition for Shetkintong, a seasoned diplomat and a **2001 batch Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA)** disclosed the **first human case of H1N2**, or the **pig virus**, discovered through routine national flu surveillance. The affected individual experienced mild illness and fully recovered, raising questions about potential pig-to-human transmission. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- **Dave Sharma**, the trailblazing Indian-origin politician, has secured a significant political comeback by winning the **New South Wales Liberal Senate race**. Sharma, who initially made history in **2019 as the first Indian-origin lawmaker in Australian Parliament**, brings a wealth of diplomatic and foreign policy expertise to the Senate. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **New Zealand's** recently elected government has decided to abandon its groundbreaking law aimed at banning smoking for future generations. The move is driven by the government's intention to finance tax cuts, but public health officials are expressing concerns about the potential consequences, foreseeing thousands of lives at risk, especially within Māori communities. The **2022 legislation**, considered a world-first, established a progressively increasing smoking age, preventing those born after **January 2009** from legally purchasing cigarettes. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Indonesia's Anak Krakatau volcano**, situated in the **Sundra Strait**, unleashed a powerful eruption on Tuesday morning, casting a volcanic ash cloud approximately **1 km high into the sky**. The event, monitored by the volcano's Observation Post, marks a continuation of heightened volcanic activity since April last year, underscoring the growing concern over the volcano's potential danger. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **4th edition** of the annual **ASEAN India Grassroots Innovation Forum (AIGIF)** took place in **Langkawi, Malaysia**, on **November 28, 2023**, showcasing the collaborative efforts of India and the **10 ASEAN Member States (AMS) in the fields of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI)**. With the participation of 200 representatives, this year's AIGIF aimed to strengthen the relationship between the nations and promote social innovations at the grassroots level. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The Constitution of Nepal, adopted in 2015, took a bold step by explicitly prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation. **Nepal became the first South Asian country to formally register a case of same-sex marriage**. This event occurred in the Dordi Rural Municipality of Lamjung district in Western Nepal, where the union of trans-woman Maya Gurung, 35, and gay man Surendra Pandey, 27, was legally recognized. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **United Arab Emirates**, playing **host to COP-28**, has made a groundbreaking commitment of **US\$30 billion to ALTERRA**, a climate initiative by Lunate, the **world's largest private climate investment vehicle**. This privately managed fund aims to mobilize a staggering US\$250 billion globally by 2030, focusing on climate investments to reshape emerging markets and developing economies. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Agreements/MoUs Signed

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** and the **Bank of England (BoE)** took a significant step towards fostering international financial cooperation by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Friday. The focus of this MoU is on **collaboration and the exchange of information related to the Clearing Corporation of India Ltd (CCIL)**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Books and Authors

- The book, titled '**Pranab, My Father: A Daughter Remembers**' authored by **Sharmishtha Mukherjee**. The book is being brought out by **Rupa Publications**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The High Commissioner of India to the United Kingdom, **Vikram K. Doraiswami** launched the book titled **India's Moment: Changing Power Equations around the World**, by Professor (Dr.) Mohan Kumar, Dean, Strategic & International Initiatives, O.P. Jindal Global University last week. This book dwells on some of those fundamental factors and traces how India's positions in international negotiations have evolved over time. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Banking/Economy/Business News

- The **International Energy Agency (IEA)** recently released a report, highlighting the critical need for a substantial decline in global demand for oil and gas to **limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius by 2050**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- S&P Global Ratings has upgraded its GDP growth projection for India in the financial year 2024 to **6.4%, up from the previous estimate of 6%**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** has granted approval for Not for Profit Organisations (**NPOs**) to enhance their fundraising capabilities through the social stock exchange. In a significant move, the regulator is introducing flexibility measures to facilitate this process. To support NPOs on the social stock exchange, SEBI has decided to decrease the minimum issue size for public issuance of Zero Coupon Zero Principal Instruments (ZCZP) from Rs 1 crore to Rs 50 lakh. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has announced a two-year extension of the **Payments Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF)** scheme until **December 31, 2025**. This move is aimed at promoting digital transactions at the grassroots level and includes an expansion of beneficiaries under the scheme. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- **HDFC Securities**, a leading investment service provider in India, has successfully launched its mobile trading app, **HDFC SKY, on Amazon Web Services (AWS) cloud**. The partnership with AWS is anticipated to yield substantial benefits, including a remarkable 50% reduction in annual IT infrastructure and management costs compared to traditional on-premises solutions. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **IndiGo**, India's largest airline, announced on Monday the launch of its **Artificial Intelligence (AI)-powered chat assistant** named "6Eskai." This innovative tool is designed to cater to customer inquiries in a diverse range of languages, marking a significant step forward in enhancing customer service in the aviation industry. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** has unveiled an ambitious plan to revolutionize the settlement process in the country's financial markets. In a recent announcement, SEBI Chief **Madhabi Puri** revealed that the regulatory body is actively working on a roadmap to **implement same-day settlement of trades by March 2024**. Additionally, there are plans for the introduction of an optional parallel system for instantaneous settlement. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In a recent report titled '**China Slows India Grows**,' S&P Global Ratings anticipates a significant shift in the economic landscape of the Asia-Pacific region. The report projects India's GDP growth to outpace China's, highlighting a forecasted 7% growth for India by 2026, in contrast to China's estimated 4.6%. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In a significant step towards advancing vaccine research initiatives and strengthening global efforts to combat infectious diseases, **Bharat Biotech International**, a leading vaccine manufacturer and the **University of Sydney Infectious Diseases Institute (SydneyID)** have signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)**. This collaboration aims to foster academic-industry partnerships, design novel methodologies for tackling future epidemics and leverage the strengths of both entities to advance the science of vaccines and biotherapeutics. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Tata AutoComp Systems**, a prominent player in the automotive industry, has successfully sold a substantial land parcel spanning over **13.26 acres** in **Pune's Maan area**. The transaction, valued at **₹134 crore**, involved the sale of both land and a **1,00,000 sq ft** structure on the premises. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Hong Kong-based** flexible workspace provider, **The Executive Centre (TEC)**, is strategically focusing on its fastest-growing markets, India and the **Middle East**, with plans to add approximately **500,000 sq ft**. Despite global economic uncertainties, these regions have displayed resilience and robustness, making them prime targets for TEC's expansion. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **India's 18 largest states** are poised to witness a significant surge in capital expenditure for the fiscal year **2023-24**, as per a recent report by **Crisil**. The report projects an **18-20%** increase in spending compared to the previous year, attributing this growth to factors such as robust goods and services tax collections, stable central government devolution, and the allocation of interest-free loans totaling **1.3 lakh crore** to states. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Buoyed** by the **Production Linked Incentive (PLI)** scheme and favorable free trade agreements with the **UAE and Australia**, India's manmade fibre (MMF) textile industry is poised for substantial growth. Forecasts indicate a staggering 75% increase in exports, reaching **\$11.4 billion by 2030**, up from around **\$6.5 billion in 2021-22**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Indian companies** are undergoing a transformative shift as they increasingly prioritize sustainability in their operations. According to a survey conducted by **IBM and Morning Consult**, a staggering **82%** of Indian business leaders express a strong intent to hire professionals with expertise in green and sustainability technologies. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In a groundbreaking move, a **Virgin Atlantic** passenger jet, fueled entirely by sustainable aviation fuel (**SAF**), completed a London-to-New York journey, showcasing the aviation industry's commitment to **low-carbon** options. Despite challenges, the flight signifies a crucial step towards reducing emissions in an industry responsible for **2-3%** of global carbon emissions. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has taken a significant step in safeguarding the interests of investors by **updating its 'Alert List' of unauthorised forex trading platforms**. The latest update includes **19 additional entities**, bringing the **total number to 75**. This move aims to curb illegal forex trading activities and protect consumers from potential financial risks. ([Click here to read the article](#))

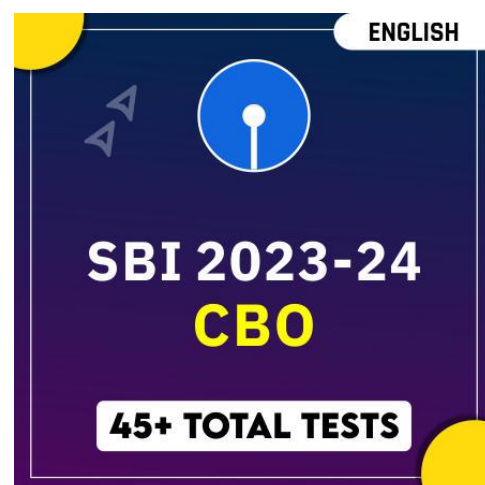


- **Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board (FRTIB)**, a major U.S. pension fund with assets surpassing \$600 billion, is poised to bring substantial investments to Indian equity markets. The FRTIB's decision to transition from the MSCI EAFE index to the MSCI ACWI IMI ex USA ex China ex Hong index is expected to trigger a massive \$28 billion global equity reshuffling, with India emerging as a key beneficiary. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The second quarter of FY24 witnessed a historic surge in women's labor force participation, reaching **an all-time high of 24%**, according to official data. While this is a positive development, deeper analysis reveals nuances in the employment landscape for women. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Adani Power Ltd (APL)** has announced its pioneering green ammonia combustion pilot project at the **Mundra power plant** in **Gujarat**. This initiative aligns with APL's commitment to adopting sustainable practices and reducing its carbon footprint. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)** has revised its growth projections for India, anticipating a further slowdown in the coming fiscal years. The Indian economy is expected to grow at **6.3%** in **FY24**, slightly under the **6.7%** growth seen in **Q2FY24**. However, the outlook for FY25 is even more conservative, with a projected growth of **6.1%**. This downward revision is attributed to adverse weather conditions and a globally weakened economic environment. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In a startling turn of events, India's economy experienced a **remarkable growth of 7.6%** during the July-September quarter of the fiscal year 2023-24 (Q2FY24). This places India firmly as the fastest-growing major economy globally, as per the recent GDP data unveiled by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation on November 30. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In October 2023, the combined **Index of Eight Core Industries (ICI)** exhibited a robust growth of **12.1%**, marking a substantial increase from the corresponding month in 2022. The positive momentum was reflected across all eight core industries, namely Cement, Coal, Crude Oil, Electricity, Fertilizers, Natural Gas, Refinery Products, and Steel. These industries collectively contribute 40.27% to the Index of Industrial Production (IIP). ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In the first seven months of the financial year 2023-24, India's fiscal deficit has reached a significant milestone, standing at **45% of the annual target of Rs 17.87 trillion**. This analysis delves into the key figures and trends shaping the country's fiscal health. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In a significant move that signals a shift away from China, Foxconn Technology, a major Apple supplier, has unveiled plans to invest more than **\$1.5 billion in India**. This substantial infusion aims to cater to Foxconn's operational needs and marks a pivotal moment in the tech industry. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **HDFC Life**, a leading life insurance provider, proudly announced its achievement of a new **Guinness World Records** title. The accolade was earned through the creation of the **largest online selfie mosaic**, a remarkable compilation of 19,097 photos contributed by individuals as part of the 'Insure India' campaign. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** took regulatory action on Thursday, imposing penalties on **Bank of America, N.A. and HDFC Bank Ltd.** for violations of specific norms. Additionally, penalties were levied on five cooperatives banks for non-compliance with various regulatory requirements. The penalties are based on deficiencies in regulatory compliance and are not intended to pass judgement on the validity of transactions or agreements between entities and their customers. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In a significant economic development, India's Goods and Services Tax (GST) collections for November 2023 surged by an impressive 15% year-on-year, reaching a **total of ₹1.68 lakh crore**. This marks the sixth instance during the ongoing fiscal year that gross GST collections have surpassed the ₹1.60 lakh crore milestone. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Various financial institutions have revised **India's growth forecasts**. Goldman Sachs increased the 2023 projection to 6.7% but maintained 2024 at 6.2%. Morgan Stanley raised the FY 2024 estimate to 6.9%, while Citi cited investment for a 6.7% forecast. SBI Research and DBS see growth, and IDFC First Bank upgraded its GDP forecast to 6.7%. Bank of Baroda anticipates FY24 growth, citing government support and festive boosts. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has achieved a significant milestone in its monetary policy as it successfully withdrew **97.26 percent of the ₹2,000 banknotes** from circulation as of May 19, 2023. This move was initiated due to the fulfillment of its objective of introducing these notes, which was to meet the currency requirements of the economy after the withdrawal of legal tender status of all **₹500 and ₹1,000 banknotes** in circulation during the November-December 2016 demonetization. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- Banking regulators in India and the **United Kingdom (UK)** achieved a significant milestone as they signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)**. The focus of the MoU is the oversight of the **Clearing Corporation of India (CCIL)**, a crucial entity in local transaction settlement. This development opens the doors for substantial trade in Indian sovereign bonds routed through London lenders, marking a pivotal agreement for the commitment of personal funds and discharge of custodian roles. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- India's foreign exchange reserves witnessed a significant increase of \$2.5 billion in the week ending November 24, as reported by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). This boost, primarily attributed to foreign portfolio flows into the debt market, reflects a strategic move by the RBI to manage the rupee's level. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In November, UPI transactions reached a staggering **₹17.40 lakh crore**, surpassing the previous high of **₹17.16 lakh crore in October**. This amounted to a 1.4% increase in the value of transactions on a monthly basis and an impressive **46% year-on-year growth**, as reported by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). ([Click here to read the article](#))
- London-based private equity firm **Actis LLP** has announced the successful acquisition of **Kolkata-based Atha Group's 404MW solar power assets** by its portfolio company, **BluPine Energy**. The deal, valued at around **₹2,100 crore**, reinforces Actis' commitment to driving India's energy transition and expanding BluPine's renewable energy capabilities. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Rural Marketing Association of India (RMAI)**, a leading organization for rural marketers, announced key leadership changes during its **18th Annual General Meeting (AGM)**. **Puneet Vidyarthi** has been appointed as the President for the term 2023-2025, succeeding Biswabaran Chakrabarti, who served as the incumbent President since 2019. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Governor Dr Hari Babu Kambhampati** has appointed **Squadron Leader Manisha Padhi**, a distinguished officer from the **2015 batch of the Indian Air Force**, as **India's first Woman Aide-De-Camp (ADC)** from the Indian Armed Forces. This groundbreaking decision not only marks a significant milestone but also serves as a powerful testament to the ability of women to break gender norms and excel in diverse fields. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Renowned author and translator **Arshia Sattar** has added another feather to her cap, being honored with the **Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters** by the **French government**. The prestigious award was presented by Thierry Mathou, the ambassador of France to India, in a ceremony held at the Consulate General of France in Bengaluru on November 28. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Air Marshal Makarand Ranade** took over the esteemed position of **Director General (Inspection and Safety) [DG (I&S)] at Air HQ New Delhi** on December 1, 2023, succeeding the accomplished Air Marshal Sanjeev Kapoor, who retired after more than 38 years of distinguished service. An alumnus of National Defence College, New Delhi, and College Interarmée de Defense in Paris, France, Air Marshal Ranade's illustrious career in the Indian Air Force spans over 36 years. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Former KPMG** managing partner, **Narayan Seshadri**, is set to assume the role of **Chairman at IDRCL**, the government-backed bad bank, following the resignation of **Diwakar Gupta**. Gupta, in turn, is expected to take over as Chairman of **NARCL**. This leadership shift aims to expedite the resolution of bad loans, a process that has faced challenges and delays. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Appointments/Resignations

- Mumbai-based **Fino Payments Bank** has recently received approval from the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** for the appointment of **Rajat Kumar Jain** as **Part-time Chairman**. The approval is effective from **November 24, 2023, until November 01, 2025**, signifying a crucial development for the bank. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In a recent development, **HDFC Bank's Board of Directors** has greenlit the nomination of **Harsh Kumar Bhanwala** as the Additional Independent Director. The tenure for this position is set for three years, commencing from **January 25, 2024**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Colonel Sunita BS**, an officer in the **Army Medical Corps**, etched her name in history by becoming the first woman to assume the role of Commanding Officer at the **Armed Forces Transfusion Centre (AFTC) in Delhi Cantt**. Col Sunita's journey is marked by significant achievements and a commitment to providing top-notch medical support, culminating in her groundbreaking leadership role at AFTC. ([Click here to read the article](#))



Defence News

- In a significant stride towards enhancing self-reliance in the defence sector, the **Indian Coast Guard** and **Navy** are set to acquire **15 C-295 transport aircraft**. The proposals for the acquisition are currently in advanced stages within the defence ministry, with the Navy eyeing nine planes and the Indian Coast Guard planning to procure six. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The 9th **National Level Pollution Response Exercise (NATPOLREX-IX)** was carried out by the Indian Coast Guard on **November 25, 2023, off Vadinar, Gujarat**. This event aimed to assess the readiness and coordination of various agencies in responding to a marine oil spill, as per the **National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan (NOSDCP)**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **The Mitrashakti 2023** joint military exercise, a collaborative effort between the **Indian Army** and the **Sri Lankan Army**, concluded at **Pune's southern command** foreign training node. The **12-day exercise** aimed at fostering a deeper understanding of each other's operational strategies and tactics. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **crest of Yard 12706 (Imphal)**, Indian Navy's **third stealth guided missile destroyer**, was unveiled by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh in a momentous ceremony held in New Delhi on Tuesday. The occasion was graced by the presence of Manipur Chief Minister **N Biren Singh**, marking a historic moment in the country's naval history.
- The **Military Literature Festival**, an event aimed at spreading awareness about the crucial role of the armed forces and inspiring the youth, is set to return for its second district-level edition in Amritsar. Organized by the **Military Literature Festival Association and chaired by Lt-Gen TS Shergill (retd.)**, this event follows the successful inaugural edition held in Patiala in January. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Chennai-based drone manufacturer, **Garuda Aerospace**, has achieved a significant milestone by securing the **second type certificate for medium category drones** from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). This achievement was announced by the company on Tuesday, signifying a crucial advancement in the field of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) technology. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Indian Navy marked a significant milestone with the inaugural edition of **MAHASAGR**, a high-level virtual interaction aimed at promoting active and security and growth in the **Indian Ocean Region (IOR)**. The event brought together heads of navies and maritime agencies from key littorals, fostering a collective maritime approach to counter common challenges. On the auspicious occasion of its 1-year anniversary, the Indian Navy's outreach initiative, MAHASAGAR, marks a significant milestone in

fostering high-level virtual interactions among **Maritime Heads for Active Security And Growth for All in the Region**. The chosen theme, **"Collective Maritime Approach towards Countering Common Challenges,"** underscored the imperative for harmonizing and collaborating capacities and capabilities in the IOR. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- India is set to reinforce its naval capabilities with the addition of a **\$5 billion aircraft carrier**, signaling its strategic response to China's expanding naval influence in the **Indian Ocean region**. The Defense Acquisition Council, headed by **Defense Minister Rajnath Singh**, is poised to approve the acquisition of India's second indigenous aircraft carrier. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- On **30th November 2023**, the **Cochin Shipyard** marked a significant milestone with the simultaneous launch of the **first three ships in a series of eight Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) shallow water crafts** commissioned by the Indian Navy. The vessels, names **INS Mahe, INS Malva and INS Mangrol**, were unveiled in a ceremony attended by distinguished naval officials and their spouses. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Border Security Force (BSF)** celebrated its **59th raising day on 1st December**. This significant organization plays a pivotal role in ensuring the security of India's borders with Pakistan and Bangladesh. Established in the aftermath of the Indo-Pakistani War of 1965, the BSF's motto, **"जीवन पर्यन्त कर्तव्य" (Duty Unto Death)**, reflects its unwavering commitment to safeguarding the nation. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In a groundbreaking move aligning with the philosophy of **'all roles-all ranks,'** the Indian Navy has achieved a historic milestone by appointing its first woman commanding officer for a naval ship. Navy Chief Admiral **R Hari Kumar** made this announcement during a press conference held ahead of **Navy Day**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Awards and Recognitions

- On **November 26**, the **Maharashtra Government** announced a heartfelt tribute to the late National Award-winning actor-director **Vikram Chandrakant Gokhale**. As the first death anniversary of the legendary figure approaches, a street in **Andheri West, Mumbai, is set to be named in his honor**. This initiative serves as a testament to Gokhale's significant contributions to the world of cinema and his enduring impact on the entertainment industry. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **REC Limited**, a Maharatna CPSE under the Ministry of Power, achieved a significant milestone by receiving the **"Best Employer for Policies in Diversity & Inclusion" Award** at the 4th Diversity & Inclusion Excellence Awards and Conclave organized by **Assocham**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- **NHPC Limited**, the leading hydropower company in India, secured the **second prize** in the **'Annual Report' category** at the **'PRSI National Awards 2023.'** This accolade was bestowed upon NHPC during the **International Public Relations Festival** hosted by the Public Relations Society of India (PRSI) from November 25th to 27th, 2023, in New Delhi. The award specifically acknowledges the exceptional quality, layout, and design of NHPC's Annual Report for the fiscal year 2022-23. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Ministry of Power**, Government of India, has been recognized and honored with the **Special Appreciation Medal for Excellence in Display** at the India International Trade Fair (IITF) 2023. The prestigious award was bestowed upon the Ministry for its outstanding contribution to the **42nd edition of the IITF**, held at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, from November 14 to 27, 2023. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Vijayawada Railway Station** has been awarded the prestigious platinum rating by the **Indian Green Building Council (IGBC)** for its commitment to environmental sustainability and eco-friendly practices. This is the highest recognition that can be bestowed by the IGBC, a leading certification body in India that promotes environmentally responsible construction. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Abdullahi Mire**, a Somali refugee, has been named the **2023 UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award Global Laureate** for his work championing the right to education for displaced children. Mire, who grew up in the Dadaab refugee camps in Kenya, has put over 100,000 books in the hands of displaced children and youth in the country. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Suganthy Sundararaj**, Regional Head of PR at **Apollo Hospitals**, was honored with the **PRSI National Award** for outstanding contributions to the **Public Relations Society of India (PRSI)** and the public relations industry. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In a momentous recognition of her significant contributions to space cooperation between France and India, **Lalithambika VR**, a distinguished scientist and former Director of the Human Spaceflight Programme at the **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)**, was honored with the prestigious 'Légion d'Honneur.' The award was conferred upon her by Thierry Mathou, the Ambassador of France to India, in a ceremony held in Bengaluru. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **NTPC Bongaigaon**, a key player in the power generation sector, has recently garnered significant acclaim for its exemplary contributions to **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)** and **Environment Protection**. The power station proudly received two prestigious awards from the **Greentech Foundation**, underscoring its commitment to sustainable practices and social responsibility. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- The **India International Trade Fair (IITF-2023)** concluded on a triumphant note on **November 27 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi**. Among the standout highlights was the Odisha Pavilion, which not only captivated visitors from the outset but also clinched the prestigious gold medal for **"Excellence in Display" in the State Pavilion category**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL)**, a Maharatna Central Public Sector Undertaking (CPSU) under the **Ministry of Power**, has been honored with the prestigious **SKOCH Gold Award 2023**. The accolade was bestowed upon PGCIL for its groundbreaking **Pugalur Thrissur 2000 MW Voltage Source Converter High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) System**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Summits and Conferences News

- Union Minister for Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, **Shri Dharmendra Pradhan**, inaugurated the **two-day 'International Seminar on Santha Kavi Bhima Bhoi and the legacy of Mahima Cult'** in **Bhubaneswar**. The event witnessed the participation of numerous academicians, dignitaries, Vice-Chancellors, and eminent speakers, showcasing a profound exploration of the cultural and literary heritage of Odisha. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The upcoming **Conference of Parties (COP28) in the UAE** will witness an unusual alliance between developed nations like the US and emerging economies like India, united under the banner of the **Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD)**. While traditionally a security-focused alliance, the QUAD, currently presided over by India, is making climate action a focal point of its agenda. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In a significant announcement, **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** extended India's commitment to climate action by proposing to host the **UN climate meet (COP33) in 2028**. This offer was made during his address at the inaugural session of the **World Climate Action Summit at COP28 in Dubai**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Sports News

- In a momentous event held in New Delhi, Shri **Anurag Singh Thakur**, Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, unveiled the **logo and mascot for the first-ever Khelo India Para Games 2023**. This historic occasion was graced by the presence of eminent athletes and para athletes, marking a significant step towards inclusivity and recognition in Indian sports. The official mascot, **‘Ujjwala,’ a sparrow**, was revealed during the ceremony. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Anish Bhanwala** etched his name in history by becoming the **first Indian shooter to clinch a medal in the men’s 25m Rapid Fire event at the ISSF World Cup Final**. This accomplishment surpassed the efforts of past Indian shooters like Vijay Kumar in 2009 and Gurpreet Singh in 2015, who had reached the final but fell short of claiming a medal. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In a strategic move, Gujarat Titans have named **Shubman Gill as the captain** for the upcoming Indian Premier League (IPL) 2024 season. This decision follows the departure of all-rounder Hardik Pandya, who was traded to Mumbai Indians. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Formula One champion a record-extending **19th victory** of the campaign and **54th** overall to move into third on the all-time list. **Max Verstappen’s** outstanding season ended with a comfortable victory at the Abu Dhabi. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Seasoned cueist **Vidya Pillai** achieved a monumental milestone in her illustrious career as she secured the **IBSF 6-Red Snooker World Championship title** in Doha, Qatar, just days before her 46th birthday. The Bengalurean showcased a stellar performance, dominating her opponents throughout the championship, with a standout victory of **4-1 against compatriot Anupama Ramachandran in the title clash**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Italy** fulfilled their potential as one of the most promising tennis nations in the world by defeating **Australia 2-0 to become Davis Cup champions** for the first time since **1976**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Ultimate Kho Kho (UKK)** is all set to enthrall audiences with its grand second edition, scheduled to commence on **December 24, 2023** and conclude on **January 13, 2024**. The **Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium in Cuttack, Odisha**, will play host to this high-octane sporting event, promising excitement and entertainment to the millions of fans eagerly anticipating its return. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Rahul Dravid** has accepted the **Board of Control for Cricket in India’s (BCCI)** offer to extend his term as India’s head coach, ensuring his continued leadership of the national team until at least the 2024 T20 World Cup in June. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- In a thrilling final match, **Hockey Punjab** emerged victorious over **Hockey Haryana** to clinch the gold medal at the **13th Hockey India Senior Men National Championship 2023**. The tournament was held from November 17 to 28, 2023, at the Mayor Radhakrishnan Hockey Stadium in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In a surprising turn of events, **Shane Dowrich**, the seasoned wicketkeeper-batsman, has announced his retirement from international cricket and subsequently withdrawn from the West Indies squad set to face England in the upcoming ODI series. The West Indies Cricket Board (CWI) confirmed the unexpected decision, marking the end of Dowrich’s international cricket journey. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Schemes and Committees News

- **Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath** has unveiled the **‘Hot Cooked Meal Scheme’ in Uttar Pradesh**, a landmark initiative aimed to providing nutritious meals to children **aged 3 to 6 years at Anganwadis**. The scheme, modeled after the successful Midday Meals program, is designed to offer 70 grams of food grains per beneficiary per day in the form of hot-cooked meals. Additionally, Adityanath laid the foundation stone for **3,401 Anganwadi centers** and inaugurated a transit hostel for police personnel during the event. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Chief Minister **Naveen Patnaik** launched the **“AMA Bank” scheme**, a historic initiative aimed at providing **banking services through CSP Plus banking outlets** in all unbanked Gram Panchayats (GPs) of Odisha. This visionary project, unveiled in the first phase, marks **Odisha as the pioneer state in India** to conceptualize and implement such a comprehensive scheme for financial inclusion. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In preparation for the upcoming general elections in April-May, the Indian government, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has announced a five-year extension of the **Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) scheme**. This initiative aims to provide 5 kilograms of free foodgrains per month to 81.35 crore poor citizens, incurring a cost of approximately **₹11.80 lakh crore** for the exchequer. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- An impressive launch marked the initiation of the **Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra in South West Garo Hills**, orchestrated by the **District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) at MFC, Ampati**. The nationwide initiative, a pivotal component of the Hamara Sankalp Viksit Bharat campaign, aims to inform and empower citizens about the various flagship schemes programs introduced by the Central Government. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- Under the leadership of Prime Minister **Shri Narendra Modi**, the Union Cabinet has greenlit a Central Sector Scheme, allocating **Rs. 1261 Crore for 2024-25 to 2025-26**, aimed at **providing drones to Women Self Help Groups (SHGs)**. The objective is to bring about a positive transformation in the lives of women engaged in agriculture and contribute to the overall growth of the sector. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The Union Cabinet, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has recently approved the **Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN)**, a comprehensive initiative aimed at addressing the **challenges faced by Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)**. This scheme, with a substantial total outlay of **Rs 24,104 crore**, reflects the government's commitment to uplift tribal communities across the country. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi marked a significant milestone in the healthcare sector by inaugurating the **10,000th Jan Aushadhi Kendras at AIIMS, Deoghar**. This event also witnessed the launch of an ambitious program aimed at increasing the number of Jan Aushadhi Kendras in the country from **10,000 to 25,000**. Additionally, the Prime Minister unveiled the **Pradhan Mantri Mahila Kisan Drone Kendra**, reflecting a holistic approach to healthcare and agricultural prosperity. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Science and Technology News

- **India** and the **United States** are set to elevate their space collaboration to new heights with the upcoming joint launch of the **NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) satellite**. Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh, in a recent meeting with a high-level NASA delegation led by Administrator Mr. Bill Nelson, announced the launch schedule for the first quarter of the next year. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Chennai-based startup Agnikul** is gearing up to launch its groundbreaking rocket, **Agnibaan**, featuring the **world's first 3D-printed engine**. The company, incubated at the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, is set to conduct a technology demonstrator mission by the end of this year, paving the way for its first **commercial launch in 2024**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In a bid to enhance railway safety and address concerns over increasing accidents, Railways Minister **Ashwini Vaishnaw** announced the Ministry of Railways' plans to **upgrade its indigenous anti-collision system, Kavach, to 4G/5G (LTE-based) technology**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Important Days News

- The **United Nations General Assembly**, in a decisive move towards fostering sustainable and environmentally friendly transportation, has designated **November 26** as **World Sustainable Transport Day**. World Sustainable Transport Day 2023 focuses on the theme **"Sustainable transport, sustainable development"**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **National Cadet Corps (NCC)**, the youth wing of the Indian Armed Forces, is set to celebrate its **75th anniversary on November 27, 2023**. Operating from its headquarters in New Delhi, India, the NCC opens its doors voluntarily to school and college students, functioning as a Tri-Services Organisation encompassing the Army, Navy, and Air Force. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Since 1978, **November 29th** has held a significant place on the global calendar as the **International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People**. Originating from a call by the United Nations General Assembly, this day symbolizes a collective commitment to champion the rights and aspirations of the Palestinian people. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Every year on **November 30**, the world solemnly observes the **Day of Remembrance for All Victims of Chemical Warfare**. This day, designated by the United Nations, serves as a poignant reminder of the devastating toll of chemical warfare on both troops and civilians. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **December 1**, marks as the **World AIDS Day 2023** which is observed annually since **1988**, serving as a crucial occasion to **raise awareness about HIV/ AIDS**, commemorate those who have lost their lives to AIDS-related illnesses and show solidarity with people living with HIV. The day also serves as a platform to advocate for advancements in prevention, treatment and care. The **theme for World AIDS Day 2023, "Let Communities Lead!"** underscores the pivotal role that communities play in shaping the global HIV response. ([Click here to read the article](#))

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- The **International Day for the Abolition of Slavery**, observed annually on **December 2nd**, marks a significant moment in global history. It is a day dedicated to remembering and acknowledging the brutal history of slavery and the ongoing impacts of its legacy. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Ruturaj Gaikwad**, the talented Indian cricketer, has achieved a remarkable milestone in **men's T20 cricket**. In the fourth T20I against Australia at the **Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh International Stadium** in Raipur, Gaikwad etched his name in the record books by becoming the fastest Indian to amass **4,000 runs** in the shortest format of the game. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Obituaries News

- Banking community and shareholders of **Kerala-based Dhanlaxmi Bank** mourned the sudden demise of **Mr. C.K. Gopinathan**, a **director** on the bank's board and a **significant shareholder**. The loss was attributed to a major heart attack, marking the end of a distinguished career spanning more than 25 years in the banking and finance sectors. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Henry Kissinger**, a towering figure in American foreign policy, passed away on November 29, 2023, at the age of 100. He served as the United States Secretary of State under Presidents Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford, and played a pivotal role in shaping US foreign policy during the 1970s. Kissinger was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1973 for his role in the Paris Peace Accords. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- veteran actor **R. Subbalakshmi**, renowned for her remarkable contributions to **Malayalam cinema**, bid farewell to the mortal world at the age of **87**. Her journey from being a trained Carnatic musician to gracing the silver screen with her powerful performances has left an indelible mark on the hearts of film enthusiasts. In this article, we pay tribute to the iconic actor and explore her illustrious career. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Sandra Day O'Connor**, the first woman to serve as a justice on the U.S. Supreme Court, passed away at the age of 93 in Phoenix, Arizona. Her groundbreaking career and influential rulings have left a lasting legacy in American jurisprudence. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Miscellaneous News

- **Guru Nanak Jayanti**, also known as **Gurpurab**, holds immense significance in the **Sikh community** as it marks the birth anniversary of **Guru Nanak Dev**, the revered founder of the Sikh religion. **This year, Guru Nanak Jayanti falls on Monday, November 27**, and is celebrated with utmost love and reverence by Sikhs worldwide. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- After Gir National Park and Sanctuary, the **Barda Wildlife Sanctuary (BWS)** is set to become the second home to Asiatic lions. The Gujarat Forest Department presented its proposal to make BWS the second home to the lions as part of "**Project Lion @ 2047**". ([Click here to read the article](#))
- With controversies surrounding 'deepfake' videos making headlines, **Merriam-Webster Dictionary** recently disclosed some of the **most searched words of the year 2023**. The revelation, made by editor **Peter Sokolowski** highlighted 'deepfake' as one of the top searches, but the word of the year was declared to be "authentic." ([Click here to read the article](#))
- A live-attenuated MR vaccine named **Mabella** was launched in Udhagamandalam (Ooty), **Tamil Nadu**, as part of the **25th-anniversary** celebrations of the **Human Biologicals Institute (HBI)**, a division of the Indian Immunologicals Limited (IIL). Developed through an exclusive partnership with the **Polyvac Institute of Vietnam**, Mabella promises to be a crucial tool in the global fight against deadly measles and rubella. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Silkyara tunnel** collapse presented a unique challenge. The trapped workers were located deep within the collapsed tunnel, making it difficult to reach them using conventional rescue methods. Modern machinery, such as auger drilling machines, proved ineffective due to the presence of obstructions and challenging terrain. ([Click here to read the article](#))

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List of Sports and Their Terminology

Sport	Terminology
Basketball	Personal Fouls, Technical foul, Free Throws, Underhead, Overhead, Double Dribble Foul, Lay Up Shot, Rebound, Travel, Zone – Defense, Paint, Airball, etc.
Football	Penalty Kick, Kick, Goal, Head, Side Back, Pass, Baseline, Rebound, Comer Bick, Right Out, Hatrick, Move, Dribble, Left Out, Off Side, Stopper, Defender, etc.
Badminton	Fore Hand, Smash, Hit, Drop, Net, Love, Double Fault, Shuttlecock, Service Court, Back Hand, etc.
Baseball	Throw, Strike, Put Out, Perfect Game, Base Runner, Homerun, Pinch Hitter, etc.
Athletics	High Jump, Triple Jump Cross Country, Photo Finish, Hammer Throw, Relay, Track, Lane, Discuss Throw, Shot Put, Hurdles, etc.
Bridge	Perfect Deals, Dummy, Trump, Master Point, Grand Slam, etc.
Boxing	Roughhousing, Southpaw, Spar, Stablemate, Technical knockout, Walkout Bout, Whiskers, Low Blow, Ring Generalship, Plodder, Neutral Corner, Mauler, Liver Shot, Haymarket, Glass Jaw, Cutman, Dive, Eight Count, Counterpunch, Cornerman, Corkscrew Punch, Buckle, Canvas, Card, Caught Cold, Clinch, Foot Work, Accidental Butt, Bleeder, Bolo Punch, Bout, Brawler, Break, Kidney Punch, Upper – Cut, Round, Stoppage, Punch, Knock Out, etc.
Billiards and Snookers	Cushion Billiards, Cue, Hit, Object Ball, Pull, Scoring, Break Shot, etc.
Cycling	Point Race, Time Trial, Track race, Sprint, etc.
Golf	Albatross, Tea Shot, Birdie, Blind Shot, Ace, Double Eagle, All Square, Approach Putt, Apron, Ballooning, Beach, Ball Mark, Bogey, Bunker, Caddy, Mulligan, Four-Ball, Off The Deck, Sand Trap, Peg, Dogleg, Condor, Claw Grip, Dub, Flag, etc.
Horse Riding	Faults, Dresses, Showjumping, Three Day Events, etc.
Gymnastics	Sit Up, Floor Exercise, Uneven Bar, Push Up, Horizontal Bar, Parallel Bar, etc.
Cricket	Midwicket, Mid On, Forward Short Leg, Deep/Mid-Wicket, Runner, Cover, Yorker, Silly Point, Gully, Long On, Slip, Square Leg, Follow Through, Turn, Bouncer, Hatrick, Round The Wicket, Over The Wicket, Seamer, Boundary Liner, Sixer, Pull, Shot, Dead Ball, Overthrow, Maiden Over, Bye, Leg By, Glance, Hook, Late Cut, Stroke, Wide Ball, Hit Wicket, Googley, Not Out, No Ball, Stump Out, Run Out, L.B.W, Ashes, Catch, Bowled, Over, Follow-on, Rubber, Spin, Wicket Keeper, Wicket, Pitch, Stump, Bails, Crease, Pavilion, Gloves, Toss, Run, etc.
Chess	International Master, Checkmate, Grandmaster, Gambit, Move, Resign, Kings Indian Defence, etc.
Polo	Chukker, Mallet, Polo – Bunker etc.
Shooting	Air Rifle, Range, Bull’s Eye, Free Pistol, Standard Rifle, Rapidfire Pistol, etc.
Judo	Green Belt, Blue Belt, Red Belt, White Belt, etc.
Tennis	Drop Shot, Netplay, Baseline, Game Point, BreakPoint, Smash, Shot, Break, Grass Court, Service, Grand slam, Deuce, Advantage, etc.
Wrestling	Point, Hal Nelson, Heave, FreeStyle, etc.
Swimming	Butterfly Stroke, Lane, Pool, Crawl, Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke, etc.
Volleyball	Smash, Sidearm, Penetration, Deuce, Libero, Booster, Spikers, etc.
Table Tennis	Back Hand, Chop, Half Volley, Drive Spin, Late Service, Volley, etc.
Weight Lifting	Snatch, Jerk, etc.