

Weekly One Liners 11th to 17th of March 2024

Oscars 2024 Announced, Check Full List of Winners

The **Oscars 2024 ceremony** took place at the **Dolby Theater in Los Angeles**, with **Jimmy Kimmel** hosting for the fourth time. The film **"Oppenheimer"** emerged as the big winner, earning 13 nominations and taking home prestigious awards, including Best Director, Best Actor, and Best Picture.

Cillian Murphy's performance in the title role of "Oppenheimer" earned him the Best Actor award, continuing his successful run after winning similar honors at other major award shows like the Golden Globes, BAFTAs, and Screen Actors Guild Awards. The film "Poor Things" also had a notable presence, winning awards in the categories of Hair and Makeup, Production Design, and Costume Design.

The Malayalam film **"Everyone is a Hero" (2023)**, which was chosen as India's official entry for the International Feature Film category at the 2024 Academy Awards, has been eliminated from the Oscars race. Despite being the country's representative, the film did not make it to the final shortlist of nominations in that category.

Oscars 2024 Announced, Check Full List of Winners

The film "Oppenheimer" had a triumphant night at the **96th Academy Awards**, securing a remarkable seven Oscars, including some of the most prestigious categories.

Category	Winner
Best Supporting Actress	Da'Vine Joy Randolph, "The Holdovers"
Best Animated Short	"War Is Over!"
Best Animated Feature	"The Boy and the Heron"
Best Original Screenplay	"Anatomy of a Fall"
Best Adapted Screenplay	"American Fiction"
Best Makeup and Hairstyling	"Poor Things"
Best Production Design	"Poor Things"
Best Costume Design	"Poor Things"
Best International Feature	"The Zone of Interest"
Best Supporting Actor	Robert Downey Jr., "Oppenheimer"
Best Visual Effects	"Godzilla Minus One"
Best Film Editing	"Oppenheimer"
Best Documentary (Short Subject)	"The Last Repair Shop"
Best Documentary Feature	"20 Days in Mariupol"
Best Cinematography	"Oppenheimer"
Best Short Film (Live Action)	"The Wonderful Story of Henry Sugar"

Category	Winner
Best Sound	"The Zone of Interest"
Best Score	"Oppenheimer"
Best Song	"What Was I Made For?" from "Barbie"
Best Actor	Cillian Murphy, "Oppenheimer"
Best Director	Christopher Nolan, "Oppenheimer"
Best Actress	Emma Stone, "Poor Things"
Best Picture	"Oppenheimer"

India Jumps 14 Ranks on UNDP Gender Inequality Index

According to the **Human Development Report 2023-2024 released** by the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**, India has made significant progress in bridging the gender divide. The country has improved its ranking by **14 positions** on the Gender Inequality Index (GII) 2022 compared to the previous year.

In the **GII 2022**, India ranked **108 out of 193 countries, with a score of 0.437**. This marks a significant improvement from the 2021 ranking of 122 out of 191 countries, with a score of 0.490. Over the past decade, India's rank in the **GII** has consistently improved, indicating steady progress towards achieving gender equality.

The Gender Inequality Index

The Gender Inequality Index (GII) is a composite measure that evaluates gender inequality across three dimensions:

1. Reproductive health
2. Empowerment
3. Labor market participation

It takes into account indicators such as maternal mortality ratio, adolescent birth rate, percentage of parliamentary seats held by women, population with secondary education by gender, and labour force participation by gender. A lower **GII** value indicates lower inequality between women and men.

The 2023-2024 HDR builds on the 2021-2022 Human Development Report findings, which saw the global HDI value fall for the first time—two years in a row. This report reveals that human development recovery is uneven in nature. While wealthy countries are showing signs of robust recovery, the poorest are struggling. All the member countries in the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) have surpassed their 2019 HDI level. But among least developed countries, only one in two have recovered their already low pre-crisis HDI levels.

Top-Ranked Countries

The top-ranked countries in the GII 2022 are:

1. Denmark
2. Norway
3. Switzerland
4. Sweden
5. Netherlands

India's Progress on Gender Inequality Index

Year	Rank	Score
2022	108	0.437
2021	122	0.490
2020	123	0.493
2019	122	0.501
2018	127	0.501

India's commitment to accelerating economic growth and improving the quality of life for its citizens is reflected in its steady progress on the Gender Inequality Index and other human development indicators.

Human Development Index (HDI)

India's Human Development Index (HDI) value has also increased to 0.644 in 2022, placing the country at the **134th spot out of 193 countries and territories**. This improvement comes after a drop in HDI value in 2021 and a flat trend over the past few years.

Since 1990, India has made remarkable progress in human development, with increases in life expectancy, expected years of schooling, mean years of schooling, and per-capita gross national income (GNI).

GOI Approves Electric Vehicle Policy to Boost Local Manufacturing

The **Indian government** made a landmark announcement on **March 15**, approving a comprehensive scheme aimed at positioning India as a global hub for **electric vehicle (EV) manufacturing**. This policy, designed by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, seeks to entice significant investments from renowned global EV manufacturers into the Indian market. The essence of the policy is to foster innovation, attract investments, and make advanced technology accessible within the country.

Key Policy Highlights

- **Minimum Investment:** Companies are required to invest at least Rs 4,150 crore, with the policy not capping the maximum possible investment. This move is to ensure substantial financial influx into the EV sector.
- **Manufacturing Timeline:** The policy allows a three-year window for companies to establish their manufacturing facilities in India, commencing commercial production of EVs.

- **Local Sourcing:** A notable feature of this initiative is the mandate for companies to achieve a 25% localisation level by the end of the third year and 50% by the fifth year, promoting domestic industries and components.
- **Import Benefits:** To kickstart the transition, the government has permitted companies to import up to 8,000 EVs annually at a reduced customs duty of 15% on cars valued over \$35,000. This is a significant reduction from the current tariffs of 70% to 100%.
- **Incentive Caps and Conditions:** The duty waiver on imported EVs is directly linked to the company's investment or an equivalent incentive under the PLI scheme (capped at Rs 6,484 crore), whichever is lower. Furthermore, the policy outlines a limit of 40,000 EVs over five years, provided the investment hits the \$800 million mark.

Ensuring Compliance and Promoting Domestic Growth

To ensure that companies adhere to their commitments, a bank guarantee equivalent to the customs duty savings is required. This guarantee stands as a compliance measure, safeguarding the policy's objectives and ensuring that the benefits are accurately aligned with investments and local sourcing milestones.

A Leap Towards Sustainable Mobility

This policy is a strategic step towards enhancing the EV ecosystem in India, promoting the Make in India initiative, and ensuring access to cutting-edge technology. It aligns with the global shift towards sustainable transportation solutions, positioning India as a significant player in the EV manufacturing sector. Through this policy, the government aims not only to attract foreign investments but also to stimulate domestic production capabilities, fostering an environment conducive to the growth of the electric vehicle industry in India.

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India's Human Development Index ranking 134 out of 193 countries

India's position in the United Nations Human Development Index (HDI) for 2022 improved slightly, ranking **134 out of 193 countries with an HDI value of 0.644**. This signifies progress in various dimensions of human development, albeit with a continued need to focus on women-led development, as highlighted by the UNDP.

India's HDI Trends

Between 1990 and 2022, India experienced a significant increase in its HDI value by **48.4%, from 0.434 to 0.644**, placing it in the medium human development category. The country's HDI improvement reflects advancements in life expectancy, education, and Gross National Income (GNI) per capita.

India's Gender Inequality Progress

India has shown progress in reducing gender inequality, ranking **108 out of 166 countries** in the Gender Inequality Index (GII) 2022. Despite improvements, there remains a significant gender gap in the labor force participation rate, with a difference of 47.8 percentage points between women and men.

Performance of India's Neighbors

Comparatively, India's neighbors vary in their human development achievements. Sri Lanka and China are ranked higher, categorized under the High Human Development category. Nepal and Pakistan have been ranked even lower in the HDI index.

Global Inequality Trends

The global HDI is projected to reach record highs in 2023, yet inequality persists. Rich countries have achieved record levels of human development, while half of the world's poorest countries remain below their pre-crisis levels, exacerbating global inequality and stoking political polarization.

Key Country Rankings in HDI 2022

Rank	Country	HDI Value	Change from 2021
75	China	0.788	+0.003
78	Iran	0.780	+0.004
78	Sri Lanka	0.780	-0.003
87	Maldives	0.762	+0.009
125	Bhutan	0.681	+0.004
129	Bangladesh	0.670	+0.008
134	India	0.644	+0.011
146	Nepal	0.601	+0.010
164	Pakistan	0.540	+0.003
182	Afghanistan	0.462	-0.011

These rankings highlight the varying degrees of human development across countries and underscore the need for concerted efforts to address inequalities and foster inclusive development globally.

National Affairs

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during the Viksit Bharat Viksit North East programme in Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh on March 09, 2024, virtually dedicated the **Sela Tunnel** project to the nation. Constructed by the **Border Roads Organisation (BRO)** at an altitude of 13,000 feet, the tunnel is situated on the road from **Tezpur, Assam, to Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh's** West Kameng district. The project, valued at **Rs 825 crore**, aims to provide all-weather connectivity and bolster the Armed Forces' readiness in the region. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled a **125-foot bronze statue** of the legendary Ahom general, **Lachit Borphukan**, at his burial site in eastern Assam's Jorhat district. This event marks a significant tribute to Borphukan's valor and leadership in the history of Assam. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- At the end of the decade from **2014 to 2024**, India has emerged as the world's **second-largest producer of mobile phones**. This achievement marks a significant transition for the country's electronics manufacturing sector. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** inaugurated the Gurgaon stretch of the **Dwarka Expressway** alongside Haryana CM **Manohar Lal Khattar** and Union Minister **Nitin Gadkari**. The inspection of the expressway was conducted on foot, showcasing its significance for transportation infrastructure. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the commencement of **Piped Natural Gas (PNG)** facilities in **41 villages** and various development projects in **178 villages** under the **'Dilli Gramodaya Abhiyan'**. The initiative aims to uplift the infrastructure and living standards in rural areas of Delhi. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- Union Minister for Communications, Electronics, and Information Technology and Railways, **Ashwini Vaishnaw**, unveiled **India's fastest and indigenously developed IP/MPLS (Multiprotocol Label Switching) router in Bengaluru**. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** made headlines by inaugurating **15 significant airport projects**, marking an unprecedented infrastructural addition in Uttar Pradesh's Azamgarh. This extensive initiative, almost valued at **₹10,000 crore**, encompasses a blend of new airports, expanded terminals, foundation stones for future airports, and other ancillary facilities. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)** celebrated its **19th Foundation Day** at the **Jacaranda Hall, Indian Habitat Centre, New Delhi**. To mark this special occasion, the Commission invited children from different parts of the country to acknowledge their efforts and participation in the Commission's Pariksha Parv campaign. ([Read Complete Article](#))

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Sabarmati Ashram to inaugurate **Kochrab Ashram** and launch the **Master Plan of the Gandhi Ashram Memorial**. This significant event commemorated Mahatma Gandhi's legacy and contributions to India's freedom struggle. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled the inaugural **automobile in-plant railway siding at Suzuki Motor Gujarat Private Limited**, a wholly-owned subsidiary of **Maruti Suzuki India Limited (MSIL)**. The ceremony, conducted via video conferencing, signifies a pivotal advancement in the execution of the Prime Minister's flagship Gati Shakti programme. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- Union Minister **Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar**, responsible for Electronics and IT, Skill Development, Entrepreneurship, and Jal Shakti, inaugurated **India's first FutureLABS center at C-DAC Thiruvananthapuram**. Named the "**Centre for Semiconductor Chips & Systems for Strategic Electronics**," this pioneering initiative aims to catalyze an ecosystem for next-generation chip design, manufacturing, and research. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- Dr. Jitendra Singh, the Union Minister of Science & Technology, inaugurated the "**National Speed Breeding Crop Facility**" at **NABI** (National Agri-Food Biotechnology Institute), Mohali. This initiative aligns with PM Modi's vision of increasing farmers' income and promoting Agri StartUps. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya**, Union Minister for **Chemicals and Fertilizers and Health and Family Welfare**, spearheaded the inauguration of a credit assistance program aimed at bolstering **Jan Aushadhi Kendras** across India. The program, initiated through a collaboration between **SIDBI** and **PMBI**, underscores the government's commitment to enhancing accessibility and affordability of medicines, echoing Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of '**Sanjeevani**' for the underprivileged. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated three semiconductor projects virtually, with a combined investment of approximately **Rs 1.25 Lakh Crore**. These projects signify a significant step towards bolstering India's semiconductor industry. The three facilities include a semiconductor fabrication unit in Dholera, Gujarat, an Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test (OSAT) facility in Morigaon, Assam, and another OSAT facility in Sanand, Gujarat. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **Yoga Mahotsav-2024** marked the **100-day** countdown to the 10th edition of the **International Day of Yoga (IDY)** on **June 21st, 2024**, at **Vigyan Bhawan**. This year, the event

focused on the theme "Yoga for Women Empowerment," reflecting the **Ministry of Ayush's** commitment to promote global health and peace through yoga, particularly emphasizing women's well-being. ([Read Complete Article](#))

- Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting, **Anurag Singh Thakur**, inaugurated **PB-SHABD**, a news sharing service, alongside the revamped websites of **DD News** and **Akashvani News**, and an updated News on Air mobile app at the **National Media Centre**, New Delhi. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri unveiled '**Ethanol 100**', an automotive fuel aimed at reducing emissions and promoting sustainability. This initiative is part of a broader strategy to increase ethanol blending in petrol, with significant strides already made in enhancing availability and infrastructure across select states. ([Read Complete Article](#))

States in the News

- The **3-day National Dairy Mela** and Agricultural Exhibition at Chaibasa in Jharkhand was inaugurated by Union Minister of Tribal Affairs, Agriculture, and Farmers Welfare, **Shri Arjun Munda**. Organized by the National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal, Haryana, this event marks the first of its kind in Jharkhand, aimed at fostering the comprehensive development of livestock and agriculture in tribal areas. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- The state of **Maharashtra** has announced its fourth **women's policy**, which aims to promote the **holistic development** of women. **Aditi Tatkare**, the **Women and Child Development Minister**, unveiled this policy on the eve of **Women's Day** during the golden jubilee year of the Women's Economic Development Corporation. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- The Chief Minister of Assam, **Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma**, performed the Bhumi Pujan ceremony for a **50 MW Solar Project in Sonitpur district**. The project, being developed by **SJVN Green Energy Limited (SGEL)**, holds promise for bolstering Assam's renewable energy sector and contributing to sustainable development. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- The **Tamil Nadu government** has launched the '**Neengal Nalama**' (**Are you fine?**) **scheme**, a **beneficiary outreach program** aimed at reviewing the implementation of **flagship schemes** and addressing the **grievances of the public**. The initiative was kickstarted by Minister of Rural Development I. Periyasamy, with Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, other ministers, senior officials, and district collectors reaching out to beneficiaries across the state. ([Read Complete Article](#))

- **Nayab Singh Saini**, an influential leader from the **Other Backward Classes (OBC)** community, has been appointed as the new **Chief Minister** of **Haryana**. The decision was announced by the **Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)** on Tuesday afternoon, shortly after **Manohar Lal Khattar**, the outgoing Chief Minister and his entire cabinet stepped down. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin** on Tuesday, **March 12, 2024**, announced that the **Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA)**, whose rules were notified by the **Union Home Ministry** on **March 11**, will not be implemented in the state. The decision comes amid growing concerns that the CAA goes against **minorities** and **Sri Lankan Tamils** living in camps in Tamil Nadu. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- The **Geological Survey of India**, State Unit: Andhra Pradesh, unveiled a representative **Stratigraphic Column** of the Cuddapah Supergroup in Vajrakarur Diamond Processing Camp, Anantapur district, **Andhra Pradesh**. The ceremony took place on 10th March 2024 and was attended by prominent dignitaries including Shri Ch Venkateswara Rao, ADG & HoD, GSI, Southern Region, and Shri S. N. Mahapatro, Deputy Director General, SU: Andhra Pradesh. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- For the first time, the district of **Simdega** in Jharkhand is hosting the **Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela**, a national-level **agricultural science fair**. The event, organized by the **Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Pusa (New Delhi)**, is being held at the **Albert Ekka Stadium** from **March 10th to 12th**, marking a significant stride towards realizing the vision of a **prosperous farmer community**. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **Odisha government** led by **Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik** has announced an additional **10 days of casual leave for women** working in various government departments. This decision aims to recognize the multitude of responsibilities women shoulder and provide them with greater flexibility to strike a better work-life balance. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- The **Maharashtra** government has taken a historic step by securing approval from the **Jammu and Kashmir** administration to acquire **2.5 acres of land in Ichgam, near Srinagar airport**, for the construction of **Maharashtra Bhawan**. This initiative symbolizes a proactive approach towards fostering cultural and touristic ties between the two regions. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- The Rajasthan government has decided to distribute **free seeds of millets** and coarse grains to the state's farmers. This move aims to **boost millet production** in the state. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **Tamil Nadu dominates** the illegal trade in shark body parts, comprising nearly 65% of seizures between January 2010 and December 2022, as per a recent analysis by **TRAFFIC and WWF-India**. This alarming trend poses a significant threat to marine biodiversity, with **Karnataka, Gujarat, Kerala, and Maharashtra** also contributing to this illicit trade. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- The Maharashtra Cabinet has announced its decision to **rename Ahmednagar district** as '**Ahilya Nagar**'. The renaming is in honor of the **18th-century Maratha queen Ahilyabai Holkar**. ([Read Complete Article](#))

International Affairs

- Asif Ali Zardari took oath as **Pakistan's 14th President** following his overwhelming victory in the presidential election. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- China recently announced a new territorial sea baseline in the northern part of the **Gulf of Tonkin**, shared with Vietnam, sparking concerns about potential impacts on existing agreements and regional stability. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- In a landmark gathering in **Yaoundé, Cameroon**, health ministers from **11 African nations**, along with global malaria partners and stakeholders, convened to address the escalating **malaria crisis** in Africa. Despite available tools and systems, malaria cases surged globally, with Africa bearing the brunt, accounting for 94% of cases and 95% of deaths in 2022. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- The naval forces of **China, Iran, and Russia** launched a joint exercise near the **Gulf of Oman**, aimed at safeguarding regional maritime security. The "**Security Belt-2024**" exercise marks the fourth time these countries have conducted such a drill since 2019. ([Read Complete Article](#))

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- President **Mahmoud Abbas** of the Palestinian Authority (PA) has appointed **Mohammad Mustafa as the new Prime Minister**. Mustafa, a U.S.-educated economist, is one of the leading Palestinian business figures with a track record of overseeing Gaza's reconstruction efforts under Hamas' rule. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **Britain** has recently conducted successful test firings of its **DragonFire Laser Directed Energy Weapon (LDEW)**, showcasing its capability to intercept enemy aircraft and missiles at a remarkably low cost. A January demonstration in Scotland displayed the laser's precision in targeting and destroying aerial threats, marking a potential game-changer in air defense technology. ([Read Complete Article](#))

Agreements/MoUs Signed

- India and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) comprising **Switzerland, Iceland, Norway, and Liechtenstein** have signed a **Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA)**. This modern and ambitious agreement marks India's first Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with four developed nations in Europe, offering significant economic opportunities and promoting free trade and economic integration. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- NTPC and its renewable energy arm NGEL signed non-binding MoUs with **Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited (RVUNL)** in Jaipur. These agreements represent a significant stride towards improving the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the **Chhabra Thermal Power Plant**. The focus lies on exploring avenues for integrating supercritical units into the current infrastructure to modernize and enhance power generation. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- The **Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF)** under the Department of Telecommunications (**DoT**) has entered a tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with **Prasar Bharati**, under the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, and the **Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)**, a Digital Public Infrastructure (**DPI**) initiative of the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce & Industry. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- On March 12, 2024, a significant milestone in the diplomatic and economic relations between **India** and the **Dominican Republic** was achieved as the Protocol for the establishment of the **Joint Economic and Trade Committee (JETCO)** was signed at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Dominican Republic in Santo Domingo. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- Grain commerce platform **Arya.ag** has collaborated with **Shivalik Small Finance Bank** to extend financial assistance to farmers, agro-processors, and micro-enterprises. This partnership aims to facilitate over **₹200 crore** in warehouse receipt financing in the current fiscal year, enhancing financial inclusion in the agricultural ecosystem. ([Read Complete Article](#))

- **India and Singapore** have solidified their cooperation in the realm of **law and dispute resolution** through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by Singapore's Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, and Second Minister for Law **Mr. Edwin Tong SC** and India's Minister for Law and Justice **Mr. Arjun Ram Meghwal**. This agreement aims to bolster collaboration in areas such as international commercial dispute resolution. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- The **Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD)** is collaborating with the **Council of Architecture (COA)** to enhance inclusivity and accessibility for **Persons with Disabilities (PwDs)** in public spaces and buildings. This partnership signifies a significant advancement in architectural practices and aims to raise awareness about designing environments that accommodate the needs of PwDs. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- In a significant step towards promoting innovation and advancing the automotive and electric vehicle (EV) sector, the **Ministry of Heavy Industries (MHI)** and the **Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee (IIT Roorkee)** have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). ([Read Complete Article](#))

Books and Authors

- Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying, Shri **Parshottam Rupala**, release a book and video titled "**Sagar Parikrama**" at the Engineering Association in Rajkot, Gujarat. The event graced by the presence of the Union Minister for States of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying, Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Balyan, Dr. L. Murugan, and other dignitaries. ([Read Complete Article](#))

Banking/Economy/Business News

- **Big Bang Boom Solutions (BBBS)**, a homegrown IDEX (Innovations for Defence Excellence) startup, clinches a major order **exceeding Rs 200 Crores** for its state-of-the-art anti-drone technology. Signed by the Ministry of Defence (MoD) with BBBS, this **contract marks the largest under the IDEX initiative**, aimed at benefiting the Indian Army and the Indian Air Force. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **Aditya Birla Capital's** decision to merge with its wholly-owned subsidiary, Aditya Birla Finance, is poised to reshape the **NBFC** landscape in India. This strategic move not only consolidates their financial services arm but also aligns with RBI's regulations, avoiding the need for Aditya Birla Finance to go public. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **IndusInd Bank**, in collaboration with Mastercard, introduces '**Indus PayWear**,' offering tokenised wearables for debit and credit cards. This innovative solution aims to enhance payment flexibility, convenience, and security for users. ([Read Complete Article](#))

- The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) for January 2024 reflects a **growth rate of 3.8%**, indicating a slowdown compared to December 2023. The data, released with a six-week lag, provides insights into the performance of various sectors within the industrial landscape of India. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- On March 11, 2024, the **Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA)** celebrated its **38th Foundation Day**, marking a significant achievement in its journey towards promoting renewable energy development in India. This special occasion provided an opportunity to reflect on IREDA's remarkable 37-year journey and its accomplishments in the field of green finance. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- Retail inflation in February 2024 saw a decline to a **four-month low of 5.09 per cent**, remaining well within the Reserve Bank of India's comfort zone of **6 per cent for the sixth consecutive month**. While the overall inflation figure remained relatively steady compared to January, certain items within the food basket experienced price increases. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **The Competition Commission of India (CCI)** has approved the merger of a financial technology company, **Garagepreneurs Internet Private Limited (GIPL)**, with the **North East Small Finance Bank (NESFB)**. This strategic move aims to combine the strengths of both entities in the financial services sector. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- The **Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)** has secured **\$24.5 million** from the **Green Climate Fund (GCF)** for its inaugural anchored project, the **Avaana Sustainability Fund (ASF)**, valued at **\$120 million**. This funding marks a significant milestone in climate finance and sustainability initiatives within India. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **Tata Power Solar Systems Limited (TPSSL)**, a fully integrated solar company in India and a subsidiary of TPREL (Tata Power Renewable Energy Limited), has achieved a significant milestone by completing the **country's largest Solar and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) project** in Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT)** of India and the **Information Technology Institute (ITI) of Egypt**. This significant event took place in Cairo, Egypt. This collaboration seeks to **bridge the gap in ICT skills**, enhancing industry engagement and fostering meaningful international cooperation between India and Egypt. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **Aurionpro Solutions** has clinched a significant deal with the **State Bank of India (SBI)** for the license, implementation, and support of its cutting-edge cash management and transaction banking platform, **iCashpro+**. Valued at nearly **Rs 100 crore**, this prestigious contract entails phased delivery of license and implementation over **12 months**, followed by a **6-year** maintenance and support period. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- The share of private sector banks in total deposits has risen significantly, reaching **34% as of December 2023**, up from 25% at the end of the **financial year 2017-18**. This growth has been driven by aggressive interest rate offerings and improved customer relationship management strategies adopted by private banks. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- In a strategic move to bolster its production capacity in South India, automaker **Tata Motors** has announced plans to set up a **new manufacturing unit in Tamil Nadu**. With an investment of **Rs 9,000 crore over the next five years**, the company aims to leverage the state's conducive business environment to propel its growth trajectory. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has issued notices to **Federal Bank and South Indian Bank**, directing them to halt the issuance of new co-branded credit cards. The two banks informed the stock exchanges about this development. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB)** have collaboratively signed a **\$181 million** loan agreement targeting the improvement of infrastructure and services in the peri-urban areas surrounding **Ahmedabad** city in **Gujarat**. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- India's **Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL)** opens its first overseas office in **Dhaka, Bangladesh**, signaling its commitment to international expansion and stronger regional ties. High Commissioner of India to Bangladesh, Pranay Verma, inaugurates NRL's liaison office in the presence of NRL managing director Bhaskar Jyoti Phukan and other dignitaries. ([Read Complete Article](#))

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- **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has imposed a monetary penalty of **₹1.40 crore on Bank of India** for non-compliance with certain directions issued by the central bank. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **Reliance Industries**, India's largest private company, has announced its acquisition of **Paramount Global's** entire **13.01% stake in Viacom 18 Media** for **Rs 4,286 crore (\$517 million)**. This significant transaction underscores Reliance's strategic positioning in the media industry, further solidifying its presence in the competitive market. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** released draft guidelines outlining a disclosure framework for **climate-related financial risks** applicable to various **regulated entities (REs)**. These guidelines aim to ensure transparency and better management of climate risks within the financial sector. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- The **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)** releases the monthly Wholesale Price Index (WPI) for India. This report provides crucial information on price changes in various sectors of the economy, aiding in economic analysis and policy formulation. The WPI for February 2024, with a base year of 2011-12, reflects a 0.20% provisional annual inflation rate, driven primarily by increases in food articles, crude petroleum & natural gas, electricity, machinery & equipment, and motor vehicles, trailers & semi-trailers. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- Fitch Ratings has raised India's growth forecast for **FY25 to 7%**, up from the previous estimate of 6.5%. The upgrade is attributed to robust domestic demand and sustained growth in business and consumer confidence, following a strong **8.4% expansion in Q3FY24**. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- The Union Government of India, in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), has finalized a **\$23 million loan agreement** aimed at bolstering the fintech landscape within the country. The agreement targets the enhancement of access to quality fintech education and innovation, particularly within the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT-City). ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **Adani Green Energy** announced the operationalisation of an additional **126 MW** capacity in its **300 MW** wind power project in **Gujarat**. This comes after the earlier operationalisation of **174 MW**, marking a significant milestone for the company. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **Max India Ltd** announced a strategic partnership between its subsidiary, **Antara Assisted Care Services Limited**, and the **Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IIT Delhi)**. This collaboration aims to address the challenges faced by India's aging population by developing tailored solutions to improve their quality of life. ([Read Complete Article](#))

Appointments/Resignations

- **Devendra Jhajharia**, a two-time Paralympic gold medalist, has been elected as the new **President of the Paralympic Committee of India (PCI)**. He succeeds another renowned para-athlete, Deepa Malik. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **AS Rajeev** was appointed as **Vigilance Commissioner** in the **Central Vigilance Commission** by the Honourable President of India on 9th February 2024. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **Kishor Makwana** has assumed the charge of **Chairman** of the **National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC)** in New Delhi. **Shri Luv Kush Kumar** has also taken charge as a **Member** of the NCSC. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- Justice **Satyendra Kumar Singh** was appointed as the new **Lokayukta** (anti-corruption ombudsman) of **Madhya Pradesh**. He took the **oath of office** on Sunday night, with the ceremony being administered by **Governor Mangubhai Patel** at Raj Bhavan. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- The **Indian Sugar & Bio-energy Manufacturers Association (ISMA)** has appointed **Mr. Deepak Ballani** as its new **Director General**. With over 25 years of extensive experience in public policy, government affairs, and organizational management, Mr. Ballani brings a wealth of expertise to this pivotal role. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **Sanjay Kumar Singh** is poised to step into the role of **Director (Projects)** at **NHPC Limited**, following a commendation by the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) panel on March 12. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- The **Prime Minister Narendra Modi**-led three-member committee has appointed **Gyanesh Kumar and Sukhbir Singh Sandhu** as new **Election Commissioners**. This decision was conveyed to the media by Congress leader **Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury** after the committee's meeting on March 14, 2024. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **B Sairam** has been appointed as the new **Chairman and Managing Director (CMD)** of **Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL)**. NCL is the **Singrauli-based flagship Subsidiary of Coal India Limited**. Sairam has assumed the charge for this post. ([Read Complete Article](#))

Defence News

- **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** has successfully conducted the maiden flight test of the **locally developed Agni-5 missile with multiple independently targetable re-entry vehicle (MIRV) technology**. This new capability allows the weapon system to deliver **multiple nuclear warheads** against different targets spread across hundreds of kilometers, further enhancing India's **strategic deterrence capability**. The test, codenamed "**Mission Divyastra**" (divine weapon), propels India into an exclusive league of countries that possess the capability to deploy **MIRV missile systems**, including the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Russia, and China. ([Read Complete Article](#))

- Coinciding with International Women’s Day and the 40th anniversary of INAS 318, the Andaman & Nicobar Command achieved a significant milestone by conducting its **first-ever all-women maritime surveillance mission**. This landmark event underscores the commitment to gender equality and recognizes the indispensable role of women in national defense. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- The **Indian Navy** recently took part in a major maritime exercise called **Exercise Cutlass Express – 24 (CE-24)**. This exercise was held in **Port Victoria, Seychelles** from **26 February to 08 March 2024**. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- On 13th March 2024, a significant milestone was achieved in the **Indian Navy’s** shipbuilding program with the launch of ‘Agray’ and ‘Akshay’, the **5th and 6th ships of the 08 x ASW (Anti-Submarine Warfare) Shallow Water Craft (SWC) Project**. These ships are being built by M/S Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE) in Kolkata for the Indian Navy. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- In a significant stride towards gender equality and inclusivity, the **Railway Protection Force (RPF)** has emerged as a frontrunner among central paramilitary forces in **terms of female representation**. This achievement marks a notable departure from the traditional male-dominated landscape within such organizations. With women now constituting a remarkable **10 percent of its personnel**, the RPF has set a new benchmark in gender diversity within central paramilitary forces. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- The Indian Navy has finally got its own dedicated **headquarters** building. The newly constructed **Nausena Bhawan** located at **Delhi Cantonment** was formally inaugurated by **Defence Minister Rajnath Singh** on **March 15th, 2024**. ([Read Complete Article](#))

Awards and Recognitions

- Delhi Airport has once again asserted its dominance in the aviation sector by securing the prestigious title of **‘Best Airport’** in the Asia-Pacific region for the sixth consecutive year. This accolade, bestowed by the **Airport Service Quality (ASQ) Awards**, reaffirms Delhi Airport’s commitment to excellence and leadership in providing top-notch services to passengers. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **Riken Yamamoto**, a Japanese architect from Yokohama, has been named the winner of the **2024 Pritzker Architecture Prize**, widely regarded as the highest honour in the field of architecture. ([Read Complete Article](#))

- The **Praemium Erasmianum Foundation** has awarded the **Erasmus Prize 2024** to the Indian writer **Amitav Ghosh**. He receives this prestigious honour for his **passionate contribution** to the theme “**imagining the unthinkable**,” in which he explores the **unprecedented global crisis of climate change** through his literary works. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **Mr. Srinivasan Swamy**, currently serving as the chairman and managing director of RK Swamy Ltd, was honored at the 45th IAA World Congress in Penang, Malaysia. Governor Tun Ahmad Fuzi Abdul Razak presented him with the esteemed **IAA Golden Compass Award**, recognizing his significant contributions to the global marketing, advertising, and media industries. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- President **Droupadi Murmu** was conferred with the honorary degree of Doctor of Civil Law by the University of Mauritius. This prestigious honor demonstrates the depth of bilateral ties between India and Mauritius. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- The prestigious **Chameli Devi Jain Award 2024** for Outstanding Woman Media Person of the Year has been given **jointly** to two remarkable journalists: Greeshma Kuthar – Independent Journalist and Ritika Chopra – Indian Express.
- **Ratan Tata**, former chairman of **Tata Sons**, has been bestowed with the prestigious **PV Narasimha Rao Memorial Award**. He received the award for his **outstanding philanthropic contributions**. The award ceremony took place in **Mumbai** on **March 15, 2024**. ([Read Complete Article](#))

Ranks and Reports

- According to the latest data from the **Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)**, **India** was the world’s top arms importer for the period 2019-2023. India’s arms imports witnessed a **4.7% increase** compared to the 2014-2018 period. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **Dr. Jitendra Singh** unveiled the report “**A Decade of Science – Technology Panorama for Aatmanirbhar Bharat**” at Vigyan Bhavan. Under the leadership of **Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood**, the (Office of Principal Scientific Advisor) OPISA to the Government of India, in collaboration with **FAST India**, has compiled a comprehensive overview of India’s technological advancements over the past decade in this report. ([Read Complete Article](#))

Sports News

- Indian badminton stars **Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty** have won the BWF French Open men's doubles title, defeating **Chinese Taipei's Lee Jhe-Huei and Yang Po-Hsuan** in the final. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **Yashasvi Jaiswal**, the young Indian opener, has been named the **ICC Men's Player of the Month for February 2024**. In the women's category, **Annabel Sutherland** of Australia claimed the **ICC Women's Player of the Month** award for February 2024. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **Mumbai** won the **Ranji Trophy 2024** after beating Vidarbha by 169 runs at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai. This was their **42nd Ranji Trophy title**, showcasing their dominance in Indian domestic cricket. Mumbai ended their **8-year drought** by winning the championship after last lifting the title in the 2015-16 season. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- Red Bull's **Max Verstappen** clinched **victory** at the Saudi Arabian Grand Prix, starting from **pole position**. It marked Red Bull's second consecutive **one-two finish** in the 2024 Formula One season. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- The **V-Dem Institute's Democracy Report 2024** highlights India's continued descent into electoral autocracy since its downgrade in 2018. The report underscores the deterioration of democratic principles, particularly in the areas of freedom of expression, media independence, and civil liberties. India's status as one of the top standalone autocracies further accentuates the gravity of its democratic decline. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- Australian **wicketkeeper-batter Matthew Wade** has announced his decision to **retire from red-ball cricket** (first-class cricket). ([Read Complete Article](#))

Schemes and Committees News

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually launched the '**Mahtari Vandan Yojana**' in Chhattisgarh from Kashi, Uttar Pradesh. The scheme aims to provide financial assistance to women in the state. PM Modi disbursed the first installment of Rs 1,000 to 70,12,417 women in Chhattisgarh. The state government has allocated Rs 655.57 crore for this purpose. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- The **Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers**, introduces the **Revamped Pharmaceuticals Technology Upgradation Assistance Scheme** to enhance industry capabilities and align with global standards. Its approval follows a thorough review by the Scheme Steering Committee, considering the revised Schedule-M of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rule, 1945. ([Read Complete Article](#))

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the '**Pradhan Mantri Samajik Utthan and Rozgar Adharit Jankalyan' (PM-SURAJ)** national portal during an event organized by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. The portal signifies the government's commitment to extending credit support and empowering **one lakh entrepreneurs from disadvantaged communities**. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- NITI Aayog launched the '**Vocal for Local**' initiative under its **Aspirational Blocks Programme** on March 13, 2024. This initiative aims to bolster local economies and promote grassroots entrepreneurship, ultimately fostering self-reliance and sustainable growth. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **The Ministry of Heavy Industries**, Government of India, in collaboration with the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, introduces the **Electric Mobility Promotion Scheme 2024 (EMPS 2024)**. This scheme aims to expedite the uptake of **electric vehicles (EVs)** within the country, fostering a sustainable and eco-friendly transportation ecosystem while bolstering the EV manufacturing sector. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **Bank of Baroda**, one of India's leading public sector banks, has announced the launch of the **bob Earth Green Term Deposit Scheme**. The scheme aims to raise deposits that will be **used to finance eligible environment-friendly projects and sectors**, fostering India's transition to a green and sustainable economy. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- The Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports, **Shri Anurag Singh Thakur**, has inaugurated a unique talent hunt event called **KIRTI (Khelo India Rising Talent Identification) in Chandigarh**. This nationwide programme, under the Khelo India mission, aims to identify talented athletes between the ages of 9 and 18 years, currently enrolled in schools across the country. ([Read Complete Article](#))

Science and Technology News

- Researchers have made an exciting discovery – a previously unknown **scorpion species with 8 eyes and 8 legs** in Thailand's **Kaeng Krachan National Park**. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **MoRD (Ministry of Rural Development)** and **IIT Delhi** have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to collaborate on **geospatial technology and artificial intelligence (AI) for rural development**. The partnership aims to leverage technology to enhance the effectiveness and transparency of rural development initiatives. The MoU signifies a collaborative effort to address rural challenges through technological solutions, setting a precedent for effective collaboration between academia and government. ([Read Complete Article](#))

- **Google** has partnered with the **Election Commission of India (ECI)** to provide authoritative information on voting processes for the upcoming general elections. Through Google Search and YouTube videos, voters will be able to access critical details on how to register and vote, as well as information about candidates. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **SpaceX's** Starship rocket, aimed at **lunar missions** and beyond, faced another setback as it disintegrated during its **third test flight**. Despite achieving several engineering milestones, the failure highlights challenges in its development. The Starship, consisting of the cruise vessel atop the Super Heavy rocket booster, launched from Starbase near Boca Chica Village, Texas. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **IIT Delhi** recently announced a collaboration with **Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI)**, a significant step in applied research. This partnership, emphasized in an official statement from IIT Delhi, reflects IAI's commitment to corporate social responsibility (CSR) in India, **aiming to promote innovation and technological advancement** through joint projects, training initiatives, and research consultancy. ([Read Complete Article](#))

Important Days News

- The **International Day of Women Judges** is celebrated every year on **10 March**. This year, it falls on Sunday. The day is dedicated to **recognizing the contributions of women judges worldwide** and promoting **women's participation in decision-making** for achieving **equality and democracy**. The theme for this year's celebration is "**Women in Justice, women for justice**," promoting the **full and equal participation of women at all levels of the judiciary**. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **World Plumbing Day**, held annually on **11 March**, is an international event initiated by the **World Plumbing Council** to recognize the **crucial role plumbing plays in societal health and amenity**. The WPC works year-round, in partnership with organizations like the **World Health Organization**, to promote the benefits of **safe plumbing**. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **World Kidney Day** is an annual global health awareness campaign that aims to raise awareness about the importance of kidney health and the increasing burden of kidney diseases worldwide. It is observed on the **second Thursday of March every year**. This year **World Kidney Day** is observed on **14th March**. The 2024 World Kidney Day campaign theme is **Kidney Health for All – Advancing Equitable Access to Care and Optimal Medication Practice**. ([Read Complete Article](#))

- The **International Day of Action for Rivers** is observed annually on March 14th. This year, on Thursday, **March 14, 2024**, the theme is "**Water for All**," emphasizing the fundamental right of every individual to access clean water. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **World Consumer Rights Day** is celebrated annually on **March 15** across the globe. This day aims to **raise awareness** about the **rights and responsibilities** of consumers in the marketplace. This year, the theme chosen by **Consumers International** for World Consumer Rights Day 2024 is '**Fair and responsible AI for consumers**.' ([Read Complete Article](#))
- Every year, **Pi Day** is observed on **March 14** to commemorate the constant value of Pi and its significance in simplifying calculations across various disciplines. This year, the special day falls on **Thursday, March 14, 2024**. **Pi (π)** is an **important symbol** in **Mathematics, Statistics, and Physics**. It represents the **ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter**. This ratio is a **constant value** of approximately **3.14**. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- National Vaccination Day is celebrated every year on **March 16th**. This year, it falls on a **Saturday**. National Vaccination Day is a special day to **create awareness** about the **importance of vaccines**. Vaccines help protect us from deadly diseases like **polio** and **smallpox**. On this day, people are encouraged to get **vaccinated** to stay **safe and healthy**. ([Read Complete Article](#))

Obituaries News

- **Kapildev Prasad**, a renowned artisan and Padma awardee for his contributions to the handloom industry and the revival of Bababuti sarees, passed away in Basavanbigha village, Bihar Sharif. His demise has left the local community and handloom enthusiasts mourning the loss of a true pioneer. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **Paul Alexander**, who spent much of his life in an iron lung after contracting polio as a child, has passed away at the age of 78. Despite being paralyzed from the neck down, Alexander's resilience and determination led him to become an inspirational figure, achieving milestones that defied his physical limitations. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **Admiral Laxminarayan Ramdas**, the former Chief of Naval Staff of the Indian Navy (**1990-1993**), breathed his last peacefully at the age of 90 on March 15 morning, at the Military Hospital, Secunderabad, Telangana. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- Sadi Mohammad, a **legendary Rabindra Sangeet singer**, has passed away at the age of **70**. His death has cast a **grim shadow** in the cultural sphere of the country. ([Read Complete Article](#))

Miscellaneous News

- Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh, announced the establishment of **North India's first Government Homeopathic College** in the Jasrota area of Kathua district, J&K. The project, funded centrally at Rs 80 crore, reflects a significant stride in healthcare and education infrastructure development in the region. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- **Majuli**, the largest river island in the world, has received **two prestigious Geographical Indication (GI) tags** from the Indian government for its traditional crafts – **Majuli mask making and Majuli manuscript painting**. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- Sea6 Energy, a **pioneer in the Blue Economy**, has launched the world's first large-scale **mechanized tropical seaweed farm** off the coast of Lombok, Indonesia. The **one-square-kilometer seaweed farm** is a significant milestone in establishing the scalability of **sustainable tropical seaweed cultivation** for various industrial applications. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- Excavation sites worldwide yield artifacts and fossils crucial for understanding history. In **Nuremberg, Germany**, construction laborers stumbled upon an astonishing find while building a house: a vast number of human skeletons, indicating the presence of what may be **Europe's largest cemetery**. Nearly a thousand skeletons have been unearthed so far, with estimates suggesting the total could surpass **1500**. ([Read Complete Article](#))
- The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (**FSSAI**) has certified nearly **100 jails** across the nation as **'Eat Right Campus,'** a part of its broader Eat Right India movement. This initiative aims to ensure safe, healthy, and sustainable food practices within various institutional settings, including correctional facilities. ([Read Complete Article](#))

Static Takeaways

- DRDO founded: 1958;
- DRDO Headquarters: DRDO Bhavan, New Delhi;
- DRDO Agency executive: : Sameer V. Kamat, Chairman, DRDO.
- Central Vigilance Commission Founded: February 1964;
- Central Vigilance Commission HQ: New Delhi.
- National Commission for Scheduled Castes Founded: 19 February 2004.
- Tamil Nadu Chief minister: M. K. Stalin;
- Tamil Nadu Capital: Chennai;
- Tamil Nadu Governor: R. N. Ravi.
- Haryana Capital: Chandigarh;
- Haryana Governor: Bandaru Dattatreya;
- World Plumbing Council HQ: Zurich, Switzerland;
- World Plumbing Council Founded: October 2009;
- World Plumbing Council Head: Dave Viola.
- Madhya Pradesh Capital: Bhopal (Executive Branch);
- Madhya Pradesh Bird: Indian paradise flycatcher;
- Madhya Pradesh Flower: White lily;
- Madhya Pradesh Formation: 26 January 1950.
- Jharkhand Chief minister: Champai Soren;
- Jharkhand Capital: Ranchi;
- Jharkhand Founded: 15 November 2000;
- Jharkhand Bird: Koel;
- Jharkhand Flower: Palash.
- National Commission for Protection of Child Rights Founded: 2007;
- National Commission for Protection of Child Rights Headquarters: New Delhi, India;
- National Commission for Protection of Child Rights Chairman: Priyank Kanoongo.
- Managing Director & CEO of Maruti Suzuki India Limited: Mr. Hisashi Takeuchi
- Odisha Capital: Bhubaneswar;
- Odisha Chief Minister: Naveen Patnaik;
- Odisha Bird: Indian roller;
- Odisha Flower: Asoka;
- Odisha Governor: Raghubar Das.
- North East Small Finance Bank Ltd (Head Office) in Hatigaon, Guwahati;
- North East Small Finance Bank Ltd MD & CEO: Satish Kumar Kalra;
- North East Small Finance Bank Ltd Established: October 17, 2017.
- Indian Sugar & Bio-energy Manufacturers Association (ISMA) HQ: New Delhi;

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Test Series

- Indian Sugar & Bio-energy Manufacturers Association (ISMA) Established: 1932.
- Google Founders: Larry Page, Sergey Brin;
- Google Parent organization: Alphabet Inc.;
- Google CEO: Sundar Pichai (2 Oct 2015–);
- Google Founded: 4 September 1998, Menlo Park, California, United States.
- Seychelles Capital: Victoria
- Seychelles President: Wavel Ramkalawan
- Seychelles Currency: Seychelles Rupee
- Election Commissioner of India HQ: Delhi
- Election Commissioner of India Established: 25th January 1950.

