

Weekly One Liners 04th to 10th of November 2024

Rise in Glacial Lake Himalaya Report Tells

Summary	Details
Why in the news?	A government report indicated Glacial lake in Himalayan region have experienced a 10.81% increase in area from 2011 to 2024. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The total area of glacial lakes in India grew from 1,962 hectares in 2011 to 2,623 hectares in 2024, marking a 33.7% increase. A total of 67 lakes in India experienced over 40% increase in surface area, categorizing them as high-risk for GLOFs. The most notable expansions were recorded in Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, and Arunachal Pradesh.
Central Water Commission HQ	New Delhi
CWC Chairman	Shri Kushvinder Vohra

ILO's 352nd Session

Summary	Details
Why in the news?	The 352nd Governing Body meeting of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) is currently taking place in Geneva. Dates : 28th October to November 7th. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> From India Sumita Dawra, Labour and Employment Secretary of India, presented India's initiatives and progress in improving living standards and employment. Agenda Highlights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic Plan for 2026–2029 Global Coalition for Social Justice Democratization of Governance World Summit for Social Development 2025
International Labour Organization HQ	Geneva, Switzerland
Members	187-member States
Fact	In recognition of its activities, the ILO was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1969.

ISA's Key Decisions In 7th Assembly Session

Summary/Static	Details
Why in the news?	India, France elected President, Co-president of International Solar Alliance for 2 years from 2024-2026 Decision was taken at the 7th Session of ISA at Bharat Mandapam. Regional Vice Eight Vice Presidents appointed across four regions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Africa: Ghana and Seychelles (Vice Presidents); South Sudan and Comoros (Vice Chairs). Asia and the Pacific: Australia and Sri Lanka (Vice Presidents); UAE and Papua New Guinea (Vice Chairs). Europe and Others: Germany and Italy (Vice Presidents); Greece and Norway (Vice Chairs). Latin America and Caribbean: Grenada and Suriname (Vice Presidents); Jamaica and Haiti (Vice Chairs). Ashish Khanna appointed Director General-Designate, to assume office in March 2025 following Ajay Mathur's term.
International Solar Alliance	Estd. in November 2015
ISA HQ	Gurugram, Haryana

Hanley Passport Index 2024 October

Henley Passport Index 2024

Rank	Country	Visa-Free Access
1st	Singapore	195
2nd	France	192
2nd	Germany	192
2nd	Italy	192
2nd	Japan	192
2nd	Spain	192
3rd	Austria	191
3rd	Denmark	191
3rd	Finland	191
3rd	Ireland	191

India's Position

In contrast, **India** ranks **83rd**, providing its citizens with **visa-free access to 58 countries**. This ranking underscores the challenges that Indian passport holders face in terms of global mobility. However, the growing emphasis on international relations may pave the way for improved access in the future.

The **Henley Passport Index** employs a meticulous methodology to determine passport rankings. This process involves evaluating several key factors, including:

- **Visa-Free Access:** The primary criterion is the number of countries a passport holder can enter without a visa. A higher number indicates greater travel freedom.
- **Diplomatic Relations:** The strength of a country's diplomatic ties significantly influences its passport power. Nations with robust international agreements tend to rank higher.
- **International Agreements:** The nature of treaties and agreements with other nations also plays a vital role in determining visa policies, further impacting passport rankings.

The World's Weakest Passports

While some passports grant their holders considerable travel freedom, others offer limited options. The **Henley Passport Index 2024** highlights the least powerful passports, which require holders to obtain visas for most international travel. The countries that rank at the bottom of the index include:

Here is the information presented in a tabular format:

Rank	Country	Visa-Free Access
102nd	Pakistan	33
102nd	Yemen	33
103rd	Iraq	31
104th	Syria	27
105th	Afghanistan	26

Shilp Samagam Mela 2024

Summary/Static	Details
Why in the news?	Union Minister Dr. Virendra Kumar Launches 'Shilp Samagam Mela 2024' and Unveils 'TULIP' Platform
Organized by	National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation (NBCDFC) National Safai Karmachari Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC)

Summary/Static		Details
Key Initiatives Launched	TULIP (Traditional Artisans' Upliftment Livelihood Programme)	A digital e-marketing platform to empower marginalized artisans (SC, OBC, sanitation workers, and persons with disabilities) by providing a platform for global exposure and sales.
	Rang Paridhan Program	A showcase of uniforms made from artisan products; the Ministry's corporations will adopt these artisan-made uniforms, symbolizing cultural heritage
Portals Unveils		TPM-SURAKSHA Portal: Enables targeted groups to access subsidized loan schemes PM-DAKSH Portal: Provides skill development training for marginalized communities
Other Initiatives		Vishwas Yojana : Offers financial assistance to Scheduled Castes, Backward Classes, and sanitation workers Namaste Yojana : Extends financial protection to sanitation workers
Beneficiaries (Loan Assistance)		Approximately 5.6 million people and their families
Skill Training Recipients		614,000 young individuals
Individuals Provided Marketing Opportunities		Over 1 lakh

PM Vidyalaxmi Scheme

Why in News	Key Points
PM-Vidyalaxmi Scheme Approved	Scheme approved by Union Cabinet on November 6, 2024.
Objective	Provides collateral-free, guarantor-free education loans to meritorious students.
Loan Coverage	Full tuition fees and other course-related expenses for students in top 860 Quality Higher Education Institutions (QHEIs).
Outlay	₹3,600 crore allocated for 2024-25 to 2030-31.
Eligibility	Students securing admission in top 860 QHEIs based on NIRF rankings.
Institutions Covered	Top 860 institutions, both government and private, ranked in the top 100 in NIRF (overall, category-specific, and domain-specific rankings).
Interest Subvention	3% interest subvention for loans up to ₹10 lakh during the moratorium period for students with a family income of up to ₹8 lakh.
Credit Guarantee	75% credit guarantee for loans up to ₹7.5 lakh in case of defaults.
Beneficiaries	Expected to benefit over 22 lakh students annually.
Digital Platform	Unified portal 'PM-Vidyalaxmi' for loan applications and interest subvention.
Implementation Timeline	2024-25 to 2030-31.

Hurun India Philanthropy List 2024

Top 10 Philanthropists in 2024:

Rank	Name	Donation (INR Cr)	Growth (%)	Primary Cause	Company/Foundation
1	Shiv Nadar & Family	2,153	5%	Education	Shiv Nadar Foundation
2	Mukesh Ambani & Family	407	8%	Admission for Disadvantaged Communities	Reliance Foundation
3	Bajaj Family	352	33%	Education for Engineering	Bajaj Group Trust
4	Kumar Mangalam Birla & Family	334	17%	Education	Aditya Birla Capital Foundation
5	Gautam Adani & Family	330	16%	Education for Remote Villages	Adani Foundation
6	Nandan Nilekani	307	62%	Ecosystem Building	Nilekani Philanthropies

Rank	Name	Donation (INR Cr)	Growth (%)	Primary Cause	Company/Foundation
7	Krishna Chivukula	228	New	Education	ASHA Foundation
8	Anil Agarwal & Family	181	-25%	Education	Anil Agarwal Foundation
9	Susmita & Subroto Bagchi	179	63%	Public Healthcare	Mindtree
10	Rohini Nilekani	154	-10%	Ecosystem Building	Rohini Nilekani Philanthropies

ISA Launches World Solar Report Series

Summary/Static	Details
Why in the news?	3rd Edition of World Solar Report Series launched at the 7th Assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA).
Released By	Pralhad Joshi, President of ISA Assembly and India's Minister for New and Renewable Energy.
Reports	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> World Solar Market Report World Investment Report World Technology Report Green Hydrogen Readiness Assessment for African Countries
Overview of World Solar Report Series	First introduced in 2022, provides an overview of global solar progress, investment trends, challenges, and technological advancements.
High-Level Conference	Held alongside the 7th ISA Assembly. Co-organized with India's Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, the Asian Development Bank, and the International Solar Energy Society.
Conference Objectives	Drive actionable change in solar technology and policy for a clean energy transition. Focus on emerging technologies, storage, and the role of solar in socio-economic development.
About ISA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Founded: December 6, 2017, headquartered in India. - Mission: \$1 trillion solar investment by 2030, promoting affordable solar. - Partnerships: MDBs, DFIs, private/public sector collaborations to aid LDCs and SIDS. - Initiatives: Policy support, investment mobilization, cost reduction, training, and data access for stakeholders.

QS Asia Rankings 2025

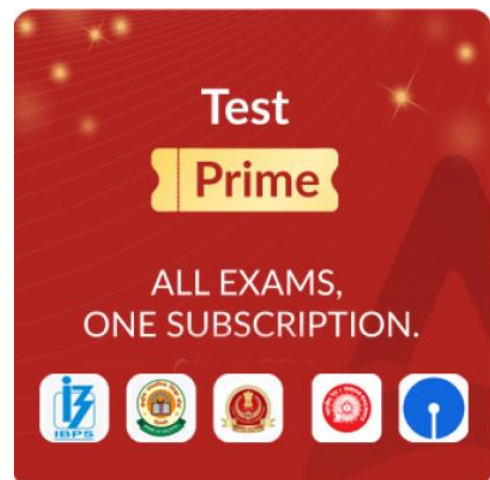
Category	Details
Top 5 Rankings	<p>- 2025 Top Asian Universities include leading institutions from China, Singapore, and Japan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peking University • location Beijing, China (Mainland) • The University of Hong Kong • location Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR • National University of Singapore (NUS) • location Singapore, Singapore • Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU Singapore) • location Singapore, Singapore • Fudan University • location Shanghai, China (Mainland)
Indian Perspective	- India's top-ranked: IIT Delhi (44th), IIT Bombay (48th), IIT Madras (56th).
Produced By	Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) , an internationally recognized provider of global university rankings.
Past Ranking (India)	- In 2024, IIT Delhi was at 46th, IIT Bombay at 50th, and IIT Madras at 58th. Shows consistent improvement in Indian rankings over the years.

Category	Details
Parameters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Academic Reputation - Faculty-Student Ratio - Citations per Paper - Papers per Faculty - International Research Network - Employer Reputation - Proportion of International Faculty and Students - Inbound and Outbound Exchange - Faculty with PhDs.
Organization Facts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Headquarters in London, UK - Founded in 1990 - Specializes in global education and rankings.
Edition	2025, representing the latest insights and rankings in Asian academia.
Total Members / Countries	- Rankings include 984 institutions from 30+ Asian countries .
Reports Director's Name	- Ben Sowter , Senior Vice President and Director of QS Intelligence Unit.
Major Changes in Ranks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IIT Delhi, Bombay, and Madras improved in Asian standings, entering top 50 for the first time in QS Asia. - Regional rank improvements noted for BRICS and G20 countries, especially in STEM-based metrics. NUST Islamabad from Pakistan shares the 6th position in South Asia alongside IIT Kanpur.

National Affairs

- New Delhi is considering inviting Indonesia's newly elected President, Prabowo Subianto, as the chief guest for Republic Day 2025, highlighting the strengthening ties between India and Indonesia. The potential invitation reflects plans for high-level discussions, enhanced defense cooperation, and the possible participation of the Indonesian military in the Republic Day parade. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)
- India has unveiled its updated National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) at the 16th UN Biodiversity Conference in Colombia, committing to protect 30% of its terrestrial, inland water, and coastal marine areas by 2030. This goal aligns with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, which aims for global protection of 30% of land and ocean areas. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)
- India inaugurated its new consulate in Brisbane on November 4, 2024, with External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar leading the ceremony. The opening marks a significant step in enhancing India-Australia relations, which have been strengthened by initiatives like a trade agreement that has opened new opportunities for both nations. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)
- The Union Cabinet has approved a ₹10,700 crore equity infusion for the Food Corporation of India (FCI) to reduce its debt dependency and lower the government's subsidy burden. FCI plays a crucial role in India's food security, handling 70% of food subsidies, procuring grains at Minimum Support Price (MSP), and distributing food to 800 million beneficiaries under the National Food Security Act (NFSA) of 2013. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)

- **Honorable President Droupadi Murmu** embarked on her first visit to Indian Navy ships at sea aboard the **indigenous aircraft carrier INS Vikrant** on 7th November. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)
- November 8, Bengaluru marked a milestone with the inauguration of its first digital **population clock** at the **Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC)**. This innovative installation will display real-time population estimates for both Karnataka and the entire country, providing citizens, researchers, and policymakers with up-to-date demographic data. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)
- In response to the Supreme Court's criticism of the "toothless" penalties under the **Environment Protection Act (EPA) of 1986**, the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change has doubled the fines on stubble burning. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)



- The Government of India, through the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), has issued a call for proposals (CfP) for setting up **Centers of Excellence (CoE)** under the Research and Development (R&D) Scheme of the National Green Hydrogen Mission. Announced on 4th November 2024. ([Click here to read article](#))
- ATMOS 2024, a three-day technical fest at BITS Pilani's Hyderabad campus, runs from November 8 to 10, featuring a range of innovative activities and competitions like Robot Wars, Drone Racing, and Hackathons. The event offers students an engaging platform to showcase their technical skills and creativity. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Union Minister Shri JP Nadda launched the "Scheme for Strengthening the Medical Device Industry" with a budget of Rs. 500 crore, focusing on making India self-sufficient in medical devices. The scheme supports manufacturing, skill development, clinical studies, infrastructure, and industry promotion, aiming to boost the sector's growth and self-reliance. ([Click here to read article](#))

States in the News

- Karnataka is celebrating the Bali Padyami festival on the fourth day of Deepavali, marking the return of the Asura king, Bali Chakravarty, from Pathala Loka (the underworld) to Bhuloka (the earth), as granted by Lord Vishnu during his Vamana Avatar. The festival holds cultural significance in Hindu mythology. Deepavali festivities in Karnataka include worship of Ganga Matha on the first day, Naraka Chaturdashi on the second day, and Lakshmi Pooja on the third day. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The Uttar Pradesh government has introduced a new policy to improve veterinary services by offering diploma and certificate courses in animal husbandry and para-veterinary medicine. This move, announced by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, aims to address the shortage of veterinarians in the state, which has only 8,193 veterinarians compared to the national total of around 34,500. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Madhya Pradesh cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister Mohan Yadav, **approved a 35 percent reservation for women in all state government recruitments**. The decision was made during a cabinet meeting held at the Mantralaya in Bhopal. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The Supreme Court's new guidelines to eliminate child marriages in Rajasthan by 2030 have empowered civil society organizations. These guidelines emphasize accountability for local panchayats, school authorities, and child protection officers, aiming to tackle the widespread issue of child marriages in the state. ([Click here to read article](#))

- Ningol Chakkouba, a major festival of the Meitei community in Manipur, was celebrated with great religious fervor and joy. Observed on the second day of the lunar month Hiyangei in the Meitei calendar, the festival celebrates family bonds and togetherness. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The Uttar Pradesh Cabinet has approved a significant semiconductor manufacturing project led by Vama Sundri Investment, a subsidiary of HCL Tech, in partnership with Foxconn. Set to be established along the Yamuna Expressway with an investment of ₹3,706 crore, the facility aims to enhance India's semiconductor production. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Telangana has launched a statewide caste census conducted by the State Planning Department to gather comprehensive socio-economic, political, and educational data, including caste details for all households. The door-to-door survey collects information on income, employment, health hazards, and welfare benefits, while verifying caste certificates for SC, ST, BC, and EWS categories. Enumerators are assigned 150 households each to ensure thorough data collection. ([Click here to read article](#))
- In response to cheetahs from Madhya Pradesh straying into neighboring Rajasthan, a joint corridor management committee has been formed between the two states. The committee will focus on cheetah conservation, developing suitable habitats, and facilitating the relocation of cheetahs from Madhya Pradesh's Kuno National Park (KNP) and Gandhi Sagar Sanctuary. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The Indian government has signed a \$200 million loan agreement with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to enhance urban infrastructure and improve essential services in Uttarakhand. The initiative aims to modernize water supply systems, sanitation, urban mobility, and other key public amenities, thereby fostering sustainable development in the state. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Sultanganj railway station** in Bihar's **Bhagalpur district** is set to be renamed in honor of the revered **Hindu shrine, Ajaibinath Dham**. ([Click here to read article](#))

International Affairs

- Duma Boko, Botswana's newly elected president, has made history by ending the six-decade rule of the Botswana Democratic Party (BDP). Boko, a 54-year-old human rights lawyer, is recognized for his confidence, humility, and dedication to justice, marking a significant political shift in Botswana's history with his victory over the long-standing ruling party. ([Click here to read article](#))
- On November 2, Kemi Badenoch, 44, made history as the first Black woman to lead the UK's Conservative Party, succeeding Rishi Sunak. Badenoch won the leadership race after Sunak's resignation, defeating former minister Robert Jenrick with 53,806 votes, representing a 72.8% turnout among Conservative Party members. ([Click here to read article](#))

- Donald Trump has won a crucial victory in Wisconsin, securing 276 electoral votes, surpassing the 270 needed to reclaim the White House as America's 47th president. Speaking to a jubilant crowd in West Palm Beach, Florida, he expressed gratitude for the honor of being elected, acknowledging his distinctive role as both the 45th and now the 47th president. JD Vance will serve as vice president in this administration. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Moldova as pro-Western President **Maia Sandu** won a second term in a highly contested presidential runoff. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Switzerland is set to enforce its controversial “burqa ban” starting **January 1, 2025**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- All members of **Bangladesh’s National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)** resigned on Thursday, shortly after the release of a critical report highlighting an increase in mob violence. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Australia is set to implement a significant move by banning social media access for **children under 16, starting in November**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Mount Lewotobi Laki-laki in eastern Indonesia erupted on November 7, sending a massive ash column over 6,500 meters into the sky. The 1,584-meter volcano, located on Flores Island. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **India did not support Pakistan and Syria’s resolution on “conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels”** during the First Committee of the UN General Assembly. The resolution, which aimed at promoting arms control in specific regions, was adopted with 179 votes in favor. ([Click here to read article](#))

Agreements/MoUs Signed

- Cairn Oil & Gas, part of Vedanta Group, has become the first oil and gas producer in India to join the UN Environment Programme’s Oil & Gas Methane Partnership (OGMP) 2.0. This commitment to reducing methane emissions marks a significant step toward enhancing environmental sustainability in the sector. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India and Algeria have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on defense cooperation during Gen. Anil Chauhan’s visit to Algeria, strengthening bilateral defense ties. ([Click here to read article](#))
- IREL (India) Limited and Kazakhstan’s Ust-Kamenogorsk Titanium and Magnesium Plant JSC have signed a joint venture agreement to form IREUK Titanium Limited. The new venture will focus on producing titanium slag in Odisha, India, marking a significant Indo-Kazakh collaboration in the titanium production sector. ([Click here to read article](#))

Books and Authors

- **Prof. Sreeram Chaulia’s** latest book, **Friends – India’s Closest Strategic Partners**, dives into the intricate world of India’s foreign relations, offering a unique perspective on India’s closest allies and strategic partners. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Ramachandra Guha, known for his work on Mahatma Gandhi, has also made significant contributions to Indian environmentalism. His latest book, *Speaking with Nature: The Origins of Indian Environmentalism*, explores India’s rich ecological heritage and challenges Western environmental perspectives. ([Click here to read article](#))

Banking/Economy/Business News

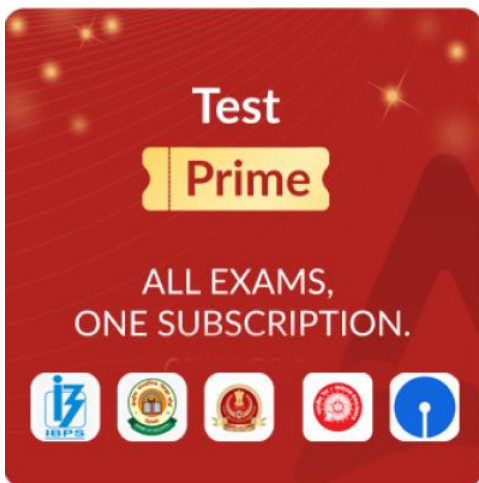
- SEBI has proposed changes to enhance flexibility, governance, and investor protection in Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs), Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs), and Small and Medium REITs (SM REITs). Key proposals include allowing interest rate derivatives for hedging, recognizing fixed deposits in leverage calculations, and enabling the transfer of locked-in units among sponsors. ([Click here to read article](#))
- State-owned Canara Bank is setting a significant target for loan recovery, aiming to recoup approximately **₹6,000 crore** from bad loans in the **second half of the current fiscal year** (H2 FY25). This strategic goal reflects the bank’s ongoing efforts to improve asset quality while building on its recent financial performance. ([Click here to read article](#))
- On the occasion of **Diwali and to mark its 30th anniversary**, the National Stock Exchange of India (NSE) has launched its **official mobile app**, NSEIndia, and expanded its corporate website to support a **total of 12 languages**. This initiative aims to create a more inclusive financial ecosystem for millions of investors across India, allowing them to access market information in their preferred regional languages. ([Click here to read article](#))
- SBI Mutual Fund has become the first fund house in India to exceed ₹10 lakh crore in assets under management (AUM), reaching ₹10.99 lakh crore in the September quarter, up from ₹9.88 lakh crore in June. This milestone positions SBI MF ahead of its competitors, ICICI Mutual Fund and HDFC Mutual Fund, which have AUMs of ₹8.41 lakh crore and ₹7.47 lakh crore, respectively. ([Click here to read article](#))
- SEBI has proposed significant changes to the securitisation framework to enhance investor protection and streamline regulations. Key proposals include a minimum investment threshold, limits on investor participation, mandatory dematerialisation, and liquidity safeguards. ([Click here to read article](#))

- NTPC Limited and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) have launched a 50:50 Joint Venture Company (JVC) through their green energy subsidiaries, NTPC Green Energy Ltd. (NGEL) and ONGC Green Energy Ltd. (OGL). This collaboration, approved by DIPAM and NITI Aayog, aims to accelerate India's renewable and new energy objectives. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)
- Punjab & Sind Bank (PSB) has launched an e-Bank Guarantee (e-BG) facility in partnership with National e-Governance Services Ltd (NeSL), replacing the traditional paper-based process with a fully digital system using e-stamping and e-signatures, enhancing efficiency, transparency, and reducing verification time. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)
- BEML Limited has received the "Self-Certification" status for its defense equipment from the Department of Defence Production, Government of India. The certification was presented to BEML's Chairman and MD, Shantanu Roy, by RA Govardhana during an event at the company's headquarters. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)
- Royal Enfield has recently unveiled its highly anticipated **electric vehicle (EV)** brand, "Flying Flea", an homage to one of the brand's most iconic models. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)
- IDFC FIRST Bank, in collaboration with Swift, has launched a real-time tracking service for international money transfers. This service, available on the bank's mobile app and internet banking, makes IDFC FIRST Bank the first Indian bank to offer end-to-end traceability for cross-border payments. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)
- The International Finance Corporation (IFC) has partnered with Bajaj Finance Ltd. (BFL), committing \$400 million as part of a \$1 billion initiative to boost access to climate finance in India. The investment will focus on financing electric vehicles (EVs), energy-efficient consumer goods (EECG), and women-owned micro-enterprises, supporting India's climate goals and promoting financial inclusion. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)

- **Deutsche Bank** has injected **₹5,113 crore** into its **Indian operations**, marking its largest capital infusion into the country in recent years. This move, aimed at funding growth and expanding services across corporate, investment, and private banking, demonstrates the bank's long-term commitment to India. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)
- In a move to enhance apprenticeship programs across India, the **Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE)** has restructured the **Central Apprenticeship Council (CAC)**, tasked with reforming existing rules and promoting industry adoption of on-the-job training. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has added 10-year Sovereign Green Bonds (SGrBs) to the list of Government securities available for non-resident investment under the Fully Accessible Route (FAR). These bonds, to be issued in the second half of fiscal year 2024-25, align with India's growing inclusion in global bond indices. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)
- **State Bank of India (SBI)**, in partnership with **APIX—a global collaborative** platform for financial institutions and FinTechs—has launched the '**SBI Innovation Hub**' at the **Singapore Fintech Festival from November 6-8, 2024**. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)
- India's smartphone market became the second largest globally by unit volume and third by value in Q3 2024, accounting for 15.5% of global shipments, just behind China's 22%. By value, India's market share rose slightly to 12.3%, up from 12.1% the previous year, surpassing the US, which held a 12% share. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has introduced six amendments to its KYC Master Directions, effective November 6, 2024, to enhance customer onboarding and align with current legal standards. These updates aim to streamline the KYC process, making financial transactions more secure, accessible, and reliable for consumers and financial institutions alike. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)

Appointments/Resignations

- **India Yamaha Motor** has appointed **Itaru Otani** as its new Chairman, a significant move aimed at enhancing the company's presence in India's dynamic two-wheeler market. With over 30 years of experience at Yamaha Motor Company, [\(Click here to read article\)](#)
- **India and France have been re-elected as the president and co-president** of the International Solar Alliance (ISA), respectively, at the seventh ISA assembly held in New Delhi. **Ashish Khanna, a World Bank energy specialist**, has been selected as the next Director General of ISA. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)
- The Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB) has recommended **Rahul Bhawe**, the Deputy Managing Director of IFCI Ltd, for the position of Managing Director (MD) and CEO, marking a key development in the financial sector. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)



- The FICCI National Executive Committee Meeting (NECM) has officially announced **Harsha Vardhan Agarwal as the President**. ([Click here to read article](#))

Defence News

- **The 5th edition of the Vietnam-India Bilateral Army Exercise, "VINBAX 2024,"** began on Monday at Ambala. Scheduled from **November 4 to 23**, the exercise will take place at both **Ambala and Chandimandir**, aiming to strengthen military cooperation and interoperability between the two nations. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Indian Navy successfully** conducted the third edition of the **Mahasagar summit**, continuing its flagship outreach initiative for maritime security in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR). Held virtually under the theme, "Training Cooperation to Mitigate Common Maritime Security Challenges in the IOR." ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **2nd edition of the Indian Military Heritage Festival (IMHF)** is set to begin on November 8, 2024, in New Delhi. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India has launched a significant **tri-services military exercise, 'Poorvi Prahaar,'** beginning November 8, aimed at strengthening military readiness across the eastern front. This 10-day exercise follows the recent disengagement between Indian and Chinese troops at key **friction points in eastern Ladakh, including Depsang and Demchok**, and underscores India's commitment to enhanced defense capabilities. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **The third edition** of the joint military exercise **AUSTRAHIND** commenced today at the Foreign Training Node in **Pune, Maharashtra**. ([Click here to read article](#))

Awards and Recognitions

- Anil Pradhan has been awarded the prestigious **Rohini Nayyar Prize for 2024**, recognizing his impactful contributions to rural development in India. Known for his dedication to empowering rural communities, Pradhan's work has brought positive change and opportunities to underserved areas. ([Click here to read article](#))

Summits and Conferences News

- India is hosting the first-ever **Asian Buddhist Summit (ABS)** in New Delhi from November 5 to 6, 2024, under the theme, "**Role of Buddha Dhamma in Strengthening Asia.**" This event, organized by the Ministry of Culture and the International Buddhist Confederation (IBC), celebrates the deep-rooted Buddhist heritage in India and underscores its role in promoting peace and unity across Asia. ([Click here to read article](#))

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah chaired the 32nd meeting of the 'Kendriya Hindi Samiti' in New Delhi. The committee, which is the highest body for promoting the Hindi language, focuses on providing guidelines for its development and widespread use across India. The Kendriya Hindi Samiti, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, comprises 21 members, including 9 Union Ministers, 6 Chief Ministers, the Deputy Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language, and other key officials from the Department of Official Language and sub-committees. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India has signed the Host Country Agreement with the Global Biofuels Alliance (GBA), allowing the Alliance's Secretariat to be established in India. ([Click here to read article](#))

Ranks and Reports

- Artificial intelligence (AI) is rapidly transforming the global economy, with the market projected to grow at a 36.6% CAGR from 2024 to 2030. The IMF's AI Preparedness Index 2023 ranks countries based on factors like digital infrastructure, human capital, and legal frameworks. Singapore leads the list, followed by Denmark and the U.S., while India ranks 72nd globally. ([Click here to read article](#))

Sports News

- Indian wicketkeeper-batter Wriddhiman Saha has announced his retirement from all formats of cricket, bringing an end to his nearly two-decade-long career. He revealed that the ongoing Ranji Trophy season would be his last. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India has submitted a Letter of Intent to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to host the 2036 Olympic and Paralympic Games, marking a major step toward fulfilling Prime Minister Modi's vision of hosting the prestigious event for the first time. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Indian professional boxer **Mandeep Jangra** claimed the World Boxing Federation's super featherweight world title after defeating Britain's Conor McIntosh in an intense match in the Cayman Islands. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Max Verstappen's incredible victory at the Brazil Grand Prix has captivated the Formula 1 world. Starting from 17th place, Verstappen showcased remarkable skill and resilience, storming to the front despite challenging rain-soaked conditions at the Interlagos circuit in Sao Paulo. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd)**, the **Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh**, inaugurated the much-awaited **4th LG Cup Horse Polo-2024 Tournament** at the newly constructed **Polo Stadium at Goshan, Drass**. This event, organized by the **Department of Youth Services and Sports, UT Ladakh**. ([Click here to read article](#))

- **Alexander Zverev**, the German tennis star from Hamburg, **claimed his second Masters 1000 title of 2024**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Three-year-old Anish Sarkar from Kolkata has become the world's youngest-rated chess player, achieving an impressive FIDE rating of 1555. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Arjun Erigaisi** made a significant leap in the chess world by securing the world No. 2 spot in live ratings on 7th November. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India's celebrated badminton star and **Olympic medallist, PV Sindhu, laid the foundation stone** for the **PV Sindhu Centre for Badminton and Sports Excellence** on November 7, in **Chinna Gadili village on the outskirts of Visakhapatnam**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Afghanistan's iconic all-rounder, **Mohammad Nabi**, will bring his illustrious **ODI career** to a close following the **2025 ICC Champions Trophy** in Pakistan. ([Click here to read article](#))

Schemes and Committees News

- On November 1, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu launched the Deepam 2.0 scheme in Edupuram, Srikakulam district, aimed at empowering women by providing free gas cylinders. ([Click here to read article](#))
- South Africa has launched the Trusted Tour Operator Scheme (TTOS) to attract more visitors from India and China. The initiative aims to streamline the visa application process, making it quicker and easier for tourists from these countries, especially addressing the low number of Chinese visitors to South Africa compared to other destinations like Australia. ([Click here to read article](#))

Science and Technology News

- ISRO announced the launch of its **analogue space mission in Leh, Ladakh**. This innovative mission aims to simulate life in an interplanetary habitat, addressing the challenges associated with establishing a base station beyond Earth. Through this initiative, ISRO seeks to gather insights and prepare for future space exploration endeavors. ([Click here to read article](#))
- ISRO is set to launch the European Union's Proba-3 Solar Observation Mission in December from Sriharikota. The mission aims to study the Sun's faint corona and is India's third space collaboration with the EU, following Proba-1 and Proba-2. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Japanese scientists have launched the world's first wooden satellite, LignoSat, developed by Kyoto University in collaboration with Sumitomo Forestry. The satellite, made from honoki wood, aims to test the viability of timber for future space structures, exploring its resilience in space's extreme conditions. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Zimbabwe has launched its second satellite, **ZIMSAT-2**, from the **Vostochny Cosmodrome in Russia**, a major milestone in the country's growing space programme. This satellite,

equipped with a high-resolution multispectral camera, will aid in agriculture, resource exploration, environmental monitoring, and disaster management. ([Click here to read article](#))

Important Days News

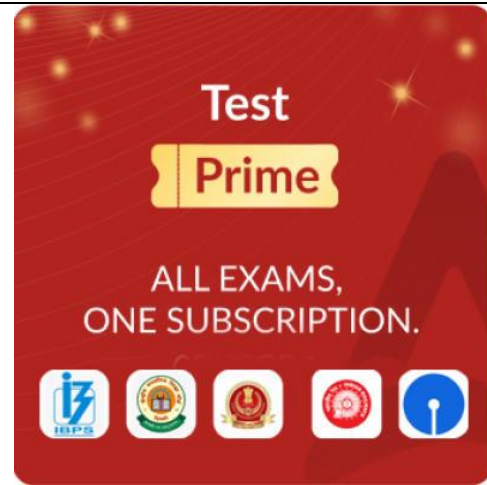
- World Tsunami Awareness Day (WTAD), observed on November 5, aims to promote global awareness and preparedness for tsunamis. Established by the United Nations in 2015, the day emphasizes the importance of community-based resilience, marked by the theme "Building Resilient Communities" for 2024. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Coal India Limited (CIL) celebrated its 50th Foundation Day on November 1, marking its golden jubilee year. The event began with a tribute at the Coal Martyrs' Memorial, where CIL's Chairman PM Prasad, along with other officials, honored the contributions and sacrifices of coal industry workers over the decades. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The United Nations observes the **International Day for the Prevention of Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict** each year on **November 6** to raise awareness and encourage global efforts to protect the environment in times of conflict. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **National Cancer Awareness Day** is observed annually on **November 7** in India. ([Click here to read article](#))
- World Radiology Day, celebrated every year on **November 8**, honours the contributions of **Wilhelm Conrad Röntgen**, the German physicist who discovered **X-rays** in **1895**. For **2024**, the theme is "**Radiographers: Seeing the Unseen**". ([Click here to read article](#))
- The International Week of Science and Peace (IWOSP), celebrated annually from November 9 to 15, highlights the role of science and technology in promoting global peace and cooperation. First observed in 1986 during the International Year of Peace, the week encourages scientific solutions to global challenges and fosters international dialogue. ([Click here to read article](#))
- World Science Day for Peace and Development, celebrated on November 10, highlights the crucial role of science in society and its contribution to global peace and sustainable development. UNESCO sets a theme for World Science Day. For **2024**, the theme is "**Youth at the Forefront**". ([Click here to read article](#))
- World Adoption Day, observed on **November 9**, is a significant day dedicated to raising awareness about the life-changing impact of adoption. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **NTPC Ltd.**, India's largest integrated power utility, **celebrated its 50th Raising Day**, marking five decades of pioneering growth, innovation, and sustainable energy development. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Uttarakhand Foundation Day**, also known as Uttarakhand Diwas, is celebrated to mark the formation of Uttarakhand as a separate state in India. Annually celebrated on **November 9**. ([Click here to read article](#))

Obituaries News

- Legendary folk singer, **Sharda Sinha**, known fondly as the “Bihar Kokila” (Nightingale of Bihar) has passed away at age 72 due to complications from cancer. Sinha’s voice brought joy and pride to countless people, especially those who celebrated the traditional festivals of Bihar. ([Click here to read article](#))

Miscellaneous News

- Collins Dictionary has selected "brat" as its Word of the Year for 2024, reflecting shifting social dynamics and pop culture influences. Once synonymous with misbehaving children, the term has evolved, largely through British singer Charli XCX's album, to embody a confident, independent, and hedonistic attitude. ([Click here to read article](#))



Static Takeaways

Name	Designation	HQ
International Labour Organization	Gilbert Houngbo (President)	Geneva, Switzerland
International Solar Alliance	Prahlad Joshi (President)	Gurugram
FICCI (Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry)	Dr. Anish Shah (President) Till 20th November, 2024	New Delhi
SBI	Challa Sreenivasalu Shetty (Chairman)	Mumbai
RBI	Shashikant Das (Governor)	Mumbai
SEBI	Madhabi Buch (Chairman)	Mumbai
NTPC (National Thermal Power Corporation)	Gurdeep Singh (Chairman)	New Delhi
International olympic committee	Robin Mitchell (President)	Lausanne, Switzerland
Punjab and Sind Bank	Dr. Charan Singh (Chairman)	New Delhi
Canara Bank	Vijay Sri Rangan (Chairman)	Bengaluru
ISRO	S. Somnath (Chairman)	Bengaluru
International Finance Corporation	Makhtar Diop (Chairman)	Washington D.C., USA
BEML (Bharat Earth Movers Limited)	Shantanu Roy (Chairman)	Bengaluru
IDFC	V. Vaidyanathan	Mumbai

USA	President - Donald Trump (New) Capital - Washington D.C.
South Africa	President - Cyril Ramaphosa Capital - Pretoria(Administrative)
Zimbabwe	President - Emmerson Mnangwa Capital - Harare
Australia	President - Anthony Albanese Capital - Canberra
Switzerland	President - Viola Amherd Capital - Bern
Botswana	President - Duma Boko (New Elected) Capital - Gaborone