

Weekly One Liners 12th to 18th December 2022

FIFA World Cup 2022 concludes

FIFA World Cup 2022:

FIFA World Cup 2022: Messi's **Argentina** clinched their **3rd World Cup trophy** from six final appearances in history, seeing off France 4-2 on penalties (3-3 after extra time) to win the biggest prize in men's football. It had won two in **1978 and 1986 under Diego Maradona**. Lionel Messi had come close to winning in 2014 but La Albiceleste lost the final 0-1 to Germany. The only similarity from Messi's 2014 campaign in Qatar was his Golden Ball award for Player of the Tournament award. He became the first player to win two World Cup Golden Balls.

Notably: The **22nd edition** of the World Cup just ended and for another 4 years for the next World Cup. Also, The 2026 World Cup will be held across three different countries, **the United States, Canada and Mexico**.

2022 FIFA World Cup Awards:

- Top 4 team Rankings: Argentina (Winner), France (2nd), Croatia (3rd) and Morocco (4th)
- Golden Boot Award: **Kylian Mbappe (France); (8 Goals)**
- Golden Ball Award: **Lionel Messi (Argentina); (7 goals and registering 3 assists)**
- Golden Glove Award: **Emiliano Martinez (Argentina)**
- FIFA Young Player Award: **Enzo Fernandez Enzo Fernandez**
- FIFA Fair Play Award: **England**
- Silver Boot Award: **Lionel Messi**
- Bronze Boot Award: **Olivier Giroud (France)**
- Silver Ball Award: **Kylian Mbappe**
- Bronze Ball Award: **Luka Modric (Croatia)**

Hurun Global 500 rankings: India ranked 5th in the list of valuable companies

2022 Hurun Global 500 list

India, with 20 of the most valuable companies in the world, has moved into the **fifth position** among countries that are home to the world's top 500 firms. Last year, it ranked ninth with eight companies. The US continued to top the charts, according to the **2022 Hurun Global 500 list**. The list, released by the **Hurun Research Institute**, is a compilation of the 500 most valuable non-state-controlled companies in the world. Companies were ranked according to their market capitalisation (for listed companies) and valuations for non-listed companies.

Key points in the ranking:

- Of the 20 Indian companies featuring on the list this year, 11 are based in Mumbai, four in Ahmedabad and one each in **Noida, New Delhi, Bengaluru and Kolkata**.

- With a \$202-billion valuation, **Reliance Industries (RIL)** topped the charts of Indian companies, while it ranked 34th in the world. It was followed by **Tata Consultancy Services (\$139 billion)** and **HDFC Bank (\$97 billion)**.
- The list also saw the entry of four companies — Adani Transmission, Adani Green Energy, Adani Enterprises and Adani Total Gas — led by billionaire Gautam Adani, with a total valuation of \$173 billion.
- The other new entrants in the list from India include **ITC (\$52 billion)**, **Avenue Supermarts (\$33 billion)**, **Axis Bank (\$33 billion)**, **Bajaj Finserv (\$32 billion)** and **Larson & Toubro (\$32 billion)**.
- Interestingly, 50 per cent or 250 companies in the Hurun Global 500 companies have presence in India.

Tops global charts:

- Globally, **Apple** retained the title of the most valuable company in the world with a market cap of \$2.4 trillion and **Microsoft** came second (\$1.8 trillion), while Alphabet, the parent company of **Google**, displaced **Amazon** to take the third place.
- **China** came in second with 35 companies, followed by **Japan (28) and the UK (21)**. India and Canada moved up to the fifth place with 20 companies each, adding eight and three companies, respectively, overtaking **France and Germany**.

Jos Buttler & Sidra Ameen named as ICC Player of the Month award for November 2022

England's T20 World Cup-winning captain **Jos Buttler** was named **ICC men's Player of the Month** for the first time following his stupendous show in **November**. Pakistan's **Sidra Ameen** became the second successive winner of the **women's Player of the Month award** from the country, thanks to her brilliant performance in the ODI series win over Ireland.

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ICC Men's Player of the month award for November: Jos Buttler

Buttler, who is one of the destructive batters in white-ball cricket in the world, beat **Adil Rashid and Shaheen Shah Afridi** to win the ICC Player of the Month award for his brilliant performance in the crunch semi-final match against India and leading England to their first T20 World Cup title since 2010.

England opener smashed 73 from 47 balls against New Zealand, and then 80 from 49 balls, as well stitched unbeaten 170-run partnership with Alex Hales during England's victory in the semi-final against India before making a valuable 26 in the final against Pakistan to guide the side to T20 World Cup title.

ICC Women's Player of the month award for November: Sidra Ameen

Sidra Ameen beat Ireland's **Gaby Lewis** and Thailand's **Natthakan Chantam** to win the ICC Women's Player of the Month for her outstanding performance against Ireland in the ODI series, where she amassed 277 runs in three matches at home. She became the second Pakistani cricketer after Mohammad Rizwan (September) to win this award.

Ex-Vice President Venkaiah Naidu receives SIES award for public leadership

Former vice president **Venkaiah Naidu** has been conferred with the **25th Sri Chandrasekarendra Saraswathi National Eminence Award (SIES)**. The award was presented during the event held at Shanmukhananda auditorium, King's Circle in Mumbai, Maharashtra. The awards are given in the fields of public leadership, community leadership, science and technology, and social thinkers who have made outstanding contributions in their respective fields. The SIES was set up in 1932 by M. V. Venkateshwaran in Mumbai.

Other Awardees in various categories:

- **Public Leadership:** Arif Mohammed Khan Governor of Kerala
- **Community Leadership:** Ratan Tata, an eminent industrialist
- **Science and Technology:** Dr Marthanda Varma Sankaran Valianathan, renowned cardiologist and Padma Vibhushan awardee
- **Science and Technology:** Prof Ajay Kumar Sood, Scientific Advisor to the Government of India
- **Spiritual Leadership:** Vishakha Hari Harikatha artiste.

About Sri Chandrasekarendra Saraswathi National Eminence Award:

- The Sri Chandrasekarendra Saraswathi National Eminence Award was instituted by SIES in 1998 in memory of late seer of Kanchi, Sri Chandrasekarendra Saraswathi. This award is given annually in the field of Public eminence, Community leadership, Science and Technology, Social thinkers and the International category.
- SIES was set up in 1932 by M. V. Venkateshwaran in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

Gamosa, Tandur Redgram, and Ladakh apricots get GI tags from Assam

GI tags from Assam:

The Assam Gamosa, the Telangana Tandur Redgram, and a Ladakh apricot variety are just a few of the items that have received the Geographical Indications (GI) label from the government. The overall number of GI has reached 432, according to a statement made on Wednesday by the ministry of business and industry.

GI tags from Assam: Key Points

- Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, and Kerala are the top five states with the greatest number of GIs, it was said.
- The government approved spending of Rs 75 crore for three years for GI promotion at awareness programmes, supporting the promotion of GIs.

What is GI tag?

A GI is primarily a produced product (handicrafts and industrial goods), an agricultural product, or a natural product that comes from a specific geographic region. Such a name typically carries a guarantee of quality and originality, which is mostly attributed to the location of its origin.

How to register for GI tag?

- The correct procedure for registering GI items entails the submission of an application, preliminary examination and scrutiny, show cause notice, publication in the geographical indications journal, opposition to registration, and registration.
- Any group of individuals, producers, organisations, or authorities created by or operating under the law are eligible to apply. The applicant must converse for the interests of the producers.

What are the popular products with GI tags?

The well-known products that have the GI tags include Basmati rice, Darjeeling tea, Chanderi fabric, Mysore silk, Kullu shawl, Kangra tea, Thanjavur paintings, Allahabad surkha, Farrukhabad prints, Lucknow zardozi, and Kashmir walnut wood carving.

National Affairs

- **Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan** inaugurated the country's first chartered gateway, and a business jet terminal at the **Cochin International Airport**. With this, Cochin airport has become the fourth airport in the country to operate a **private jet terminal**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has flagged off India's **sixth Vande Bharat Express** between **Bilaspur (Chattisgarh)-Nagpur (Maharashtra) route**. This is the second Vande Bharat express in the state after the Mumbai-Ahmedabad Vande Bharat express. He inaugurated the 'Nagpur Metro Phase I', and laid the foundation stone of 'Nagpur Metro phase- II' at Khapri Metro Station. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- **Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi** participated in a programme commemorating **Sri Aurobindo's 150th birth anniversary**, on 13th December, 2022. The programme, being held in Kamban Kalai Sangam, **Puducherry**, under the aegis of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, witnessed the Prime Minister releasing a commemorative coin and postal stamp in honour of Sri Aurobindo. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud** virtually inaugurated **10 district court digitisation hubs (DCDH) in Odisha**, and said that modernisation of judiciary is the need of the hour. The hubs at **Angul, Bhadrak, Jharsuguda, Kalahandi, Keonjhar, Koraput, Malkangiri, Mayurbhanj, Nayagarh and Sonepur**, will take care of digitisation work of all 30 districts of the state. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **India** plans to commission **20 nuclear power plants** by 2031, adding nearly 15,000 MW in power generating capacity, the government told the Lok Sabha. The first of these 20 nuclear power plants, a 700 MW unit, is expected to be commissioned in 2023 at **Kakrapar in Gujarat**, which already has three atomic power generating units operational. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **India** will be the first country to auction **spectrum for satellite communication**, and it should be designed to attract investments in the sector, **telecom regulator Trai chairman PD Vaghela**. The regulator is yet to come up with a consultation paper on the spectrum auction as per the standard process meant for satellite communication. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** and several Union Ministers paid tribute to **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel** on his **71st death anniversary on 15th December**. Stating that the country will forever be grateful to Patel, PM Modi said, "Remembering Sardar Patel on his Punya Tithi. India will always be grateful to him for his monumental service, his administrative skills, and the untiring efforts to unite our nation. ([Click here to read the article](#))



States in the News

- **Tamil Nadu** is set to become the **first state** to launch its own **Climate Change Mission**. It had launched the **Green Tamil Nadu Mission** last September and the **Tamil Nadu Wetlands Mission** this August. A Special Purpose Vehicle—the **Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company (TNGCC)**—will implement the State Climate Action Plan. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Congress leader **Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu** has taken oath as the New Chief Minister of **Himachal Pradesh** at historic ridge ground in Shimla. Deputy Chief Minister **Mukesh Agnihotri** also took oath with him. Governor **Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar** administered the oath to both. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan** declared a **seed farm**, located in **Aluva**, as the first carbon neutral farm in the country. A significant reduction in carbon emission has helped the **seed farm, achieve the carbon neutral status**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has inaugurated **Mopa International Airport in Goa**, which has been named after former Chief Minister **Manohar Parrikar**. The new airport, which is about 35 km from capital city Panaji, can handle 44 lakh passengers annually. Its capacity can be raised to over 3 crore passengers per year after expansion plans in the future. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Bhupendra Patel** took oath as the **Chief Minister of Gujarat for a second straight term in Gandhinagar**. He was administered oath as the 18th Chief Minister of Gujarat by Governor **Acharya Devvrat**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Uttarakhand Government** is planning for **genetic enhancement of Badri Cow** through sex-sorted semen and embryo transfer technology with the aim to increase its productivity. The Badri breed derived its name from the **holy shrine of Char Dham at Badrinath**. It is found **only in the hill districts of Uttarakhand** and was earlier known as the '**pahadi**' cow. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** to lay the foundation stone and inaugurate projects worth **Rs 75,000 crores in Maharashtra**. According to the Prime Minister's Office, PM Modi inaugurated Phase-I of Hindu Hrudaysamrat Balasaheb Thackeray Maharashtra **Samruddhi Mahamarg**, covering a distance of 520 Kms and **connecting Nagpur and Shirdi**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The Forest department in association with **Noolpuzha grama panchayat** has launched the '**Vanikaran**' (**afforestation**) **project** to root out invasive plants, especially *Senna spectabilis*, and restore natural forests. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- **The Meghalaya government**, which has adopted a '**Jan Andolan**' (**people's movement**) against Tuberculosis received an award for best practices in controlling the disease that affects 2.6 million people in India every year. The award for Best Practice in **Advocacy, Communication and Social Mobilisation (ACSM)** in Tuberculosis control was presented to representatives of the health department at a national workshop, aimed at ending TB infections, in the national capital. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister **M.K.Stalin** inaugurated the statue of **Mahakavi Subramanian Bharathiyar** at the renovated house of Bharathiyar at Varanasi via video conference on 11th December. Stalin also released a souvenir on his centenary. Bharathiyar's 141st birth anniversary celebrates on the behalf of State Government in various places in the State. ([Click here to read the article](#))

International Affairs

- **The U.S. The Treasury (United States of America's Finance Ministry)** has printed the first US banknotes (currency notes) with two women's signatures. The new currency notes of \$1 and \$5 value carry the signature of the Secretary of Treasury (American Finance Minister) **Janet Yellen** and **Lynn Malerba**. The United States currency notes are popularly called as Greenback. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Japan** is elated and proud of its **space startup** that successfully launched a **spacecraft to the moon** recently, marking a significant step towards what would be a historic first, both for the **nation and a private company**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **20th Edition** of the **Kathmandu International Mountain Film Festival** kicked off in **Kathmandu, Nepal**. This year, the festival was scheduled to be held from December 8 to 12, 2022. The festival is resuming its physical screening after two years, because of the pandemic and is ready to showcase numerous films from across the world. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Russia** has for the first time emerged as **top oil supplier to India** replacing Iraq as refiners last month snapped up oil from Moscow fearing a price cap from Dec. 5 could hit supplies and choke payment avenues. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- According to the French embassy, **France** will host an International conference "**Standing with the Ukrainian People**" in **Paris** with an aim to coordinate international support for civilian resilience in Ukraine and address the Ukrainian people's urgent humanitarian needs. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **New Zealand government** has passed a law to completely **end tobacco smoking** by banning youth from buying cigarettes for life. **The Smoke Free Environments and Regulated Products (Smoking Tobacco) Amendment Bill** has been passed in New Zealand which aims to make New Zealand smoke free by 2025. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- The value of **global trade** is set to reach a new record this year, increasing by about **12 per cent** to an estimated **\$32 trillion**, according to a UN report that signaled a slowdown heading into 2023. "The substantial trade growth during the last year was largely due to **increases in the value of the trade of energy products**," the **United Nations Conference on Trade and Development** said in the report. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- A **group of nine rich industrialized nations** approved a deal to provide **Vietnam** with \$15.5 billion to help the **Southeast Asian nation** move faster from coal power to **renewable energy**, cutting its climate-damaging pollution. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **United States** has announced a **nuclear fusion** breakthrough, a historic step towards the promise of '**near-limitless**' **clean energy** and may help the fight to curb climate change. **US Department of Energy** said, researchers at the **Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL)** in California for the first time produced more energy in a fusion reaction than was used to ignite it, something called net energy gain. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In an unprecedented move, **Iran** has been expelled from the **United Nation's Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)** in a vote on which India abstained. The **US proposal** at the **UN Economic and Social Council** to remove Iran from the panel received 29 votes, while there were eight votes against and 16 abstentions in the 54-member elected body. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Japanese capital** local assembly passed a new regulation which stated that all **new houses in Tokyo** built by **large-scale homebuilders** after April 2025 must install **solar power panels** to cut household **carbon emissions**. Currently, Japan stands at **fifth spot** in the **world's largest carbon emitters list**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Agreements/MoUs Signed

- **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Ropar** and the **Army Training Command (ARTRAC)** of the Indian Army has signed a **memorandum of understanding (MoU)** for setting up a **centre of excellence** for studies and applied research in **defence and security** at the premier institute. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In a bid to promote **Ayurveda** across continents, the **All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA)** has signed a **memorandum of understanding (MoU)** with the **University of Medical Sciences, Cuba**, and extended the agreement with **Rosenberg European Academy of Ayurveda (REAA)**, Germany, for five more years to take forward collaborative programmes. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Airbnb** signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with the **Department of Tourism, Government of Goa**, to jointly promote Goa as one of the most sought-after high potential tourism destinations in India and around the world. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Banking/Economy/Business News

- **Hindustan Unilever's (HUL)** acquisition of two digital first brands — **OZiva and Wellbeing Nutrition** — is in line with the premiumisation trend with an increasing number of FMCG players foraying in the high growth **wellness and nutrition category**, which has gained prominence amongst consumers in the post-pandemic world. [\(Click here to read the article\)](#)
- In its bid to extensively use **advanced analytics, artificial intelligence** and machine learning to analyse database and improve regulatory supervision over banks and **NBFCs, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** is mulling over to hire external experts. [\(Click here to read the article\)](#)
- **Retail inflation of India** has been eased to **5.88% in November 2022** from 6.77% in October. It is the first time in this Financial Year when the inflation rate came within the tolerance band of RBI i.e. 2 to 6%. Food prices, which account for nearly 40% of the CPI basket, eased to **4.67% in November, compared with 7.01% in October.** [\(Click here to read the article\)](#)
- Banks have **written off** bad loans worth ₹ 10,09,511 crore during the last **five financial years, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman** informed Parliament. The **non-performing assets (NPAs)**, including those in respect of which full provisioning has been made on completion of four years, are removed from the balance sheet of the bank concerned by way of write-off. [\(Click here to read the article\)](#)
- **State-owned Bank of Baroda (BoB)** said it plans to **sell** its majority stake in **Nainital Bank**. The board of directors of the bank has approved **divestment** of its majority shareholding in **Nainital Bank Limited (NBL)**, and authorised issuance of an advertisement inviting Expressions of Interest (EOI) through a Preliminary Information Memorandum (PIM) from interested parties (IPs). [\(Click here to read the article\)](#)
- The **wholesale price-based inflation** declined to a 21-month low of 5.85 per cent in November on easing prices of **food, fuel and manufactured items**. After remaining in double digits for 19 months, the **wholesale price index (WPI)** based inflation declined to 8.39 per cent in October. The inflation was 14.87 per cent in November 2021. [\(Click here to read the article\)](#)
- The **Manila-based Asian Development Bank** kept its **economic growth** outlook for **India** unchanged at seven percent for the fiscal 2022-23. The bank also forecasted a weaker-than-previously expected pace for developing Asia. The seven percent growth projection for fiscal 2022-23, unchanged from its September forecast, against 8.7 percent GDP growth in the previous fiscal. [\(Click here to read the article\)](#)
- **HDFC Bank** announced the launch of its **sixth annual grants** program for **social startups** in partnership with the Government of India's flagship initiative '**Startup India**'. Known as **Parivartan SmartUp Grants**, the program aims to identify startups working in the social impact space and support them through monetary grants to their incubators. [\(Click here to read the article\)](#)

Appointments/Resignations

- Legendary athlete **Pilavullakandi Thekkeraparambil Usha or PT Usha** was elected as the first woman president of **Indian Olympic Association (IOA)**. **Ajay Patel** of National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) has been elected unopposed as senior vice-president. [\(Click here to read the article\)](#)
- Justice **Dipankar Dutta** has took oath as a judge of the **Supreme Court**. Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud administered the oath to Justice Dutta in the swearing-in ceremony in the Supreme Court in the presence of all judges. With the appointment of Justice Dutta, the Supreme Court will have 28 judges out of the strength of **34 judges**. Justice Dutta will have a term till **February 8, 2030.** [\(Click here to read the article\)](#)
- **The Supreme Court Collegium** has recommended to the Centre the names of five high court judges for appointment as apex court judges. The recommendation came after the meeting of the six-member Collegium, led by Chief Justice of India **D Y Chandrachud.** [\(Click here to read the article\)](#)
- **World Health Organization (WHO)** announced that **Dr Jeremy Farrar** will become its new **Chief Scientist**. Currently, Director of the Wellcome Trust, Dr Farrar will join WHO in the second quarter of 2023. **Dr Amelia Latu Afuhaamango Tuipulotu** will become **WHO's Chief Nursing Officer.** [\(Click here to read the article\)](#)
- Senior cardiologist from Hyderabad, **Dr PC Rath**, was formally elected president of the **Cardiological Society of India (CSI) for the year 2023-24**, in an annual meeting held in Chennai. [\(Click here to read the article\)](#)
- The Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games organising committee has named American executive **Cindy Hook** as its first CEO. After speaking with 50 candidates over a six-month period, the organising committee made the announcement of the appointment. [\(Click here to read the article\)](#)

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Defence News

- The 39th edition of **India-Indonesia Coordinated Patrol (IND-INDO CORPAT)** between the Indian Navy and the Indonesian Navy is being conducted from 08 – 19 December 2022. Indian Naval Ship (INS) **Karmuk**, an indigenously built Missile **Corvette** participated in the pre-deployment briefing at **Belawan, Indonesia**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Indian Army's Airawat Division** conducted **Ex Sanchaar Bodh** in extensive obstacle ridden terrain of Punjab. The exercise validated tactical communication capabilities. The formation reaffirmed its determination to win at any cost under adverse conditions. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The 6th Edition of **Indo - Kazakhstan** joint training exercise "**KAZIND-22**" is conducted at **Umroi (Meghalaya)** from 15 to 28 December 2022. The scope of this exercise involves a Command Post Exercise (CPX) at the Battalion level and Company level Field Training Exercise (FTX) on sub-conventional operations. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The 16th Edition of **Indo-Nepal joint training Exercise "SURYA KIRAN-XVI"** between India and Nepal will be conducted at Nepal Army Battle School, Saljhandi (Nepal), from 16 – 29 December 2022. Exercise "**SURYA KIRAN**" is **conducted annually between India and Nepal** with the aim to enhance interoperability in **jungle warfare & counter terrorism** operations in mountainous terrain and HADR under UN mandate. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **India** has successfully conducted night trials of **nuclear-capable ballistic missile Agni V**, capable of striking targets at ranges **more than 5,000 kilometers** with very high degree of accuracy. The missile test firing was conducted from APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the Odisha coast. This was the **latest test in the Agni missile series**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- All 36 Rafale aircraft were delivered to India by France, with the last one touching down. After taking off from France, the aircraft received a brief mid-flight refuelling from a UAE Air Force tanker aircraft, according to the Indian Air Force. India and France struck an intergovernmental agreement wherein Paris committed to pay India 60,000 crore rupees for 36 Rafale fighter jets in 2016. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Awards and Recognitions

- **Jammu and Kashmir** has been awarded **1st prize** in the category for **Ayushman Bharat health account ID generation** and **2nd prize** in the category for **Teleconsultation** conducted during the celebration of **Universal Health Coverage Day 2022**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **SpiceJet** has been awarded the '**Safety Performer of the Year**' award by **GMR Delhi Airport Awards** for being the top performer among the self-handling airlines and as it has been able to reduce ground safety violations significantly. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- **SS Rajamouli**-directed period movie '**RRR**' has been nominated in two categories at the **Golden Globe Awards** to be held in January 2023. The **Hollywood Foreign Press Association (HFPA)** has nominated '**RRR**' in the Best Picture: **Non-English language and Best Original Song Naatu Naatu**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Summit and Conference

- The first **G20 Finance and Central Bank Deputies (FCBD)** meeting is held in Bengaluru. This meeting, which will mark the start of discussions on the Finance Track agenda under the **Indian G20 Presidency**, will be hosted jointly by the **Ministry of Finance and the Reserve Bank of India**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **India International Science Festival (IISF)-2022** will be held in **Bhopal** in January 2023 and incidentally, it is one of the major events to be held after **India took over G-20 Presidency**. IISF is the initiative of the Ministry of Science & Technology and Ministry of Earth Science of Government of India in association with Vijnana Bharati which is a science movement with swadeshi spirit led by eminent scientists of the country. The IISF 2022 is the **eighth edition** since its inception in 2015. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Ranks and Reports

- **Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)** topped the **grievance redressal index** among all group A ministries, departments and autonomous bodies for resolution of public grievances for the fourth month in a row in November. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **India's electric vehicle (EV)** value chain revenue pool is expected to reach a **size of \$76-100 billion by 2030**, potentially translating to \$8-11 billion profit pool, according to a report by **Bain & Company**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **United Nations** has recognised the **Namami Gange initiative** to rejuvenate India's sacred **River Ganga** as one of the top **10 World Restoration Flagships** to revive the natural world. The award was received by **G Ashok Kumar**, Director General, Namami Gange, at the **15th Conference of the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) in Montreal, Canada**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- New York and Singapore are the most expensive cities in the world, according to the Economist Intelligence Unit's (EIU) Worldwide Cost of Living Index for this year. Some Indian students are interested in attending these cities for higher education. Here is a list of some of the well-known universities and institutions in these pricey cities. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Sports News

- Karnataka shooter **Divya T.S** has secured her first women's 10m air pistol national title at the **65th National Shooting Championship Competitions** in Pistol events held in Bhopal. Olympian, Manu Bhaker has won the junior women's air pistol, after defeating Esha Singh (Telangana). Rhythm Sangwan has won the gold medal in the Youth category. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Former England skipper **Joe Root** became only the third cricketer in history to score **10000 runs and pick up 50 wickets in Test cricket**. He achieved the feat during the ongoing second Test against Pakistan in Multan. Root reached the milestone when he dismissed **Faheem Ashraf** in the 70th over of Pakistan's second innings at the Multan Cricket Stadium. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Hyderabad Strikers** has crowned as champions of **4th Tennis Premier League (TPL) 2022**. The final of the 4th TPL was held in **Pune, Maharashtra**. Hyderabad Strikers beat **Mumbai Leon Army** (41-32) and was crowned champions of the event for the 2nd year in a row. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In Swimming, **Indian swimmer Chahat Arora** set a **national record** in the women's 100-metre breaststroke at the **FINA World Swimming Championships 2022 in Melbourne, Australia**. FINA is the International Swimming Federation. Chahat Arora completed the 100-metre breaststroke race in 1 minute, 13.13 seconds. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Tata Steel Limited** signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with **Hockey India** on December 13, 2022 to become an **Official Partner** of the **FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2023** Bhubaneswar – Rourkela. The FIH Men's World Cup is the pinnacle of men's hockey tournaments. The **15th edition** of the esteemed event will take place in **Bhubaneswar and Rourkela** from January 13 to January 29, 2023. ([Click here to read the article](#))



- **Rehan Ahmed** becomes **England's youngest-ever Test Cricketer** to debut in the final match between Pakistan and England. Rehan Ahmed will be 18 years and 126 days old when the match begins. Till now, Brian Close, who was 18 years and 149 days old, was the youngest player in England during the **New Zealand vs England** match in 1949. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Schemes and Committess News

- The **Ministry of Education (MoE)** approved a new scheme "**New India Literacy Programme**" for the next five years to cover all the aspects of adult education to align with new **National Education Policy (NEP)**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Union Jal Shakti Minister Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat** has inaugurated the **7th India Water Impact Summit (IWIS 2022)** on December 15, 2022 in the presence of **Shri Bishweshwar Tudu, Minister of State for Jal Shakti**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **5th edition of Youth Co:Lab, Asia Pacific's** largest youth innovation movement was jointly launched by **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog and UNDP India** December 15th 2022. The applications for this edition were launched by Dr. Chintan Vaishnav, Mission Director AIM, NITI Aayog and Mr. Dennis Curry, Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP India. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Minister of Minority Affairs, Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani** in a reply to a question in the **Lok Sabha** informed that the **Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Ko Kaam Karyakram (PMKKK)** has now been named as **Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS) Scheme**. The integrated scheme converges five erstwhile schemes of the Ministry viz. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Science and Technology News

- A **SpaceX Falcon 9** rocket carried into space the first ever **Arab-built lunar spacecraft**. It was launched from the **Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida**. The **Rashid Rover** was built by **Dubai's Mohammed bin Rashid Space Centre (MBRSC)**, in the **United Arab Emirates (UAE)**, and is being delivered by the **HAKUTO-R lander**, engineered by **Japanese lunar exploration company ispace**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** successfully conducted a **joint hypersonic vehicle trial** along with the Headquarters, Integrated Defence Staff (HQ IDS). According to the country's premier space research agency, the joint hypersonic vehicle trial **matched with the predetermined targets**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- To promote the use of '**NAVigation with the Indian Constellation**' (**NavIC**), the **Indian version of GPS**, the **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** will introduce the **L1 frequency** in all its future satellites. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Important Days News

- **International Mountain Day** is celebrated annually on **December 11** to increase public awareness of the value of mountains to both life and climate. The theme of this year's International Mountain Day (IMD) is 'Women Move Mountains.' ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Every year **UNICEF Day** is celebrated on **December 11** every year. The word UNICEF stands for **United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund** and the purpose served by the organisation is to save children's lives by providing them with humanitarian aid across the world. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **International Day of Neutrality** is commemorated on **December 12**. It is a day when people look at the possibility of a world free of armed and other types of conflicts. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **International Universal Health Coverage Day** is celebrated annually on **12th December**. The day is marked to promote the importance of building robust, resilient, world-class healthcare systems globally. According to the UN, this year's theme, "Build the world we want: A healthy future for all,". ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **National Energy Conservation Day** is celebrated every year on **14th December 2022**. The purpose is to showcase the achievements of the nation in energy efficiency and conservation. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **International Migrants Day** is observed annually on **December 18** to bring attention to the social and economic realities of migrants around the world. This day is observed to guarantee that the rights of migrants are equally respected and not violated. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **National Minorities Rights Day** is commemorated on **December 18** every year in India. Its aim is to safeguard the individual rights of the religious, ethnic, racial, or linguistic minorities in the country. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Obituaries

- Renowned Marathi Lavani singer **Sulochana Chavan** has passed away at the age of 92. Earlier this year, Chavan was awarded the Padma Shri and also conferred the title of 'Lavani Samradnyi' (**Queen of Lavani**) for her contribution to the traditional Maharashtrian musical genre of Lavani, associated with the folk theatre of Tamasha. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Highly-regarded American soccer journalist **Grant Wahl** passed away covering the Id Cup in Qatar. He was passed away while covering the World Cup match between Argentina and the Netherlands in Qatar. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- Poland's only cosmonaut **Gen Miroslaw Hermaszewski** passed away recently at the age of 81. He circled the Earth in a Soviet spacecraft in 1978. Hermaszewski became a national hero thanks to his trip to space. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Miscellaneous News

- The 'dream crew' for the first civilian mission to the moon has been announced and it includes Indian actor **Dev Joshi**. Japanese billionaire **Yusaku Maezawa** has informed that Indian actor Dev Joshi, K-Pop star T.O.P. will be among the eight people who will join him on a flyby around the moon on a SpaceX spaceship next year. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Three medicinal plant species found in the **Himalayas** have made it to **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)** Red List of Threatened Species following a recent assessment. **Meizotropis pellita** has been assessed as 'critically endangered', **Fritilloria cirrhosa** as 'vulnerable', and **Dactylorhiza hatagirea** as 'endangered'. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Static Takeaways

- UNICEF Founded: 1946;
- UNICEF Headquarters: New York City, USA;
- UNICEF Director General: Catherine M. Russell;
- UNICEF Membership: 192.
- Indian Olympic Association Founded: 1927;
- Indian Olympic Association Headquarters: New Delhi.
- ICC Founded: 15 June 1909;
- ICC Chairman: Greg Barclay;
- ICC CEO: Geoff Allardice;
- ICC Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates.
- Goa Capital: Panaji;
- Goa Chief Minister: Pramod Sawant;
- Goa Governor: S. Sreedharan Pillai.
- Chief of Army Staff: General Manoj Pande;
- Indian Army Headquarters: New Delhi;
- Indian Army Founded: 1 April 1895, India.
- World Health Organization Director-General: Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus;
- World Health Organization Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland;
- World Health Organization Founded: 7 April 1948.
- ISRO Chairman: S. Somanath;
- ISRO's foundation Date: 15th August, 1969;
- ISRO's Founder: Dr. Vikram Sarabhai.
- Kerala Capital: Thiruvananthapuram;
- Kerala Chief Minister: Pinarayi Vijayan;
- Kerala Governor: Arif Mohammad Khan.
- Meghalaya Capital: Shillong;
- Meghalaya Chief Minister: Conrad Kongkal Sangma;

- Meghalaya Governor: B. D. Mishra.
- France President: Emmanuel Macron;
- France Capital: Paris;
- France Prime minister: Elisabeth Borne;
- France currency: Euro.
- Kazakhstan Capital: Astana;
- Kazakhstan Currency: Kazakhstani Tenge.
- New Zealand Prime Minister: Jacinda Ardern;
- New Zealand Capital: Wellington;
- New Zealand Currency : New Zealand dollar.
- Union Minister of Minority Affairs: Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi;
- Minister of State in the Ministry of Minority Affairs: John Barla.

