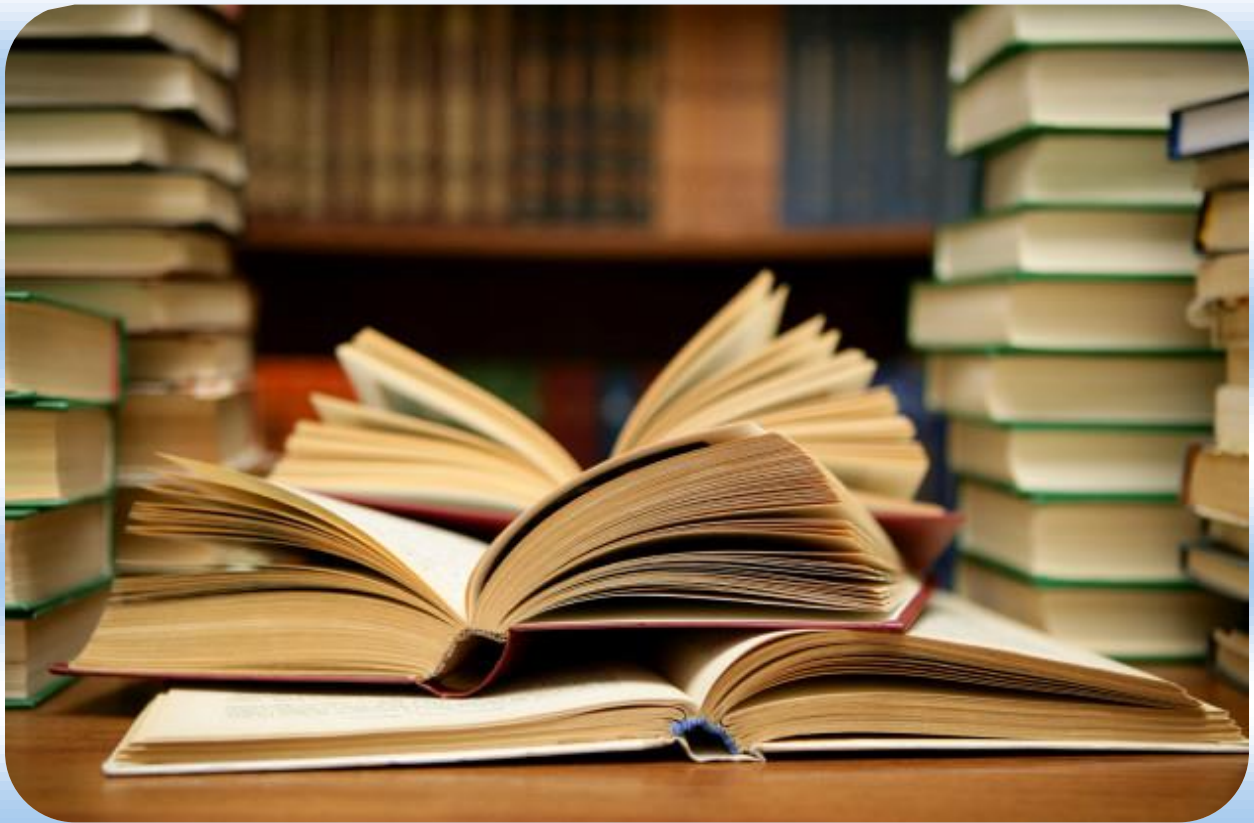


## LIBRARY & RESOURCE CENTER, NOIDA

## GENERAL KNOWLEDGE MONTHLY



# DECEMBER-2024

# NATIONAL CURRENT AFFAIRS

## *India Launches First 'Uber Shikara' Service in Srinagar*

The dream drive on the famed Dal lake in Srinagar, which has attracted honeymooners and tourists, on Monday saw the first Uber Shikara service, which allows pre-booking boat rides online. An official said each Uber Shikara ride can be booked for a period of one hour, allowing up to 4 passengers.



## *RBI Lifts Supervisory Restrictions on Navi Finserv*

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has lifted the restrictions imposed on Sachin Bansal-led Navi Finserv with immediate effect. This move comes just over a month after the central bank barred the non-banking finance company (NBFC), along with three others, from sanctioning and disbursing loans or charging exorbitant interest rates to borrowers, effective from October 21. In a statement, the RBI said that following the regulatory restrictions imposed on the Bengaluru-based NBFC, it held several rounds of discussions with the company to rectify deficiencies.

## *Pavan Kampelli Wins Bronze in eFootball at Asian Esports Games*

India's Pavan Kampelli on Monday claimed the bronze medal in eFootball, the country's first-ever podium finish in the event, at the 2024 Asian Esports Games in Bangkok. On way to the bronze medal, Pavan, popularly known as 'Mr Tomboy', also defeated the 2022 eFootball World Finals Winner (Mobile), Asgard Azizi of Team Indonesia, 2-1.



### ***Government Ends Windfall Tax on Crude Oil and Petroleum Exports***

The Indian government announced on Monday that it has abolished the windfall tax on aviation turbine fuel (ATF), crude oil, petrol, and diesel, effective immediately. This move marks the end of a levy introduced in July 2022 and aims to provide relief to oil producers and refiners. The decision is expected to benefit major oil players like Reliance Industries and ONGC by boosting their gross refining margins—a measure of profitability in refining crude oil.

### ***RBI Increases UPI Lite Wallet and Transaction Limits***

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Wednesday enhanced the per-transaction and wallet limits for transactions made on UPI Lite to Rs 1,000 and Rs 5,000, respectively. Earlier, the per-transaction limit and wallet limit for transactions made through Unified Payments Interface (UPI) Lite were set at Rs 500 and Rs 2,000, respectively. The banking regulator updated the framework for facilitating small-value digital payments in offline mode after RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das announced the increase in limits for UPI Lite transactions in October.

### ***Centre Launches eMaap Portal for Fair Trade and Consumer Protection***

New Delhi: The Department of Consumer Affairs is set to launch a portal to streamline trade processes, ensure consumer protection, and promote transparency in market transactions. The National Legal Metrology Portal (eMaap) is designed to centralise and integrate operations of state legal metrology departments, the department said in a statement on Wednesday.

### ***World Bank Approves \$188.28 Million Loan for Maharashtra's Backward Districts***

The World Bank has approved a \$188.28 million loan to support economic growth in Maharashtra, particularly in underdeveloped districts. The initiative aims to enhance district-level planning and growth strategies, the bank announced. The program will equip districts with critical resources — data, funding and expertise — ensuring efficient use of public money to drive economic expansion and job creation. It also seeks to promote private sector involvement by upgrading e-governance services, especially in tourism.

### ***RBI Introduces Podcast Facility for Public Communication***

In a latest move towards effective communication, Reserve Bank of India has decided to launch podcasts for wider dissemination of information that is of interest to the public. Over the years, the RBI has expanded its communication toolkit and techniques to enhance transparency and better connect with the people. In continuance of this endeavour, the RBI now proposes to add 'podcasts' to its communication toolkit.

### ***Adani Group to Invest \$2 Billion in European Ports***

The Adani Group is planning to invest \$2 billion for acquisitions in the ports sector to expand its presence in the international market, a spokesperson said. The company's flagship Adani Ports & Special Economic Zones Ltd. is scouting for terminals in Europe, which accounts for 40% of global sea trade. "We are looking for two or three terminals in Europe only and deals should happen in the near future," the spokesperson said.

### ***India's Billionaire Count Soars to 185, China Sees Drop Amid Slowdown***

Over the past year, the net worth of billionaires in India rose 42.1% to \$905.6 billion, according to UBS' latest Billionaire Ambitions Report. India had as many as 185 billionaires in 2024, making its billionaire count highest in the world after the United States (835) and China (427), according to UBS' latest Billionaire Ambitions Report.



### ***Google's AI Model Outperforms Top Weather Forecast System***

AI Model For Weather Prediction: Google's DeepMind team has unveiled an AI model for weather prediction called GenCast which has outperformed the top weather forecast system in the world. In a paper published in the journal Nature, researchers at DeepMind said GenCast outperforms the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts' (ECMWF), which is the world's top operational forecasting system. "New AI model advances the prediction of weather uncertainties and risks, delivering faster, more accurate forecasts up to 15 days ahead," said Google in a statement.

### ***9-Year-Old Aarit Kapil Stuns Chess Grandmaster***

Nine-year-old Delhi boy Aarit Kapil has become the youngest Indian to beat a chess Grandmaster as he emerged victorious against Raset Ziatdinov of United States in the ninth and penultimate round of the KIIT International open tournament here. At 9 years, 2 months and 18 days, Aarit is the youngest Indian and third in the world to beat a GM under the classical time control. The youngest player in the world to beat a GM is Indian-origin Singapore boy Ashwath Kaushik who won against Jacek Stupa of Poland when he was just 8 years and six months old earlier this year.

### ***QS World University Rankings: Sustainability 2025 – IITs Lead the Charge in Sustainability***

The QS Quacquarelli Symonds, global higher education experts, today released the third edition of the 'QS World University Rankings: Sustainability 2025'. The top place has been bagged by IIT Delhi this year (globally 171th rank) which saw an improvement of 255 ranks, followed by IIT Kharagpur at 202 rank globally, an improvement of 147 ranks, and the third rank has been taken by IIT Bombay with an improvement of 69 ranks (global rank 234).



### ***Amul Extends Jayen Mehta's MD Tenure by 5 Years***

Jayen Mehta has been appointed as the Managing Director of Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation Ltd. (Amul) for a 5-year period till 2029-30 after the board meeting of GCMMF held at the end of November. GCMMF (Amul) is India's largest Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) enterprise, with an annual brand sales turnover of Rs 80,000 crores. Mehta has been working at GCMMF (Amul) for the last 34 years and has risen from the ranks with a good all-around experience. He is a member of the Standing Committee of Marketing for the International Dairy Federation (IDF).

### ***Flipkart and DPIIT Collaborate to Boost India's Startup Ecosystem***

New Delhi [India], December 10 (ANI): In a significant step to support India's startup ecosystem, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Flipkart, e-commerce platform. According to a statement by Ministry of Commerce & Industry, the partnership aims to empower tech startups by providing them with the necessary resources, opportunities, and networks to grow and thrive.

### ***India to Triple Atomic Power Capacity by 2031***

India's atomic power capacity has almost doubled in the past decade from 4,780 megawatts to 8,081 megawatts and it would be tripled by 2031, Union Minister Jitendra Singh said on Wednesday. Responding to a question in the Lok Sabha, Singh who holds key portfolios in the Prime Minister's Office, including the Department of Atomic Energy and the Department of Space, emphasised the transformative strides made since 2014. "When this government came into power, the total power generation capacity was 4,780 megawatts. Today, in 2024, it stands at 8,081 megawatts.

## ***Coca-Cola Sells 40% Stake in India Bottling Business to Jubilant Bhartia Group***

The Jubilant Bhartia Group, which operates India's largest food services business, will acquire a 40% stake in the country's largest Coca-Cola bottler, in a transaction said to be valued between ₹12,000 crore and ₹12,500 crore.



## ***OpenAI Launches Sora Turbo for AI Video Generation***

Just days after Google expanded the availability of Veo, its video-generative artificial intelligence tool for Vertex AI customers, OpenAI made Sora Turbo open to its paid subscribers as a standalone product on Monday. However, just hours after its release, OpenAI temporarily disabled sign-ups for Sora Turbo due to heavy traffic. The video-generative artificial intelligence tool has been in preview mode since February 2024.

## ***Google's Quantum Leap: Unveiling the Revolutionary 'Willow' Chip***

Google has achieved a landmark breakthrough in quantum computing, developing a chip that can solve complex calculations in minutes that would take conventional supercomputers longer than the universe's existence, the company announced Monday. "Introducing Willow, our new state-of-the-art quantum computing chip with a breakthrough that can reduce errors exponentially as we scale up using more qubits, cracking a 30-year challenge in the field," said Google CEO Sundar Pichai.

## ***President Murmu Confers Honorary General Rank to Nepal Army Chief***

President Droupadi Murmu conferred the honorary rank of 'General of Indian Army' on Nepal's Army chief General Ashok Raj Sigdel at a ceremony in New Delhi on Thursday (December 12, 2024).



### ***Max Life Rebrands to Axis Max Life Insurance***

Max Life Insurance on Friday announced a change in its corporate name to Axis Max Life Insurance after receiving the corporate and regulatory approval. Earlier this year, Axis Bank's board of directors approved the proposal to acquire Max Life shares, raising Axis entities' total holding in the insurance company to 19.99 per cent from 19.02 per cent. Following this stake acquisition by Axis Bank, the stake of MFSL in Max Life reduced to 81 per cent from 87 per cent earlier.

### ***Google Appoints Preeti Lobana as India Head***

Tech giant Google on Monday announced the appointment of Preeti Lobana as the new country manager and vice president for India. She succeeds Sanjay Gupta, who recently transitioned to an elevated role as President of the Asia Pacific region at Google.



### ***Vice President Dhankhar Inaugurates GSI Geoscience Museum in Gwalior***

Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, inaugurated the Geological Survey of India's (GSI) state-of-the-art Geoscience Museum at the Victoria Market Building in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh. The event, attended by prominent dignitaries, marked a significant milestone in showcasing India's geological heritage and scientific achievements. The event was attended by several dignitaries, including Madhya Pradesh Governor Mangubhai Patel and Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia. Highlighting Earth's geological marvels The Gwalior Geoscience Museum features two galleries that explore Earth's geological wonders and the evolution of life.

### ***Public Sector Banks Record Net Profit of Rs 85,520 Crore In First Half FY2024-25***

Public sector banks (PSBs), including State Bank of India (SBI), are poised for another stellar year in 2024-25, building on their record-breaking aggregate net profit of ₹1.46 lakh crore in 2023-24, according to the Finance Ministry. This ongoing exceptional performance is the result of a series of "transformative" reform measures implemented in recent years, particularly under the Enhanced Access and Service Excellence (EASE) framework, Finance Ministry noted here on Sunday.

### ***Uber Unveils 'Moto Women' Bike Taxis for Women in Bengaluru***

Despite ongoing uncertainty over the operation of bike taxis in Karnataka, Uber has launched a pilot program in the city called 'Moto Women', exclusively for women two-wheeler riders. According to the company, this on-demand service connects female riders with female drivers. Under the 'Moto Women' initiative, around 300 women drivers will operate.



### ***Bumrah Surpasses Kapil Dev to Become India's Top Wicket-Taker in Australia***

Pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah overtook legendary all-rounder Kapil Dev on Sunday, taking the most international wickets for India against Australia in Australia. Bumrah achieved this milestone during the fourth day of the fourth Test against Australia at Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG).



### ***Ayodhya Ram Temple Wins Global Safety Excellence Award***

The Ram temple project in Ayodhya bagged the 'Sword of Honour' award from the British Safety Council, said Nripendra Misra, chairman of the Construction Committee of Shri Ram Janmbhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust, on Sunday (December 15, 2024). Mr. Misra added that the 'Sword of honour' is one of the prestigious accolades in safety management.





### ***Net Direct Tax Collection Sees Robust 16.45% Growth to Rs 15.82 Lakh Crore***

The net direct tax collections for this fiscal year so far have recorded robust growth, rising by 16.45% year-on-year to over Rs 15.82 lakh crore, according to the latest government data. The gross direct tax collections, before refunds, saw a robust 20.32% growth year-on-year, rising from Rs 15.96 lakh crore in FY 2023-24 to Rs 19.21 crore. Refunds issued during this period stood at Rs 3.38 lakh crore, an increase of 42.49%.

### ***Tata Power and Canara Bank Partner for Rooftop Solar Loans***

Tata Power Renewable Energy, a unit of Tata Power, has partnered with state-run Canara Bank to drive the adoption of rooftop solar systems under the government-backed PM Surya Ghar Scheme, offering affordable financing options to Indian households.



### ***CCI Approves UltraTech's ₹3,954 Cr India Cements Deal***

Billionaire Kumar Mangalam Birla's promoted UltraTech Cement received major relief on Friday after the Competition Commission of India (CCI) cleared its proposal to acquire a majority stake in India Cements, reported PTI. In addition, the CCI also granted UltraTech Cement the license to acquire up to 26 per cent of India Cements' paid-up equity share capital through an open offer. "The proposed combination envisages UltraTech Cement Ltd's (UltraTech/acquirer) acquisition of 32.72 per cent of the paid-up equity share capital of India Cements Ltd (India Cements/target) from the promoters and members of the promoter group of India Cements and Sri Saradha Logistics Pvt Ltd.

### ***NTPC to Establish Nuclear Power Project in Bihar***

Power giant NTPC has plans to set up a nuclear project in Bihar, a move which will increase its non fossil energy portfolio, the company's Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) Gurdeep Singh said on Thursday. NTPC has also requested the state government for a land parcel at a suitable location to take forward its nuclear plans, he said addressing a session at the 'Bihar Business Connect 2024' summit here. "Looking at the future of the energy sector, nuclear (energy) is expected to become extremely important for the energy sector, 20-30 years down the line. I want to share that NTPC is now entering the nuclear energy space," Singh said.

### ***Govt Infuses ₹500 Cr in IFCI to Boost Financial Health***

New Delhi, Dec 22 (PTI) The government has decided to infuse ₹500 crore capital in state-owned IFCI to improve its financial health ahead of the company's proposed restructuring and consolidation into a group. With the infusion, the government of India's holding in the company is expected to further increase from existing 71.72 per cent as on September 2024. The capital infusion plan for IFCI was approved through the passage of the first Supplementary Demand for Grants for 2024-25 in Lok Sabha last week.

### ***Adani Group Acquires 85.8% Stake in Air Works for Rs 400 Crore Enterprise Value***

Adani Group on Monday said it will acquire aviation maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) services firm Air Works for an enterprise value of Rs 400 crore. "Adani Defence Systems & Technologies Ltd (ADSTL) has signed a share purchase agreement to acquire 85.8 per cent shareholding in Air Works, India's largest private sector MRO company with the largest pan-India footprint," the conglomerate said in a statement. With operations spanning 35 cities and a workforce of over 1,300 personnel, Air Works brings extensive expertise in servicing both fixed-wing and rotary-wing aircraft.

### ***3 Indians in Forbes' 2024 Power Women List***

Forbes has unveiled its 21st annual list of The World's 100 Most Powerful Women, a ranking of influential figures from industries such as business, entertainment, politics, philanthropy and policymaking. Among these global changemakers are three Indian women who have made remarkable strides in their respective fields.



### ***Indore Airport Launches Waste Processing Unit In Green Initiative***

IndiGo's CSR initiative, IndiGoReach, has partnered with Airports Authority of India and AAS Foundation, Indore, to launch the Zero Waste Airport Project. The project focuses on minimizing environmental impact through waste reduction, recycling, and composting, setting a new standard for sustainable waste management in aviation, with a self-sustaining model aimed at long-term impact.

### ***Gujarat CM Launches SWAR Platform to Bridge Language Barriers***

Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel has launched a new citizen-centric initiative called the SWAR (Speech and Written Analysis Resource) platform, according to an official press release. The SWAR (Speech and Written Analysis Resource) platform was launched on the occasion of Good Governance Day on December 25. The release dated December 28 reads, "Under the leadership of Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, Team Gujarat has consistently implemented various initiatives and schemes aimed at improving the "ease of living" for its citizens. On December 25, Good Governance Day, the Chief Minister launched a new citizen-centric initiative called the SWAR (Speech and Written Analysis Resource) platform."

### ***DPIIT Partners with boAt to Boost Startup Ecosystem in India***

NEW DELHI: Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has entered into a strategic alliance with boAt, an Indian company in audio and wearables market. This collaboration aims to foster innovation and provide tailored support to DPIIT recognised startups including those in D2C and manufacturing domains. The key features of this mutual partnership includes: Curate dedicated program(s)/ initiative(s) for mentoring startups, innovators and entrepreneurs, provide resources, guidance, and support for different milestones such as prototype development, and offer connections and insights for international expansion, wherever applicable and feasible.

### ***Reliance Acquires Karkinos Healthcare for ₹375 Crore***

Billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries has acquired technology-driven and oncology-focused healthcare platform Karkinos for Rs 375 crore, the firm said on Saturday. Reliance Strategic Business Ventures (RSBVL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Mumbai-listed India's most valuable company, completed the acquisition of Karkinos Healthcare Pvt Ltd with allotment of requisite shares, the firm said in a stock exchange filing. Karkinos was incorporated in India on July 24, 2020, and is in the business of providing technology-driven innovative solutions for the early detection, diagnosis, and management of cancer.

### ***UP Set to Lead India in Cow Milk Production***

The Uttar Pradesh government has decided to establish two veterinary colleges — in Gorakhpur and in Bhadohi — to enhance breed improvement and boost milk production. The institutions will benefit cattle farmers across Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Nepal, with Purvanchal being the prime beneficiary, the government spokesperson said. He said Purvanchal in UP faced a decline in milk production due to widespread malnutrition among animals, as revealed by an early study conducted by the Uttar Pradesh Livestock Development Board (UPLBD). Malnutrition impacted the health and productivity of animals and reduced milk production and contributed to infertility.

# INTERNATIONAL CURRENT AFFAIRS

## ***China Opens First Atmospheric Monitoring Station in Antarctica***

China has opened its first overseas atmospheric monitoring station in Antarctica as it continues to firm up its presence in the icy and resource-rich southernmost continent by building research stations. Located in the Larsemann Hills in East Antarctica, the Zhongshan National Atmospheric Background Station began operating on Sunday, according to the China Meteorological Administration (CMA).

## ***Morgan Stanley Cuts India's FY25 GDP Growth to 6.3%***

Morgan Stanley has again cut its GDP growth projection for India to 6.3 per cent for this fiscal year, down from its earlier estimate of 6.7 per cent. This comes days after India's GDP slowed to a seven quarter low in the July-September quarter. Morgan Stanley had cut India's growth target for FY25 to 6.7% earlier in November and ahead of the Q2 GDP data. India's GDP growth slowed to 5.4 per cent year-on-year (YoY) in the July-September quarter of 2024.

## ***Amazon Boosts AI with Nova Foundation Models***

Amazon unveils Amazon Nova, a new generation of foundation models (FMs), as the next step in its AI journey. With the ability to process text, image, and video as prompts, customers can leverage Amazon Nova-powered generative AI applications to understand videos, charts, and documents, or create videos and other multimedia content. "Inside Amazon, we have about 1,000 Gen AI applications in motion, and we've had a bird's-eye view of what application builders are still grappling with,".

## ***India Wins 5th Junior Hockey Asia Cup, Beats Pakistan 5-3***

In a thrilling final of the Men's Junior Asia Cup 2024, the Indian hockey team triumphed over their arch-rivals Pakistan, securing a 5-3 victory to claim their record-extending fifth title. The match, held in Muscat, Oman, was a rollercoaster of emotions as both teams battled fiercely for the prestigious trophy.



### ***From Freedom Fighter to Namibia's First Female President***

Nicknamed NNN, Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah has made history by being elected as Namibia's first female president. The 72-year-old won more than 57% of the vote, with her closest rival, Panduleni Itula, getting 26%, according to the electoral commission.



### ***Nepal and China Sign Framework for BRI Cooperation***

Nepal and China signed a much-awaited framework agreement on the multi-billion-dollar Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) on Wednesday (December 4, 2024), paving the way for enhanced economic cooperation on the projects. The BRI Cooperation Framework agreement was inked during Prime Minister K. P. Sharma Oli's official visit to China — his first official visit to that country after assuming office for the fourth time.



### ***Dubai Breaks Record with World's Largest Gold Bar, Weighing Over 300 KG***

Dubai: The world's largest pure gold bar, weighing 300.12 kg and worth around \$25 million was unveiled in Dubai on Saturday. Recognised by the Guinness World Records, the bar has been put on display this weekend at Dubai Gold Souk Extension where visitors will have the opportunity to see it outside the Emirates Minting Factory shop.



### ***Trump Picks Harmeet Dhillon as an Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights***

The incoming Donald Trump administration has appointed Harmeet K. Dhillon as the Assistant Attorney General for civil rights. The appointment acquires importance from the Indian point of view as the Biden administration had accused India of planning to assassinate, pro-Khalistan activist Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, a U.S. citizen.



### ***Afridi Becomes Youngest to Achieve 100 Wickets in All Formats***

Pakistan pacer on Tuesday reached 100 T20I wickets, scalping three in his four-over spell against South Africa in the first T20I in Durban. The left-arm pacer thereby became only the third Pakistan bowler after Shadab Khan and Haris Rauf to reach 100 wickets in the format, conceding only 22 runs as South Africa racked up 183/9 in 20 overs on the back of David Miller's 40-ball 82.



### ***Elon Musk Reaches \$400 Billion Milestone and Created History***

Elon Musk has made headlines again by becoming the first person in history to achieve a net worth exceeding \$400 billion, according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index. This milestone follows a substantial insider share sale at SpaceX, his aerospace venture, which added approximately \$50 billion to his wealth. The Bloomberg Billionaires Index estimates Musk's current net worth at \$447 billion, reflecting notable growth since the US Presidential elections last month. In comparison, Amazon founder Jeff Bezos holds the second spot with a net worth of \$249 billion, followed by Mark Zuckerberg in third place at \$224 billion. Larry Ellison ranks fourth with \$198 billion, while Bernard Arnault rounds out the top five at \$181 billion.

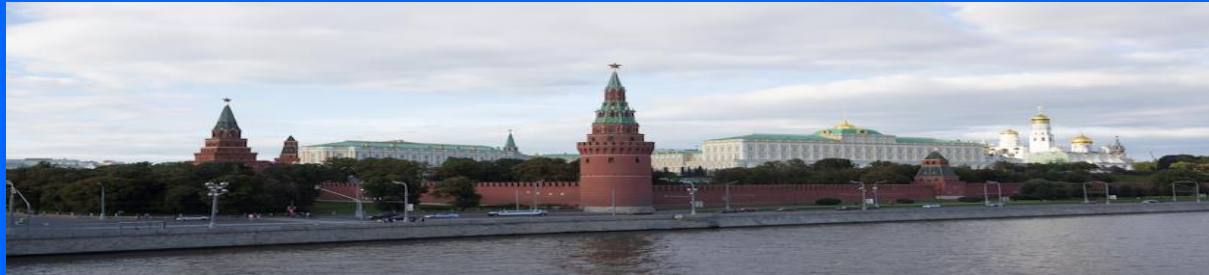
### ***World's Richest Families 2024 Waltons Family Leads***

The Walmart Waltons have reclaimed the top spot as the world's wealthiest family, amassing a staggering \$432.4 billion — a fortune greater than Elon Musk's individual net worth and even the combined riches of Middle Eastern royal dynasties. From India, the Ambanis secured the 8th position (\$99.6 billion), while the Mistrys of Shapoorji Pallonji (\$41.4 billion) landed at 23rd on the list.



### ***Russia Offers Visa-Free Travel for Indians in 2025***

Want to visit Russia? By March 2025, Indian tourists may be able to explore Russia without needing a visa. This comes after the June discussions between Russia and India on a bilateral agreement to relax visa requirements. At present, Indian visitors require visas based on their travel purposes, such as tourist, business, humanitarian, private, work, or student categories.



### ***Chennai-Born Caitlin Sandra Neil Crowned Miss India USA 2024***

Chennai-born Indian American Caitlin Sandra Neil has won Miss India USA 2024 during the annual pageant held in New Jersey. The 19-year-old, who is a second-year student at the University of California, Davis, expressed her desire to make a positive impact on her community.



### ***Trump Appoints Sriram Krishnan as Senior AI Policy Advisor***

The recent appointment of Chennai-born Sriram Krishnan as the senior policy advisor for Artificial Intelligence in the Trump administration has drawn the ire of several right-wing activists, reigniting a debate over skilled immigration. Earlier in November, Mr. Krishnan had tweeted the need to remove country caps for green card, which is limiting the influx of skilled techies from India. Currently, there is a 7% cap per country for green card, which creates a large backlog.

### ***Ex-IMF Chief Rato Faces New Prison Sentence for Corruption***

A Madrid court has sentenced former International Monetary Fund chief Rodrigo Rato to four years, nine months and a day in prison for various crimes related to corruption, the court said in a statement on Friday. Rato, who already spent two years in prison over a separate embezzlement case related to his tenure as chairman of Spanish lender Bankia, has denied any wrongdoing throughout the nine-year probe.

### ***Bumrah Breaks Record for Fastest 200 Wickets by an Indian***

Star India pacer Jasprit Bumrah rattled the Australian batting order yet again when he grabbed four of the six wickets India had taken at tea on Day 4 of the fourth Test at Melbourne. In the process, reached the landmark of 200 Test wickets. He broke multiple records by achieving the milestone when he dismissed Travis Head (1) in the post-lunch session.

### ***Switzerland Suspends 'Most Favoured Nation' Status to India***

Swiss suspension of the most favoured nation clause in the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) will not have any impact on the commitments signed in a trade agreement between India and the EFTA bloc, a top government official said on Monday. The Swiss government has suspended the most favoured nation (MFN), which could potentially impact Swiss investments in India and lead to higher taxes on Indian companies operating in the European nation.

