

Weekly One Liners 14th to 20th of March 2022

75th BAFTA Award 2022 announced

The **75th** edition of the **British Academy Film Awards**, also known as the **BAFTA Award**, was held at the **Royal Albert Hall in London**. The awards, presented by the **British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA)**, honours the best national and foreign films of 2021. The ceremony was hosted by actress and comedian **Rebel Wilson**. The film that received maximum nominations was **Dune**, with 11 nominations. The film that received the maximum number of awards was **Dune** as well with 5 awards.

Here is the list of winners at the 2022 BAFTA awards:

Category	Winners
Best Film	The Power of the Dog
Best Director	Jane Campion, The Power of the Dog
Best Actress in Leading Role	Joanna Scanlan, After Love
Best Actor in Leading Role	Will Smith, King Richard
Best Supporting Actress	Ariana DeBose, West Side Story
Best Supporting Actor	Troy Kotsur, CODA
EE Rising Star Award	Lashana Lynch
Outstanding British Film	Belfast
Outstanding Debut By A British Writer, Director, Or Producer	The Harder They Fall
Best Film Not In The English Language	Drive My Car
Best Documentary	Summer of Soul (Or, When The Revolution Could Not Be Televised)
Best Animated Film	Encanto
Best Short Animation	Do Not Feed the Pigeons, Vladimir Krasilnikov, Jordi Morera and Antonin Niclass
Best Short Film	The Black Cop, Cherish Oleka
Original Screenplay	Licorice Pizza, Paul Thomas Anderson
Adapted Screenplay	CODA, Sian Heder
Original Score	Dune, Hans Zimmer
Casting	West Side Story, Cindy Tolan

History of the awards:

British Academy Television Awards are presented annually to recognize the outstanding work in **British Television**. It is being given annually since 1955. It is mainly given to British programs.

Shreyas Iyer and Amelia Kerr named ICC Players of the Month for February 2022

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has announced India's star all-format batter **Shreyas Iyer** and White Ferns all-rounder **Amelia Kerr** were voted ICC Players of the Month for February 2022. Fans can continue to vote every month for their favourite male and female cricketers across all formats of international cricket as part of the ICC Player of the Month initiative.

In men's category:

Shreyas Iyer, the fast-rising India batter, has won the ICC **'Men's Player of the Month'** for February 2022. Shreyas Iyer earned the ICC Player of the Month award on the back of his brilliant white-ball exploits during the home series against West Indies and Sri Lanka respectively last month.

Among the women category:

New Zealand all-rounder **Amelia Kerr** bagged the ICC **'Women's Player of the Month award for February 2022'**. Amelia Kerr, the 21-year-old New Zealand all-rounder, was named the Women's POTM, following her supreme consistency with both bat and ball during the home white-ball series against India. Kerr was chosen ahead of fellow nominees, India captain Mithali Raj and all-rounder Deepti Sharma for the award.

Miss World 2021: Poland's Karolina Bielawska crowned

Karolina Bielawska from **Poland** has won the title of Miss World 2021. She was crowned by 2019 Miss World Toni-Ann Singh of Jamaica. She beat the USA, Indonesia, Mexico, Northern Ireland and Cote d'Ivoire to clinch the coveted title. Indian-American **Shree Saini** from the United States bagged the first runner-up title, followed by **Olivia Yace** from Cote d'Ivoire.

The **70th edition** of the Miss World international beauty pageant was held in **San Juan, Puerto Rico**. Miss World 2019 Toni-Ann Singh performed 'The Prayer' during the 70th Miss World pageant to express solidarity with Ukraine amid the Russia-Ukraine crisis.

Indian Contender

Femina Miss India World 2020 **Manasa Varanasi** represented India at the Miss World 2021. Manasa Varanasi reached the Top 13 contestants but could not make it to the Top 6 finalists.

Hurun Global Rich List 2022: Elon Musk Tops

SpaceX and Tesla founder **Elon Musk** has bagged the top position on the 2022 M3M Hurun Global Rich List, with a total net worth of **\$205 billion**. The 2022 M3M Hurun Global Rich List is published by research and luxury publishing group Hurun India in association with realty firm M3M.

Other persons in the list:

- Amazon.com Inc executive chairman **Jeff Bezos** ranked second with \$188 billion in net worth.
- With a net worth of \$153 billion, **Bernard Arnault**, the chief executive of LVMH Moët Hennessy – **Louis Vuitton SE**, the world's largest luxury-goods company, ranked third.
- From India, **Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) Chairman Mukesh Ambani** was the only Indian to feature in the top 10 list of 2022 Hurun Global Rich List' to emerge as India's as well as Asia's richest man. Ambani occupied the **ninth rank globally with a net worth of \$103 billion**.

A key finding of 2022 M3M Hurun Global Rich List

- Overall 3,381 billionaires from 2,557 companies and 69 countries were ranked in 2022 M3M Hurun Global Rich List.
- 215 billionaires were from India, which included 58 new additions.
- India emerged as the third-largest billionaire producing nation in the world.

TOP 10 Billionaires:

Rank	Name	Company	Wealth Value
1	Elon Musk	Tesla	USD 205 billion(bn)
2	Jeff Bezos	Amazon	USD 188 bn
3	Bernard Arnault	LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton	USD 153 bn
4	Bill Gates	Microsoft	USD 124 bn
5	Warren Buffett	Berkshire Hathaway	USD 119 bn
6	Sergey Brin	Alphabet	USD 116 bn
6	Larry Page	Alphabet	USD 116 bn
8	Steve Ballmer	Microsoft	USD 107 bn
9.	Mukesh Ambani	Reliance Industries Limited	USD 103 bn
10	Bertrand Puech & Family	Hermes	USD 102 bn

National Affairs

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has dedicated to the nation a new campus building complex of the **Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU)** at **Lavad village near Gandhinagar, Gujarat**. PM also addressed the first convocation of RRU Gandhinagar as a Chief Guest. The University, which is an Institution of National Importance, commenced its operations from **1st October 2020**.
- The **Asansol Division of Indian Railways** has successfully commissioned private siding of **Maithan Power Limited at Thaparnagar, Jharkhand**, in accordance with the Prime Minister's vision **Gati Shakti** and the Ministry of Railways' policy regarding the **Gati Shakti Multi-Modal Cargo Terminal** or also known as **GCT**, informed the **Ministry of Railways**.
- The **state government of Maharashtra** has announced to set up the country's first medical city named as **'Indrayani Medicity' in Pune**, to provide all kinds of specialised treatment under one roof. It will come up in 300-acre of land area in Khed taluka of Pune. The project is estimated to attract investment worth over Rs. 10,000 crore.
- **Ahimsa Vishwa Bharti** organisation established by Ambassador of Peace, Eminent Jainacharya **Dr Lokeshji** will establish India's first **World Peace Center in Gurugram, Haryana**. For this, the Haryana Government has allotted a plot to the organization in Sector 39 of Gurugram opposite Medanta Hospital and adjacent to Delhi-Jaipur Highway. 'World Peace Center' will work for the establishment of peace and harmony in the world.

- The country's first **Artificial Intelligence & Robotics Technology Park (ARTPARK)** was launched in **Bengaluru, Karnataka**. It is promoted by a not-for-profit foundation set up by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bengaluru, with a seed capital of **Rs. 230 crore** from the State and Central governments.
- Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, **Nitin Gadkari** has inaugurated the world's most advanced technology-developed **Green Hydrogen Fuel Cell Electric Vehicle (FCEV) Toyota Mirai** at New Delhi. Toyota Mirai is India's first Fuel Cell Electric Vehicle (FCEV), which is completely powered by Hydrogen.
- India's First Digital Water Bank, '**AQVERIUM**' has been launched in **Bengaluru, Karnataka** which is an innovative initiative aimed at better water management. It is formed by **AquaKraft Group Ventures**. It is a very unique innovation combining sustainable & green technologies along with information technology, skill development & entrepreneurship.
- **Mumbai, Maharashtra** announced its detailed framework to '**zero out carbon emissions by 2050**' and became the first city in South Asia to set such a target. Mumbai's target is 20 years ahead of India's target to reach net zero emissions by **2070**. Targets also include a 30% reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2030 and 44% reduction by 2040.

States in the News

- **TPL (Tamilnadu Petroproducts Ltd.)** is the world's first **linear alkylbenzene (LAB)** manufacturing company to be certified by the **Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)**. TPL's '**Superlab**' brand is one of the most well-known laboratory brands in the country. TPL's position as the market leader and the only authorised seller of the chemical in **India** will be bolstered by the certification. **LAB** can be used to make **biodegradable detergent**, making it a more sustainable option than **conventional detergent formulations**.
- The **Union minister for power** has inaugurated the **Virtual Smart Grid Knowledge Center (Virtual SGKC)** and **Innovation Park** in yet another digitisation effort aimed at advancing smart grid technologies and building capacity in the power distribution sector. The Minister requested that all distribution and transmission firms come to the **SGKC**, both physically and virtually, to take **advantage of the technology**.
- According to the **National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-5**, **Odisha** became the top state in the list of full immunizations in India with 90.5% coverage under **Mission Indradhanush**. Intensified Mission Indradhanush 4.0 (IMI) was rolled out on 7 March 2022, in Odisha to provide preventive health care for mothers and children and for boosting full immunization coverage.
- **Bhagwant Mann** was sworn in as the **18th chief minister of Punjab** at Khatkar Kalan, the ancestral village of **Bhagat Singh** in the presence of Governor **Banwarilal Purohit**.

International Affairs

- **Gabriel Boric Font** has been appointed as the new and **36th President of Chile**. The 36-year-old leftist is the youngest leader to hold the office in Chile's history. He succeeds **Sebastián Piñera**. Boric will hold the office for the period between 2022-2026.
- The Indian government has issued a **USD 1 billion line of credit (LoC) for Sri Lanka** to aid in the **import of food, necessary products, and medication**. On **March 15, 2022**, **Sri Lankan Finance Minister Basil Rajapaksa** will visit India to finalise the agreement. **Sri Lanka** is currently experiencing a serious economic crisis. India is extending the **Line of Control** as part of its efforts to aid its neighbouring country in combating the **COVID-19 pandemic and mitigating** its negative impact on its development aspirations.

- **President Biden** announced that the **United States—along with the G7, the European Union, and NATO—will revoke Russia’s Most Favored Nation (MFN) trade status.** Revoking Russia’s PNTR status will allow the United States to increase and impose new tariffs on all Russian imports. In the US, the “most favoured nation” status is also known as **permanent normal trade relations (PNTR)**. Only **North Korea and Cuba** do not enjoy the “most favoured nation” status from the US.
- **Bangladesh** tops the list in **South Asia** in terms of women on board of listed companies, says a study conducted by **International Finance Corporation (IFC) and Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE)**. According to the latest figures, there was an increase in the percentage of women who are independent directors on listed companies from five per cent in 2020 to six per cent, despite the impact of COVID-19, which has disproportionately affected women, said a press release issued by the IFC.
- **Mahatma Gandhi Green Triangle’** has been unveiled in **Madagascar** to mark **Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav**. Ambassador of India to Madagascar, **Abhay Kumar** celebrated the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav by inaugurating a Green Triangle, along with Mayor of Antananarivo Naina Andriantsitohaina.

Agreements/MoUs Signed

- **IIT Madras Incubation Cell (IITMIC) and RBI Innovation Hub (RBIH)**, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the **Reserve Bank of India**, inked a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** to collaborate in establishing the ecosystem needed to support and expand fintech businesses in India. The two organisations will collaborate to give early-stage entrepreneurs with unique and disruptive ideas with incubation support and speed their scale-up journey.
- The ground-breaking ceremony for a new facility of **Helicopter Engines MRO Pvt Limited (HE-MRO)**, a joint venture of **HAL and Safran**, a French aerospace firm, was held at Sattari in Goa. HE-MRO aims to constantly improve serviceability and reduce cycle time to aid the operational preparedness of the armed forces.

- **Border Roads Organisation (BRO)** signs MoU with **GRSE** for construction of 27 double-lane class 70 modular bridges in border areas. The MoU includes fabrication, supply, erection, and launching of 27 double-lane bridges of carriageway 7.5 meters of load class 70 along with the **Northern and North Eastern border states**. It has been inked by DG BRO Lt Gen Rajeev Chaudhry and Officiating Chairman and MD of **Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd.** Commodore PR Hari IN (Retd) in New Delhi.
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Books and Authors

- Author **Geetanjali Shree’s** translated Hindi novel **“Tomb of Sand”** is among 13 books long-listed for the **International Booker Prize**. It is the first Hindi language work of fiction to make it to the long list of the prestigious literary prize. The book was originally published as **‘Ret Samadhi’** and translated into English by Daisy Rockwell. It will compete for the GBP 50,000 prize, which is split evenly between the author and translator.
- The **Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)** has announced to release a book on the life of Prime Minister Narendra Modi titled **Modi@20: Dreams Meet Delivery**. It is set to hit stands in April 2022. The book is a compilation of pieces written by intellectuals & experts and has been edited & compiled by **BlueKraft Digital Foundation**.

Banking/Economy/Business News

- The **RBI** has stopped **Paytm Payments Bank** from accepting new customers because it broke the laws by allowing data to transit to servers in other countries and failing to properly authenticate its consumers. According to a report, annual inspections by the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** discovered that the company’s servers were sharing information with China-based organisations that indirectly held an interest in **Paytm Payments Bank**. Existing users’ **PPBL** savings, fixed deposits with linked banks, and balances in their **Paytm Wallet, FASTag or Wallet Card, and UPI services** are all safe and working, according to the company.

- **Larsen & Toubro (L&T)** has established the **L&T-SuFin e-commerce platform**. It is the country's first complete e-commerce platform for industrial products and services sold to other businesses. The platform's transaction cost is roughly **1.5 per cent**. Through its **B2B e-commerce platform**, the company aimed to empower businesses, particularly micro, small, and medium enterprises, by allowing them to obtain industrial items digitally and cost-effectively across **India**.
- **IIFL Securities Limited (Formerly India Infoline Limited)** launched '**OneUp**', India's first primary markets investment platform. Through this platform, investment can be made in initial **public offerings (IPOs), non-convertible debentures (NCDs) and sovereign gold bonds (SGBs), among others**. On the OneUp platform, the IPO applications are accepted 24x7 and up to three days before the IPO bidding opens.
- The **Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL)**, a subsidiary of **Coal India**, has announced that it has become the country's largest coal producer. In the financial year **2021-22**, the company reported it produced **157 million** tonnes of coal.
- **Razorpay**, a **fintech unicorn**, announced the purchase of **IZEaliant Technologies**, a renowned Fintech business that provides banks with payments technology solutions, for an undisclosed sum. **IZEaliant** is a Pune-based startup that offers banks and financial institutions **mobile-first, API-enabled, and cloud-ready** payment processing tools.
- The retirement fund body, **Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO)** has slashed the interest rate on provident fund deposits to **8.10%** for 2021-22. This rate is **0.4%** lower than the previous year. The interest rate on PF deposits was 8.5% in 2020-21 and 2019-20.
- Rating Agency **Morgan Stanley** has projected India's GDP growth forecast for 2022-23 (FY23) at **7.9%**. This is 50 bps less than its earlier projection due to the impact of the Russia-Ukraine conflict on oil prices. Furthermore, Stanley raised the country's retail inflation estimate to **6%**, meanwhile, current account deficits are seen to widen by **3% of GDP**.
- **LivQuik**, a **prepaid payment instrument (PPI)** issuer, announced that it has achieved full interoperability for its **Prepaid Payment Instruments**, as mandated by the **Reserve Bank of India**. According to the firm, it is also the first **PPI** issuer to achieve full interoperability. **PPI** issuers must enable **full-KYC** wallet interoperability by **March 31, 2022**, according to **RBI rules**.
- **India's retail inflation rate** climbed to an **eight-month high**, maintaining above the central bank's comfort level of **6%** for the second month in a row, while wholesale price inflation continued to be in double digits for continuous eleventh month in a row. With mounting threats to growth in **Asia's third-largest economy**, this might make inflationary management difficult. The **consumer price index (CPI)-based inflation rate increased to 6.07 percent in February from 6.01 percent the previous month**.
- The **HSBC CRISIL IBX 50:50 Gilt Plus SDL Apr 2028 Index Fund (HGSF)**, an open-ended **Target Maturity Index Fund** that tracks the **CRISIL IBX 50:50 Gilt Plus SDL Index – April 2028**, has been introduced by **HSBC Mutual Fund**. According to the fund house, the programme has a high interest rate risk and a low credit risk.
- In the **Lok Sabha**, **Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman** proposed a **Rs 1.42 lakh crore budget** for the union territory of **Jammu and Kashmir** for the fiscal year **2022-23**, despite opposition pleas for more time to review the plans. **Sitharaman** also tabled the Union Territory's additional demands for the fiscal year **2021-22, totaling Rs 18,860.32 crore**, and moved a resolution to suspend certain norms to allow the House to take up the debate on the same day.
- As per **Bloomberg's recent data on Market capitalization**, for the 1st time, India's equities market has entered the **world's top 5** in terms of market capitalization. India is ranked 5th with an overall market capitalization of **USD 3.21 trillion**. The total world market cap stands at USD 109.22 trillion. The **US topped** the ranking with an overall market cap of USD 47.32 trillion, followed by **China** (USD 11.52 trillion), **Japan** (USD 6 trillion) and **Hong Kong** (USD 5.55 trillion).
- Rating agency **Moody's** has revised downwards the economic growth forecast of India by 40 basis points to **9.1 per cent** in the Calendar Year 2022 (CY2022), due to adverse effects of the Russia-Ukraine conflict on the global economy. Earlier in February 2022, Moody's estimated India's GDP in CY2022 to **9.5 percent**. Moody's has projected India's GDP growth forecast for the Calendar Year (CY) 2023 at **5.4 percent**.
- The **State Bank of India (SBI)** will set up an Innovation, Incubation, and Acceleration Centre (IIAC) at **Hyderabad, Telangana** which will be operational in six to nine months of on-boarding a consultant. It will help the bank to develop a set of technologies, knowledge, and skills for the

introduction of new products and services. It will act as a central body to govern and drive fin-tech partnerships and implement change across the bank.

- The digital payments network **Mahila Money, Visa, and Transcorp Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPI)** have launched **Mahila Money Prepaid Card** to help women entrepreneurs easily collect payments, loans and get incentives for transactions. The prepaid card has been designed keeping in mind the needs of digital entrepreneurs, small business owners and women.
- In collaboration with **Emirates Skywards**, the loyalty programme of Emirates and flydubai, ICICI Bank created the '**Emirates Skywards ICICI Bank Credit Card**'.

Appointments/Resignations

- **Ajay Bhushan Pandey** has been appointed as the chairman of the **National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA)** for a **period of 3 years**. Pandey, a 1984-batch Maharashtra cadre IAS officer, retired as revenue secretary in February last year.
- **Ranjit Rath** has been named as the next **Chairman and Managing Director of Oil India Limited (OIL)**. He will replace current chairman and managing director **Sushil Chandra Mishra**, who will superannuate on June 30, 2022. Presently Rath is the chairman and managing director of **Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd (MECL)**.
- The chairman of Tata Sons, **N Chandrasekaran** has been appointed as the **chairman of Air India**. In February 2022, N Chandrasekaran was reappointed as chairman of Tata Sons for a second term of five years. Tata Sons will soon announce a new MD and CEO for Air India to replace **Ilker Ayci** who was to take charge next month but resigned in the wake of controversies regarding his appointment.
- **Bajaj Allianz General Insurance** has announced a **five-year extension** for its **MD and CEO, Tapan Singhel**. **Bajaj Allianz General Insurance** said in a statement that the new term will begin on **April 1, 2022**. Under **Singhel's leadership**, the company has grown to become one of the country's largest and most profitable private general insurers, ensuring growth, profitability, and customer-centricity.
- Games24x7 Private Limited, India's leading digital skill games company, has appointed Indian cricketers **Shubman Gill and Rituraj Gaikwad** as its new brand ambassadors for its **My11Circle** fantasy gaming platform. Both of them will feature in the

multimedia campaigns of Games24x7 across TV, digital and social media platforms.

Defence News

- On the eve of General **Bipin Rawat's** 65th birthday anniversary, the **Indian Army** has dedicated a chair of excellence in the late chief of defence staff (CDS)'s memory at the **United Service Institution of India (USI)**, the country's oldest think tank founded in **1870**. The Chair will be open to Veterans of three Services and civilians having expertise in the field of National Security.
- The **MV Ram Prasad Bismil** has become the **longest vessel ever to sail from Ganga to the Brahmaputra**. The 90 meters long and 26 meters wide flotilla, loaded with a draft of 2.1 meters, achieved the feat on March 15, 2022, when it successfully completed the pilot run of heavy cargo movement from **Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port in Haldia, to Pandu port in Guwahati**.

Awards and Recognitions

- Union Minister of Rural Development, **Giriraj Singh** honoured the Jammu and Kashmir Bank (J&K Bank) with the "**National Award for Outstanding Performance for FY 2020-21**" in recognition of its best performance in **Self-Help Group Bank Linkage**. Kirti Sharma, Zonal Head, Delhi, J & K Bank, accepted the award on the bank's behalf from Union Minister Giriraj Singh.
- India's third-largest private sector bank, **Axis Bank** has been awarded **IFR Asia's Asian Bank of The Year**, for its breadth of coverage and depth of expertise in the Asian investment banking space. This

year, the bank has also won the **'Best DCM House in India' Award** at the Finance Asia's Country Awards.

- **Morgan Stanley** has been honoured with the **Bank of the year award** at the IFR Asia Award 2021 and the JSW Group has been awarded with the Issuer of the year award. The awards are organized by IFR Asia, a Hong Kong-based provider of capital markets intelligence.
- Professor **Narayan Pradhan** has been selected for the **31st GD Birla Award** for Scientific Research for his outstanding contribution in the field of material sciences. He has provided his expertise in crystal modulations to help design new shapes of these tiny lighting materials.

Summit and Conference

- On a virtual platform, the **36th International Geological Congress (IGC)** will be placed here on March 20-22, 2022, with the topic **Geosciences: The Basic Science for a Sustainable Future**. The **36th International Geophysical Congress** is a collaboration between the **Ministries of Mines and Earth Sciences, the Indian National Science Academy, and the Science Academies of Bangladesh, Nepal, and Sri Lanka**.

Schemes and Committees News

- Under the Ministry's **Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) 2.0**, **Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)** and **Petroleum and Natural Gas Shri Hardeep Singh Puri** launched the **'India WaterPitch-Pilot-Scale Start-up Challenge.'** This comes after the **Hon'ble Prime Minister's ceremonial launch of AMRUT 2.0 on October 1, 2021**, stakeholder discussions in Lucknow (during **MoHUA's Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav** festivities), and **Cabinet approval of the Mission on October 12, 2021**.
- Over **3000 State Mission employees** and members of **Self-Help Groups (SHGs)** from 34 states logged in to attend the third edition of **'Gender Samwaad,'** organised by the **Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), Ministry of Rural Development**.
- **Credit Guarantee Scheme for Subordinate Debt (CGSSD)** is extended upto **31.03.2023**. On the **13th of May, 2020**, the government announced the launch of the **'Distressed Assets Fund—Subordinate Debt for Stressed MSMEs'** as part of the **Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Package**. As a result, the Government approved the **'Credit Guarantee Scheme for Subordinate Debt'** on **June 1, 2020**, and the scheme

was launched on **June 24, 2020**, to provide credit to the promoters of stressed **MSMEs viz. SMA-2 and NPA** accounts who are eligible for restructuring as per **RBI** guidelines on the books of the lending institutions through lending institutions. Initially, the plan was only valid until **March 31, 2021**.

Ranks and Reports

- According to the **London & Partners analysis of Dealroom. co-investment data, India** is the second-largest global venture capital investment hub for digital shopping companies, growing by a whopping **175%** from \$8 billion in 2020 to \$22 billion in 2021. On a global scale, India came in second to the **US** last year, which attracted \$51 billion in investment, followed by **China** at third with \$14 billion and the **UK** at fourth with \$7 billion.
- The **Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)** has released its latest report on Trends in **International Arms Transfer, 2021**. As per the report, India and Saudi Arabia emerged as the largest importers of arms between 2017-21. Both two countries accounted for 11% of all global arms sales. **Egypt (5.7%), Australia (5.4%) and China (4.8%)** were the next three largest importers respectively in the top 5.
- **RailTel Corporation of India Limited (RailTel)**, owned by the Indian Railways, Ministry of Railways, has ranked **124th** in the **8th Edition Fortune India The Next 500 (2022 edition)** of top midsize companies operating in India. It is the only Telecom Public Sector Undertakings (PSU) of the Government of India (GoI) on the list. It was ranked 197 in the 2021 list of top midsize companies operating in India.
- **Kerala** has yet again emerged on top when it comes to maternal and child health, with the State recording the lowest **Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) of 30 (per one lakh live births)** in the country. According to the latest data, **India's maternal mortality ratio (MMR)** has improved to 103 for the period 2017-19. Kerala, Telangana, and Maharashtra are included in the top 3 states with the lowest MMR in India.
- According to the global consulting firm Deloitte's report titled **"Global Powers of Retailing 2022: Resilience Despite Challenges"**, The Indian brand, **Reliance Retail, ranked 56th** on the Top 250 list based on the retail revenue growth for FY2020. **Walmart Inc.,** an American multinational retail corporation, tops the list, followed by **Amazon, Inc., Costco Wholesale Corporation, Schwarz Group, and The Home Depot, Inc.**

Science and Technology News

- The **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** is organizing a special programme for school children called **“YUva Vigyani KAryakram” (YUVIKA) or “Young Scientist Programme”**. Aimed at creating awareness about emerging trends in science and technology, this programme is expected to encourage more students to pursue research and a career in **Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)**.
- **Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)** has successfully completed the ground test of the **solid fuel-based booster stage (SS1)** of its new **Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV)** at Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC), Sriharikota at Andhra Pradesh. It completes the ground testing of all three stages of the launch vehicle. The vehicle is now ready for its first development flight, which is scheduled for May 2022.

Sports News

- The **11th edition** of the **Khel Mahakumbh** was started on Saturday at **Sardar Patel Stadium in Ahmedabad** by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi**. **PM Modi** claimed that he appointed **Khel Mahakumbh** as Gujarat’s Chief Minister in **2010**. **Khel Mahakumbh**, which began in **Gujarat** in **2010** with **16 sports and 13 lakh participants**, now includes **36 general sports and 26 para-sports**. The **11th Khel Mahakumbh** has received over **45 lakh registrations**.
- Indian Shuttler **Lakshya Sen** has settled for silver after losing to **Kunlavut Vitidsarn** of Thailand, 18-21, 15-21, in the men’s singles final at the **German Open 2022**. The Thai player dominated from start to end, winning the match and the championship in just 57 minutes. German Open is an annual badminton tournament classified as BWF World Tour Super 300 event.
- **India** has been picked as the host nation for the **FIDE Chess Olympiad 2022**. The **44th** edition of the Olympiad is scheduled to be held in Chennai, from **26th July 2022 to 8th August 2022**.

Important Days

- **International Day of Mathematics (IDM)** is observed globally on the **14th of March** every year. It is also known as the **Pi Day** because the mathematical constant π (**pi**) can be rounded down to **3.14**. It aims to educate people about the essential role of mathematics in science and technology, improve quality of life, empower women and girls, and

contribute to sustainable development. This is a relatively new event that was created just a couple of years back. The theme for 2022 IDM is **“Mathematics Unites!”**.

- **World Rotaract Day** is celebrated on the **13th of March** every year to acknowledge the services provided by the rotaractors across the world. The theme of World Rotaract Day 2022 is **“Rotary Making a Difference”**. World Rotaract Week will be held from **11 March 2022 to 18 March 2022**.
- **World Consumer Rights Day** is celebrated on **March 15** every year. The day marks an opportunity to urge that all consumers’ rights be recognised and safeguarded, as well as to protest market abuses and social injustices that jeopardise those rights. The day highlights the power of consumers and their rights for a fair, safe and sustainable marketplace for everyone.
- The **International Day of Action for Rivers** is celebrated every year on the **14th of March**. The year **2022** marks the **25th anniversary** of the International Day of Action for Rivers. The day aims to raise awareness about the value and importance of rivers as well as bring together people from across the world to discuss and spread awareness about conserving rivers, river management, pollution, and equitable access to clean and flowing water. The theme in 2022 is **“The Importance of Rivers for Biodiversity”**.
- In India, the **National Vaccination Day** (also known as **National Immunisation Day (IMD)**) is observed on **16 March** every year, to convey the importance of vaccination to the entire nation. The day was first observed in the year **1995**. In 2022, the National Immunization Day is important since the Government of India has started the COVID-19 vaccination for children between 15 to 18 years of age and booster dose for senior citizens. The theme for National Vaccination Day or National Immunisation Day 2022 is **“Vaccines Work for all”**.
- The **U.N. General Assembly** approved a resolution to proclaim **March 15** as the **International Day to Combat Islamophobia** every year, starting from 2022. The resolution, adopted by the 193-member UN General Assembly, was introduced by Pakistan’s ambassador Munir Akram on behalf of the **Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)**, on March 15, 2022. It marks the day when a gunman entered two mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand, killing 51 worshippers and wounding 40 others in the terror attack.
- **World Sleep Day** is observed on the **Friday before the March equinox** every year to highlight the importance of quality sleep. This year, it falls on **March 18**. World Sleep Day is a celebration of sleep and a call to action on important issues related to

sleep, including medicine, education, social aspects and driving. **'Quality Sleep, Sound Mind, Happy World'** is the theme for World Sleep Day this year to raise awareness about the impact of sleep on the mind and body.

- The **Global Recycling Day** is observed every year on the **18th of March** to recognise the importance of recycling as a resource, not waste. The day strives to urge world leaders that recycling must be a global issue and encourage people to think resourcefully and not waste when it comes to the goods around us. This year, the event's focus will be on the **"recycling fraternity"** – those who put themselves on the frontline to collect waste and recycling during the multiple lockdowns.
- The **Ordnance Factories' Day** is observed on the **18th** of March every year. The production of **India's oldest Ordnance Factory**, which is at Cossipore of Kolkata, was started on the 18th of March, 1802. OFB is the **37th** largest defence equipment manufacturer in the world, 2nd largest in Asia, and the largest in India.
- **International Day of happiness** is observed every year around the world on **March 20**. The United Nations started celebrating this day in 2013, but the resolution for the same was passed on July 12, 2012. The theme for Happiness Day 2022 is **Keep Calm, Stay Wise and Be Kind**.

Obituaries

- The former President of **Zambia, Rupiah Banda** has passed away after a two-year battle with cancer. He was 85. Banda had served as the fourth president of Zambia from 2008 and 2011. Banda had held senior diplomatic posts under first President Kenneth Kaunda before being eventually named as vice president in 2006 by then-President Levy Mwanawasa.
- The two-time WWE Hall of Famer, **Scott Hall** has passed away, due to heart attack. He was 63. His tenure with **World Wrestling Federation (WWF,**

now WWE) began in May 1992. With WWE, he was famously known by his ring name as **'Razor Ramon'**. He went on to become a four-time WWE Intercontinental champion.

- The former Governor of Andhra Pradesh, **Kumudben Manishankar Joshi** has passed away. She was 88. Ms Joshi served as the Governor of Andhra Pradesh from 26 November 1985 to 7 February 1990. She was the second female Governor of the state after **Sharda Mukherjee**. Joshi had been a member of the Rajya Sabha thrice.
- American Astrophysicist **Eugene Newman Parker**, who contributed to solar physics, has passed away at the age of 94. Eugene Parker witnessed the launch of **National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)'s Parker Solar Probe** in 2018, the first NASA mission named after a living person, and became the first person to witness the launch of a spacecraft named after them.

Miscellaneous News

- **The Delhi government** has launched an online **'My EV' (My Electric Vehicle) portal** for the purchase and registration of electric autos in Delhi. It is accessible to all users on the website of the transport department of Delhi.
- A documentary about the Dalit-led, all-woman newspaper Khabar Lahariya, **"Writing With Fire"** became the first Indian documentary to be nominated at the Oscars. 'Writing With Fire' had won Audience and Jury Awards at the Sundance Film Festival last year. It is produced by Ticket Films and directed by filmmakers **Rintu Thomas and Sushmit Ghosh**. 'Khabar Lahariya' is a newspaper founded in May 2002 in Chitrakoot, Uttar Pradesh.
- Under the **National Digital Health Mission, Puducherry** is creating a digital public health ecosystem. By the second week of **August**, four-building pieces of the **digital ecosystem** would have been established and implemented in the first phase. These include creating a health identity database for the entire population, similar to **Aadhaar**, the **'digi doctor,'** a listing of health professionals from various medical systems, the **National Health Infrastructure Registry**, and a personal health record for each individual that maps past and present data.
- The Government of **Jammu and Kashmir** has launched **quick response (QR) code for its GI-tagged Kashmiri carpet**, to preserve the authenticity and genuineness of the hand-knotted carpets. The main objective of this QR Code attached to the GI tag is to help in reviving the sheen and glory of the Kashmiri carpet industry.

Static Takeaways

Weekly One Liners 14th to 20th of March 2022

- Odisha Capital: Bhubaneswar;
- Odisha Governor: Ganeshi Lal;
- Odisha Chief Minister: Naveen Patnaik.
- Karnataka Capital: Bengaluru;
- Karnataka Chief Minister: Basavaraj S Bommai;
- Karnataka Governor: Thawar Chand Gehlot.
- Chile Capital: Santiago;
- Chile Currency: Chilean peso.
- Bangladesh Capital: Dhaka;
- Bangladesh President: Abdul Hamid;
- Bangladesh Currency: Bangladeshi taka;
- Bangladesh Prime minister: Sheikh Hasina.
- Madagascar Capital: Antananarivo;
- Madagascar Currency: Malagasy ariary;
- Madagascar President: Andry Rajoelina.
- Oil India Limited Headquarters: Noida;
- Oil India Limited Founded: 18 February 1959.
- Tata Group Founder: Jamsetji Tata;
- Tata Group Founded: 1868, Mumbai;
- Tata Group Headquarters: Mumbai.
- Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Founded: 2001;
- Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Headquarters: Pune, Maharashtra.
- RailTel Founded: September 2000;
- RailTel Headquarters: Gurgaon, Haryana;
- RailTel CMD: Puneet Chawla.
- Zambia Capital: Lusaka; Currency: Zambian kwacha.
- Delhi Chief Minister: Arvind Kejriwal;
- Delhi Lieutenant Governor: Anil Baijal.
- Chief Minister of Puducherry: N. Rangaswamy;
- Lt. Governors & Administrators: Tamilisai Soundararajan.
- J&K Lieutenant Governor: Manoj Sinha;
- J&K Formation (Union territory): 31 October 2019.
- Karnataka Capital: Bengaluru;
- Karnataka Chief Minister: Basavaraj S Bommai;
- Karnataka Governor: Thawar Chand Gehlot.
- State Bank of India Founded: 1 July 1955;
- State Bank of India Headquarters: Mumbai;
- State Bank of India Chairman: Dinesh Kumar Khara.
- Transcorp International Ltd Established: 1994;
- Transcorp International Ltd Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi;
- Transcorp International Ltd Managing Director: Gopal Sharma.
- Chairman and Space Secretary of ISRO: Dr S Somanath;
- ISRO Headquarters: Bengaluru, Karnataka;
- ISRO established: 15 August 1969.