

“Power is gained by sharing knowledge and not hoarding it”



EMERGING THOUGHTS

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Foreword

We, at SURESH & CO. are indeed ecstatic to release the series “EMERGING THOUGHTS”. This publication is a consolidated treasury of constructive thoughts and amusing updates of articled assistants (Interns undergoing Chartered Accountancy course) who will be emerging as Chartered Accountants in near future and employees.

Man is a social animal. In order to live peacefully & comfortably in society, he needs to remain updated about what all is going on across the globe while sitting at the corner of his house. This concept of daily updates which services to the whole organization every morning inculcates knowledge, confidence about the subject and invokes one’s interest deeper into the topics by giving them an insight about the happenings in this divergent world.

The response we receive from the readers are always overwhelming and this eternal ritual has been an amazing journey reaching milestones as the learning opportunities have always illuminated our path with the essence of knowledge.

At SURESH & CO., every individual is empowered to be bold in the name of innovation and wisdom and are encouraged to think beyond their capabilities. This not only helps them to purify their thoughts, enriches their vision but also gives them an opportunity to reconnaissance various things that are beyond their study domain.

We at SURESH & CO., wanted to share these gems of infant thoughts as conceived by these young minds. It is to be noted that these updates may or may not have been reviewed by any senior or a technical expert and thus these should be used only to kindle thoughts in certain positive direction. Readers are advised to do further research and analysis on the topics which they find interesting.

“An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.”

“The only person who is educated is the one who has learned how to learn and change.”

Update for the day #991 | Bitcoin - The New Tulipmania

There is a saying that “History repeats itself”.

What does the above sentence mean and what does the title means, let us understand one by one.

We have to go back in history, the time is 17th century, the city of sin “Amsterdam”

The Dutch republic is ruling, the first company ever create - the majestic “Dutch East India Company” is conducting various sea voyages and exploration for spice, cotton, silk, and other exotic goods. The small republic has conquered the global trade thus conquering the global empire has defeated the great Spanish empire.

As the republic grew the poor became middle class, the middle class became rich, the rich became wealthy, because of which there was fierce competition within these classes to outshine each other.

The citizens wanted to experience all the exotic products; one such product was Tulips. Tulip was a symbol of the golden age of the Dutch. It soon became a symbol of success, wealth, and power.

One strange thing about tulip is it takes 10 years for it blossom and after few years it shreds. The tulip blossom only in the month of April, May and June. In the other months these can be shifted from the roots to another garden. It is very delicate and needs care. Hence, it is not easy to grow Tulips.

But the demand was for a specific tulip which had colour variations, these were extremely rare, so when such flower with colour variation used to blossom, people used to bid for the Tulip, but they can't get the Tulip at the present, hence a derivative such as future contract were in use.

Hence, over time, speculation started on the futures contract, the initial agreement of 10 – became 50 - further 150 and the prices started increase. The Bubble started when, the common folks saw it was quick way of money and wanted some parts of it, and almost everyone started speculating on the futures, and didn't actually want any of the Tulips. It is estimated that one future contract was equivalent to a four storey building.

For the bubble to burst, there should be no more buyer to buy at the market price. That is where people started releasing that Tulips have been over-priced. It was in February of 1637, which was coincidentally the outbreak of Bubonic plague, no one shows to the flower market and the due to excess supply and lack of demand, the underlying asset- the Tulip prices crashed. This had created a sense of panic and unrest, everyone who owns the future wanted to sell it, but was unable to sell.

Hence, the market was ruined, the economy was impacted as the people lost their wealth and saving and therefore leading for downfall of the empire.

As Warren Buffett says “Always ask - What does the underlying asset produce, and when you buy a non-productive asset, all you hope is whether the next person is going to pay you more, as he has to find someone who is more excited about this, this just leads to increase in prices”

Bitcoin is a cryptocurrency invented in 2008 by an unknown person or group of persons using the name Satoshi Nakamoto. Bitcoin uses blockchain technology- decentralized ledgers.

Now let me ask you a question, what does Bitcoin produce, does it produce crops, does it run a company, what value does it create. Bitcoin is a medium of exchange same as currency or gold. At least gold can be used as ornaments and jewelry.

Bitcoin just like Gold is a non-producing asset. As gold is limited, so is Bitcoin. It is estimated that there are a total of 21 million bitcoins. The way gold is mined, even bitcoin is mined. Question arises what will happen when all coins are mined?

If the purpose of bitcoin is to replace fiat currency, then why are we using the same as medium of investment. In the near future, it is believed that bitcoin will replace all the fiat currencies used around the world.

As of March 3, 2021, one bitcoin is trading at approximately of \$ 49,000. As compared to previous year the prices have increased there has been 460% increase in prices.

Here we have two instances one in the 17th century where Tulip was highly speculated and here, we are today where bitcoin is highly speculated.

To conclude, it is modus operandi to speculate from tulips in 17th century to dot com companies of 2000 to the housing market in 2008.

What is your opinion, Will bitcoin grow or will it crash?

By **Shashank KE**



Update for the day #992 | Similipal Forest Fires

A forest fire which started in Simlipal in February and has been raging for nearly a week now, was finally brought under control. How fire prone is the forest? What caused the fire, and how intense was it?

The Similipal forest reserve area frequently witnesses forest fires during dry weather conditions. A fire which started in the biosphere reserve area in February and has been raging for nearly a week now, was finally brought under control.

What is the Similipal Biosphere reserve?

Similipal, which derives its name from 'Simul' (silk cotton) tree, is a national park and a tiger reserve situated in the northern part of Odisha's Mayurbhanj district. Similipal and the adjoining areas, comprising 5,569 sq km, was declared a biosphere reserve by the Government of India on June 22, 1994, and lies in the eastern end of the eastern ghats.

Similipal is the abode of 94 species of orchids and about 3,000 species of plants. The identified species of fauna include 12 species of amphibians, 29 species of reptiles, 264 species of birds and 42 species of mammals, all of which collectively highlight the biodiversity richness of Similipal. Sal is a dominant tree species.

How intense was the fire?

According to the Regional Conservator of Forests Similipal, Maloth Mohan, a total of 399 fire points have been identified in the fringe areas bordering the forest, close to the villages. "All of them have been attended to, and the fire is now brought under control," he said.

How fire prone is Similipal forest?

Generally, with the onset of summers and towards the end of autumn, the forest area remains vulnerable to forest fires. They are a recurrent annual phenomenon, but are also brought under control due to short span of precipitation. The months of January and February witness rainfall of 10.8 and 21 mm, respectively. The last incident of a major forest fire was reported in 2015.

This duration coincides with the shedding of deciduous forests in the forest areas. The fallen leaves are more vulnerable to catching fire and facilitate the spreading of these forest fires quickly over the entire forest area.

What causes the fire in Similipal?

Natural causes such as lightning or even soaring temperatures can sometimes result in these fires, but forest officials and activists say most of the fires can be attributed to man-made factors.

With dried leaves and tree trunks, even a spark can lead to a raging fire. According to wildlife activist Bhanumitra Acharya, who has worked closely with the forest reserve for the last 28 years, instances of poaching and hunting wherein the poachers set a small patch of forest on fire to

divert the wild animals can lead to such fires. “They do not douse the fire after hunting... this particular time is very vulnerable for fires to spread quickly,” Acharya said.

Secondly, jungle areas are also set on fire by villagers to clear the dry leaves on the ground for easy collection of mahua flowers. These flowers are used to prepare a drink which is addictive in nature. Villagers also believe burning patches of Sal trees will lead to better growth when planted again.

The transition zone of the reserve has 1,200 villages with a total population of about 4.5 lakh. Tribals constitute about 73 per cent of the population. This year, along with man-made factors, an advanced heat wave with the early onset of summer further deteriorated the condition.

How are these forest fires controlled and prevented?

Such fires are generally brought under control by natural rains. Forecasting fire-prone days and including community members to mitigate incidents of fire, creating fire lines, clearing sites of dried biomass, and crackdown on poachers are some of the methods to prevent fires. The forest fire lines which are strips kept clear of vegetation, help break the forest into compartments to prevent fires from spreading.

This year, the forest department intensified its mitigation measures and formed a squad each for 21 ranges across the five divisions to closely monitor the situation. 1,000 personnel, 250 forest guards were pressed into action. 40 fire tenders and 240 blower machines were used to contain the blaze. Awareness programmes are also being initiated at a community level to prevent such incidents.

The following helpline number can be used in case of emergency in relation to Forest Fires:

India - 1800425131

Bangalore - 92080080000

By Akshit Jain



Update for the day #993 | Animals used to depict Traders

Animals in the Stock Market are commonly used terminology to define specific characteristics of the type of traders or investors or market scenario.

In today's update, we are going to discuss some of such most commonly used animals in the stock market used to describe the type of traders or investors:

1. Bulls:

The bulls represent the investors or traders who are optimistic about the future prospects of the share market. They believe that the market will continue its upward trend. Bulls are the ones who drive the share price of companies higher. A sustained uptrend is called a bull run.

2. Bears:

Bears are the investors or traders who are totally opposite of the bulls. They are convinced that the market is headed for a fall. Bears are pessimistic about the future aspects of the share market and believe that the market is going to depict a downward trend. Mostly, bears are the reasons for getting the share prices lower. When shares consistently decline, it is called a bear market.

3. Rabbits:

The term rabbits are used to describe those traders or investors who take a position for a very short period of time. The trading time of these traders is typically in minutes. These types of traders are scalpers and trying to scalp profits during the day. They do not want overnight (or long-term) risk and just looking for an opportunity to make some quick bucks for the market during the day.

4. Turtles/ Tortoises:

The turtles are typically those investors who are slow to buy, slow to sell, and trade for the long-term time frame. They look at the long-term frame and try to make the least possible number of trades. These kind of investors do not care about the short-term fluctuations and are most concerned with long-term returns. Turtles win in the long term but can earn better returns if they are a little more active.

5. Pigs:

These investors or traders are impatient, willing to take high risk, greedy and emotional. The Pigs don't do any kind of analysis and always look out for hot tips and want to make some quick bucks from the share market. Pigs are the biggest losers in the stock market.

In short- "Bulls make money, bears make money, pigs get slaughtered"

6. Stags:

These kind of investors or traders are not really interested in a bull or bear market. They just lookout for opportunities. They are neither bullish nor bearish.

For example, Stags can be the traders who buy the share of a company during its initial public offering (IPO) and sell them when the stock is listed and trading commences. They do stagging with the hope to get listing gains and hence these individuals are called stags.

The below picture depicts the animals discussed above and some more:



7. Wolves:

Wolves are powerful investors/traders who use unethical means to make money from the share market. Mostly, these wolves are involved behind the scams that move the share market when it comes to light. For example, Harshad Mehta can be considered as the wolf of Dalal Street. He was charged with numerous financial crimes that took place in the Securities Scam of 1992.

8. Snails:

Some investors are content with very low returns. They will put money in low-yield traditional life insurance policies or in bank deposits. Some even let their money idle in a savings bank account. Snails don't realise that their money loses value due to inflation.

By Simran S Jain

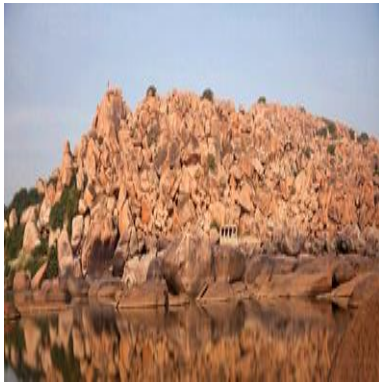


Update for the day #994 | Hampe (Hampi)

“There is beauty in ruins to those who see”

Hampi, a village and a temple town in Karnataka is one of the most historically rich places. Listed under the UNESCO World Heritage Site as the Group of monuments at Hampi, this city was also at one point one of the richest cities in the world when it was at its peak. Located inside the Vijayanagara city, Hampi has been one of the most significant tourist places of attraction. People from all over the country visit Hampi for its beautiful monuments and history. As per statistics of the year 2014, Hampi is said to be the most searched places of Karnataka online. People who visit Hampi are mostly people who love history and architecture. It is no surprise that Hampi is such a famous place for tourists that visit from all over the globe. Following are some of the major attractions of Hampi.

Magical Mythical Rocks:



While the breathtaking architecture is its claim to fame, the landscape of Hampi is no less interesting. The first thing we notice while approaching Hampi is the curiously scattered rocks. Geologically this region is in the Dharwar Craton. A craton is one of those rare parts of the land that has remained unchanged by volcanic or tectonic movements for many years. By many years means tens of millions, even billions of years. The rocks of Hampi are formed from years of erosion of giant monoliths that existed in prehistoric ages.

Hindu mythology, however, has a different explanation for the same. According to Ramayana, the North Hampi is part of the erstwhile Kiskinda, the monkey kingdom where Lord Ram met Hanuman. The rocks were apparently scattered all over Hampi after a fierce war ensued between two monkey-brothers who fought for the throne of this kingdom. This is how history, geography, and mythology blend into one mystic experience called Hampi.

One Of The World's Oldest Living Temple:

While most temples in Hampi are not active, Virupaksha temple is one of the oldest living Hindu temples in the world. Located at the Hampi Bazaar, this marvelous piece of architecture is a temple dedicated to Lord Shiva. It was created in the 7th century. The temple in its current stature was built during the Vijayanagara era. Surprisingly this temple withstood the worst attacks of Hampi's history including the invasion that destroyed the city.



The other name of this temple is Pampavathi temple referring to Shiva's wife Pampa. There is a small slit in the wall of the temple which exhibits a pin-hole camera effect in the day when the sun-rays pass through it creating an inverted image of the main tower. The walls of the temple also bear some erotic sculptures.

The Musical Pillars:



The grand Vittala Temple located at Hampi is known for its exquisite craftsmanship and architecture. This temple is one of the primary reasons Hampi has earned the UNESCO world heritage site tag. There are several interesting aspects to this temple, one of them is the 56 pillared Ranga Mantapa, the main hall of the temple. Each of the 56 pillars in this hall are monoliths. Each pillar in turn has multiple columns and some even have sculptures carved into them. These columns on the pillars when struck with stone or wood are believed to emit sounds, therefore more popularly known as the Musical pillars of Hampi. In this Ranga Mandapa, the temple dancers of Vijayanagara would perform with musical accompaniments as an offering to the presiding deity Vittala.

Each pillar provides support to the ceiling of the mandapa, and the main pillars are designed in the manner of musical instruments. Every main pillar is wrapped by 7 minor pillars and these minor pillars emit different musical notes. When hit with sandalwood sticks, they produced rhythmic sounds close to the Saregama.

Hippie Island:

Hippie Island in Hampi, otherwise known as Virupapura Gadde or Hampi Island, is a mystical and enchanting enclave in the Indian state of Karnataka. After spending quite some time

exploring Hippy Island in Hampi, we can share what we got up to, and what we consider to be the best things to do.



In contrast to mainland Hampi, Hippy Island is incredibly laidback. While there are plenty of activities to enjoy, such as bouldering and exploring temples, most come here to relax and soak in the tranquil vibes. Many of the shacks have karaoke nights and live bands. It's especially popular among the hippie backpacker crowd (hence the name), who flock here to take a break from the mayhem of the bustling reality.

By **Manoj Kumar Y**



Update for the day #995 | Gokarna

Gokarna is a small temple town on the western coast of India in the Kumta taluk of Uttara Kannada district of the state of Karnataka. The main temple and deity is Shiva, who is also known as Mahabaleshwara. This temple houses what is believed to be the original image of Shiva's linga (Atmalinga). There are many other temples all over this small town. Ankola and Kumta on NH66 are the main towns whereas Bhatkal and Karwar are the main small cities near Gokarna where almost all trains have halts and are connected to major cities like Chennai, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Mangalore and Mumbai through bus service.

Gokarna is known as one of the seven important Hindu pilgrimage centers. It is on what was once an unspoiled beach near the estuary of the river Aghanashini. Recently, due to the influx of tourists, the character of the town has changed; it is no longer just a centre of pilgrimage, though large numbers of devotees visit to offer prayers and worship to Shiva.

Due to its laid-back, unspoiled and rustic nature many younger western tourists started visiting Gokarna about a decade ago. The beaches around Gokarna were hardly used by the locals until these mainly western tourists started coming. Enterprising locals started stores and restaurants, and now the resorts also cater to wealthier tourists.

Also, Gokarna means cow's ear. It is believed that Shiva emerged from the ear of a cow (Prithvi, the Mother Earth) here. It is at the ear-shaped confluence of two rivers Gangavali and Aghanashini. Gokarna is mentioned in the Shrimad Bhagavata Purana as being the home of the brothers Gokarna and Dhundhakari.

In order that Brahma who out of arrogance arising out of his power to create the universe, sat penancing to redeem himself from the curse of Shiva, the latter appeared in front of him from the ears of a cow. So the place came to be known as Gokarna or ear of the cow. Hindu Puranas say that when Parashurama, the sixth avatar of Vishnu created Kerala, it was from Gokarna to Kanyakumari.

As per legend, Ravana was given Atmalinga by Shiva and instructed that it would stay permanently where it is first placed on the land. But Ganesha came in the form of a boy and planted it in Gokarna while Ravana was performing rituals. Once placed Ravana could not remove it from the ground, but he removed some pieces of the Linga and threw them in different directions.

Beaches:

The drive up the winding path that leads to Gokarna is scenic, with the rocky mountains and Western Ghats on one side and the Arabian Sea on the other. Gokarna is known for its beaches. The Gokarna main beach is in town and Kudle beach is west facing. Om beach, Half moon Beach, Paradise Beach (also known as Full moon) and Belekan beach are south facing.

The Gokarna beach forms the coast of the town and is followed by Main beach in the northern direction while the other four beaches lie to the south. Gokarna Main Beach is mainly used by Indian pilgrims. Main Beach is a long open beach, known for surfing. Kudle and Om are around 6 km from Gokarna town along a muddy hill; they are accessible by rickshaw or foot. Half moon and Paradise are beyond Om beach and are accessible only by trekking or boat. Om beach is

named so because it is shaped like the auspicious ॐ Om symbol. Om beach is a naturally Om-shaped beach, it attracts local tourists on weekends. It has a few shacks and eateries, and also boat service to other beaches.

By **Vaibhav Bhansali**



Update for the day #996 | Benefits of Tattoos.



Tattoos have so many aesthetic benefits, which are the main reason why people love them. It beautifies your body, makes you more expressive and confident, and so on. However, there are other sides to the benefits of tattoos as well. Today we are going to see seven health benefits of wearing a tattoo.

1. It helps improve the immune system

When someone undergoes a tattooing process, their immune system faces some improvement. The reason for that is when an outside material (tattoo ink) enters a human being's body, the immune system attacks that ink. This may also cause a little swelling in some people on the spot of a tattoo.

In the case that someone goes for multiple tattoos, his immune system would go through this practice numerous times, hence improving further every time. The immune system's response improves when it sends antibodies to the spot where the tattoo artist is making a tattoo. It helps in the healing process too.

2. It reduces cortisol levels in the body

Cortisol is a stress hormone and its increase results in increased stress levels. When a person goes through the tattooing process, it reduces cortisol levels. As a consequence, the stress levels are decreased in the person. Stress itself can further cause many diseases and health conditions. Tattoos contribute to the prevention of many diseases indirectly.

3. Multiple tattoos help weightlifters and bodybuilders

As tattoos result in reducing cortisol, it enhances the body's ability to heal and repair itself faster. Sportsmen, especially weightlifters and bodybuilders, need their muscles to repair quicker and adequately before the next workout or training session. Having multiple tattoos reduces the cortisol from the body that enables it to heal quicker. This way, the body gets more used to reduced cortisol levels.

4. Apparent tattoos can get you hired too

Yes, it's true. There are specific jobs for which an employer needs young, energetic, expressive, and edgy candidates. In some sectors, such as the fashion industry, where employees with the relatable and relevant tattoos may enable themselves to represent the company more expressively. You might not believe it at first, but there have been real incidents where a tattooed person got a job because of the tattoo that was visible and relevant for the organization that hired him.

5. Tattoos can improve vaccination methods

Another benefit of tattoos that will astonish you is that it can also help scientists improve vaccination methods. Scientists are now experimenting with tattooing methods to use for vaccinations. According to them, when the scientists inserted the vaccine through a tattooing needle, the results were better as compared to the traditional vaccination methods. It also reduces the cost of vaccination that will bring a positive change in the medical and health industry.

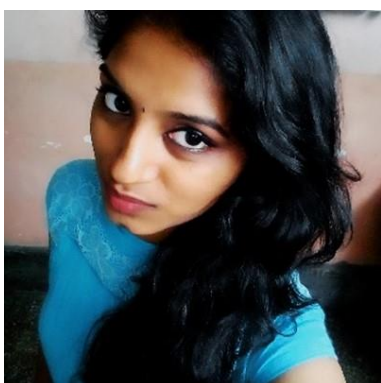
6. Tattoos increase self-confidence

Some psychological benefits of tattoos are also worth mentioning here. They observed that tattoos result in the height of confidence in people. Wearing a tattoo increases the self-confidence in the person. Especially women with multiple tattoos who are more confident about themselves as compared to men. Tattoos make them act more confidently. It acts as a boosting factor for people.

7. Tattoos make people feel good

Whatever we like, we need to include it in our life. Even if something is not in our reach, we satisfy ourselves by setting the image of that thing as a wallpaper on our laptops or mobile phones. A tattoo sort of plays the same role, but in a magnified manner. A tattoo makes people feel good because it expresses an integral part of their life and personality.

By **Sonibai N**



Update for the day #997 | Why do we celebrate Maha Shivarathri ??

Maha Shivaratri is a Hindu festival celebrated annually in honour of the god Shiva. The name also refers to the night when Shiva performs the heavenly dance. There is a Shivaratri in every luni-solar month of the Hindu calendar, on the month's 13th night/14th day, but once a year in late winter (February/March, or Phalgun) and before the arrival of Summer, marks Maha Shivaratri which means "the Great Night of Shiva".

It is a major festival in Hinduism, and this festival is solemn and marks a remembrance of "overcoming darkness and ignorance" in life and the world. It is observed by remembering Shiva and chanting prayers, fasting, and meditating on ethics and virtues such as honesty, non-injury to others, charity, forgiveness, and the discovery of Shiva. The ardent devotees keep awake all night. Others visit one of the Shiva temples or go on pilgrimage to Jyotirlingams. According to the South Indian calendar, Maha Shivaratri is observed on Chaturdashi Tithi during Krishna Paksha in the month of Magha, and in other parts of India, on 13/14 night of Krishna Paksha in Phalgun of Hindu calendar, the Gregorian date however remaining the same.

In Kashmir Shaivism, the festival is called Har-ratri or phonetically simpler Haerath or Herath by Shiva devotees of the Kashmir region.



Description:

Most of the Hindu festivals which are celebrated during the day, the Maha Shivaratri is celebrated at night. Maha Shivaratri is a solemn event notable for its introspective focus, fasting, meditation on Shiva, self-study, social harmony and an all-night vigil at Shiva temples.

The celebration includes maintaining a "jaagaran", an all-night vigil and prayers, because Shaiva Hindus mark this night as "overcoming darkness and ignorance" in one's life and the world through Shiva. Offerings of fruits, leaves, sweets and milk to Shiva are made, some perform all-day fasting with vedic or tantric worship of Shiva, and some perform meditative Yoga. In Shiva temples, "Om Namah Shivaya", the sacred mantra of Shiva, is chanted through the day.] Shiva devotees praise Lord Shiva through the recitation of Shiv Chalisa.

Maha Shivaratri is celebrated over three or ten days based on the Hindu luni-solar calendar. Every lunar month, there is a Shivaratri (12 per year). The main festival is called Maha Shivaratri, or great Shivaratri, which is held on 13th night (waning moon) and 14th day of the month Phalguna. In the Gregorian calendar, the day falls in either February or March.

History and significance:

The Maha Shivaratri is mentioned in several Puranas, particularly the Skanda Purana, Linga Purana and Padma Purana. These medieval era Shaiva texts present different versions associated with this festival, & mention fasting, reverence for icons of Shiva such as the Lingam.

Different legends describe the significance of Maha Shivaratri. According to one legend in the Shaivism tradition, this is the night when Shiva performs the heavenly dance of creation, preservation and destruction. The chanting of hymns, the reading of Shiva scriptures and the chorus of devotees joins this cosmic dance and remembers Shiva's presence everywhere. According to another legend, this is the night when Shiva and Parvati got married. A different legend states that the offering to Shiva icons such as the linga is an annual occasion to get over past sins if any, to restart on a virtuous path and thereby reach Mount Kailasha and liberation.

The significance of dance tradition to this festival has historical roots. The Maha Shivaratri has served as a historic confluence of artists for annual dance festivals at major Hindu temples such as at Konark, Khajuraho, Pattadakal, Modhera and Chidambaram. This event is called Natyanjali, literally "worship through dance", at the Chidambaram temple which is famous for its sculpture depicting all dance mudras in the ancient Hindu text of performance arts called Natya Shastra. Similarly, at Khajuraho Shiva temples, a major fair and dance festival on Maha Shivaratri, involving Shaiva pilgrims camped over miles around the temple complex, was documented by Alexander Cunningham in 1864.

Maha Shivaratri is considered the day when adiyogi or the first guru awakened his consciousness at the material level of existence. According to Tantra, at this stage of consciousness, no objective experience takes place and the mind is transcended. The meditator transcends time, space and causation. It is regarded as the brightest night of the soul, when the yogi attains the state of Shoonya or Nirvana, the stage succeeding samadhi or illumination.

India:

Maha Shivaratri is celebrated in Tamil Nadu with great pomp and fanfare in the Annamalaiyar temple located in Tiruvannamalai district. The special process of worship on this day is 'Girivalam'/Giri Pradakshina, a 14-kilometer bare foot walk around Lord Shiva's temple on top of the hill. A huge lamp of oil and camphor is lit on the hilltop at sunset - not to be confused with Karthigai Deepam.

The major Jyotirlinga Shiva temples of India, such as in Varanasi and Somanatha, are particularly frequented on Maha Shivaratri. They serve also as sites for fairs and special events.

In Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, Shivratri yatras are held at Mallayya gutta near Kambhalapalle, Gundlakamma Kona near Railway Koduru, Penchalakona, Bhairavakona, Uma Maheswaram amongst others. Special pujas are held at Pancharamas - Amararamam of Amaravati, Somaramam of Bhimavaram, Draksharamam, Kumararama of Samarlakota and Ksheerarama of

Palakollu. The days immediately after Shivratri are celebrated as Brahmotsavaalu at Srisailem, one of 12 Jyotirlinga sites. Mahashivaratri utsavalu are held at the Rudreshwara Swamy's 1000 pillar temple in Warangal. Devotees throng for the special poojas at Srikalahasti, Mahanandi, Yaganti, Antarvedi, Kattamanchi, Pattiseema, Bhairavakona, Hanmakonda, Keesaragutta, Vemulawada, Panagal, Kolanupaka amongst others.

The Mandi fair in the town of Mandi is particularly famous as a venue for Maha Shivaratri celebrations. It transforms the town as devotees pour in. It is believed that all gods and goddesses of the area, said to number more than 200, assemble here on the day of Maha Shivaratri. Mandi, located on the banks of Beas, is popularly known as the "Cathedral of Temples" and one of the oldest towns of Himachal Pradesh, with about 81 temples of different Gods and Goddesses on its periphery.

In Kashmir Shaivism, Maha Shivaratri is celebrated by the Hindus of Kashmir and is called, "Herath" in Kashmiri, a word derived from the Sanskrit word "Hararatri" the "Night of Hara" (another name of Shiva). Shivaratri, regarded as the most important festival of the community, for instance, is celebrated by them on trayodashi or the thirteenth of the dark half of the month of Phalgun (February–March) and not on chaturdashi or the fourteenth as in the rest of the country. The reason for it is that this long-drawn festival that is celebrated for one full fortnight as an elaborate ritual is associated with the appearance of Bhairava (Shiva) as a jwala-linga or a linga of flame. It has been described as Bhairavotsava in Tantric texts as on this occasion Bhairava and Bhairavi, His Shakti or cosmic energy, are propitiated through Tantric worship.

According to the legend associated with the origin of the worship, the linga appeared at pradoshakala or the dusk of early night as a blazing column of fire and dazzled Vatuka Bhairava and Rama (or Ramana) Bhairava, Mahadevi's mind-born sons, who approached it to discover its beginning or end but miserably failed. Exasperated and terrified they began to sing its praises and went to Mahadevi, who herself merged with the awe-inspiring jwala-linga. The Goddess blessed both Vatuka and Ramana that they would be worshipped by human beings and would receive their share of sacrificial offerings on that day and those who would worship them would have all their wishes fulfilled. As Vatuka Bhairava emerged from a pitcher full of water after Mahadevi cast a glance into it, fully armed with all his weapons (and so did Rama), he is represented by a pitcher full of water in which walnuts are kept for soaking and worshipped along with Shiva, Parvati, Kumara, Ganesh, their ganas or attendant deities, yoginis and kshetrapalas (guardians of the quarters) – all represented by clay images. The soaked walnuts are later distributed as naivedya. The ceremony is called 'vatuk barun' in Kashmiri, which means filling the pitcher of water representing the Vatuka Bhairava with walnuts and worshipping it.

Central India has a large number of Shaiva followers. The Mahakaleshwar Temple, Ujjain is one of the most venerated shrines consecrated to Shiva, where a large congregation of devotees gathers to offer prayers on the day of Maha Shivaratri. Tilwara Ghat in the city of Jabalpur and the Math Temple in the village of Jeonara, Seoni are two other places where the festival is celebrated with much religious fervour.

In Punjab, Shobha Yatras would be organised by various Hindu organisations in different cities. It is a grand festival for Punjabi Hindus.

In Gujarat, Maha Shivaratri mela is held at Bhavnath near Junagadh where bathing in the Mrugi (Mrigi) kund is considered holy. According to myth, Lord Shiva himself comes to bath in the Mrugi kund.

" Wishing you all a very Happy Maha Shivratri! May the God grant all your wishes and bless you, with everlasting happiness! * Om Namah Shivay! May the blessings of Lord Shiva remain with you throughout your life".

By **Chaithra P**



Update for the day #998 | About Varanasi

Varanasi also known as Benares, or Kashi, is a city on the banks of the river Ganges in Uttar Pradesh, India, 320 kilometres (200 mi) south-east of the state capital, Lucknow, and 121 kilometres (75 mi) east of Allahabad. A major religious hub in India, it is the holiest of the seven sacred cities (Sapta Puri) in Hinduism and Jainism, and played an important role in the development of Buddhism and Ravidassia. Varanasi lies along National Highway 2, and is served by Varanasi Junction railway station and Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport.

Varanasi grew as an important industrial centre famous for its muslin and silk fabrics, perfumes, ivory works, and sculpture. Buddha is believed to have founded Buddhism here around 528 BCE when he gave his first sermon, "The Setting in Motion of the Wheel of Dharma", at nearby Sarnath. The city's religious importance continued to grow in the 8th century, when Adi Shankara established the worship of Shiva as an official sect of Varanasi. During the Muslim rule through the Middle Ages, the city continued as an important centre of Hindu devotion, pilgrimage, mysticism and poetry which further contributed to its reputation as a centre of cultural importance and religious education. Tulsidas wrote his epic poem on Rama's life called Ram Charit Manas in Varanasi. Several other major figures of the Bhakti movement were born in Varanasi, including Kabir and Ravidas. Guru Nanak visited Varanasi for Maha Shivaratri in 1507, a trip that played a large role in the founding of Sikhism.

In the 16th century, Varanasi had a cultural revival under the Mughal emperor Akbar who patronised the city, and built two large temples dedicated to Shiva and Vishnu. Much of what is considered modern Varanasi was built during the 18th century, by the Maratha and Bhumihaar Brahmin kings. The Kingdom of Benares was given official status by the Mughals in 1737, and continued as a dynasty-governed area until Indian independence in 1947. The city is governed by the Varanasi Nagar Nigam and is represented in the Parliament of India by the current Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi, who won the Lok Sabha elections in 2014 by a huge margin. Silk weaving, carpets and crafts and tourism employ a significant number of the local population, as do the Banaras Locomotive Works and Bharat Heavy Electricals. Varanasi Hospital's foundation stone was laid by governor Kanaiyalal Maneklal Munshi in 1954 and it was inaugurated by president S. Radhakrishnan in 1964.

The Ramnagar Fort, near the eastern bank of the Ganges, was built in the 18th century in the Mughal style of architecture, featuring carved balconies, open courtyards, and scenic pavilions. Among the estimated 23,000 temples in Varanasi are Kashi Vishwanath Temple of Shiva, the Sankat Mochan Hanuman Temple, and the Durga Temple. The Kashi Naresh (Maharaja of Kashi) is the chief cultural patron of Varanasi, and an essential part of all religious celebrations. The city has long been an educational and musical centre: many prominent Indian philosophers, poets, writers, and musicians live or have lived in the city, and it was the place where the Benares gharana form of Hindustani classical music was developed. One of Asia's largest residential universities is Banaras Hindu University (BHU).

Early Modern to Modern periods (1500–1949):

Numerous eminent scholars and preachers visited the city from across India and South Asia. Guru Nanak visited Varanasi for Maha Shivaratri in 1507, a trip that played a large role in the founding of Sikhism.

Varanasi experienced a Hindu cultural revival in the 16th century under the Mughal emperor Akbar, who invested in the city and funded to build two large temples dedicated to Shiva and Vishnu. The Raja of Pune established the Annapurna Mandir, and the 200-metre (660 ft) Akbari Bridge was also completed during this period. The earliest tourists began arriving in the city during the 16th century. In 1665, the French traveller Jean-Baptiste Tavernier described the architectural beauty of the Vindu Madhava temple on the side of the Ganges. The road infrastructure was also improved during this period. It was extended from Kolkata to Peshawar by Emperor Sher Shah Suri; later during the British Raj it came to be known as the famous Grand Trunk Road. In 1656, Emperor Aurangzeb ordered the destruction of many temples and the building of mosques, causing the city to experience a temporary setback. However, after Aurangzeb's death, most of India was ruled by a confederacy of pro-Hindu kings. Much of modern Varanasi was built during this time, especially during the 18th century by the Maratha and Bhumihar Brahmin Kings. The kings governing Varanasi continued to wield power and importance through much of the British Raj period, including the Maharaja of Benares, or simply called by the people of Benaras as Kashi Naresh.

The Kingdom of Benares was given official status by the Mughals in 1737, and continued as a dynasty-governed area until Indian independence in 1947, during the reign of Dr. Vibhuti Narayan Singh. In the 18th century, Muhammad Shah ordered the construction of an observatory on the Ganges, attached to Man Mandir Ghat, designed to discover imperfections in the calendar in order to revise existing astronomical tables. Tourism in the city began to flourish in the 18th century.[36] In 1791, under the rule of the British Governor-General Warren Hastings, Jonathan Duncan founded a Sanskrit College in Varanasi. In 1867, the establishment of the Varanasi Municipal Board led to significant improvements in the city's infrastructure and basic amenities of health services, drinking water supply and sanitation

Author Mark Twain wrote in 1897 of Varanasi, "Benares is older than history, older than tradition, older even than legend, and looks twice as old as all of them put together." In 1910, the British made Varanasi a new Indian state, with Ramnagar as its capital, but with no jurisdiction over the city proper. The religious head, Kashi Naresh, has had his headquarters at the Ramnagar Fort since the 18th century, also a repository of the history of the kings of Varanasi, which is situated to the east of Varanasi, across the Ganges. The Kashi Naresh is deeply revered by the local people and the chief cultural patron; some devout inhabitants consider him to be the incarnation of Shiva.

Annie Besant founded the Central Hindu College, which later became a foundation for the creation of Banaras Hindu University in 1916. Besant founded the college because she wanted "to bring men of all religions together under the ideal of brotherhood in order to promote Indian cultural values and to remove ill-will among different sections of the Indian population."

Varanasi was ceded to the Union of India in 1947, becoming part of Uttar Pradesh after Indian independence. Vibhuti Narayan Singh incorporated his territories into the United Provinces in 1949.

Varanasi has been a cultural centre of northern India for several thousand years, and is closely associated with the Ganges. Hindus believe that dying here and getting cremated along the banks of the "holy" Ganges river allows one to break the cycle of rebirth and attain salvation, making it a major centre for pilgrimage. The city is known worldwide for its many ghats, embankments made in steps of stone slabs along the river bank where pilgrims perform ritual ablutions. Of particular note are the Dashashwamedh Ghat, the Panchganga Ghat, the Manikarnika Ghat, and the Harishchandra Ghat, the last two being where Hindus cremate their dead. The Hindu genealogy registers at Varanasi are kept here.

By **Chamanthi Varanasi**



Update for the day #999 | Abenomics

Today's update is about Abenomics which derives its roots from Shinzo Abe.

The story :

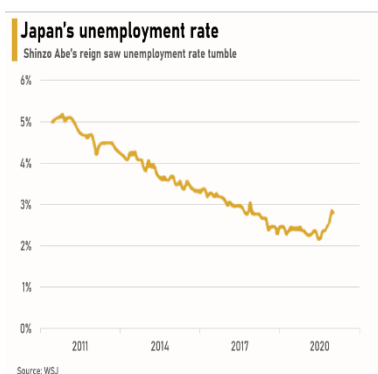
When Shinzo Abe stepped in as Prime Minister in 2012, Japan's economy was in crisis. Its GDP growth rate had tumbled to -4.3%. Demand was lacklustre, exports had taken a hit and there were worrying signs that the country was barreling down the dark rabbit-hole of recession. And Abe had his work cut out for him and he needed to shock the world's third-largest economy back into action. And lo and behold, Abenomics was born. The plan was to use a detailed, growth-oriented strategy and change the very nature of how the Japanese economy functioned. Interestingly enough, Abe credits this moment of inspiration to a folk tale.

Once upon a time, there lived a king who had three sons. His kingdom had been threatened, and war was imminent. One day, he gave a singular arrow to one of his sons and asked him to break it. The son snapped the arrow in half without breaking a sweat. Then, the king bound three arrows together, and gave them to another one of his sons, asking him to break them all at once. The son tried with all his might, but couldn't put so much as a dent in them. Upon which the king said, "Like this singular arrow, one person may easily be defeated. But if you stand united, nothing can overpower you."

It's a story you've probably heard already. And Abe believed he could make progress if he could get the multiple levers that drove the Japanese economy to work together. Fiscal Policy, Monetary Policy and Structural Reforms, all working in unison, to achieve one common objective—Growth. While you might contest that virtually every country aspires to do the same things, Japan's economic problems were rather unique.



For instance, Japanese consumers spend an unusually low fraction of their income. They are just not big spenders. And this means there's very little incentive for private corporates to invest and expand. After all, if demand is lacklustre, why grow your business at all? And if corporates get moody, employment opportunities suffer in tandem. It's all a big mess. So somebody had to step in and plug the spending gap.



Under Abenomics, the Japanese government initially planned an outlay of 10.3 trillion Yen in a bid to improve infrastructure and generate more employment opportunities. The hope was that this spending would create new demand for steel, vehicles, heavy machinery, etc. In 2014, the government added another 5.5 trillion Yen to this package. And at the end of it all, massive sums of money were injected into the economy all in a desperate attempt to boost demand. But Japan's problems were further aggravated by the restricted flow of credit. In the 1990s Japanese banks suffered massive losses after some reckless lending put them in a lurch. Most economists believe the country's commercial banks have been tentative about lending ever since. This is deeply problematic because credit, or borrowed money, is what drives most economies. And unless people can get their hands on cheap debt, you'll probably have difficulties convincing them to invest and spend.

So under Abenomics, one of the principal objectives of the government was to work with the country's central bank to ensure the free flow of credit. And in a bid to make money more accessible, the Bank of Japan cut interest rates to zero. Technically this happened much before Abe came into power. The only difference—During Abe's tenure, the Bank of Japan took it a step further. They started paying people money to borrow when they set interest rates at levels below zero. On top of it, they also initiated a program to print new money. Most people call it quantitative easing. We call it what it is—Printing money.

Now if you are worried if all this money printing business might stoke inflation. Fret not. That is the least of our concerns. After all, you can always count on the Japanese people to not spend. So even if all this extra money made its way into the hands of people, they'll most likely save a big chunk of these proceeds. Meaning it's unlikely you'll see prices of goods and services appreciate by a massive amount. In fact, the Japanese government would have been glad to see prices grow a bit each year. It would be a testament to the fact that consumer demand was on the up and Abe made it a personal goal to see inflation at 2%. Ergo, the biggest challenge plaguing the Japanese economy wasn't inflation. It was actually something else entirely—a shortage of labour.

Japan's birth rate had been tumbling for many decades when Abe took over and people expected the country to lose over a third of its population by 2060. So Abe wanted to tackle this crisis head-on using structural policy reforms. The Japanese government spent over 2 trillion yen on childcare and educational reforms to boost birth rates. They also augmented it with social welfare programs so that people could always take care of their children. The hope was that building confidence on the child-rearing front would induce couples to procreate.

Meanwhile, the government also tried to induct women into the workforce to solve the more immediate problem of labour shortage. So it's safe to say that Abe threw the kitchen sink at solving the labour crisis unfolding right before his eyes.

And that leaves us with one final question—How did Abenomics fare, considering, the man leading the charge is finally stepping down?

Well for starters, the unemployment rate dipped to under 3% for the first time in 20 years. And the economy witnessed slow and steady growth—up until the pandemic crippled that equation altogether. On the flip side, consumer demand is still weary. Abe failed to hit the 2% inflation target and many economists believe government spending did not necessarily have the desired effect.

Abenomics, like most economic policies, had a few hits. It had had a few misses. But the most important thing to remember is that Prime Minister Abe was never afraid of conceding to the general public that the country had a massive problem. He acknowledged that there were gaps in the economy and he was willing, to be honest about it. Even if his economic policies did not have the intended effect, he dared to try new things. And hopefully, that will be his lasting legacy.

By **Nagasarwesh E**



Update for the day #1000 | The Millenary Update

As the topic mentions today i.e; The 14th of March 2021 for completion of 1000 updates. One update at a time, one day at a time, we can accomplish any goal we set for ourself.

As of today we have completed 15 rounds of updates starting in the year 2018. With the consistency and support from each one of you in the organisation we are able to reach the milestone of 1000 updates.

What is Update for the day?

An act of updating something or someone or an updated version of something. It's sharing a concept that is new for all. An update is about news, trends, places, unheard of famous personalities.

Everyday you come to know about a concept or person or place never heard or known before. It's updating ourself with new information or old information with a new version.

The update for the day has helped us to widen our horizon of various topics and thoughts, which indeed has helped us to connect with people. This was possible only due to various updates which helped us to enrich our school of thoughts due to which we were able to exchange similar thoughts which lead to a bonding and network with people in our life. It also helped us to break out of our comfort zone as we think about topics which weren't related to our curriculum.

Process driven for "Update for the day"

System Drives everything, System Drives Suresh & Co.

When we all start our systems and check our mails in the morning, we regularly find a mail sent by a person of the organisation as "Update for the day". This frontend process is accomplished because of the beauty of the backend system being running effectively.

1. It all starts with the operator sending mail for scheduling the list of the person required to send an update on a specific day which brings the clear picture to the organisation and makes the process error free. It also teaches you to prepare a schedule before starting your day which makes your objectives crystal clear.
2. The backend process doesn't end there, the operator will also send a reminder for the list of persons whose updates are falling in the coming week. It teaches you to set your reminders when you are planning for long term work to avoid missing out any aspect.

3. Backup plan – Every activity we do in our lives we always think of an alternative or a backup plan to avoid any challenges and smoothing of the pre decided plan. The same has been set here. Though every action is set rigid which doesn't allow for any change easily, but to avoid any issues or challenges at the last moment, in case the person sending the update is not in the position to share the same then he/she will be replaced by some other person in the organisation. It makes us understand that due to this configuration there is no breakage in the system and not even a single day is missed for sending the update.

4. There is always change in the person operating the backend process after a certain period of time. The same is being easily transformed to the new person without any hurdles as everything is more system driven and not person driven which creates feasibility for both the persons i.e, the person leaving the system and person entering the system.

5. During the pandemic of Covid 19, there was no connection between the people as every person of the organisation had to work from home. But a new initiative was started named “The 10 AM Club” which brought every person to the organisation at a common stand, it also included summarising about the “Update for the day” sent on previous day which not only helps us to understand the update sent on the previous day but also but also helped in understanding the intention of the person sending the update. This makes us understand that the set mechanism should not be changed frequently but should always be upgrading when it is for the betterment of ourselves.

Lessons from Update for the day:

1. From Update for the day, we were able to learn various life hack and techniques like kaizen, 12 Common Things Whose True Purpose You Didn't Know.



2. It helped us to manage our time and increase our efficiency by various management techniques like the super mario effect, The Dahi handi way, Management Lessons from the Streets of India.



3. One of the greatest contributions of update for the day was it helped us to explore our own motherland and culture like Ayodhya, Leh Ladakh, Udupi, Varanasi etc. Also helped us to know more about under explored places like Gokharan, Agumbe, Hampi.



4. Financial management- Managing our own finances through various investment plans like bitcoins, stock market through Key Financial Ratios which every stock market investor should know.

5. Famous personalities like Ratan Tata, Dharampal Gulati, Sydney Sheldon, APJ Abdul Kalam, Sachin Tendulkar, Steve Jobs, Sunita Lakra.



6. Latest update about what's going around reaches you before you reach them like Amazon v/s Reliance, Sahara scam, Coronavirus, CRED's Business Model, Band of Chinese products.



7. Unknown Facts like The Beauty of the Seven Sisters of India, why there are 28 days in February, No shave November, Hobby month, Verses From Bhagwad Geeta on Hard work, Benefits of piercing, benefits of tattoo.



8. General knowledge like Rare flowers around the world, 29 States. 29 Delicacies.



These would be the various things one would have probably experienced while reading the day to day updates. One would be able to understand that millions of drops of water turn into a river, in the same manner everyday reading an update on any minor topic would add on to the present knowledge we possess and would be a value addition to you.

The knowledge we possess from updates are not restricted to ourself but the same has been forwarded to clients through Self designed journals named "Emerging thoughts".

“A normal person would be required to refer to Inshorts for updating himself in a summarised manner but a person connected to Suresh & Co can refer to “Update for the day”.

On behalf of all the members of the organisation and the entire fraternity of the Suresh & Co, our sincere thanks to the managers and partners for the constant support for making “Update for the day” as a part of our daily routine.

The projected number of updates which we would reach by the end of year 2030 would be 4850 updates. Let us continue the practice and make it happen by 2030

By **Pratham Sakaria V**



Update for the day #1001 | Unusual hotels around the world

To break free from daily routines and to explore new places, people travel around the world. What adds to the thrill of such adventure lovers and wacky travellers is the unique ambience of the hotels. If you are one of them, you should check out the following eye-popping unusual hotels for a memorable and thrilling experience.

1. Giraffe Manor, Kenya:

The exclusive boutique hotel Giraffe Manor is located in one of Nairobi's most iconic buildings, and its timeless elegance recalls the 1930s when European visitors first flocked to East Africa to enjoy safaris. With its stately façade, elegant interior, verdant green gardens, and delightful courtyards, guests often remark that it is like walking into the film *Out of Africa*. However, the most fascinating thing about this unusual hotel is its herd of resident Rothschild giraffes who visit morning and evening, poking their long necks into the windows in the hope of a treat, before retreating to their forest sanctuary. Every guest room is stocked with giraffe food so that when you receive the inevitable long-necked visitor, you can nourish it appropriately.



2. Ice Hotel, Sweden:



Ice hotel is the world's first hotel made of ice and snow. Founded in 1989, it is reborn in a new

guise every winter, in the Swedish village of Jukkasjärvi, 200 km north of the Arctic Circle. The hotel has around 150 warm and cold rooms, respectively. The latter have an ice décor and a bed made of ice which is covered with reindeer hides (you sleep in a thermal sleeping bag). The hotel also includes an ice church, ice bar, ice sculpting studio and pillar hall, in addition to two heated restaurants, lounge, four meeting rooms and two wilderness camps.

3. Tree Hotel, Sweden:

Kids do not think twice about sleeping in a treehouse, but as adults, we forget how much fun it is. Tree hotel, which consists of seven living pods suspended in tall pines up to 20 feet above the forest floor with spectacular views of the Lule River valley, miles of forest and a powerful river. The Mirrorcube is the hotel's most exciting accommodation, camouflaged by mirrored walls that reflect their surroundings. Choices include an abode that looks like a humongous bird's nest, one shaped like a UFO, and the reflective "Mirrorcube. Tree hotel was inspired by the film "The Tree Lover" by Jonas Selberg Augustsen.

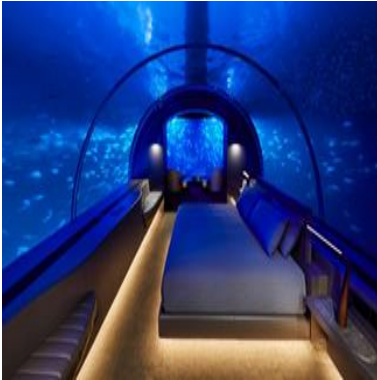


4. Salt Hotel, Bolivia:



True to its name, Bolivia's Hotel Palacio de Sal is built entirely of salt. Its walls, ceilings, and sculptures, as well as the majority of its furniture including the beds are made from large salt bricks. The floors, for their part, are covered with a thick, crunchy layer of the stuff. The sodium-themed property, which sits at an elevation of 12,000 feet, also offers a full-service spa, a fine-dining restaurant, and an in-house tour operator that takes guests out onto Salar de Uyuni, the planet's largest salt flat an otherworldly white-desert destination that should be on any serious traveller's bucket list.

5. The Muraka, Maldives:



Conrad Maldives Rangali Island welcomes guests to dive into an extraordinary experience both above and below the surface of the Indian Ocean in the world's first underwater hotel villa, called the 'Muraka'. This villa is a triumph of modern design and technology, delivering a truly transformative journey suited to amaze the most sophisticated explorers across the globe. Located more than 16 feet (5 m) below sea level in the middle of the Indian Ocean with glass walls, the Muraka is a two-level aquarium where you can fall asleep to fish swimming overhead and wake up to the swaying arms of coral. World-class architects and engineers teamed up to construct the unique hotel room in Singapore; they then transported it to the Maldives, anchoring it in the middle of the Indian Ocean.

By **Keerthana Umesh**



Update for the day #1002 | Rise of Adani



Gautam Adani is a first-generation Indian Entrepreneur and self-made Billionaire. He is founder and chairman of Adani Group. Present Net worth of Gautam Adani is almost \$50 Billion and he is the second richest person in India.

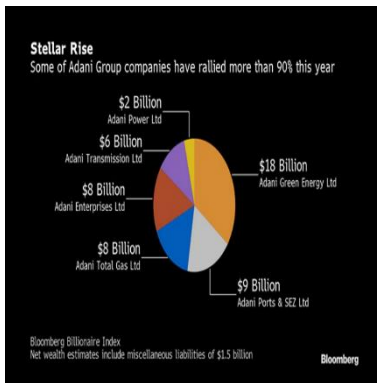
Gautam Adani used to work as a diamond sorter with the Mumbai branch of Mahindra Brothers in his initial days.

He then started Adani Enterprises in 1988, the group of flagship commodities trader. A decade later, he started to operate the port of Mundra, located on the coast of the Arabian Sea, eventually building India's largest private sector port operator.

Gautam Adani controls crucial segments of the economy such as coal mining, electricity generation, oils, real estate and is an aggregator of gold, diamond jewelry.

Gautam Adani escaped death twice, once when he was held at ransom in 2008 and later when he was among hostages at Mumbai's Taj Mahal Palace hotel during the 2011 terror attack.

Adani has been rapidly expanding his conglomerate, adding ports, airports, data centers and coal mines in India. Shares of almost all Adani group stocks have rallied at least 50% this year, with some rallying more than 90%. Adani Green Energy Ltd. has jumped more than sixfold this year as it received a record \$6 billion solar power deal, another step towards the company's goal of becoming the largest renewable- energy maker by 2025.



According to Bloomberg Billionaires Index, Adani's Net worth jumped \$16.2 billion in 2021 to \$50 billion, beating even Jeff Bezos, Elon Musk and Mukesh Ambani.

By **Priyank Jain**



Update for the day #1003 | Prestigious Awards of India

The national awards of India are awarded by the Govt. of India to people for their exceptional service or performance in different fields irrespective of their age, caste, occupation, religion, etc. These awards are divided into different categories that include Civilian Awards, Gallantry awards, Sports awards, Literature awards, and Peace and leadership awards.

National Sports Awards in India:

These awards are presented to sportsmen for their outstanding performance and excellence in sports. They are national-level sports awards given by Indian Govt. each year. The most renowned national sports awards are described as follows:

1. Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award:

It is the most prestigious national sports award that a sportsperson can get from the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in India. This award is named after the late Prime Minister of India, Sh. Rajiv Gandhi to honour him. It was introduced in 1991 in order to appreciate and boost the morale of the sportspersons in India. The recipient of this award gets a cash prize, a medal, and a certificate.

The famous chess player, Viswanathan Anand became the first sportsman to receive the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award for his performance and achievements in chess from the year 1992 to 1993. The first sportswoman to receive this award is Karnam Malleswari in weightlifting. Besides this, Sachin Tendulkar received this award in 1998 for Cricket, and the other cricketers to receive this award are M.S. Dhoni in 2008 and Virat Kohli in 2018.

2. Arjuna Award:

Arjuna Award was introduced in the year 1961, which makes it the oldest national sports award in India. It is conferred by the Ministry of Youth Affairs to sportspersons who have consistently given outstanding performances for at least four years in a row in national and international games.

The award is named after Arjuna, a famous archer in the Mahabharata. The awardee gets a bronze statue of Arjuna and a certificate along with a cash prize. There is a total of six first recipients of the Arjuna award in 1961, namely Saleem Durrani in Cricket, Sarabjeet Singh in Basketball, Manuel Aaron in Chess, Gurucharan Singh Randhawa in Athletics, Nandu Natekar in Badminton, and LB D'souza in Boxing.

3. Dronacharya Award:

This award is not for the players. It is for the coaches who train and prepare and guide the players to achieve big in sports. Dronacharya Award was introduced in 1985 by the Indian

Govt. It is named after "Dronacharya," who was the teacher of Pandavas in Mahabharata. It is awarded to coaches for their efforts, training, and guidance in producing medal winners for the country in national and international level sports events such as the Olympics, commonwealth games, etc.

In this award, the recipient gets a statue of Dronacharya, which is made of bronze, a scroll, a ceremonial dress, and a cash prize. The first recipients of the Dronacharya award in 1985 include Bhalachandra Bhaskar Bhagwat (a wrestling coach); O.M. Nambiar (an Athletic coach), Om Prakash Bhardwaj (Boxing coach). Furthermore, the first foreign coach in India who received the Dronacharya award is B.I. Fernandez.

4. Dhyan Chand Award:

It is the most prestigious sporting award that is conferred annually by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports for lifetime achievement. In 2002 the award was named after Dhyan Chand, a hockey legend of India who scored more than 1000 goals in his 20 year hockey career. This prize comprises a shield, a certificate, and a cash prize. The first recipient of the Dhyan Chand Award is Aparna Ghosh in the field of Basketball. The awardee for this award is selected after considering their contribution to sports during their sport career and after their retirement.

Literary Awards in India:

Literary Awards are presented to Indian writers to recognize and appreciate their great work of literature and their contribution to the upliftment of the literature in India. It is a great initiative to promote literature and highlight the achievements of writers in literature. The literature work should be in an officially recognized language of India, including the English. There are many literary awards in India that are as follows:

1. Jnanpith Award:

It is the most renowned literary award in India. It is also known as the Gyanpeeth Award. It was introduced in 1961 and was awarded by the Gyanpeeth Trust to Indian writers for their outstanding work and contribution to literature in any of the recognized languages of India. The awardee gets a bronze made statue of Goddess Saraswati along with a cash prize. The first writer to receive the Jnanpith Award is Sankara Kurup for his Malayalam poem collection "Otakuzhai" in 1965. The award is not presented for a single piece of writing; the nominees are selected based on their lifetime achievements.

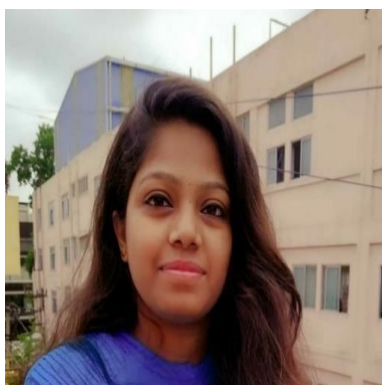
2. Sahitya Akademi Fellowship:

It is the second most renowned literary award in India for the Indian writers for their immortal literature work in any officially recognized language of India. It was introduced in 1968 and is conferred by the National Academy of Letters of Govt. of India, the Sahitya Akademi. In this award, the Akademi elects the awardee as its fellow. The first recipient of the Sahitya Akademi Fellowship was Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, a statesman, and philosopher.

3. Sahitya Akademi Award:

It is the third most renowned literary award in India in the field of literature. It is also conferred by Sahitya Akademi that instituted it in 1954 to recognize and honour the writers for their work of literary merit in any of the officially recognized languages of India. The awardee gets a box containing a copper plaque and a shawl, including a cash prize. Makhanlal Chaturvedi is the first recipient of the Sahitya Akademi Award for his book "Him Tarangini" in 1955.

By **Mounisha Ramesh**



Update for the day #1004 | SaaS: Where is India in the race?

Where is India in the race?

The domestic Indian market has traditionally been challenging to monetize owing to lower awareness and higher price sensitivity compared to global markets. However, Indian SaaS (Software as a Service) companies are trying to scale through specific initiatives:

- 1) investment in market creation via freemium offerings,
- 2) innovative monetization models and
- 3) clear articulation of benefits to the customer with tangible return on investment (ROI) metrics. Companies such as Vernacular.ai are closing large, global-sized contracts by targeting marquee customers in the Indian market.

Specifically, in the current Covid-19 world, it is critical for Indian SaaS companies to possess four winning abilities:

1. Embrace remote selling, as Covid-19 is pushing enterprises to become comfortable with completing large deals over digital channels
2. Set up an effective enterprise sales engine to focus on moving upmarket and expanding to large global markets at an early stage
3. Create a strong product-market fit to solve a specific use case by working with early customers and sharpening the value proposition in an increasingly competitive market
4. Foster employee success and innovation within the organization even as the workforce becomes more distributed and remote in nature

How is the SaaS market over the years?

1. Over the last five years, the number of funded SaaS companies has doubled and the number of SaaS companies drawing Series C or later stage capital has quadrupled, representing significant traction. Here is the analysis of growth for first-generation SaaS companies in India
2. Indian SaaS companies have evolved from the early years to become broad-based. Today there are company archetypes across vectors: horizontal and vertical solutions, enterprise and SMB/mid-market solutions, companies serving domestic (“India for India”) and global (“India for the world”) markets, companies catering to established segments (e.g., customer support), and emerging tech opportunities (e.g., API management).
3. With distinct competitive advantages enhanced by a level playing field around the world,

Indian-heritage SaaS companies are well poised to reach \$18 billion to \$20 billion in revenue and capture 7% to 9% share of the global SaaS market by 2022.

4. While the domestic market has been challenging, SaaS companies are creating scale offerings through specific initiatives: investment in market creation via freemium offerings, innovative monetization models, and clear articulation of benefits to the customer with tangible ROI metrics.

By **Ashrith ARK**



Update for the day #1005 | 22 Rakesh Jhunjhunwala stocks that emerged multibaggers in Covid year.

Who is Rakesh Jhunjhunwala?

Rakesh Jhunjhunwala is a Chartered Accountant and a business magnate who manages his own portfolio as a partner in his asset management firm, Rare Enterprises.

At least 22 of the 39 stocks that Rakesh Jhunjhunwala holds in his portfolio more than doubled their prices in the year disrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic, raising the total worth of his equity portfolio to near Rs. 17,000 crore.

At least three of his bets (excluding Tata Communications) delivered over 300 per cent returns and two others surged over 200 per cent.

This compares with a 47 per cent rise in the BSE Sensex during the same period.

Among his portfolio stocks, Prakash Pipes rallied 320 per cent in last one year. The Big Bull has been holding 1.53 per cent stake in this company at least since the June quarter of 2019.

NCC shares, where Jhunjhunwala and his better half Rekha Jhunjhunwala hold nearly 13 per cent, soared 320 per cent. The ace investor, often referred to as India's own Warren Buffett, has been holding this stock at least since the December quarter of 2015.

His realty bet DB Realty delivered 300 per cent return. This is also among Jhunjhunwala's long-term bets.

In an interview with ET NOW last month, Jhunjhunwala said the ongoing bull market has only covered the distance from Church Gate to Charni Road (Mumbai, 2.1 km distance) for him, and there was a long way to go all the way to Borivali (38 km).

"I am extremely positive on the market. My perception for India differs from most Indians. I reserve the right to be wrong. But that is what my feelings are," he told the channel.

Jhunjhunwala saw his bet on Firstsource Solution rally 240 per cent in one year. The ace investor cut his stake in this firm to 1.29 per cent in December quarter 2020 from 2.88 per cent in September quarter. Bilcare, another of his bets, jumped 213 per cent.

March 22 marks one year since Prime Minister Narendra Modi called the first Janta Curfew as a precursor to the months-long lockdown that India saw in her bid to contain the spread of the Covid virus. The restrictions came into force on March 24, forcing factories and businesses to shut down and people to stay indoors. That gave rise to the work-from-home culture, and also helped spread the equity culture among a new generation of Indians.

Jhunjhunwala told ETNOW that he did not like the work-from-home concept, as he wanted to separate personal life and work. But as far as his portfolio goes, data showed the year panned out quite, with only seven of his stocks underperforming the market during this period.

Prakash Industries (up 188 per cent), Autoline Industries (178 per cent), Geojit Financial Services (up 167 per cent) and Anant Raj (153 per cent) are among his other portfolio holdings that rallying over 150 per cent each, publicly available data from Trendlyne showed.

Among others, Aptech (up 146 per cent), Mandhana Retail (142 per cent), Delta Corp (125 per

cent), Wockhardt (122 per cent), Man Infra (120 per cent) and Escorts (110 per cent) all doubled in value. VIP Industries, Rallis India and Federal Bank were among the Jhunjhunwala stocks that underperformed.

Conclusion:

Rakesh Jhunjhunwala's tips are widely recognized by investors worldwide. One of the main things you can take back from his advice is the importance of long-term investments and need to avoid emotional investments. Investing for a long time will help you gain better returns. Conducting market research and investing in equity mutual funds can always prove to be beneficial in the long run.

One of the many ways you can start investing today with minimum money in hand is a Systematic Investment plan (SIP). SIPs are a great way to make long term investments with security. It offers great returns in the long run.

By **B Shreemanth**



Update for the day #1006 | The Unsolved Mysteries of Mount Kailash

Mount Kailash It is considered to be the holiest place on Earth by many eastern countries. Although Kailash Mountain is not one of the highest of Himalayan range, but scientists are amazed by its mysterious shape and radio-active energies by pyramids around it.



No human being has ever been able to climb it

It's not that the climb was not at all attempted; in spite of numerous attempts, no climber has succeeded in conquering the peak of Mount Kailash. Climbers explained that this holy mountain strangely changes the target and also tends to block the tracks which mislead the climbers.

Here time travel with the faster speed

Those who visited the holy mountain, have claimed that they have noticed a rapid growth, especially of the nails and hair. The growth of the nails and hair that takes about 2 weeks in normal conditions, takes place, here, in span of just 12 hours; the mountain air contributes to the rapid aging process. Chinese government respects the sentiments of Hindus and Buddhists and do not let anyone try and scale Mount Kailash now.

Russian scientists believe that Mount Kailash is not a mountain as it is way too perfect and symmetrical to be considered as a natural occurrence. The entire peak has a striking resemblance of a cathedral and the sides are extremely perpendicular which gives it the appearance of a pyramid. A team of scientists who intended to climb to the top of Mount Kailash finally gave up on the advice of a Tibetan Lama. Four of the climbers still died within a year or two. It is said climbing mount Kailash will offend the gods.

A groove and a gouge form a giant cross mark on the mountain. The groove around the waist of Kailash Mountain is Shiva neck's snake trailed. The gouge was left when Milarepa was fighting with Naro Bönchung for the control of Kailash Mansarovar.

Scientists have discovered that the top of Mt. Kailash is actually a man-made vacuum pyramid. It is surrounded by more than 100 other small pyramids. According to preliminary estimates, the direct height of the pyramid complex is between 100 and 1,800 meters, while the Egyptian pyramid is only 146 meters. If true, it would be larger than any known pyramid today.

Supernatural Energy Created Mt. Kailash

The Kailash Pyramids miracle was probably built by an advanced civilization that understood

the subtle laws of energy (the twist field) and how to control energy and time. Kailash Mountain is considered the axis of the universe, the center of the world, the pillar of the world. It is the place where the earth connects with heaven. As you can see from Google Maps, the distance from Stonehenge in the UK to Mt Kailash is 6,666 kilometers, which is also the distance from Kailash Range to the North Pole. The distance from Mt Kailash to the South Pole is 13,332 kilometers, which is exactly twice the distance to the North Pole or Stonehenge.

Mt Kailash Is Also Energy Center of Earth

Mt Kailash is the center of a worldwide system that connects mystical sites and energy sites from around the world, including the Pyramids of Egypt, the Pyramids of Mexico, Easter Island, Stonehenge, and the North Pole... which constitute the global energy grid system.

Kailash Range Area Will Accelerated Aging

Some scientists believe that the Kailash range is a vortex of energy that lifts the body and mind. It is said that people who spend 12 hours in the vicinity of Kailash experience accelerated hair and fingernails growth, which is equivalent to two weeks of normal time.

By **Punith.B**



Update for the day #1007 | Vrindavan

Vrindavan

Vrindavan is a historical city in the Mathura district of Uttar Pradesh. It is one of the most sacred places in Vaishnavism. It is located in Braj Bhoomi region, and is where according to Hinduism, Lord Krishna spent most of his days. The city is about 11 Km from Mathura, Krishna's birthplace on the Agra Delhi national highway as NH 44. The town hosts many temples dedicated to the worship of Radha and Krishna.

The ancient Sanskrit name of the city, Vrindavan comes from its groves of Vrinda (Holi basil) and vana (a grove or forest).

Vrindavan is considered to be a holy place for vaishnavism tradition of Hinduism. It is a center of Krishna worship and the area includes places like Govardhan and Gokul that are associated with Krishna. Millions of devotees of Radha Krishna visit these places of pilgrimage every year and participate in a number of festivals.

Holi in Vrindavan

While Holi is celebrated in almost every part of India, Holi in Braj is especially famous. Braj is a historical region which covers the area of Mathura, Vrindavan and some nearby areas. Holi here attracts tourists and pilgrims from all over the world because of its unique customs and traditions. Mathura is the birthplace of Lord Krishna, and Vrindavan is the place where he grew up in his childhood.

The Banke-Bihari Temple in Vrindavan is one such place to enjoy the festivities as it hosts a week-long Holi celebration here. During these days, the idol of Bihariji (Krishna's another name) is dressed up in white colored clothes and it is brought closer to his devotees to play Holi. Vrindavan Holi is played with colored water and gulal, a form of color made using organic substances like flowers and kesar. Goswami (priests in the temple) sprinkle colors on everyone using buckets, water guns, etc. The whole atmosphere is made even livelier with music (bhajans) in the background and people dance to the tunes while enjoying the colors.

Temples in Vrindavan

1. Bihariji, the best-known temple in Vrindavan, home to a Krishna idol known as Thakur-ji. The idol's eyes are said to be so powerful that it is kept hidden from view behind a curtain, which is opened and closed every few minutes.
2. Mandir Sri Dham Goda Vihar: There are about 200 idols in the temple. As the prime center of Hindu Sanatan Culture, the temple is a perfect reflection of devotion and faith. Visiting this divine temple is like exploring the complete Hindu chronology of faith.
3. Govinda Dev Mandir: Built by Raja Sawai Man Singh of Jaipur in 1590, this squat, bulky temple reportedly had four stories lopped off during Aurangzeb's reign of terror. These days it's just infested by monkeys.
4. Jai Gurudev Temple, also named "Naam Yog Sadhna Mandir". It resembles the Taj mahal, built with white marble. It is a unique temple in that you are prohibited from donating if you are a non-vegetarian.
5. Krishna Balaram Mandir, better known as the ISKCON Temple, a major draw for Hare Krishna (ISKCON) pilgrims to India, and uniquely among Vrindavan's temples well

- equipped to deal with foreign visitors. Free breakfast and lunch are available. Great restaurant. Comfortable guesthouse on the Temple grounds.
6. Kesi Ghat, by the Yamuna. According to the legend, this is where Krishna killed the demon Kesi and then bathed to celebrate. Aarti (prayer lamps) are offered to the Yamuna here every evening.
 7. Seva Kunj, planted with countless tulsi (holy basil) trees, this is the garden where gopis dance for Krishna at night, and where Krishna and his lover Radha spend the night locked in the Moti Mahal.
 8. Rangji Mandir, the single largest temple in Vrindavan, built in 1851 in a South Indian style, complete with intricate seven-story gopuram (gateway) at the entrance. Inside is a 50-ft high wooden chariot, taken out yearly for festivals, and in the inner courtyard is the 50-ft high gold-plated pillar known as Dhwaja Stambha.
 9. Radhavallabh Mandir, a very well-known ancient temple of Vrindavan, founded by Shri Hith Harivansh Mahaprabhu, Sri Radhavallabh Lal's idol resemble Sri Radha and Sri Krishna to be embodied in it together- "One soul and two bodies".
 10. Radharaman Mandir in Seva Kunj, see the Deity of Radharaman that self-manifested from a Shalagrama Shila (sacred stone).

City of widows:

Vrindavan is also known as the "city of widows" due to the large number of widows who move into the town and surrounding area after losing their husbands. They devote themselves to lord Krishna. There are an estimated 15,000 to 20,000 widows. The widows come from states of west Bengal, Assam and Odisha. Many spend time singing bhajan hymns at bhajan ashrams.

By **Anjali Baghel**



Update for the day #1008 | World Water Day

World Water Day is held annually on 22 March as a means of focusing attention on the importance of freshwater and advocating for the sustainable management of freshwater resources. This Day is an opportunity to learn more about water related issues, be inspired to tell others and take action to make a difference. Water is an essential building block of life. It is more than just essential to quench thirst or protect health; water is vital for creating jobs and supporting economic, social, and human development.

A new World Water Development Report is released each year on or near World Water Day, to provide decision-makers with tools to formulate and implement sustainable water policies. This report is coordinated by UNESCO's World Water Development Programme (WWAP) on behalf of UN-Water. The annual theme for World Water Day is aligned with the focus of the report.

UNESCO also contributes to the observance of World Water Day within the activities of its International Hydrological Programme (IHP), which works all year long to build the scientific knowledge base to help countries manage their water resources in a sustainable way.



History

The United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution A/RES/47/193 (link is external) of 22 December 1992 by which 22 March of each year was declared World Day for Water, to be observed starting in 1993, in conformity with the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) contained in Chapter 18 (Fresh Water Resources) of Agenda 21. States were invited to devote the Day, as appropriate in the national context, to concrete activities such as the promotion of public awareness through the publication and diffusion of documentaries and the organization of conferences, round tables, seminars and expositions related to the conservation and development of water resources.

Annual Themes

2020 – Water and Climate Change

World Water Day 2020, on 22 March, is about water and climate change – and how the two are inextricably linked. UN-Water states that "adapting to the water effects of climate change will protect health and save lives". Also, using water more efficiently will reduce greenhouse gas emissions. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there was an additional focus on hand washing and hygiene.

2019 – Leaving No One Behind

The theme of 2019 was about tackling the water crisis by addressing the reasons why so many

people are being left behind. Marginalized groups – women, children, refugees, indigenous peoples, disabled people – are often overlooked, and may face discrimination, as they try to access safe water. UN-Water asserts that "water services must meet the needs of marginalized groups and their voices must be heard in decision-making processes".

2018 – Nature for Water

The theme in 2018 explored how nature can be used to overcome the water challenges of the 21st century. This could be in the form of nature-based solutions to water-related challenges. For example, reducing floods, droughts, water pollution and protecting ecosystems could be solved using natural means, which nature uses, rather than man-made approaches. Restoring wetlands, implementing constructed wetlands, green roofs, green infrastructure, planting new forests, reconnecting rivers to floodplains, are some examples. Each of these use natural processes to rebalance the water cycle and improve human health and livelihoods.

2017 – Why Waste Water?

In 2017, the theme was "Why Waste Water?" which was about reducing and reusing wastewater. The theme was a play on words as it related to both the aspect of wasting water and issues around wastewater, namely treatment and reuse. Wastewater is a valuable resource to help achieve the Sustainable Development Goal Number 6. One aspect of Target 6.3 is to halve the proportion of untreated wastewater and also to increase the recycling and safe reuse of water across the globe. After appropriate treatment, wastewater can be used for a variety of purposes. Industry, for example, can reuse water in cooling towers and agriculture can reuse water for irrigation.

An example activity for 2017 was the Wikipedia edit-a-thon organized by members of the Sustainable Sanitation Alliance on 19–21 March 2017. The purpose of the activity was to improve water and sanitation related content on Wikipedia just ahead of World Water Day. The goal was to improve the quantity and quality of sanitation for the use of teachers, journalists and the general public.

2016 – Better Water, Better Jobs

The 2016 theme of "Better water, better jobs" highlighted the correlation between water and job creation, both directly and indirectly, by water sources around the globe. The theme led to a collaboration with the International Labour Organization. As water scarcity becomes more of a reality, industries heavily dependent on water like textiles and agriculture are at risk of increased costs, which threatens salaries and jobs. Increased costs may then be passed on to consumers. The theme also highlights how an abundance of quality water can change people's jobs and lives for the better. The 2016 celebration created recognition for those working to improve water quality and availability, and the need for many to transition to other and better jobs. Three out of four of jobs worldwide are water-dependent. Water shortages and lack of access may limit economic growth in the years to come, according to the 2016 United Nations World Water Development Report.

2015 – Water and Sustainable Development

With the theme 'Water and Sustainable Development', the year 2015 provided an important opportunity to consolidate and build upon the previous World Water Days to highlight water's role in the sustainable development agenda. The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were to have been achieved by 2015, so the year lent itself to discussions of the post-MDG period and aspirations for water and sustainable development. With the launch of the Sustainable

Development Goals (SDGs), World Water Day gave specific emphasis to SDG 6, which calls for water and sanitation for all, by encouraging discussion of how SDG 6 could be achieved by 2030.

2014 – Water and Energy

The 2014 theme of Water and Energy emphasized the close linkages and interdependence of water and energy and brought attention to the water-energy nexus. About 8% of the energy generated globally is used for pumping, treating and transporting water to various consumers. Furthermore, generating and transmitting energy requires the use of water resources, particularly for hydroelectric, nuclear, and thermal energy sources.

The aim of that year's theme was to facilitate the development of policies and crosscutting frameworks that would bridge ministries and sectors. It was meant to lead the way to energy security and sustainable water use in a green economy.

Journalists from 11 countries in Asia met in Tokyo from 20 to 21 March 2014 to discuss the importance of water. The event included discussion panels on topics such as privatization of services, integration between water and energy and modernization of water services. The journalists also developed four joint stories and 20 individual story ideas for a network of Asian journalists writing on water (and energy) in social media.

Few Important Messages

Don't flush our planet's most valuable resource."

Don't let the **water** run when you brush your teeth."

Don't let the **water** run in the sink, our life's on the brink."

No matter how much rich you are, you can't live without **water**."

By **Akshit Jain**



Update for the day #1009 | Fun theory

“Don’t be dead now. That time will come. Now is the time to be alive”

And today’s update is about Fun theory – Which is having fun in everything we do and adding fun to the work which you want others to do.

There are grand and complex theories of change and simple ones too. The fun theory is a simple one. Put simply it says if you want to get people to change their behaviour, make what you want them to do novel and fun. That’s it. It’s a very simple and useful idea...

A simple solution to a complex challenge:

You know that everyone believe it’s healthier for kids (and grown-ups too) to be active, outdoors and tuned-in to nature. But it’s not easy making that happen in today’s digitally immersive, 24/7, always on, internet-dependent society. In fact just getting someone’s attention can feel like rolling rocks uphill. So It’s not surprising when we get lots of questions about how we motivate ourselves and each other to do some of the things we do. Fortunately, unlike the problems of technology, the answer is, in part, very simple; work hard to make things fun.

Novelty + fun = Engagement:

Fun theory tells us that novelty makes things interesting and making something fun makes it feel good. When something is both novel and fun, it becomes intrinsically rewarding and we love doing it. What’s more, it can have a lasting effect, because when you do something fun you not only feel good about what you’re doing at the time, but afterwards you want to do it again. Fun can be mildly addictive which makes it powerful stuff.

Fun is so powerful it can turn mundane and apparently ‘boring’ things into attractive options. Just think of the recent PokemonGo! phenomena and how it incited all sorts of normally sedentary gamers to get out of their bedrooms and go running around looking for pokemons. Without any nagging, cajoling, incentives or lectures on the benefits of getting out and exercising. That’s the power of fun. It makes people want to do things.

Fun is a serious business:

So fun has a serious purpose if you set things up right, it can get serious results. It’s catchy too. When something looks like fun, others get interested in joining in too, creating a kind of a virtuous viral spiral of engagement.

How to make daily life more fun?

Next time you are trying to persuade someone to come out on that ‘boring’ walk or you’re trying to convince your friends into that dull sounding adventure of a lifetime, stop before you

start persuading. Think of the fun theory and see if you can find the fun in the idea, not just for you but for them. Remember the music stairs and the magical bin and see if you can find a way to reframe, replan or reinvent your idea so it really will be fun for them. You might just find they're on board without you really trying. After all, who doesn't want to join in something imaginative and fun?.

By **Nagasarwesh E**



Update for the day # 1010 | Radhakishan Damani

Radhakishan Damani famously known as Warren Buffett of India and also Mr. White and White; He is a Stock market Investor, Stockbroker, Trader and the Founder & Promoter of DMart. He is one of the Top 10 Richest persons in India.

What is DMart?

DMart is a one-stop supermarket chain that offers to customers a wide range of basic home and personal products under one roof. Each DMart store home utility products - including food, beauty products, garments, kitchenware, bed and bath linen, home appliances and more - available at competitive prices.



He launched his first store in Powai in 2002, today he has a well-established presence in 221 locations across Maharashtra, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Telangana, Chhattisgarh, Tamil Nadu, Punjab and Rajasthan. DMart has a Revenue of ₹24,930 Crores.

His mission is to be the lowest priced retailer in the regions they operate, their business continues to grow with new locations planned in more cities. Their core objective is to offer customers good products at great value. One of his methods is to pay their suppliers within days instead of weeks which was the industry norm, in return they provide the goods at a cheaper rate to him in lieu of early payment. He passed on the cost benefits to his customers, which ensured consistent footfall.

In 2017, Dmart came up with IPO in the name of its Parental Company Avenue Supermarts with the issue price of Rs. 295 – 299 and got listed at Rs.604/- with the premium of 102%. Currently, the stock is trading around Rs.2,935.

Stock Market Career:

At the age of 32, after the death of his father, Damani started the stockbroking business. Although he started his career as a stockbroker, he soon understood that if he wants to earn money from the market, then he needed to invest and trade his own money in the stock market, instead of being just a stockbroker. And soon he started stock trading his in the Indian stock market. He made a huge profits from his stock trading practice. He believed in making profits using different market swings. He was a very flexible trader.



Damani was known to be an ace investor in the stock market. He is a mentor to billionaire investor Rakesh Jhunjhunwala. He has successfully earned the reputation of being one of India's finest value investors. He is someone who goes on to buy extremely cheap stocks which although hold potential but yet, nobody wants to buy, and hold on to them for a very long term. In the stock market, he is observed to be wearing two hats. On one end, he is the Trader, trying to understand the market's swings, wherein on the other end, he is the Value Investor, betting on companies for the longer run.

By **Harshith Mehta**



Update for the day #1011 | MAHARANA PRATAP

Early life:

Maharana Pratap was born on May 9, 1540, at Kumbhalgarh Fort in Mewar. He was the eldest son of Maharana Udai Singh II and Maharani Jaiwanta Bai. Maharana Udai Singh II was the ruler of the Kingdom of Mewar with Chittor as its capital and the founder of Udaipur city in India's present-day state Rajasthan.

About:

Maharana Pratap was one of the greatest kings and warriors in history who defended his homeland Mewar, till his death. He was almost 7.5 feet tall (2.26 m) and weighed more than 100 kg. He used to carry two swords, a spear, and armor with a heavy shield on the battlefield. Maharana Pratap was the ruler of the Mewar region. In present times it comes under the Indian state of Rajasthan. He is one of Bharat's greatest kings and warriors who never capitulated to the Mughals. Pratap fought till death to defend his homeland Mewar from them, whom he considered foreign invaders on Indian soil.

He is believed to be the only Rajput king who stood up against Akbar in the 16th century. Akbar wanted to capture Maharana Pratap but couldn't succeed in his lifetime. When other Rajput kings were signing treaties with Akbar, he refused them.

Pratap was and is the face of Rajput valor. Maharana Pratap Jayanti i.e. his birth anniversary is celebrated on the 3rd day of the month of Jyeshtha every year in his honor. He enjoys the same respect in Rajasthan as the great Maratha Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj in Maharashtra.

Haldighati battle, Chetak and Ramprasad:

Chetak was Maharana Pratap's faithful horse. His agility and strength allow Pratap to slay his enemies and win numerous battles. During the Battle of Haldighati, although severely injured, he miraculously leaped over a big canal to save Pratap and carried him safely away from the battle. But unfortunately, he died after this because of his battle wounds. Pratap mourned over the death of his faithful companion.

There are several statues and monuments dedicated to Chetak and Pratap. There is also a memorial of Chetak known as Chetak Smarak in the Rajsamand district of the Indian state of Rajasthan. It is said to have been built at the spot where Chetak died after saving Pra Jhala Mann had a close resemblance in terms of physique. During the Battle of Haldighati, Jhala Mann advises Pratap to retreat as the Mughal army outnumbered their army.

To save Pratap and buy time so that he could safely leave the battlefield, he wore the crown of Maharana Pratap. The Mughal army misunderstood him to be Pratap and attacked him. In the meantime, Pratap left the battlefield along with his remaining soldiers safely. Unfortunately, he was killed by the Mughal army during this time. This way, he sacrifices his life to save Pratap so that he could regain their lost territory and honor.

His determination was such that he pledged that he would eat in a leaf place and sleep on the bed of straws until his wins Chittor (capital of Mewar). Some Rajputs in honor of Maharana

Pratap place straw under their bed while sleeping and a leaf under their plate while eating even today.

We have learned about Pratap's loyal horse, Chetak, who sacrificed his life while rescuing his master from the battle. But Maharana Pratap has a faithful and mighty elephant too named Ramprasad (or Ram Prasad).

After being caught by the Mughal army, Akbar changed his name to Pirprasad (or Peerprasad). He facilitated exceptional food for him. But Ramprasad was so loyal to Pratap that he refused to eat or drink anything and died after 18 days of imprisonment.

Man of principles:

Maharana Pratap, a man of principles, refused to backstab Man Singh, the Commander in Chief of Mughals. Once Pratap got the news through his Bhil spy that Raja Man Singh, the commander in chief of the Mughal army, was on a hunting expedition in the jungle along with a few hundred soldiers.

If Pratap wanted, he could have easily defeated Raja Man Singh in the jungle. But he refused to do so and told his forces that he would prefer to face Raja Man Singh on the battlefield rather than backstabbing him in the jungle where he is unaware of the danger.

Although guerrilla warfare had existed before Maharana's time, he was the first warrior of Bharat who used it against the Mughals in an organized form. Even after the Battle of Haldighati in 1576, Mughal forces continued their attacks on the Rajput army. Pratap's army got weakened day by day because of these attacks. When Pratap has no resources left to sustain his army, his minister Bhamashah Jain came to his rescue. He was Maharana's minister. He gave all his accumulated wealth to Pratap, which was enough to sustain and maintain an army of 25,000 men for 12 years. Bhamashah's financial help boosted Pratap's morale and enabled Pratap to form an army of around 40,000 soldiers.

After the Battle of Haldighati, Pratap was only left with 7,000 soldiers. After getting financial help from his Bhamashah Jain, he forms an army of around 40,000 soldiers to regain his lost territory from the Mughals.

In 1582, on the day of Vijayadashami (Dussehra), the Battle of Dewair, Maharana and his army attacked the Mughal outpost in the village of Dewair, situated about 40 km northeast of Kumbhalgarh.

After the decisive victory in the Battle of Dewair, Pratap recovered complete Mewar except for Chittor, Ajmer, and Mandalgarh. Additionally, 36,000 soldiers of the Mughal army surrendered before Pratap, and all 36 garrisons (check posts) of Mughals in Mewar were closed.

Maharana Pratap never surrendered to Akbar. He bravely fought numerous battles in his life against all odds and never succumbed to the Mughals. Unfortunately, he passed away at 57 in Chawda (or Chawand) on 19 January 1597 because of injuries inflicted in a hunting accident. Even on his death bed, Pratap told his son, Amar Singh, to never succumb to Mughals and win their lost territory of Chittor back.

Death:

The news of Maharana Pratap's death made even Akbar cry. In 1597, when Akbar was in Lahore, the news of Pratap's death reached to him. The man Akbar battled for 20 years and tried everything to subdue him but failed to do so, was no more.

The famous poet of Marwar (or Mewar), Dursa Adha spontaneously composed and recited a poem on Maharana Pratap. He described the effect that Pratap's death has on Akbar as follows:

“And now as the Badshah learns of your passing
He not rejoice
Behold all, see how he has fallen into deep silence...
And he has bowed his head in sorrow
Even as tears well up in his eyes.”

Mughal poet Abdur Rahim Khan-e-Khana praised Pratap after his death and wrote, “All is unstable in this world; land and wealth will disappear, but the virtues of a great name live forever. Pratap abandoned wealth and land, but never bowed his head. Alone, of all the princes of Hind, he preserved his honor.”

By **Sahil D Jain**



Update for the day #1012 | Top 8 zero - waste stores in India

Packaging waste is a problem worldwide. As we're increasingly aware, tons of plastic winds up in our oceans each year, choking sea life and creating vast islands of trash in once-pristine places. The obstacles and struggles while leading a sustainable life are due to various reasons. But the very first reason among them will be finding a package-free zero waste store in India because most of our waste comes from the package of the grocery items.

Here's a list of zero-waste Stores in India.

1. Ecoindian – The Zero waste organic store

Ecoindian is the first organic zero-waste grocery store in South India. This sustainable retail outlet is located in Chennai, India. It's all started when the 2 friends, Prem Antony & Pradeep Kumar decided to go zero waste. They travelled to meet the organic farmers around Tamil Nadu & Karnataka in the search of organic items.

The products of Ecoindian are sourced from Organic farmers, local artisans, self-help groups & non-mass producing brands. They provide their organic and sustainable goods package free and thus preventing the single-use plastics from the landfills.

2. 7 to 9 Green Store

Impressed by the zero waste store at London, Bittu John started 7 to 9 Green Store in Kolencherry, Ernakulam.

They sell from cooking essentials, cleaning solutions or other commodities and customers have to bring their own bag. The customers will also get a 2% discount when they bring their own containers. John also added that “Ninety percent of the plastics in houses come from grocery shops or supermarkets and I wanted a change in the system. In seven months, I helped the customers dispense with nearly three lakh single-use plastic covers.”

3. Muditha Zero Waste

Muditha zero waste is the first zero-waste store in Hyderabad started by a couple who was once a customer of the Ecoindian in Chennai which we've seen earlier.



Here, you can expect a wide range of zero waste goods from beauty and hygiene products, food

grains, oils, bakery snacks to baby care. You can also make your orders delivered to your home on electric bikes which is great to reduce your own carbon footprint enormously by ordering from them.

4. Bare Necessities

Sahar Mansoor, the founder of Bare Necessities, herself leading a zero-waste lifestyle for more than 2 years, overwhelmed by India's trash problem. That leads her to take some action and thus Bare Necessities was born in Bengaluru, India.



Bare Necessities use only post-consumer packing materials to ship their products like reusable glass jars, cloth scraps from the local tailor and paper scraps from their printer. Their labels are printed on recycled paper and use paper tape as far as possible. They are striving continuously for a better approach towards zero waste.

5. Green Mantra - Online zero waste store

The passion for a greener environment pushed the 3 powerful women professionals to start Green Mantra for delivering a healthy lifestyle to individuals and corporate. It's a movement to go package-free, preservative-free, and pure!

It provides a huge range of products like Replacement Products, Grocery, Dairy & Bakery Products, Sustainable Menstruation Products and Composting.



6. Ecoposro : Goa's first zero waste store

The childhood friends Jonah and Elridge are the founders of Ecoposro ('posro' meaning a 'small local shop' in Konkani). By seeing the piles of waste in their state they decided to do something about it. From everyday household essentials like grains, spices, cooking oils, and even local produce like coconut vinegar, rock salt, and jaggery to milk and other dairy products, local eggs, and bread, Ecoposro will take care of all your basic grocery needs. They also have a section of zero waste detergents, cleaners, and toiletries like handmade soaps, toothbrushes, toothpaste,

toilet paper, cloth sanitary pads, etc. Naturally made organic cosmetic items have also found a place in Ecosopro.

7. Adirsh - Zero waste organic store

Adirsh is India's 1st Zero-waste Organic Groceries Store Chain. It is not only located in Pune but also in Delhi! They bring an abundant variety of organic groceries like grains, dals, cereals, pulses, spices, millets, cold-pressed oils, juices, squashes, herbal soaps, earthenware, bamboo brushes, wooden utensils and toys, copper bottles, yoga mats, etc. Yes, you literally get everything here to start off with the zero-waste lifestyle.

8. Kolkata Zero Waste Bazaar

The first zero-waste store in Kolkata! Kolkata Zero Waste Bazaar was started by Lata Bhatia, who is a Green warrior. She also an active member of Kolkata Clean Air Movement. Lata sells only the upcycled and recycled products to reduce the carbon footprint! In an interview, she says that this zero-waste store is not started to make any profit. And she also adds that she wants to have such sustainable green stores in every neighbourhood.

The customers should bring their own containers to buy food grains and other zero waste goods. Here's the interesting fact about this Kolkata zero waste bazaar – they provide biodegradable bags to their customers which are mostly upcycled clothes from textile waste. She also sells personal hygiene products like reusable diapers and napkins which are 100 percent clinically safe for women and children.

By **Sanmathi**



Update for the day #1013 | Karo Sambhav

“When we refuse to re-use, it is the Earth that we abuse”

Recycle takes little effort on your part, for a big difference to our world

Keeping this in mind, one of the successful initiatives has been taken up by the Karo Sambhav Private Limited, let us see how they have influenced the e-waste management crisis

Karo Sambhav:

Karo sambhav is a countrywide organization, currently spread across 29 states, 3 union territories, and over 60 cities. Through technology-enabled e-waste management programme, it also provides producers and global brands with comprehensive Extended Producers Responsibility (EPR) services

They aim to transform e-waste from a challenge to a formalized and environmentally conscious industry that provides fair value to all the stakeholders in the value chain.

Their goal is to find inclusive, sustainable, scalable, and transparent solutions for e-waste handling in India.

‘Karo Sambhav is a cohesive E-waste movement. It is a call to each and every stakeholder to come, participate, engage and inspire others to do the right thing’ says founder Pranshu Singhal

Karo Sambhav translates into ‘Make Possible’ and India's leading Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO) are steering the way e-waste is managed in this country by putting accountability, transparency, and trust in the system.

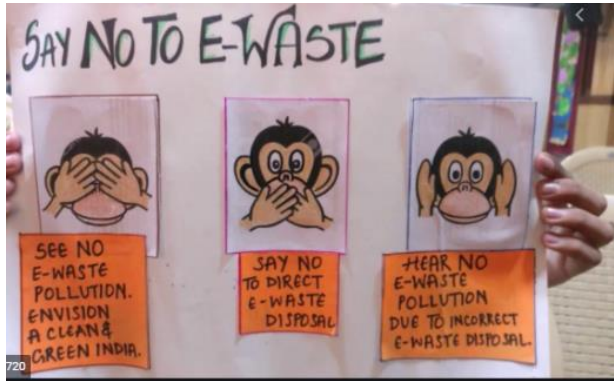
They are working countrywide with producers and globally trusted brands like Apple, Dell, HP, Lenovo, and HMD to implement their Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), helping close their material loop. From making robust EPR plans to staying compliant throughout, from running awareness campaigns to setting up collection channels, collecting waste and sending it for responsible recycling, they make sure that producers get the most comprehensive and accountable EPR service in India.

Innovative and data-backed tech platform, along with our countrywide grass-root driven ecosystem connects all the stakeholders into an integrated formalized e-waste management chain and is enabling waste management into an environmentally conscious and sustainable industry.

In the first year of operations, have successfully collected and sent over 3000 MTs for responsible recycling. Through programmes that have engaged over 500+ Bulk Consumers, 1500+ Schools, 5000+ Informal Sector Waste Pickers and Aggregators, 800+ Repair Shops across the country.

Partnering with them in an initiative in the International Finance Corporation (IFC) which is part of the World Bank group. Together they are setting up a robust India-wide transformative solution on e-waste management with the aim of making recycling a way of life.

Karo Sambhav is also a part of the 12th cohort of Microsoft Scale Up programme designed for startups offering a single point of entry to engage with Microsoft through a broad-based and holistic approach.



With the ever-increasing waste management crisis, we all look forward to making the best out of the worst situation.

Let us try taking this small step aiming towards a bigger change.

By **Varsha S V**



Update for the day #1014 | Royal Enfield Motorcycles: The History of The Cult

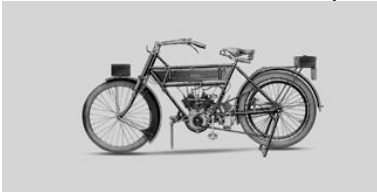
Royal Enfield Motorcycles: The History of The Cult

Made Like A Gun, Since 1901

1901 RE's First Motorcycle:

The history of the company dates back to the year 1901 when Bob Walker-Smith and Frenchman Jules Gotiet made the first-ever motorcycle from the company. It was powered by a 239cc engine capable of producing 11.2hp of power.

1909, First V-Twin Motorcycle from Royal Enfield



Royal Enfield's first V-Twin Engine:

The company introduced its first motorcycle to be powered by a V-twin 297cc engine. This bike became a huge success for the company due to the agile framework and good performing engine.

1914 – World War 1 Begins:

And with it began the production of Royal Enfield's first 2-stroke motorcycle. The war also forced the company into building the company's biggest motorcycle, the 770cc 6hp V-twin bike. During the period of conflict, RE supplied bikes to British, Belgian, France, United States and Imperial Russian armies. The made like gun bikes were a popular choice of armies due to their rigidity and multi-terrain abilities.



1914 – Mass Production of 2-stroke bikes

1924 – RE:

A total of 8 models were introduced by the year 1924 after the constant degradation and research being done at the company. This lineage included Sports Model 351. It was powered by a 350cc OHV 4-stroke engine, making the motorcycle first from the company to have 350cc engine. There was another bike introduced at that time. It was a 225cc powered motorcycle especially meant for ladies which can be seen in the image above.

Major events in the next few years have been listed below.

The Redditch Factory:

1926 – A fire breaks out at the Redditch factory of the company. But the company's own fire brigade manages to control the fire which otherwise would have finished the whole manufacturing unit.



New Saddle Tanks and Front Fork

1928 – Royal Enfield replaces the flat tanks with saddle tanks on its bikes. It was also the first manufacturer to change the front fork system from Druid design to centre-sprung girder forks.

1932 – The Legendary Bullet Is Born**1932 Bullet:**

The well-known model from the company which still is in production, the Bullet is born. It was offered in 3 versions: a 250cc, 350cc and 500cc engines powered variants. The Bullet 350 was also bought by the British army as the bike was rigid and powerful and comfortable for a ride. This is where the Indian connection began. Not the year, but the bike.

1949 – Royal Enfield comes to India:

The new generation of 350cc Bullet was introduced in the UK. K.R Sundaram from Chennai established Madras Motorcycles to import British motorcycles into India which also included the Royal Enfields.

1955 – Indian army needs a new frontier

The factory at Tiruvottiyur, near Madras

The Government of India was in search of motorcycles that the army could use for patrolling the border. The search ended on the Royal Enfield Bullet 350. The Indian Army ordered 800 units of the bike and thus making it possible for the Royal Enfield Company to set up the manufacturing plant in Madras.

And this is how the company began the operations in India. Let's have a look at the most

famous models from RE in India.

1. Royal Enfield Taurus:



Taurus was the first-ever diesel bike in India. Actually it was a diesel version of the famous Bullet. But the massive build and hassle starting were the drawbacks of this bullet. It was never able to make it big in the market. The thumping sound of the massive engine was enough to crackle the bodies of weaker ones.

2. Royal Enfield Thunderbird

It is one of the best-known REs in the country. It was previously offered in 350cc and 500cc variant. Currently, due to the BS6 norms, Royal Enfield had to discontinue all the 500cc power mills.



Royal Enfield Thunderbird 500

3. Continental GT



This cafe racer according to RE is a modern interpretation of a cultural icon. The current version of the Ton of Fun is powered by a BS6 ready 650cc engine which replaces the previous 500cc engine.

4. Himalayan:

It is built for the roads as well as no roads. This motorcycle has the ability to tread on anything that is possible on this earth. The current-gen Himalayan is powered by a 411cc engine capable of producing 24.3hp of power and over 32Nm of peak torque.



5. RE Classic:



This cruiser was also offered in two engine options: 350cc and 500cc up until the BS6 norms kicked in. The Classic is also currently offered with a 350cc engine. It is the second most famous model from the company only after the legendary Bullet.

6. Bullet:



Legendary bike, that needs no introduction, especially in India. The Bullet 350 has been the most famous Royal Enfield in India and has been with the company since its inception. The current generation of Bullet is also offered in 350cc variant while the 500cc was discontinued, the same reason mentioned before.

By **Kiran Kumar M**



Update for the day #1015 | Priya Jhingan

Enrolled as Cadet No 001, Priya Jhingan became the first woman cadet to join the Indian Army in 1993, alongside a batch of 25 other women – the first batch who became the trailblazers for women in the armed forces.



Early life:

Being the daughter of a Police Officer, Priya always dreamed of wearing the uniform and serving the country. She initially wanted to join the Indian Police Service but decided to write to the then Chief of Army Staff, General Sunith Francis Rodrigues to allow her to join the army.

In an interview, Major Priya Jhingan stated “I wanted to do it for my country. That is why I wrote that classic letter to the Chief of Army Staff to allow the commission to women into the Army. I wanted to march through life wearing the olive green uniform.”

The Chief initially accepted her request and responded her that Indian Army was planning to induct women cadets in the Army in the next two years. Priya Jhingan dropped her plans of being a police officer and decided to wait until the Army called her again. In the meantime, she completed her study of law. Her determination earned her one of the two reserved seats for law graduates and she was on her way to living her dream at the Officers Training Academy (OTA) in Chennai in 1992.

Army Career:

Priya Jhingan completed her OTA training and graduated as the Silver Medalist of the First Women's Course in March 1993. However, her request to join an infantry battalion was rejected by the army as there were no such provisions for the same, for women at that time. She joined the Indian Army as Judge Advocate General on 6th March of 1993.

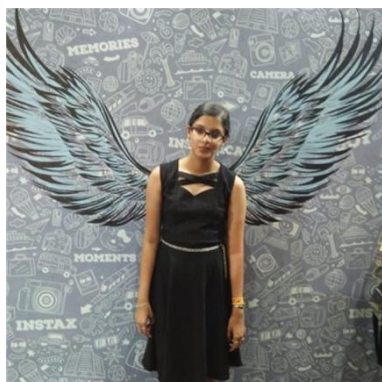
After ten years of distinguished service at Judge Advocate General Department where she conducted numerous Court Martials, Major Priya was released in 2003.

Life after the Army:

After her retirement, she never spent her days in idleness. Rather, she cleared the Haryana Judicial Service and later completed her Bachelor's degree in Mass Communication. After that, she became an editor at the weekly journal, 'Sikkim Express.' Finally, she quit all these jobs and joined The Lawrence School of Sanawar as a teacher.

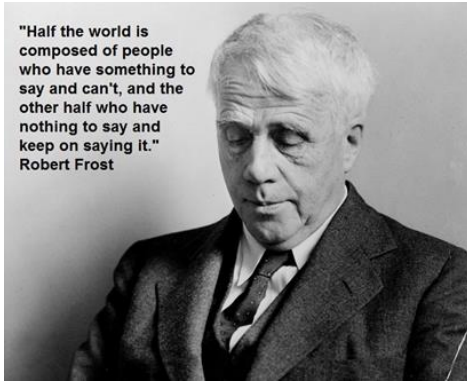
Major Priya Jhingan has always been a strong advocate for women being given equal roles as men in the Indian Army, and has always advocated permanent commission and giving command of units to women officers. Even after her retirement, she continues to inspire countless young women to join the Indian Army and serve the nation.

By **Shraddha Vishwanath**



Update for the day #1016 | Robert Frost

Robert Lee Frost (March 26, 1874 – January 29, 1963) was an American poet. His work was initially published in England before it was published in the United States. Known for his realistic depictions of rural life and his command of American colloquial speech.



Frost was honored frequently during his lifetime and is the only poet to receive four Pulitzer Prizes for Poetry. He became one of America's rare "public literary figures, almost an artistic institution." He was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in 1960 for his poetic works. On July 22, 1961, Frost was named poet laureate of Vermont.

Robert Frost's personal life was plagued by grief and loss. In 1885 when he was 11, his father died of tuberculosis, leaving the family with just eight dollars. Frost's mother died of cancer in 1900. In 1920, he had to commit his younger sister Jeanie to a mental hospital, where she died nine years later. Mental illness apparently ran in Frost's family, as both he and his mother suffered from depression, and his daughter Irma was committed to a mental hospital in 1947. Frost's wife, Elinor, also experienced bouts of depression.

Style and critical response:

The poet and critic Randall Jarrell often praised Frost's poetry and wrote "Robert Frost, along with Stevens and Eliot, seems to me the greatest of the American poets of this century. Frost's virtues are extraordinary. No other living poet has written so well about the actions of ordinary men; his wonderful dramatic monologues or dramatic scenes come out of a knowledge of people that few poets have had, and they are written in a verse that uses, sometimes with absolute mastery, the rhythms of actual speech". He also praised "Frost's seriousness and honesty", stating that Frost was particularly skilled at representing a wide range of human experience in his poems. The classicist Helen H. Bacon has proposed that Frost's deep knowledge of Greek and Roman classics influenced much of his work. Frost's education at Lawrence High School, Dartmouth, and Harvard "was based mainly on the classics". As examples, she links imagery and action in Frost's early poems "Birches" (1915) and "Wild Grapes" (1920) with Euripides' *Bacchae*. She cites the certain motifs, including that of the tree bent down to earth, as evidence of his "very attentive reading of *Bacchae*, almost certainly in Greek". In a later poem, "One More Brevity" (1953), Bacon compares the poetic techniques used by Frost to those of Virgil in the *Aeneid*. She notes that "this sampling of the ways Frost drew on the literature and concepts of the Greek and Roman world at every stage of his life indicates how imbued with it he was".

Themes

In Contemporary Literary Criticism, the editors state that "Frost's best work explores fundamental questions of existence, depicting with chilling starkness the loneliness of the individual in an indifferent universe." The critic T. K. Whipple focused on this bleakness in Frost's work, stating that "in much of his work, particularly in *North of Boston*, his harshest book, he emphasizes the dark background of life in rural New England, with its degeneration often sinking into total madness."

Awards and recognition

Frost was nominated for the Nobel Prize in Literature 31 times.

In June 1922, the Vermont State League of Women's Clubs elected Frost as Poet laureate of Vermont. When a *New York Times* editorial strongly criticised the decision of the Women's Clubs, Sarah Cleghorn and other women wrote to the newspaper defending Frost. On July 22, 1961, Frost was named Poet laureate of Vermont by the state legislature through Joint Resolution R-59 of the Acts of 1961, which also created the position. Robert Frost won the 1963 Bollingen Prize.

By **Vaibhav Bhansali**



Update for the Day #1017 | The Story of Rajat Gupta



Rajat Gupta was born in Kolkata and orphaned as a teenager. But what he went on to achieve from those beginnings was simply phenomenal. His life story, before the trial, had been a fairy tale of fulfilment of an American dream: orphaned at 18, graduate of IIT Delhi, MBA from Harvard. By his mid-40s, Gupta was first non-American managing director (worldwide) of McKinsey, director of Goldman Sachs's board, director of Procter & Gamble's board, advisor to the UN Secretary General, trustee of Rockefeller Foundation, advisor to several prestigious companies and NGOs, personally worth over US \$84 million.

He retired in 2007 to take on roles with the United Nations and the World Economic Forum. He partnered on philanthropic work with Bill Gates. He sat on the board of directors of five public companies. From the slums of Kolkata, Gupta had quite literally become one of the most successful businessmen alive.

With his success came enormous wealth. By 2008 Gupta was reportedly worth \$100 million. It's an unfathomable sum of money to most. A five percent annual return on that much money generates almost \$600 an hour, 24 hours a day.

He could have done anything he wanted in life. But In 2008, Goldman Sachs was suffering from the financial crisis and Warren Buffett planned to invest \$5 billion into the bank to help it survive.

Now, speculations say that as a Goldman board member, Gupta learned of this transaction before the public. It was valuable information. Goldman's survival was in doubt and Buffett's backing would surely send its stock soaring. Sixteen seconds after learning of the pending deal Gupta hung up the phone and called a hedge fund manager named Raj Rajaratnam who immediately bought 175,000 shares of Goldman Sachs. The Buffett-Goldman deal was announced to the public hours later. Goldman stock surged.

Later, Gupta and Rajaratnam both went to prison on accusation of insider trading, their careers and reputations were ruined. The SEC claims Gupta's insider tips led to \$17 million in profits.

The indictment of Rajat Gupta for insider trading by a tearful 12-member jury in the US comprising of eight women and four men not only shocked his family but the three million-strong Indian American community and hundreds of his admirers the world over.

The details of the Gupta case suggest that he suffered from what some have called billionaire envy -- the discontent of a mere multi-millionaire. He wanted a billionaire's life and the question for him was how could he become a billionaire in a short time. Intelligence took Gupta to the top of his profession.

While there's still no conclusive evidence proving him to be guilty or otherwise, Gupta continues to fight pleading innocence. The lesson that we learn from the above incidence is that while we can yearn for fast success envy might one day bring us crashing down.

By **Akshit K Jain**



Update for the day #1018 | ReefWatch Marine Conservation

ReefWatch Marine Conservation is a non-profit Organization established in 1993, as a Public Charitable Trust under the Societies Registration Act. ReefWatch is involved in research, education and outreach activities. These have included coral reef monitoring in the Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands, documentary films, beach clean ups in Mumbai, SCUBA training for scientists and education programs in schools across the country.

ReefWatch has served as a Member of the National Board for Wildlife (Government of India) since May 2007. The organization has had the privilege of working with many dedicated and inspiring individuals in the fields of science, government, filmmaking, photography and the media. Its efforts are targeted towards protecting and nurturing the diversity of life in India's coastal and marine environments.

Objective:

A first of its kind project in India, ReefWatch launched a conservation program for restoring and rehabilitating coral reefs in the Andamans. This program involves rescuing naturally broken coral fragments that would otherwise become smothered in sand and die. These are reattached to a robust substratum, such as a metal structure. Securing these fragments to an unmoving frame increases their survival rates. This in time will grow into an artificial coral reef. The next step will be to add mineral accretion technology to the artificial structures. Based on the principle of electrolysis, a mild electric current generated through a solar source will be passed through the iron frameworks. This will ensure quicker accretion of calcium carbonate, which helps the reef grow 7 – 12 times faster than normal and leaves the coral with more of an energy budget that it can use to survive warmer temperature spells and coral disease.

Initiatives:

ACE (Andaman Coral Ecologist) Diver:

This project seeks to implement a monitoring protocol conducted by recreational divers towards generating data for effective coral reef management in the Andaman Islands. Strategic sites are selected to best represent the reef and biological indicator species of fish and invertebrates have been identified to gauge environmental parameters and reef health. As a citizen science initiative, the project uses a dive certification to encourage recreational divers to participate in the monitoring and conservation of coral reefs in the Andamans.



Re(ef)Grow:

As a tangent of the main restoration and rehabilitation of coral reefs, ReefWatch intends to identify the timing and intensity of natural coral spawning in the Andaman Islands. A number of intricate, delicate processes and various factors such as temperature, day length, tide height and salinity play a major role in acting as cues for coral to mature and spawn. Understanding the timing and intensity of coral spawning in an area provides us with important indicators of reef health and resilience.

**Programs:****Ocean Art Sundays**

This is a cost-free extra curricular program for coastal village children from economically underprivileged backgrounds to teach these children about the fragile ecosystems that surround their island homes and why they should care for it. Keeping away from their regular school curriculum, they use outdoors as their classroom, where they explore and interact with their natural surroundings, and learn through practical experience. They also teach them to swim, snorkel and dive. All three of these physical activities involve an active engagement with the ecosystem and lets the children have a more personal connection with it.

Island Explorer (Urban School Program)

This program creates the opportunity for school children from urban settings to explore the rural island environment and to experience a simpler and more basic way of life. Structured to inspire students with the fascinating aspects of the Andaman Islands, its wildlife and its ecosystems, it introduces deeper thought to the way in which modern life is lived. Students are provided the unique opportunity to discover and delve into the underwater world in the crystal-clear blue waters of the Andaman Islands.

Sustainable Livelihood Training

ReefWatch Marine Conservation, in collaboration with the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Forest Department, is working towards sensitizing local youth to the environment of the islands and training them in sustainable livelihood careers in ecotourism as guides and home stay owners. They conduct workshops and extended training to teach them about the ecosystems of the islands, how to introduce these ecosystems to people visiting here and the need to understand and communicate the fragility of the environments here.

The state of Karnataka has a coastline of about 320 kilometers that includes 22 urban

agglomerations and over 1000 villages. The high density of population has resulted in several negative impacts on the coast. Reefwatch is teaming up with local organizations, the Forest Department and communities based on the coast to help restore the coast of Karnataka with several initiatives. These include Marine Megafauna Stranding Response, Better Beaches & Outreach.



We who dwell on this planet need clean air, food, medicines for illnesses, a hospitable climate, recreation, inspiration and access to a source of inspiration and richness that is greater than ourselves or our own everyday lives. For these reasons, a healthy ocean is vital for human health. We owe it to ourselves to nurture these resources for our own survival and that of future generations.

By **Chaithra Shree G**



Update for the day #1019 | Six Best Doctors In The World

As the sun sets in Steve Job's Life, he gives the world one last gift. "The World's six best Doctors" - by Steve Jobs.



This is his final essay:

I reached the pinnacle of success in the business world. In some others' eyes, my life is the epitome of success. However, aside from work, I have little joy. In the end, my wealth is only a fact of life that I am accustomed to. At this moment, lying on my bed and recalling my life, I realize that all the recognition and wealth that I took so much pride in have paled and become meaningless in the face of my death.

You can employ someone to drive the car for you, make money for you but you cannot have someone bear your sickness for you. Material things lost can be found or replaced. But there is one thing that can never be found when it's lost - Life.

Whichever stage in life you are in right now, with time, you will face the day when the curtain comes down. Treasure love for your family, love for your spouse, love for your friends.

Treat yourself well and cherish others.

As we grow older, and hopefully wiser, we realize that a \$300 or a \$30 watch both tell the same time. You will realize that your true inner happiness does not come from the material things of this world. Whether you fly first class or economy, if the plane goes down - you go down with it.

Therefore, I hope you realize, when you have mates, buddies and old friends, brothers and sisters, who you chat with, laugh with, talk with, sing songs with, talk about north-south-east-west or heaven and earth, that is true happiness!

Don't educate your children to be rich. Educate them to be happy. So when they grow up they will know the value of things and not the price.

Eat your food as your medicine, otherwise you have to eat medicine as your food.

The One who loves you will never leave you for another because, even if there are 100 reasons to give up, he or she will find a reason to hold on.

There is a big difference between a human being and being human. Only a few really understand it.

You are loved when you are born. You will be loved when you die. In between, you have to manage!

The six best doctors in the world are - sunlight, rest, exercise, diet, self-confidence and friends.

Maintain them in all stages and enjoy a healthy life!!

By **Akshit Jain**



Update for the Day #1020 | The Suez Canal Crisis!

The Suez Canal Crisis!

Background of the Suez Canal.

The Suez Canal, one of the world's most important trading routes, was opened in 1869. It is a man-made waterway that connects the Mediterranean Sea and the Red Sea. It is a vital maritime trade route that connects much of Asia and Europe. It is said to be vital and not indispensable because there are alternatives where vessels if not plied through the Suez, then it can go around Africa by traversing the Cape of Good Hope. The only problem with the alternative route is it can take an extra two weeks and it can be very expensive. So, people opt to move cargo through the Suez purely for economic reasons. However, considering it is a man-made waterway, Suez does have its own problems. For starters, it is quite narrow. In some places, it is extremely narrow. So favourable conditions are required to navigate these tight spots. It is around 193km and the journey to cross the canal takes 10 to 12 hours.

The blockage of the Canal.

On 23rd March 2021, a container vessel, MV Ever Given completely blocked the Suez Canal. The Ever Given is 400m-long (1,312ft) and weighs 200,000 tonnes, with a maximum capacity of 20,000 containers. It was currently carrying 18,300 containers when it blocked the canal.

The ship is operated by Taiwanese transport company Evergreen Marine and is one of the world's largest container vessels. It became stranded on 23rd March, after running aground and becoming lodged sideways across the waterway.

At first a gust of wind was thought to be to blame. The wind speed at the time was recorded at 40 knots, but the Suez Canal Authority (SCA) told that this was not the only reason for the ship becoming stranded. An investigation would be needed to determine whether technical or human errors occurred, the authority added.

As on 28th March, 2021, there were around 400 ships stuck in a tailback waiting to pass through the 193km canal on either side of the blockage.

How much has the blockage cost?

About 12% of global trade, around one million barrels of oil and roughly 8% of liquefied natural gas pass through the canal each day. SCA said that the Canal's revenues were taking a \$14m-\$15m hit for each day of the blockage. Prior to the pandemic, trade passing through the Suez Canal contributed to 2% of Egypt's GDP, according to a survey.

Separately, a survey showed the stranded ship was holding up an estimated \$9.6bn of trade along the waterway each day. That equates to \$400m and 3.3 million tonnes of cargo an hour, or \$6.7m a minute. Looking at the bigger picture, an insurance company said that its analysis showed the blockage could cost global trade between \$6bn to \$10bn a week and reduce annual trade growth by 0.2 to 0.4 percentage points. The cost of renting some vessels to ship cargo to and from Asia

and the Middle East had jumped 47% to \$2.2m. Some vessels had been rerouted to avoid the Suez Canal which was adding around 8 days to their total journeys.

The Suez Canal blockage doesn't just affect the global shipping industry or the Egyptian economy – but a countless businesses, from domestic transport providers to retailers, supermarkets and manufacturers are also impacted. The vessel had 20 containers of goods stranded on the Ever Given. There was food, some spare parts for motors, fork lift trucks, coffee supplies, toilet paper, furniture and all sorts of goods.

There were concerns that if the blockage at the Suez Canal continued, some firms will have to pay to order more goods and have them sent over by air freight, which costs at least three times more.

How did efforts to free the ship go?

In the early hours of 29th March, rescue workers from the SCA and the Dutch company Smit Salvage used 14 tugboats to move the ship from the canal bank, following dredging and excavation work which was done over the week. The rescue teams working on both land and water continuously for five days and nights have dug up millions of tonnes of earth from around the ship. The rescue efforts received a major boost at night-time due to tides swelling up the canal's water level and allowing the Ever Given to regain buoyancy. The combination of the tugboats and dredging equipment helped in dislodging the ship. If these had failed, there would have been another option which was removing some cargo and fuel from the vessel which would have required a delicate and a lengthy operation. After the continuous efforts of the rescue team, the vessel was successfully refloated by the afternoon of 29th March.

Source:<https://finshots.in/archive/the-suez-crisis-reloaded/>,
<https://www.bbc.com/news/business-56559073>,
<https://edition.cnn.com/2021/03/29/africa/suez-canal-refloating-intl-hnk/index.html>

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