

Politics & Democracy

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Queen Elizabeth II was the Queen of the United Kingdom and the Head of the Commonwealth of Nations from 6 February 1952 until her death on 8 September 2022. Her reign of 70 years and 214 days is the longest of any British monarch, the longest recorded of any female head of state in history, and the second-longest verified reign of any sovereign in history. She leaves behind a legacy for the world.



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**An illustrious
career indeed
Roger Federer**

Facelift for three important railway stations

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has approved Indian Railways' proposal for redevelopment of the following three major railway stations with an approximate total investment of nearly ₹10,000 Cr.:

- a) New Delhi Railway Station;
- b) Ahmedabad Railway Station; and
- c) Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CSMT) Mumbai

The Cabinet decision gives a new direction to station development. Work on redevelopment of 199 Stations is going on. Of these, tenders have been issued for 47 stations. Master planning and design for the remaining is underway. Work is progressing fast for 32 stations.

The standard elements of station design will be:

- 1. Every station will have a spacious roof plaza (36/72/108 m) with all passenger amenities at one place along with spaces for retail, cafeterias, recreational facilities.
- 2. Both sides of the city will be connected with the station, with the station building on both sides of Railway tracks.
- 3. Facilities like food court, waiting lounge, playing area for children, place for local products, etc. will be available.
- 4. The stations located within the city will have a city center like place.
- 5. To make the stations comfortable, there will be proper illumination, way finding/signage, acoustics, lifts/escalators/travelators.
- 6. Master plan has been prepared for smooth movement of traffic, with adequate parking facilities.
- 7. There will be integration with other modes of transportation like metro, bus etc.
- 8. Green Building Techniques will be used, with solar energy, water conservation/recycling and improved tree cover.
- 9. Special care will be taken to provide Divyang friendly facilities.
- 10. These stations will be developed on the concept of intelligent building.
- 11. There will be segregation of arrival/departures, Clutter free platforms, improved surfaces, fully covered platforms.
- 12. The stations will be safe with installation of CCTV and access control.
- 13. These will be iconic station buildings.

Popular Front of India (PFI) and its affiliates are 'Unlawful Association'

The Popular Front of India (PFI) and its associates or affiliates or fronts have been found to be involved in serious offences, including terrorism and its financing, targeted gruesome killings, disregarding the constitutional set up of the country, disturbing public order etc. which are prejudicial to the integrity, security and sovereignty of the country.

Therefore, the Ministry of Home Affairs found it necessary to curb the nefarious activities of the organization and has hence declared the Popular Front of India (PFI) along with its associates or affiliates or fronts including Rehab India Foundation (RIF), Campus Front of India (CFI), All India Imams Council (AIIC), National Confederation of Human Rights Organization (NCHRO), National Women's Front, Junior Front, Empower India Foundation and Rehab Foundation, Kerala as an "unlawful association" under the provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967.

A new Chief of Defence Staff

The Government has decided to appoint Lt General Anil Chauhan (Retired) PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, SM, VSM as the next Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) who shall also function as Secretary to Government of India, Department of Military Affairs with effect from the date of his assumption of charge and until further orders.

In a career spanning over nearly 40 years, Lt. Gen. Anil Chauhan (Retd.) had held several command, staff and instrumental appointments and had extensive experience in counter-insurgency operations in Jammu & Kashmir and North-East India.

Born on 18th May 1961, Lt Gen Anil Chauhan (Retd.) was commissioned into the 11 Gorkha Rifles of the Indian Army in 1981. He is an alumnus of the National Defence Academy, Khadakwasla and Indian Military Academy, Dehradun. In the rank of Maj General, the officer had commanded an Infantry Division in the critical Baramulla sector in the Northern Command. Later as Lt General, he commanded a corps in the North East and subsequently went on to become the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Eastern Command from September 2019 and held the charge until his retirement from service in May 2021.

In addition to these command appointments, the officer also tenanted important staff appointments including the charge of Director General of Military Operations. Earlier, the officer had also served as a United Nations mission to Angola.

Even after his retirement from the Army, he continued to contribute to national security and strategic matters. For his distinguished and illustrious service in the Army, Lt General Anil Chauhan (Retd) was awarded the Param Vishisht Seva Medal, Uttam Yudh Seva Medal, Ati Vishisht Seva Medal, Sena Medal and Vishisht Seva Medal.

Prosecutors General at SCO

The 20th Meeting of Prosecutors General of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Member States was held in Astana, Kazakhstan. The Indian delegation attended the meeting in Astana, Kazakhstan under the leadership of:-

- i. Shri Tushar Mehta, Learned Solicitor General of India, Department of Legal Affairs
- ii. Dr. Anju Rath Rana, Additional Secretary, Department of Legal Affairs

As a precursor to the event Dr. Anju Rath Rana, Additional Secretary, Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law & Justice attended the Meeting of the Experts Group for the 20th Meeting of the Prosecutors General of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Member States. The Meeting of the Experts Group reaffirmed strengthening of cooperation at bilateral and multilateral levels between SCO Member States. The Experts group discussed issues pertaining to the growth of transnational economic crime in the world and their experience of recovery of proceeds of crime from the states. The discussion between the Member States was held in a constructive and friendly atmosphere fostering the spirit of mutual trust and understanding.

The 20th Meeting of Prosecutors General was attended by the Solicitor General of the Republic of India Shri Tushar Mehta, Prosecutor General of the Republic of Kazakhstan Asylov B.N., Prosecutor of the Supreme People's Procuratorate of the People's Republic of China Zhang Jun, Prosecutor General of the Kyrgyz Republic Zulushev K.T., Additional Attorney-General of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan Rashdeen Nawaz Kasuri, Prosecutor General of the Russian Federation Krasnov I.V., Prosecutor General of the Republic of Tajikistan Rakhmon Yu.A., Prosecutor General of the Republic of Uzbekistan Yuldashev N.T. and the SCO Secretary-General Zhang Ming.

A Protocol incorporating the deliberations of the 20th meeting of Prosecutors General of the SCO Member States was signed and adopted by the SCO Member States. The salient features of the Protocol are as under:

1. To strengthen cooperation between the Prosecutor General's Offices of the SCO Member States with respect to the recovery of the proceeds of crime particularly in money laundering.
2. To develop cooperation between the prosecutor's offices of the SCO member states at international institutions and forums on issues related to combating economic crimes like money laundering, search, seizure and recovery of the proceeds of crime from states.
3. To use the forums of bilateral and multilateral gatherings to discuss about ways to strengthen the systems in place to

combat economic crimes particularly money laundering.

4. To continue the exchanging of information on domestic laws governing search, seizure, and recovery of proceeds of crime. State's experiences in their prevention as well as references, methodological, information-analytical, scientific and other materials in the field of combating economic crimes.
5. To develop cooperation between the Prosecutors General offices of the SCO member states in the field of training and advanced training of prosecutors and employees of other law enforcement agencies whose competence includes issues of combating economic crimes.
6. To conduct and participate in bilateral and multilateral events on combating economic crimes, search, seizure and recovery of proceeds of crime from states.

Addressing the eminent gathering of Prosecutors General from SCO Member States, Shri Tushar Mehta, Learned Solicitor General of India highlighted the initiatives taken by the Government of India to address Transnational Economic Crimes internationally by the ratification of two UN Conventions; the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and its three protocols and the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC). At the national level in order to stop the threat of Transnational Economic Crimes, India has implemented a number of legislative measures over the years to prevent, detect, and penalise money laundering by specialised legislation namely Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA), Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA), The Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018 (FEOA) and the Companies Act, 2013.

Shri Tushar Mehta also underlined the vital role of Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties/Agreements for the cases where it is necessary to gather information and conduct formal investigations abroad with the help of foreign government, when the accused person(s) has fled the country after committing a crime, or when a part or the entire crime was committed outside the country.

In order to seek aid in pursuing such crimes India has signed Mutual Legal Assistance Agreements to request assistance in investigating such crimes. India has signed Extradition Treaties/Agreements with 47 and 11 countries respectively and Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties/Agreements with 42 nations to seek assistance in the investigation of such instances.

The next (21st) meeting of the Prosecutors General of the SCO Member States will be held in the People's Republic of China in 2023.

Conference on Eco-Alternatives

A Conference of start-ups and innovators working on eco-alternatives to banned single use plastics and air quality management took place at Chennai Trade Centre, Chennai. It was inaugurated by Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey, Minister of State for Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Consumer Affairs, Government of India in the august presence of Shri Siva V Meyyanathan, Minister of Environment, Climate Change, Youth Welfare and Sports Development, Government of Tamil Nadu. The Start-up Conference has been jointly organized by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, and Government of Tamil Nadu.

Start-ups and innovators have been involved in developing solutions for many pressing environmental challenges including in the development of eco-alternatives to banned single use plastics and air quality management.

The Start-ups and innovators have taken up this challenge and developed eco-alternatives. One Start-up has made packaging material from rice stubble. The innovation not only addressed plastic pollution but will also help in reducing the pollution caused by burning of rice stubble. Another start-up has developed flexible packaging material from sea weeds. Start-ups and innovators are not only providing solutions to environmental problems but also assisting in economic development of the country. The Government of India focussing on supporting innovators and start-ups through various schemes of the Government such as Start-up India Mission.

The Conference provided a platform for engagement and exchange of views amongst innovators and institutions, Government Departments supporting start-up ecosystems in the country and banks, on steps taken for scaling up innovations and supporting start-ups.

National Tourism Awards 2018-19

Vice President of India, Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar presented the National Tourism Awards to awardees at a programme organized by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, to mark the World Tourism Day, 2022. Union Minister of Tourism Shri G. Kishan Reddy and MoS Tourism Shri Ajay Bhatt also graced the ceremony. Secretary Tourism Shri Arvind Singh and other senior officers of the Ministry were also present on this occasion. A total of 81 awards were given away this year highlighting the achievements of the industry in 2018-19. Vice President also released India Tourism Statistics 2022, New Incredible India Global Promotional Films, and “GoBeyond:75 Experiences of North India” an e-book on this occasion.

During his keynote address Vice President Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar described India as a “heaven for tourism” and asked the Indians to explore domestic tourist destinations first before looking at international travel. Referring to Bharat’s long civilizational history and rich cultural heritage, he underlined that most of the tourist places in the country have a deep connect with our history, folk arts and ancient texts. Vice President termed tourism a key driver of economic growth and employment generation in the country. Referring to multiple dimensions of tourism, the Vice President stressed the need to fully leverage India’s immense potential in the field of medical tourism as well as the growing global interest in our ancient practices of healing such as Ayurveda and Yoga.

Appreciating the Government’s efforts for the development of the tourism sector in the country, Shri Dhankhar said that the development of tourism infrastructure has been accompanied with innovative initiatives such as Dekho Apna Desh and Utsav Portal. Speaking on the occasion Shri G. Kishan Reddy said that under the guidance of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, India’s Tourism sector is moving towards creative, responsible and inclusive growth. Ministry of Tourism is working with a 360-degree perspective and all government ministries and departments are working for the development of

tourism sector. Along with Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Commerce are also working for the development of this sector, which will help in establishing better synergy and convergence leading to sustainable and world class infrastructure development.

Shri Reddy further highlighted that India plans to position itself as a major tourism destination during its presidency of G20 for 2023. During the presidency we aim to showcase India as a ‘must visit’ destination at a global level. 3600 railway coaches have been allocated for tourism purpose for Circuit specific trains. Such trains have already started for Ramayana and Buddhist Circuits while the one for Krishna Circuit will start soon. Our aim is to make India one of the most prominent destinations of the world. Union Minister added that Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is working as brand ambassador of Indian tourism.

MoS Tourism Shri Ajay Bhatt congratulated all the award winners and said that Ministry of Tourism has prepared a draft National Tourism Policy 2022 as part of the vision of New India on high trajectory of growth and prosperity. The Policy aims at Improving framework conditions for tourism development in the country, supporting tourism industries, strengthening tourism support functions and developing tourism sub sectors. During his welcome speech Secretary Tourism Shri Arvind Singh said that this kind of award motivates the travel and tourism sector. Travel & Tourism is one of the world’s largest economic sector, creating export and prosperity around the world. Indian Tourism sector has emerged as one of the key drivers of growth for Indian economy. As India celebrates 75 years of independence, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, commences its Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM) iconic week by recognizing the efforts of industry stakeholders and conferring the National Tourism Awards. Due to Covid, the Awards could not be organised during the last 2 years.

Fund of Funds for investment in Start-up India

Fund of Funds for Start-ups (FFS), launched under Start-up India initiative in 2016 by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has committed Rs. 7,385 crore to 88 Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs) as of 24th September 2022. These AIFs in turn have invested Rs. 11,206 crore in 720 start-ups. FFS has been playing a monumental role in mobilizing domestic capital in Indian start-up ecosystem.

FFS was announced with a corpus of Rs. 10,000 crore. The corpus is to be built up over 14th and 15th Finance Commission Cycles (FY 2016-2020 and FY 2021-2025) through budgetary support by Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India. Under FFS, support is extended to SEBI registered Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs), which in turn invest in start-ups. FFS has not only made capital available for start-ups at early stage, seed stage and growth stage but also played a catalytic role in terms of facilitating raising of domestic capital, reducing dependence on foreign capital and encouraging home grown and new venture capital funds. Collectively, the AIFs supported by FFS have a target corpus of over Rs. 48,000 crore. Among the prominent AIFs of leading start-up investment firms supported under FFS are Chiratae Ventures, India Quotient, Blume Ventures, IvyCap, Waterbridge, Omnivore, Aavishkaar, JM Financial, Fireside Ventures, and more.

The amount committed under FFS has seen a notable growth over the years recording a CAGR of over 21% since the launch of the Scheme. Furthermore, Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) which is responsible for operationalising the Scheme has undertaken a series of reforms recently to expedite the drawdowns to enable AIFs assisted under FFS to avail accelerated drawdowns. This has created a positive impact and resulted in year on year (Q1 FY 2021-22 vis-à-vis Q1 FY 2022-23) surge of 100% in the amount of drawdowns.

FFS has helped anchor 67 AIFs out of 88 AIFs supported and 38 of these are first time fund managers which is line with FFS's core objective of anchoring venture capital investments for Indian start-ups. Investments into eligible start-ups is approximately 3.7 times of FFS disbursements which is well above the minimum stipulated 2 times under the Scheme. Performing start-ups supported through FFS are showing valuation increase by more than 10 times with number of them even achieving unicorn status (valuation of over USD 1 billion). Dunzo, CureFit, FreshToHome, Jumbotail, Unacademy, Uniphore, Vogo, Zostel, Zetwerk etc., are some of the notable start-ups funded through FFS.

India – UAE CEPA

The India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) which came into effect on the 1 May 2022 is already creating a significant positive impact on India-UAE trade. Indian exports to the UAE, excluding petroleum products grew from US\$ 5.17 billion during June-August 2021 to US\$ 5.92 billion during June-August 2022, which denotes an increase of 14%.

It is pertinent to note that India's global non-petroleum exports during the same period (Jun-Aug 2022) grew by 3% on an annual basis. This implies the growth rate of India's non-petroleum exports to the UAE is almost 5 times as that of India's non-petroleum exports to the world.

Excluding petroleum related imports, Indian imports from the UAE during the same three-month period grew from US\$ 5.56 billion (June-August 2021) to US\$ 5.61 billion (June-August 2022) or an increase of 1% in percentage terms.

It may be noted that India's non-oil export growth of around 14% on year-on-year basis comes in the context of significant macroeconomic headwinds such as conflict in Ukraine, COVID-19 related lockdowns in China, rising inflationary pressures, expected Policy tightening in advanced economies, global growth slowdown and consequent reduced demand, reduction in global merchandise trade (growth slowed down to 3.2% in Q1 2022 vis-a-vis 5.7% in Q4 2021) etc.

WTO's global trade growth forecast for the entire year 2022 was at 3% in April 2022. This forecast is expected to be revised downwards as the macroeconomic headwinds had worsened since April 2022.

Indian exports are likely to increase further in the coming months with increasing use of the CEPA by the exporters and with dedicated efforts from Department of Commerce, in association with Indian Mission in the UAE, through organization of a series of trade promotion events in the UAE during the current Financial Year.

The analysis of the India-UAE CEPA was carried out from the period of June-August 2022, excluding statistics of oil trade. The month of May has not been included for the purpose of the analysis as it is considered as a transitory period. Oil trade has not been considered as import increase in oil/petroleum products is largely on account of the rise in global prices and to a certain extent on an increase offtake in volumes. Further, it is pertinent to mention that bulk of the oil imports from the UAE are of Crude Petroleum, the demand for which is inelastic and the customs duty for which is very low.

SymphoNE for North East Tourism

Shri B.L. Verma, MoS for DoNER & Co-Operation in his video message, said that GoI under the visionary leadership of PM Shri Narendra Modi has been passionately working towards the development of North-East India with tourism sector being one of the core sectors and programs like Sympho-NE will serve as a milestone in the development of tourism potential in the region.

Shri. Harpreet Singh, Joint Secretary, MDoNER, welcomed all the dignitaries and opined that Sympho-NE is a great platform to assimilate the best of ideas and best practices that would boost and unleash the potential of tourism sector in the north-eastern region.

Mr. Nitin Jaiswal, Asia Head, Bloomberg appreciated both central and state Governments for their efforts towards boosting tourism sector in North-East India. Mr. Jaiswal highlighted the invaluable role of the locals and indigenous community who could prove to be a big catalyst and influence for development of tourism sector in North-East India.

Smit. R Lalrodingi, Advisor North Eastern Council, emphasized on the importance of 'Skilled Man Power' with technical training that would further enhance the tourism activities and showcase the 'culture, adventure and nature' of the North-Eastern region.

Mr. Kiran Gitte, IAS, Tripura Tourism Board, underlined the importance of creating a market economy to ensure sustainable tourism and making the North East, one of the most sought-after tourist places in the world.

Mr. Oken Tayeng, tour operator "Aber Country Travels" on adventure sports, talked about bringing out a government policy for the tourists to have a safe environment for them especially in adventurous sports like trekking, rafting, etc. to ensure their safety.

Shri. Lok Ranjan, Secretary MDoNER, in his concluding remarks for the development of Sympho-NE, stated

that north-east India is a beautiful paradise and with a common vision of the community as a whole, we could showcase the diversity and beauty of the north-eastern region. By reimagining the Tourism Sector of North East, he said that the idea of "People and the Planet on the Core " could help us to march towards inclusiveness, resilience and sustainability which will benefit the future generations as well. He further said that Sympho-NE represents the Ministry's commitment to Public Participation and Jan Bhagidari.

Working on the opportunities towards exploring grand opportunities in the tourism sector in the north-eastern region, Ministry of North Eastern Region organized the virtual conference 'Sympho-NE' on 24th and 27th September 2022. Sympho-NE aimed to create a roadmap to showcase the unexplored beauty of north-east India and appreciate the tourism sector in the north-eastern region. It included ideation, discussion and formulation of the ideas and suggestions by thought leaders, policy thinkers, social media influencers, travel & tour operators and senior officials of the Ministry of DoNER and state departments.

SymphoNE aims to develop a one-stop solution to eliminate all obstacles that are being faced by the tourists, and the tour operators alike while carrying out the operations for the visitors while solving logistics and infrastructural bottlenecks, lack of awareness about the locations among the tourist, and to spread necessary information among the people for marketing/promotional activities.

A Decisive Victory for our Security Forces

Fulfilling Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Left Wing Extremism Free India and Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah's zero tolerance policy against extremism, the Ministry of Home Affairs has reached the final stage of decisive battle against Left Wing Extremism across the country. The security forces today achieved a decisive victory in the ongoing fight against Left Wing Extremism.

As a result of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's zero tolerance policy against Left Wing Extremism, for the first time by entering the 'Budhapahad' situated at the border of Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand and the extremely inaccessible areas of Chakrabandha and Bhimabandh of Bihar and successfully ousting the Maoists from their strongholds, permanent security forces camps have been set up. All these areas were strongholds of top Maoists and a huge quantity of arms, ammunition, foreign grenades, Aero Bombs and IEDs were recovered by the security forces at these places. A special strategy is being adopted against Left Wing Extremism from the year 2019. The coordinated efforts and campaigns of Central and State Security Forces and related agencies have led to unprecedented success in the fight against Left Wing Extremism.

On this decisive success, the Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah congratulated the CRPF and the State Security Forces and said that the Ministry of Home Affairs under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will continue the zero tolerance policy against Left Wing Extremism and Terrorism and this fight will be further intensified.

In 2022, the security forces have achieved unprecedented success in Operation Octopus, Operation Double Bull, and Operation Chakrabandha in the fight against Left Wing Extremists. 7 Maoists were killed and 436 arrested/surrendered in Chhattisgarh, 4 Maoists were killed in Jharkhand and 120 arrested/surrendered.

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Twists and Turns

The position for the Congress President remains open, and in the fray are MP Shashi Tharoor, MP Digvijay Singh, and until recently the Chief Minister of Rajasthan, Ashok Gehlot.

● Asheesh Bhandari



Rahul Gandhi recently announced on different occasions that-

- (a) No member of the Gandhi family will stand for election to the post; and
- (b) One person can hold only one post

Interestingly, it is reported in the media that the interim party Chief Sonia Gandhi had asked Ashok Gehlot to contest for the top post in the Congress. She also reportedly told Shashi Tharoor to contest. However, she has stated that she will

remain neutral.

The condition that one person can hold only one post meant that Ashok Gehlot would have to resign as the Chief Minister if he is elected as the President of the Congress Party. In this eventuality, it was reported that Sachin Pilot, the Deputy Chief Minister of Rajasthan would take over as the Chief Minister of Rajasthan. This seemed like a great idea for succession in Rajasthan. Only it proved not to be so.

The Congress Party in Rajasthan is divided

between the Gehlot faction and the Pilot faction. This seems to be the case ever since 2020 when Sachin Pilot attempted to stake claim as the Chief Minister of Rajasthan through a coup of sorts. It was reported in some quarters then that Sachin Pilot would walk over to the BJP just as Jyotiraditya Scindia had done a few months before. But with Sachin Pilot publicly denying any such intention on his part, this matter was laid to rest.

With the post of the Party President open



to election, this was an opportunity for promoting Gehlot to the senior most post in the Party with Sachin Pilot being promoted to the post of Chief Minister of Rajasthan. Rahul Gandhi has always sought to induct young blood into senior and more responsible roles in the Grand Old Party. This would have been a start in this direction.

However, recently 91 MLAs from the Gehlot faction rebelled against his decision to run for Party President and allow Sachin Pilot to take over as the Chief Minister. Their contention was that one of the Gehlot faction should be nominated as the Chief Minister of Rajasthan. They not only threw in the spanner on a perfect plan but also exposed the degree of factionalism that seems to exist in the Rajasthan Congress Party – clearly the Gehlot faction is more important than the Congress Party. According to recent news reports, the Congress Party has decided to take action against three senior members of the Gehlot faction for instigating this rebellion.

To bail the Congress Party out of this

conundrum, Ashok Gehlot withdrew his nomination to the post of Party President and for the time being, Sachin Pilot must give up the idea of becoming the Chief Minister of Rajasthan.

Since no election is an election without a contest, Digvijay Singh, another loyal Congress Party member will file his nomination papers shortly. At the time of going to press, the two candidates for this post are MP Shashi Tharoor and MP Digvijay Singh – and neither of them hold posts that can create a problem as in Rajasthan.

How is the Congress president elected?

The President of the Party is elected by Indian National Congress (INC) delegates. The Congress constitution defines INC delegates as “all members of the Pradesh Congress Committees (PCC)”.

Every Block Congress Committee elects a delegate to the PCC by secret ballot. PCC members also consist of ex-presidents of the state units who have completed a full term of 365 days and have continued to be members of the party. Presidents of the

District Congress Committees (DCCs) who are not eligible to become either president or secretary of the PCC are also included. All India Congress Committee members who reside in the state, members elected by the Congress Legislature party (CLP), and members appointed by the PCC executive from “special elements not adequately represented” as defined by the rules of the Working Committee of the party, are also PCC members. Therefore there is a Congress Party delegate in each block of every state in the country. The blocks, which are notified by the government, in all the states have different numbers of PCC delegates. It is estimated there are currently at least 9,000 PCC members.

The INC delegates elect the Congress President from the nominees. As per Article XVIII of the Congress constitution, “any ten delegates may jointly propose the name of any delegate for election as president of the Congress.”

The chairman of the Central Election Authority (CEA) is the ex-Officio Returning Officer for the presidential



election. The CEA publishes the names of all candidates for the post of the party chief.

Nominees have seven days to withdraw their names and after the withdrawal, the list of the remaining candidates is sent to each state unit of the party. If only one candidate remains after the withdrawal, then that person is declared the President. If there is more than one candidate, then each INC delegate votes for their preferred candidate. In the case of only two candidates, the delegates choose between them, but if there are more than two candidates, the delegates have to mention at least two preferences on the voting paper.

The counting of votes is done by the Returning Officer and the candidate with more than 50 per cent of the first preference votes becomes the Congress Party President.

For the current round of elections nomination can be filed till 30 September 2022. The last day to withdraw the nomination is 8 October 2022. After withdrawal, if need be, the elections will be held on 17 October 2022. The results of the election will be declared on 19 October 2022.

The Candidates

There is unlikely to be any more upheavals in the election process for the President of the Congress Party and the final two nominees are Shashi Tharoor and Digvijay Singh, both MPs.

Shashi Tharoor is a former Under Secretary-General of the United Nations. In 2006, he contested for the post of UN Secretary-General of the United Nations but finished as the runner up to Ban Ki-moon. He retired from the United Nations shortly after that.

Tharoor started his political career in India in 2009 by joining the Indian National Congress and representing the party from Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala. He won the elections from his constituency that year and became a Member of Parliament. During the tenure of the UPA Government from 2004 to 2014, Shashi Tharoor was the Minister of State for External Affairs (2009-10) and the Minister of Human Resource Development (2012-14).

Tharoor once said that when he began his political career he chose Congress because he felt ideologically comfortable with it. The fact that Dr. Manmohan Singh had nominated him for the post of UN Secretary-General may also have had some influence. Having won the

elections, he was sworn in as Minister of State for External Affairs, in charge of Africa, Latin America, and the Gulf. He was also in-charge of the Haj pilgrimage, and the Consular, Passports, and Visas services of the Ministry. As Minister of State for External Affairs, he re-established long-dormant diplomatic relationships with African nations, where his fluency in French made him popular with Francophone countries and their heads of state. In April 2010, he resigned from the position, following allegations that he had misused his office to get shares in the IPL cricket franchise. Tharoor denied the charges and called for a full inquiry.

Between 2010 and 2012 Tharoor remained active in Parliament and was member-convenor of the Parliamentary Forum on Disaster Management, a member of the Standing Committee on External Affairs, of the Consultative Committee of Defence, the Public Accounts Committee, and the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Telecoms. He participated in several important debates of the 15th Lok Sabha, including on the Lokpal Bill, the demand for grants of the Ministry of External Affairs and of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the black money debate, and so on.

In 2012 Tharoor was re-inducted into the Union Council of Ministers by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh with the portfolio of minister of state for HRD. In this role he took special interest in the problems and challenges of adult education, distance education and enhancing high-quality research by academic institutions.

In May 2014 Tharoor won his re-election from Thiruvananthapuram and became a member of the 16th Lok Sabha, sitting in Opposition. He was named Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs. Shashi Tharoor was dropped from the post of Congress spokesperson in 2014 after he praised statements of his party's opponent, Prime Minister Modi.

After the BJP victory of 2014, Tharoor was asked to help the treasury benches draft a statement condemning Pakistan for freeing Zaki-ur-Rehman Lakhvi, the Lashkar-e-Toiba commander, who masterminded the 2008 Mumbai attacks that killed 166 people.

Although there was significant support for Tharoor to contest as the Prime Minister candidate in 2019 General Elections, he has disowned, downplayed, and distanced himself from any such online campaigns run by his large number of followers.

As a candidate for the post of President of the Congress Party, Shashi Tharoor brings to the table a lot of knowledge and experience not just in domestic but in international affairs as well.

On the other hand Digvijay Singh is a Member of Parliament in the Rajya Sabha. He is an ex-General secretary of the Congress Party's All India Congress Committee. He was the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh from 1993 to 2003.

Digvijay Singh joined the Congress party in the 1970s. He became a Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) as the party's representative for the Raghogarh Vidhan Sabha constituency of the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly in the 1977 elections. Digvijay Singh was later re-elected from the Raghogarh constituency and became a Minister of State and later a Cabinet Minister in the Madhya Pradesh state government led by Arjun Singh, whom

he has called his mentor.

He was president of the Madhya Pradesh Congress Committee between 1985 and 1988, having been nominated by Rajiv Gandhi, and was re-elected in 1992. In 1993, he resigned from the Lok Sabha because he had been appointed Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh.

The Hindi Belt, of which Madhya Pradesh is a part, has a significant number of economically and socially disadvantaged Dalit and tribal communities. Through his policies, which evoked both strong support and criticism among academics, Singh targeted the prospects of those communities during his first term in office. These efforts attempted to arrest the declining support for the INC by those communities, who since the 1960s had increasingly been favouring the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), the Jana Sangh and its political successor, the BJP. He followed the example set by Arjun Singh in taking this approach, which was not adopted in other areas of the Belt such as Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. Among the measures introduced to achieve his aim were the Education Guarantee Scheme (EGS), redistribution of common grazing land (charnoi) to landless dalits and tribals, free electricity for farmers, the promotion of Panchayati Raj as a means of delegating power to villagers, and a supplier diversity scheme which guaranteed that thirty percent of government supplies would be purchased from the disadvantaged groups. There was less emphasis than previously on methods of assistance that were focused on reservation of jobs.

In the 1998 elections, Singh was re-elected and appointed to serve a second term as chief minister. Census data suggests that Singh's education reforms had become a particularly successful aspect of his



government. Those reforms included the construction of thousands of new village schools under the EGS, and may have been significant in increasing the literacy rate in Madhya Pradesh from 45 per cent in 1991 to 64 per cent in 2001. The improvement among girls was particularly high, growing from 29 per cent to 50 per cent. In his second term as Chief Minister, Singh sought to extend his de-centralization to socially beneficial ideas by instituting reforms in healthcare that would guarantee a minimum level of care at panchayat level by financing the training of locally nominated healthcare professionals. This mirrored his earlier efforts in education and was known as the Healthcare Guarantee Scheme.

Following his party's defeat in 2003, Singh shifted his attention to working for Congress from the centre, becoming a general secretary of the AICC and being involved in the party's organisation across several states. In 2012, Singh said that there was a need for younger people to be involved in state assemblies and that he had no further interest in contesting state elections. He expressed a willingness to contest the 2014 Lok Sabha elections if Congress wanted him to do so. In January 2014, he was elected as a Member of Parliament to the Rajya Sabha from Madhya Pradesh.

Digvijay Singh brings with him a lot of experience in domestic politics and in the workings of All India Congress Committee.

Both candidates have their strong points. May the best man win!



The Longest Reigning Queen

Queen Elizabeth II was the Queen of the United Kingdom and the Head of the Commonwealth of Nations from 6 February 1952 until her death on 8 September 2022. Her reign of 70 years and 214 days is the longest of any British monarch, the longest recorded of any female head of state in history, and the second-longest verified reign of any sovereign in history. She leaves behind a legacy for the world.

● Asheesh Bhandari

Elizabeth was born on 21 April 1926, in Mayfair, London, as the first child of the Duke and Duchess of York who later became King George VI and Queen Elizabeth. She was born during the reign of her paternal grandfather, King George V. Her father, Prince Albert,

Duke of York, was the second son of the King. Her mother, Elizabeth, Duchess of York (later Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother), was the youngest daughter of Scottish aristocrat Claude Bowes-Lyon, 14th Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorne. Her father acceded to the throne in 1936

upon the abdication of his brother, King Edward VIII, making Elizabeth the heir presumptive.

During her grandfather's reign, Elizabeth was third in the line of succession to the British throne, behind her uncle Edward and her father. Although her

birth generated public interest, she was not expected to become queen, as Edward was still young and likely to marry and have children of his own. They would precede Elizabeth in the line of succession. When her grandfather died in 1936 and her uncle succeeded as Edward VIII, she became second in line to the throne, after her father. Later that year, Edward abdicated, after his proposed marriage to divorced socialite Wallis Simpson provoked a constitutional crisis. Elizabeth's father became king, taking the regnal name George VI. Since Elizabeth had no brothers, she became heir presumptive. If her parents had subsequently borne a son, he would have been heir apparent and above her in the line of succession. This would be based on the male-preference primogeniture in effect at the time.

Elizabeth's only sibling, Princess Margaret, was born in 1930. The two princesses were educated at home under the supervision of their mother and their governess, Marion Crawford. Lessons concentrated on history, language, literature, and music. Crawford published a biography of Elizabeth and Margaret's childhood years entitled "The Little Princesses" in 1950, much to the dismay of the royal family. The book describes Elizabeth's love of horses and dogs, her orderliness, and her attitude of responsibility.

The Second World War

In September 1939, Britain entered the Second World War. Lord Hailsham suggested that Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret should be evacuated to Canada to avoid the frequent aerial bombings of London by the Luftwaffe. This was rejected by their mother, who declared, "The children won't go without me. I won't leave without the King. And the King will never leave." The princesses stayed at Balmoral Castle, Scotland, until Christmas 1939. They moved to Windsor Castle the following year where they lived for most of the next five years.

In 1943, Elizabeth undertook her first solo public appearance on a visit to the Grenadier Guards, of which she had been appointed Colonel the previous year. As she approached her 18th birthday, parliament changed the law so she could act as one of five Counsellors of State in the



event of her father's incapacity or absence abroad, such as his visit to Italy in July 1944. In February 1945, she was appointed an honorary second subaltern in the Auxiliary Territorial Service. She trained and worked as a driver and mechanic and was given the rank of honorary junior commander (female equivalent of captain at the time) five months later.

At the end of the war in Europe, on Victory in Europe Day, Elizabeth and Margaret mingled incognito with the celebrating crowds in the streets of London. Elizabeth later said in a rare interview, "We asked my parents if we could go out and see for ourselves. I remember we were terrified of being recognized ... I remember lines of unknown people linking arms and walking down Whitehall, all of us just swept along on a tide of happiness and relief."

Marriage

Elizabeth met her future husband, Prince Philip of Greece and Denmark, in 1934 and again in 1937. They were second cousins once removed through King Christian IX of Denmark and third cousins through Queen Victoria. After meeting for the third time at the Royal Naval College in Dartmouth in July 1939, Elizabeth—though only 13 years old—said she fell in love with Philip, who was 18, and they began to exchange letters. She was 21 when their engagement was officially announced on 9 July 1947.

Before the marriage, Philip renounced his Greek and Danish titles, officially converted from Greek Orthodoxy to Anglicanism, and adopted the style Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten, taking

the surname of his mother's British family. Shortly before the wedding, he was created Duke of Edinburgh and granted the style His Royal Highness. Elizabeth and Philip were married on 20 November 1947 at Westminster Abbey. Elizabeth required ration coupons to buy the material for her gown because Britain had not yet completely recovered economically from the devastation of the war. In post-war Britain, it was not acceptable for Philip's German relations, including his three surviving sisters, to be invited to the wedding. Neither was an invitation extended to the Duke of Windsor, formerly King Edward VIII.

Elizabeth gave birth to her first child, Prince Charles, on 14 November 1948. One month earlier, the King had issued letters patent allowing her children to use the style and title of a royal prince or princess, to which they otherwise would not have been entitled as their father was no longer a royal prince. A second child, Princess Anne, was born on 15 August 1950. The first two children were born before Elizabeth acceded to the throne. Elizabeth gave birth to her third child, Prince Andrew, on 19 February 1960, which was the first birth to a reigning British monarch since 1857. Her fourth child, Prince Edward, was born on 10 March 1964.

Accession to the Throne

The health of King George VI declined during 1951. Elizabeth frequently stood in for him at public events. And when she toured Canada and visited President Harry S. Truman in Washington, D.C.,



in October 1951, her private secretary, carried a draft accession declaration in case of the King's death while she was on tour. On 6 February 1952, while on tour to Kenya, word arrived of the death of King George VI and Elizabeth's consequent accession to the throne with immediate effect. Prince Philip broke the news to the new Queen. She chose to retain Elizabeth as her regnal name thus she was called Queen Elizabeth II. This offended many Scots, as she was the first Elizabeth to rule in Scotland. On returning to the United Kingdom, Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip moved into Buckingham Palace.

Despite the death of Queen Mary on 24 March 1953, the coronation went ahead as planned on 2 June, as Queen Mary had requested before she died. The coronation ceremony in Westminster

Abbey, with the exception of the anointing and communion, was televised for the first time. On Queen Elizabeth's instruction, her coronation gown was embroidered with the floral emblems of Commonwealth countries.

By the time of her accession in 1952, her role as head of multiple independent states was already established. In 1953, the Queen and her husband embarked on a seven-month round-the-world tour, visiting 13 countries. Throughout her reign, Queen Elizabeth II made hundreds of state visits to other countries and tours of the Commonwealth.

In 1956 Britain and France invaded Egypt in an unsuccessful attempt to capture the Suez Canal. Lord Mountbatten said that the Queen was opposed to the invasion,

though Sir Anthony Eden, then Prime Minister, denied it. Eden resigned two months later. He was succeeded by Harold Macmillan, the Queen's recommended candidate, though a consultation process. The Suez crisis and the choice of Macmillan as the Prime Minister led, in 1957, to the first major personal criticism of Elizabeth.

Six years later, in 1963, Macmillan resigned and advised Queen Elizabeth to appoint the Earl of Home as the Prime Minister; advice that she followed. The Queen Elizabeth again came under criticism for appointing the Prime Minister on the advice of a small number of ministers or a single minister. In 1965, the Conservatives adopted a formal mechanism for electing a leader, thus relieving the Queen of her involvement.

Acceleration of de-colonization

Many former colonies of the British Empire became independent in the mid-forties after the adoption of the Universal Charter of Human Rights. The 1960s and 1970s saw an acceleration in the de-colonization of Africa and the Caribbean. More than 20 countries gained independence from Britain as part of a planned transition to self-government. As Britain's ties to its former empire weakened, the British government sought entry to the European Community, a goal it achieved in 1973.

Trial and Tribulations of a Monarch

In February 1974, the British Prime Minister, Edward Heath, advised Queen Elizabeth to call a general election in the middle of her tour of the Austronesian Pacific Rim, requiring her to fly back to Britain. The election resulted in a hung parliament; Heath's Conservatives were not the largest party, but could stay in office if they formed a coalition with the Liberals. When discussions on forming a coalition foundered, Heath resigned as prime minister and Queen Elizabeth asked the Leader of the Opposition to form a government.

A year later, at the height of the 1975 Australian constitutional crisis, the Australian prime minister, was dismissed from his post by the Governor-General after the Opposition-controlled Senate rejected the budget proposals. As the Prime

Minister had a majority in the House of Representatives, Speaker Gordon Scholes appealed to Queen Elizabeth to reverse The Governor General's decision. She declined, saying she would not interfere in decisions reserved by the Constitution of Australia for the Governor-General.

In 1977, Queen Elizabeth marked the Silver Jubilee of her accession. The celebrations re-affirmed Elizabeth's popularity, despite virtually coincident negative press coverage of Princess Margaret's separation from her husband. 1979 brought two blows: one was the unmasking of Anthony Blunt, former Surveyor of the Queen's Pictures, as a communist spy; the other was the assassination of her relative and in-law Lord Mountbatten by the Provisional Irish Republican Army.

By the end of the 1970s Queen Elizabeth was worried the Crown "had little meaning for" the Canadian prime minister.

During the 1981 Trooping the Colour ceremony, six shots were fired at Queen Elizabeth from close range as she rode down The Mall, London, on her horse, Burmese. Police later discovered the shots were blanks. The 17-year-old assailant, was sentenced to five years in prison and released after three. The Queen's composure and skill in controlling her mount were widely praised.

That October, Queen Elizabeth was the subject of another attack while on a visit to Dunedin, New Zealand. A 17 years old, fired a shot with a .22 rifle from the fifth floor of a building overlooking the parade, but missed. He was arrested, but never charged with attempted murder or treason.

From April to September 1982, Prince Andrew, served with British forces in the Falklands War, for which the Queen reportedly felt anxiety and pride. That year on 9 July, she awoke in her bedroom at Buckingham Palace to find an intruder in her room. In a serious lapse of security, assistance only arrived after two calls to the Palace police switchboard.

Intense media interest in the opinions and private lives of the royal family during the 1980s led to a series of sensational stories in the press, not all of which were entirely true.

In Canada, the Queen publicly supported



politically divisive constitutional amendments, prompting criticism from opponents of the proposed changes, including Pierre Trudeau. The same year, the elected Fijian government was deposed in a military coup. As monarch of Fiji, the Queen supported the attempts of Governor-General of Fiji to assert executive power and negotiate a settlement.

On 24 November 1992, in a speech to mark the Ruby Jubilee of her accession to the throne, Queen Elizabeth called 1992 her "horrible year". Republican feeling in Britain had risen because of press estimates of the Queen's private wealth—contradicted by the Palace—and reports of affairs and strained marriages among her extended family. In March, her second son, Prince Andrew, separated from his wife, Sarah, and Mauritius removed Queen Elizabeth as head of state; her daughter, Princess Anne, divorced Captain Mark Phillips in April; angry demonstrators in Dresden threw eggs at Queen Elizabeth during a state visit to Germany in October; and a large fire broke out at Windsor Castle, one of her official residences, in November. The monarchy came under increased criticism and public scrutiny. In an unusually personal speech, the Queen said that any institution must expect criticism, but suggested it might be done with "a touch of humor, gentleness and understanding". Two days later, British prime minister John Major announced plans to reform the royal finances, drawn up the previous year, including Queen

Elizabeth paying income tax from 1993 onwards, and a reduction in the civil list. In December, Prince Charles and his wife, Diana, formally separated.

In August 1997, a year after the divorce, Diana was killed in a car crash in Paris. Queen Elizabeth was on holiday with her extended family at Balmoral. Diana's two sons, Princes William and Harry, wanted to attend church, so their grandparents took them that morning. Afterwards, for five days the royal couple shielded their grandsons from the intense press interest by keeping them at Balmoral where they could grieve in private. But the royal family's silence and seclusion, and the failure to fly the flag at half-mast over Buckingham Palace, caused public dismay. Pressured by the hostile reaction, Queen Elizabeth agreed to return to London and address the nation in a live television broadcast on 5 September, the day before Diana's funeral. In the broadcast, she expressed admiration for Diana and her feelings "as a grandmother" for the two princes.

Because of her age and the need for her to limit travelling, in 2013 she chose not to attend the biennial Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting for the first time in 40 years. She was represented at the summit in Sri Lanka by Prince Charles. On 20 April 2018, the Commonwealth heads of government announced that she would be succeeded by Charles as Head of the Commonwealth, which she stated was her "sincere wish". She underwent cataract



surgery in May 2018. In March 2019, she gave up driving on public roads, largely as a consequence of a car crash involving her husband two months earlier.

Queen Elizabeth surpassed her great-great-grandmother, Queen Victoria, to become the longest-lived British monarch on 21 December 2007, and the longest-reigning British monarch and longest-reigning queen regnant and female head of state in the world on 9 September 2015. She became the oldest current monarch after King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia died on 23 January 2015. She later became the longest-reigning current monarch and the longest-serving current head of state following the death of King Bhumibol of Thailand on 13 October 2016, and the oldest current head of state on the resignation of Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe on 21 November 2017. On 6 February 2017, she became the first British monarch to commemorate a Sapphire Jubilee, and on 20 November, she was the first British monarch to celebrate a platinum wedding anniversary. Philip had retired from his official duties as the Queen's consort in August 2017.

Pandemic Times

As the COVID-19 pandemic hit the United Kingdom, The Queen moved to Windsor Castle and stayed there as a precaution. Public engagements were cancelled and Windsor Castle followed a strict sanitary

protocol nicknamed "HMS Bubble".

On 5 April 2020, in a televised broadcast watched by an estimated 24 million viewers in the UK, she asked people to "take comfort that while we may have more still to endure, better days will return: we will be with our friends again; we will be with our families again; we will meet again." On 4 November, she appeared masked for the first time in public, during a private pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior at Westminster Abbey, to mark the centenary of his burial.

Prince Philip died on 9 April 2021, after 73 years of marriage, making Elizabeth the first British monarch to reign as a widow or widower since Queen Victoria. She was reportedly at her husband's bedside when he died, and remarked in private that his death had "left a huge void". Due to the COVID-19 restrictions in place in England at the time, Elizabeth sat alone at Philip's funeral service, which evoked sympathy from people around the world. In her Christmas broadcast that year, she paid a personal tribute to her "beloved Philip", saying, "That mischievous, inquiring twinkle was as bright at the end as when I first set eyes on him".

In October 2021, she began using a walking stick during public engagements for the first time since her operation in 2004. Following an overnight stay in hospital on 20 October, her previously scheduled

appointments were cancelled on health grounds.

In February 2022, Queen Elizabeth II had "mild cold-like symptoms" and tested positive for COVID-19, along with some staff and family members.

On 6 September 2022, she appointed her 15th British Prime Minister, Liz Truss, at Balmoral Castle in Scotland, the first and only time she did not receive a new Prime Minister at Buckingham Palace during her reign. No other British reign had seen so many Prime Ministers.

Queen Elizabeth never planned to abdicate, though she took on fewer public engagements as she grew older and Prince Charles took on more of her duties.

Queen Elizabeth II passes away

On 8 September 2022, Buckingham Palace announced that Queen Elizabeth II was under medical supervision at Balmoral Castle after doctors expressed concern. The statement read: "Following further evaluation this morning, the Queen's doctors are concerned for Her Majesty's health and have recommended she remain under medical supervision. The Queen remains comfortable and at Balmoral." Her four children, along with her daughters-in-law Camilla and Sophie and grandsons William and Harry, travelled to Balmoral. Her death was confirmed that evening setting in motion Operation London Bridge and, because she died in Scotland, Operation Unicorn.

Her state funeral was held at Westminster Abbey on 19 September 2022, and she was interred at the King George VI Memorial Chapel, part of St George's Chapel at Windsor Castle, the same day, in a private ceremony with only her closest family, which was not broadcast or filmed for the general public.

What Next?

The eldest son of Queen Elizabeth II ascended the throne on 8 September 2022. He is now known as King Charles III and he takes on the responsibilities of his mother in World Politics. The Heads of State across the globe would anticipate some changes in the global equations between them and with the United Kingdom on account of King Charles III ascending to the throne.



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An illustrious career indeed Roger Federer

● Asheesh Bhandari

Roger Federer is a Swiss professional tennis player who really needs no introduction. His achievements in his illustrious career speak for him. He was ranked world No. 1 by the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) for 310 weeks, including a record 237 consecutive weeks, and has finished as the year-end No. 1 five times. He has won 103 ATP singles titles, the second most of all time, including 20 Grand Slam singles titles, a record eight men's singles Wimbledon titles, an Open Era record-tying five men's singles US Open titles, and a record six year-end championships.

Federer has played during an era where he dominated men's tennis along with Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic as the Big Three; the three most successful male tennis players of all time. A former ball boy who went on to be the Wimbledon junior champion in 1998, Federer won his first major singles title at Wimbledon in 2003 at the age of 21.

Between 2003 and 2009, he played 21 out of 28 major singles finals. He won three of the four majors and the ATP Finals in 2004, 2006, and 2007 as well as five consecutive titles at both Wimbledon and the US Open. He completed the career

Grand Slam at the 2009 French Open after three consecutive runner-up finishes to Nadal, his main rival until 2010. At age 27, he surpassed Pete Sampras' record of 14 major men's singles titles at Wimbledon in 2009.

Although Federer remained in the Top 3 during most of the early 2010s, the success of Djokovic and Nadal ended his dominance over grass and hard court, winning two majors between 2010 and 2016. During this period of time, he and Stan Wawrinka led the Switzerland Davis Cup team to their first title in 2014, following their Olympic doubles gold



victory at the 2008 Beijing Olympics. Federer also won a silver medal in singles at the 2012 London Olympics, where he finished runner-up to Andy Murray. After a half-year hiatus in late 2016 to recover from knee surgery, Federer made a stellar return to tennis, winning three more majors over the next two years, including the 2017 Australian Open over Nadal and an eighth singles title at the 2017 Wimbledon Championships. At the 2018 Australian Open, Federer became the first man to win 20 major singles titles and shortly the oldest ATP world No. 1 at age 36. In September 2022, he announced his retirement from high-level tennis following the Laver Cup later that month.

Other than being a versatile all-court player, Federer is also an active philanthropist. He established the Roger Federer Foundation, which targets impoverished children in southern Africa, and has raised funds in part through the Match for Africa exhibition series. He is routinely one of the top ten highest-paid athletes in any sport and ranked first among all athletes with \$100 million in endorsement income in 2020.

Tennis career

Federer played his first junior match in 1996 at the age of 14 at a grade 2 tournament in Switzerland. His main accomplishments as a junior player came at Wimbledon in 1998 when he won both the boys' singles final and the boys' doubles. He also reached the US Open Junior final in 1998, losing to David Nalbandian. Federer won four ITF junior singles tournaments in his career, including the prestigious Orange Bowl. By the end of 1998 he attained the No. 1 junior world ranking and was awarded the ITF junior World Champion. He ended his junior career at the end of 1998 with a high-ranking of No. 1 in singles and No. 7 in doubles and a win-loss record of 78–20 in singles and 36–21 in doubles.

Federer made his ATP debut at the 1998 Swiss Open Gstaad in his home country of Switzerland where he lost in the first round. Later that year, he won his first ATP match in Toulouse. He then got a wildcard into the 1998 Swiss Indoors where he lost in the first round to 4th seed and former world number 1 Andre Agassi. As of 2021, he is a 10-time champion of the tournament.

Federer entered the top 100 ranking for the first time on 20 September 1999 and started at the 1999 Marseille Open defeating the reigning champion of the

1998 French Open. His first final came at the Marseille Open in 2000, where he lost. Federer won the 2001 Hopman Cup representing Switzerland, along with world No. 1 Martina Hingis.

Federer's first singles win was at the 2001 Milan Indoor tournament. In 2001, Federer made his first Grand Slam quarterfinal at the French Open, losing to a former world No. 2. His streak to the French quarterfinals launched him into the top 15 for the first time in his career.

His international breakthrough came at the 2001 Wimbledon Championships, when the 19-year-old Federer faced the four-time defending champion and all-time Grand Slam leader Pete Sampras. Federer beat the No. 1 seed in a five-set match to reach the quarterfinals. In the quarterfinals he faced Englishman Tim Henman, eventually losing in a fourth-set tiebreaker.

The first final at the Masters level came at the 2002 Miami Masters event, where he lost to former and future No. 1 Andre Agassi on hard court. Federer won his first Master Series event at the 2002 Hamburg Masters on clay and the victory put him in the top 10 for the first time. Federer made 10 singles finals between 1998 and 2002,



of which he won four and lost six. He also made six finals in doubles. He finished 2001 with an ATP ranking of No. 13, and 2002 was the first year he was ranked within the top 10, finishing at No. 6.

In 2003, Federer won his first Grand Slam singles title at Wimbledon, beating Andy Roddick in the semifinals and Mark Philippoussis in the final. Federer finished that year as world No. 2.

During 2004, Federer won three Grand Slam singles titles and became the first person to do so in one season since Mats Wilander in 1988. His first major hard-court title came at the Australian Open making him the world No. 1 for the first time. He then won his second Wimbledon crown that year and also won his first title at the US Opens. Federer won three ATP Masters events, one on clay in Hamburg, and the other two on hard surfaces at Indian Wells and in Canada. He took the ATP 500 series event at Dubai and wrapped up the year by winning the year-end championships for the second time. He also won his first tournament on home soil by capturing the Swiss Open in Gstaad. His 11 singles titles were the most won by any player in two decades, and his record of 74–6 win – loss ratio was the best since Ivan Lendl in 1986. He reached the year-end No. 1 ranking for the first time.

In 2005, Federer maintained his position as No. 1 for the entire season. He won 11 singles titles, which tied his 2004 season. Federer's 81 match victories were the most since Pete Sampras in 1993, and his record of 81–4 (95.2%) wins remains the third-best winning percentage in the Open Era

behind John McEnroe's (1984) and Jimmy Connors' (1974).

The 2006 season was statistically the best season of Federer's career.

Federer won 12 singles titles (the most of any player since Thomas Muster in 1995 and John McEnroe in 1984) and had a match record of 92–5 (the most wins since Ivan Lendl in 1982). Federer reached the finals in an astounding 16 of the 17 tournaments he entered during the season.

In 2006, Federer won three Grand Slam singles titles and reached the final of the other, with the only loss coming against Nadal in the French Open. This was Federer and Nadal's first meeting in a Grand Slam final. He was the first man to reach all four finals in a calendar year since Rod Laver in 1969. Federer won the Wimbledon Championships, the Australian Open, and the US Open. In addition, Federer reached six Masters finals, winning four on hard surfaces and losing two on clay to Nadal. Federer won one ATP 500 series event in Tokyo and captured the year-end championships for the third time in his career, again finishing the year as world No. 1. Federer finished the season on a 29-match winning streak, as well as winning 48 of his last 49 matches after the French Open.

In 2007, Federer reached all four Grand Slam singles finals, winning three of them again. He won the Australian Open without dropping a set. This made him the first man in the 21st century to accomplish the feat, as Björn Borg at the 1980 French

Open was the last to win a Grand Slam tournament without the loss of a set. Federer's winning streak stood at 41 matches, the longest of his career and only five shy of the record. Another victory at Wimbledon brought him level with Björn Borg for the record of five consecutive championships at the All England Club.

Federer's success in 2008 was severely hampered by a lingering bout of mononucleosis, which he suffered during the first half of the year. At the end of the year he suffered a back injury.

At the Australian Open, Federer lost in the semi-final to eventual winner Djokovic, which ended his record of 10 consecutive finals. He lost twice in Masters finals on clay to Nadal, at Monte Carlo and Hamburg. At the Olympic Games, Federer and Stan Wawrinka won the gold medal in doubles. However, Federer could reach only the quarterfinals in the singles draw, ceding his No. 1 ranking to Nadal after being at the top for a record 237 consecutive weeks. He ended the year ranked No. 2.

Federer entered the 2009 season with 13 Grand Slams, only one behind Pete Sampras' all-time record. The season began with a loss to Nadal in the final of the Australian Open.

Federer's season turned around in the final Masters event of the clay season when he defeated Nadal on clay for only the second time to capture the Madrid Masters. He then entered the French Open with few predicting him to win. His victory however, tied him with Pete Sampras for the most Grand Slam singles titles. At Wimbledon Federer claimed his 15th Grand Slam singles title, breaking the all-time record of Pete Sampras. Federer finished the season as the year-end No. 1 for the fifth time in his career.

Federer started 2010 with a win at the Australian Open, extending the Grand Slam singles record to sixteen titles. At the French Open, Federer won his 700th tour match and 150th tour match on clay. However, he failed to reach a Grand Slam semi-final for the first time since the 2004 French Open. In a huge upset at Wimbledon, Federer lost in the last 8 again and fell to No. 3 in the rankings for the first time in 6 years and 8 months. In

2010 Federer finished in the top two for the eighth consecutive season.

The year 2011 was a lean year for Federer, although great by most player's standards. He was defeated in straight sets in the semi-finals of the 2011 Australian Open by eventual champion Novak Djokovic, marking the first time since July 2003 that he did not hold any of the four major titles. In the French Open semi-finals, Federer ended Djokovic's undefeated streak of 43 consecutive wins with a four-set victory. But he lost in the final to Rafael Nadal.

At the US Open, Federer lost in the semi-finals to Novak Djokovic in five sets. This meant that it was the first time since 2002 that Federer had not won any of the four grand slam titles.

The 2012 season for Federer had his most match wins since 2006 and his highest winning percentage and number of titles won since 2007. At Wimbledon, Federer won to regain the No. 1 ranking. In doing so, he broke Sampras' record of 286 weeks on the top of the list. In the 2012 Summer Olympics, Federer won a silver medal for his country.

Federer developed back injuries in March and July of 2013 and his ranking dropped from No. 2 to No. 6.

Federer began the 2014 season by changing rackets for the first time in his career, from his long-time frame of 90 square inches to one measured at 97 square inches. He had long been at a comparative disadvantage in equipment as almost the entire tour, including his top rivals Nadal and Djokovic, used more powerful frames of between 95 and 100 square inches.

In 2015 Federer started his season by winning the Brisbane International. He then became only the third man in the Open Era to have 1,000 or more wins, joining Jimmy Connors and Ivan Lendl. He also became the first man in the Open Era to win at least one title in each of 15 consecutive years.

2016 was another year of Knee surgery, back injury, and a long recovery hiatus. On 26 July that year, Federer announced that he would miss the 2016 Summer Olympics and the remainder of the 2016



season to fully recover from his knee injury. The sudden withdrawal not only implied that 2016 was the first season since 2000 that Federer failed to win a title, but it also meant that he would have to drop out of the top ten for the first time in fourteen years. This, combined with a grand slam drought spanning over four years, led many analysts to believe that his outstanding career was finally coming to an end and he would never win any major titles again.

Federer's 2017 season marked a return to Grand Slam wins since 2012, the most titles since 2007, and the highest win percentage since 2006. Statistically, this season was his best since 2007. Federer played in the Hopman Cup and Australian Open in January 2017. His withdrawal from 2016 season led his ranking slip to No. 17, his lowest in over fifteen years. But he won the Australian Open to re-enter the top ten.

In March, Federer won his 25th Masters title at Indian Wells. This was also Federer's 90th career title and he climbed to No. 6 in the ATP rankings. Federer collected his 26th Masters title at the Miami Masters and climbed to No. 4 in the ATP rankings.

Federer however, decided that he would skip the entire clay-court season. In the 2017 Wimbledon Championships, Federer won in straight sets to win a record-breaking eighth Wimbledon gentlemen's singles title and his record-extending 19th major title overall, becoming the oldest male player to win Wimbledon in the Open era. Federer became the second man in the Open era to win Wimbledon

without dropping a set after Björn Borg in 1976. It also marked the second time in his career that he had won a grand slam tournament without losing a set, matching his performance at the 2007 Australian Open. Federer moved up to become No. 3 in the ATP rankings after the event and qualified for the ATP Finals for a record 15th time.

In 2018, Federer won the Australian Open. This was Federer's sixth title at the Australian Open, equalling the then record held by Roy Emerson and Novak Djokovic. He also became the first man to win twenty Grand Slam titles. It was also the first time since the 2008 US Open that Federer successfully defended a major title.

In mid-February, Federer won his third Rotterdam Open title to return to No. 1 in the ATP rankings. At 36 years and 195 days of age, he became the oldest ATP world No. 1 by more than three years. He also broke the ATP record for the longest span between a player's first and last weeks to attain the No. 1 ranking at 14 years and 17 days apart, as well as the most time between two successive reigns at No. 1 at 5 years and 106 days.

Federer opened his 2019 campaign by retaining the Hopman Cup alongside Belinda Bencic, becoming the first player to win the mixed-doubles event three times. This year Federer announced he would play the clay court season for the first time since 2016. At the Dubai Tennis Championships, Federer won his 100th Career Singles Title. It was his eighth title in Dubai and he became the second man after Jimmy Connors to reach the three



figure mark in the Open Era.

In June 2020, due to a setback from his initial rehabilitation from the knee injury suffered earlier in the year, Federer announced that he had to have an additional arthroscopic procedure on his right knee. He officially shut down his season to take the necessary time to recover, vowing to return in 2021. This was only the second year in Federer's career since he won his first title that he finished without a title.

In January 2021, Federer withdrew from the 2021 Australian Open to continue recovering from knee surgery and strict COVID-19 quarantine measures in Australia. On 8 March, Novak Djokovic surpassed him for the most career weeks spent as the ATP number 1 ranked player.

On 15 August, Federer announced that he underwent another knee surgery after further injury during the grass court season. He withdrew from the US Open and stated that he would be off the tour for "many months," but he hoped to make a return to the tour in 2022.

Federer did not play after Wimbledon 2021, and dropped out of the top 50 on 13 June 2022. On 11 July 2022, he became unranked for the first time since his professional debut. On 15 September 2022, he announced his impending retirement

from high-level tennis on the ATP Tour, noting that the Laver Cup would be his final ATP event. He stated that he "will play more tennis in the future, of course, but just not in Grand Slams or on the tour."

And here is what he had to say in his public announcement on retiring from ATP tennis:

To my tennis family and beyond,

Of all the gifts that tennis has given me over the years, the greatest, without a doubt, has been the people I've met along the way: my friends, my competitors, and most of all the fans who give the sport its life. Today, I want to share some news with all of you.

As many of you know, the past three years have presented me with challenges in the form of injuries and surgeries. I've worked hard to return to full competitive form. But I also know my body's capacities and limits, and its message to me lately has been clear. I am 41 years old. I have played more than 1500 matches over 24 years. Tennis has treated me more generously than I ever would have dreamt, and now I must recognize when it is time to end my competitive career.

The Laver Cup next week in London will be my final ATP event. I will play more tennis in the future, of course, but just not

in Grand Slams or on the tour.

This is a bittersweet decision, because I will miss everything the tour has given me. But at the same time, there is so much to celebrate. I consider myself one of the most fortunate people on Earth. I was given a special talent to play tennis, and I did it at a level that I never imagined, for much longer than I ever thought possible.

I would like to especially thank my amazing wife Mirka, who has lived through every minute with me. She has warmed me up before finals, watched countless matches even while over 8-months pregnant, and has endured my goofy side on the road with my team for over 20 years. I also want to thank my four wonderful children for supporting me, always eager to explore new places and creating wonderful memories along the way. Seeing my family cheering me on from the stands is a feeling I will cherish forever.

I would also like to thank and recognize my loving parents and my dear sister, without whom nothing would be possible. A big thank you to all my former coaches who always guided me in the right direction... you have been wonderful! And to Swiss Tennis, who believed in me as a young player and gave me an ideal start.

I really want to thank and acknowledge my amazing team, Ivan, Dani, Roland,

and particularly Seve and Pierre, who have given me the best advice and have always been there for me. Also Tony, for creatively managing my business for over 17 years. You are all incredible and I have loved every minute with you.

I want to thank my loyal sponsors, who are really like partners to me; and the hard-working teams and tournaments on the ATP Tour, who consistently welcomed all of us with kindness and hospitality.

I would also like to thank my competitors on the court. I was lucky enough to play so many epic matches that I will never forget. We battled fairly, with passion and intensity, and I always tried my best to respect the history of the game. I feel extremely grateful. We pushed each other, and together we took tennis to new levels.

Above all I must offer a special thank you to my unbelievable fans. You will never know how much strength and belief you

have given me. The inspiring feeling of walking into full stadiums and arenas has been one of the huge thrills in my life. Without you, those successes would have felt lonely, rather than filled with joy and energy.

The last 24 years on tour have been an incredible adventure. While it sometimes feels like it went by in 24 hours, it has also been so deep and magical that it seems as if I've already lived a full lifetime. I have had the immense fortune to play in front of you in over 40 different countries. I have laughed and cried, felt joy and pain, and most of all I have felt incredibly alive. Through my travels, I have met many wonderful people who will remain friends for life, who consistently took time out of their busy schedules to come watch me play and cheer me on around the globe. Thank you.

When my love of tennis started, I was a

ball kid in my hometown of Basel. I used to watch the players with a sense of wonder. They were like giants to me and I began to dream. My dreams led me to work harder and I started to believe in myself. Some success brought me confidence and I was on my way to the most amazing journey that has led to this day.

So, I want to thank you all from the bottom of my heart, to everyone around the world who has helped make the dreams of a young Swiss ball kid come true.

Finally, to the game of tennis: I love you and will never leave you.

Roger Federer

We say farewell to one of the greatest tennis players of our times. We will miss his cool and calmness on the Court and we hope that in time to come, he will pass on his skills to the future generation in Tennis. So Long Roger!



Air India: A Redefined Gourmet Experience

Air India, India's leading airline and a Star Alliance member, has unveiled a specially curated menu for its domestic passengers with effect from October 1 to coincide with the onset of the festive season.



The new Air India in-flight menu, featuring an assortment of gourmet meals, trendy appetizers and decadent desserts, showcases India's locally sourced culinary influence. The menu also incorporates exquisite renditions of regional specialties from the kitchens and streets all around the world to satiate the global palate. At the same time, utmost attention is paid to ensure that the array of delicacies are healthy and stay hygienic, right from the kitchen to the tray-table. Customers of Air India can select their preferred meal choice at the time of booking on www.airindia.in. The new menu includes an extensive selection of scrumptious hot meals, irresistible desserts, and refreshing beverages including fresh juices and smoothies. Every meal is prepared as per the utmost standards of sanitation and quality. On board, passengers from business class can look forward to buttery and flaky croissant, sugar-free dark chocolate oatmeal muffin, cheese and truffle oil scrambled egg with chives, mustard cream coated chicken sausage etc. along with Indian dishes such as aloo parantha, meduvada and podi idli for breakfast, followed by fish curry, chicken chettinad, potato podimas etc. for lunch. The airline will be serving chicken 65, grilled sliced pesto chicken sandwich, and Mumbai batatawada for high-tea. Economy class customers will be delighted by a selection of cheese mushroom omelette, dry jeera aloo wedges, garlic tossed spinach and corn for breakfast, followed by palatable vegetable biryani, malabar chicken curry, and mixed vegetable poriyal for lunch. The passengers will enjoy vegetable fried noodles, chilli chicken, and blueberry vanilla pastry, coffee truffle slice for high-tea. Commenting on the new menu, Mr. Sandeep Verma, Head of Inflight Services, Air India said, "The new domestic in-flight menu has been carefully selected by top chefs to blend rich and flavourful Indian cuisine with contemporary International meal options. The new menu choices have been curated to ensure that the flyers enjoy a gourmet meal with emphasis on health and well-being. With several festivals approaching, the new menu offers choices that bring together culinary excellence from different parts of the world. We are excited to roll out this new menu on domestic routes, and are hard at work preparing a revamp of the international menu as well."

Ethiopian Airlines: Multiple Awards at SKYTRAX 2022

Ethiopian Airlines, the largest Aviation Group in Africa, won four awards at the SKYTRAX 2022 World Airline Awards, at a ceremony held in London on 23 September 2022.



Ethiopian has taken the crown for: Best Airline in Africa 2022 for 5th consecutive years, Best Business Class Airline in Africa 2022 for 4th consecutive years and Best Economy Class Airline in Africa 2022 for 4th consecutive years and Best Business Class Onboard Catering in Africa. Moving an incredible 11 ranks up, Ethiopian has also been placed 26th in the World's Top 100 Airlines for 2022 as voted by airline customers around the world. The World Airline Awards are independent and impartial. The Awards were introduced in 1999 to provide a customer satisfaction study that was truly global. Travelers across the world vote in the largest airline passenger satisfaction survey to decide the award winners. The awards are referred to by media around the world as "the Oscars of the aviation industry".

Mesfin Tasew, CEO, Ethiopian group



We are truly honored by the multiple prestigious awards that Ethiopian won today. It gives me great pleasure to witness such a rewarding event to the hard work Ethiopian Airlines employees and management team put in order to provide our valued passengers the best quality service. I would like to assure our customers and everyone who casted their votes in favor of Ethiopian that we will continue to provide a world class

service tailored with African flavored Ethiopian hospitality. We managed to provide our service, unbeaten by the Covid19 pandemic, the greatest challenge for the aviation industry and we will keep pace, enhancing our level of service to an even better level along the way.

MoU between ISA and ICAO

In a ceremony held on the sidelines of the 42nd Session of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) Assembly in Montreal on 26 September 2022, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between International Solar Alliance (ISA) and ICAO in the presence of Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Minister of Civil Aviation of India, H.E. Monsieur Clement Beaunne, Minister of Transport of France and Mr. Salvatore Sciacchitano, President of the ICAO Council.

The MoU was signed by Mr. Juan Carlos Salazar, Secretary-General, ICAO and Mr. Joshua Wycliffe, Chief of Operations, ISA.

During the visit of Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia to Montreal in May 2022, the idea of ICAO becoming a partner organisation of ISA was mooted by the Minister in his meeting with the President of ICAO. In a period of four months, the MoU was agreed and concluded. The conclusion of the MoU between ISA and ICAO in the presence of Ministers from India and France carries forward the legacy of the bold initiative laid down by Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India and H.E. Francois Hollande, former President of France in 2015 at COP 21 in Paris. ISA is an alliance of 121 signatory countries and 32 partner organizations including many UN organizations. It works for efficient consumption of solar energy to reduce dependence on fossil fuels. ISA strives to devise cost effective and transformational solutions for using renewable energy to member countries with a particular focus on LDCs and SIDs. India had pledged for Net Zero Carbon goal in 2070 in COP 26. Its approach continues to be human-centric, based on respect and national ownership principles, with a commitment to one and all. India has pledged a target of installing 175 GW of renewable energy of which 100 GW will be solar energy by 2022 and reduction in emission intensity by 33-35% by 2030. Cochin International Airport in India became the world's first fully Solar powered airport in the world in 2015. India, with the support of France, has invited nations to facilitate infrastructure for implementation of solar projects. The alliance has committed one trillion dollars as an investment, and it is committed to making the costs of solar power more affordable for remote and inaccessible communities.



Free tickets to the Museum of the Future

Emirates, the world's largest international airline, launched an exciting new offer for holidaymakers planning a trip to Dubai between 22 September and 8 December 2022.

All Emirates customers can now enjoy a complimentary ticket to the Museum of the Future – one of the city's most famous landmarks.

This special offer was valid for all tickets to Dubai purchased using code MFUTURE until 2 October 2022. The offer was available on bookings made on emirates.com, Emirates Call centre or via participating travel agents, for travel from 22 September 2022 until 8 December 2022 in any cabin class. The complimentary ticket to The Museum of the Future entitles travellers to one admission during the working hours of the museum and must be booked on museumofthefuture.ae against a redemption code sent by Emirates prior to the planned visit and used latest by 15 December 2022. The Museum of the Future is the star attraction everyone's talking about in Dubai, and are welcoming all ages to see, touch and shape our shared future. Inside an incredible building that's been dubbed one of the most beautiful

in the world, one can explore the future 50 years from now in an incredibly immersive and sensory experience.

Fly into space, explore the wonders of nature, and get closer to the technology that will change the way we live. Kids will love being Future Heroes and taking on challenge missions to create a brighter tomorrow.

Explore more of Dubai with Emirates

Emirates has safely restarted operations to more than 130 destinations, across six continents and currently operates 170 flights per week from India to Dubai.

Whether seeking a city break, a beach getaway, a relaxing retreat, a unique desert experience, or a stopover, there is something for every traveller when visiting Dubai. From sun-soaked beaches and heritage activities to world class hospitality and leisure facilities, Dubai offers a variety of world-class experiences.

Ethiopian Airlines and Geven-SkyTecno Tie Up

Ethiopian Airlines and Geven-SkyTecno have inaugurated a state-of-the-art facility for the manufacturing of Insulation Blankets for Boeing 737 MAX airplanes as part of a Boeing agreement (BSCA) between The Boeing Company, Geven-Skytecno and Ethiopian Airlines.

The new joint venture company of Ethiopian Airlines and Geven-SkyTecno, named “Ethiopian Sky Technologies”, is based in Addis Ababa with primary manufacturing facility at Bole Airport.

Ethiopian Airlines holds 51% and SkyTecno 49% of the stake of the newly established company. The parties as per their commitment are jointly manufacturing the products in Italy and Ethiopia as a supplier to The Boeing Company. Geven-SkyTecno has been contributing its process technology proficiency, manufacturing know-how as well as being responsible for speeding up the industrialization, qualification processes and training skills to the Joint Venture. Ethiopian Airlines and SkyTecno invested in the state-of-the-art blankets manufacturing equipment to provide unrivalled customer service and product access. The Joint Venture focuses on delivering tailor-made solutions for Boeing 737 MAX airplanes. Products are manufactured in a multicultural environment in synergy between the African and European continent, subject to strict quality control, in order to meet the most demanding expectations of the aircraft industry.

"We are very pleased to announce this joint venture with Ethiopian Airlines, with whom we are looking forward to working together" says Alberto Veneruso, Managing Director of Geven-SkyTecno. "Our manufacturing excellence combined with our expertise in process technology, industrial efficiency and world-class distribution capabilities will provide our customers with best-in-class insulation solutions. Furthermore, Geven-SkyTecno provides the JV with a team of highly trained technical engineers with unparalleled experience meeting the demand for similar products from world airlines and OEM's", continues Veneruso.

Mr. MesfinTasew, CEO of Ethiopian Airlines Group on his part said "We are glad to unveil a modern manufacturing facility of Ethiopian Sky Technologies at our home base, Addis Ababa. As part of our Vision to develop the Aerospace Manufacturing Industry in Ethiopia, the partnership with Geven-SkyTecno takes our capability to the next level. As we have a very well established MRO capability with an excellent track record of providing aircraft maintenance we can leverage this capability and experience to further develop our Aerospace Manufacturing capability and eventually make it one of the key Strategic Business Units of the Airline. We are happy that we have gone into this tri-partite relationship with Geven-SkyTecno and Boeing and that we started manufacturing and exporting the Aircraft Thermo-Acoustic Insulation Blankets for the 737 MAX. We are keen to expand the scope of activities to other aerospace products to the mutual benefit of all parties".

flydubai touches down in Samarkand

The Dubai-based airline becomes the first UAE national carrier to provide direct flights to Samarkand. flydubai grows its network in Uzbekistan to three points including Namangan from 24 September and the capital, Tashkent.

flydubai, the Dubai-based airline, celebrated its inaugural service to Samarkand, becoming the first UAE national carrier to operate direct flights from Dubai. The airline will operate a twice-weekly service from Dubai International (DXB) to Samarkand International Airport (SKD). With the start of flights to Samarkand, flydubai grows its network in Central Asia to seven points served by a fleet of 68 Boeing 737 aircraft, providing passengers from the UAE and the GCC with more options for travel.

The inaugural flight landed at Samarkand International Airport (SKD) to a traditional water cannon salute. Senior local officials including GairatNematov, General Director at Air Marakanda welcomed the delegation led by Ghaith Al Ghaith, Chief Executive Officer at flydubai. Speaking at the press conference, Ghaith Al Ghaith, Chief Executive Officer at flydubai, said: "flydubai is committed to opening up underserved markets and strengthening the links from Dubai and the UAE with the region. We are excited to see our network in Uzbekistan grow with the launch of flights to Samarkand. Since 2019 when we first started operations to Uzbekistan, we have seen sustainable demand and we are confident that the launch of our second destination will provide our passengers with more reliable and convenient options for travel."

"I would also like to take the opportunity to thank Minister of Transport, Hakim of Samarkand region and Chairman of Uzbekistan Airports for their support and look forward to a long and successful relationship moving forward," added Al Ghaith.

Jeyhun Efendi, Senior Vice President, Commercial Operations and E-commerce at flydubai



With Namangan and Samarkand joining our network in Central Asia, we see our operations grow to seven points in four countries. Central Asia is an important market for flydubai and we continue to look for more opportunities to connect these markets with direct airtlinks to Dubai's aviation hub, making travel more accessible on the flydubai network and beyond.

Hahn Air now offers a PSS solution

To complement their portfolio of solutions, Hahn Air now offers Res 360, a cloud-based Passenger Service System (PSS).

This will allow airlines looking to enter the world of indirect distribution to obtain all essential components from one single source: Hahn Air. The market leader in airline distribution is already offering solutions to enter and expand GDS sales, close distribution gaps and unlock new markets. To deliver this state-of-the-art PSS solution, Hahn Air is partnering with leading technology service provider InteliSys Aviation.

Res360 is 100% cloud-based and allows airlines of any size and business model to connect to all sales channels. Whether the airline obtains bookings through their website; GDSs; direct connections with travel resellers or OTAs; TMCs; metasearch engines; call centres or a mobile app, the sophisticated API architecture of Res360 enables airlines to centrally manage flight distribution through one sales hub. The following components are included in the Res360 PSS suite: Inventory and Reservation System; Departure Control System; Reporting Module; Fully responsive Internet Booking Engine (including online check-in and flight tracking tools); Travel Agent Portal; Corporate Customer Portal; Ancillary Management & Sales Module and Loyalty Module

Alexander Proschka, Executive Vice President Commercial at Hahn Air



For any airline, the PSS is at the heart of airline distribution. It is only a natural step for Hahn Air to offer this component as part of our distribution package. With Res360, airlines benefit from a one-stop-solution with our unparalleled service combined with the leading technology powered by InteliSys. We are excited to be bringing this offering to the market for airlines around the globe.

Frank Kays, CEO at InteliSys



We are pleased to partner with Hahn Air in offering the Res360 suite. Our long-standing experience in accelerating airline growth and maximising distribution capacities, paired with Hahn Air's industry expertise and system connectivity, creates an unbeatable combination.

ITA Airways and Italian Football Federation Join forces

ITA Airways launched the agreement with the Italian Football Federation (FIGC) during a press conference held at the FIGC Federal Technical Centre in Coverciano.

Fabio Lazzerini CEO of ITA Airways and Gabriele Gravina, President of the FIGC, illustrated the initiatives included in the important agreement between ITA Airways and the FIGC until December 31, 2024. The coach of the Italian national team, Roberto Mancini also attended the press conference.

At the very core of the collaboration between ITA Airways and the FIGC is the common desire to develop and promote Italian sport in the world. For this reason, ITA Airways will be the official carrier of the Italian national football teams, taking care of their flights during a two-year time frame.

According to the agreement, all the National Teams, men's, women's, youth, futsal, beach soccer and e-sport will fly on ITA Airways aircraft to reach the venues of the international competitions in which the Azzurri Teams will take part. In addition, the Italian Referees Association, the Technical Sector and the Youth and Scholastic Sector will also be among the beneficiaries of the agreement, which also provides special facilities for Federcalcio's "business travel".

According to the average data per year recorded by the FIGC in recent years, the 23 Italian national football teams fly on approximately 25 dedicated charters to/from the competition venues, mainly in Italy and Europe. These flights host around 2,800 passengers, including players, technical staff, media and partners.

In addition, there are over 13,000 individual travellers considering both the National Teams using commercial flights and referees travelling for their respective engagements.

ITA Airways will transport over 30,000 travellers in the next 2 years (2023- 2024), including all the different FIGC users: national team players, technical staff, referees, media and guests of FIGC partners.

Since inception, ITA Airways has linked its Brand to the world of sport to affirm its role as ambassador of Italian excellence. Blue Savoia is the colour of the Company's new livery and aircraft dedicated to the champions of all Italian sports.



flydubai further strengthens direct air links

The Dubai-based airline grows its network in Uzbekistan with the launch of its twice-weekly service to its third destination in the country after Samarkand and Tashkent

Flydubai, the Dubai-based airline, continues to grow its operations in Uzbekistan with the launch of a twice-weekly service to Namangan International Airport (NMA). The carrier's inaugural flight touched down in Namangan to a traditional water cannon salute as part of a warm welcome by local officials, airport representatives and members of the media. flydubai is the first UAE carrier to offer direct flights between Dubai and Namangan, the third largest city in Uzbekistan after Samarkand and Tashkent. Flights will operate from Terminal 2, Dubai International (DXB) twice a week on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Commenting on the start of operations to Namangan, Ghaith Al Ghaith, Chief Executive Officer at flydubai, said: "I would like to take this opportunity to thank the local authorities and the Khokim of Namangan, MrShavkatjonAbdurazakov for their support in launching our operations in Namangan. We are committed to growing links with Uzbekistan and we are confident that these new direct air links will further stimulate travel and trade opportunities between our two countries. We look forward to enabling more passengers from the UAE and the region to visit this historically and culturally rich country through any of the three gateways in Uzbekistan."

In 2019 the UAE and Uzbekistan expanded their partnership that would enhance government modernisation and promote relations between the two nations, closely collaborating on sectors including education, finance, food security and agriculture.

Uzbekistan is known for its iconic Islamic architectural landmarks, its location on the east-west Silk Road and it is one of the world's biggest producers of cotton. Passengers from Uzbekistan can enjoy easier access to Dubai on flydubai's direct flights, as well as more convenient connections beyond Dubai on the carrier's network including the GCC.

Air India deepens connect to US and UK

Enhanced frequencies to connect London, Birmingham, San Francisco. 40 weekly flights to US.

In a major initiative to bolster its international footprint, Air India, India's leading airline, has announced 20 additional flights every week to Birmingham, London and San Francisco. This is part of the airline's on-going endeavour to reclaim its position as a leader on the international aviation map. The additional flights to these 3 global destinations will be introduced in a phased manner from October to December this year.

With 5 additional flights a week to Birmingham, 9 additional flights to London and 6 additional flights a week to San Francisco, Air India will be able to offer over 5,000 additional seats every week to customers and ensure ample choice in terms of connectivity, convenience, and cabin space. Air India's current schedule of 34 flights every week to the UK will now go up to 48 flights. Birmingham will receive extra five flights per week, three from Delhi and two additional flights from Amritsar. London will receive nine additional weekly flights, of which, five are from Mumbai, three from Delhi and one from Ahmedabad. Altogether, seven Indian cities will now have non-stop Air India flights to the UK's capital.

Flights from India to the United States will increase from 34 to 40 per week. Air India will now connect Mumbai with San Francisco with a thrice weekly service, and reinstate a three-times-weekly Bengaluru operation. This takes Air India's San Francisco offering from 10 to 16 weekly, with non-stop service from Delhi, Mumbai and Bengaluru.

Commenting on the development, Mr. Campbell Wilson, CEO & MD, Air India, said, "As Air India reinvents itself under the Vihaan.AI transformation programme, adding frequency and improving connectivity from major Indian cities to more international destinations is a significant focus. This sizeable frequency increase to the US and the UK, as well as the addition of new city pairs and improved aircraft cabin interiors, comes just 10 months after Air India's acquisition by the Tata Group. It is a clear signal of our intent, and an early step towards a much bigger aspiration."

IndiGoCarGo inducts the first A321 P2F freighter

IndiGo, India's leading carrier has received its first A321 Freighter aircraft, converted from passenger jet to a full freighter configuration.

The initiative will make best use of the natural synergies that IndiGo offers, using the same pool of pilots and engineers that fly and service its current fleet. The aircraft will be used for both domestic and international missions by transporting products such as valuables, express shipments, perishables, general cargo, documents, and couriers. The A321P2F (Passenger-to-Freighter conversion) is the most efficient narrow-bodied freighter available, offering 24 container positions and supporting a payload of up to 27 tonnes. These are being converted through a programme involving ST Engineering and Airbus with their joint venture, Elbe FlugzeugWerke (EFW). The aircraft is uniquely capable for IndiGo, using its vast pool of A320 family pilots, and able to service markets between China in the east, the Gulf in the west, and the CIS countries to the north.

Mahesh Malik, Chief Commercial Officer-CarGo, IndiGo

We are pleased to receive our first A321 freighter aircraft in 6E fleet. CarGo has always been a success story for us especially highlighted during the pandemic. The CarGo business brought in revenues



when the scheduled commercial flights were at a standstill. Our partnership with the Airbus for Freighter programme will further help strengthen our business in the CarGo segment, and act as a strong engine of economic growth for the country. We remain optimistic on the future of Indian aviation, clearly, and the place of CarGo within it – and the expansion into a true freighter fleet is a testament of this confidence.

Malaysia Airlines is Asia's Leading Airline for Business Class

Malaysia Airlines has been named Asia's Leading Airline for Business Class at the 29th World Travel Awards, adding to its honours record.

The airline emerges as the winner after receiving the most votes from industry participants, consumers, media, and travel professionals across the region, outperforming other nominated full-service Asian airlines. Underpinned by the airline's Malaysian Hospitality commitment across its services, the award is a testament to its successful endeavour to maintain the highest service level and safety assurance through its #FlyConfidently commitment.

Malaysia Airlines' Business Class is recognised for providing an unrivalled premium end-to-end experience, from its exclusive priority check-in counters, priority luggage handling, and access to the beautiful Golden Lounges with picturesque views, to its board-anytime flexibility.

The Business Class completes the premium experience by providing spacious lie-flat seats to selected destinations. The airline also provides a wide range of cutting-edge in-flight entertainment, including noise-cancelling headphones, to ensure the most pleasurable flying experience on Malaysia Airlines.

Guests departing from Kuala Lumpur may opt for a personalised fine dining experience with its "Chef on Call" service, which allows customers to select from a variety of specially crafted in-flight meals from 30 to 24 hours prior to their trip and have them delivered to their seat.

This is in addition to the popular signature satay, which has been served on-board since the first flight and has been produced by the airline's caterer since 1973. The meats are freshly marinated with fresh ingredients and chargrilled over mangrove wood charcoal, complemented by nasiimpit (compressed rice cake), refreshing cucumbers, and onion.

Business Class passengers also receive a designer amenity kit by luxury leather goods manufacturer, Aspinall of London. The airline's exclusive amenity kits include an impressive array of travel essentials such as PAYOT's skin and body range, which includes the Lip Balm and the luxe Hand and Body Lotion, specially designed to pamper customers throughout their journey, an eye mask, comb, a pair of earplugs, and socks, and an eye mask, comb, a pair of earplugs, and socks. Customers are given the dual-tone Business Class duvet, which is made of cotton and polyester and has the airline's trademark WauBulan, as well as a soft pillow and mattress cover, making it the ideal snuggle partner through their journey.

Customers can travel with peace of mind as Malaysia Airlines has put in place the highest COVID-19 health and safety protocols globally recognised and certified by Bureau Veritas Certification Malaysia via its MHFly Safe program. Malaysia Airlines is a member of Travel Safe Alliance Malaysia (TSAM) and has been awarded a 7-star rating from Airline Ratings for its COVID-19 safeguards.

New Bengaluru to Sydney Flights

Australia's national airline Qantas has launched a new route from Bengaluru (BLR) to Sydney (SYD), providing the first direct connection between Southern India and Australia by any airline. QF68 will cut nearly three hours off the current fastest travel time between the two cities and significantly boost connectivity between India and New South Wales.

Since the announcement of the new service earlier this year, the route has seen strong demand, with both the outbound and inbound inaugural flights sold out in all cabins. The new services will provide new tourism opportunities for Bengaluru and India, with a direct gateway for Australian tourists to experience all that India has to offer. For people living in Bengaluru and southern India, it's a convenient non-stop flight to Sydney for a dream holiday or to visit friends and family.

Qantas Domestic and International CEO Andrew David said the flights will boost tourism and economic relations and opportunities between Australia and India. "The addition of Bengaluru to our route map deepens our ties with India and follows the launch of direct services from Australia to Delhi last year which has also proven popular. Qantas is now the only airline offering direct flights between Australia's two largest cities and the north and south of India."

Bangalore International Airport Ltd (BIAL) Chief Strategy and Development Officer, Satyaki Raghunath said the start of the new Qantas Bengaluru – Sydney route was a historic moment for BLR Airport. "It gives us immense pleasure to welcome Australia's national airline Qantas to BLR Airport. This is a historic occasion considering that it is the first ever non-stop service connecting South and Central India to Australia. The flights will reduce travel time over existing options and will make access to Australia and points beyond, including New Zealand and the Pacific Islands easy, particularly for leisure travellers, corporates, sports enthusiasts and students who go there for higher studies.

This connection is even more special because it is the eighth oneworld carrier to begin operations from BLR Airport. The addition of this flight also puts the focus back on BLR Airport's commitment to introducing new routes and opportunities for tourism and trade between South India and Australia."

Qantas has recently launched the first phase of its codeshare partnership with IndiGo. There are currently 11 destinations available for Qantas customers to connect with on IndiGo to and from Bengaluru, including Mumbai, Goa, Kolkata and Chennai. The codeshare will continue to roll out over the coming months, broadening access and making it easier for Qantas customers in India to connect with the new direct flights to Sydney.

LOT Polish Airlines to Fuel its Aircraft With Green Kerosene

LOT Polish Airlines is planning to fuel its aircraft with sustainably produced kerosene. Poland's national flag carrier has signed a cooperation agreement with Polish multi-energy group PKN ORLEN.

PKN ORLEN is building a production plant in the city of Plock to convert hydrogenated vegetable oils (HVO) into biofuel or bio-components for aviation fuel. Vegetable oils, used vegetable cooking oils and algae oils are used for this purpose. After its completion, the plant will produce around 300,000 tonnes of HVO annually, which already corresponds to half of the fuels produced by the ORLEN Group today.

LOT Polish Airlines will receive sustainably produced aviation fuel (SAF) and with the help of SAF, life cycle emissions can be reduced by up to 80 per cent compared to conventional kerosene.

The agreement to purchase SAF is an important step for LOT Polish Airlines towards more sustainability and environmental protection in air transport, also against the background of the IATA resolution NetZero to make commercial air traffic CO₂-neutral by the year 2050. Rafal Milczarski, President and CEO of LOT Polish Airlines, said: "We see the trust placed in us by our passengers as both an honour and an obligation. We not only want to provide them with the highest safety standards and comfortable air transportation. We also want make an important contribution to the preservation and protection of the environment. That is why I am very pleased about the cooperation with PKN ORLEN as the production of kerosene from renewable raw materials represents another initiative with which LOT Polish Airlines is reducing greenhouse gas emissions."

Daniel Obajtek, CEO and President of the PKN ORLEN Management Board: "The aviation industry is an excellent example of how the energy and fuel industry is changing. That is we are developing and investing in clean, advanced products. According to our estimates, the share of sustainably produced fuels in aviation will amount to 3 percent in 2030. Accordingly, we see enormous potential for further growth in this area in line with our ORLEN2030 strategy."

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Product View



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Journey of Romance

Honeymoon - A fantasy journey to destinations whose very names mean romance.

• Vedika Sharma

A honeymoon trip has to be a perfect blend of rejuvenation and fun activities to enjoy with your loved one, accompanied by a luxurious and comfortable stay.

Cuddle by the fire at a mountain retreat, enjoy grand sunsets together, savor a gourmet meal and pamper yourselves with a massage at these hotels that will surely make you and

your partner swoon!

The hotel industry is so vast that many hotels do not fit into a single well-defined category. Industry can be classified in various ways, based on location, size of property etc. Honeymooners as a consumer could choose the type of hotel for them to stay in their honeymoon. They can choose to stay whether in a city hotel, resort, large hotel,

small hotel, upscale, midscale, budget hotel, theme hotel, and many more. However, wherever you choose the hotel to stay, there must be the reason behind why they choose a particular hotel. Whether you are looking for a secluded romantic retreat, a cozy honeymoon or a lavish romantic vacation, these most romantic hotels in the world will definitely rev up the romance in your life.





Ayada Maldives

Ayada Maldives is a luxury resort located within the southern rim of the Gaafu Dhaalu Atoll in the southern Maldives. The island occupies 15 hectares and features indigenous vegetation with uninterrupted views of Maldivian landscape and the Indian Ocean. Honeymoon at Ayada can truly be exquisite; the remote location of Ayada is ideal for couples and allows the guests to enjoy varied

romantic experiences to create a memorable holiday in the Maldivian paradise.

Ayada Maldives offers romantic packages and experiences ensuring a perfect holiday for couples celebrating honeymoon. One can take a private sunset cruise around the island, enjoy a romantic dinner on the beach or relax during an hour couple's spa treatment at the award-winning AySpa.

Ayada offers complete privacy to the honeymooners. One can start the morning with their beloved in the villa's private pool enjoying a romantic floating tray breakfast with a view. Newlyweds can also plan excursions from the resort to nearby islands during the day. Ayada offers the deserted island picnics for a romantic Robinson Crusoe experience or sail out in a Romantic Sunset Cruise experience.





Banyan Tree Samui

Overlooking the azure waters of the Gulf of Thailand, Banyan Tree Samui is nestled amid the lush jungle of a private bay and presents an ideal choice for honeymooners.

Couples can choose to unwind in the comfort of their pool villa, amuse their palate with the culinary adventures provided from our dining outlets – including the exclusive Destination Dining experience in a secluded beachside setting, partake

in a range of recreational activities such as yoga classes or a guided snorkeling tour of our house reef, indulge in the tender touch of the therapists at the award-winning Banyan Tree Spa Samui, soak away their stress in The Rainforest – our hydrotherapy wellness facility, or create a true sanctuary for the senses with our specially-prepared Intimate Moments turndown arrangement for their villa.

Beyond the secluded haven of the resort,

lies an abundance of excursion options including a variety of cultural attractions as well as the idyllic natural beauty of Samui's jungles and the breathtaking beaches. Our private speedboat, Sense of the Sea, provides an ideal option for a day on the water taking in the coastal scenery of the Gulf of Thailand.

For newlyweds seeking comfort or adventure, tropical splendor awaits at Banyan Tree Samui.





Kingsbury Hotel

The Kingsbury Hotel is located in the heart of Colombo featuring stunning views of Sri Lanka's iconic Galleface Green. The hotel boasts a collection of varied cuisine from its outlets – The Kings, Yue Chuan, Harbour Court, Honey Beach Club, The Gourmet Station, The Grill and The Ocean. The Kingsbury High Tea is legendary with a wide spread of delicacies. Since its inception, The Kingsbury has consistently catered to the diverse needs of customers. As the newest offering, the award winning Singaporean dining and entertainment

brand CÉ LA VI has arrived in Colombo to embellish The Kingsbury rooftop as it takes entertainment and nightlife to a new pinnacle. The Kingsbury has earned global accolades including Regional Winner Luxury Business Hotel in South Asia and Best Luxury Business Hotel in Sri Lanka.

Experience the bustling metropolis as newlyweds when you stay at one of the most preferred honeymoon hotels in Colombo. Enjoy a candlelit dinner or indulge in a variety of activities as you begin your lives

together.

Private Dining- Indulge in amazing cuisine in complete privacy

Romantic Suites for Two- Luxury dwellings for newlyweds

Fairy Tale Experiences- Breakfast in bed or high-tea; the choice is yours

Location- A myriad of experiences awaits you





Ayurveda Secret!

Ayurvedic Science carves out a health pattern based on natural resources or – literally translated as the Science of longevity is the holistic, traditional system of Indian medicine that aims to bring health and happiness to the individual.

• **Tarsh Sharma**

The entire body loaded with ornaments systematically and attractively boosts the immune system of the body by way of pleasantness. The person gets mental satisfaction and hence the power of immunity enhances manifold. Ornaments emit specific rays and their touch sensation helps to regularise the

blood circulation.

In Ayurveda, all natural substances like gems, metals, and stones possess reservoirs of energy known as 'prana' which can be used to heal, protect and strengthen the body against the negative energy that may come from the cosmos.

Metals

When metals like gold, silver or copper are put in water for a specific time period, the resultant water gets charged with the health benefiting qualities of the metal. Precious metals have been used since ancient times in Ayurveda to cure various ailments as they are considered to provide innumerable



Bling Factor

exotic minerals with elegant appearance and color. They are profound & mystical healing tools that are being used all over the world from past few centuries across different cultures. Gems enliven the vital energy centers in the body (the chakra) and have a direct influence on Tridoshas that is vata, pitta, and kapha.

Ruby - Sun

The light red color ruby gemstone (Manik Stone in Hindi) represents the planet Sun. And, it is being said that this gemstone occupies the magical powers of the sun and encourages removing or healing serious health diseases. The Sun ruled ruby gemstone curbs the serious health diseases with the assistance of effective rays of the Sun and brings prosperity.

Where to wear - In a ring on a the ring finger or in a necklace.

Pearl - Moon

It is recommended for the person who belongs cancer sign can get the benefits of the pearl. If the planet Moon is debilitated and afflicted, the pearl helps immensely especially, during the mahadasa and antardasa of Moon. This influence is represented by the hypothalamus in our physiology which controls our behaviour, our emotions, our hormonal and reproductive cycles and our body temperature. Pearl is very useful for ladies as it increases their beauty and facial luster. It develops good harmony between husband and wife.



health benefits.

Gold

The healing powers of gold could cure all manner of physical, mental and spiritual ailments. Gold is strengthening to the nervous system and the heart, improves memory and intelligence, and increase stamina. It is also good for weak lungs. Gold can be helpful for students' pre-exam tension, for arthritis, and for heart arrhythmia. Ornaments without stones or a lot of joints, like chains or necklaces should not be used for this purpose.

Silver

Silver has numerous health properties that have been used across time and culture. It is a powerful antimicrobial agent that aids in cold and flu prevention, wound healing, and skin care. Silver also helps with internal heat regulation and circulation. When applied in the right quantity and manner, silver also provides protection against harmful electromagnetic radiation from cellphones and other electronics.

Copper

Those suffering from a number of chronic and complicated diseases like joint diseases, polio, leprosy, high BP, knee

pains, stress and mental tension, paralysis find it benefits to consume copper charged water.

Copper is needed by the body for various physiological functions like RBC synthesis, protein metabolism, enzyme activity and benefits the nervous and circulatory systems and bone health.

Gem Stones – 9 Navaratna

Gemstones are one of the most beautiful &



Bling Factor

with the genitals. In combination with other gems, red coral can help to cure cancer, anemia, kidney ailments, nerve disorders, gallstones, diabetes, asthma, hernia, appendicitis, meningitis, gout, carbuncle, paralysis, rickets, boils and wounds, menstrual disorder, and painful childbirth. Children who suffer from malnutrition and slow development may find relief while wearing this gemstone.

Where to wear - A ring or pendant set in gold or silver.

Emerald – Mercury

Emeralds are associated with the planet Mercury, which corresponds to intellect, speech, memory, short travel, wisdom, and

intuitive power. A person who has favorable Mercury in their Indian astrological chart will find emeralds beneficial, especially if they are politicians or orators or if they work in business or public relations. Emeralds are symbolic of love and generosity. Emeralds support good health, wealth, and happiness, and reduce the possibility of snake bites. A pregnant woman who wears an emerald will not endure prolonged labor. Emeralds are also said to reduce mental stress and regulate blood circulation.

Where to wear - A ring or pendant set in gold or silver.

Diamond – Venus

It will remove evil and fearful thoughts

making his or her personality attractive and charming. Diamond will help to improve native's facial lusture and gives him more confidence which in turn open many ways to success. He will have more peace of mind and goodness in thoughts after wearing diamond. It helps to cure and fight many diseases like diabetes, urine problem, problems of private parts, skin problems etc. it indicates love, marriage, partner, beauty, modesty, sincerity, music, dance, drama, actor, acting, amusements, all things, attraction and relation with opposite sex.

Where to wear - In the middle finger of the right hand.





Blue Sapphire – Saturn

This gemstone has a mending impact on the brain. It sustains the brain and restores mental peace. Furthermore, it encourages mental recuperating by getting out the negative musings or the mental disarray, which appears to haze the psyche of the local with perplexity. It is known to enhance the memory and increase the prospects of the wearer, empowering the stream of positive vitality in his brain. Fundamentally, blue sapphire enhances the strength of the mind, sense organs and sensory system. The blue sapphire gemstone is known to bring greater wellbeing, lifespan, achievement, mental peace and success for the local notwithstanding giving insurance from mishaps and underhandedness spirits.

Where to wear - On the right middle finger, preferably in a silver setting.

Hessonite – The Ascending Lunar

Node

The uniform cow urine colored Gomed neutralizes the evil effect of Vedic planet Rahu and protects the wearer from the negative vibes & energies. It calms the mind of the wearer and relieves him/her from depression, deep seated anxieties and mental problems.

Gomed helps to boost concentration, focus and gives clear direction to help achieve goals. Therefore, it is quite beneficial for students and people who are working in the field of research. Hessonite provides professional progress and enhances one's social & financial status. It helps improve the health of the wearer and cures ailments like epilepsy, allergies, infections of the eye & sinus, haemorrhoids and palpitation of the heart. It also helps in healing diseases like cancer, varicose veins, boils, leprosy, clumsiness, intestinal issues, fatigue, blood pressure and fatigue. A Hessonite brings to

its wearer the five fruits of life: Meditation (Dhyaana), Financial Prosperity (Artha), Righteous living (Dharma), Pleasures of the body (Kama) and Salvation/Nirvana (Moksha).

Where to wear - The ring should be worn in either the middle or little finger of the right hand.

Cat's Eye – The descending Lunar Node

This stone is good for allergies, repeated colds and congestion, and allergic asthma. It pacifies kapha and vata while slightly increasing pitta. It aids in healing kidney dysfunction. Cats-eye enhances awareness and helps a person not get caught up in emotions.

Where to wear - Gold settings ring in little finger.



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INDIA NAHI DEKHA TO KYA DEKHA

