

OCTOBER



Brewing news!



MONTHLY BLEND



A FRAGILE HISTORY: ISRAEL-PALESTINE CONFLICT'S COMPLEX PATH TO PEACE"

ANUBHAV AGARWAL

The Palestinian militant group Hamas launched an unprecedented attack on Israel in October, resulting in losses on both sides. The history of efforts to reconcile the Israel-Palestine issue is complicated. The Oslo peace process, symbolised by a historic White House ceremony in 1993 in which both parties recognised each other, provided some hope in the 1990s. A Palestinian Authority was formed. However, issues quickly occurred. Israeli opposition leader Benjamin Netanyahu criticised Oslo, causing Israel's settlements in Palestinian territories to accelerate. Simultaneously, Hamas, a militant group, initiated suicide bombings in Israel, complicating matters further. With the recent attack and casualties on both sides, the situation remains bleak. This protracted conflict defies simple answers, emphasising the importance of sustained international efforts to reach a sustainable peace accord.



BEYOND WEATHER: HOW CLIMATE CHANGE AFFECTS EARTHQUAKES AND VOLCANIC ACTIVITY

SUNNY PAUL

The climate of our planet is rapidly changing. This entails increased wildfires, droughts, severe storms, and glaciers melting. Europe and Canada have had deadly wildfires in the last month, while Beijing has experienced record-breaking rainfall. Melting glaciers raise sea levels, exacerbating coastal concerns. Surprisingly, our changing climate may have an impact on things beneath the Earth's surface, such as earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. Researchers discovered that rainfall rates influence earthquakes. In the Himalayas, for example, most earthquakes occur before the monsoon season, when abundant rain stabilises the ground. Climate change may exacerbate the situation. The ground may quake more as the rain falls harder. Similarly, melting glaciers can disrupt the Earth's crust, causing earthquakes. So, climate change is affecting more than just our weather.



OPERATION AJAY: INDIA'S SWIFT RESPONSE TO ENSURE CITIZENS' SAFETY IN ISRAEL

HEMANT SHARMA

On October 11, India launched 'Operation Ajay' to help Indian nationals flee Israel during the confrontation with the Hamas group in Gaza. The mission, announced by India's External Affairs Minister Dr S. Jaishankar via his X account, was launched to secure the safety, and return of Indian citizens amid escalating hostilities. The Ministry of External Affairs established a helpline for Indian citizens in Israel. The Israeli government has told the Indian Embassy that it will support and coordinate Operation Ajay. "There are approximately 18,000 Indian citizens in Israel, including 1,000 students whom we adore," stated Kobi Shoshani, Consul General of Israel in Mumbai. The Indian business community makes a significant contribution to our economy." Five chartered flights from Tel Aviv carried 1,192 people, including children. Once again, the Indian government has demonstrated that they care about its people no matter where they are in the world.



KHALISTAN MOVEMENT'S GLOBAL IMPACT

ADARSH CHITRANSH

The Khalistan movement, which seeks an independent Sikh state, has strained relations between India and countries such as Canada and the United Kingdom. While there is no actual violence in Punjab, the movement has supporters in both India and among Sikhs around the world. India, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has voiced worry to countries such as Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia regarding Sikh separatist movements. Recent occurrences, such as the farmers' protest in Delhi, which was initially dubbed "Khalistan's," and the arrest of preacher Amritpal Singh, have exacerbated the situation. Attacks on Indian diplomatic facilities in Canada and San Francisco, as well as flag disrespect in London, have strained diplomatic ties. Canada even removed an Indian diplomat for the assassination of a Sikh activist.



INDIA'S AMBITIOUS BID: HOSTING THE 2036 SUMMER OLYMPICS AND YOUTH OLYMPICS 2029

UDAYRAJ SADAWARTI

At the International Olympic Committee, India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi made a big announcement. With the hopes of 1.4 billion Indians at heart, India is eager to host the Summer Olympics in 2036. Although no specific city was stated in the offer, India's commitment was evident. PM Modi has also expressed interest in hosting the Youth Olympics in 2029. The success of India's G20 summit organisation demonstrated the country's ability to host significant global events. The declaration came shortly after India defeated Pakistan in the World Cup. India has joined Turkey, Indonesia, Mexico, and Poland in bidding to host the 2036 Olympics, making it the fourth Asian country to do so.



BUSINESS BREWS

INDIA'S RETAIL INFLATION DIPS TO 3-MONTH LOW, BOOSTS ECONOMIC CONFIDENCE

HARSH BACHHUKA

Retail prices in India fell to a three-month low of 5.02% in September, mainly to decreasing food prices, according to the Consumer Price Index (CPI). This returns inflation to the Reserve Bank of India's intended range of less than 6%. The CPI was 7.44% in July 2023 and 6.83% in August. The Industrial Production Index (IIP), which measures industrial activity, increased by 10.3% in August 2023, compared to a 0.7% fall in August 2022. Manufacturing, mining, and power production all increased significantly in August 2023. Although the IIP was 6.1% higher from April to August 2023, it was 7.7% higher than the same period previous year.



INDIA'S GST TRIUMPH: STRICTER ANTI-TAX EVASION MEASURES PROPEL REVENUES PAST \$1 TRILLION

JITENDRA SINGH

Thanks to stringent anti-tax evasion measures, India's Goods and Services Tax (GST) receipts topped \$1 trillion in October. The government implemented digital tools like as e-invoicing to verify invoices in real time, eliminating fraud and clarifying tax rules. The GST Council is using data analytics and artificial intelligence to crack down on tax evaders, ensuring they face the penalty and protecting government cash. They've also simplified the tax system, reduced the cost on businesses, and increased knowledge to encourage voluntary tax compliance. This accomplishment demonstrates the government's dedication to boosting the economy, instilling a culture of fiscal discipline, and guiding India towards a brighter financial future.



DIGITAL PAYMENTS SOAR IN INDIA: UPI, MOBILE TRANSACTIONS, AND CREDIT CARDS ON THE RISE

ANKET MANDAL

Digital payments are becoming increasingly popular in India. Transactions through UPI, a popular payment method, grew by 62% in the first half of 2023 compared to the same period in 2022. The average amount paid is decreasing as more individuals use it for little payments. Mobile transactions have also increased dramatically in number and value, demonstrating how consumers are using their phones to pay. Despite a drop in overall card transactions, credit card usage grew, particularly from private banks. Net banking and electronic toll collection transactions increased as well, showing a broader trend of digital payments becoming the norm in India.

INDIAN FIRMS GEAR UP FOR BLOCKBUSTER IPOs IN OCTOBER, EYEING OVER ₹3,000 CRORE

RISHITA JESWANI

Several Indian companies are planning initial public offerings (IPOs) in October, with the goal of raising more than Rs3,000 crore (about \$400 million). Among those planning IPOs are Godrej Agrovet, Mahindra Logistics, and the Indian Energy Exchange (IEX). The companies are actively participating in investor roadshows with the intention of launching an IPO before Diwali. These IPOs are being encouraged by strong market liquidity, the absence of substantial impediments, and strong secondary market performance. Godrej Agrovet is looking to raise Rs300 crore, Mahindra Logistics will see a 27.49% stake dilution, while IEX's IPO will see several private equity backers sell a portion of their stakes.



KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK AND ZURICH INSURANCE JOIN FORCES IN ₹4,051 CRORE DEAL FOR KOTAK GENERAL INSURANCE STAKE

SAURAV SONI

Kotak Mahindra Bank recently announced a strategic relationship with Zurich Insurance Company Ltd. Zurich would invest 4,051 crore to purchase a 51% interest in Kotak General Insurance under this deal. The agreement calls for Zurich to buy an additional 19% ownership in the company within three years of the initial purchase. The combination of Kotak's extensive 'phygital' distribution network in India and Zurich's global competence in digital assets, both in B2B and B2C forms, is projected to have a substantial influence on the Indian general insurance business, stimulating innovation and efficiency. The transaction is subject to regulatory approvals from India's Reserve Bank, Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority, and Competition Commission.

ARTISTIC AROMAS



Kyu bechain hai, bhala kyu bezaar hai
Aasman ko tak, aasman bahaar hai
Maaf krde ya maangle maaf
Ek din mit jayega, kahani ka kirdar hai
Jee aise ki kal ko tu jiyega nahi
Kis pareshani me tera jeena dushwar hai
Nafrat , bair se ghar nahi chalta
Mein kya btau, tu khud samjhdar hai
Ajnabiyon se mil do baat kar
Tu muskura or dekh vo bhi taiyar hai
Aankh moondle or swikaar kar.
Apno se jeeti baazi fakat haar hai
-shudhanshu jha-

INCOME TAX Inspector

Graffiti Art and Hip-Hop: An Inseparable Bond

Graffiti art and hip-hop culture are inextricably linked. Both art forms originated in New York City in the 1970s and signify self-expression and defiance of conventional standards.

Graffiti began to represent hip-hop's essential principles of creativity, revolt, and authenticity. Artists used public places as their canvas, adding vivid colours and elaborate designs that conveyed powerful messages expressing the challenges and ambitions of marginalised populations.

Graffiti was one of the four basic parts of hip-hop, along with MCing, DJing, and breakdancing. Graffiti artists, called as "writers," helped shape the culture's visual character by leaving their mark on subway cars and walls. Graffiti art is still a crucial element of hip-hop culture today, growing into a respected art form. Street artists around the world continue to be inspired by hip-hop's ethos, utilising their work to celebrate diversity, question stereotypes, and pay homage to the movement's roots.



INKSIGHTS



INDIA'S THRILLING QUEST FOR CRICKET WORLD CUP 2023: BEYOND VICTORY, EMBRACING THE JOURNEY

JITENDRA SINGH



As the ICC Cricket World Cup 2023 approaches, India is abuzz with one burning question: Will India triumph? Hopes are high with a powerful team, home advantage, and a run of recent triumphs, including an Asia Cup victory with top one-day teams in attendance. The familiarity of home circumstances, fervent fans, and an electrifying atmosphere add to the intensity. Cricket, on the other hand, is noted for its unpredictability, which ensures that every playing side is a formidable challenger. While competitors brag about their top players and strategy, the World Cup remains a furnace of cricketing dreams in which resilience defines success. Regardless of the conclusion, this voyage promises to be an emotional rollercoaster packed with spectacular moments and unforgettable memories. Cricket's core goes beyond the final trophy, emphasizing the excitement of the game itself. So, India's quest for the World Cup is about more than just winning; it's about embracing the intriguing trip that will have spectators on the edge of their seats.

G21: DIPLOMATIC MASTERY IN AN EVER-CHANGING WORLD

VIPUL MISHRA

The G21 acts as a skilled diplomat on the global stage, bringing together powerful countries to tackle global issues. It began amid the 2008 financial crisis and has evolved into a forum where governments address major problems such as the economy, climate change, and crises. Its strength is its capacity to quickly develop solutions, even though getting everyone on the same page might be difficult. The G21 plays an important role in keeping the world safer and more affluent by adjusting to change and cooperating when the world appears uncertain.



MASTERING THE ART OF INVESTMENT: YOUR GUIDE TO NAVIGATING THE STOCK MARKET AND BEYOND

RAJ BANSAL



The stock market provides numerous options to invest and control risk. Stocks are like owning a piece of a firm and enjoying its profits, but bonds are like loans that pay interest and then return your money. Futures and options are contracts to buy or sell assets in the future, which are beneficial for both risk management and speculation. Commodities, such as gold and oil, can diversify your portfolio while also protecting you from rising prices. ETFs are asset pools that may be bought and sold like stocks, providing diversification. Forex trading entails exchanging several currencies. Mutual funds aggregate money from many people and are handled by professionals, thereby dispersing risk. REITs allow you to invest in real estate without owning any real estate. Municipal bonds for public works projects can also provide tax breaks. Do thorough research to match your choices with your goals, risk comfort, and time plans.

INDIA'S DIGITAL ODYSSEY: FROM PROGRESS TO POSSIBILITIES

YASHWANT PATIDAR

Growing up in India, I saw an incredible digital shift. It is more than a vision; it is a monument to the spirit of our people and their pursuit of progress. Digital India, the National Optical Fibre Network, and Bharat Net have all brought the digital world to our communities. Digital governance efforts like as Aadhaar and Digital Locker have made it easier to access government documents. Digital payments, particularly UPI, have transformed transactions. 'Start-up India' has sparked entrepreneurial aspirations. Healthcare and agriculture are being transformed by artificial intelligence and big data. However, issues such as data security and bridging the urban-rural digital divide remain. The digital future of India is about empowerment, resilience, and hope, promising a more inclusive and brighter future.





BUZZ & BEANS



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