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SHRI RAM COLLEGE OF COMMERCE



THE COMSOC GAZETTE



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FINANCE & INVESTMENT

01 FPIS SHIFT FOCUS BACK ON INDIAN MARKET; INVEST RS 7,600 CR IN A WEEK

Foreign investors turned net purchasers last week with an investment of more than Rs 7,600 crore, suggesting that they have turned their attention back to the Indian equity markets. This followed a net outflow of Rs 3,920 crore from stocks by foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) in the week before (February 7–12), according to statistics from the depositories. In terms of sector, FPIs have been buyers in autos and auto components and construction, while they were sellers in banking and financial services in which they are sitting on good profits.



02 MOLBIO DIAGNOSTICS ACQUIRES 70 PERCENT STAKE IN PROGNOSYS MEDICAL SYSTEMS

Molbio Diagnostics revealed that it had purchased a 70% share in Prognosys Medical Systems, a Bengaluru-based company. Prognosys builds radiology and fluoroscopy solutions under the brand name PRORAD at its facility based out of Bangalore that complies with national and international regulatory requirements such as CDSO, BIS, AERB, EN ISO 13485, European CE and US FDA. High-quality chest images can be delivered along with Artificial Intelligence

(AI) driven algorithms for automated interpreting and reporting at the point of care with the recent introduction of the unique PRORAD Portable and Ultra-Portable digital x-ray units manufactured, for the first time in India, by Prognosys.

03 GOLDMAN GROWTH FUND BOOSTS BETS ON INDIA AS CHINA INTEREST COOLS

As interest in China cools due to political and economic unrest, Goldman Sachs Group Inc. is increasing the amount of money it invests on behalf of its clients in India and developed countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

The New York-based bank intends to invest a quarter of its recently formed \$5.2 billion growth fund in the area. The bank has "dialled up" in India, according to Stephanie Hui, co-head of alternative investing in Asia at Goldman Sachs Asset Management, while investors generally are redirecting some capital from emerging markets that was originally intended for China.



01 META ROLLS OUT LARGE LANGUAGE MODEL AMID BIG TECH'S AI PUSH

Meta Platforms Inc. said on Friday it was releasing to researchers a new large language model, the core software of a new artificial intelligence system, heating up an AI arms race as Big Tech companies rush to integrate the technology into their products and impress investors. The public battle to dominate the AI technology space kicked off late last year with the launch of Microsoft-backed OpenAI's ChatGPT and prompted tech heavyweights from Alphabet Inc to China's Baidu Inc to trumpet their own offerings.

Meta's LLaMA, short for Large Language Model Meta AI, will be available under non-commercial license to researchers and entities affiliated with government, civil society, and academia, it said in a blog. Large language models mine vast amounts of text in order to summarise information and generate content. They can answer questions, for instance, with sentences that can read as though written by humans.

02 NASA TRACKS DOWN 1600-FOOT ODDLY SHAPED ASTEROID AS BIG AS EMPIRE STATE BUILDING

Scientists at NASA have tracked down an asteroid with dimensions similar to the Empire State Building. The asteroid had recently sped past Earth and it has caught the attention of astronomers for its elongated shape. The oddly shaped asteroid called 2011 AG5, was closely tracked by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Southern California. The object is 1600 feet long and about 500 feet wide- dimensions comparable to the Empire State Building. The powerful 230-foot (70-meter) Goldstone Solar System Radar antenna dish at the Deep Space

Network's facility near Barstow, California, revealed the dimensions of this extremely elongated asteroid, a press release by NASA said.

"Of the 1,040 near-Earth objects observed by planetary radar to date, this is one of the most elongated we've seen," said Lance Benner, principal scientist at JPL who helped lead the observations. The asteroid 2011 AG5 sped past Earth at a distance of 1.1 million miles away on February 3. The astronomers analysed its size, rotations, surface and silhouette in detail since the object was discovered 12 years ago.

03 ISRAEL LAUNCHES SNIFFING ROBOT TO DETECT DISEASES, AID IN SECURITY CHECKS

Scientists from Israel have developed a sniffing robot which is equipped with a biological sensor. The robot uses the antennae of a locust to diagnose disease and improve security checks.

Locusts smell with their antennae. The scientists will use the locust's antennae to hone the computer's scent detection abilities. Researchers at Tel Aviv University have managed to harness their bio-hybrid robot, making it far more sensitive than existing electronic sniffers, a Reuters report said. The scientists have placed the insect's antenna between two electrodes that can send signals to identify the odour on a four-wheeled robot. The robot can identify different types of scents with machine learning.

Neta Shvil of the Sagol School of Neuroscience told Reuters, "Ultimately, we are trying to create a robot with a sense of smell that will be able to distinguish between smells and to locate them in space." To understand how animals detect disease by smell, developer Ben Moaz of the Fleischman Faculty of Engineering and Sagol School of Neuroscience said the future applications would almost be endless, extending to the detection of drugs and explosives and even food safety.

GEOPOLITICAL TRANSFORMS

The Russian invasion of Ukraine has opened a new chapter in international relations, with important implications for the global economic order.

The outbreak of large-scale warfare on European soil, with its associated human tragedies, brings back memories of the continent's darkest times. Within three days of the invasion, the Group of Seven, consisting of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States, soon followed by other countries, deployed a range of economic sanctions against the aggressor.

As discussed in our latest World Economic Outlook, the war and the associated economic sanctions will have a major impact on the world economy, slowing down activity and increasing price pressures.

Like an earthquake, the war has an epicenter, located in Russia and Ukraine. The economic toll on these two countries is extremely large. According to our projections, Ukraine's economy will shrink by 35 percent and Russia's by 8.5 percent in 2022.

01 WILL UPR 41 STAND IN THE WAY OF INDIA

The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is a one-of-a-kind peer-review process that entails a periodic review of all 193 UN Member States' human rights records. It is intended to prompt, promote, and enhance human rights promotion and protection on the ground. For this purpose, it provides a unique opportunity for states to get recommendations from other states on the status of their human rights. It is a significant innovation of the Human Rights Council that is based on equitable treatment for all countries. The ultimate purpose of UPR is to improve the human rights situation in every country, with far-reaching effects for people all around the world.

This year's forty-first session (fourth cycle) has already commenced on November 7, 2022, and will continue for two weeks. The discussions will move around different countries' recommendations and voluntary pledges to address the concerns drafted by the experts of contributing countries. Apparently, out of all the countries that are lined up for the review this year, the one in hot waters will be India. The two co-related reasons for that is: one, the upsurge in human rights abuses by India as Modi rises to power, and two, the endangering of its long-pending reform of the Security Council.

02 IS IT TIME FOR INDIA TO DEEPEN ITS TIES WITH TAIWAN

India's current relationship with Taipei is weak. There have been attempts to increase commercial and industrial engagement with associations like the India-Taipei Association (IPA) located in Taipei, and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Center (TECC) based in New Delhi, as well as promoting interpersonal relations. India's relationship with Taiwan has been complicated, with the issue of Taiwan's external sovereignty being a longstanding issue. This can be seen in regional fora, such as the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), which refers to the island as Chinese Taipei, and the World Trade Organization's use of the more complicated "Separate Customs Territories of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen, and Matsu." However, with economic activity ripe with potential, evidenced by more than \$5.7 billion in trade in 2020, an expansion of India-Taiwan ties might be due, despite the risks of aggravating already fragile relations with China.



STOCK MARKET & TREND ANALYSIS

SENSEX AND NIFTY

Since the last two weeks, the NIFTY and SENSEX have been consistently falling. NIFTY 50 crossed the 18100 mark on February 16 but was below 17,500 just before the month's end, with a 2.5 per cent decline in the last week, which was the biggest weekly fall in 8 months. SENSEX also had a similar trajectory and recorded a 2.55% fall in the last week. The markets have mirrored the global trend after the US Federal Bank minutes indicated rate hikes to tame inflation, which led to FIIs selling. FIIs sold equities worth Rs 3209.6 crore, whereas DIIs continued providing support and bought equities worth Rs 12,397 crore.

FUTURE OUTLOOK

It is expected that the downward spiral will continue amid sharp intraday volatility as there is uncertainty regarding the weak global economic scenario. The market may continue its bearish trend as investors are likely to cut their long positions owing to multiple negative factors. There are expectations of a temporary bounce which is unlikely to create a trend reversal and that NIFTY will reach 17,350 from a short-term perspective.

EXTENSION OF TRADING HOURS IN INTEREST RATE DERIVATIVES

The National Stock Exchange of India has extended the market trade timing for interest rate derivatives to 5 p.m., and the change was effective from February 23. Earlier, the contracts were traded between 9 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. The move is aimed at converging it with underlying market timings, the exchange said in a circular. There shall be no change in trading hours for other interest rate derivative contracts, it said. All existing expiry contracts with expiry day beyond February 23, 2023, and all new expiration contracts introduced thereafter will be available for trading till 5 p.m. on expiry day.

STOCK TO WATCH OUT FOR: DLF

DLF, incorporated in 1963, is a Large Cap company (having a market cap of Rs 85596.28 crore) operating in the Real Estate sector. The company reported a consolidated total income of Rs 1559.66 crore for the quarter ended December 31, 2022, up 14.64% from the previous quarter's total income of Rs 1360.50 crore. In the most recent quarter, the company reported a net profit after tax of Rs 297.65 crore. The launch momentum is likely to continue in 4QFY23. DLF has launched its new luxury project, Arbour, in Sector 63, Gurgaon and is likely to clock over INR 20 billion in sales.



01 INDIA RANKS 42 IN 55 COUNTRIES ON INTERNATIONAL IP INDEX

India has been ranked 42nd among 55 leading global economies on the International Intellectual Property Index released by the US Chambers of Commerce. Despite this, the report suggests that India has the potential to become a leader for emerging markets looking to transform their economy through IP-driven innovation. The report covers various aspects of this intellectual property, including patent and copyright laws, the ability to monetize IP assets, and the ratification of international agreements. It notes that India has made significant efforts to combat copyright piracy by issuing "dynamic" injunction orders. As India's size and economic influence continue to grow, it could become a leader in IP-driven innovation.



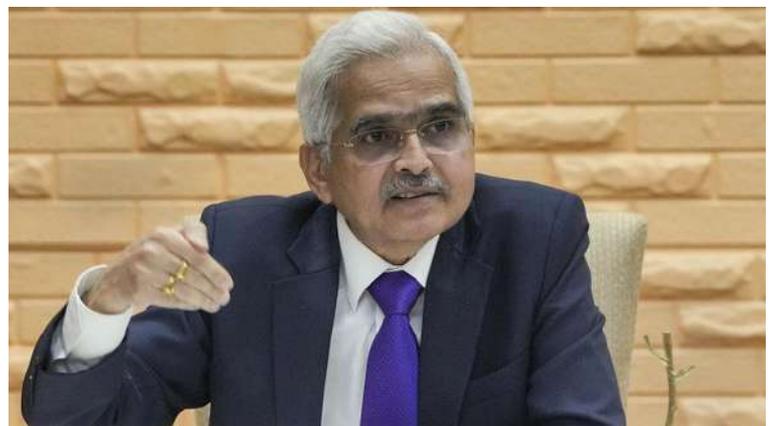
02 ASSETS WORTH RS 26,000 CRORE MONETISED IN FY23: NITI AAYOG

The NITI Aayog has reported that the government has successfully monetized assets worth ₹26,000 crore in the current fiscal year (FY23), which is a fraction of the ₹1.6 lakh crore target. However, there are proposals worth ₹1.23 lakh crore that are still being processed. So far, the total value of assets monetized in FY22 and FY23 is ₹1.14 lakh crore, which is 19% of the four-year target of ₹6 lakh crore set under the National Monetisation Pipeline (FY22-25). In FY22, ₹88,000 crore had been achieved.



03 UNCERTAINTIES CLOUD GLOBAL ECONOMY, G20 NATIONS MUST RESOLUTELY ADDRESS CHALLENGES: RBI GOVERNOR

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das has stated that while the global economic outlook has improved in recent months, uncertainties still remain. He urged G20 nations to tackle the challenges faced by world economies, including debt distress and threats to financial stability. Mr. Das mentioned that there is some optimism that the world may avoid a deep recession and experience slow growth or a softer recession instead. However, he also emphasized that uncertainties still lie ahead. The FMCBG meeting is the first major meeting of G20 under India's Presidency, and the Governor highlighted that G20 is embarking on a transformational journey. The finance track will focus on building trust in G20 as a multilateral forum to address global challenges.



METaverse

01 AS MICROSOFT EMBRACES AI, IT SAYS SAYONARA TO THE METAVERSE

The metaverse was hailed as the Next Big Thing, ready to revolutionise society, technology, and the workplace in ways that had never been thought possible before the recent frenzy surrounding artificial intelligence (AI) exploded. The impending shift is driven by AI. The metaverse is an old story.

Microsoft officially denies it, but it has all but stopped working on the metaverse. The rapidity with which it occurred is astounding, and it should serve as a warning to companies tempted to invest in the hot technology right now.

What does this entail for you and your business, then? First, it's important to reevaluate your ideas if you have significant metaverse ambitions incorporating Microsoft-related technology. Microsoft will only provide a limited amount of support for its metaverse.

02 OTT IN METAVERSE

Disney, the official broadcaster, has forayed into the metaverse with "Starverse" even as all eyes are on the 2023 IPL season, the showpiece TV event of the year.

By 2024, the market for the metaverse is expected to be worth over \$80 billion, according to recent industry forecasts. Gen Z, the post-broadband generation, is tech adept and digital native. The effectiveness of their brand experience influences their decision and determines where their disposable income will be spent. By 2030, it is predicted that this group will make up 40% of the workforce. This cohort has been clearly engaged by the metaverse, making it the ideal fit. Today's consumer is demanding immersive metaverse experiences, and the meaning of entertainment is slowly changing. Real-world characteristics are being merged with the digital world, and we can already see the difference in the gaming industry. The OTT world must pick up arms and be ready to pop," said Pooja Chhangani, Manager – Digital Planning, Carat India.

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03 CAN METAVERSE HELP IN IMPROVING HEALTH

What are the key opportunities and uncertainties in the metaverse that can help us better manage non-communicable diseases?

Experiments conducted in virtual settings within the metaverse can be used to investigate the effectiveness of large-scale interventions before they are implemented, saving time and money. "Within a metaverse, study participants could be randomised to experience different built environment exposures such as high and low density, high and low walkability, or different levels of nature or urban environments," explains Prof. Koohsari, the lead author of the paper, who is among the top 2 per cent of most influential researchers worldwide across all scientific disciplines in 2021.

The article emphasises important limits of the metaverse in imitating the real world, even if it lists numerous ways that the metaverse can revolutionise public health treatments through altering built surroundings. In particular, the metaverse's current condition today makes it possible to test a variety of human behaviours and their interactions with built surroundings. Also, since persons from lower socioeconomic levels have limited access to virtual reality technology, the metaverse's population may not be reflective of society as a whole.

RESOURCE GUIDE

01 QUANTS UNLOCKED

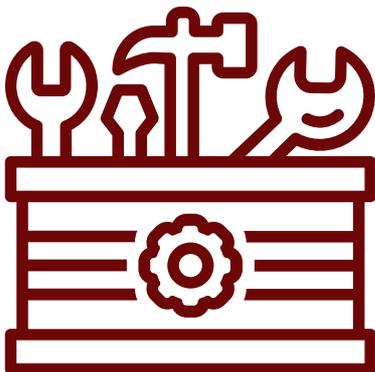
1. If A is R% more than B, then B is less than A by:
 $R / (100+R) \times 100$
2. If A is R% less than B, then B is more than A by:
 $R / (100-R) \times 100$
3. Population after n years : $P(1 + R /100)$
4. Population before n years : $P(1 - R /100)n$
5. If the price of a commodity increases by R%, then reduction in consumption, not to increase the expenditure is: $R/(100+R) \times 100$
6. If the price of a commodity decreases by R%, then the increase in consumption, not to decrease the expenditure is : $R/(100-R) \times 100$
7. Value of Machine after n years : $P(1 - R /100)n$
8. Value of Machine before n years : $P(1 + R/100)n$.

02 DIY CORNER

1- Five marbles of various sizes are placed in a conical funnel. Each marble is in contact with the adjacent marble(s). Also, each marble is in contact all around the funnel wall. The smallest marble has a radius of 8 mm. The largest marble has a radius of 18 mm. What is the radius (in mm) of the middle marble?

2- The cost of 3 hamburgers, 5 milk shakes, and 1 order of fries at a certain fast food restaurant is \$23.50. At the same restaurant, the cost of 5 hamburgers, 9 milk shakes, and 1 order of fries is \$39.50. What is the cost of 2 hamburgers, 2 milk shakes, and 2 orders of fries at this restaurant?

- [1] 10
- [2] 15
- [3] 7.5
- [4] Cannot be determined



03 VERBAL DEMYSTIFIED

Let's have a look at some important Idioms and Phrases to step up your exam preparations.

1. At one's wit's end (perplexed) : Sohan was at his wit's end to find that his younger brother had taken poison.
2. At one's fingertips (complete knowledge): All the rules of synthesis are at his fingertips.
3. At the spur of the moment (without delay): In an interview we must reply at the spur of the moment.
4. All in all (most important): As he was the only son in a big family, he was all in all in his home.
5. Blow one's trumpet (to praise oneself): No one likes to talk to those who are always blowing their own trumpet.
6. Break the news (to give bad news): He broke the news of her husband's death very gently so as to lessen the intensity of the shock.
7. Burn a hole in one's pocket (money spent quickly): Money given to a spendthrift only burns a hole in his pocket.
8. Curry favour with (win favour of somebody): Neena gave a lot of costly presents to her science teacher to carry favour with him.
9. Call a spade a spade (to speak plainly): People often get angry when one calls a spade a spade.
10. Carry the day (to win a victory) After initial setback India carried the day in the Test match.
11. Down in the mouth (out of elements): Now-a-days he is down in the mouth because he has suffered heavy loss in business.
12. Dog in the manger (a person who prevents others from enjoying what he himself cannot): By disrupting Parliament Session the Congress is following a dog in the manger policy.

04 GENERAL AWARENESS

Let's have a look at some important dates of February

- World Cancer Day observed on 4th February
- World Radio Day observed on 13th February
- National Women's Day observed on 13th February
- World Day of Social Justice Observed on 20th February
- National Science Day observed on 28th February

MOVIE RECOMMENDATION

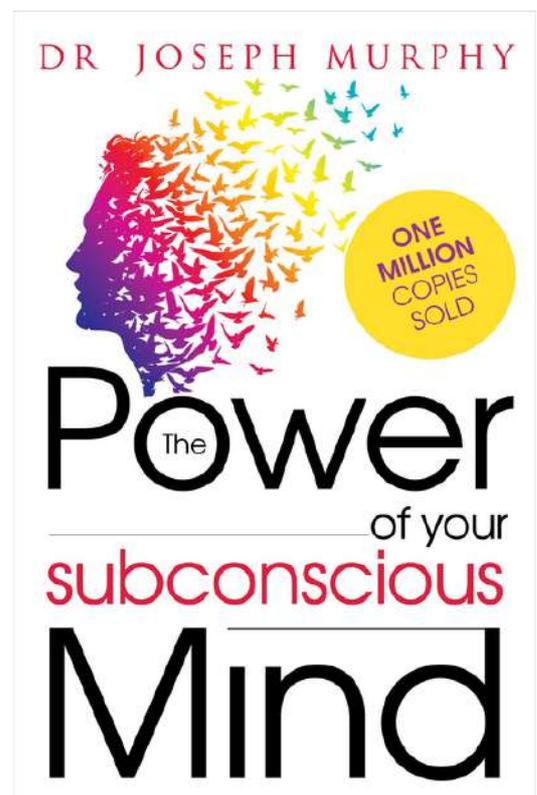
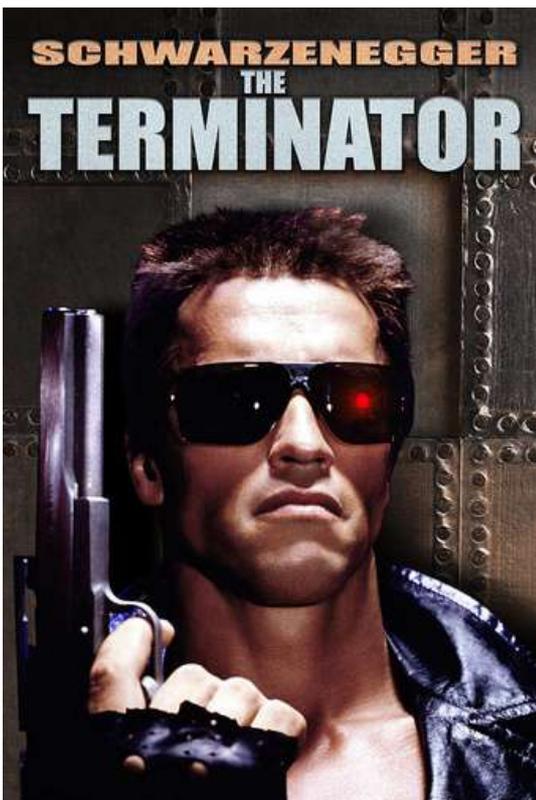
THE TERMINATOR

The Terminator is one of the most popular movies when it comes to portraying the bleak future of a world where AI suddenly turns evil and starts killing everyone. It illustrates the possibility of AI becoming an existential threat. In this film, Skynet, an AI system that sparks a nuclear holocaust sends back a cyborg assassin (The Terminator) to prevent the birth of John Connor who will spark a rebel group that fights against Skynet. This movie serves as a reminder to create an AI that is safe and to think twice about creating an AI that can wipe us out.

BOOK RECOMMENDATION

THE POWER OF YOUR SUBCONSCIOUS MIND

This remarkable book by Dr. Joseph Murphy, one of the pioneering voices of affirmative thinking, will unlock for you the truly staggering powers of your subconscious mind. Combining time-honored spiritual wisdom with cutting edge scientific research, Dr. Murphy explains how the subconscious mind influences every single thing that you do and how, by understanding it and learning to control its incredible force, you can improve the quality of your daily life. Everything, from the promotion that you wanted and the raise you think you deserve, to overcoming phobias and bad habits and strengthening interpersonal relationships, the Power of Your Subconscious Mind will open a world of happiness, success, prosperity and peace for you. It will change your life and your world by changing your beliefs.



THE POLITICAL SCENARIOS AND FINANCIAL INCLUSIONS

01 US WOULD LOOK FORWARD TO BUILDING UP RELATION WITH THE INDIAN MILITARY

“US AND INDIA ENJOY GOOD TIES IN MILITARY TERMS AND WE LOOK TO FOSTER IT IN UPCOMINGS”

US and INDIA enjoy good partnership he added briefing “this solemn anniversary is an opportunity for all who believe in freedom, rules and sovereignty. Along side our partnership we remain committed to support ukrainian people.

02 PM CALLS FOR STRENGTHENING MULTILATERAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday made a case for strengthening multilateral development banks to meet the challenges facing the world, especially climate change. In his video address to the G20 meeting of the finance ministers and central bank governors, Modi said it was imperative for the grouping to provide stability, confidence and growth to the global economy.



03 DRAW INSPIRATION TO INDIAN VIBRANT ECONOMY- PM MODI



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday expressed hope that G20 will draw inspiration from the vibrancy of the Indian economy and work towards bringing back stability, confidence and growth on the global landscape.

In his video message to the G20 meeting of the finance ministers and central bank governors, the Prime Minister underlined the need for strengthening multilateral development banks for meeting global challenges like climate change and high debt levels.





Thank you for reading!

**Hope you enjoyed the content.
Stay tuned for the next edition!**