

**Current Affairs for December 2012 [For SBI PO, SSC, PSU, IBPS, etc.] –
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Zee case

The internal -ministerial committee have decided that it would examine the complaints against ZEE TV before taking any actions against it. ZEE Tv was accused of airing negative coverage against Jindal Group in the Coal block allocation Scam.

ZEE owners gets 10 days extension

ZEE Group chairman Subhash Chandra and his son were given 10 working days, within which if the police found any evidence in the investigation would lead to their arrest. Jindal Group had alleged that two editors of the news channel of ZEE group had tried to extort Rs. 100Cr from them by blackmail.

European leaders awarded the noble peace prize :

Around 20 European government leaders which included French President Francois Hollande, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and the Italian Premier Mario Monti, attended this ceremony in Oslo, Norway.

Mali's Prime Minister resigns

Mali's prime minister Sheikh Modibo Diarra announced his resignation after soldiers led a recent coup burst into his home and arrested him. The PM has resigned along with his entire government.

India signs weapons deal with Russia

India and Russia signed weapons deal worth 2.9 billions dollars. India will be buying 42 sukhoi fighter jets, and 71 Mil Mi-17 helicopters.

Shinzo Abe is Japan's new PM

Shinzo Abe is voted as Japan's new Prime Minister. His appointment has taken an adverse effect on Japan's currency "Yen" as it has plummeted down with respect to the dollar. This Surge in the value of Yen happened as he has hinted at a policy of monetary easing to boost the Japanese economy.

Infosys Decided Shifting Its American Shares From Nasdaq to NYSE

Infosys decided to transfer listing of American shares of the company from Nasdaq to NYSE or New York Stock Exchange, which is partner of the Paris as well as London exchanges

Rajya Sabha passes banking law bills

The parliament has passed a reform legislation which will allow corporate houses to enter the banking sector. Finance Minister P. Chidambaram stressed on the fact that these bills would strengthen the financial sector and also help in establishing large sized banks in India.

Google and Apple Partnered for Kodak Patents

Google and Apple tied up for offering over 500 million dollar in order to purchase patents

of Eastman Kodak Co out of bankruptcy. After leading different groups in the summer of 2012 in order to buy 1100 imaging patents of Kodak, these two giant companies have partnered. It is worth noticing that both Google as well as Apple are strong competitors for seeking dominance in Smartphone markets.

Wipro Bought Singapore Based FMCG Company LD Waxson

Wipro Consumer Care and Lightning (WCCL) acquired the Singapore-based FMCG Company LD Waxson for 790 Crore Rupees. Harmit Singh appointed CFO of Levis Strauss. Harmit Singh became the second Indian in the major leadership of the company as the chief financial officer.

Infosys Shares on New York Stock Exchange

India's second-largest IT services provider, Infosys Ltd started trading on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) with American Depositary Shares (ADS). They have the ticker symbol INFY.

The company is also in the process of listing its ADS on the Paris and London exchanges of NYSE Euronext.

[An American Depositary Shares (ADS), also known as American Depositary Receipts (ADR) is a negotiable certificate issued by a U.S. bank representing a specified number of shares (or one share) in a foreign stock that is traded on a U.S. exchange. ADRs are denominated in U.S. dollars, with the underlying security held by a U.S. financial institution overseas. ADRs help to reduce administration and duty costs that would otherwise be levied on each transaction.]

Blackberry signs Ranbir Kapoor as Brand Ambassador

Blackberry Smartphone maker Research-In-Motion (RIM) has signed in Ranbir Kapoor as its brand ambassador in India. The signing of Ranbir Kapoor is a move to attract young entrepreneurs and professionals. This is the first time Blackberry had signed a celebrity in India as its brand ambassador.

Wikileaks to release 1 Mn documents in 2013

Wikileaks founder Julian Assange has promise that he will release 1 Mn documents in the year 2013. These leaks would affect many countries in the world.

[WikiLeaks is an international, online, not-for-profit organisation which publishes secret information, news leaks, and classified media from anonymous sources. Julian Assange, an Australian Internet activist, is generally described as its founder, editor-in-chief, and director.]

Kerry becomes US Secy of State

Senator John Kerry is set to become US Secretary of State under president Barack Obama. Kerry will replace Hillary Clinton, who was the US Secretary of State till now.

US based Cargill Foods buys Sunflower vanaspati brand

US-based food producer Cargill India acquired Sunflower Vanaspati brand from Wipro. The deal is going to ensure Wipro of its leadership position in the market and expand its target group. Cargill and Wipro did not disclose the deal value of the brand but as per the trade analysts the deal was pegged at 30-40 crore Rupees.

Pt. Ravi Shankar passes away at California

The Archangel of Indian Music , Sitarist Pandit Ravi Shankar passed away in San Diego city of California on 11 December 2012. He was 92 years old. He was also the recipient of the prestigious Bharat Ratna. Pandit Ravi Shankar is survived by his wife Sukanya and musician daughters, sitar player Anoushka Shankar, singer Norah Jones, 3 grandchildren, and 4 great-grandchildren.

"Gangnam Style" among Collins Dictionary's Word of the Year 2012

the most watched video on youtube, "gangnam style" has also been able to book a place in the Colin's Dictionary as one of the word of the year of 2012.

Pratibha ray selected for 2012 jnanpith Award

Renowned Oriya novelist Pratibha Ray was selected for the prestigious Jnanpith award for the year 2011.

Arun kumar Mishra, New Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court

Justice Arun Kumar Mishra was appointed as the new Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court. He was earlier the Chief Justice of Rajasthan High Court.

CBI charges heet in 2G case

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has filed a charge sheet on the three telecom companies Bharti Airtel, vodafone India and Hutchison Max and sterling cellular for the irregularities in allocation of additional 2G spectrum during the NDA rule. The CBI has accused them of causing a loss of Rs. 846 Cr. to the the ex-chequer.

Meghalaya Legislative Assembly passed the Meghalaya Lokayukta Bill 2012

The Meghalaya Lokayukta Bill, which would help in bringing corruption amongst the politicians and officers in the government service, to public limelight; was passed by the Meghalaya Legislative Assembly.

Advocate R S Goswami Elected As the Chairman of Bar Council of Delhi

Advocate R S Goswami was elected as the chairman of Bar Council of Delhi on 14 December 2012. This is second term as a member of bar council. He was the honorary secretary of the Bar Council of Delhi from 2006 to 2008. He has the career span of 25 years as legal practitioner in different courts.

Ireland plans to legalize abortions

The govt. of Ireland has decided to legalize abortions in the state after the death of Indian born dentist Savita Halappanavar suffered a mis-carriage and died after she wasn't allowed an abortion.

Charges dropped against Palgarh Facebook Case

The police on dec 17th, have dropped all allegations against two girls from Palgarh, who had criticized the Shut-Down of Mumbai during Shiv Sena supremo Bal Thakrey's funeral last month.

Sutherland Global acquires Apollo Health Street

US-based BPO Sutherland Global Services, signed 5 agreements for acquiring Apollo Health Street (AHS), the healthcare outsourcing group of Apollo Hospitals. The deal was made at around 1000 crore Rupees. The agreements would strengthen the presence of Sutherland Global Services in the US healthcare BPO market.

Reliance signs an agreement with China's Dalian Wanda

Anil Ambani's Reliance Group entered an agreement with China's retail player Dalian Wanda Group to set up a joint venture for setting up real estate, township projects and movie theatre projects.

ICICI Bank Opens Gramin Branches across Villages

ICICI Bank opened 101 distinct gramina branches or rural branches, across six states of India. These branches were opened in villages which lack the banking facilities.

These branches would remain open for 4 hours per day and 6 days per week. These branches would offer banking services like fixed and recurring deposits, saving bank accounts, remittances, tractor loans as well as Kisan credit cards.

Vedanta Aluminum Ltd. considering layoff in Orissa plant

India's largest Aluminum maker Vedanta is considering layoff of its employees at its Orissa plant, within the next two months. VAL has 550 employees, but has already closed down its 1 million tonne refinery two weeks ago due to shortage of bauxite

DLF sells off Aman resorts for Rs.1650 Cr.

realty major DLF has decided to sell off its luxury hotel chain Aman resorts to Indonesian Hotelier Adrian Zecha for Rs.1650 Cr. This measure was taken as a strategy to exit non-core businesses to reduce debt.

[exit strategy : the planning done by an organization when it wishes to leave a particular business]

[non-core business : a type of business to which the organization does not belong predominantly]

Instagram privacy policy angers users

Photo filtering and sharing service provider "Instagram" infuriated millions of its users by changing its terms of service. This would allow it to sell people's photos or related data without paying or asking them. The company clarifies that this was done to generate revenues.

Ratan Tata named Chairman Emeritus for Tata Group

Ratan Tata conferred with the honorary title of Chairman Emeritus of Tata Sons. Ratan Tata will retire from his office on 28 December 2012 and Cyrus Mistry would be taking over

the chair of the group after him on the same day.

Ratan Tata, the outgoing Chairman of Tata Group was, was given this honorary title even though he would not have to hold any meeting or be responsible towards the company.

SBI to start online approval for home loans

The State Bank of India is introducing a process of online sanctions of home loans, in order to improve its flows in the home loans business. The sanctions will be done by checking the past financial history of the customer with Credit Information Bureau of India(CIBIL).

Barclays to guide Indian business families

The wealth and investment management group of Barclays Group have started to advise business families, not only on financial and investment matters, but also on matters relating to family and personal issues. Barclays have identified this niche demand and thus have decide to concentrate on this market segment. This would help resolve internal family feuds in the family business.

Banks get Rankings

On the basis of satisfaction score, HDFC Bank was adjudged the best private sector bank, whereas Bank of Baroda was named the best public sector bank the survey was done by a leading English national daily.

M&M joint venture plan rejected

Mahindra & Mahindra's proposal of setting up a joint venture Rafael Advanced Defence Systems Ltd has been rejected by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board(FIPB). The FIPB has accepted 12 other proposals, but did not give any reasons for t

Naina Lal Kidwai became the First Woman President of FICCI

Naina Lal Kidwai, the Country head of HSBC India and Director of HSBC Asia Pacific, was appointed as the president of FICCI(Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry).she became the first woman to head FICCI.

BJP wins Gujarat elections

The Bhartiya Janta Party(BJP) led by Narendra Modi has won the Gujarat elections of 2012 by winning 115 seats. their nearest rival Congress managed to get only 61 seats in the state elections. This will be Narendar Modi's third stint as the Gujarat CM, after winning the elections in 2002 and 2007.

ASEAN summit at New Delhi

India and the 10 nation ASEAN summit took place at New Delhi. The summit had in its agenda, free trade agreement among its members and also promote peaceful settlement of maritime disputes.

RIL likely to get nod for 4G vice testing

Reliance Industries Ltd. is likely to get a approval from the the Department of Telecom(DoT) for voice testing on its 4th generation (4G) networks. It also said that boradband company "ifotel", which is promoted by RIL owner Mukesh Ambani, be allowed

to test 4G airwaves on a national basis and be connected to the existing telecom companies. This would allow the 4g connection users to connect to existing mobile customers. In doing so, Infotel broadband is expected to shake up the telecom market in a big way.

India Test Fired Astra Missile

India Successfully Test Fired indigenously developed beyond visual range (BVR) air-to-air interceptor missile Astra. The testing was done at the interim test range (ITR) at Chandipur in Odisha. Astra would be ultimately integrated with combat fighter aircraft Sukhoi-30, MIG-29 and the Light Combat Aircraft.

Former Army chief loses Z+ Status

The government has withdrawn the security cover provided to former army chief V.K.Singh, who had openly spoken out against the ruling UPA government and even shared the stage with harsh critics such as Anna Hazare and Baba Ramdev.

8% growth targeted in the 12th 5 year plan

Prime minister Manmohan Singh has said that the government has targeted an 8% growth in the next 5 years. this will be done by controlling energy prices, proper management of water resources and using them in a sustainable manner.

Kamal Nath appointed new ex-officio Member of Planning Commission

Prime Minister's Office re-constituted the Planning Commission and appointed the Parliamentary Affairs and Urban Development Minister - Kamal Nath as its new ex-officio member, replacing Jairam Ramesh.

Direct Cash Transfer scheme announced

the Government has launched the "Direct Cash Transfer" of subsidy from today. Under this scheme, people entitled for subsidies, pensions and scholarships will get the money transferred directly to their bank accounts. For this, they will have to provide their Aadhar card to the service provider and the bank.

CHAMP Missile Could Shut Down the Electronics of the Country Permanently: Boeing

Boeing, the US aircraft manufacturer claimed that a new missile codenamed CHAMP has been tested successfully which makes use of the electromagnetic pulses in order to target the buildings can permanently blackout the electronics of the country without causing any harm to people

NASA Announced to send New Rover to Mars in 2020

The US space agency NASA announced plans to send a new robotic explorer to the the Red Planet, Mars in 2020

Mini Nile River discovered on Saturn's Moon

NASA Scientist Discovered Mini Nile River on Saturn's Moon Titan. The river valley on Titan stretches more than 400 kilometres the river does not contain water, but has some other liquids in the form of seas.

India Beat Pakistan to Lift Inaugural T20 World Cup for the Blind 2012

India won the inaugural SBI T20 World Cup for the Blind after beating Pakistan in the finals. Indian captain Shekhar Naik lifted the trophy. Indian middle-order batsman Ketan Patel scored 98 runs off 43 balls steered India to victory, and is completely blind.

Pandit Ravi Shankar to be Honoured with Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award 2013

This award will be given to him posthumously.

AIFF appointed a Probe Panel with Retired Judge A.K. Ganguly The All India Football Federation (AIFF) has appointed A.K. Ganguly, the retired Judge of Supreme Court and Chairperson of the West Bengal Human Rights Commission, as the one-man committee for probing into and make a decision about the fate of the abandoned 10th round I-League match between the Mohun Bagan and East Bengal.

Mohun Bagan decided not to play the second half of the match and abandoned it after one of its players Syed Rahim Nabi was hit by a stone from the stands in first half of the match.

Sachin quits ODIs

India's batting legend Master Blaster Sachin Tendulkar has decided to hang his ODI boots on Sunday, Dec 23rd, 2012. He has played for India in 463 one day internationals over a span of 23 years and scoring over 18000 runs. He would continue playing for India in tests though.

India won the World Cup Kabaddi Tournament 2012

The 3rd World Cup Kabaddi Tournament was won by India, a third consecutive time for men and a second consecutive time for women. Indian men defeated arch rival Pakistan with a decisive margin of 37 points whereas, Indian women thrashed Malaysia 72-12.

hockey legend Leslie Claudius passes away

One of India's greatest Olympian and hockey legend Leslie Claudius passes away at the age of 85 after a prolonged illness. Claudius had won three olympic gold medals in 1948 (London), 1952 (Helsinki) & 1956 (Melbourne), and a silver in Rome (1960).

IPL's Hyderabad team renamed as "Sunrisers"

Team Hyderabad in the Indian Premier League (IPL) will be renamed as "Sunrisers", after the franchisee was bought by Sun Group. Team captain Kumar Sangakkara and Coach Tom Moody has been retained by the new owners along with 20 other players who were part of the Deccan Chargers (previous name of the franchisee) team.

mohunbagan banned for two years

The national club of india, Mohunbagan AC was suspended for two years by the AIFF (All India Football Federation) for abandoning their violence-marred I-League match against East Bengal on 9 December 2012.

Michel Clarke retires from test cricket

Australia cricketer Michel Hussey announced his retirement from test cricket.