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1. Axelsen and Yamaguchi win BWF World Tour Finals (Dec. 11, 2022)

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The BWF moved its **\$1.5 million flagship event** to the Thai capital's Nimibutra Arena after the tournament's original host China pulled out of the tournament due to Covid restrictions.

Men's Singles Final

- Defending champion **Axelsen** appeared fresh, relaxed, energetic and in control as he cruised to a 21-13 win in the first game.
- His confidence had been shakey following a surprise loss to India's **H S Prannoy** on 9 December -- only his third defeat this year -- but he appeared to be a different player on 11 December.

Women's Singles Final

- Defending world champion **Akane Yamaguchi** of **Japan** won the **women's singles title** by defeating **Tai Tzu Ying of Taiwan**.
- In the women's singles final, Yamaguchi won in straight games 21-18, 22-20 in a close match.
- With that, Yamaguchi became the **first women's singles player** since Ye Zhaoying in 1997 to claim the All England Open, World Championships and end-of-season finals all in the same year, as per the Badminton World Federation.

About BWF World Tour

- The BWF World Tour is a Grade 2 badminton tournament series, sanctioned by **Badminton World Federation (BWF)**.
- It is a competition open to the top world ranked players in singles (men's and women's) and doubles (men's, women's and mixed).
- The competition was announced on 19 March 2017 and came into effect starting from 2018.

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3. Ishan Kishan makes world record of fastest double century in ODI (Dec. 10, 2022)

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Ishan Kishan made a world record of making the fastest double century in a One Day International (ODI). He scored his double century in just **126 balls** against **Bangladesh** in the match played at **Chattogram**, Bangladesh on 10 December 2022.

The record was earlier held by **Chris Gayle of West Indies** who scored a 138 balls double century against Zimbabwe in the 2015 World Cup .The quickest double in all ODIs [across men

and women] was held by **Amelia Kerr** of New Zealand . She scored her double century in 134 balls against Ireland in 2018.

Youngest player to score a double century in men's ODI

Ishan Kishan also became the youngest player to score a double hundred in men's ODI. He was **24 years 145 days old** when he scored his double century. The previous youngest was of **Rohit Sharma**, who was 26 years and 186 days old at the time of his first double in 2013 against Australia.

He also became the **first player to score a double century against Bangladesh in an ODI**.

Other records made

First time any team has made 400 or more runs against Bangladesh in an ODI.

In the match batting first the Indian team made 409 for 8 in their allotted 50 overs. However India's **highest score in ODIs** remains to be 418 for five against the West Indies back in December 2011 in Indore. Bangladesh leads the three match ODI series 2-0.

4. HS Prannoy beats Viktor Axelsen in BWF World Tour finals (Dec. 10, 2022)

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Important facts

- **Prannoy** prevailed 14-21, 21-17, 21-18 over **Axelsen** in 51 minutes. It is his **second win** over the Dane shuttler in seven meetings.
- After losing the first game, Prannoy fought back to win the two games and the match in 51 minutes.
- Seeded third in the tournament, Prannoy had lost his earlier two Group A matches. In both matches, the Indian shuttler lost after playing a three-game contest.
- Prannoy was the lone Indian player competing at the 2022 season-ending **BWF World Tour Finals** - where only the top 8 players/pairs of the year take part.

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6. 1000 Khelo India centers to be opened across country by August 15: Anurag Thakur (Dec. 9, 2022)

1000 Khelo India centers to be opened across country by August 15

The Union Ministry for Youth Affairs and Sports, **Anurag Thakur** on 9 December 2022 informed the Lok Sabha that one **thousand Khelo India sports centers will be set up in the country by 15 August 2023**. He said that the government has so far approved 773 centers.

Khelo India Sports Center Scheme

The Khelo India Centers have been launched by the Union Sports Ministry in partnership with the state governments to ensure the availability of grassroots-level sports infrastructure across the country.

In June 2020 the Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports had announced plans to set up 1000 new Khelo India Centers, all over India. At least **each district** of the country will have **one Khelo India Sports Center**.

An **exception** has been made for the North-East states, Jammu & Kashmir, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep and Ladakh where **two centers** are to be established per district.

What will the Khelo India Sports Center Do?

The center will focus on developing sports infrastructure and provide training to the sportsperson in one discipline.

The respective state governments will have to hire former athletes to facilitate the management of these centers in a proposed low-cost and effective sports training mechanism.

The central government will provide financial assistance for the remuneration of the past champion athletes as coach, support staff, purchase of equipment, sports kits, consumables, participation in competition and events.

7. Air Warrior Corp Amar Singh Devanda Finishes 6th in 24 Hour Ultra Marathon in Taiwan (Dec. 9, 2022)

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Cpl Amar bagged **sixth position** by covering a distance of **204.47 Kms in 24 Hrs Ultra Marathon** organised by **Chinese Taipei Association** of Ultra runners for 2022 at **Soochow University, Taiwan**.

Important facts

- Cpl **Amar Singh Devanda** represented India in the event.
- A total of **31 runners** comprising **21 males** and **10 females** from **5 countries** participated in the event. The competition started on 3 December 22.
- Prior to this, during **Asia-Oceania 24 Hrs Championship 2022** held at **Bengaluru**, Cpl Amar covered 257.618 Kms on 3 July 2022 and created a **new national record**. The Indian team led by him stood first in the championship.

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9. Meghna Ahlawat becomes TTFI's first female president (Dec. 9, 2022)

Meghna Ahlawat becomes TTFI's first female president

Meghna Ahlawat was elected the **first-ever woman president of the Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI)**, while former veteran **Kamlesh Mehta** was elected as the general secretary. **Patel Nagendra Reddy** was elected as the treasurer.

Important facts

- Ahlawat, who is the wife of Haryana deputy chief minister **Dushyant Chautala**, contested against Gujarat home minister **Harsh Sanghvi**.
- The **Delhi High Court** had suspended TTFI in February and appointed a **Committee of Administrators (CoA)** to take over its functioning.
- **Dushyant Chautala** was the previous TTFI president. The Delhi High Court had barred members of the suspended executive board from taking part in the elections.

About TTFI

- It was established in **1926**.
- It is a founder member of the **International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF)** and has been at the forefront in the promotion of the game in India and the world.
- It has the affiliation of **34 state units and 37 institutions**.
- It is one of the most active among all sports federations in the country.
- India is represented through TTFI in all the major international championships like Olympics, World, Commonwealth, Asian and all Pro tours.

10. Congress Wins Himachal Pradesh Assembly Election (Dec. 9, 2022)

Congress Wins Himachal Pradesh Assembly Election

The **Congress** wrested **Himachal Pradesh** from the BJP by winning **40 seats** in the **68-member assembly** in the hill state.

Important facts

- The **BJP won 25 seats**, while eight ministers of state, including Suresh Bhardwaj, Ram Lal Markanda and Surveen Chowdhary, lost the elections.
- The Independents won from **three constituencies** and the **Aam Aadmi Party**, which had contested from 67 seats, **failed to open its account**.
- Independent candidates were successful in winning three seats.
- The Congress' vote share was **43.9 per cent** and the **BJP's was 43 per cent - a gap of less than one per cent**.
- Traditionally, Himachal Pradesh has never allowed a government in power for a second consecutive term in the **last 37 years**.
- The practical Himachali voter has always thought that no party should be allowed to get too comfortable on the seat.