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1. Elon Musk becomes first person ever to lose \$200 billion (Jan. 2, 2023)

According to **Bloomberg Billionaires Index** Tesla Chief **Elon Musk** became the only person in history to lose **\$200 billion** from their net worth.

Important facts

- Musk, who recently acquired the micro-blogging platform **Twitter for \$44 billion**, was the second person to amass over **\$200 billion after Jeff Bezos**.
- After the acquisition, Musk had a takeover of Twitter, resulting in a **loss of Tesla shares**.
- According to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index, **Musk's wealth declined to \$137 billion**. Musk also sold several Tesla shares throughout the year.
- Currently, Musk's stake in his **Space Exploration Technologies Corp.** is valued at **\$44.8 billion**, which is higher than his roughly \$44 billion position in Tesla stock (he still has options worth an estimated \$27.8 billion).
- Elon Musk became the richest person in the world when his wealth reached **\$340 billion** on November 4, 2021.
- He lost the title to French fashion and cosmetics magnate **Bernard Arnault in early December 2022**.

Who is Elon Musk?

- He is the charismatic **chief executive officer (CEO) of electric car maker Tesla** and rocket manufacturer **SpaceX**.
- Musk completed the deal to buy **Twitter** in October 2022, becoming the owner of the social media company.
- Born and raised in **South Africa**, Musk spent time in Canada before moving to the United States.

2. Inacio Lula da Silva sworn in as the President of Brazil for the 3rd time (Jan. 1, 2023)

Inacio Lula da Silva sworn in as the President of Brazil for the 3rd time

The veteran left wing Brazilian leader **Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva** was sworn in as the President of Brazil for the third time on 1 January 2023 for a four year term. The oath taking ceremony was held in the Brazilian capital city of **Brasilia**. **Geraldo Alckmin** was sworn in as the Vice President of Brazil.

Lula, who belongs to the **Worker Party**, led the country from 2003 to 2010 ,defeated the incumbent president Jair Bolsonaro in the bitterly contested [runoff Presidential election](#) held in October 2022.

His victory has politically divided the country. The supporters of f Jair Bolsonaro have protested for over two months, alleging that the election was stolen and called for a military coup to stop Lula from returning to office in a climate of vandalism and violence.

Jair Bolsonaro has already left Brazil for the United States. He has repeatedly said he does not wish to attend the inauguration of his successor, where he would be expected to hand over the presidential sash in a sign of a stable transfer of power.

Brazil

It is the fifth largest country in the world area wise after Russia, Canada, China, and the United States.

It covers almost half of the South American Continent.

60% of the Amazon rainforest which is considered the lung of the earth lies in Brazil.

Capital: **Brasilia**

Currency: **Brazilian Real**

3. Air Marshal Pankaj Mohan Sinha assumes command of the IAF Western Command (Jan. 1, 2023)

Air Marshal Pankaj Mohan Sinha assumes command of the IAF Western Command

Air Marshal **Pankaj Mohan Sinha** assumed command of the Indian Air Force’s Western Air Command on 01 January 2023.

The Air Marshal is a graduate of National Defence Academy, Pune and was commissioned into the IAF as a fighter pilot in June 1985. He is an alumnus of the prestigious Defence Services Staff College, Wellington.

Air Marshal Pankaj Mohan Sinha succeeds Air Marshal S Prabhakaran who superannuated on 31 December 2022 after putting in more than 39 years of distinguished service in the IAF.

Indian Air force and its command structure

It was set up on 8 October 1932. It comes under the Union Defence Ministry.

President of India is the Supreme Commander of the Air Force.

Every year October 8 is observed as Air Force Day.

Chief of Air Staff: Air Chief Marshal **Vivek Ram Chaudhari**

Command structure of the Indian Air Force

Serial No	Command	Headquarters
1	Western Air Command	Delhi

2	South-Western Air Command	Gandhinagar
3	Central Air Command	Prayagraj
4	Eastern Air Command	Shillong
5	Southern Air Command	Thiruvananthapuram
6	Training Command	Bengaluru
7	Maintenance Command	Nagpur

4. Smriti Mandhana nominated for the ICC Women cricketer of the year award 2022 (Dec. 31, 2022)

Smriti Mandhana nominated for the ICC Women cricketer of the year award 2022

[Smriti Mandhana](#) is the only Indian player to be included in the 2022 ICC women's cricketer of the year nominee list announced by the International Cricket Council (ICC). She has also been nominated for the best women player in T 20.

The International Cricket Council has announced the shortlisted cricket players for its year end awards. Four players are shortlisted in the men's and women category for its various annual awards taking into account the performance of the players in the calendar year.

Players nominated for the Rachael Heyhoe Flint Trophy for ICC Women's Cricketer of the Year 2022

Smriti Mandhana of India, Nat Sciver of England, Amelia Kerr of New Zealand and Beth Monney of Australia.

Players nominated for the Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy for the ICC Men's Cricketer of the Year 2022

Pakistan captain Babar Azam, England Test team captain Ben Stokes, Sikandar Raza of Zimbabwe and the New Zealand Test team captain Tim Southee.

ICC Men's Test Cricketer of the Year 2022

England Test team captain Ben Stokes, Johnny Bairstow of England, Usman Khwaja of Australia and South African fast Bowler Kagiso Rabada.

International cricket Council is the international governing body of cricket.

Headquarters: **Dubai**

Chairman: **Greg Barclay** of New Zealand

5. Dinesh Kumar Shukla assumes the charge as the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (Dec. 31, 2022)

Dinesh Kumar Shukla assumes the charge as the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board

Distinguished Scientist and former Executive Director of Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) **Dinesh Kumar Shukla** assumed the charge as Chairman, AERB on 31st December 2022. He has been appointed to this post for a period of **three years**.

The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board was constituted on November 15, 1983, by the President of India under the Atomic Energy Act, 1962 to carry out certain regulatory and safety functions.

The regulatory authority of AERB is derived from the rules and notifications promulgated under the Atomic Energy Act and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

The Mission of the AERB is to ensure the use of ionizing radiation and nuclear energy in India does not cause undue risk to the health of people and the environment.

Currently, the Board consists of a full-time Chairman, an *ex officio* Member, three part-time Members and a Secretary.

Headquarters of AERB: **Mumbai**

6. Ajay Kumar Srivastava to take over as the MD and CEO of the Indian Overseas Bank (Dec. 31, 2022)

Ajay Kumar Srivastava to take over as the MD and CEO of the Indian Overseas Bank

Ajay Kumar Srivastava will take over as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Public sector Indian Overseas Bank from 1 January 2023. Prior to taking up the new role, Srivastava was serving as an executive director in the bank.

He will replace Partha Pratim Sengupta whose tenure ends on 31 December 2022.

Srivastava commenced his banking career as a probationary officer in Allahabad Bank in 1991. After serving over 27 years, he joined Indian Overseas Bank in October 2017.

Indian Overseas Bank

It is a public sector bank owned by the government of India

The Indian Overseas bank was founded by M. Chidambaram Chettyar in 1937.

It was nationalized by the government of India in 1969.

It has four branches and offices in Singapore, Hongkong, Thailand and Sri Lanka.

Headquarters: **Chennai**

Tagline of the bank: **Good People to Grow With**

7. CRPF Chief Sujoy Lal Thaosan takes over the additional charge of Director General of the Border Security Force (Dec. 31, 2022)

Sujoy Lal Thaosan the additional charge as Director General Border Security Force (BSF).

The Government of India has given the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) Director General **Sujoy Lal Thaosan** the additional charge as Director General Border Security Force (BSF). The incumbent BSF Director General Pankaj Kumar Singh will retire on 31 December 2022.

Sujoy Lal Thaosan is a 1988 batch officer of Madhya Pradesh cadre and he will hold the 'additional charge' of BSF DG till the appointment of a regular DG of BSF or until further orders.

Pankaj Kumar Singh's BSF appointment last year had created a history where for the first time a **son and father held** the top post of a paramilitary force in the country. His father and retired IPS officer of the 1959-batch, Prakash Singh, also headed the BSF as its DG from June, 1993 to January, 1994.

Border Security Force

The **Border Security Force** was raised on 1 December 1965 after the India-Pakistan war of 1965. It is a border force which is deployed along the International border with **Bangladesh** and **Pakistan**.

BSF is also known as the nation's 'first **line of defence**'.

It is the **world's largest** border force in the world.

It is one of the 7 Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) which comes under the Union Ministry of Home Affairs. The other CAPF are **Assam Rifles, Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Indo Tibetan Border Force (ITBP), National Security Guard (NSG) and Sashastra Seema BAL (SSB)**.

The BSF is the **only force** in the country to have the Camel Contingents and the Camel Mounted Band.

It is the **only force in the world** which has a female camel riding squad.

It is the **only CAPF** to have a full-fledged Water Wing, Air Wing and even an Artillery Regiment of its own.

- Motto of BSF : **Duty Unto Death,**
- Headquarters: **New Delhi,**
- First Director General : **K F Rustamji**

8. Former Pope Benedict XVI dies aged 95 (Dec. 31, 2022)

Former Pope Benedict XVI dies aged 95

According to a statement released by the Vatican the former Pope **Benedict XVI** died on 31 December 2022 in the Mater Ecclesiae Monastery in the Vatican. He was 95 years old.

The head of the Catholic Church, former Pope Benedict, was the first pope in 600 years to resign. He resigned in 2013 and was replaced by the **present pope Francis**.

Pope Benedict was the first German to become pope in 1000 years. He was the head of the Vatican City from 19 April 2005 until his resignation on 28 February 2013.

He was born as Joseph Aloisius Ratzinger on April 16, 1927, in the southern German village of Marktl, close to Austria.

Pope and Vatican City

Pope is a title which is given to the Bishop of Rome who is the head of the Roman Catholic Church. He is also the **head of the sovereign country of Vatican City**.

Roman Catholics are the largest of the three major branches of Christianity. The other branches of Christianity are Protestants and orthodox (Eastern).

Vatican City is the world's **smallest country** which is located within the Italian capital city of Rome.

It is also the **least populated country** in the world.

The **Holy See** is the name given to the government of the Roman Catholic Church, which is led by the pope as the bishop of Rome.

St. Peter, disciple of Jesus Christ, was the first Pope. Jesus Christ is the founder of Christianity.

9. Ronaldo joins Saudi club Al Nassr with record \$214 million contract (Dec. 31, 2022)

After leaving the **Manchester United club** on 30 December 2022, **Portugal team captain Cristiano Ronaldo** has joined **Saudi Arabian club Al Nassr** on a two-and-a-half-year contract.

Important facts

- Ronaldo left **Old Trafford** after a television interview last month. He said that he has been cheated by the club.
- Al Nassr issued a statement saying that the five-time Ballon d'Or winner will be under contract until 2025.
- Although he did not reveal any financial details, Ronaldo's contract is estimated by the media to be worth more than **200 million euros (\$214.04 million)**, the highest salary in football history.
- Ronaldo will move to Saudi Arabia after a stellar spell at Spanish club Real Madrid from 2009 to 2018, winning two La Liga titles, two Spanish Cups, four Champions League titles and three Club World Cups.

- Ronaldo's inclusion will provide a boost to the Saudi Arabian club, which is looking to add to its **nine Saudi Pro League titles**.

About Al Nassr

- Al-Nassr is a club from **Saudi Arabia** that competes in the **Saudi Pro League**. It is one of the most successful teams in the country. It was formed in **1955**.
- Al-Nasr, nicknamed **Al-Alami or Faris Najd**, is located in the capital city of **Riyadh**. It is formally managed by Rudi Garcia of Roma, Marseille and Lyon.
- Cameroon striker **Vincent Aboubakar** joined in 2021 and is a key player for the team.
- Brazilian defensive midfielder **Luiz Gustavo** and former Arsenal shot-stopper **David Ospina** signed for the club in 2022.

10. BSE appoints Sundararaman Ramamurthy as MD, CEO (Dec. 31, 2022)

BSE appoints Sundararaman Ramamurthy as MD, CEO

Sundararaman Ramamurthy has been appointed as the **Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of BSE Limited**. He has been appointed for a five-year term with effect from January 4.

Important facts

- His appointment is subject to the consent of the **shareholders**. The exchange will seek its approval from shareholders through postal ballot on January 16.
- In November, BSE received consent from regulator **Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi)** to appoint Ramamurthy as MD and CEO of the exchange.
- The post has been vacant since July when the then MD and CEO **Ashish Kumar Chauhan** resigned from the post to join the National Stock Exchange (NSE).
- Sundararaman Ramamurthy has over 20 years of work experience in the National Stock Exchange of India Limited (NSE) as a senior member of its team since its inception.
- He was responsible for significant transformation of the Indian capital market for more than two decades.
- Prior to this, he was the MD and Chief Operating Officer of the **Indian branch of Bank of America (BANA)**, where his responsibilities included global administration and control of the banking unit and securities segment in India.
- He was also a part of various Board/Leadership forums at Bank of America.

Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE)

- Established in **1875** as the Native Share and Stock Brokers' Association, the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) is **Asia's first exchange** and the largest securities market in India.

- Based in Mumbai, BSE lists around **6,000 companies** and is one of the largest
- exchanges in the world.
 - It has been instrumental in developing India's capital market by providing an efficient platform for the Indian corporate sector to raise investment capital.
 - It is known for its **electronic trading system** that provides fast and efficient trade execution.