

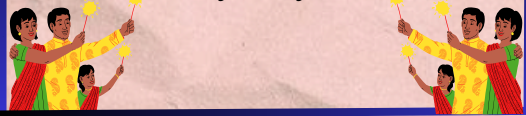
Monday, 4 November, 2024

# BIZ & BEYOND

## Breaking News

### The Campus Grapevine

- Cybersecurity Threats in a Connected World  
Article by Riya Gandhi



### Global Market Watch: A Snapshot in Time

- Sensex:** Up by 0.41% at 79,724.12. Indicates positive sentiment in the Indian market.
- Nifty50:** Up by 0.51% at 24,304.35. Shows confidence among investors.
- Gold:** Down by 0.42% at \$2,735.22. Slight decrease suggests lower demand for safe-haven assets.
- Silver:** Down by 3.74% at \$32.42. Significant drop may indicate reduced interest.

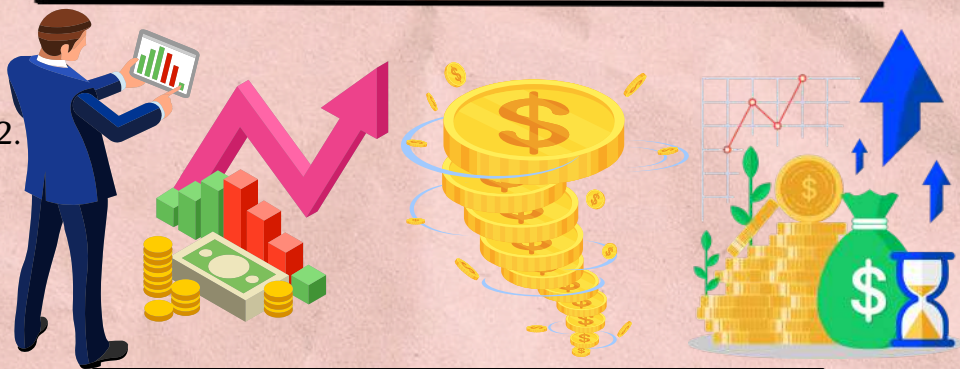
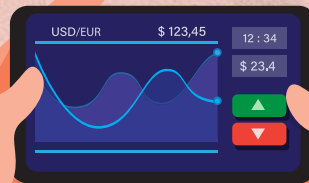
| Index   | Change             |
|---------|--------------------|
| Sensex  | 79,724.12 ▲ 0.41%  |
| Nifty50 | 24,304.35 ▲ 0.51%  |
| S&P 500 | 5,728.80 ▼ -1.37%  |
| NASDAQ  | 18,239.92 ▼ -1.50% |

| Currency | Change          |
|----------|-----------------|
| JPY/INR  | 0.55 ▲ 0.00%    |
| EUR/INR  | 91.10 ▲ 0.34%   |
| USD/INR  | 84.13 ▲ 0.04%   |
| GBP/INR  | 108.71 ▼ -0.28% |



| Commodity       | Change            |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Gold(US\$/OZ)   | 2,735.22 ▼ -0.42% |
| Silver(US\$/OZ) | 32.42 ▼ -3.74%    |
| WTI Crude Oil   | 69.49 ▼ -3.19%    |
| Natural Gas     | 2.63 ▲ 2.73%      |

| Crypto | Change            |
|--------|-------------------|
| BTC    | 69,549.31 ▲ 4.29% |
| ETH    | 2,513.60 ▲ 3.01%  |
| USDT   | 1.00 ▲ 0.00%      |
| BNB    | 573.24 ▼ -0.30%   |



Overall, Indian stock markets are performing well. Commodity prices are mostly down, except for natural gas, which is rising. Currency rates show minor changes, with some currencies strengthening against the Indian Rupee. The cryptocurrency market is seeing positive growth, especially for Bitcoin and Ethereum.



# Nvidia CEO: India to Lead AI Manufacturing Revolution

**UK to support India hub for female-led businesses as part of Commonwealth drive.**

The UK introduced measures to enhance trade and investment within the Commonwealth, including a new Investment Network and hubs for female-led businesses in India and Sri Lanka. The UK aims to boost its presence in the Indo-Pacific, supporting economic and security initiatives while addressing climate impact.

More  
Specifically



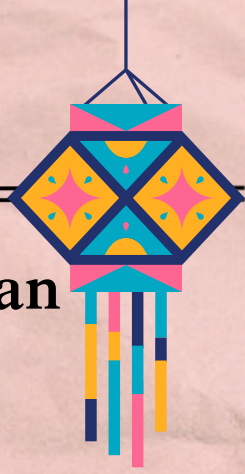
**Mission Possible: Ingredients are here for India to manufacture AI, lead AI revolution, says Nvidia's Jensen Huang**

Jensen Huang, CEO of Nvidia, emphasized that AI will enhance efficiency and productivity, highlighting India's critical role in leading AI innovation. He advocated for India to transition from IT cost-reduction services to AI-driven growth, leveraging its digital resources and expertise to manufacture intelligence and boost various sectors, including agriculture.

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## Yet another ARC to shut shop, this time an Aditya Birla joint venture



Aditya Birla Asset Reconstruction Company is winding down its operations in India, joining other fund-backed ARCs exiting due to challenges in the sector. The decline in non-performing loans and preference for government-backed NARCL's terms have contributed to this trend, highlighting shifting investor interests.

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### Going Out of Business

#### ARC LICENSING TRENDS

**SEVEN ARC** licences issued by RBI in 2016, 5 in 2018

**ONLY 2** new licences were granted in the last six years – **NARCL** and **Shriram Finance**

**THE NET** worth requirement is **₹300 crore** from 2022

**AFTER THE** increase in net-worth requirement from **₹2 cr** in 2016 to **₹100 crore** in 2017, licences have slowed down

#### GLOBAL FUND-BACKED ARCs' ENTRIES AND EXITS

**2018: FIVE MAJOR GLOBAL-BACKED ARCS LAUNCHED IN INDIA:**

- Arcion Revitalisation (Apollo Global/ICICI Bank)
- India Resurgent Fund (JV between Bain Capital and Piramal)
- Lone Star India

#### EXITS:

- Lone Star: Licence surrendered in December 2022
- Arcion: Licence surrendered in August 2023
- Other fund-backed ARCs are inactive, indicating a lack of sustained viability in the sector

#### SHIFT FROM ARC OWNERSHIP TO SR INVESTMENT

**2017:** Investment in ARC equity stood at around **₹500 crore**



**2024:** Investment in SR (Security Receipt) transactions soared to **₹30,000 crore**

**INVESTORS SHOW** interest in SR transactions (single trades) over ARC ownership, reflecting a preference for liquidity and lower commitment

#### DEAL FLOW AND ASSET MANAGEMENT TRENDS

**RECENT QUARTERS** show a decline in new distressed asset acquisition deals by ARCs. Redemptions are outpacing issuances, leading to negative AUM growth

#### SR ISSUANCES VS. REDEMPTIONS

**Q1 FY25:** Issuances at **₹3,600 crore**, Redemptions at **₹6,310 crore**



**Q2 FY25:** Issuances at **₹4,700 crore**, Redemptions at **₹6,852 crore**

#### TOTAL ACQUISITIONS AND DECLINING AUM

**Overall ARC Acquisitions:** Over **₹10 lakh crore** in distressed assets



**Declining AUM** due to higher redemption rates, increased net worth have reduced the attractiveness of the sector





# Castrol India appoints Kedar Lele as Managing Director



## Castrol India appoints Kedar Lele as Managing Director

Kedar Lele has been appointed as the new Managing Director of Castrol India Ltd, effective November 1, succeeding Sandeep Sangwan. Lele brings extensive experience from his tenure at Hindustan Unilever Ltd, where he last served as Executive Director for Sales and Customer Development, South Asia.



More Specifically



## RBI Action This Week

| Date             | Action  | Details  |
|------------------|---|--|
| October 30, 2024 | Conducted a review of the monetary policy framework | Emphasized the importance of liquidity management and strategies for controlling inflation.    |
| October 31, 2024 | Issued notification on UPI123PAY                    | Launched a new feature to enhance digital payment accessibility for users without smartphones. |



# Volkswagen plans major layoffs



## To shut at least three German plants, works council head says

Volkswagen is considering closing several plants in Germany and slashing salaries by 10 percent as the ailing auto giant pursues a drastic cost-cutting plan, a media report said Monday. VW is also eyeing a 10-percent pay cut for all remaining staff and no salary increases in 2025 and 2026, Handelsblatt said.

### Volkswagen plans major layoffs, to shut at least three German plants, works council head says



[DW] Daniela Cavallio, Chairwoman of the General and Group Works Council of Volkswagen AG, speaks to employees announcing job cuts and closure of a few Volkswagen factories, at the company's headquarters in Wolfsburg, Germany, October 26, 2024. REUTERS/Axel Schmitt/Patchwork Licensing Rights. [1]

## KEY POINTS

The move comes as Volkswagen faces increasing competition from both established automakers and newer entrants in the electric vehicle market. The company is investing heavily in its electric vehicle program, aiming to become a leading player in the sector. However, this transition requires substantial financial resources, and Volkswagen is seeking to free up capital by reducing expenses.

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## Volkswagen plans major layoffs, to shut at least three German plants, works council head says





# Indian Conglomerates Plan Massive Investments as Ola Revamps Refund Policy

## Bank of Japan keeps rates steady, puts focus on global risks

The Bank of Japan maintains ultra-low interest rates, signaling caution amid global economic uncertainties, while projecting inflation near its 2% target in coming years. The decision reflects a focus on risks to Japan's fragile recovery, with potential rate hikes depending on economic conditions and political stability.



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## Inflation gauge closely watched by the Fed falls to lowest level since early 2021

Inflation in the U.S. has significantly cooled, approaching pre-pandemic levels, as reported by the Commerce Department. Core prices rose 2.7% in September from a year earlier. Despite some inflation pressures, the Federal Reserve is expected to cut interest rates soon, with consumer spending remaining resilient and employment strong.

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# The Campus Grapevine

"Level up your writing! Get expert feedback from faculty on your articles."





# Cybersecurity Threats in a Connected World

Article by Riya Gandhi

MBA FinTech-DB 2023-25 Batch

## Introduction

Our world is increasingly interconnected. From smart refrigerators and wearable fitness trackers to industrial control systems and global financial networks, billions of devices communicate with each other every second. This interconnectedness, while offering immense benefits in terms of efficiency, convenience, and innovation, also presents a rapidly expanding attack surface for cybercriminals. The digital age has ushered in an era of unprecedented cybersecurity threats, demanding constant vigilance and proactive defense strategies.

The Table: Common Cybersecurity Threats and Mitigation Strategies

| Threat             | Description  | Mitigation Strategies  |
|--------------------|--|--|
| Phishing           | Attempts to trick users into revealing sensitive information through deceptive emails, websites, or other communication. | User education and awareness training, anti-phishing software, multi-factor authentication.      |
| Ransomware         | Malware that encrypts data and demands payment for its release.  | Regular data backups, strong passwords, updated software, incident response planning.            |
| Malware            | Malicious software designed to damage or disable computer systems.   | Anti-malware software, regular software updates, firewall protection.                            |
| DDoS Attacks       | Flooding a network or server with traffic to disrupt its operation.  | DDoS mitigation services, traffic filtering, network capacity planning.                          |
| SQL Injection      | Exploiting vulnerabilities in web applications to gain unauthorized access to databases.                                 | Input validation, parameterized queries, web application firewalls.                              |
| Social Engineering | Manipulating individuals into divulging confidential information or performing actions that compromise security.         | Security awareness training, strong authentication measures, verification procedures.            |
| Zero-Day Exploits  | Attacks that exploit vulnerabilities unknown to software developers.   | Intrusion detection and prevention systems, threat intelligence sharing, vulnerability scanning. |
| Insider Threats    | Malicious actions by individuals within an organization who have authorized access.                                      | Access control measures, background checks, monitoring user activity.                            |

## The Importance of Ethical Hacking and Penetration Testing:

Ethical hacking and penetration testing involve simulating real-world cyberattacks to identify vulnerabilities in systems and networks. These proactive measures allow organizations to discover and address weaknesses before they can be exploited by malicious actors. By employing ethical hackers, organizations can gain valuable insights into their security posture and improve their defenses.



# Cybersecurity Threats in a Connected World

## Building a Robust Cybersecurity Posture

Addressing the complex challenges of cybersecurity in a connected world requires a multi-layered approach. Organizations and individuals must adopt a proactive stance, focusing on prevention, detection, and response.

- **Strong Passwords and Multi-Factor Authentication:** Implementing strong, unique passwords and enabling multi-factor authentication adds an extra layer of security, making it more difficult for attackers to gain unauthorized access.
- **Regular Software Updates and Patching:** Keeping software and operating systems up-to-date with the latest security patches is crucial in addressing known vulnerabilities.
- **Firewall Protection:** Firewalls act as a barrier between internal networks and external threats, filtering incoming and outgoing traffic.
- **Intrusion Detection and Prevention Systems:** These systems monitor network traffic for malicious activity, alerting administrators to potential threats and taking action to prevent attacks.
- **Data Encryption:** Encrypting sensitive data, both in transit and at rest, protects it from unauthorized access even if a breach occurs.
- **Security Awareness Training:** Educating users about common cybersecurity threats and best practices is essential in mitigating the risk of human error.
- **Incident Response Planning:** Developing and regularly testing an incident response plan ensures that organizations are prepared to effectively manage and recover from a cyberattack.

## The Future of Cybersecurity

As technology continues to evolve, so too will the nature of cyber threats. Artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning are playing an increasingly important role in both offensive and defensive cybersecurity strategies. AI-powered tools can analyze vast amounts of data to identify patterns and anomalies, helping to detect and prevent attacks. However, cybercriminals are also leveraging AI to develop more sophisticated malware and evasion techniques. The future of cybersecurity will likely involve a continuous arms race between attackers and defenders, with both sides leveraging cutting-edge technology.



# Cybersecurity Threats in a Connected World

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## The Human Element: A Persistent Vulnerability

While technological advancements contribute to the complexity of cyber threats, human error remains a significant factor. Social engineering tactics exploit human psychology, manipulating individuals into clicking malicious links, downloading infected files, or divulging confidential information. Lack of awareness and inadequate training contribute to the success of these attacks. Even seemingly simple actions, like using weak passwords or failing to update software, can create vulnerabilities that cybercriminals readily exploit. Therefore, fostering a culture of cybersecurity awareness and providing regular training is crucial in mitigating these risks.

## The Evolving Threat Landscape

Traditional cybersecurity threats like viruses and malware continue to evolve, becoming more sophisticated and harder to detect. However, the interconnected nature of our world has given rise to new and more complex threats. Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attacks can cripple online services by flooding them with traffic from multiple compromised devices, often part of a botnet. Ransomware attacks encrypt critical data and demand payment for its release, impacting individuals and organizations alike. Phishing attacks, often leveraging social engineering tactics, trick users into revealing sensitive information like passwords and credit card details. The rise of the Internet of Things (IoT) has introduced further vulnerabilities, as many IoT devices lack robust security features, making them easy targets for hackers.



# Cybersecurity Threats in a Connected World

## The Stakes are High: Impacts Across Sectors

The consequences of successful cyberattacks can be devastating, impacting individuals, businesses, and even national security. Financial losses due to data breaches, ransomware payments, and business disruption can be substantial. Reputational damage can erode customer trust and impact long-term viability. In critical infrastructure sectors like energy, healthcare, and transportation, cyberattacks can disrupt essential services, endangering public safety and national security. The interconnected nature of these systems means that a breach in one area can have cascading effects across multiple sectors.



| Threat       | Description                         | Mitigation                                    |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Phishing     | Deceptive requests for information. | User education, anti-phishing software.       |
| Ransomware   | Encrypts data and demands payment.  | Backups, strong passwords, incident response. |
| Malware      | Harmful software.                   | Anti-malware, updates.                        |
| DDoS Attacks | Flood networks to disrupt service.  | DDoS mitigation services.                     |



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# Cybersecurity Threats in a Connected World

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## Conclusion

Cybersecurity in a connected world is an ongoing challenge that requires constant vigilance and adaptation. By understanding the evolving threat landscape, implementing robust security measures, fostering a culture of cybersecurity awareness, and collaborating with others, we can mitigate the risks and reap the benefits of our interconnected world while safeguarding our digital future.

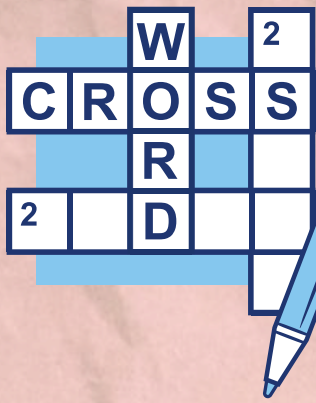
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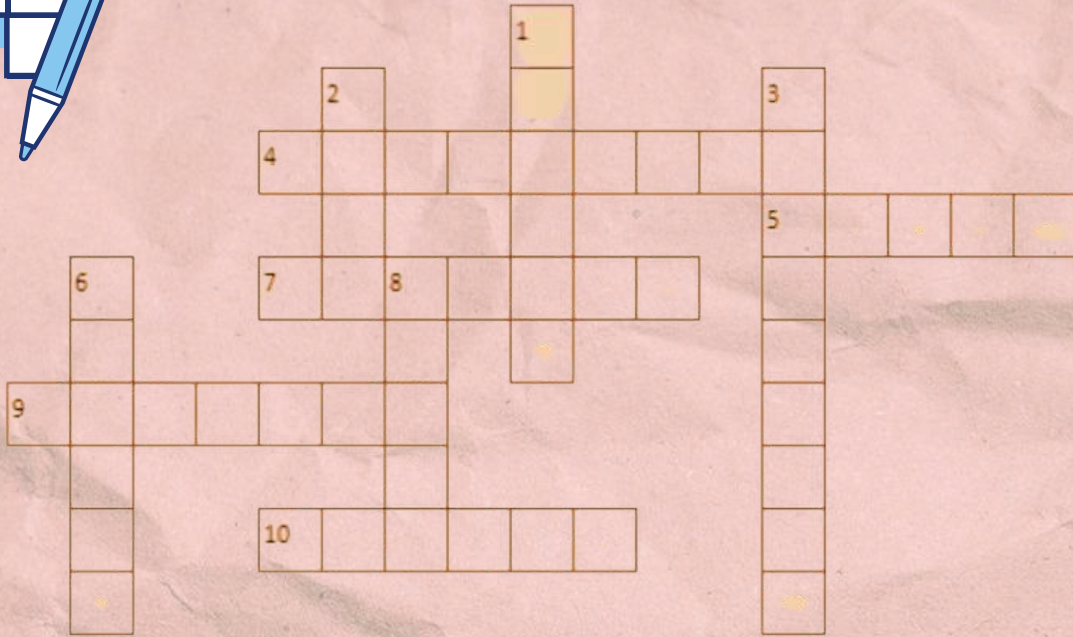
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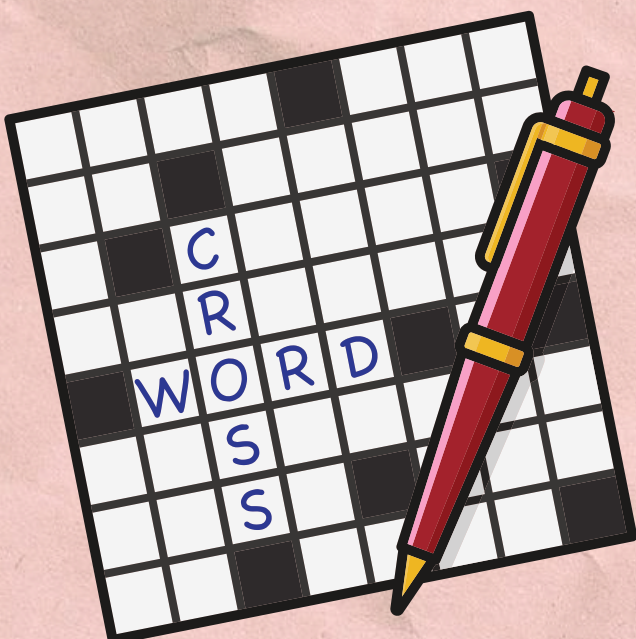
## Across

4. Software giant known for Windows
5. Smartphone manufacturer based in Cupertino
7. Entertainment streaming service with a red "N" logo
9. German engineering and technology company specializing in industrial automation
10. Giant online retailer founded by Jeff Bezos

## Down

1. Search engine giant, also a verb
2. Sportswear giant with a swoosh logo
3. Coffeehouse chain with a green mermaid logo
6. Pharmaceutical giant that developed Lipitor
8. Electric car manufacturer led by Elon Musk

**Submit the solution**





# The Team

# The WordSmiths



Shubham  
Choudhari

Content  
Management



Mohit Singh

Designer



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Analyst



Riya Gandhi

PR and Outreach  
Manger



Maya Tripathi

Social Media  
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Announcement  
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