

Data Digest 2023

Month	Data Point	Explanation
Jan	100 million~ 100,000,000	ChatGPT reached 100 million monthly active users- in less than 2 months of its launch. For context, TikTok needed 9 months to do the same and Instagram- two and a half years. This marked a start to a year that was going to be defined by AI. Sam Altman, one of the founders of the OpenAI project, was in the news once again during the later half of year when he was fired by OpenAI, hired by Microsoft, and then rehired by OpenAI as its CEO!
Feb	3517 Crore	Budget Allocated for Skill Development by the Indian Government: In the 2023-24 Budget, Skill Development was one of the biggest beneficiaries as it saw an increase in budget allocation by 17%, up from 2,999 Crore last year.
Mar	110	Number of Hookstep Variations for Naatu Naatu: The song Naatu Naatu from the blockbuster movie RRR became the first Indian song to win the Oscars in March. While we enjoyed the final product, imagine the input involved in creating 110 versions before the final hookstep was decided by Mr. Rajamouli!
Apr	1.42+ billion	India Becomes the Most Populous Country- India dethroned China as the country with the most number of people in the world- for the first time since the UN started maintaining official records since 1950. Trivia- this feat was achieved on the 24th April- the 50th birth anniversary of Sachin Tendulkar. Keeping fingers crossed we create another batting legend given our World Cup woes!
May	3 Years 55 Days	End of the COVID Pandemic- The World Health Organisation officially declared an end to the global COVID pandemic on 5th 2023. For history books, the COVID pandemic was 1150 days or 3 Years and 55 Days long- something to tell our grandchildren!

Jun	50 Years	World Environment Day: June 5th marked 50 years since the first World Environment Day was observed by the UNEP. Though the event has done much to bring awareness about climate change, 2023 also marked the first time when global temperatures (briefly) soared above the red line of 2 degree celsius above the pre-Industrial Revolution levels.
Jul	26 kilogram	Weight of the Pragyan Rover- India successfully launched the Chandrayaan 3 Mission and became the first country to land a lunar rover near the South Pole of the moon. The Pragyan Rover became the heartbeat of the nation as it came out on the surface of the moon to help folks back at ISRO study the lunar surface.
Aug	3910 million	Best Weeked Ever for the Indian Box Office- Indian Cinema finally shrugged off its pandemic-related ghosts to record the highest grossing weekend ever for the film industry combined. The collection was led by two industry stalwarts- Rajnikanth (for Jailer) and Sunny Deol (for Gadar 2). Other major movies that attracted the audiences to the theatres were OMG 2 (starring Akshay Kumar), Bhola Shankar (starring Chiranjeevi) and the Karan Johar directorial Rocky aur Rani Ki Prem Kahani. Interstingly, Hollywood also saw its largest weekend in late July because of Barbenheimer- Barbie and Oppenheimer. The 2024 award shows will be one to watch out for!
Sep	33%	Women Resevation in Parliament- Draupadi Murmu proudly gave assent to the bill that would reserve 1/3rd of the seats of the National Parliament and State Legislative Assemblies for Women.
Oct	107	Number of Medals Won by India at the Asian Games- The Indian contingent recorded its best ever medal tally at the Asian Games 2022 (held in 2023 due to China's strict Zero COVID Policy). India finished 4th at the Games, and crossed the magic number of 100 medals for the first time- which had generated a lot of hype because of the slogan <i>Ab Ki Baar, Sau Ke Paar</i>

Nov	0.2%	Addition to GDP Growth Rate by the Cricket World Cup: While some of us might still not be over the heart break after India's final loss to Australia, the Indian economy turned out to be a clear winner after the tournament. An estimated INR 7000-8000 Crore was added to the normal rate of growth of the country, amounting to an addition of 0.2% to India's GDP growth rate.
Dec	1110 million	The Biggest Democracies Go to Vote: More than 111 crore (1,110 million) people will be eligible to vote in 2024 as both the oldest and the largest democracies in the world- USA and India- host their national elections. Could 2024 BE more exciting? (P.S. RIP Mathew Perry)

Author: Vidhi Gupta, PILOT at Pratham