Welcome to D+ December 2014 Newsletter. It is the twelfth edition of the D+ Newsletter compiled with some of the news published in December 2014 on D+.

The year 2014 is almost over. We again congratulate the winners of the Daily Positive (D+) World's Most Positive Countries 2014! The top 10 World’s Most Positive Countries as announced on 1 November 2014 are as follows:

England, China, United States of America, Switzerland, Australia, Sweden, Germany, Japan, France and Brazil.

In December 2014, with the festive season just around the corner, D+ team exchanged millions of positive wishes with our fans around the world. D+ team looked back to all of its activities in 2014 and became ever so determined to deliver even better positive news service in 2015. Thank you for your supports and encouragements throughout 2014.

D+ is a non-profit media initiative that heavily relies on the generous support from everyone. Please consider a donation today.

Top News Of The Month

Top News Of The Month is selected based on the feedback from D+ Facebook fans from around the world.

Rolene Strauss of South Africa was crowned as the 64th Miss World at the pageant's final in London on 14 December 2014.

Let your voice be heard and join us on Facebook.
• Algerian footballer Yacine Brahimi was named the 2014 BBC African Footballer of the Year.
• Japan successfully launched the space explorer Hayabusa 2 from the Tanegashima Space Center on a six year roundtrip mission to blow a crater in a remote asteroid and bring back rock samples in hopes of gathering clues to the origin of earth.
• An Earth observation satellite CBERS-4, jointly developed by China and Brazil, was successfully lifted off from China's Taiyuan space launch facility as part of the bilateral cooperation program.
• Irish artist Duncan Campbell won the 2014 Turner Prize, Britain’s prestigious art award, for his film It For Others.
• Jamaican swimmer Alia Atkinson became the first black woman to win the 100m breaststroke at the world short-course championships.
• Rolene Strauss of South Africa was crowned as the 64th Miss World at the pageant's final in London on 14 December 2014.
• In a historic move, Cuba and the USA agreed to restore diplomatic ties between the two countries for the first time since 1961.
• India successfully launched its largest rocket to date, a 630-tonne Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (MK III).
• Moroccan director Essam Doukhou received an award for his film Dalto for the short film competition at the 14th Marrakech International Film Festival in Marrakech.
• Turkish photographer Bulent Kilic received Time Magazine’s prestigious Best Wire Photographer of 2014 award.
• Russia successfully tested a new, heavy load space rocket Angara -A5. Angara is built to replace the Soyuz, a rocket of the Soviet and then Russian space program, designed more than four decades ago.
• A team of Japanese and Vietnamese scientists has discovered the first volcanic cave system in Vietnam in the Central Highlands province of Dak Nong.
• Pakistan became the formal associate member of CERN - European Organization for Nuclear Research, bagging an opportunity for its scientists and engineers to benefit from scientific expertise at the prestigious institution.