

Media Coverage

Publication	Date	Edition	Headline	Size
Times Of India	22 Oct 2022	Mumbai	India Inc chills on long weekend as employees dig into sandwich leave	460

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## India Inc chills on long weekend as employees dig into 'sandwich' leave

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**Mumbai:** When it comes to allowing employees to take leave, especially when clubbed with festivities, a section of India Inc. is increasingly becoming more benevolent. Given that Diwali is falling on a Monday, some companies have declared Tuesday a holiday to give employees an extended weekend beginning Saturday. Many may resume work on Thursday, since Wednesday could be an optional off.

What is also acceptable to many organisations now is the concept of 'sandwich' leave, especially around public holidays — i.e., taking an off on a Friday and a Monday for a long weekend. Although sandwich leave is usually taken around public holidays along with weekends, this year, HR officials said, it has been taken almost throughout the year, employees are no longer waiting for a public holiday to take it.

The trend is fuelled by the fact that Covid forced people to remain indoors for two years.

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### STAFF CLUBBING LEAVE THROUGH THE YEAR

- More organisations accepting 'sandwich' leave now – taking off on Friday & Monday or clubbing public holidays with weekend
- Employees taking such leave all through the year after the pandemic, say HR officials in several firms
- Trend fuelled by the current calendar year coming after two years of Covid, which forced people to remain indoors
- Some firms have declared the Tuesday after Diwali a holiday to give staff an extended weekend beginning Saturday; many likely to join Thursday after Bhai Dooj
- At one of the companies, employees allowed to take leave without formal prior permission

