



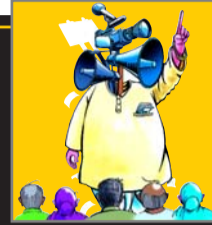
THE TIMES OF INDIA

www.toistudent.com
**TODAY'S
EDITION**

➤ Why historians call
Alexandar, the Great, a
megalomaniac? Find out on
'i Opener'

PAGE 2


➤ If I were the Prime Minister of
India... a student steps into the
shoes of PM, and lays down the
steps towards making India a
strong and vibrant country

PAGE 3


➤ IPL 2022: KKR
promise bold play
against Punjab Kings

PAGE 4

STUDENT EDITION

FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2022



NASA and the National
Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration predict the
CME may generate G2 or
G3 (moderate)
geomagnetic storms

CLICK HERE: PAGE 1 AND 2

Nykaa among TIME's 100 most-influential firms

Falguni Nayar's Nykaa has made it to TIME100 most-influential companies in the world. This comes days after Nayar strode into the top 10 list of self-made women billionaires with a massive \$7.6 billion wealth. She is the newest entrant in the women billionaires list, according to a compilation released by the Hurun Research Institute.

"Ten years after being founded by entrepreneur Falguni Nayar with the goal of inspiring Indian women, Nykaa has evolved into one of India's largest cosmetics and lifestyle brands," stated TIME

■ Falguni Nayar has been the talk of the town since Nykaa's recent stock exchange listing. She is one of only 24 women whose companies have reached the IPO (Initial public offering stage, offering stocks to public) ■ Nayar's entrepreneurial journey began in 2012, when she decided to leave her job as MD at Kotak Mahindra Capital and pursue a career in the online beauty industry. Nine years later, not only was Nykaa's ₹5,352 crore IPO nearly 82.5 times oversubscribed, but its shares debuted at ₹ 2,001. Nykaa is also India's first unicorn startup headed by a woman



Sun erupts with 17 flares, solar storms to hit Earth

X-PLAINED

At least 17 solar eruptions from a single sunspot on the sun have blasted into space in recent days, and may reach Earth as moderate geomagnetic storms soon. The sun eruptions originated from an over-active sunspot, called AR2975, which has been firing off flares since Monday. The stellar event may also cause some moderate sky storms on Earth, warned scientists.

According to scientists, the year 2022 is expected to be relatively quiet for the sun overall, as we are still towards the beginning of the 11-year solar cycle of activity that began in December 2019. Cycle beginnings usually have fewer sunspots and fewer eruptions. Activity should increase as we approach the peak, forecasted to be in mid-2025

WHAT ARE SUNSPOTS?

Sunspots are darker, cooler areas on the surface of the sun in a region called the photosphere. The photosphere has a temperature of 5,800 degrees Kelvin. Sunspots have temperatures of about 3,800 degrees K. They look dark only in comparison with the brighter and hotter regions of the photosphere around them.

WHAT CAUSES SUNSPOTS?

Sunspots are caused by disturbances in the sun's magnetic field lining up to the photosphere, the sun's visible surface. Sunspots occur over regions of intense magnetic activity, and when that energy is released, solar flares and big storms called coronal mass ejections erupt from sunspots

WHY ARE SUNSPOTS RELATIVELY COOL?

According to scientists, sunspots are relatively cool because they form at areas where magnetic fields are very strong. These magnetic fields are so strong that they keep some of the heat within the sun from reaching the surface. In other words, it inhibits the flow of hot gases from the sun's interior to its surface

WHAT IS THE DURATION OF SUNSPOTS?

Sunspots form over periods lasting from days to weeks, and can persist for weeks or even months before dissipating. The average number of spots visible on the face of the sun is not constant, but varies in a multi-year cycle

WHAT ARE SOLAR FLARES

The magnetic field lines near sunspots often tangle, cross, and reorganise. This can cause a sudden explosion of energy called a solar flare. Solar flares release a lot of radiation into space. If a solar flare is very intense, the radiation it releases can interfere with the radio communications on Earth. Solar flares are sometimes accompanied by a coronal mass ejection (CME). CMEs are huge bubbles of radiation and particles from the sun. They explode into space at very high speed when the sun's magnetic field lines suddenly reorganise

WHAT ARE THE EFFECTS OF SOLAR ACTIVITY ON EARTH

When charged particles from a CME reach areas near the Earth, they can trigger intense lights in the sky, called auroras. When particularly strong, a CME can also interfere in power utility grids, which at their worst can cause electricity shortages and power outages. Solar flares and CMEs are the most powerful explosions in our solar system

Maths not must for 1/3rd of engineering courses

Maths in class XII is no more mandatory to apply for one-third of engineering courses, including architecture, bio-technology and fashion technology, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) announced on Tuesday. In its new guidelines for 2022-23, the AICTE also made chemistry in class XII optional for studying computer science, electrical engineering and electronics engineering.

Maths has been made optional for 10 out of 29 diploma/UG courses. Instead students who studied any of 14 subjects, including computer science, electronics, information technology, biology, bio-technology, technical vocational subject, agriculture, engineering graphics, informatics practices, business studies and entrepreneurship, can now pursue engineering courses


Education

As per the National Education Policy 2020, the school education system is divided into 5+3+3+4. The last four years are not going to be arts, science and commerce streams. They will be studying a liberal arts type of stream where they can take maths, physics and psychology or chemistry and computer science. It will help students join any other new programme when they complete class XII. This window of opportunity or programme is being allowed with proper bridge courses in the first two semesters," AICTE chairman Anil D Sahasrabudhe told principals in an online meeting.

SHARE YOUR VIEWS AT TOINIE175@GMAIL.COM

It's 007 end for Mendes


MOVIES

Director Sam Mendes has revealed that he won't be working on any more Bond movies after completing 'Spectre', which opens in London on October 26. Mendes, 49, whose only previous 007 film was 'Skyfall' in 2012, said he plans to return to theatre work. In an interview, Mendes said: "I said 'No' to the last one and then ended up doing it and was piloried by all my friends. "It was a fantastic life-changing thing, but I don't think I could go down that road again."

THIS DAY THAT YEAR

APRIL 1

Dedicated to unlimited fun, laughter, jokes and pranks, April 1 is celebrated as April Fools' Day across the world. Usually, people pull each other's legs and play pranks...

HISTORY AND ORIGIN

■ Though the exact origin of April Fools' Day remains unknown, it is said that the day was first marked in Europe.
■ Historians speculate that it dates back to 1582 when France switched to the Gregorian calendar from the Julian calendar
■ It is believed that the day was celebrated after Pope Gregory XIII introduced the Gregorian calendar, and declared that the new calendar would start on Jan 1
■ In ancient times, calendars were based on the vernal equinox. The new year was celebrated on or around April 1, and in many places in Europe, the beginning of the new year was celebrated around March 25

■ When Gregory shifted the new year to January 1, it is believed that many people refused to accept the drastic change and followed the old calendar. That's one of the reasons why people, in general, started mocking the ones who followed the traditional calendar and celebrated this day. Also, some were even tagged as 'Poisson d'avril' (April fish, this means a person who is gullible like a fish)

In the Netherlands, the origin of April Fools' Day is credited to the Dutch victory in 1572 in the Capture of Brielle, in which the Spanish Duke Álvarez de Toledo was defeated ■ The first mention of April Fools' Day in Britain was in 1686, when biographer John Aubrey described April 1 as a "Fool's holy day"



THE TIMES OF INDIA

www.toistudent.com

HEALTH

Have you heard of grounding or earthing? Well we tell you what it is and how it can help you sleep better and feel your best

FOOD

Cool it with cold brews as the summer months are all set to roll in

FITNESS

How to tackle muscle cramps

SELF-CARE

Learn from your grandma's beauty closet as we round up hacks they swear by

ETIQUETTE

Are you aware of the morning manners for

STUDENT EDITION

SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2022


Your Weekender

early risers?
PLUS: Signs that your child is a bully;
Help a friend with body odour;
Lessons from British Royals

BOOKS & MOVIES

We look at Michael Schur's witty guide to moral ethics and try to answer: "Should you be a good person (also why)"
PLUS: Youngest Oscar winner & nominees

SPORTS

Aware of the F1 rule changes? We got you covered



JUST IN JEST

The Rock-scissors-Smith thappad at the Academy Awards deserves applause

Clap to the Slap, In a Droopy Oscar Show

If the 94th Academy Awards needed one tight slap to wake it up from its post-Covid torpor – quick, which film won the 2021 Best Film Oscar? Best Actor? – it was neatly orchestrated by this year's host and the winner of this year's Best Actor Oscar. After establishing the fact that Will Smith had slapped, and not punched, Chris Rock for cracking a joke about his wife Jada Pinkett Smith, for a brief moment in another dull ceremonial show, viewers were entertained by a TikTokish display of old-style husband-standing-up-for-his



wife that would have raised hackles from wokes in a film or TV show. We were back when Hollywood power couples existed, and alpha male badla, just like a Ranjeet being shown his place with a Vinod Khanna upper-cut, was SOP spousal practice. The Rock-Smith thappad chemistry was delightfully choreographed and certainly Filmfare Award-worthy.

The Rock-scissors-Smith show may or may not have been scripted. But it did what one good scene in a dull film does – become the sole conversation of the movie. Rock may have come out of the Oscars as the bad guy, cracking a joke at Mrs Smith's expense. But what does one expect Rock to have played except the ratty-voiced chap that everyone loves to smack. Great interlude, guys, in an otherwise anachronistic show. Clap to the slap.

Source: ET Edit

Aheartwarming story of a 260,000 ₹1 coins-collector (and a query)

Move Over Bitcoin For Bit-By-Bit Coin

You want a mid-week heartwarming opinion on a heartwarming story? Well, then you've got yourself a mid-week heartwarming opinion on the story of V Boobathi, computer operator and YouTube content provider from Ammapet in Tamil Nadu. The young man finally bought a Hero Dominar 200 motorcycle with the money he had patiently saved over the last three years from his YouTube channel. But that's not the wonderbar part. Boobathi paid for his dream bike in one rupee coins – all 260,000 of them.



If there is an architect of demonetisation, it would be fair to call Boobathi a remonetiser. Initially, the mobike showroom was understandably reluctant to be paid ₹2.6 lakh in rupee coins. But Boobathi and friends transported the amount in gunny bags on a minivan. That Kuber-like act earned enough respect for Boobathi paying by his own coin to be accepted. Quick maths tells us that he was making about ₹237 a day with his You- Tube channel. This bit-by-bit coin accumulation required patience – and physical space. The counting of the coin mountain by even more patient showroom staff reportedly took 10 hours. In the end, we salute the coin collector from Ammapet. But a question lingers: why didn't he get the coins converted to currency in a bank? That, of course, would have been a less heartwarming story than one about jugaad-flavoured perseverance.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

It's important to make your voice heard.

Send Letters to the Editor
at toinie175@gmail.com



ONE WORLD, DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES

Explore diversity in vision and figure out how the same topic may be viewed differently by different folks. This is a mirror to society and life

READ FULL STORIES
ON THE WEBSITE

A MUST-WATCH, OR WHY I CANCELLED THE OSCARS

To not watch this movie and deny oneself from being covered with goosebumps is not just a sin, but also treachery against Bharat



INDRAJIT HAZRA

The Oscars start at a bleary-eyed hour. As does shameful scandal. A movie that everyone must watch – a movie that everyone is watching – is not up for any award. Not a single one.

Well, you know what? Who needs the Oscars? It's nothing other than a prize distribution ceremony of People of No Colour Americans, by People of No Colour Americans, for People of No Colour Americans. Come to think of it, I'm glad that the greatest cinematic experience ever does not even find mention at the Academy Awards. If it doesn't sweep the National Film and Filmfare Awards, I'll change my name to Umar Khalid. Take that, Harvey Weinstein. Which is why I cancelled watching the Oscars. I've never been into cancel culture. All I have ever cancelled is a lunch because I got omicron, and an Apple TV subscription after I realised that 'Dune' was available on Amazon Prime Video from Friday. In any case, I refuse to watch an overlong movie about emotional cowboys called The Power of the Cumberbitch.

The film that redefines cinema does not need Oscar approval. Some smart alec critics have said that it manipulates the viewer's emotions. Er, what do you think movies do? When Kate Winslet spreads her arms



(L-R) Ariana DeBose, Troy Kotsur and Jessica Chastain at the 94th Academy Awards

with Leo Di Caprio holding her from behind at the bowsprit of the Titanic and exclaims, 'I'm flying!' I was in tears. And I'm a man who tears tandoori chicken legs with my bare hands without flinching.

Some smarter alec baldwins have even called this glorious movie propaganda. What do you think Sergei Eisenstein did with 'Battleship Potemkin'? The film was so propagandist that it was banned till 1954 and X-rated till 1987 in Britain. Or Mehboob Khan with 'Mother India', which clearly gave Congressman DK Barooah ideas about repositioning Indira Gandhi's gungi gudiya image? And you really think that a film about seven Aryan kids set in late 1930s Austria

with a nun suddenly appearing as their Wagner Lite daee ma is just about doe a deer, a female deer and assorted Alpine pleasantries and not embedded with neo-Nazi messaging? These films weren't certainly not rom coms.

This fabulous film must be made mandatory viewing in all classrooms, places of worship, hospitals, gyms, public transport systems, restaurants, JNU, giant outdoor screens, political rallies, nightclubs, factories, ashrams, massage parlours... All OTT platforms must allow subscription only after a person has seen the film, without fast-forwarding. The primary function of a movie is, of course, to portray

the glory of one's country, bring people together against a common cause – which, in this case, is not only giving every ounce of our loyalty to India, but also to ensure that those planning to defeat us one tukda at a time are shown their place, in the rear stall, or by having their WiFis chopped off in analogisation camps.

Perhaps, many people are too young to remember the events that have been shown with wonderful nuance and emotion in this movie. Perhaps sports movies are not everyone's cup of tea. But living on this planet and not watching – and being blown away – by 83 is criminal, seditious and shameful. It takes courage to show a film that instead of glorifying countries like the West Indies, Australia and England, finally puts the spotlight on our harried, historically neglected Men in Brown (Skin). What Kabir Khan's astounding movie does is bring us memories of pain, humiliation and then triumph for our country, with Kapil Dev as the leader who made India a great nation.

In the scene where Kapil – played with aplomb by Ranveer Singh, a Hindu Sindhi whose grandparents were forced to migrate out of Karachi during Partition – is killing the ball against Zimbabwe at Tunbridge Wells on June 18, 1983 to singlehandedly take India to the Prudential World Cup semi-final, I burst into tears that I could swear tasted of the Ganga. As for the Oscars, which understands neither cricket nor hard-earned glory, I cancel you. Jai Hindi cinema!

Source: ET Edit

Some smart alec critics have said that it manipulates the viewer's emotions. Er, what do you think movies do?

WIT & WISDOM

“Stuff your eyes with wonder, live as if you'd drop dead in ten seconds.”

Ray Bradbury

Writer

Delhi Most Polluted Capital

Delhi was found to be the most polluted capital in the world for the fourth consecutive year in 2021, according to a report by Swiss organization IQAir. As many as 35 of 50 Indian cities with the worst air quality were in India. The report's country wise listing ranked the air in Bangladesh as the world's most polluted in 2021, with PM2.5 concentrations of 76.9 (µg/m³).

Average annual PM2.5 concentration (µg/m³)

2021 Capital city ranking (top 10*)

New Delhi (India)	85.0
Dhaka (Bangladesh)	76.9
N'Djamena (Chad)	77.6
Dushanbe (Tajikistan)	59.8
Muscat (Oman)	53.9
Kathmandu (Nepal)	50.9
Manama (Bahrain)	49.8
Baghdad (Iraq)	49.7
Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan)	48.3
Tashkent (Uzbekistan)	47.8

Population weighted, 2021 avg. PM2.5 concentration (µg/m³)

2021 Country/region ranking (top 10**)

Bangladesh	76.9
Chad	73.9
Pakistan	66.8
Tajikistan	59.4
India	58.1
Oman	53.9
Kyrgyzstan	50.8
Bahrain	49.8
Iraq	49.7
Nepal	46.0

*Total 107; **Total 117 country/regions; *Based on PM2.5 air quality data from 6,475 cities in 117 countries; **micograms per cubic meter
Note: In September 2021, WHO guidelines cut acceptable annual exposure to PM2.5 in half, to 5µg/cum per cubic meter of air. No country achieved that standard in 2021. Only 222 cities met the WHO target, and exposure in 93 cities was 10 times the guideline

Source: IQAir World Air Quality Report 2021, Agencies

Bell Curves

R Prasad



Are you ready to face the economic consequences of universal peace?

Never Mind Giving Peace a Chance, All We Are Saying Is We Need a Break

With people taking their Covid masks off and stepping out, why are they fighting a war in Ukraine or over a 'must-watch' film instead of taking holidays or funky food photos?



ANUVAB PAL

I really think we need a break. We'd had two years of Covid and now Vladimir Putin decided this might be a good time to start World War 3. Does he have no sense of decorum? What about a year where nothing happens? Where the worst thing we discuss is whether Indian cricketers should dance on Instagram or not.

I grew up in an era after the Berlin Wall fell. For young people, it's called the '90s. The worst thing that happened all decade was Bill Clinton trying to justify that he did not have an affair under his table. That was the worst thing. I'd love to go back to that.

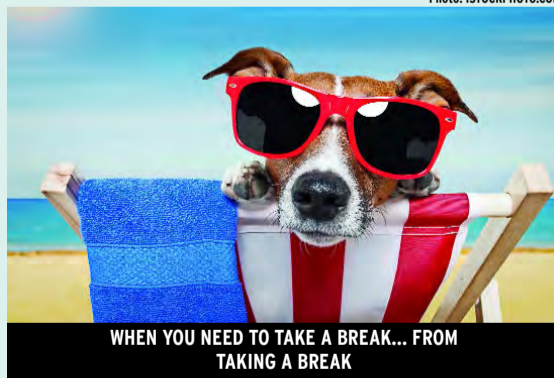
How come the 'new normal' has come to mean either the whole world dies of Covid or the whole world dies of a world war? How is that normal? Of course, we've got our own crises to fight over. Whether a particular film is

or isn't a literal must-watch, or whether headscarves should be allowed in colleges. Why isn't everyone post-Covid just out on holiday, posting photos of funky food or a waterfall? Why is our first reaction once we take off our masks is to fight? Post-Covid everyone was expecting air travel and revenge dining, not random invasions that make the Sensex wobble.

I'm done with the Chinese proverb, 'May you live in interesting times'. The times have been too interesting. I'd like to live in boring times. I thought that was the whole point of Joseph

The biggest WhatsApp fight was which wedding photo made which relative look fat, not left vs rightwing India

Robinette Biden becoming president. The idea of a 78-year-old leading the free world meant we could all take a long nap like any Bengali and Spaniard on any afternoon. But now we're on the verge of possible nuclear



WHEN YOU NEED TO TAKE A BREAK... FROM TAKING A BREAK

Photo: ISTOCKPHOTO.COM

conflict and still have to take RTPCR tests. Take me back to a time when the biggest fight on a WhatsApp group was which wedding photo made which relative look fat, and not leftwing vs rightwing India – and whether Nehru was to blame for my first girlfriend leaving me.

I'd like to go back to a time when the biggest worry entering an airport was how much excess baggage you have, and not whether you'd kill everybody just by breathing or die by breathing in someone else. I'd also like to go back to a time where our movies were about Shah

Rukh or Hrithik Roshan dancing for no reason, dressed like they are in a chewing tobacco ad, in a castle in Britain that passed off as Amitabh Bachchan's house. Much better than now when movies are about the authenticity of massacres. Also, it would be really nice for commercial planes to fly over Central Asia without the pilots having to look out for missiles from their windows.

We'd all like a break. For two years, everyone's lost work or a relative. Everyone's gone mad staying at home or driven someone mad. We're exhausted. Now that we get

to come out (sort of), is our first reaction, bombing, inflation and religious conflict? Who needs that? Why is our first reaction not, 'Let's all go swimming'?

People might say this is a silly suggestion when so much is wrong with the world. But maybe if we were a bit silly, a lot less would be wrong with the world. Maybe if Mr Putin watched a little Tom and Jerry, or danced to Harry Sandhu's 'Bijlee Bijlee' right after Omicron ended, he'd want to kill fewer people.

The best thing to happen lately has been a news anchor on a channel shouting at a panelist about the Ukraine war calling him Mr McAdams. This resulted in the real Mr McAdams, an American security analyst, saying, 'Dear host, I have not said a word. Why are you yelling at me?' That feels like where the world is today. We are all Mr McAdams. Sorry, I mean #WeAreAllMrMcAdams.

Source: ET Edit

LET'S TALK ABOUT...

Goldman's DJ CEO David Solomon

SET TO PERFORM AT THE LOLLAPALOOZA MUSIC FESTIVAL



Now those are three words you don't expect to hear together. Right? But this is David Solomon, who's been moonlighting regularly as a DJ at clubs in his spare time as

head of the global investment banking giant – and now he's going to perform at the Lollapalooza music festival, alongside legends like Metallica, Green Day and the more recent Dua Lipa.

Photo: ISTOCKPHOTO.COM



Whoa! So Solomon's not just spinning tracks for friends at a neighbourhood club. You can bet not. This is the big league. Lollapalooza saw some 400,000 folks attending back in 2019.

What's his DJ name? It can't be David Solomon

He was using the alias D-Sol, coined by his daughters, during sets in clubs at New York and Miami. But last year, he switched to using his given name and even released a single under it.

And how old is he?

Solomon's 60 years old, and he's been doing this since around 2015.

Does he charge for his performances?

He donates it to charity. He obviously doesn't need the money from this side hustle – he's helped Goldman rake in record profits and is expected to earn about \$35 million a year (over Rs 267 crore) as his salary and his stake in Goldman is worth over \$180 million (Rs 1377 crore).

Pheh. Well, a 60-year-old CEO spinning tunes in his spare time sounds like a good look for an investment bank. Yup, it sure beats golf!

Text: Indulekha Aravind | Source: ET Edit

WORDPLAY

MEGALOMANIAC

[noun] Someone who has an unnaturally strong wish for power and control, or thinks that they are much more important and powerful than they really are

Synonyms

egocentric, egoist, egomaniac, ego-tist, ego-tripper, narcissist.

Origin

Megalomania comes from the Greek word 'megas' ('great') and 'mania' ('madness'). It is a madness of greatness, but not a great kind of madness. Megalomaniacs in history include Alexander the Great, Genghis Khan, and Napoleon Bonaparte. People with megalomania tend to exaggerate their virtues and never see their faults.



Pic right: French military and political leader Napoleon Bonaparte

Water is precious, conserve it!



Water is the elixir of every micro to macro creature on this planet. As a part of Eco Schools India Project, the Junior wing of Delhi Public School, Nacharam undertook several activities on conservation of water.

The first step was to actively involve the students and parents of classes I and II in these activities, and in turn they created awareness in their immediate community. Students conducted surveys and various activities like effectively using the RO water that goes down the drain for various domestic purposes, regulating the pressure of the valves of the overhead tank and recycling and reusing the grey water.

As a part of this programme, students were taken to the rainwater harvesting pits within the school campus and also educated them to water the plants with the leftover water in their bottles. The students also took part in activities like essay and slogan writing, monologues, staging nukkad show, reciting poems and un-

dertaking water pledge.

Today's younger generation is tomorrow's future of this country and this world at large. Every single drop counts. So, every single step taken during this programme created a great impact on the minds of the students. As rightly said by our Bapu, "Be the change you want to see in this world". DPSites never wait for any change to start. They are always in the forefront leading everyone.

**Delhi Public School
Nacharam**



**Delhi World School
Shadnagar**

The students of Delhi World School, Shadnagar, conducted a special assembly on International World Water Day. The world day for water is being observed since 1993, in conformity with the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

Water is a basic requirement for all life, yet water resources are facing threat due to human activities. The students took part in various activities held to spread awareness on the need to conserve water. They were taught the practice of using water efficiently and urged to reduce unnecessary water usage.

LITTLE DID THEY KNOW



They hit her heart with arrows of poison,
Thinking it could break in a blow,
But little did they know,
It made her stronger, stronger than iron.

They built her a cage and clutched her wings,
Thinking they can keep her in captivity,
But little did they know,
She could Shatter their cage in blink of an eye,
And fly away, far away from their toxicity.

They told her she was too plump and dark,
To fit their beauty standards,
But little did they know,
Looks never bothered her,
Cause she always knew her worth.

They thought she needs a prince to save her,
To make her life complete,
But little did they know,
She relies on her own sword in every war,
As she is her own master writing her own legend.

They threw at her path thorns of taunts,
And fireballs of betrayal,
But little did they know,
She is not an emotional fool,
She walks all through their thorns,
As if they never existed.

I see her eyes gleaming with courage,
A burning passion in her heart,
She walks in solitude,
Roaring like a lioness,
Ignoring all barking dogs.

**RAJVI GUPTA, class X-B, Pallavi Model School,
Boduppal, Hyderabad**

Young chefs show their culinary expertise



The air was filled with enthusiasm as the young students of classes I and II at DPS Nadergul donned the chef's cap and proudly showed their expertise as "Mini Chefs". The chefs exhibited their culinary skills in fireless cooking. Not only that but they worked on the presentation which made the dishes look all the more delicious!

This activity was carried out to involve all their senses and promote lifetime skills. The little chefs wearing their colourful aprons and caps made healthy and nutritious dishes, like salads, sandwiches, desserts to name a few. Through this, they developed an understanding that flavour, texture and tech-

niques are key part of cooking.

Kids had super fun and were ecstatic when their family members appreciated their dishes and relished eating them.

This activity provided a platform for kids to harness their creativity and imagination and also discover a new area of interest.

**Delhi Public School
Nadergul**

A BOOST-UP BEFORE THE FINALS



It's time for students to gear up to watch the programme "Pariksha Pe Charcha" and to realise that examinations are no less than festivals. With the students girding their loins with the approach of their examinations, this session with the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, where he would be interacting with them, with the parents, and teachers across the world, would act as the much required boost-up before the final showdown begins. It is going to be an interactive session where the short-listed participants would be interacting with our prime minister. For the goodwill of the students, Dr T Lalitha Kumari, Principal, Sister Nivedita School, has arranged the best platform for the students to watch the programme virtually.

**Dr. T. LALITHA KUMARI, Principal, Sister
Nivedita School, Hyderabad**

SCHOOL LIFE IS FULL OF FUN

The onset of the pandemic brought about the beginning of a new era of online classes. Although a tough task

for teachers and students, over a period of time we all adapted to the new norm of tech studying. It had been a year since we were taking

online classes, sessions and exams. Appearing for the board exams was one such milestone and the memories of school-life were fading. We were growing, but while sitting on laptops and mobiles. The fun we saw our seniors have after exams was a strict NO-NO for us, because our movements were always monitored during the pandemic. It was the beginning of our new class and now we were students of different streams like commerce, science and humanities. It was the first day of the session and a new teacher was appointed for our class. To have some fun, students of another class and school joined our classes with random names and started playing pranks in



the online sessions. The new teacher was a little perplexed but continued to teach wondering why the number would increase and decrease every day. The entire bunch was missing or showing up in the class mysteriously. Strangely they were the ones who were asking all kinds of irrelevant questions, playing trending songs and kept troubling the teacher. After some days, the teacher caught the pranksters and insisted that the students with

cartoon faces as ID's, will answer the questions or be reported for their activities. When there was no response and complete silence, the teacher then let the truth out. She had been aware of the mischief, but kept it going for some time, till the classes weren't seriously affected. When the students were told to leave we could see the teacher smiling onscreen, and that was a huge relief. Must say school life is so full of joy and happiness..

**ANANYA RASTOGI, CLASS XI,
THE MILLENNIUM SCHOOL, LUCKNOW**

THE POWER OF SPOKEN WORDS

Since the dawn of humankind, communication has been the forum of development and evolution. All races of man have communicated and made the modern world through the sheer power of their speeches and letters. Usually, words are not given much importance and we generally take them for granted. However, I request my readers to envision a world without words, where there is no communication or freedom or peace or understanding. In such a desolate world, there can be no hope, other than words. The power of words is generally invisible but provides an inevitable and powerful effect. Mother Teresa once said, and I quote: "Kind words are short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless."

Every personality who has had the honour of standing before a gathering of people and, through sheer willpower and belief, compels them to stand for a cause knows that words have a power, a magic of sorts. Orators such as Martin Luther King, Frederick Douglas, Pandurang Shastri Athawale and Winston Churchill are testaments to the power of words. Each of them perfected their skill to the extent where they became people of great respect and were held in high esteem. Of course, none of them made perfect speeches, verbatim. They kept prac-



ticing their speeches no matter what, because they all knew the power of words. As Winston Churchill once said: "You are the master of your unspoken words, but a slave to the words you have spoken."

Such is the power of words, that may turn the hearts of all to the greater side. While all words have the power to turn hearts, they may not all turn the heart to the right side. Therefore, dear reader, the next time you give a speech or say a sentence, may you feel the weight of your words, and know that how you use them effects the future.

**AMAL SARAN,
class VIII-A,
Delhi Public
School,
Mahendra Hills**



IF I WERE A BIRD



If I were a bird,
This may sound absurd,
I would have no school, no work,
Especially no homework.
On the tree,
I would build a cute house,
A one which everyone loves,
A single storey home,
Which is Comfortable, cozy, and warm.
Tweet-two, Tweet-wee,
I would sing adorably,
I'd wish to become a bird-opera singer,
Would my wish ever be fulfilled?
You need not invite me,
I'll be there, you see,
Playing in your backyard,
Joyfully as ever, If I ever was a bird....

SRI PRAGNYA ANUPOJU, class VII-C, DDMS P.Obul Reddy Public School, Hyderabad

IF I WERE A MILLIONAIRE



If I were a millionaire, my sole objective would be to utilise the money for the betterment of the greatest number of people. To help the poor, feed the hungry, nurse the sick and improve the plight of the people, would be my major objective. I would open schools where poor students would study for free. I would invest a good portion of money in setting up a hospital with all the modern amenities. It

would run for the poor masses. The rich classes could donate generously for this noble cause.

I would spend a part of my wealth in developing the rural part of the country and provide some financial support to the poor farmers.

**BHAVYA LAKKIMSHETTY, class X,
Sister Nivedita School, Ameerpet,
Hyderabad**



ENGLAND BEAT SA

TEAM TO FACE AUSTRALIA IN WOMEN'S CRICKET WORLD CUP FINAL



Sophie Ecclestone

Defending champion England will face six-time champion Australia in the final of the Women's Cricket World Cup after beating South Africa by 137 runs Thursday in the tournament's second semi-final at Christchurch. Australia beat the West Indies by 157 runs in the first of the semi-finals Wednesday. England began the tournament with three straight losses but sealed its place in back-to-back finals with a massive form reversal which culminated Thursday in its fifth consecutive victory. Opener Danni Wyatt made a career-best 129 from 125 balls as England posted 293-8 after being asked by South Africa to bat first.

TAKING CRITICAL WICKET

Anya Shrubsole claimed the critical wicket of opener Laura Wolvaardt for a duck in the second over South Africa's reply and Sophie Ecclestone took 6-36 — the best figures of the tournament — as England bowled out the South Africans for 156 in 38 overs.

Wolvaardt had been the leading batter at the tournament with scores of 41, 75, 77, 67, 90, 3 and 80, for 433 runs at 61.8, prior to the semi-finals. Her early loss was a massive blow to South Africa's hopes of reaching its first World Cup final.

South Africa came into the tournament ranked second in the world behind Australia and played to that ranking. Its only loss in the eight-team round-robin was to Australia, which is unbeaten ahead of Sunday's final.

KNOCKOUT CRICKET PLAY

England, after its early losses to Australia, the West Indies and South Africa, steadily improved and, playing knockout cricket through its last five matches, fully turned the corner with wins over host New Zealand and India which clinched its semi-final spot.

Still, it was the underdog when the semi-finals began and Wyatt upended expectations with an extraordinary innings which unfolded with the assistance of the South Africa fielders who dropped her five times, at 22, 36, 77, 116 and 118. Wyatt wasn't used as an opener at the start of the tournament but was forced into that role and came into her own at Hagley Oval in Christchurch.

South Africa's bowlers either were too full or too short and Wyatt revelled in the opportunities the errant length and width provided. She hit powerfully through the offside forward of point and rifled short balls to the boundary behind square.

PLAYING MY GAME

"My plan was to capitalize on any width and run well between the wickets, just play my game," Wyatt said. "There have been a few good catches taken off me in the tournament. It was nice to have a few dropped today."

England lost opener Tammy Beaumont in the fourth over, but Wyatt held together the innings and built partnerships whenever possible. The best produced 116 runs for the fifth wicket with Sophie Dunkley, who made 60 from 72 balls.

Wyatt finally was out in the 45th over but England's total was made more substantial by Sophie Ecclestone, who hit 24 runs from 11 balls before falling to the last ball of the innings.

Shrubsole then knocked off the top of the South Africa innings when she dismissed Wolvaardt and Lizelle Lee within the first four overs.

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE

Ecclestone then produced an outstanding performance to ensure South Africa had no chance of recovering, living up to her billing as the No. 1-ranked bowler in women's one-day internationals.

"Sophie has been brilliant for us," England captain Heather Knight said. "That's her first five-for in international cricket and I thought she bowled outstandingly. She and Charlie Dean were really good on a wicket which had a little bit in it for them."

Knight said England would start as long shots again in the final against Australia on Sunday. AGENCIES



Shabnim Ismail



Danielle Wyatt



I think we're going in as underdogs for sure but it's a fresh slate, isn't it? It's a fresh slate on the morning of the game and what a story will be written for us if we can do it.
England captain HEATHER KNIGHT

Photo: GETTY IMAGES

KKR PROMISE BOLD PLAY AGAINST PUNJAB KINGS

Punjab start their campaign with better bowling effort for victory

Kolkata Knight Riders are expected to continue with their risk-taking approach despite mixed returns when they take on Punjab Kings in the Indian Premier League on Friday. KKR head into Friday's game at the back of a three-wicket loss against RCB though managed to make the game close after a below-par total.

Punjab began their campaign with a win, but they would expect a better bowling effort after conceding more than 200 runs in their first game. South Africa speedster Kagiso Rabada is expected to play after completing his three-day quarantine and that will give a big boost to the Punjab attack.

Batting at the Wankhede, where the track is relatively fresh, has not been easy as seen in the two games played at the venue so far. It may be early days in the two-month long IPL, but the toss is already playing a significant role in the game's outcome with dew coming into picture in the second half of the game.

STRONG START

Kolkata's openers, Ajinkya Rahane and the

attacking Venkatesh Iyer perished cheaply against RCB and the duo would be looking to provide a strong start to the team.

While skipper Shreyas Iyer, who has been in good form despite the failure against RCB, would be an important cog in the wheel, but would need support from the likes of Nitish Rana.

For left-handed Rana, consistency would be the key. Apart from the duo, the responsibility in the middle order needs to be shouldered by Sam Billings, Sheldon Jackson and the big-hitting Andre Russell.

Upcoming IPL Match

VS

APRIL 1 **7.30 PM**

Wankhede Stadium, Mumbai

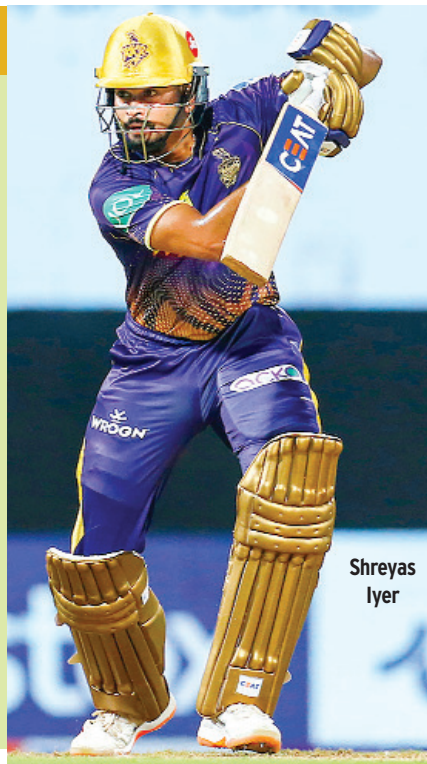
BOWLERS ROLE KEY

On the bowling front, pacer Umesh Yadav was splendid in both the games with the new ball. Experienced Kiwi bowler Tim Southee, who replaced Shivam Mavi and picked up three wickets, too has a key role to play upfront.

The concern for Kolkata would be the form of spinner Varun Chakravarty, who needs to hit the straps quickly. For Punjab, a lot would rest on how their top three - skipper Mayank Agarwal, flamboyant Shikhar Dhawan and Sri Lankan Bhanuka Rajapaksa, who played a match-winning cameo against RCB, perform.

ANOTHER CHANCE FOR MIDDLE-ORDER

While head coach Anil Kumble would expect more contributions from the middle order, the likes of Odean Smith and Shahrulh Khan proved their mettle when they steered the side home against RCB and would be keen to be among the runs again. It remains to be seen if Under-19 World Cup star Raj Bawa, who failed on IPL debut, gets another chance. PTI



Shreyas Iyer

Photo: PTI

US, MEXICO QUALIFY FOR FIFA WORLD CUP QATAR 2022

The US men's national team and Mexico have qualified for the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 on Wednesday.

USMNT qualified for the World Cup following a 2-0 loss to Costa Rica in the final match of CONCACAF qualifying Wednesday evening at Estadio Nacional in San Jose, Costa Rica.

The U.S. return to the tournament for the first time since Brazil 2014 by virtue of their third-place finish in the standings, while Fourth-Place Costa Rica advance to the Intercontinental Play-Off versus New Zealand in June in Doha, Qatar.

The first goal belonged to Costa Rica, as Juan Pablo Vargas thumped in a header off a corner kick in the 51' to give the Ticos a 1-0 lead. The pace of the match was in Costa Rica's favor and the Ticos took advantage of confusion in the U.S. defense, with Anthony Contreras turning in a cross



Anthony Contreras

to make it a 2-0 affair in the 60'.

Meanwhile, Mexico will play in their eighth consecutive FIFA World Cup after downing El Salvador 2-0 at the Estadio Azteca in Mexico City on the 14th and final matchday of the third round of CONCACAF World Cup Qualifying for Qatar 2022.

Thanks to first-half goals from Uriel Antuna and Raul Jimenez, El Tricolor finished in Second Place in the eight-team table. ANI

QUIZ TIME!

Q1: Which was the 1st non Test playing country to beat India in an international match?

- A. Canada
B. Sri Lanka
C. Zimbabwe
D. East Africa

Q2: Which number jersey did Xavi wear at Barcelona?

- A. 6 B. 7 C. 11 D. 1

Q3: Who was the 1st ODI captain for India?

- A. Ajit Wadekar
B. Bishen Singh Bedi
C. Nawab Pataudi
D. Vinoo Mankad

Q4: India reached the final of the Davis Cup for the first time in...?

- A. 1964 B. 1966 C. 1970 D. 1974

Q5: Against which team did Shane Warne take most ODI wickets?

- A. West Indies
B. South Africa
C. England
D. Sri Lanka

Q6: The name Kunjarani Devi is associated with...?



Kunjarani Devi

Photo: GETTY IMAGES

- A. Athletics B. Target shooting
C. Weight Lifting D. Swimming

Q7: Which track and field star to become one of the greatest athletes of her time?

- A. Jackie Robinson
B. Gail Devers
C. Florence Griffith Joyner
D. Wilma Rudolph

Q8: How many medals has Saina Nehwal won in the Commonwealth Games?

- A. 1 gold, 1 silver
B. 2 silvers
C. 2 golds
D. 3 silvers

Q9: Who did Naomi Osaka score her first top 20 win against?

- A. Andrea Petkovic
B. Sam Stosur
C. Venus Williams
D. Sara Errani

ANSWERS:

- 1 B. Sri Lanka
2 A. 6
3 A. Ajit Wadekar
4 B. 1966
5 B. South Africa
6 C. Weight Lifting
7 D. Wilma Rudolph
8 C. 2 golds
9 B. Sam Stosur