



THE TIMES OF INDIA

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

➤ In your newsroom, student editors talk on how states need to step up curbs to avoid third wave; exciting NASA missions ahead, among others
PAGE 2



➤ Know more about Dwarka, which is believed to have been the first capital of Gujarat, through the lens of a young tourist
PAGE 3



➤ Mbappe hat-trick fires PSG into French Cup last 16
PAGE 4



STUDENT EDITION
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2022



Experts warn of a third wave as cases, hospitalisations rise



Public health experts say, India is hurtling towards the third wave, as parts of the country see surge in the number of Covid-19 cases and hospitalisation numbers begin to inch up. In the last one week, there has been an exponential increase in numbers and the data seems to indicate that a new phase of pandemic has begun. Gautam Menon, professor of physics and biology at the Ashoka University, said, the steep rise in cases seen in Delhi, Mumbai and Kolkata is comparable to that seen in South Africa and a number of countries in Europe from about a few weeks ago.

2022: OVER THE MOON

Robotic missions to Mars and advances in space tourism dominated the space activities of 2021. But this year, the moon is likely to stand out, as companies and governments launch various moon-bound spacecraft. Most of those missions revolve around Artemis, NASA's multibillion-dollar effort to return astronauts to the moon later in the decade and conduct routine science missions on its surface in preparation for farther treks to Mars (a far more ambitious endeavour that will probably not happen in this decade)...

2022 is the year for initial steps towards the moon. Two new rockets central to NASA's lunar plans will launch to space for the first time, each with more power than the Saturn 5 rocket from the Apollo programme. Other countries are expected to join the march to the moon as well



South Korea's first moonshot

The Korea Pathfinder Lunar Orbiter, a box-shaped satellite, will be South Korea's first foray to the moon

More global visitors

Lunar robots from three other countries – Russia, India and Japan – will also try to make their way to the moon this year. India plans to send the Chandrayaan-3 lander and rover to the moon in the third quarter of this year, attempting its third moon mission after the lander-rover bundle from India's Chandrayaan-2 mission crashed in 2019.



NASA's moon rocket debut

After years of development delays, NASA's Space Launch System (SLS), could make its first journey to space – without any humans – as early as March. The mission, called Artemis 1, will mark the first in a series of flights under NASA's Artemis programme by SLS, NASA's centerpiece rocket system for getting moon-bound astronauts off Earth.

SpaceX's next starship test

Central to NASA's efforts to return humans to the moon is SpaceX's Starship, which will be used as a human lunar lander in 2025. It will be the agency's first astronaut mission to the moon's surface since 1972. Designed as a fully reusable rocket system, Starship also stands at the centre of Elon Musk's ultimate goal of ferrying humans to Mars, and will be crucial to SpaceX's revenue-generating satellite launch business.



NASA-funded moon robots

Three robotic moon landers under a NASA programme are scheduled to make their way to the lunar surface this year. Nova-C lander, a six-legged cylindrical robot, is expected to launch on SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket early this year carrying a dozen payloads to the lunar surface. Peregrine lander is a boxy, four-legged lander with an onboard propulsion system that will ease itself onto a basaltic plain on the sunlit side of the moon's northeastern quadrant.



Testing a complex lunar orbit

Rocket Lab, which builds rockets for small launches, is poised to send in March a microwave-size satellite, or CubeSat for NASA called CAPSTONE from the company's launch site in New Zealand. The satellite will study an orbit around the moon. A future space station called Gateway, being developed by NASA and other space agencies, will reside in sometime in the next decade.

VIEWPOINT

Community service must be made compulsory for students: Vice President



Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu on Monday said, community service must be made compulsory for students studying in government as well as private schools, as it would help them to develop an attitude of sharing and caring in their interaction with others.

Today, there is a dire need to inculcate the spirit of service from a young age in the youth of this country. Once this pandemic is behind us and normalcy returns, I would suggest that government schools as well as those in the private sector must make community service of at least two to three weeks compulsory for students

Have you done community service? Share your experience at toinie175@gmail.com

iPhone 14 to get punch-hole screen, rumoured to ditch screen notch

Apple is planning to launch four new handsets iPhone 14, iPhone 14 Max, iPhone 14 Pro as well as iPhone 14 Pro Max in September, and now a new report has claimed that the iPhone 14 may come with a hole-punch display that eliminates the notch, alongside an updated iPhone SE with 5G connectivity. According to Mark Gurman's 'Power On' newsletter, Apple is planning to introduce a hole-punch screen that creates a compact window for a camera to shine through without needing to use a full notch, reports AppleInsider.

- The iPhone maker may come up with an alternative to keep using Face ID on its flagship devices
- In addition, Gurman also claimed that the iPhone SE would gain an update that would add 5G connectivity to Apple's entry-level iPhone
- Apple is also planning to launch iPhone models without a SIM slot by September


TECHAWAY

'Spider-Man' perched at No 3 spot among all Hollywood films ever released in India

In just 18 days since its theatrical release, 'Spider-Man: No Way Home', with Tom Holland and Zendaya playing the lead roles, has become the third-highest grosser among Hollywood films in India, after 'Avengers: Endgame' (2019) and 'Avengers: Infinity War' (2018).

■ Till date, the film, which has globally surpassed the \$1-billion-mark, has grossed ₹ 259.67 crore in India, netting ₹ 202.34 crore after tax. That makes it No

3 among all films released in India in 2021, after Allu Arjun's 'Pushpa: The Rise' and the Akshay Kumar-led 'Sooryavanshi'. ■ Among Hollywood films in India, 'Spider-

Man' is within leaping distance from the pickings of 'Avengers: Infinity War' (₹ 227.43 crore), but is still quite far from 'Avengers: Endgame' (₹ 373.22 crore).


Entertainment

UNSC permanent members call for further prevention of nuclear weapons

The permanent member nations of the United States Security Council (UNSC) has called for the further prevention of nuclear weapons stressing that a nuclear war will have far-reaching consequences, cannot be won, and must never be fought. "China, France, Russia, the UK, the UK, and the US consider the avoidance of war between the Nuclear-Weapon States and the reduction of strategic risks as our foremost responsibilities," the permanent five-member nations said in a joint statement. The permanent nations underlined the desire to work with all states to create a security environment more conducive to progress on disarmament with the ultimate goal of a world without nuclear weapons with undiminished security for all.



Species found beneath Antarctic ice



Researchers have discovered a trove of marine life hidden far beneath the ice shelves of the Antarctic. Despite occupying nearly 1.6 million square kilometres, ice shelves are among the least explored environments on Earth. The team discovered 77 species, including sabre-shaped bryozoans (moss animals) and serpulid worms, more than the total number previously known from all the frozen continent's ice shelves. The team also notes that with climate change and the collapse of these ice shelves, time is running out to study and protect these ecosystems.

The World

this week

WHY

IN THE NEWS FOR

The spike in Omicron cases has prompted several state governments to impose Covid-related restrictions during New Year celebrations to contain the highly infectious variant. So far India has reported 781 cases of Omicron variant with the highest number of infections in Delhi (238), followed by Maharashtra (167). The sudden spike in Covid cases in the country has forced the eight states to impose night curfews and other curbs.



only few states have put curbs?

WE SPEAK

There is no science behind night curfews when it comes to tackling the spread of Covid variants, WHO Chief Scientist Soumya Swaminathan has stressed. In a TV interview, she said that countries like India must formulate science-based policies for curbing the spread of the virus. "Things like night curfew, there is no science behind it. One has to take evidence-based measures. There is a whole list of public health measures," she told CNBC-TV18. "Entertainment venues are places where these viruses spread the most. It's natural to bring in some restrictions there," Swaminathan added. She said that Indians need to be prepared, but not panic.



YOU SPEAK

I believe that the Central Government is on the right track, maintaining a vigil on the states that have seen a significant spike in Omicron cases. It is good that states like UP, Delhi, Haryana, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu have started putting in restrictions as the cases in these places need to be contained. I don't think that a uniform lockdown across states would be advisable as it would only affect low-wage workers and affect the economy. Hence, containment zones, stricter checks and curfews are the best ways to tackle the situation.

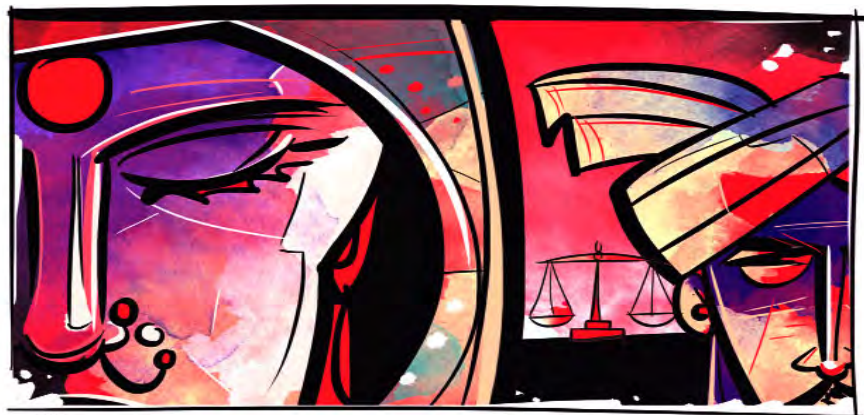


SUSHIANA SONDH, class IX, Mother's International School, New Delhi

IS change in marriageable age of girls going to bring in parity?

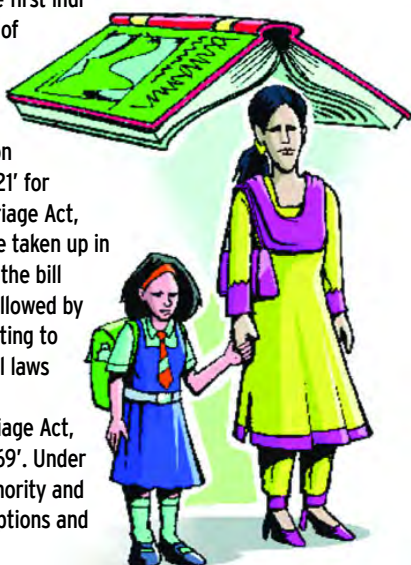
IN THE NEWS FOR

With the Cabinet approving the proposal to raise the legal age of marriage for girls from 18 to 21 years, bringing it at par with men, the government has set in motion the process for a major change in law that has been a point of debate for long. The big test for the bill will be in Parliament as any change in age will have far reaching implications.



Amending Sharda Act of 1929

The age of marriage for women was increased from 15 to 18 in 1978 by amending the erstwhile Sharda Act of 1929. The first indication of an upward revision in the age of marriage of girls came in PM Narendra Modi's speech on Independence Day last year. Recently, the Cabinet approved the introduction of 'Prohibition of Child Marriage (Amendment) Bill, 2021' for amending 'The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 (PCMA)'. The bill is expected to be taken up in Parliament soon. According to sources, the bill once approved by Parliament, will be followed by consequential amendments in laws relating to age of marriage. These include personal laws governing marriage of Hindus, Muslims, Christians, Parsis and 'the Special Marriage Act, 1954' and 'the Foreign Marriage Act, 1969'. Under scrutiny are related laws like 'Hindu Minority and Guardianship Act, 1956' and 'Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Act, 1956'.



WE SPEAK

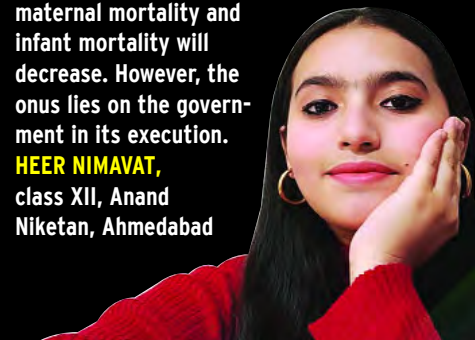
National Family Health Survey

Despite a decline over decades, underage marriages remain a concern even though there is a long-standing prohibition on child marriage. As many as 23.3% of women aged 20-24 were married before they turned 18, the legal age of marriage, as per National Family Health Survey-5 (2019-21). The latest survey shows the problem is more prevalent in rural India at 27% whereas in urban regions, underage marriage accounted for 14.7% of all marriages. The government sees the proposed legislation as a strong measure to bring women on equal footing with men in keeping with the vision of the Constitution on gender equality.

YOU SPEAK

Generations of young girls have had to sacrifice their rightful childhood, educational rights, and lifelong aspirations at the altar of child marriage. Of course, patriarchal interpretation of marriage is a concept that cannot be diminished with legality and must evolve with time and awareness. So, I must acknowledge and appreciate the government's attempt to bring in parity. If the Bill gets passed in Parliament, this would be a big social reformation as many girls will be able to complete their education up to graduation, employability will increase, maternal mortality and infant mortality will decrease. However, the onus lies on the government in its execution.

HEER NIMAVAT, class XII, Anand Niketan, Ahmedabad



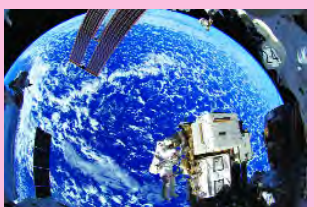
TIMES NIE gives you this fortnight's news capsule - a 360 degree perspective of major events that happened around the world. But, this is not it. This is a platform to present your news, your way. OWN YOUR NEWSROOM!

Write to toinie175@gmail.com

WHAT NASA missions are you excited about?

IN THE NEWS FOR

Some of the most exciting space missions are ready to kick off in 2022. This year, expect the first images and science results from the recently launched James Webb Space Telescope, see a new mission launch to study an unexplored world and watch a NASA spacecraft deliberately crash into an asteroid's moon.



The wealth of space missions launched in 2021 guarantee a year filled with new findings from across the solar system - and beyond. Several countries are planning for 2022 to be the year they send robotic explorers to the moon - while planning ahead for the return of humans to the lunar surface in the future.

WE SPEAK

- 1 Prepare for inspiring new flights by NASA's Ingenuity helicopter, and the beginning of the Perseverance rover's investigation of the intriguing remains of an ancient river delta on Mars beginning in the summer.
- 2 Prepare for more stunning images from NASA's Juno mission, which has been orbiting Jupiter since 2016.
- 3 NASA will launch the Psyche spacecraft in August, sending it on a four-year journey to an unexplored potato-shaped world in the main asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter.



YOU SPEAK

I feel like there is so much more to be discovered on the moon. Lunar Ice Cube is a CubeSat mission to study the distribution of water and organic volatiles on the Moon from lunar orbit. I am especially excited for this because the primary scientific objectives of the mission are to enable broadband spectral determination of composition and distribution of volatiles in regolith on the Moon and determination of major minerals.

SUDHIKSHA INNANJE, class XII, DPS South, Bengaluru



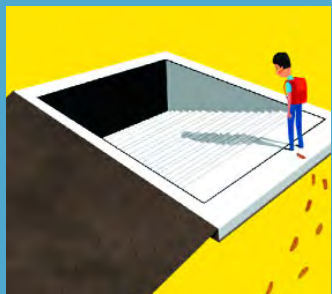
As a space enthusiast, I am most excited about the Psyche mission by NASA. The results of this mission will bring out the information on formation of our solar system and its history by studying the Psyche asteroid belt.

ANAGHA B POOJARI, class X, MES Kishore Kendra Public School, Bengaluru



HOW

do you think the assessment system in schools can change?



IN THE NEWS FOR

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said when India completes 75 years of Independence in 2022, every student should be learning as per the National Education Policy-2020. This is our collective responsibility, he said while addressing a conclave on School Education in 21st Century where he called upon teachers, administrators, voluntary organisations and parents to cooperate and participate in this mission.

WE SPEAK

Students under the new policy would learn under a curricular that is scientifically oriented. It is a curriculum that focuses on critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, curiosity and communication.

YOU SPEAK

The current system of one final exam at the end of the year puts a lot of stress on students, as they have to go through the whole syllabus in a short time and the weightage given to each topic is minimal. The better way would be taking two half-yearly exams, which will decrease the stress that comes with total focus on just one final exam. It will also give more importance to each individual topic. Due to the pandemic, this system was adopted and has received great response.

ADITYA SINGH, class XII, Sadhu Vaswani International School, Pune



DO

you see the Net evolving to next level in 2022?



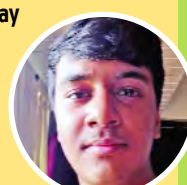
WE SPEAK

"By 2025, more than 50 billion devices will be connected to the Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT)," McKinsey predicts. Robots, automation, 3D-printing, and more will generate around 79.4 zettabytes of data per year. Digital connections, powered by 5G and the Internet of Things (IoT), have the potential to unlock economic activity, states McKinsey.

YOU SPEAK

Certainly, the Internet will evolve this year with technologies such as Web3, AI and the Metaverse coming into the picture. However, I don't think there will be major platform-wide changes as of now. Most of the Internet is under the stronghold of the big tech firms such as Google and Amazon, and the decentralised Web3 will be a slow transition away from them. The Metaverse has the potential to change our life by going digital, but I feel a trend of social isolation will emerge if we rely solely on digital interactions aided by VR. I feel AI and machine learning will have a huge impact.

ABHIRUP TADAPAR, class X, Marble Arch School, Mumbai



RINGING IN '22 TOGETHER!



Sister Nivedita School
Ameerpet

Looking forward to a good year ahead with joy, peace and success by saying goodbye to another year of challenges and obstacles, the Niveditans started off the New Year celebrations with the exchange of greetings between the members of SNS family, right from Pre-Primary staff to High School staff and from teaching to non-teaching and from heads of the institution to Agile staff. As the saying goes, "Charity begins at Home," bedsheets were distributed to the Agile staff members and they were also asked to cut the New Year

Cake to make them feel that they too are important. Songs, dances and even games were conducted for both teaching and non-teaching staff. Director of the school Hari Hara Prasad and Principal Lalitha Kumari conveyed their heartfelt wishes to all the members of the SNS family. All members took part in the celebrations cheerfully and made the atmosphere lively.



Delhi World School
Shadnagar

The students of Delhi World School Shadnagar bid farewell to 2021 as they celebrated 'Welcome to 2022' with great joy and ceremony. The campus wore a festive look as the young students and teachers put up a great show to ring in the new year with a sense of renewed hope that this year things will be better and life will be back to normal.

Our students welcome 2022 with hearts filled with optimism. Read here what they have to say...

NEW YEAR'S FESTIVE!

New Year is here,
To start a fresh year.
A fresh year with no Fear,
Until I made it my career

We remind a New Year,
When the old comes to an end.
Then we all start to cheer,
with our friend.

New Year is not only about Celebrations,
It's also about Resolutions.
To start something new,
That's only done by a few,
But when you start,
It comes from the Heart.

This New Year, we conquer our difficulties,
In Various activities,
Fix the Guilties,
For various capacities to come...

Make this year
a happy and a prosperous one,
With loads of fun!

Have a Jolly Year Y'all!!



SAHITHI NINGALA, class VIII, Scholars
Academy School, Manikonda

BEST WATER CONSERVATION PRACTICES SHOWCASED



Students of DDMS AMS P Obul Reddy Public School participated in the Jalshakti programme which is part of the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat activity where Telangana state is paired with Haryana. Students of class IX showcased the importance of water in a group discussion, both on the online and offline platforms, sharing the best practices of water conservation in Telangana and Haryana.

Charts were displayed showcasing the importance of water in our day to day life. They also did research on government initiatives like Mission Bhagiratha and Mission Kakatiya and displayed the information on charts.

DDMS AMS P. Obul Reddy Public School
Hyderabad

Blessings, birthday, and beach...



Dwarka is one of the most precious places as Lord Krishna selected this area as his home and kingdom after leaving Mathura. I visited this place with family and friends this month. It was an absolutely memorable trip for me.

In a private bus, travelling for 10 hours, with 20 people, we reached Dwarka eating, singing and dancing. We reached Dwarka around 3 pm and after having lunch, we rested in our rooms. Evening, it was time to visit Dwarka mandir. There, I learned a lot about dwarkadhish. We attended aarti and came back to our resort. It was my brother's birthday the next day, so we decorated our room and surprised him!

Day 2 was exciting as we were going to the beach. At the beach, we enjoyed the view and took a lot of pictures because memories stay forever.

The next day, the whole group decided

to wear yellow-colored clothes. We all were looking so bright in that colour. We took lots of pictures too. Then few people wanted to just jump into the pool, and some wanted to go to the beach. I went to the beach for some fun with the waves. While coming back from the beach we had so much fun on the bus, we danced and sang. Same night, all the girls planned a night of fun, where we shared jokes and had a lot of fun.

It was time to pack our bags and return. During our return trip, we played a game called Dungeons of Dragons and to be honest it was one of the best games I had played. It was just so much fun. It was one of the best trips I had ever had in my life, especially after 2 years!

MANINI SHAH, Class X,
Udgam School, Ahmedabad



TIME TO BE HAPPY & CARING



To instill the values of sharing, caring and giving and to celebrate the birth of Lord Jesus Christ, the class III students of Ganges Valley School conducted a special assembly. The students were dressed up like Santa Claus and sang Christmas carols. The parent of John Vijay, a class III student, gave a brief introduction to the event speaking about the importance of Christmas. The students had a marvellous time deco-

rating the Christmas tree and later stage with their fabulous dance too.

The teachers of classes III and PP II did a fabulous job in making the event lively and conveying the message of happiness and giving. The students were delighted to see Santa riding a cycle and were happy to receive gifts from him. Ganges had a merry Christmas and wishes one and all a Happy New Year!

Ganges Valley School
Hyderabad

Be fit in mind and body

Pallavi Aware International School
Hyderabad



Fit India School Week is an initiative brought forward by the Ministry of Education, Government of India, with the objective of promoting physical and mental fitness as a part of children's school life.

Pallavi Aware International School organized its Fit India Week from 6 December to 10 December. The school encouraged its students to take part in various events that would help them be not just physically fit but also ensure peace of mind.

During this week, students took part in activities such as Freedom Run, Yoga, Free-Hand Exercises, Taekwondo, and Zumba. These activities also provided students with a fun and

entertaining element in their exercise session. Pallavi Aware International School was awarded the Certificate of Appreciation from the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports for spreading awareness about a Fit India and the benefits of a healthy lifestyle.

The week was brought to a close with the students making posters and paintings, displaying their perspective of what a healthy and fit India should be.

IN LIGHT OF COVID, DEALING WITH BIOMEDICAL WASTE IS NO CRISIS

Biomedical waste management during this pandemic isn't an enormous crisis owing to the attention unfolding concerning the potential damage that would be caused by the waste. It's not solely the medical practitioners or waste management handlers, even the civil society is taking measures to get rid of this waste. Many start-ups are innovatively opting to use reusable masks, to reduce waste production. Even biodegradable alternatives are being produced. An analysis from an MIT study stated that during the first six months of the pandemic the total number of masks required would be about 7.4 billion. Reusable mask strategies would significantly reduce cost and waste generated. The numbers can be drastically reduced with a silicone reusable N95 mask, especially if the filters are also reusable.

VIKYATH REDDY, class IX, Birla Open Minds International School

Contrary to popular belief, I think that the pandemic has given us a very good opportunity to come up with sustainable solutions to deal with biomedical waste. Researchers estimated that over one billion masks have been washed up in the ocean in 2020 alone due to the pandemic. It's true that a world with Covid has us rethinking our priorities, but maybe this is a good opportunity to work on balancing the medical aspect and simultaneously the management of the waste that are products of those. Covid has given rise to new waste, like masks, PPE kits, plastic sanitizer bottles and many more. If we don't take action and responsibility for this waste now, it will be too late and will increase the already difficult environmental issues we have ten-fold. It's now or never.

ANJALI IYER, class IX-C Mahar Regiment, Silver Oaks International School, Mighty Oaks Campus, Hyderabad

With the novel coronavirus disease prolonging its stay and spread, the biomedical waste is hugely increasing across the world. One can spot surgical masks, face shields, gloves discarded on the roadsides and near hospitals. PP and PE are the most common type of thermoplastic found in municipal solid waste. It is a major crisis as these take years to decompose and are harmful to environment just like other plastics. Aquatic life is getting hugely effected as reports say millions of masks have made their way to the oceans. The waste generated is extremely hazardous and the governments must find ways to deal with this crisis.

R SREE LASYA, class VIII-Tulip, Sister Nivedita School, Ameerpet

AGAINST

Biomedical waste management is certainly a big crisis which the world is facing now. Earlier, only hospitals generated such waste, but now every household is discarding masks, respirators, sanitizers, gowns, face shields, etc. Biomedical waste has to be disposed of scientifically and this is not happening. Pollution Control Board needs to keep a close watch on this. Mixing of biomedical waste with domestic waste will cause further spread of Covid 19, fungal and bacterial infections to those handling this waste. If proper measures are not taken to segregate and manage biomedical waste, all our efforts to decrease infections will go in vain.

KESHAV PRASEEN, class IV-C, Gitanjali Primary School, Hyderabad

Other student join in the debate..
READ HERE.....

DEBATE

FREE LIVE WEBINAR

Excel in Exams with

SUPER MEMORY

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER NOW

Sunday January 08.01.2022
Time 05:00 PM- 07:00 PM

✓ Contact Us- **8097758902**
✓ Student Age Group **8 Years & Above**

Note:- Parents should attend the webinar along with the child.

BRAIN INFINITE™

ENROLL NOW



With Master Trainer Amrut Jadhav

FOUNDER OF BRAIN INFINITE
AUTHOR OF YOU CAN HAVE A JUMBO MEMORY
INTERNATIONAL MEMORY ATHLETE & COACH

MBAPPE HAT-TRICK FIRES PSG

Covid-hit team eases into French Cup last 16 with 4-0 win over Vannes

Kylian Mbappe scored a hat-trick as Paris Saint-Germain overcame their Covid crisis and a drone-related interruption to ease into the French Cup last 16 on Monday with a 4-0 win over fourth-division Vannes. Despite the absence of five PSG players, including superstar Lionel Messi and Danilo after positive tests for Covid-19, Mauricio Pochettino's side were never worried by the Brittany minnows.

Defender Presnel Kimpembe, wearing the captain's armband, headed in after 28 minutes just after the match had been interrupted for a minute after a drone flew over the Rabine Stadium in western France. Goalkeeper Clement Petrel made a couple of smart saves before Kimpembe stooped to score a powerful header from a Nuno Mendes corner.

EMPHATIC HAT-TRICK

Mbappe was kept quiet by the Vannes defense in the first half on a rainy night in the Brittany region of northwestern France. But he made it 2-0 in the 59th when he latched onto Kimpembe's long pass from defense to sprint clear and finish with a low shot that looped in. His next goal was far more emphatic as he arrowed a shot high into the net from 20 meters, after good work from midfielder Marco Verratti allowed 18-year-old Dutch midfielder Xavi Simons to send Mbappe through in the 71st. His third goal was from close range after swap-

ping passes with substitute Eric Ebimbe in the 77th. It marked his 18th goal in 25 games overall.

PSG coach Mauricio Pochettino also picked 18-year-old French midfielder Edouard Michut, who impressed with his technical ability albeit against modest opposition.

INTERRUPTIONS GALORE

Monday's drone incident was another in a series of problems French football have had since the start of the 2021/22 season.

Sunday's Cup match between fourth-division Jura Sud and Saint-Etienne, in Louhans, was interrupted for about 20 minutes due to smoke and fireworks launched by supporters of the Greens. Jura Sud goalkeeper Cedric Mensah described his shock on Monday after crowd trouble "cut the legs" of his team in a 4-1 French Cup defeat to Ligue 1 outfit Saint-Etienne. "I heard a powerful bang and felt a pain in my right ear. I had the impression that a bomb had exploded and felt the pitch vibrate," he said. "The doctor explained to me that if it had exploded closer, I could have pierced my eardrum. At the time, it really shook me."

Vannes' Cup dream was over with the Brittany side also missing out on their hoped for bonanza after the French government's crowd restrictions with 5,000 spectators only permitted at outdoor events. Vannes had been hoping for a 9,600 sell-out and according to their president Maxime Ray are set to miss out on revenue of 250,000 euros (\$282,000). "We are missing out on what is a fortune to us," he said. AGENCIES

MOUTINHO'S STRIKE STUNS MAN UTD

Joaao Moutinho scored a late winner as Wolverhampton Wanderers inflicted Manchester United's first defeat under Ralf Rangnick with a 1-0 victory at Old Trafford on Monday.

This victory is Wolves' first league win at Old Trafford since February 1980. Starting the match at a quick pace, visitors set the tone in the first half as they racked up 14 shots - a club record in the Premier League.

Bruno Lage's side were frustrated by David De Gea, who denied Daniel Podence and Ruben Neves with excellent saves before Jones made a brilliant



Joao Moutinho

Photo: AP

block to stop Nelson Semedo's 45th-minute ball from reaching Neves. United grew into the match following the introduction of Bruno Fernandes on the hour-mark and the substitute hit the woodwork seven minutes later from Nemanja Matic's cutback.

Romain Saiss also clipped the bar for Wolves with a 75th-minute free-kick before Moutinho produced the winner. The defeat leaves Man Utd seventh on 31 points, four behind fourth-placed Arsenal. Their first PL win at Old Trafford moves Wolves up to eighth.



Kylian Mbappe

Photo: REUTERS

Despite the absence of five PSG players including superstar Lionel Messi and Danilo after positive tests for Covid-19, Mauricio Pochettino's side were never worried by the Brittany minnows. Defender Presnel Kimpembe set up Mbappe just before the hour mark with the French forward completing a hat-trick in an 18-minute spell. Mbappe added a second after 71 minutes after good work from Marco Verratti and Xavi Simons adding a third six minutes later for his 150th goal in a PSG jersey. "I'm happy to get started again," said World Cup winner Mbappe. "It was not an easy match for us, but we were there."

SANIA-KICHENOK, RAMKUMAR-BOPANNA ADVANCE

Indian pairs win comfortably in tune up tournaments for Australian Open

On an all-win day for Indian tennis players, Sania Mirza and the pair of Ramkumar Ramanathan and Rohan Bopanna emerged victorious in their respective first round matches, albeit in contrasting fashion, in the ATP and WTA tournaments, at Adelaide on Tuesday.

Sania and her Ukrainian partner Nadia Kichenok overcame a first-set thrashing to knock out second seeds Gabriela Dabrowski and Giuliana Olmos 1-6 6-3 10-8 in the WTA 500 event.

In the ATP 250 men's event, the Indian combination of Ramkumar and veteran Bopanna, pairing up together for the first time on the ATP tour, had an easy day out. They trounced American Jamie Cerretani and Brazilian Fernando Romboli 6-2 6-1 to set up the pre-quarterfinal with eighth seed American pair of Nathaniel Lammons and Jackson Withrow.

"We had a good match. Both of us served And returned well. We combined well and stuck to the plan," Ramkumar said. "We had practiced once with the same team before the draw which helped us. I am always happy to play with Bops (Bopanna), who is so experi-

RUSTY OSAKA ADVANCES, MURRAY LOSES

Australian Open champion Naomi Osaka was rusty on her return to action in four months on Tuesday but advanced to the second round of the Melbourne Summer Set tournament with a 6-4 3-6 6-3 win over Alize Cornet. Osaka last played competitively in the third round of the U.S. Open in September, losing to Leylah Fernandez.

Former world number one Andy Murray was bundled out of the first round of the Melbourne Summer Set tournament by unheralded Argentine Facundo Bagnis 6-3, 5-7, 6-3. Murray, now ranked 134th following career-saving hip surgery in 2019, was last month granted a wildcard into the Australian Open, a tournament where he has been a finalist five times.

enced and is someone who has always been of good support and helps me with my tennis with all the experience he has," he added.

Since India will host Denmark on grass courts in New Delhi in their next Davis Cup tie in March, it is a possibility that Bopanna and Ramkumar, who has developed a fantastic serve and volley game, may pair up for the doubles. This tournament will give them the opportunity to find out what works for them, if the captain fields them as a team.

Interestingly, Ramkumar got a chance to play with Denmark's top singles player Holger Rune in the singles Qualifiers and lost 4-6 6-7(7) in a close first round match. Rune, ranked 103, eventually qualified for the main draw. The match must have given him a fair idea of what to expect from Rune when he lands in Delhi for the Davis Cup. "It was a good match. I started off a bit slow where I got broken in the first game. But after that it was an extremely close and hard fought match. I was just a bit unlucky to not have converted those set points. He played good on a few of them and is quick, so all credit to him. Hopefully I can get him back on grass," Ramkumar said.

The Adelaide event is a tune up tournament for the Australian Open, starting Jan 17. PTI

EBADOT PUTS BANGLA ON TOP IN 1ST TEST VS NZ

Ebadot Hossain bowled Bangladesh to the brink of a famous victory over World Test Champion New Zealand in a fiery spell Tuesday on the fourth day of the first cricket test.

Bangladesh and New Zealand collectively amassed 786 runs in their first innings - with the tourists taking a 130-run lead - Ebadot reduced New Zealand to 147-5 at stumps, a lead of only 17 runs.

After dismissing first innings century-maker Devon Conway for 13, Ebadot removed Will Young (69), Henry Nicholls (0) and Tom Blundell (0) in the space of six balls to fortify the strong position the batters had created.

New Zealand was just hanging on at stumps in the face of Ebadot's aggressive swing bowling. Veteran Ross Taylor, in his penultimate test match before retirement, was 37 and allrounder Rachin Ravindra was 6.



Ebadot Hossain

Photo: AP

Bangladesh hasn't won any of its previous 43 matches in New Zealand across all three formats and wasn't expected to test New Zealand in the absence of veteran players such as Shakib Al Hasan, Tamim Iqbal and Mahmudullah. But the tourists have steadily got on top of New Zealand, and Ebadot rammed home their advantage on Tuesday, finishing the day with figures of 4-39. AP

QUIZ TIME!

Q1: What does the Olympic Flame symbolize?

- a. Zeal to play sports
- b. Challenge
- c. Continuity
- d. Integrity

Q2: Where is the world's highest hockey ground?

- a. Chail
- b. Shilaroo
- c. Parwanoo
- d. Delhi

Q3: Which athlete has been called the "Queen of the Track"?

- a. Merlene Ottey
- b. Marita Coach
- c. Allyson Felix
- d. Jarmila Kratochvilova

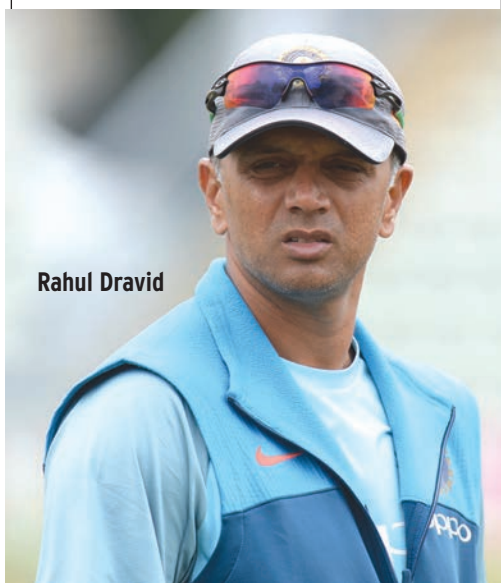
Q4: After whom is the Sudirman Cup named?

- a. Rob Sudirman
- b. Tom Sudirman
- c. Dick Sudirman
- d. Pete Sudirman

Q5: Rahul Dravid recently replaced _____ as

Indian cricket head coach?

- a. Ravi Shastri
- b. Kapil Dev
- c. Sourav Ganguly
- d. Sunil Gavaskar



Rahul Dravid

Photo: GETTY IMAGES

Q6: Which Grand Slam tournament is played on Plexicushion?

- a. US Open
- b. French Open
- c. Australian Open
- d. Wimbledon

Q7: How many team members are there in each team of a field hockey game?

- a. 5
- b. 7
- c. 9
- d. 11

Q8: Which is the national winter sport of Canada?

- a. Ice Hockey
- b. Ice Skating
- c. Skiing
- d. Snowboarding

Q9: Which country was the Cricket World Cup?

- a. New Zealand
- b. Australia
- c. England
- d. Pakistan

ANSWERS: 1) c Continuity 2) b Shilaroo
3) a Merlene Ottey 4) c Dick Sudirman
5) a Ravi Shastri 6) c Australian Open
7) d 11 8) a Ice Hockey 9) c England