



# THE TIMES OF INDIA

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**TODAY'S  
EDITION**

➤ Must know restaurant etiquette: Some of the biggest faux pas that you shouldn't commit  
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➤ Educators and students share their views on various issues engulfing the country and the world  
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➤ Former cricketers slam India's poor fielding standards  
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**STUDENT EDITION**  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2021

**WEB EDITION**
**CLICK HERE: PAGE 1 AND 2**

## Quote unquote

We are not dependent on the existing two vaccines, as the country is working on seven more indigenous vaccines. Simultaneously, we are also working on the development of more vaccines because India is a huge country and we need more players and research to reach out to everyone. The Covid-19 inoculation process for people above 50 years of age will start next month. Presently, Covid-19 vaccines are being administered on an emergency basis, under full observation and in a controlled manner. If the vaccines are released in the open market, there won't be any control over them. The decision will be taken as the situation demands

**HARSH VARDHAN,**  
Union health minister, on the Covid-19 vaccine



## WORLD'S FIRST FLYING RACE CAR UNVEILED

In one of the far-reaching inventions of this century, scientists have unveiled the world's first flying race car. With top speed of 75mph and 'octocopter' speeders that will see it compete in a new event later this year, it is being touted as the Formula One of the skies!

### FEATURES

➤ According to experts, Airspeeder Mk3 is a 'giant technical leap forward, as it includes a suite of technologies never seen in an electrical flying vehicle before  
➤ This includes LiDAR and Radar collision avoidance systems, creating a 'virtual forcefield' around the craft, a carbon fibre frame and fuselage designed for strength, stiffness and lightweight properties  
➤ Compared to the Mk2, unveiled earlier this year,

### COST

According to Morgan Stanley, the electronic vertical take off and landing industry is likely to be more than \$1.5 trillion by 2050

the new version has seen its power increased by 95 per cent with only a 50 per cent weight increase  
➤ It has a 96 kW electric powertrain and weighs

100kg without a pilot, allowing speed of up to 75 miles per hour  
➤ The craft is in an 'octocopter X formation' that gives advantage to pilots when it comes to manoeuvrability and stability when racing, the firm claimed  
➤ While racing, the pilot will be able to make the same sharp hairpin style turns as a Formula 1 car, but with the added third dimension of being able to move vertically

(Source: Daily Mail)

1 Named Airspeeder, it will initially be flown by a remote pilot and can take off and land vertically, according to its developers Alauda Aeronautics

2 According to a report in Daily Mail, its first foray into the world of racing will see it operated remotely for a racing series that will act as a 'technical test-bed', ahead of a crewed racing series in 2022

3 The flying vehicle has been in development for more than three years and is part of a bid to create a sport that can 'accelerate a new clean-air aerial mobility revolution'

## INDORE GIRL GETS ADMISSION IN COLLEGE AT THE AGE OF 13, CREATES A RECORD



**YOUNG ACHIEVER**  
Tanishka Sujit has created history by passing the class XII examination at the age of 12, and is now pursuing graduation at Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya in Indore at the age of 13. Tanishka passed her class X examination at the age of 11 and was allowed to jump to class X, soon after giving her fifth-grade exams, and then she was directly promoted to class XII by the school authorities, seeing her extraordinary abilities and skills. It may be noted that there is no such provision in the education policy of Madhya Pradesh that allows any student to jump classes. Tanishka's parents had to struggle to get special permission for their ward to jump classes and promote her to higher classes.

➤ After passing the class X and XII exams, Tanishka made it to the India Book of Records and Asia Book of Records, respectively

## Virat Kohli remains India's most-valuable celeb, actors Akshay Kumar & Ranveer Singh follow

Team India skipper Virat Kohli retains the top position as India's most-valuable celebrity for the fourth consecutive year. His brand value remains steady at \$237.7 million in 2020, despite the Covid-19 pandemic



1 Bollywood actor Akshay Kumar ranked second with a brand value of \$118.9 million, a jump of 13.8 per cent, followed by Ranveer Singh with a brand value of \$102.9 million

2 The overall brand value of the top 20 celebrities in 2020 is estimated at \$1 billion, a dip of approximately five per cent from last year

3 While established celebrities continue to dominate the rankings, notable millennials with a strong social media presence have managed to climb the ladder. Ayushmann Khurrana, Tiger Shroff and Rohit Sharma, all jumped a few spots to grab the No. 6, No. 15 and No. 17 spots, respectively

4 Further, Kartik Aaryan debuted at No. 20. These rising millennial celebrities were in greater demand during the pandemic, owing to their popularity among the youth

### IN THE NEWS

## Pulitzer prize-winning Jhumpa Lahiri's new book will release in April



Pulitzer prize-winning author Jhumpa Lahiri will be coming out with a new novel in April, Penguin India has announced. The new book, titled 'Whereabouts', follows Lahiri's 2013 novel 'The Lowland' and 2006's 'The Namesake'. Written in Italian and translated into English by Lahiri, 'Whereabouts' is the story of a woman protagonist and her journey through life.

The woman protagonist, who longs to belong but dares not conform, is moving through her life in a city that almost becomes her companion. "From the side-walks, parks, and bridges to the pool and the train station that leads her to her grieving mother after her father's untimely death, she moves through the city, one season after another. Until one day, her perspective changes"



## Instagram to launch vertical feed for Stories soon

Facebook-owned Instagram is now working on a new vertical feed for Stories, the way TikTok first used. Reels on Instagram has already cloned the feature.



➤ According to a TechCrunch report, navigating with vertical swipes up and down would make Stories experience more like Reels, recently launched by Facebook to compete with the Chinese short-video making app  
➤ Vertical swiping feels more natural than taps and horizontal flicks, the way we do on smartphones and other apps  
➤ The feature is not live yet  
➤ Short video making app Instagram Reels is rolling out a new update, allowing users to make 30-second videos instead of 15 seconds  
➤ The company has also increased the timer from 3 seconds to 10 seconds. It is also adding trim and delete clips options to make editing simpler

### VIEWPOINT

## BID ADIEU TO DRIVING TESTS TO GET A DRIVING LICENCE

In order to impart quality driver training to citizens to reduce road accidents in the country, the Central government is planning to provide accreditation certificates to driver training centres in all the states and Union Territories (UTs) by the end of this year:

■ Those who will receive successful driver training from such centres will be "exempted from the requirement of driving test while applying for a driving licence"  
■ But the certificates will be provided to institutes or training centres, after they achieve certain standards  
■ The ministry of road transport and highways has initiated the move so as to improve driving excellence, in order to

save thousands lives during road accidents every year  
■ The ministry has also issued a draft notification regarding accreditation of driver training centres  
■ Further, the ministry has also said that any individual, on successful completion of driver training from such centres, will be "exempted from the requirement of driving test while applying for a driving licence"

## Scientists 'teach' spinach to send emails

Imagine receiving emails from 'paalak'. Well, scientists have actually taught spinach to send emails. Nope, we aren't talking about a futuristic science fiction film. Engineers at the MIT in the US have transformed spinach into sensors, capable of warning pollution and other environmental changes, and even detecting explosive materials.



■ The researchers used nanotechnology to turn spinach into sensors that picked up on nitroaromatics in the groundwater. Once detected, the spinach would send a signal to an infrared camera, which in turn, triggers an email alert to the

MIT scientists  
■ According to scientists, the process could be used to receive early warnings about pollution and other environmental changes, as plants are constantly absorbing a "vast amount of data" from their surroundings

Scientists say plants are uniquely-qualified to detect microscopic changes in the soil. "They have an extensive root network in the soil, are constantly sampling groundwater, and have a way to self-power the transport of that water up into the leaves" they add



**IS IT A GOOD MOVE? SHARE YOUR VIEWS AT [TOINIE175@GMAIL.COM](mailto:TOINIE175@GMAIL.COM)**



# Avoid these mistakes while dining in a restaurant

**A** delicious and hearty meal accompanied by laughter and happiness is something that we all crave for. However, sometimes when we are enjoying our meal at a restaurant, we forget about rules that we should adhere to. Here are some of those biggest faux pas that you shouldn't commit.

## NOT NOTIFYING THE SERVER OF ALLERGIES BEFORE ORDERING

If you are allergic to a particular ingredient, it is your duty to inform the server before placing your order. This way, he/she can ensure that the dish you are ordering doesn't contain the ingredient you are allergic to. This will help you to keep allergic reactions at bay.

Next time you visit a restaurant, stay off your phone, soak in the ambience of the restaurant and have a conversation with your friend



## NOT BEING COMPLETELY PRESENT DURING YOUR DINING EXPERIENCE

Your food tastes best when you are completely present while eating it. This means that you have to be really in the moment while eating, without any distractions or deviations. So next time you visit a restaurant, stay off your phone, soak in the ambience of the restaurant and have a conversation with your dining partner.

## REQUESTING ITEMS OR ORDER CHANGES FROM SOMEONE OTHER THAN THE SERVER

Sometimes, you need something urgently, and your server is not around. So you end up asking a different server what you need. Though this is not wrong, it often results in confusion among them. Your request might get miscommunicated when it goes through more than one person.

## PUTTING DIRTY CUTLERY ON THE TABLE

In between the meal courses, it is common for some people to place the fork used for their appetiser on the table when waiting for the main course or dessert. This is gross as a restaurant table may not be a very clean place (more so in pandemic). Besides, it is bad manners to dirty a table.

## NOT ASKING ABOUT ITEMS YOU ARE UNFAMILIAR WITH

If the menu isn't clear to you, don't hesitate to ask questions. The server and staff members in the restaurant can inform you about the menu options. There is no point in sending a meal back because it's not what was expected!

## LEAVING YOUR PHONE ON THE TABLE

You will understand this if you have spilled water or curried over your expensive phone while dining out! Yes, it is a very common thing to happen, so it's advisable to keep your phone in your bag or pocket to avoid such mishaps.



## NOT ASKING THE SERVER FOR EVERYTHING YOU NEED ALL AT ONCE

Please avoid sending your server back and forth when they have several other tables to tend to. That would be greatly appreciated.

# Rewild to unwind in 2021

From forest bathing to walking barefoot on the grass – the wellness trend of 'rewilding' is all about reconnecting with nature

**T**ired of a sedentary lifestyle and staying indoors in artificial lights amid the pandemic, people are yearning to reconnect with nature, leading to 'rewilding' becoming a key trend in 2021. Rewilding is all about getting in touch with our 'caveman/woman' side by soaking in the sun, walking barefoot on sand and grass, enjoying an ice bath, drinking water from natural streams, and bathing in hot springs.

## Forest-Bathing

The Japanese term Shinrin-yoku (forest-bathing) is the latest way to beat stress. You can forest-bathe anywhere where there is an abundance of trees, including a nearby park. The Duchess of Cambridge Kate Middleton is a fan of the trend.

## Friluftsliv

Coined in the 1850s by the Norwegian playwright and poet, Henrik Ibsen, the term 'friluftsliv' means 'outdoor living'.

The Nordic concept is all about spending time in nature, irrespective of the weather, through simple activities that are free of cost, like walking, camping or fishing with loved ones.



## Earthing

This therapeutic activity can be performed anywhere. All you need to do is take off your shoes and place your bare feet and hands directly on the earth, be it in a park or at the beach. Gwyneth Paltrow is among the celebs who swear by the trend. **TNN**

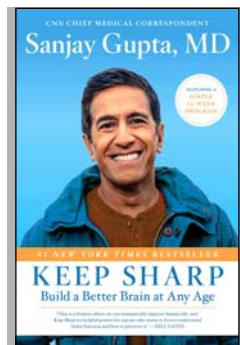
# Books to guide you to leadership, personal growth

The beginning of the year is the perfect time to re-focus on personal and business growth. From a practical book on preventing your brain from ageing to a guide to leadership and entrepreneurship, here are our picks from the literary world

## 'KEEP SHARP: BUILD A BETTER BRAIN AT ANY AGE'

by Dr Sanjay Gupta

**A**n exciting new science-driven guide to protecting your mind from decline. Throughout our lives, we are always looking for ways to keep our mind sharp and effortlessly productive. In this book, globe-trotting neurosurgeon Dr Sanjay Gupta offers insights from top scientists all over the world, whose cutting edge research can help you heighten and protect brain function and maintain cognitive health at any age. 'Keep Sharp' debunks common myths about ageing and cognitive decline, it explores whether there's a 'best' diet or exercise regimen for the brain, and explains whether it's healthier to play video games that test memory and processing speed, or to engage in more social interaction. Discover what we can learn from 'super-brained' people who are in their eighties and nineties but showing no signs of slowing down – and whether there are truly any benefits to drugs, supplements and vitamins. Dr Gupta also addresses brain disease, particularly Alzheimer's, answers all your questions about signs and symptoms, and shows you both how to ward against it and how to care for a partner in cognitive decline. The book also provides readers with a personalised twelve-week programme featuring practical strategies, etc.



## 'CHANGE: HOW TO MAKE BIG THINGS HAPPEN'

by Damon Centola

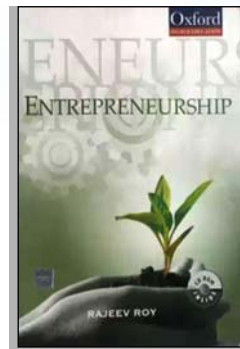
**F**rom the spread of Covid-19 to the rise of political polarisation, from implicit bias to genetically modified food, from NASA to Netflix – it's time to think differently about how change works. Professor Damon Centola is the world expert in the new science of networks. His groundbreaking research across areas as disparate as voting, health, technology and finance has highlighted powerful and highly effective new ways to ensure lasting change. In this book, Centola distils over a decade of deep experience into a fascinating new theory that challenges previous assumptions that new ideas are either contagious or not. **Change** shows that beliefs and behaviours are not transmitted in the simple way that a virus is.



## 'ENTREPRENEURSHIP'

by Rajeev Roy

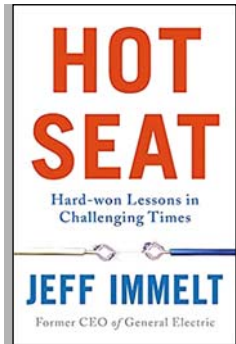
**T**he third edition of 'Entrepreneurship' by Rajeev Roy is designed to meet the needs of management students and entrepreneurs. The book explains concepts based on original research and the author's own experience in setting up and running entrepreneurial ventures. It aims to combine theoretical elements with a practical outlook. The book is meant to be used not just as a textbook for a course, but also lends itself well to being an actual guide to students wishing to start their own ventures. The book starts with the concept of understanding entrepreneurship and throws light on contemporary approaches to it. It discusses the various issues related to doing business in India and support given to SMEs and entrepreneurs; elaborates on the steps involved in composing a pitch deck; helm of one of America's most iconic companies. Marked by straight talk and humility, it is not a typical business book. As Immelt writes in the prologue: "In October 2017, as I stepped down after thirty-five years at General Electric, I wasn't sure I could write this book. My sixteen years as CEO had given me a front-row seat to history, and I'd learned some tough lessons I believed others could benefit from..."



## 'HOT SEAT: HARD-WON LESSONS...'

by Jeff Immelt

**H**ot Seat offers a candid self-interrogation of Jeff Immelt's tenure, detailing for the first time, his proudest moments, missteps, and the lessons he learned battling one crisis after another as he led GE in the 21st century. In 'Hot Seat', Immelt, the former CEO of General Electric shares the hard-won lessons he learned during his sixteen years at the



## GLEAM IN THE GLOOM

Suryakumari Dennison, Teacher, Avishkar Academy, Bengaluru

The titular character of 'The Little Match Girl' suffers greatly but is eventually reunited with the person she loves. Answer these questions on Hans Christian Andersen's short story (from 'Treasure Trove') by choosing correctly.

- On what date in December is the little girl selling matches?  
A. 12 B. 19 C. 25 D. 31
- What does the girl lose while running across the street?  
A. Sandals B. Shoes C. Slippers D. Socks
- Who is unkind to the girl at home?  
A. Father B. Mother C. Brother D. Sister
- Which bird seems to hop off the table and approach the girl?  
A. Hen B. Duck C. Goose D. Turkey
- Which of these words is not used about the girl's grandmother?  
A. Gentle B. Caring C. Kind D. Loving

Answers:  
1) D. 31 2) C. Slippers  
3) A. Father 4) C. Goose  
5) B. Caring

## QUIZ TIME (GEOGRAPHY)

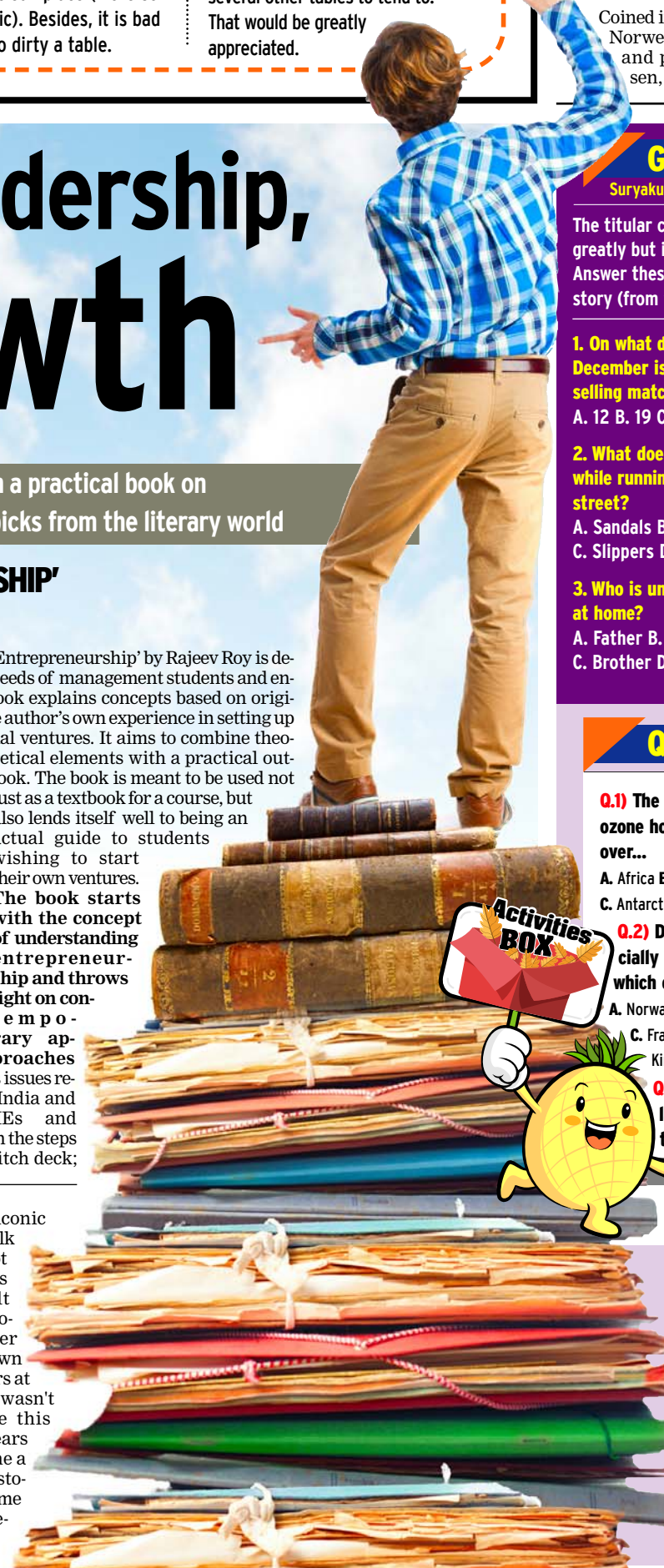
- The formation of ozone hole is maximum over...  
A. Africa B. India C. Antarctica D. Europe
- Dykes are specially constructed in which country?  
A. Norway B. Holland C. France D. United Kingdom
- Which is the largest metals trading centre in the world?  
A. Johannesburg B. London C. New York D. Singapore
- New Britain and New Ireland are part of which country?  
A. USA B. Canada C. Australia D. Papua New Guinea
- Which of the following is referred to as the Garden of Eden?  
A. Dead Sea B. South Iraq C. Nile Valley D. Congo Valley

## ANSWERS

- C. Antarctica 2. B. Holland 3. C. New York 4. D. Papua New Guinea 5. B. South Iraq

## KNOWLEDGE BANK

**AQUA REGIA:** It is an extremely corrosive mixture of nitric and hydrochloric acid, used as an etchant (an acid or corrosive chemical used in etching), for some analytical chemistry procedures and to refine gold. The versatile Aqua regia dissolves gold, platinum, and palladium, but not other noble metals. It is primarily used to produce chloroauric acid, the electrolyte in the Wohlwill process for refining the highest quality (99.999%) gold.

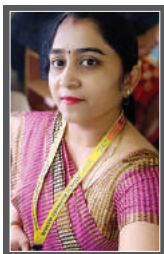




## THE EDUCATIONIST

### RAPTUROUS HEART

Beautiful arched rainbow, in high envied skies;  
Amazing glimpse as though sugarplum of sweetness.  
Hidden flashes of mind; mm hmm, feast to thy eyes;  
Soulful enough to fill a heart with happiness.  
Don't be Grumpy, hinged with everyday strife,  
Even un-scrumpy and pandora of the evil rife.  
Blessed is life; live as if on a free-flowing river raft;  
Marvel each day; know it is intrinsically woven craft.  
When times are feeble,  
exasperate shattering spirits encore;  
Remember those glimpses,  
moments luxuriate with galore.  
Lift your moral; as it is rightly said  
since times and ever  
Be humbled; and there is beauty, glee  
and bliss forever.  
Gushing night winds; attempting to  
blow off candle;  
Burn midnight oil; ignite all even when if you dandle.  
Beknown of this; deeply rooted in all our wisdom  
Intuitive; deep in heart it is always your kingdom



**ANITA JADHAV**, Primary English Teacher, Johnson Grammar School ICSE, Habsiguda

### ONCE UPON A TIME



Once upon a time  
we used to meet, play, laugh and roll down  
Everything was so good before the lockdown  
We never realised nor thanked the bounties  
Suddenly, we were isolated  
And the streets were desolated  
The humans were derogating the Nature's law  
And filled life with artificial happiness and  
turned life into a jigsaw  
Now It's Nature turn to restore  
How can this Call be ignored?  
We forgot to respect the nature  
Hence, danger warning our future  
Pay a heed to this covid  
Alas! An unseen danger is hovering  
our future  
Otherwise you will be remembered as  
Once upon a time.



**MUNAWAR SULTANA**, Social studies HoD, Springfields School, Tolichowki

## Back to School with safety

**Delhi Public School  
Nacharam**

**D**elhi Public School, Nacharam has always believed in taking along all the stakeholders in the teaching learning process. A step in this direction was the Orientation Program organized by the Senior Secondary wing for the parents and students of classes XI and XII to apprise them of all the measures ensured by the school as per Covid norms prescribed by the Government. The school will begin for the Senior Secondary students in a phased manner from February 8. Principal Sunita Rao addressed the parents and students and underlined the need for the parents and school to work as a unit to provide the best academic support to the students while keeping them safe. The school showcased its readiness through PPTs and videos encompassing the measures taken.



From the thermal screening, to hand sanitizers at vantage points, six feet distancing in classes and presence of medical assistance, every single aspect was minutely scrutinized and taken care of. Complete sanitization at regular intervals was also done. Senior vice-principal Nandita Sunkara presented a detailed overview of the academic support planned for the students to ensure their board exam. They were assured that online support will also continue. The parents were apprised of the minimum requirements at

**Class XI Orientation for Reopening**



their end and enthused to support the school in their endeavours. The parents were assured that the school shared their concern of the well-being of their ward and was leaving no stone unturned to keep them safe and academically supported. The session ended with addressing some of the concerns of the parents.

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## A concoction of rhythm and imagination

**Ganges Valley School Hyderabad**

**C**hildren love rhymes and poems. They connect easily with the rhythm of poems and cherish listening and singing them. Poems help build listening and speaking skills and vocabulary. They enhance memory. A poem recitation activity was organised for the students of pre-primary wing. The young ones recited poems and rhymes and chanted shlokas in rhythm.



## A SALUTE TO OUR MOTHERLAND



**Niraj Public School Hyderabad**

**S**tudents of Niraj Public School celebrated the 72nd Republic Day of India with much jubilation. They gave wonderful insights on how the Indian Constitution was formed and how it has evolved fruitfully with the changing times. The students from primary wing sang melodious patriotic songs to keep the spirit of patriotism alive in everyone present. They also danced beautifully to the tunes of 'Des rangeela rangeela, des mera rangeela', to showcase the classic example of 'Unity in Diversity'.



**Pallavi Model School Bowenpally**

**S**tudents of Pallavi Model School, Bowenpally presented wonderful performances on the digital platform to celebrate the 72nd Republic Day of India. The programme started with a welcome song followed by colourful dance and song performances by the students of pre-primary wing. The students of primary wing presented wonderful dance performances representing the vast multitude of colours and significance of our national flag. Principal Shailaja Reddy gave her message to the students about the significance of the day.

The programme continued with the students of middle block dressing up as freedom fighters and speaking about their selfless sacrifices, without which our country wouldn't have gotten its independence. The students from senior block presented marvellous performances tak-



ing the theme as Preamble, which plays an important role in presenting the ideas of the Constitution. There was a dance, song and skit, all involving the words in the Preamble. One of the students dressed up as Dr B R Ambedkar, the architect of the Constitution, spoke about its essence.

## Express YOURSELF

**I**n the words of Dudley Moore, "The best car safety device is a rear-view mirror with a cop in it". This totally applies to our life mainly because it is human nature to be fearful of bigger creatures than ourselves which our ancestors also understood. In today's life, it is something similar. We fear higher authorities who have the power to punish us.

You should really see the kind of driving people do on a regular basis. I can only describe it as SAVAGE!

People do not get their license assigned here, rather they are distributed. You just have to have the conscience and the money to do it.

Some people play with their headlights, in full high beam. You signal them using the dipper. "Switch them off!" He thinks I am saying, "Hey! What's up?" Then he answers, "I'm good how are you?" I repeat, "Switch the light off, come on". He says, "Look I got a new feature, look, look.... Everyone has to try it!" But no one really knows how to use them correctly. Believe me, I'm not kidding.



## SATIRE: ROAD SAFETY

My elder brother told me that once, while he was riding with his friend on a bike (don't worry he's above 18), his friend gave the right indicator and turned left! There was almost going to be a collision with the car behind them! Imagine my brother's surprise when his friend told him that he was just using the indicator to tell the car behind him where to go.... good job!(sarcastically).

While travelling with my father once, we saw a line of people with two wheelers WALKING! When inquired, they said that if they walk past the police checkpoint, the police cannot issue challan to them for not wearing helmet. The helmet is like an accessory for the scooter now. Sometimes on the handle, other times in the trunk, everywhere EXCEPT the driver's head!

One thing I don't understand are the road signs. What and how do they make, huh? SPEED THRILLS BUT KILLS. You may die, but you will enjoy for sure. Put something sensible! They also try connecting emotionally! DRIVE CAREFULLY BECAUSE YOUR FAMILY IS WAITING FOR YOU AT HOME. People who live alone start thinking, "When did someone move in my home?" This distracts and then, DHADAAM! Accident!

But I can't argue that the traffic police have been working a lot to reduce the number of accidents. It has actually gone down a lot during the pandemic time. No vehicle, no accidents! Hats off to all the police officers who have been keeping us safe during the lockdown. Without them, controlling the pandemic could not have been possible. I end my satire by saying, "STAY SAFE, WEAR A HELMET, EVEN BETTER DON'T GO OUT!"

**AVANI, class VIII, Delhi Public School, Secunderabad**

### MATH, A SUCCESSFUL PATH

Life is full of math,  
With lots of problems and puzzles.  
Why so scared of it,  
When it always has solutions.  
It's full of fun, With so much to learn,  
With addition and subtraction,  
Multiplication and division,  
And integers and fractions and lot more to go,  
It has numbers and powers and degree,  
Well, it's all interesting, you have to agree  
Every theorem has proof has proof,  
And every proof makes a theorem...  
The more you learn, The more you yearn,  
A life without math  
Is like a life with no sense.  
Well, Math is the path  
For your successful life.....

**KUSHALA M**, Class IX E, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavans Public School (Vidyashram), Jubilee Hills

### BROKEN

Oh dear God, Oh dear heart,  
There is nothing to hide from you,  
There is no need to shy from you.

My trust has been broken,  
About which I haven't spoken,  
In whom I placed my trust,  
Treated me almost like dust.

About my boldness I spoke,  
I didn't know I was so fragile,  
Shattered in a single tinkle,  
I felt like a glass.

Oh dear God,  
Oh dear heart,  
There is nothing to hide from you,  
There is no need to shy from you.

Through the thick winter fog,  
There came a feeble voice,  
Saying there exists a flexible glass,  
an unbreakable glass,

So did I rejoice.

So did I realise,  
Gold exists in dust,  
It does not rust,  
From depths and darkness of the crust,  
We must rise with a thrust,  
By trusting the eternal trust.

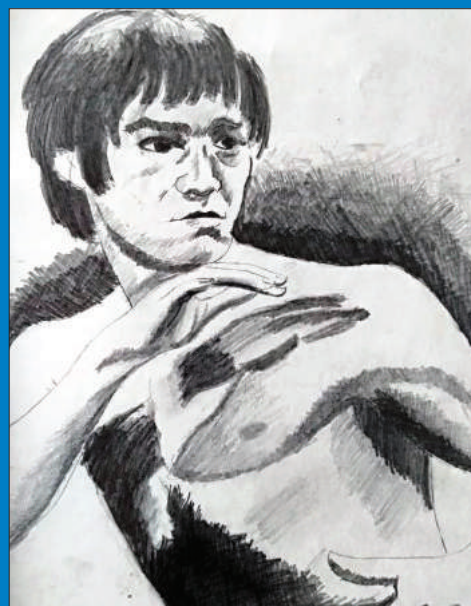


**TAHA MOHIUDDIN**, class X, Deputy Head Boy, Madina High School, Himayatnagar

## Painters' Gallery



**KEEP SMILING: JEETASHI**, class VII D, Delhi Public School, Mahendra Hills



**BRUCE LEE: L DEEPAK LAL**, class IV A, Delhi School of Excellence, Manikonda



**POSITIVE THOUGHTS: SAIPUJITHA**, class VI B, Scholars Academy, Hyderabad



**BE HAPPY: SUNISKA CHOUDHURY**, class VI A, Delhi School of Excellence, Attapur



# IS INDIA NOT TAKING FIELDING SERIOUSLY?



R Ashwin

Photo: PTI

Indians have dropped four catches in the first two days of their first Test against England, leading to the visitors piling up a huge score

## 'THEIR FOCUS WAS ON BATTING AND BOWLING, AND NOT ON FIELDING'

- Fast bowler Jasprit Bumrah and spinners R Ashwin, Shahbaz Nadeem, and Washington Sundar were the sufferers as England took full advantage of the reprieves to pile up 578 at the MA Chidambaram Stadium here. Wicketkeeper Rishabh Pant, Cheteshwar Pujara, Rohit Sharma, and Ashwin, who dropped a return catch, were the offenders. Bumrah, playing in his 18th Test and the first one in India, was left ruining his luck as Pant dropped England opener Rory Burns on his right-hand side. Burns was on one and ended up scoring 33 on the first day.
- On the second day, Ashwin dropped a tough catch of all-rounder Ben Stokes off his bowling when he was on 31 in the 110th over of the innings. In the next over, Stokes got another lifeline as Pujara dropped him off Nadeem. Stokes, on 32, went on to score 82 runs. Later, Rohit dropped a sitter offered by Dominic Bess off Sundar. Bess was on 19 then and he ended up scoring 34.
- A specialist close-in fielder, Yajurvindra Singh, who took seven catches in 1977 to equal the world record of Australia's Greg Chappell before Ajinkya Rahane broke it by grabbing one more in 2015, was at a loss to explain the reasons for Indians dropping catches regularly. "How do you explain these dropped catches? Maybe the players are not taking enough catches in practice. The Indian team got three days to practice before the first Test against England started on Friday. Maybe their focus was on batting and bowling, and not on fielding or catching," Yajurvindra, 68, told IANS.
- Yajurvindra, who took five catches in England's first innings in Bengaluru and added two more in the second, said only specialists should be fielding in close-in positions. "Fielding at close-in requires lot of practice; the positions, including mid-wicket and cover, are not to be fooled around with. When non-specialists like Rohit Sharma and Shubman Gill field in close-in positions, how do you expect them to take catches? It was funny that Rahane, who specialises in close-in fielding, wasn't close to batsmen," he observed.

## 'ASHWIN LOOKS LIKE HE'S 20 YEARS OLDER THAN HIS REAL AGE'

People are not taking close-in fielding seriously. One-day and T20 cricket has been detrimental to fielding close, as they now practice fielding inside the 30-yard circle. If you are a specialist fielder, you adjust where you stand according to bounce. A specialist has the ability to judge the bounce. Yajurvindra Singh, former India cricketer

Just like they practice the pull shot, the cut shot in the nets, I think the fielding coach must also try and give them these caught and bowled situations as if the bowler has bowled and then he looks up and the catch comes. I don't know how they will practice but they need to do that. Sunil Gavaskar, former India captain

Ashwin's not the 'best mover' in the Indian side. He always looks like he's 20 years older than he really is sometimes out there. He's bowled a lot of overs, he's looking a little bit tired and that's the chance (Ben Stokes' return catch) you desperately want to hang on to. Mark Boucher, former South Africa keeper

Fielding demands volume practice. If you are doing it in less volume, it affects the performances. They had to quarantine themselves at various stages. So, I don't know if the team got enough time for fielding drills. Earlier, practice sessions used to have warm ups, around 45 minutes to one hour fielding sessions, then nets and gym training in the evening.

Frequent quarantine has thrown the schedule for a toss. The Indian team was in quarantine in Chennai. This period would have been used for preparatory camp. Now, they don't have enough time for that. It gets more difficult when you have limited time to prepare for all different balls (pink, red and white). Dishaant Yagnik, Rajasthan Royals' fielding coach

# VETERANS WHO MIGHT PLAY THEIR LAST IPL THIS YEAR

This year's complete tournament looks all but set to be played in India. The auction will take place on February 18th



Photo: TOI

### CHRIS GAYLE

Even though he has been among run-scorers for Kings XI Punjab, his age and the fact that there will be a mega-auction next year could see the franchise offloading him. In the mega-auctions, the franchises build a team for the next 3 years and Gayle can't be part of any team's plans at the age of 42. Not to forget, he has gone unsold once in IPL. And in 2018, KXIP only bid for him after his name came up for the 3rd time. Though, the 'Universe Boss' had said that he still sees himself at the crease battling it out with the best in the business for another five years. "I believe that I still have five more years."

### HARBHAJAN SINGH

Should he manage to draw a bid in IPL 2021 auction, Harbhajan might call it quits after the season as there will be a mega-auction next year and he can't be in a team's future plans at that age. Harbhajan doesn't play domestic cricket and hasn't played any form of cricket since IPL 2019. A full-time commentator for the past few years, he might find it difficult to draw a bid in IPL 2021 auction.



Photo: TOI

### AMBATI RAYUDU

The former Indian batsman is expected to take a call regarding his career after the next IPL season. In 2019 as well, Ambati Rayudu had retired from international cricket but he made his return back then. With the franchises building new teams from IPL 2022, Rayudu isn't expected to be part of their plans and might retire from the league after IPL 2021.



Photo: GETTY IMAGES

### MS DHONI

The highest earner in the history of the league, MS Dhoni had confirmed his participation in IPL 2021 before CSK's final league stage match last year. But he isn't expected to continue playing the league after IPL 2021. Since there will be a mega-auction next year, the franchises will have an opportunity to build a new team with an eye on the future. At 39, Dhoni can't be part of CSK's future plans and he is highly expected to quit the game after the next edition. Of course, Dhoni can continue his association with CSK as a mentor or in any other role. One of the most successful international captains, Dhoni retired from international cricket in August 2020 and now only plays in the IPL.



Photo: GETTY IMAGES

## QUIZ TIME!

**Q1:** Which cricketer has played most matches as a captain in the Ashes?

- a) Ricky Ponting ☐ b) Allan Border ☐  
c) Archie MacLaren ☐ d) Mark Taylor ☐

**Q2:** Name the first English club to win the European Cup in 1968?

- a) Liverpool ☐ b) Arsenal ☐  
c) Manchester United ☐ d) Chelsea ☐

**Q3:** Who is the first Indian woman to win a boxing gold at the 2018 Commonwealth Games?

- a) Saina Nehwal ☐ b) PV Sindhu ☐  
c) Mary Kom ☐ d) PT Usha ☐

**Q4:** Which of the following competitor is all set to become the youngest Olympian at the Tokyo Olympics 2021?

- a) Sky Brown ☐ b) Marjorie Gestring ☐  
c) Margery Hinton ☐ d) Hend Zaza ☐

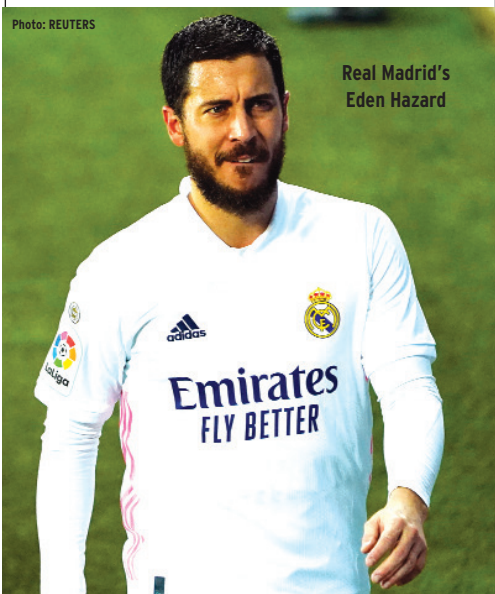
**Q5:** Which of the following players hold the record of most catches in the Wisden trophy?

- a) Brian Lara ☐ b) Clive Lloyd ☐  
c) Garry Sobers ☐ d) Gordon Greenidge ☐

**Q6:** Who is the youngest football manager to reach 100 UEFA Champions League matches?

- a) Sir Alex Ferguson ☐ b) Mauricio Pochettino ☐  
c) Jose Mourinho ☐ d) Ole Gunnar Solskjaer ☐

**Q7:** How many FIFA Club World Cups has Real Madrid won till date?



Real Madrid's Eden Hazard

- a) One ☐ b) Three ☐ c) Five ☐ d) Four ☐

**Q8:** In which year did Di Stefano become the only player in the world to win a Super Ballon d'Or?

- a) 1986 ☐ b) 1987 ☐ c) 1988 ☐ d) 1989 ☐

**Q9:** Lasith Malinga has taken the highest wickets in the history of IPL. How many wickets has he taken?

- a) 170 ☐ b) 165 ☐ c) 169 ☐ d) 171 ☐

**Q10:** Which of the following players have made fastest 2000 runs in T20 Internationals?

- a) Martin Gupthill ☐ b) Brendon McCullum ☐  
c) Aaron Finch ☐ d) Virat Kohli ☐

**Q11:** Who holds the record for fastest Champions League opening goal for Bayern Munich against Real Madrid?

- a) Luis Suarez ☐ b) Roy Makaay ☐  
c) Salva Ballesta ☐ d) Diego Tristan ☐

**Q12:** Which of the following countries won most gold medals in the 2012 London Olympics?

- a) Great Britain ☐ b) Russia ☐  
c) USA ☐ d) China ☐

**ANSWERS:** 1 b) Allan Border  
2 c) Manchester United 3 c) Mary Kom  
4 d) Hend Zaza 5 a) Brian Lara  
6 c) Jose Mourinho 7 d) Four 8 d) 1989  
9 a) 170 10 d) Virat Kohli  
11 b) Roy Makaay 12 c) The United States