



TODAY'S EDITION

Students pan India discuss the constant fight of the good over evil in our inner selves and in the outside world, and how to conquer them
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Educators and students talk about the evils, they wish to destroy this Dussehra
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Sunil Chhetri breaks Pele's record as India enter SAFF championships final
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STUDENT EDITION
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2021

Spotlight
AMY HUNTER
Youngest player to score a senior international century



Ireland's Amy Hunter has become the youngest player to score a senior international century, hitting an unbeaten 121 and taking her side to a win against Zimbabwe on her 16th birthday. Hunter overtook the record previously held by India's Mithali Raj, who scored 114 not out in an ODI against Ireland at the age of 16 years and 205 days in June 1999. Playing just her fourth ODI on Monday, Hunter's knock came off 127 balls and included eight fours. It was the highest score by a batter for Ireland Women, passing Karen Young's 120 made in 2000 against Pakistan.

- Shahid Afridi is the youngest man to hit an ODI century. He was 16 years and 217 days old when he scored 102 against Sri Lanka in 1996
- Hunter is younger than any man or woman, who has scored a century in T20Is. No one has scored a hundred in Test cricket at a younger age, where records are known

CLICK HERE: PAGE 1 AND 2

TOP 3 BUZZ OF THE DAY

VACCINE

KIDS MAY SOON GET JABBED



An expert panel advising India's drug regulator has recommended authorising, with certain conditions, Bharat Biotech's Covaxin for children above the age of 2. The Drugs Controller General of India should now take a call on whether to clear the vaccine for kids or not. The National Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation for Covid-19 will also evaluate the data. Bharat Biotech had submitted the data from Phase 2 and 3 trials of Covaxin on children below 18 in September.

Once approved, it could immediately be inducted into the Covid-19 vaccination programme, as Covaxin is already being administered to everyone above the age of 18. As per government figures, India has around 440 million children. India has thus far administered over 110 million doses of Covaxin in adults.

TRAVEL

ALL COVID RESTRICTIONS REMOVED FROM DOMESTIC FLIGHTS



From October 18, India's air carriers can operate their full complement of flights in the domestic sector "without any capacity restriction", according to a notification issued by the civil aviation ministry on Tuesday. This will enable airlines to not only operate at 100% capacity, which was there till pandemic restrictions set in last year, but also expand capacity depending on demand.

- The ban on in-flight meals on all domestic flights of less than two hours duration will continue to stay
- Collectively, Indian airlines and airports suffered a loss of ₹ 22,400 crore in FY21 due to Covid-induced curtailment of flights, of which ₹ 19,000 crore was the loss suffered by domestic carriers

FOR A CAUSE

SWACCH BHARAT MISSION TO CONTINUE TILL 2025-26



The nationwide cleanliness drive under Swachh Bharat Mission – with a focus on sustainability – will continue till 2025-26, the Union Cabinet has decided. "The mission will focus on sustainability of Open Defecation Free (ODF) outcomes, achieving scientific processing of Solid Waste in all cities, and managing Wastewater in cities with less than 1 lakh population in Census 2011 [cities not covered under Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT)] under which all cities will be made to achieve at least 3-star garbage free certification," said a statement on Tuesday.

Lego to remove gender bias and stereotypes from its toys

Building blocks of an equal society!

Lego, the world's largest toy-maker, has pledged to eliminate gender stereotypes from its products – including labelling that marks toys as "for girls" or "for boys" – as part of a bid to match the wishes of its young customers. "Despite the progress made in girls brushing off prejudice at an early age, general attitudes surrounding play and creative careers remain unequal and restrictive," the Danish company, known for its colourful building blocks, said in a statement. The toymaker's announcement also comes in response to a global survey, commissioned by Lego and conducted by the Geena Davis Institute on Gender in Media that found that parents, and, to a lesser extent, their children, are still influenced by gendered notions of career. Young girls are also more willing to participate in activities that cut across "gender norms" than their male peers, the poll found.

(SOURCE: TIMESNOW & WASHINGTON POST)

Girls today feel increasingly confident to engage in all types of play and creative activities, but remain held back by society's ingrained gender stereotypes as they grow older -Lego



Lego's move comes amid heightened debate about the role that toys play in creating and perpetuating gender stereotypes. Recently, California governor. Gavin Newsom (D) signed a new law requiring large retail stores in the nation's most-populous state to provide gender-neutral shopping sections for child-care items and toys beginning in 2024

Share your views at toinie175@gmail.com

Unique-themed puja pandals during Dussehra have always been a major attraction for people from all over West Bengal and the neighbouring areas, who throng in numbers and hop from one pandal to another to catch a glimpse of them. This year too, Durga Puja pandals have been decorated with special themes in place

From Burj Khalifa to farmers' cause, 'City of Joy' basks in Dussehra fervour

Unique-themed puja pandals during Dussehra have always been a major attraction for people from all over West Bengal and the neighbouring areas, who throng in numbers and hop from one pandal to another to catch a glimpse of them. This year too, Durga Puja pandals have been decorated with special themes in place

TWITTER TO MAKE IT EASIER TO SWIPE BETWEEN HOME, LATEST TWEETS

Twitter is working on a new feature for users on iOS, which would allow them to swipe between the home feed that shows the top tweets in the timeline and a chronological look at the latest tweets. Currently, a user needs to tap the three-star icon at the top of the feed to switch between the home feed or the latest feed, but with the upcoming feature one can change the preference quickly.



- Meanwhile, Twitter has already started rolling out a new feature "soft block" that would allow any user on the web to remove a follower without blocking them
- To soft block a follower, head to your profile, click followers, click the three-dot menu next to a follower, and then click the option "Remove this follower". A follower you remove won't be notified of the change
- This is different than blocking someone, which keeps them from viewing your tweets and direct messaging you (and keeps you from doing the same with them)

THE TIMES OF INDIA

SELF-CARE
Everyone from celebrities like Deepika Padukone to influencers are talking about face rolling. We find out if face rollers are worth the hype? And if you can use it

FOOD
How age-old food and food practices are making a comeback

TRIVIA TIME
Know more about the famous book 'The Chronicles of Narnia' that debuted on October 16, 1950

#GOALS
Presenting billionaires who don't flaunt their wealth

STUDENT EDITION

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2021

LANGUAGE
Learning language through movies. PLUS: Five movies (like the Harry Potter series) that can improve your English

FILMS, BOOKS
The basic tenets of self-help books. PLUS: Writer Mark Manson on how to improve your mental health; Movies that help you make sense of anxiety

SIMPLY SPORTS
Relive some of the best moments of IPL

Your Weekender

Dussehra is all about the victory of good over evil. There are many interpretations to this victory - whether it was a mental victory of sorts or a physical victory of strength, intelligence and absolute will power. However you see it, this mythological triumph will always remain etched in our memory. These pandemic years also have been nothing short of a battle. We have suffered in some pursuits and emerged stronger. We have learnt that to win any battle - mythological or biological - if we want it to happen, we have to make it happen. Times NIE shows you how we rose to the occasion and turned some inherent challenges into paradigm shifting successes that will be remembered by generations

TO, THE POWER OF TEN...

And Dus We Overcame

10 WAYS HOW THE PANDEMIC TAUGHT US TO CONVERT A NEGATIVE INTO A POSITIVE

1 NO PHYSICAL CLASSES RESULTED IN AN ONLINE BOOM!

At the beginning of online classes, the concept of learning via a screen with zero physical interaction was foreign. Adapting to new technologies, giving exams from within the confines of our home and the lack of social interaction was difficult. With consistent support from teachers and driven by the need for quality education, we overcame these obstacles and managed to emulate physical learning. Today, as schools and educational institutions are showing signs of opening up, hybrid learning is the way ahead. And once again we will acclimatise ourselves to hybrid learning.



Samyukta Sivakumar, class XII, Ryan International School, Kandivall, Mumbai

3 LOCKDOWN MEANT REAL FAMILY TIME

This is the era of blends. The situation arising out of the Covid-19 pandemic meant staying home and giving theatres and sports events a miss. There are so many including me in this grey area where we would love to spend time with family and not miss these important events. The situation taught us that we can blend spending time with family and enjoying big events too. Well, time and occurrence have provided us with a viable solution. Spend time with family in the confines of your home watching a great movie or a sporting event.



Experts say this blend is in tune with nature too. The environment around us is prone to consistent improvement from time to time and this recent change is just one of many other adaptations occurring around us, all of which help us gain the best of both worlds, hence eliminating the negatives.

Siddharth Kothari, class X, St Joseph's Boys High School, Bengaluru

2 NO PEN/PAPER TEST = MORE INCLUSIVE CLASSROOMS

The biggest positive of online learning has been interactive tools. From quizzes to riddles, we were all involved in solving things as a team. More project work meant more interaction with classmates. The pandemic made assessments more inclusive in the sense that we were in it together. It was a group effort and every student supported the other. We learnt an important life lesson - that together we can achieve more and more.



Durga Das, class VIII, Shri Ram Millenium, Delhi

6 ZERO TRAFFIC MEANT ZERO POLLUTION!

As the cases of corona infection rose in the lockdown due to the pandemic, the economy of many countries fell alarmingly. But was it all bad? Statistics say, that the lockdown had actually helped the earth mother to return to her own glory of greenery. For example, noise pollution decreased due to less traffic and oxygen levels in the atmosphere increased due to less deforestation. Most importantly, the greenhouse effect caused by car emissions, was reportedly down by 47% in India! So, though lockdown has taken away many valuable things from the human race, still it has returned a lot to humanity too.



Soham Roy, class X, BDM International School, Kolkata

7 NO SHOPPING AT MALLS MEANT SUSTAINABLE FASHION

Recycling and repurposing is the new normal. The pandemic has hurled challenges at us but we have managed to create a whole new alternative world which allowed us to resume most of our day-to-day activities. The same goes for fashion. Ethical and sustainable fashion has become popular as more brands are switching to natural methods of producing clothes and start-ups with a focus on sustainability are also coming up. Comfort clothes have become the norm since more and more people prefer wearing comfortable clothes while staying at home. Upcycling and repurposing are also growing as people were forced to buy from home and the pandemic had impacted many people financially.



D Purnima, Class XI, SBOA Matriculation Hr Sec School, Coimbatore

9 NO TIME TO GET BORED... WE PUT ON OUR THINKING CAPS!

We were subjected to boredom throughout the lockdown, nevertheless we could utilise this productive time in practicing our hobbies and bringing out the best of our talents in a constructive manner. The polluted environment was healed during this period. Environmental degradation was reduced and it was calm and sound. The pandemic was unknown waters for us and we managed to sail through it. This exposure will be helpful for us in the long run.



Ritvik Kannan, class VIII, Anand Niketan, Ahmedabad

10 PANDEMIC MAKES US MORE HEALTH CONSCIOUS

Choices about what to eat and drink can make a difference in how one feels and can make a person's health wholesome and strong. The pandemic taught us how to value home-made food and experimenting with recipes. The ban on enjoying outside food, junk food and a control on chips, snacks helped us nourish ourselves with health-giving diets and meditate on vegan living. Tiny habits of cleaning the fruits and vegetables, cooking and eating with hygienic methods was the topmost priority.



Rizak Singh Bagga, IX, The Millennium School

4 NO OPEN RESTAURANTS MEANT HEALTHY MAA KE HAATH KA KHANA

I learnt the value of nutritious food versus its unhealthy counterpart like fried and junk food, especially after a family member got Covid. Now I know which vegetable is good for our gut and what foods to have to strengthen lungs. And only few months back, all I wanted was to have oily nuggets from fast food brands. I like the wiser me and I am celebrating Durga Puja with healthy yet delicious home-made goodies.



Sanya Sinha, class XII, Manav Rachna International School, Faridabad

5 NO PHYSICAL BIRTHDAY PARTIES MADE ZOOM-IN POSSIBLE...

The pandemic confined our birthday parties to home and took away the fun, but slowly birthday parties evolved. The trend of online surprise celebrations and zoom parties sounded dull initially, but they turned out to be more fun, since there is no actual travelling involved. It is economical and one can save up a lot on birthdays, which is otherwise an expensive affair. It is a wonder on how we come up with creative ways to make a loved one's day special.



Urmila Jithesh, class XII, Bhavan's Vidya Mandir, Elamakkara, Ernakulam

Festivities all around!

Dussehra is a festival observed across the country with various customs and ceremonies. Let's take a look at a few of them

BENGAL, TRIPURA AND ORISSA

The enthusiasm of Durga Puja in these states is unlike the rest of the country. Dussehra commemorates Goddess Durga's victory against Mahishasura, rather than the epic battle of the Ramayana. The five-day celebration begins on Shashthi (sixth day of Navratri) and continues till Vijaya Dashmi, the last day. The planning begins months in advance, with everything from erecting pandals to organising numerous cultural activities such as poetry recitations, singing, dance, and painting competitions to the simple pleasure of shopping for new outfits. In the pandals, a rich 'bhog' is served, as well as a variety of traditional foods. On the 10th day, married women bid Goddess Durga farewell and perform the 'Sindoor Khela' ritual, in which red vermilion is applied to the cheeks and forehead of women (symbolising the well-being of their married life). Post this 'khela', women offer sweets, betel leaves, and prasad to the idol of goddess Durga and distribute sweets amongst themselves.



MYSORE

Mysore's Dussehra, or 'Dasara' as it is known, is a stunning celebration interwoven with the city's royal legacy. Mysore honours Goddess Chamundeswari, who defeated the powerful demon Mahishasura, with extravagant celebrations lasting ten days. The festival's main attraction is the brilliantly lit Mysore palace, which is illuminated with 100,000 light bulbs from 7 pm to 10 pm on each festival day. In front of the palace, a variety of cultural and religious events, as well as song and dance performances, are held. The celebrations conclude in a procession through the streets (from Mysore Palace to the Banni Mantapa), which features an elephant decorated in gold and opulent accessories bearing an icon of the Goddess Chamundeswari.



KULLU

The valley's Dussehra celebrations are steeped in ancient traditions. It was on Dussehra in the 17th century when local king Jagat Singh put an idol of Raghunath (Lord Ram) on his throne; and God Raghunath was declared the sovereign deity of the Kullu Valley. Unlike other states, the effigies of Ravana are not burned in Kullu. The idol of goddess Hadimba is carried from the temple in Manali to Kullu on the first day of the celebrations, where she is taken to the royal family's palace. Later, she is carried to Dhalpur in a procession with the idol of Lord Raghunath, where they stay with many other Gods and Goddesses till the festival's end on Vijayadashmi (last day). Ultimately a chariot carrying all the gods and goddesses is immersed in the Beas river on the last day of the celebrations.



TELANGANA

Telangana commemorates the Bathukamma Panduga or Bathukamma celebration during Navratri, in addition to visiting temples and doing traditional pujas. This is a floral festival in which the women of the home create stunning flower arrangements and decorations in the shape of the Temple of Gopuram in seven concentric tiers. 'Bathukamma' is a Sanskrit word that means 'Mother Goddess Alive.' The flower arrangements are an attempt to summon the goddess and ask for her blessings.



GUJARAT

Gujarat celebrates Navratri (or Navratra) with considerable zeal. During the day, devotees fast and perform elaborate pujas. In the evening, men and women dress up in bright and colourful clothes for Garba and Dandiya (Gujarat's folk dance). On the last few days of Navratri, the folk tunes, as well as a lot of singing and dancing, make for a fascinating spectacle. Several devotees also visit famous pilgrimages such as goddess Ashapura Mata's temple, Ambaji Temple, and Chamunda Mata Temple.



It's that time of the year when we reiterate the importance of embracing all that's good - the triumph of good over evil. Heartily welcoming all the positivity coming their way, our young readers share what they want to see the last of (yes, burn it!) this festive season...



LET GO & TRIUMPH



BURN: IGNORANCE

Goddess Saraswati symbolises knowledge, creativity, and wisdom. People believe she blesses them with the power of discourse, insight, and learning. Many people, especially students, see books, laptop, notes, pen, as mere helping tools. But, I worship them as elements of God. Without these elements I don't see any progress. On this auspicious festival of Dussehra, I pray to Goddess Saraswati to help me get rid of evils like ignorance and anger and help me achieve tolerance.



GAGAN PORANKI, class X, Gitanjali Senior School

BURN: ANGER

The evil that I want to remove within me is lack of self-control. I realised I was getting addicted to playing video games at home, which started during Covid lockdown. I didn't realise it as a form of evil as I started getting more aggressive and angry. My parents and teachers alerted me how this would suppress my growth of knowledge. I now realise it's an evil and there are lots more useful things to do in our free time.



LOKSAIHARSHA, class X-A Bharatiya Vidya Bhavans Public School

BURN: PANDEMIC

For Ram to conquer Lanka and free Sita was never going to be easy. He knew that to win the war, he would have to patiently wait for the right opportunities to come by. It was this mix of patience and strategy that worked in his favour. In the same way, we must patiently continue to follow the protocols of social distancing, proper hygiene, wearing masks and taking the vaccine. Let us together get rid of this evil called the Covid-19.



SANSKRITI JAISWAL, class IX-A, Ganges Valley School

BURN: MIDNIGHT CRAVINGS

During the night, our body's metabolism is at the slowest. But the craving for snacks peaks! Snacking late nights means inviting health problems. The rate at which the food is digested and absorbed at that hour is very slow as compared to daytime and eventually I tend to skip the all-important meal of the day, breakfast. I hope to not fall prey to midnight snacking and want to get rid of unhealthy eating habits.



TANAY BIJJALA, Ganges Valley School

BURN: ENVY

Envy is the tinderbox of negative emotions. It doesn't just invade your body and poison your mind but also wrecks your self esteem and shatters your confidence. This is precisely the reason why I want to eliminate Envy as the evil this year. When someone is envious of you and can't reach you, they start to hate you. Envy deserts the soul, even before death befalls your body.



KARTHIKEYA VANKINENI, class IX-A, Birla Open Minds International School, Kollur

BURN: PROCRASTINATION

Procrastination is an evil that should be destroyed. In fact, this has become a "lifestyle disease" due to the Covid-19 pandemic! This evil has affected the actions and productivity of many, which is making it hard to catch up with our regular routine post lockdown. Destroying this evil will certainly help us reach our goals and most importantly ignite joy in everyone's life.



HADASSAH JOY PUTCHAKAYALA, class XI, Silver Oaks International School, Mighty Oaks Campus

BURN: JUDGMENTAL SOCIETY

I want to destroy the judgmental society. Society means a group of people supporting each other and standing for each other. But we rarely see this as people are often judgmental and full of bias. Life then becomes like a cage that doesn't let birds spread their wings and reach the sky. We should let people have their freedom to pursue what they want irrespective of gender, caste and status. I want to tell everyone, please stop the judging!



MAHITI REDDY, class X, Edify World School

BURN: BOREDOM

The one evil that I would like to destroy this Dussehra is boredom. I would like to learn new skills and acquire knowledge. I started learning coding to eliminate boredom. I also follow few tips that help me destroy boredom. We must keep on learning something new, so that we don't waste our time unnecessarily.



ABHIJITH K S, class IX-F, Bhavan's Sri Ramakrishna Vidyalaya, Sainikpuri

BURN: EVILS IN SOCIETY

I wonder if I could witness an evil free society which is an eternal longing for all. Each and every individual is having different vicious nature, which brings boundless misery to our surroundings. These not only build a sense of unhappiness but also a sinful soul. Every solo wicked mind is a great threat to humanity. To create a blissful Earth, it is time to dump the vile spirit from our society, on the auspicious occasion of Dussehra.



SHAMVABI SAMANTA, class VI, Gitanjali Primary School, ICSE

BURN: CHILD LABOUR



I am a privileged child, writing my wish while sitting in the comfort of my home. I don't have to slog, inhale toxic chemicals, risk my life every day just to remain alive. However, unlike me there are countless children who are forced to do so. Why? The answer is straightforward - poverty coupled with lack of education. Children are the backbone of society. We cannot waste their future by this social evil. I have a dream to eliminate child labour.

AURIK B, class VII D, Gitanjali Senior School

BURN: LAZINESS

The evil that I want to destroy in myself is my laziness. In this pandemic time, I slowly turned too lazy and now it has become a habit. I am trying so hard to get rid of it and my mom keeps scolding as I don't help in household chores until she asks me to. I hope to get rid of this laziness once schools reopen as I hate it now.

HARSHITH B, Global Edge School, Kokapet

BURN: COVID-19

Covid-19 is an unexpected virus that spread rapidly in all parts of the world. It stopped us from going to school or meet our friends. Covid is an evil virus which hit all families hard and had a huge impact on the world economy. People lost their lives and many others became homeless. We can take the vaccine and follow all protocols and the process will take a long time, but we at least have the hope that there is a way to get rid of the deadly virus, Covid.



DIVYA, class VII-C, Ganges Valley School

BURN: NEGATIVITY

The mental health of an individual is greatly affected by negativity. Negativity surrounds us and it is nearly impossible to entirely cut it out, but we can always try to minimize it as much as possible. It's probably best to just think that everything done so far is for a good reason and look for something better ahead. Be it work, friends or anything which seems disturbing, you know it's time to stay away from it. Destroying negativity and moving on with a positive state of mind can have a huge impact on our lives.



TRISHA BOORUGU, class XI, Delhi Public School, Nacharam

BURN: FEAR

One evil we need to destroy this Dussehra is fear. Fear is a barrier in the path of success. As rightly said by Nelson Mandela, "Courage is not the absence of fear but the triumph over it," we need to conquer fear in order to achieve our goals. I think it's time for us to destroy any unnecessary fear like the way Lord Rama destroyed Ravan, and form a fearless and courageous society.



A YASHAS RATHNAM, class XI, Delhi Public School, Nacharam

BURN: ILL-FEELINGS

The one evil that I would want to destroy this Dussehra is the ill-feelings that people have for each other. Ill-feelings spark jealousy, anger, racism, betrayal, and revenge. People tend to hold grudges for a long time instead of forgiving and forgetting. They tend to do everything in their power to demean the people they hate. We should live life without all these polluting qualities, treat everyone equally and have a kind heart.



NIMISHA T, class XI, Fiitjee, Narayanguda

IPL FINAL

KKR SPINNERS VS DHONI'S ASTUTE CAPTAINCY

CSK have three titles with five final defeats while KKR have won both their finals under the mercurial Gautam Gambhir

No team has mastered the art of reaching finals like Dhoni's CSK. But KKR will definitely be in the hunt since they won one of the most exciting high-scoring summit clash back in 2012



Photo: ANI

Mahendra Singh Dhoni's captaincy in canary yellow will be Chennai Super Kings' biggest weapon against a clinical Kolkata Knight Riders, whose troika of top-notch spinners promise to hold the aces in the high-octane Indian Premier League final today. If numbers are anything to go by, then CSK, in their astonishing ninth final appearance in 12 editions (they were suspended in two), are certain to start favourites against Kolkata Knight Riders on 'Dussehra' day but in terms of trophies, there isn't much of a difference. No team has mastered the art of reaching finals like Dhoni's CSK. But KKR will definitely be in the hunt since they won one of the most exciting high-scoring summit clash back in 2012 where they chased a target of 190 with two balls to spare.

CSK RELY ON EXPERIENCE

CSK's chances of winning a fourth title will depend on how well they handle the 12 overs from KKR's spin trio of Varun Chakravarty (economy rate 6.40), Shakib Al Hasan (ER:6.64) and Sunil Narine (ER:6.44), who have been outstanding in this tournament. In fact, Shakib's all-round abilities have provided more balance to KKR during the business end once Andre Russell sustained a hamstring injury. However, the final match comes with its own set of pressures and how these three perform when put under the pump will be the key against a team of battle-hardened "been there done that" professionals. Dhoni's captaincy mantra is simple - rely on experience as IPL is not a finishing school or place to groom youngsters however talented they may be. He groomed Rituraj Gaikwad when the pressure of qualification was off his back in 2020 and the Pune lad has played freely. He has scored three half centuries and with his rise, Dhoni laid the groundwork for not just next year but many more to come for his franchise.

GAIKWAD - ALL FORMAT STAR

It shouldn't surprise anyone if Gaikwad becomes the next CSK captain once Dhoni calls time on IPL, which could be next year or the year after that. No one knows the drifts and patterns of IPL more than India's most revered white-ball captain. He understands that for IPL consistency, one needs experienced players primarily along with one or two tal-

We have found a player in Venkatesh Iyer. Not only he is a classy player but also a wonderful person. He struck the ball superbly from ball one. Some of those big sixes he hit actually changed the tempo of the game and got us into a winning position.
KKR chief mentor, DAVID HUSSEY

ented youngsters. Therefore, the job that Suresh Raina used to do during his initial years, is now being done by the young Gaikwad, who has scored an astounding 600 plus runs in the tournament with a match to go. Hell or high water, CSK's batting will revolve around Gaikwad, who if all goes well, will surely be one of the biggest all-format batting stars in the post Virat Kohli-Rohit Sharma era. There is abundant experience in the CSK ranks. The skipper himself is on the other side of 40 with Dwayne Bravo at 38, Faf du Plessis at 37, Ambati Rayudu (36) Robin Uthappa a few weeks short of his 36th birthday along with Moeen Ali (34) and Ravindra Jadeja (32). Add to it, three mid-level experienced internationals like Josh Hazlewood, Deepak Chahar and Shardul Thakur, who understand the pressure situations well and CSK seem immune to big match pressure Dhoni is a master at maneuvering resources. An example of it this IPL was his "right-hand man" and a true-blue IPL legend Raina being dropped. The former India player looked completely out of touch and the ruthless operator replaced him with Uthappa, who had a big role in winning the game against Delhi Capitals with that resounding start to the chase.

MORGAN - THE SILENT KNIGHT

The Knight Riders, on the other hand, also have a captain who has won a World Cup and has been at the heart of England team's transformation as white ball captain. Many believe that Russell the batter should replace Morgan, who has had an awful IPL with the willow. But it's the leadership that has stood the test of time as he has marshalled his available resources well. He stuck with Shubman Gill as an opener and the youngster has had a decent run. The faith shown in Venkatesh Iyer will also benefit the Indian white-ball team while Narine the bowler found his mojo under him with constant support after remodelled action. Morgan is as quiet and as unexpressive as Dhoni in testing times and it would be a contest of two ticking brains.

SUNIL CHHETRI BREAKS PELE'S RECORD

India beat hosts Maldives 3-1 to enter the final of the SAFF Championships

Chhetri scored in the 62nd and 71st minutes after Manvir Singh had given India the lead in the 33rd minute in the must-win match for Maldives in the 45th minute from a spot kick. Chhetri's brace also took him past Brazil legend Pele's 77 international goals. Chhetri went past Pele's mark when he scored in the 62nd minute. The Indian skipper's second strike took his tally to 79. He is now the third-highest active international goal-scorer.

The 37-year-old Chhetri, who was playing in his 124th match, is just one goal shy of Argentine ma-

estro Lionel Messi (80), who is the second highest international goal-scorer among active players behind Portugal superstar Cristiano Ronaldo (115). Seven-time champions India, who finished on top of the five-team table with eight points, face Nepal in the final on October 16. Nepal drew 1-1 with Bangladesh in the earlier match of the day to finish second in the round-robin league with seven points. India had beaten Nepal 1-0 in a league stage. With the win over Maldives, India saved themselves from crashing out of reckoning for the final of the regional tournament, which would have been the country's worst result in recent

memory. This will be the 12th final appearance for India.

India dominated the match throughout and Chhetri almost gave India the lead in the 27th minute but his header off a Brandon Fernandes corner hit the crossbar. Five minutes later, Manvir fired it past Maldives goalkeeper at the near post to give India the lead. Just seconds before halftime, Ashfaq scored from a penalty to put Maldives back on level terms. Soon after, in the 62nd minute, India took the lead. The Indian captain scored his second goal with a header that crashed into the opposition net in the 71st minute.



Photo: TOI

DANIIL MEDVEDEV CRASHES OUT OF INDIAN WELLS

Medvedev, who won his first Grand Slam title last month at Flushing Meadows, hadn't lost a set heading into the fourth round but dropped eight straight games against Dimitrov en route to a stunning early exit for the top seed. World No. 2 Medvedev did not take a break after his emotional US Open victory and said his busy schedule may have finally caught up to him. Medvedev won the first set, was up 4-1 in the second and appeared to be cruising to another easy victory when the wheels came off, his unforced errors mounting and service game falling flat. Medvedev had no answers for the way Dimitrov was playing and predicted the Bulgarian would likely go on to capture the title. The match turned in the sixth game of the second set as Dimitrov broke Medvedev's serve for the second time in the set to cut the Russian's lead to 4-2.



Photo: AFP

Dimitrov held serve in the next game and then broke Medvedev twice more to take the set and set the tone for a dominating performance in the third. The Bulgarian closed out the match on the first match point when Medvedev blasted a forehand long. Dimitrov will face Polish Hubert Hurkacz in the quarter-finals.

QUIZ TIME!

Q1: Which cricketer was the first to score a century for the Indian Test cricket team in his Debut Test match?

- a. Sunil Gavaskar
- b. Kapil Dev
- c. Lala Amarnath
- d. Nawab Pataudi

Q2: Who is the current manager of Manchester United?

- a. Ole Gunnar Solskjaer
- b. Marco Silva
- c. Claude Puel
- d. Roy Hodgson

Q3: Which Indian Sports Team is also known as "The Bhangra Boys?"

- a. Cricket Team
- b. Hockey Team
- c. Kabaddi Team
- d. Football Team

Q4: Which of the following was the first Indian to win an individual gold medal at any Olympic Games?

- a. Abhinav Bindra
- b. Muhammad Aslam
- c. Rajjavaradhan Singh Rathode
- d. Mohammed Shahid

Q5: Which IPL franchise has Indian cricketer Yuvraj Singh never played for?

- a. Royal Challengers Bangalore
- b. Sunrisers Hyderabad
- c. Punjab Kings
- d. Delhi Capitals

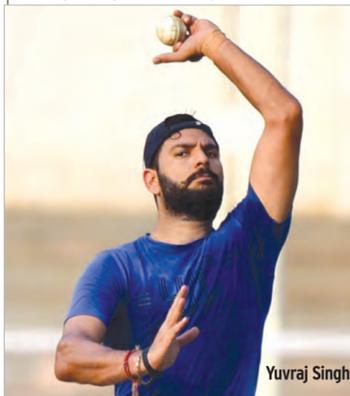


Photo: TOI

Q6: Who is 2021 World Boxing Association's Heavyweight Champion?

- a. Trevor Bryan
- b. Oleksandr Usyk
- c. Manuel Charr
- d. Rocky Fielding

Q7: How many games had Italy gone without losing before they were beaten by Spain in the Nations League semi-finals this week?

- a. 26
- b. 31
- c. 37
- d. 48

Q8: The Women's Champions League returned very recently. Who are the defending champions?

- a. Chelsea
- b. Lyon
- c. Barcelona
- d. Brondby

Q9: Who was the icon player of the first season of IPL?

- a. Anil Kumble
- b. Robin Uthappa
- c. Rahul Dravid
- d. KL Rahul

- ANSWERS:** 1. c. Lala Amarnath
2. a. Ole Gunnar Solskjaer
3. d. Football Team 4. a. Abhinav Bindra
5. d. Delhi Capitals 6. b. Oleksandr Usyk
7. c. 37 8. c. Barcelona 9. c. Rahul Dravid