



THE TIMES OF INDIA

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TODAY'S EDITION

➤ Know more about 'Soprano' as we trace its origin, categories, sub-categories, and much more
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➤ Have you ever been embarrassed for any of your acts in front of your classmates? Hear it out from a student
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➤ Liverpool at the top in CL race after win against Inter Milan
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STUDENT EDITION

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2022



Matter of a few degrees... but the impact will be DISASTROUS

Ukraine-Russia conflict: Latest developments



1 MOSCOW DEPLOYS 7,000 MORE TROOPS: The tensions over a possible Russian invasion of Ukraine continues to simmer as a senior White House official claimed that Moscow's announcement of a troop withdrawal is "false", and the country has added around 7,000 troops at the Ukrainian border.

Europe's worst security risk since the Cold War.

2 NATO NOT CONVINCED: The United States of America and NATO also said that there was no sign of Russian troops withdrawing. The Russian military buildup at the Ukrainian border is being described as

3 US HOPES INDIA TO STAND BY ITS SIDE IF RUSSIA INVADES UKRAINE: The United States has pinned hope on India that it would stand by its side in case Russia invades Ukraine. "There was a strong consensus in the QUAD meeting that there needs to be a diplomatic – a peaceful resolution to this. One of the core tenants of the QUAD is to reinforce the rules based on international order," US state department spokesperson Ned Price said.

Indian govt establishes control room, helpline desk
The ministry of external affairs (MEA) has established a control room and a 24-hour helpline at the Embassy of India in Ukraine

Time and again, world leaders have stressed the need to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius



What's the difference between 1.5°C and 2°C of global warming?

WHAT

The 2015 Paris Agreement commits countries to limit the global average temperature rise to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels, and to aim for 1.5°C. Scientists have said crossing the 1.5°C threshold risks unleashing far more severe climate change effects on people, wildlife and ecosystems. Preventing it requires almost halving global CO2 emissions by 2030 from 2010 levels and cutting them to net-zero by 2050 – an ambitious task that scientists, financiers, negotiators and activists are debating how to achieve and pay for.

WHERE

ARE WE NOW? Already, the world has heated to around 1.1°C above pre-industrial levels. Each of the last four decades was hotter than any decade since 1850. According to scientists, half a degree means much more extreme weather, and it can be more often, more intense, or extended in duration.

1. HEAT, RAIN, DROUGHT

■ More warming to 1.5°C and beyond will worsen global climate. For example, heat-waves would become both more frequent and more severe. An extreme heat event that occurred once per decade in a climate without human influence, would happen 4.1 times a decade at 1.5°C of warming, and 5.6 times at 2°C, according to the UN climate science panel (IPCC).
■ A warmer atmosphere can also hold more moisture, resulting in more extreme rainfall that raises flood risks. It also increases evaporation, leading to more intense droughts.

2. ICE, SEAS, CORAL REEFS

■ The difference between 1.5°C and 2°C is critical for Earth's oceans and frozen regions. At 1.5°C, there's a good chance that we can prevent most of the Greenland and west Antarctic ice sheet from collapsing. That would help limit sea level rise to a few feet by the end of the century – still a big change that would erode coastlines and inundate some small island states and coastal cities.
■ But below 2°C and the ice sheets could collapse, with sea levels rising up to 10 metres (30 feet) – though how quickly that could happen is uncertain.
■ Warming of 1.5°C would destroy at least



70% of coral reefs, but at 2°C more than 99% would be lost. That would destroy fish habitats and communities that rely on reefs for their food and livelihoods.

3. FOOD, FORESTS, DISEASE

■ Warming of 2°C versus 1.5°C would also increase the impact on food production. "If you have crop failures in a couple of the bread-baskets of the world at the same time, then you could see extreme food price spikes and hunger and famine across wide swathes of the world," said climate scientist Simon Lewis at University College London. A warmer world could see the mosquitoes that carry diseases such as malaria and dengue fever expand across a wider range. But 2°C would also see a bigger share of insects and animals lose most of their habitat range, compared with 1.5°C, and increase the risk of forest fires – another risk to wildlife.

WHAT IS A PRE-INDUSTRIAL CLIMATE?

1 The Industrial Revolution began in the late 1700s in Britain, and spread around the world. But this only marked the beginning of a gradual rise in our greenhouse gas emissions. Various studies have found climate change signals appearing on a global scale as early as the 1830s, or as recently as the 1930s. So, scientists in order to measure global temperature gave a new baseline – a time when fossil-fuel burning had

yet to change the climate – the period 1850-1900, and this is described as "pre-industrial"

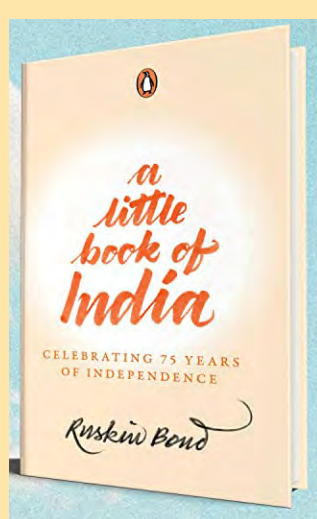
2 Global temperatures likely increased by more than 0.6°C from the pre-industrial period up to 1986-2005. This means that the year 2015 was at least 1°C warmer than the pre-industrial era and 2016 was more than 1.1°C warmer

3 Interestingly, 2015 was likely the first time in recorded history when global temperatures were more than 1°C above pre-industrial levels

Ruskin 'Bonds' with India in his new book

Jawaharlal Nehru was a man of the people and of many gifts and achievements, says veteran author Ruskin Bond in his new book, and describes Prime Minister Narendra Modi as a man of humble beginnings, whose political acumen and yogic willpower have brought him to the top. In 'A Little Book of India: Celebrating 75 Years of Independence', Ruskin Bond draws on his own memories and impressions to pay homage to the country that has been his home for 84 years. "We have had many outstanding prime ministers – Nehru, Shastri, Indira Gandhi, A B Vajpayee, Manmohan Singh, many others – and now Narendra Modi, a man of humble beginnings, whose political acumen, natural sagacity, and yogic willpower have brought him to the top and kept him there through two general elections," he writes.

1 Ruskin Bond, who was a schoolboy when India attained independence, recalls how the Tricolour was hoisted and the Union Jack came down at his boarding school in Shimla
2 He also talks about Nehru's iconic speech, saying it was a "reflection of his knowledge of world affairs and his familiarity with the English language".



3 Nehru, for Ruskin Bond, was a "dapper individual, almost always to be seen with a red rose in his buttonhole. He had been to an English public school and University, and spoke and wrote fluently in English. He was a westernised Indian, but also a man of the people. He loved the crowd and addressed them with enthusiasm"

BOOK

Now crash helmet, safety harness to be mandatory for children below 4 yrs on motorcycles

The road transport ministry on Wednesday notified new rules to make the use of safety harness and crash helmet mandatory for children below the age of four years on motorcycles. The new rules state that the speed of a motorcycle with a child up to the age of four years being carried on the pillion will not be more than 40 kmph.

These rules will come into force after one year from the date of publication of the Central Motor Vehicles (Second Amendment) Rules, 2022. For children below four years, safety harnesses shall be used for attaching the child to the driver of the motorcycle, the ministry said

VIEWPOINT



Safety harness is a vest to be worn by the child, which shall be adjustable, with a pair of straps attached to the vest and forming shoulder loops to be worn by the driver. This way, the upper torso of the child is securely attached to the driver

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River Ravi the most-polluted in the world

Not just the air but also the river flowing through Lahore has been found to be the world's most-polluted, with active pharmaceutical ingredients posing a 'threat to environment and human health', Dawn reported. A study on pharmaceutical pollution of the world's rivers conducted at the University of York detected pharmaceutical particles, including paracetamol, nicotine, caffeine and epilepsy and diabetes drugs in the river.


Environment


The study placed waterways in Lahore, Bolivia and Ethiopia among the most-polluted while rivers in Iceland, Norway and the Amazon rainforest fared the best

France's Claire Denis wins best director at Berlin film festival for 'Both Sides of the Blade'



France's Claire Denis won best director at the 72nd Berlin film festival on Wednesday for 'Both Sides of the Blade', starring Juliette Binoche as a woman torn between two lovers in pandemic-era Paris. Denis, 75, was one of the seven women in competition at the festival, which ranks with Cannes and Venice among Europe's top cinema showcases.

The Berlinale is now the third major European film festival in a row to award its top prize to a woman director, following Cannes and Venice, which did so last year

Entertainment


THE TIMES OF INDIA

TRAVEL

There will be two supermoons this year. We tell you the best spots in India to witness the moon in all its glory

TRIVIA TIME

All you need to know about The Battle of Iwo Jima, a major battle in which the United States Marine Corps and United States Navy landed on and eventually captured the island of Iwo Jima from the Imperial Japanese Army (IJA) during World War II.

FITNESS

Things to remember before signing up for any form of martial arts.

ENVIRONMENT

Why we must create butterfly gardens this

STUDENT EDITION

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2022


Your Weekender

spring season. We also tell you how to do it. PLUS: Find out how to green your skincare routine. We get you a starter pack!

BOOKS & MOVIES

Are you indistractable? With the exam season on in full swing, we explore a few strategies that may help you stay consistent with studies. PLUS: Best Cold War Movies.

SPORTS

Everything to learn about the fast-paced yet simple game of Kho Kho.



LET'S TALK
ABOUT...

Scream Like a Mother!

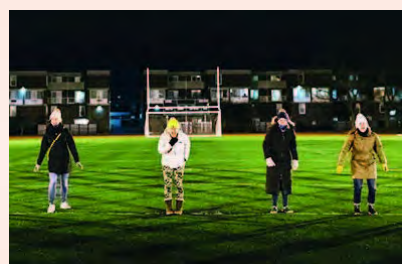
US MOMS GATHER IN FIELD TO SCREAM AND RELEASE STRESS

WHY WERE THEY SCREAMING? DID SOMEONE HURT THEM?

The pandemic did, actually. These are mothers of young children, many under the age of five years, in the US who gathered in a field to scream because they were just so fed up.

SOUNDS LIKE A TERRIFIC IDEA!

Right? It was organised by a woman who was a therapist, yoga teacher and mom herself, after some of her clients suggested it, so that they could vent.



WHAT HAPPENS AT THESE 'SCREAMATHONS'?

It is fairly simple – a few rounds of some regular, loud screaming, then a round of good ol' fashioned swearing, another of screams or shouts and then a last yell in honour of those moms who were too busy to attend.

PRETTY COMPREHENSIVE! WHY MOMS OF JUST YOUNG KIDS THOUGH?

In the US, the under-five are not eligible for vaccination yet so that was one reason life seemed to be full of uncertainty for their mothers, more so than other age groups. Then all the general anxiety around the pandemic, the sense that it seems to be lasting forever – all those familiar feelings.

WHAT DID THE ATTENDEES THINK?

They were elated, according to reports. They said it felt very liberating to just let it all out and not care, for once.

IT'S AN IDEA WHOSE TIME HAS COME

Indeed. It could be added to our new ambitious mental health programme, along with the tele counselling centres announced in the Budget recently. I'm sure the moms here are no less fed up!

TEXT: INDULEKHA ARAVIND; SOURCE: ET EDIT

JUST IN JEST

An 8-year-old writer's 'book' being a 'library hit' has a lesson for publishers

Horse Before Cart, Readers Before Books



Over the last week, a certain section of the English-language publishing and books – talking (not necessarily books-reading) world expressed anguish over the shutdown of a publishing house. Theories about its closure continue to be in the air like spring pollen. But one fact went relatively untalked about: the fact that not enough people bought its books for it to break even, never mind turn a profit – not under the Tatas that owned it since 2008, not under Amazon that owned it since 2017. The challenge, not just for the soon-to-be-defunct publisher but all other existing ones (especially in English language) in India, is whether there are enough people who buy books, who have a book-reading habit?

If nothing else, here's an inspirational tale from faraway Idaho, US, if it helps. The 8-year-old Dillon Helbig wrote a Christmas adventure story in his notebook and during a visit to the local library – yes, libraries still exist in book-reading cultures – he slipped in his 81-page 'book' in one of the shelves. This was not a famous writer, or even a published one. And, yet, days after its surreptitious entry into the library, 'The Adventures of Dillon Helbig's Crismis' has a 56-person waitlist of readers at the library. Moral of the story? First ensure there are enough readers, then produce books. The other way round gets very tricky.



PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES



ONE WORLD, DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES

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

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LATA MANGESHKAR 1929-2022

The Voice That Moved India



ANIRUDHA
BHATTACHARJEE

There was a time when music in India was identified with a host of singers. Favourites would change with region, language, economic status and demographic profiles, even religion. Then came Lata Mangeshkar.

Even the doyens of classical music were unanimous in their praise for Lata. Bade Ghulam Ali's much-quoted words, 'Kambakht kabhi besuri nahi hoti... kya Allah ki den hai' (Bloody hell, she's never out of tune... what a gift from Allah), were not apocryphal. It is something the Hindustani classical fraternity of-



A few songs by Lata would act as a security blanket for a film producer. Heroines would insist on her being their playback singer, some even including it in their contracts

get that at 20, she was possibly India's most familiar singing voice, with listeners sending postcards to AIR asking for the name of the singer of 'Aayega Aane Wala' from the 1949 film 'Mahal'. By the time she was in her mid-20s, Lata was a favourite. Composers would consider themselves blessed to record with her. Even OP Nayyar, the only famous composer of the golden age of film music who never sought her musical services, would mention that Lata and composer Madan Mohan were a combination like no other.

A few songs by Lata would act as a security blanket for a film producer. Heroines would insist on her being their playback singer, some even including it in their contracts. It was not just because she had a wonderful voice, but also because she created a style that was completely her own – modern, yet bearing a traditional touch.

With Lata behind the microphone, nasal twangs and over-the-top emotional style became a thing of the past. She was no longer the 'desi Noor Jehan', referring to the iconic pre-Independence Indian and Pakistani playback singer. Lata became the voice of a new India, where melancholy could be embodied in soft but bold notes, and where high notes need not be weepy or screechy.

Lata was perhaps the first female singer in Hindi cinema who made a habit of hitting notes in a straight-

ten fighting internecine wars, agreed on unwaveringly.

Lata never sang in the 'pure' classical style. Hers was a genre considered 'cheap' by the people who mattered. They would have to eat their words – which information and broadcasting minister BV Keskar also had to do after he banned Hindi film songs (along with cricket commentary) on All India Radio in 1952, leading to the birth of Radio Ceylon's 'Binaca Geetmala,' a programme dedicated to Hindi film songs every Wednesday, the same year, and to the formation of AIR's Vividh Bharati in 1957.

Mangeshkar started singing on-stage from age 9, going on to record songs till she was 89, an incredible stretch of 80 years. One mustn't for-

ward manner, avoiding the classical practice of 'meend', or gliding from one note to another without having a gap in between. No wonder her voice was described as pitch-perfect, flawless enough for strangled instruments to be tuned to. While the suppleness of her voice came down marginally in the early 1960s after she suffered from bouts of sinusitis, she remained the epitome of the

adage 'form is temporary, class is permanent'.

While the 1970s-80s witnessed batons changing hands, Lata remained the singer of choice. There are stories of her involvement in broken relationships and acrimony-laden fights. Her personal life was often scrutinised threadbare, people forgetting that navigating through the Cretan maze that is the Hindi film industry was no mean task. This was expounded best by her favourite fellow singer, Kishore Kumar, whose admiration for her dedication was profound.

There is little to demarcate between a Lata Mangeshkar recording and her singing at a live event. She would replicate the notes and nuances of the former precisely in the latter. Her expertise at singing in multiple languages with unfailingly good diction spoke volumes of the student in her, underlining her eagerness to internalise emotions in dialects that were not her native Marathi, Konkani, and Hindi.

Over the last few years, there were more than a few premature Lata Mangeshkar obituaries written and kept ready. It was perhaps divine intervention that Goddess Saraswati chose her favourite disciple to come along with her on the day of her visarjan. Call it poetic justice.

The writer is co-author of 'RD Burman: The Man The Music' Source: ET Edit



Mangeshkar (second from right in the picture, seated with her mother, Shevanti, and her brothers and sisters) started singing onstage from age 9, going on to record songs till she was 89, an incredible stretch of 80 years

RAHUL BAJAJ 1938-2022 An intimate salute to a brave, industrious, larger-than-life presence



OMKAR GOSWAMI

On Saturday, India lost a corporate colossus, and I a long-standing guru, friend and elder brother. A supremely independent man with a powerful, larger-than-life physical presence, Rahul Bajaj was suffering from rapidly declining health over the last few months. We prayed that a man such as he not be subjected to the indignities of artificial life support. He passed away – regrettably not at home, but with as much dignity as possible at Ruby Hospital in Pune.

I have known Rahul since 1978, worked very closely with him since 1997, served on boards of some of the companies he chaired, often argued till the cows came home, confidentially shared details about many things under the sun and, all the while, learned so many different things from him over the years. Here are some memories.

Well Read, Read Well

In 1996, Tarun Das, director general of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), asked me to join a committee headed by Rahul to draft a code on corporate governance. I prepared one at par with best international standards and presented it for discussions with a gnawing concern that an industry association would have little

truck with most of these. That's when Rahul came into play.

Over three consecutive days at his office in Akurdi, Pune, from early afternoon till late evening, he meticulously went through the document inserting several scores of corrections scribbled in his tiny hand writing, running helter-skelter over the pages. Some we agreed upon instantly, others we argued about. But at the end of it, the draft was far superior to what I had originally written – inform, structure and content. Thanks to Rahul.

At the end of it, when I asked him, 'So, how will you sell these 'revolutionary' ideas to your membership?' he answered, 'Leave that to me, young man.'

And he did so with such presence and panache that the document became India's first comprehensive corporate governance code, almost all of which was subsequently incorporated by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi).

Three years later, when I was in CII, Rahul, by a curious quirk of fate, was elected for the second time around as its president. It never happened before, nor since. During that year, I had to interact with him very closely and often accompany CII delegations with him. That's when I got to know him better, and when he began to tutor me on many things under the sun. Here are some less-known vignettes of f

TOI LINE OF NO CONTROL

SANDEEP ADHWARYU

GANDHI REUNITES WITH A GANDHIAN



First, the speed and meticulousness with which he read and corrected drafts was second to none. Having interacted with Rahul on hundreds of such drafts covering various topics, I concluded that he must have been a great copy editor in his previous life. With neither spectacles nor reading glasses, he is the only man I know who would speed-read any page typed in 10-points single space and unerringly mark all the typos as well as grammatical and syntactical errors in a trice.

Second, all who knew Rahul can vouch for his unquenched curiosity, love for facts and debates. There is nothing he loved more than an argument. And if the debate went against him, Rahul would be first to acknowledge it with grace.

No Dieting for Body, Copy

Third, a joke that he and I often shared was that Rahul must have failed the precis question in Class 7. Remember the one where you had to rewrite 200 words to 100 or 50? With great gusto, Rahul could dictate something that, with all the qualifiers that went through his mind, could turn 200 words to 400. Without even trying.

He never carried an iota of malice. Towards anyone. In the last 30-odd years, I had never heard him speak spitefully of any person – though he was observant enough to be uproariously catty in private company. Rahul also had friends across society, not just businessmen. On the one hand, he was the Indian delegation's hero at Davos. On the other, he got the driver, who was always at his service in Davos to accompany him, to spend time as his guest in Pune.

I will forever remember Rahul's broad smile, his open laugh, his embarrassing inability to go on any diet worth the name, and his knack to take a joke on himself, with genuine appreciation. He was loath to praise his family. But, in the privacy of his living room at Akurdi, he was incredibly proud of his two boys – for Rajiv with Bajaj Auto and Sanjiv with Bajaj Finance and the insurance companies. And what a dancer he was! I have not seen anyone doing a close dance as well as Rahul. With a style and swing that was, and is, bereft of most Indians of his time, and after.

Tarun Das and I spoke when the news of Rahul's death reached us. He was very close to Rahul, and began by saying, 'The lion has departed.' That is the most fitting tribute to Rahul Bajaj. There will never be another like him. In every way. The writer is chairperson, Corporate and Economic Research Group (CERG) Advisory Source: ET Edit

WORDPLAY

Considering, we are paying a tribute to the Nightriangle of India, Lata Mangeshkar, what could be more befitting than to learn about a term or a word that's related to music?

SO, THIS WEEK'S WORD IS SOPRANO

What does it mean?

Soprano, plural sopranos is defined as: a) the highest singing voice. Examples in sentences are... "a piece composed for soprano, flute, and continuo" "a female or boy singer with a soprano voice."

"a part written for a soprano voice." b) an instrument of a high or the highest pitch in its family. Example... "a soprano saxophone"

Etymology

The word 'soprano' comes from the Italian word sopra (above, over, on top of), as the soprano is the highest pitch human voice, often given to the leading female roles in operas. The term 'soprano' is also based on the Latin word 'superius' which, like 'soprano', referred to the highest pitch vocal range of all human voice types. The word 'superius' was especially used in choral and other multi-part vocal music between the 13th and 16th centuries.

Did you know?

Within the soprano voice type category are five generally recognised subcategories: coloratura soprano, soubrette, lyric soprano, spinto soprano, and dramatic soprano.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

It's important to make your voice heard.

Send Letters to the Editor
at toiinlet75@gmail.com



A wide spectrum of ingenuity

STUDENTS COME UP WITH INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS TO MODERN-DAY PROBLEMS

Bhagyashree, Social Science Department, The Shri Ram Universal School Hyderabad

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also known as the Global Goals, were adopted by the United Nations in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity.

Shriites of classes VII, VIII and IX took up the initiative to propose solutions to some of the SDGs.

For SDG 4 Quality Education, class VII students initiated a campaign which will run on a website called 'Path to Knowledge - by the children, of the children and for the children'. It contains videos on subjects such as English, Math, etc., along with some videos on basic life skills. This programme mainly targets children from the underprivileged sections of society.

We are victims of noise pollution and struggle to find a solution. The students of class VIII came up with an



innovative solution - Energy from sound targeting SDG 7- of Affordable and Clean Energy. A device called Suitable Transducer has been developed to convert one type of energy into another.

These students created a 3D Model of a Suitable Transducer that converts sound waves coming from the speaker into electricity and transmit

it to chargeable batteries. Although this research is still in its infancy it definitely has a bright future.

The world is getting warmer by the day leading to global warming. If we, humans are responsible for it, it's we who can suggest the solution. So, for SDG 13- Climate Action students of class VIII developed a device called 'The Leaf', which works as an artificial

leaf. It absorbs excess carbon dioxide and releases oxygen. This device helps to decrease the carbon footprint and increases the levels of oxygen. An idea at an initial stage, it does have a lot of scope.

Despite providing schedules in the Indian Constitution for the protection of animals, still many of them are endangered and many extinct. Shriites of class VII have a solution for SDG 15-Life on Land. They created a website called Wilderei with a toll free number that can be used whenever anyone witnesses poaching. The tagline of the website is 'Poachers will be poached'.

Gender equality has always been a challenge in society across globe. But talking about third gender and LGBTQ community is still a taboo. Students of class IX spoke on this issue and interviewed people from different backgrounds to spread awareness and break the taboo associated with this subject.

It was a delight to see the students of The Shri Ram Universal School push their boundaries and think about the world at large.

IF I WERE A MILLIONAIRE

If I were a millionaire, I would buy a million Lego sets. I would make a life-size Lego Zoo. Even though the animals and the staff in it would not move (obviously) it would have the same vibe of a real zoo.

I would name it 'National Lego Zoo' as there are many Lego Zoos internationally. I would give Niels B. Christiansen (the CEO of the Lego Group) the idea of buying my Lego Zoo for several lakh dollars and they would hopefully buy it. Then I will be a multi-millionaire.



KESHAV PRASEEN,
class IV-C, Gitanjali
Primary School



IF I WERE A FARMER

If I were a farmer, I would harvest crops and work 365 days 24/7. If I am not able to harvest crops in time and make good profit I would suffer huge losses.

I would think of an innovative idea for farmers so that they can eat three times a day. I would start an organisation for farmers on advanced machinery and modern technology to improve the yield of their crops. I would guide them on the advantages of using pest controls, teach them to enrich soil and also reduce erosion. I would spread the impor-

tance of farming using social media and encourage everyone to learn and practice farming. I would suggest the government include farming as a practical subject in schools and colleges which is very necessary.

I want to see the farmers live happily, see smiles on their faces as they are the backbone of our society. Jai Kisan!

SHRIYANSH KOMMOJU, class IV,
Silver Oaks International School,
Mighty Oaks Campus, Hyderabad



WATER, THE HEART OF EARTH

Once it's gone, everything is gone. How can we ruin it? See its glow Watch it flow.

Water acts as life Much available, Few Less to use Many available, Few to trust

Treat it like a blessing Don't end up messing.

A small drop can make a huge difference Let's join our hands and make a pledge If I do my part, and you do yours The world will have a better future or there will be none

Hruthika, class VI C, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavans Public School,
Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad



KINDNESS DAY

Gitanjali School Begumpet

The motto of the Pre-Primary children at Gitanjali School, Begumpet, was to 'spread kindness' as they celebrated Kindness Day. Some adopted stray puppies while others fed birds, lent a helping hand to house helps and others around. Food and clothes were donated to the needy and toys were shared with children at orphanages.

The tiny tots also showed kindness to nature by taking care of plants.

The true meaning of kindness was learnt, not only in words but also through deeds.



Changing scenarios of education showcased



Delhi Public School Mahendra Hills

The primary wing of Delhi Public School, Mahendra Hills, Secunderabad celebrated its Annual Day- Querencia (A safe haven for learning). The audience witnessed an amalgamation of talent amidst great euphoria and enthusiasm.

The Chairman of Delhi Public School, Mahendra Hills, M Komaraiah, Director Pallavi, Vice Chairman T Bheemsen, Chief Operating Officer Yashasvi, Director of Strategic Excellence Murali, member of the management committee Thiribhuvana, Principal of DPS Nacharam Sunitha Rao graced the occasion.

The chief guest was Dr Geetha Gopinath, Assistant Professor, Department of Education and Education Technology, School of Social Sciences, Central University of Hyderabad.

The concert commenced with the welcome address by Principal Nandita Sunkara, followed by the solemn ceremony of the lighting of the lamp.

Speaking on the occasion, Vice Principal I Sudha apprised the audience of the innumerable achievements of the school for the academic year 2021-22. Sunitha Rao in her address stressed on the importance of education and how it helps a person get knowledge and improve the confidence levels.

Speaking on the occasion, Chairman Komaraiah emphasised on co-curricular activities and the holistic development of children. Chief guest Dr Geetha Gopinath inspired the students by sharing her experience and the key roles played by home and school environment in shaping the future of children.

Students of classes III to V showcased the journey of schools and education from the early era to the current digital education platform.

Based on the theme, children depicted various eras of education; from Vedic age to modern E-learning through dance, songs, skit and talk show. The event concluded with an exhilarating dance by the students of classes III to V.

SEEKING THE BLESSINGS OF GODDESS SARASWATI

Delhi World School Shadnagar

Delhi World School, Shadnagar, performed Vasant Panchami pooja and Aksharabhyasam on its school campus. Several

parents got their young children and participated in the traditional rituals to seek the blessing of Goddess Saraswati, the goddess of learning.

Vasant Panchami is celebrated every year in the Magh month of Hindu calendar. It is celebrated on the fifth day of the Magh month which generally falls in February/March of Gregorian calendar. This day brings happiness it marks the arrival of spring when the nature blooms after the cold winter days.

endard. It is celebrated on the fifth day of the Magh month which generally falls in February/March of Gregorian calendar. This day brings happiness it marks the arrival of spring when the nature blooms after the cold winter days.



The day I attempted exorcism walk

While reminiscing about the good old school days, one episode in class keeps coming to my mind. One day, I reached school quite early. When I entered my classroom, only three close friends were there. We talked for some time and then we decided to play and we chose 'truth or dare'. We took a bottle and spun it. The bottle stopped, pointing towards me and I chose 'truth'. My friend asked me if I were flexible or not? Without having a sure answer, I decided to say 'Yes'. And then we continued the game. At one point the bottle again ended up pointing towards me. I felt like the bottle was smirking at me knowing my fate. This time, I chose 'dare' and my friends told me to do an exorcism walk to check if I were flexible. I was nervous and hesitated.

My friends, glared at me and I accepted the challenge. I lay supine and bent my knees and raised my hand and kept them on the floor and started to walk like a spider. To be frank it felt weird and embarrassing and the whole world looked topsy-turvy. I stayed like that for two minutes and the other classmates began to arrive and then I saw a figure standing before me. At first, I



was confused, but soon realised it was my class teacher. She had a confused look. I tried standing up, but miserably ended up on the ground. I groaned in pain and got up. I smiled awkwardly at her and she passed me a nervous smile. All had a good laugh. I nearly died of embarrassment and glared at my friends who apologised later. I learnt soon that everyone goes through such embarrassing moments, but never thought I would have to go through one myself! Still, I can't help laughing and feeling nostalgic about those good old days.



JYOTHIKA J M, class VIII,
Chimaya Vidyalaya,
Vazhuthacaud,
Thiruvananthapuram

A ghostly rainy afternoon!

I remember when I was in class III, one day the skies were overcast and the thick dark clouds turned darker and darker. Within a minute or so it started raining heavily. Suddenly, the power went off and the class plunged into darkness with very low visibility.

Terrified, we started screaming at the top of our voices. Our class teacher told us that she was going out to get a candle. One of my friends wanted to go to the washroom but he was too scared to move out of the class. Taking the teacher's permission, he went out and so did our teacher to bring the candle. Since our classroom was situated near a balcony, we closed the doors and windows preventing the rain from entering the class. Suddenly a strong and violent gust of wind forced open the door, creating a shattering sound.

We were already terrified at the atmosphere around us and the slamming of the door further ignited our fears. Amidst all this confusion, we suddenly saw a dot of light moving here and there and at the same time, we saw a piece of white cloth floating in our classroom. The classroom really got eerie and ghostly and we screamed at the top of our voices.

Few teachers rushed to our room and just then the power too came back. The teachers bombarded us with questions. A classmate who was sitting on the first bench, suddenly understood what had happened. He lifted a pen from our teacher's table

and showed it to us. It had a mini bulb on its cap! Due to the breeze, the pen moved and created a circuit that made the bulb glow. This mystery sorted, we now wondered about the white cloth. Then my friend who had gone to the washroom replied that due to the strong wind the napkin he held had flown out of his grip and entered the classroom. There was pin drop silence in the class. After a few seconds, everyone burst out laughing, understanding the sequence of the incidents.

Soon the rain stopped and everything was back to normal. But the few minutes of absolute chaos made the day memorable.

Soon the rain stopped and everything was back to normal. But the few minutes of absolute chaos made the day memorable.



SOM MUKHERJE, class VIII, Sister
Nivedita School, Hyderabad



FIRMINO, SALAH FIRE LIVERPOOL

2-0 win at Inter Milan puts team in commanding position for CL

Liverpool took a firm grip on their Champions League tie with Inter Milan as late goals from Roberto Firmino and Mohamed Salah earned them a 2-0 victory in their last-16 first leg on Wednesday.

RESILIENT DISPLAY

Inter had the better of the first-half chances, but Juergen Klopp's side were resilient if not at their very best as they comfortably held the hosts at bay before inflicting two damaging blows on their opponents. Having struggled to create many opportunities, Klopp rang the changes in the second half, and one of those substitutes came up trumps, with Firmino flicking home from a corner to break the deadlock in the 75th minute.

With their resistance broken, the errors started to creep in for Inter and Salah pounced when they failed to clear a long ball into the box to put the game to bed seven minutes from time. Salah, aided by a slight deflection, stroked home the second after Virgil van Dijk had knocked down Trent Alexander-Arnold's long ball to seal the win.

The Egyptian has scored in each of his last eight away appearances in the Champions League, the second-longest ever such run by a single player, after Cristiano Ronaldo between 2013 to 2015.

Even with the away goals rule no longer in force, the victory puts the 2019 Champions League winners in a commanding position ahead of the

return leg on March 8 at Anfield.

Liverpool have won all seven of their Champions League matches this season, extending what is their longest ever winning run in Europe's elite club competition.

COSTLY WASTEFULNESS

Inter, back in the Champions League knockout stages for the first time in a decade, started brightly in front of a raucous crowd, unhindered by their reduced numbers as a result of COVID-19 restrictions.

Argentine striker Lautaro Martinez shot wide early on from distance, firing against the crossbar when afforded too much time in the penalty area.

Liverpool had plenty of efforts at goal in the first half, but struggled to create that killer opening, with Sadio Mane's header from a free kick that went just over as close as they came. There was not much improvement after the break from Liverpool, with Inter's final pass deserting them when it mattered most.

"This performance should give us plenty of confidence because we played a great game," Inter coach Simone Inzaghi said.

"We did not deserve to lose but that's football. I think we can be proud because we played a great game against one of the best teams in Europe." REUTERS

COMAN RESCUES BAYERN MUNICH

■ Kingsley Coman scored late to salvage a 1-1 draw for Bayern Munich at Salzburg in the first leg of their Champions League round of 16 meeting.

■ Bayern was forced to push hard after Junior Chukwubuike Adamu's 21st-minute opener for the Austrian champions. Coman equalized in the last minute to prevent the Bavarian powerhouse from slumping to its second consecutive.

■ Salzburg was playing in the Champions League knockout phase for the first time, and the home team showed no sign of fear against the six-time European champion. The 20-year-old Adamu, playing due to an injury to Noah Okafor in the 12th, eluded Niklas Süle and curled his shot inside the right post after a long ball from Mohamed Camara found Karim Adeyemi on the right wing. "In the end it feels like a defeat. But 1-1 is

something to be proud of," Adeyemi said. "We're ready for the next game."

■ Bayern hosts Salzburg for the second leg on March 8.



Roberto Firmino

Photo: REUTERS



Mohamed Salah



Kingsley Coman

Photo: REUTERS

Photo: REUTERS

INDIA EYE VICTORY AGAINST WI

2nd T20I: Team hoping that Virat Kohli will regain his form

Clinical in most aspects of the game so far, India will now hope that star batter Virat Kohli also regains his form when they take on a struggling West Indies in the potentially series-deciding second T20 International on Friday.

The touring West Indies side has been far from being at its best and has failed to trouble the hosts in any of the matches so far.

Challenge for India

After being outclassed 0-3 in the ODI leg in Ahmedabad, the Kieron Pollard-led team was expected to give India some challenge in its favourite T20 format, especially after a 3-2 win over England in its last series at home. But they hardly managed to trouble the hosts in the first T20I, going down by six wickets.

Another win and it will be a third successive series win for Rohit Sharma after being named full-time captain for Team India.



Photo: PTI

Need bigger knock

The only concern for India is Kohli's form and he would definitely want a bigger knock than the scores of 8, 18, 0, and 17 so far in the assignment. Rohit is confident he will come good and has asked critics and media to spare him the constant scrutiny.

Going hard

Rohit knows the importance of going hard in the powerplay, which was in full display in his 19-ball 40 when he took Odean Smith to the cleaners in an over that conceded 22 runs. With Ishan Kishan struggling to get going at the other end, Rohit made the bulk of the 58 runs India scored in the powerplay, which meant they never fell behind the 158-run chase despite losing three wickets in the middle.

Thanks to Rohit's innings at the top,

things did not go much out of India's reach as Suryakumar Yadav and Venkatesh Iyer applied themselves beautifully to seal the chase.

With India opting for a six-bowler combination featuring pace bowler all-rounder Venkatesh, in-form batter Shreyas Iyer had to sit out of the opening game.

Fit-again Pollard

Pooran and a fit-again skipper Kieron Pollard stepped up the accelerator in the last five overs, scoring 61 runs to lift their total to 157/7. But it proved to be 15-20 runs short, bringing the focus back on their middle over struggles when debutant Indian leg-spinner Ravi Bishnoi made it difficult for the visitors.

With Holder back in business and Pooran and Pollard beginning to look at their ominous best, the West Indies would fancy their chances to keep the series alive. AGENCIES

SQUADS:

INDIA: Rohit Sharma (captain), Ishan Kishan, Virat Kohli, Shreyas Iyer, Surya Kumar Yadav, Rishabh Pant (wicket-keeper), Venkatesh Iyer, Deepak Chahar, Shardul Thakur, Ravi Bishnoi, Yuzvendra Chahal, Mohammed Siraj, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Avesh Khan, Harshal Patel, Ruturaj Gaikwad, Deepak Hooda, Kuldeep Yadav and Harpreet Brar.

WEST INDIES: Kieron Pollard (captain), Nicholas Pooran (vice-captain), Fabian Allen, Darren Bravo, Roston Chase, Sheldon Cottrell, Dominic Drakes, Jason Holder, Shai Hope, Akeal Hosein, Brandon King, Rovman Powell, Romario Shepherd, Odean Smith, Kyle Mayers, Hayden Walsh Jr.

BADMINTON ASIA CHAMPIONSHIP: INDIA WIN AGAINST HONG KONG

The Indian men's team, led by world championship bronze medalist Lakshya Sen, secured a 3-2 win over Hong Kong in group A to keep its slim hopes alive of making the knockout stage at the Badminton Asia Team Championships on Thursday.

The crushing 0-5 defeat against Korea in their opening match has made life difficult for India as they are currently at the third spot in group A, just above Hong Kong, with one win and one loss.

Three-time defending champions Indonesia and Korea are currently ahead in the race to qualify from group A.

World no 13 Lakshya started the proceedings, thrashing world no 17 Lee Cheuk Yiu, a silver medallist at 2013 Asian Youth Games, 21-19 21-10 in 35 minutes to



Lakshya Sen

give India a good start.

Hong Kong's Law Cheuk Him and Lee Chun Hei Reginald notched up a thrilling 20-22 21-15 21-18 win over Manjit Singh Khwairakpam and Dingku Singh Konhoujam in the doubles.

However, the men's team will have to claim an outright win against title holders Indonesia on Friday. PTI

QUIZ TIME!

Q1: Which state of India houses the Rajiv Gandhi International cricket stadium?

- Andhra Pradesh
- Telangana
- Kerala
- Tamil Nadu

Q2: How many times did India win the "Cricket World Cup champion" title?

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

Q3: Which of the following stadiums in India was the

first to host a Test match in Independent India?

- Gymkhana Ground, Mumbai
- Feroz Shah Kotla, Delhi
- Eden Gardens, Kolkata
- M A Chidambaram Stadium, Chennai

Q4: On which of the following courts is the Chennai Open played?

- Clay court
- Grass Court
- Hard Court
- Carpet Court

Q5: How many overall centuries has Mithali Raj scored?

a. 2 b. 7 c. 8 d. 10



Mithali Raj

Photo: GETTY IMAGES

Q6: When did the World Chess Championship begin officially?

- 1946
- 1925
- 1899
- 1886

Q7: In Queen's Baton Relay, the Baton carries a message from whom?

- Queen Elizabeth II
- Prince Charles
- Prince Harry
- Duke of Edinburgh

Q8: Which was the official song of the 2018 Commonwealth Games?

- Days of Gold
- Welcome to Earth
- Dreams and More
- All are One

Q9: In which year did the first-ever overseas cricket tour?

- 1853
- 1855
- 1857
- 1859

ANSWERS: Q1: b. Telangana Q2: b. 2
Q3: b. Feroz Shah Kotla, Delhi
Q4: c. Hard Court Q5: c. 8 Q6: d. 1886
Q7: a. Queen Elizabeth II
Q8: b. Welcome to Earth Q9: d. 1859