



# THE TIMES OF INDIA

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**TODAY'S EDITION**

► An expert tells us how physics can be learnt in a simple way with the help of cartoon characters

**PAGE 2**


► Students share their views on how India can become a global giant in the pharma sector

**PAGE 3**


► Five surprising picks at the IPL 2021 player auction

**PAGE 4**

**STUDENT EDITION**

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2021


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

## WHY FUEL IS ON FIRE?

**X-PLAINED**

**WHAT:** Petrol (regular) prices breached the ₹100 psychological barrier, a first for India, in Rajasthan's Sri Ganganagar and in Madhya Pradesh recently. The premium variants of petrol, on the other hand, had already crossed ₹100 at some places in Maharashtra, MP and Rajasthan a couple of days ago. Diesel is also retailing at all-time highs.

**WHY FUEL PRICES ARE RISING IN INDIA:** According to experts, high taxes levied on fuel, coupled with the rise in international oil prices, following Saudi Arabia's decision for additional voluntary output cuts of one million barrels per day under a deal between the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and its allies, OPEC+, are

the key reasons for the latest round of petrol and diesel price hike in the country.

Being the third-largest importer of oil in the world, the recent firming of international crude oil prices have severely impacted India, where citizens are paying extremely high rates for fuel in comparison to the neighbouring countries. As of today, the Brent Crude oil rate stands at \$63.21 per barrel.

The high rate of central and state taxes are also responsible for the hike. The government impose a tax on the base price of fuel. In other words, when prices are on fire, it's the excise tax levied by the Central and the state governments that is to blame. Under this head, in the last three years, a whopping ₹14 lakh crore has been mopped up by the Centre and states combined.

### HOW INCREASED FUEL PRICE WILL AFFECT YOUR LIFE

**1** People, who use public transport for commutation will be severely-impacted. In fact, the public transportation sector is already mulling a hike in view of the rising operational costs

**2** Since most of the products and goods that people use on a daily basis are transported from different parts of the country, their costs are likely to rise further. In other words, from the food you order to the vegetables and fruits you buy, everything is likely to get costlier

**3** Similarly, companies engaged in the logistics and transportation of goods, are also expected to increase their service rates soon due to the fuel

price hike. The demand for increasing product delivery rates has already put the consumer-oriented companies in a tough spot. According to a report in Economic Times, the transporters and freighters are seeking a 10-15 per cent increase in freight costs

**4** Moreover, if fuel prices continue to hike, especially diesel, it will lead to a rise in inflation, warn economists. Although inflation has softened over the past few months, higher fuel costs could again stoke inflation

**5** In such a scenario, India's economy is expected to witness a delay in recovery, as it will directly impact the consumption levels among the citizens

### VIEWPOINT



#### CSR SHOULD NOT BE LEGALLY-MANDATED, PHILANTHROPY MUST COME FROM WITHIN: PREMJI

**I**tzar and philanthropist Azim Premji has said that companies should not be legally-mandated to engage in corporate social responsibility (CSR), as such contributions to society need to "come from within". He added that it is important that individual and personal philanthropy is separated from a company's CSR efforts.

**As of now, there's law on CSR and all companies must follow it**

► Premji, who donated ₹7,904 crore in donations last year (₹22 crore a day), also highlighted that the Covid-19 crisis was a "wake up call" to look at fundamental issues like the need to improve public systems, health, and changing the structure of the society to become more equal and just

► Premji noted that the pandemic has had a very unequal impact, with the disadvantaged having suffered "exponentially more" and inequality widening significantly, while advising entrepreneurs to start on the path of philanthropy early. He said, "Start right away, even if you start small. Try to help build institutions and support programmes"

► Addressing the startups, he said, we must have a strong set of civil society institutions so that entrepreneurs can contribute without any kind of pressure, adding, "Your experience in business has eminently qualified you to build scale; this is an integral part of nation building."

#### Do you agree with Premji?

Share your views at [toinie175@gmail.com](mailto:toinie175@gmail.com) You can also post your comments at [toistudent.com](http://toistudent.com)

### DUAL DEGREE FROM INDIAN, FOREIGN INSTITUTES SOON



► Under the twinning arrangement, while a student enrolled in an Indian institution may undertake their programme of study partly in the foreign higher education institution, the degree or diploma offered shall be awarded by the Indian higher education institution only. The joint degree will be a single certificate bearing the crests and logo of both the collaborating institutions

► The regulations stated that no franchise arrangement will be allowed under these collaborations. "A franchise arrangement, whether overtly or covertly, by whatever nomenclature used, between a foreign higher education institution and an Indian higher education institution shall not be allowed under these regulations," says the draft.

**I**t's official. Now, Indian students will be able to earn a dual degree conferred by both the Indian and foreign higher education institutions, separately and simultaneously. Students will also get the benefit of credit transfer and joint degrees offered under academic collaborations between the Indian and foreign higher education institutions. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has finalised the draft regulations for these programmes, which will be notified soon.

**EDUCATION**

► According to the draft, the UGC Academic Collaboration between the Indian and Foreign Higher Education Institutions to offer Joint Degree, Dual Degree and Twinning Programmes Regulations, 2021, "any degree or diploma awarded, based on these collaborations shall be equivalent to any corresponding degree or diploma awarded by the Indian higher education institution; there shall be no further requirement of seeking equivalence from any authority"

► As per the regulations, the higher education institutions of India can collaborate with the foreign counterparts for credit recognition and transfer and twinning arrangement for degrees

► However, the regulations won't apply to online and distance-learning programmes

### WHATSAPP TO MOVE AHEAD WITH PRIVACY POLICY UPDATE DESPITE BACKLASH


**TECH BUZZ**

**F**acebook Inc's WhatsApp has said that it will go ahead with its controversial privacy policy update but will allow the users to read it at "their own pace", and will also display a banner providing additional information. In January, the messaging platform informed the users that it was preparing a new privacy policy, under which it could share limited user data with Facebook and its group firms. In its latest blog, WhatsApp said, it will start reminding the users to review and accept updates to keep using the messaging platform.

► In Jan, the messaging platform informed the users that it was preparing a new privacy policy, under which it could share limited user data with Facebook and its group firms ► It sparked a global outcry and sent the users to rival apps Telegram and Signal, among others, prompting WhatsApp to delay the new policy launch to May, and to clarify that the update was focused on allowing users to message with businesses and would not affect personal conversations.

### MOVIES



#### EDGAR WRIGHT TO HELM BIG SCREEN ADAPTATION OF STEPHEN KING'S 'THE RUNNING MAN'

**A**ce film director Edgar Wright is set to helm an adaptation of American author Stephen King's popular novel 'The Running Man' for Paramount Pictures. King had published the dystopian thriller novel in 1982 under the pseudonym Richard Bachman. According to Variety, Michael Bacall has penned the script from a story he co-wrote with Wright.

► Set in the year 2025 in the US, the story follows protagonist Ben Richards, as he participates in the game show 'The Running Man', in which the contestants, allowed to go anywhere in the world, are chased by 'Hunters' employed to kill them

► The book was loosely-adapted into a 1987 film that was directed by Paul Michael Glaser and

starred actor Arnold Schwarzenegger. The upcoming version is expected to stay more faithful to the source material. The cast of the forthcoming film has not been decided yet

► Wright's latest movie, the psychological thriller, 'Last Night in Soho,' features Anya-Taylor Joy, Thomasin McKenzie and Matt Smith

► It is scheduled to debut later this year

### MEET HARRISON 'SOLO', THE YOUNGEST FEMALE ATLANTIC SAILOR

**J**asmine Harrison, a 21-year-old part-time swimming teacher from North Yorkshire, England, became the youngest female to row solo across the Atlantic Ocean, when she docked in Antigua on Saturday, after covering a distance of 4,828 km from La Gomera in the Canary Islands, Spain, in a span of 70 days, 3 hours and 48 minutes. In the process, Harrison, who survived a "near collision with a drilling ship" as also two capsizes, including one just two days before her trip ended, also broke the record for the fastest solo female crossing any ocean, and helped raise £10,000 in charity for the Blue Marine Foundation, which fights overfishing and Shelter-Box and provides relief to the people impacted by natural disasters.



The previous record for the youngest solo female crossing the Atlantic Ocean was held by US' Katie Spotz, who was 22, when she rowed across the ocean from January 3 to March 14, 2010, while the youngest-ever solo rower across the Atlantic Ocean remains Lukas Haitzmann, who was 18, when he completed the trip in 2019

### Spotlight

#### NILA MADHAB'S 'KALIRA ATITA' IN OSCARS RACE

**I**nternationally-acclaimed filmmaker Nila Madhab Panda's first Odia film 'Kalira Atita' has made its entry into the Oscars race. The film that's based on climate change and rising sea level, is in the race in the general entry category.



As an entry into the 93rd Oscar awards race in the general entry category, it would compete for the best picture, best actor, best director, and many other categories. 'Kalira Atita' (Yesterday's Past) was earlier screened in the prestigious International Film Festival of India (IFFI)-2020 last month. The movie is about the disappearing of the villages in Odisha due to climate change, global warming and resultant sea level rise

### FACTOID

#### 41.7 MN TON

The amount of human waste, which is sanitised by nature every year before the liquid enters the groundwater – a service worth about \$4.4 billion per year, according to a new study. The study estimates that more than 2 million cubic metres of the cities' human waste are processed each year without engineered infrastructure. This includes pit latrine waste that gradually filters through the soil – a natural process that cleans it before it reaches the groundwater



# LEARNING PHYSICS WITH TOONS!

## FOR UNDERSTANDING KEY SCIENTIFIC LAWS, BRING THE CARTOONS TO THE CLASS

**PHYSICS**

Physics can be made interesting by adding excerpts from popular comedy Tom and Jerry and other cartoon serials. There are several potential and kinetic energies put into use as Tom chases Jerry and Jerry uses several tricks to escape his dragnet. In some of the episodes, application of gravitation and potential energy can be widely seen.

It can be more fun if the law of anti-gravity goes against gravitational law when Tom and Jerry continue to walk in the sky until they realise that there is no base beneath their legs, and then begin to fall down.

Similarly, in The Road Runner show, which is an American animated anthology series and is compiled theatrical by Wile E Coyote, Wile E Coyote continuously attempts to harm Road Runner. In one of the episodes, he tries to kill him by dropping a huge boulder from the cliff. He keeps the boulder ready on the cliff and waits for Road Runner to arrive so that he can release the stone. But to his surprise, it falls on him rather than on Road Runner. This gives a clear picture to the students about the "Centre of Mass" and its importance.

In similar such scenes, Wile E Coyote uses a human cannon ball to attack the road runner. As he ignites it, instead of releasing him into the air, the canon itself shoots backward in direction and Coyote falls down in the same spot. This clearly explains "Momentum".

Mickey Mouse is another show dedicated to children which involves lot of physics. For instance, Mickey Mouse while riding a bike, collides with a car coming from the opposite direction. After the collision, they freeze for a second or two, which explains law of "conservation of momentum". In another instance, Mickey tries to pedal vertically upwards on a mountain, in an attempt to go fast, his bicycle slows down. This is due to the pull of gravity.

Instead of using traditional textbook examples, educators need to bring out examples which children will remember for a long time. Using examples from children's present experiences, the class can be made more interesting and effective.

Burra Saibabu, HOD Science, KCP Siddhartha Adarsh Residential School, Kanuru, Vijayawada

## DO NOT PILE UP WORK: REVISE & RELAX

Please, Please, Please, don't pile your work. As and when the teacher revises a topic, study it thoroughly that same day. This way you will complete the portion on time.

Write notes or draw flowcharts, timelines for history to make learning and revising fun and easy.

Choose a time for your daily studies and stick with it. Don't change your study time every day.

Change the plan weekly so that you can re-schedule according to your different needs and requirements.

Indulge in a hobby that you can practice during the study breaks as doing it makes you more energetic and can also help you concentrate.

Decide your study time according to your grasping power and attention span. Don't do blindly



what the other person is doing. You are the best person to know your own requirements.

**De-stress and keep distractions at bay:**

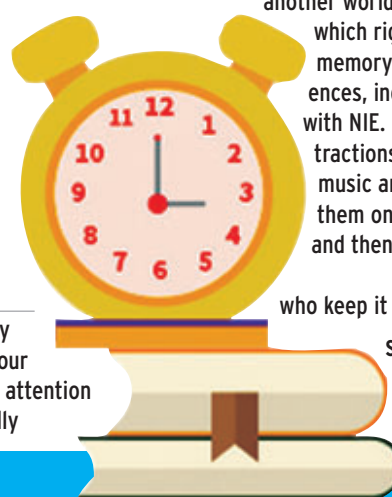
As studying requires focus and energy, I try to keep my stress levels at bay by practising some activities I like.

I don't exceed my study time, and then listen to some music as it lifts my mood. I also practice dance during my breaks. This relaxes me.

I read books online and also write stories. It temporarily transports me into another world. Finally, I do some art

which right now is preparing a memory book for my experiences, including the fun time with NIE. I try to avoid my distractions which mainly are music and books. So, I use them only for a limited time and then I give my gadgets to my parents or sister who keep it away from me.

S M V Kareesmaa, class X student, Ryan International School Kharghar, Mumbai



### WRITE TO REVISE

## GET A GRIP ON MATH CONCEPTS

**FOCUS ON CONCEPTS:** As the question paper pattern has changed, more emphasis has been given to application-based questions. Students must focus on strengthening the concepts to be better prepared for these types of questions.

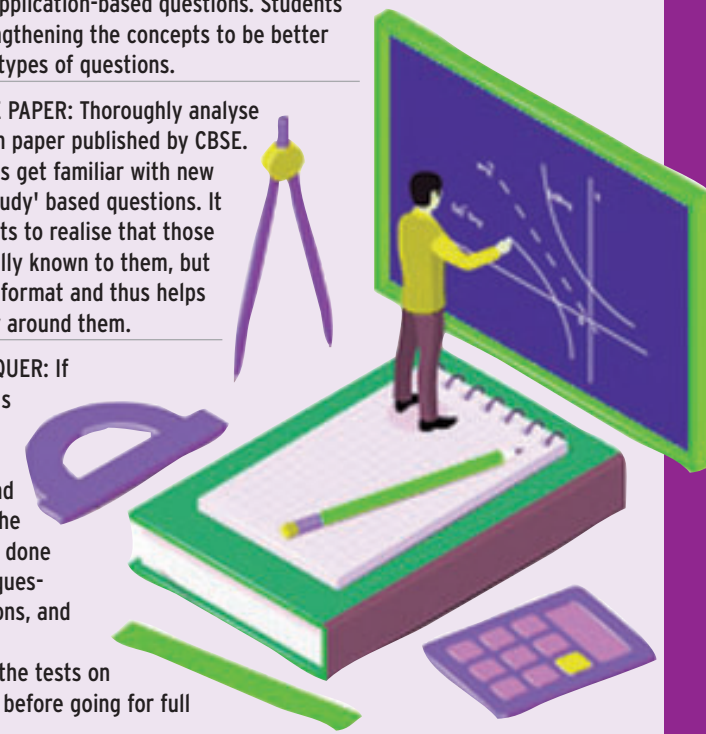
**ANALYSE SAMPLE PAPER:** Thoroughly analyse the sample question paper published by CBSE. It helps the students get familiar with new entries like 'case study' based questions. It will help the students to realise that those questions are actually known to them, but just asked in a new format and thus helps in reducing the fear around them.

**DIVIDE AND CONQUER:** If the whole syllabus is too much to cope, break it in sections of easy, average, and difficult chapters. The division can also be done as formulas, short questions, direct questions, and HOTS questions. Students can solve the tests on these sections first before going for full course paper.

**WRITE, CHECK, WRITE:** In mathematics paper, most of the mistakes can be attributed to the lack of writing practice. Once the concepts are understood, solve as many questions as possible by writing, not just by reading.

**TIME YOURSELF AS YOU PRACTICE:** Even while practicing a chapter or solving few sums, students must keep a check on the time they take according to probable weightage of the sum in question paper. This practice helps a lot in time management during exam.

Ankita Parik, PGT [math], Udgam School for Children, Ahmedabad



## PUTTING COMMERCE INTO PRACTICE

This academic year I started teaching the chapters through online applications. It is so user-friendly that I am planning to take the remedial lectures for academically weak students through the same as final exams are nearing. I have also planned innovative revisions, chapter-wise.

I teach OCM & SP (Organisational Change Management and Secretarial Practice) in a practical way. For instance, in the second chapter in OCM which is 'Functions of Management,' after the explanation I gave

students a task where they performed all the functions of management i.e. from planning to reporting. Another chapter in my subject is 'Consumer Protection' where I asked my students to do a primary research and find out how many people are aware of consumer forums. The students analysed and carried out a thorough research before giving their presentations.

In Secretarial Practice (SP) we have various investment options like shares, debentures, bullion market, mutual funds, SIPs etc. After the explanation of each investment option, I transfigured my students into investment bankers (mock) where they

displayed their products (i.e. shares, debentures) etc. and made the audience buy them (dummy investment).

One more chapter in OCM is about the service sector which is helpful for business. Here I created a bank with the help of my students wherein they carried out all the banking activities with the parents, other students and teachers' participation as customers.

Sujatha Vojhala, Teacher, Guardian Jr. College, Dombivli, Mumbai



**Q1.** A place where an organism or group of organisms live and obtain food, air, water, shelter or space, or light needed to survive is called \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. habitat b. metamorphosis  
c. adaptation d. locomotion

**Q2.** A colour or pattern that allows an animal to blend into its environment is called \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Migration b. behavioral adaptation  
c. metamorphosis d. camouflage

**Q3.** Sharks are great swimmers because they have adapted \_\_\_\_\_ to help them swim.

- a. fins b. gills  
c. teeth d. tail

**Q4.** Porcupines' main line of defense comes from their sharp \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. teeth b. quills  
c. claws d. skin

## All about Adaptation

**Q5.** Giraffes are able to eat acacia leaves because of their \_\_\_\_\_ neck.

- a. long b. short  
c. thin d. thick

**Q6.** Skunks protect themselves using \_\_\_\_\_ defense mechanism.

- a. teeth b. speed  
c. scent d. claws

**Q7.** Which kind of plant is best adapted for life in the tropical rainforest?

- a. Strangler Figs b. epiphyte  
c. pitcher plant d. all of the above

**Q8.** Arnav observed a plant and noticed the fol-

lowing characteristics:

- (i) It has lots of branches and Leaves  
(ii) It can withstand summer heat  
(iii) It sheds its leaves in the autumn  
Can you help him identify what kind of plant it is?

- a. It is a plant that grows in plains.  
b. It is a plant of hilly areas.  
c. It is a plant that lives under water.  
d. It is a plant that grows in marshy areas.

**Q9.** Which of the following statements is FALSE regarding hilly trees like the Pine?

- a. they do not have flowers  
b. they are dome shaped.  
c. they are conifers  
d. their leaves are needle-shaped

**Q10.** Hydrilla and tape grass plants are  
a. fixed plants b. floating plant  
c. submerged aquatic plant  
d. both a and b

Nimisha Gaur, teacher, Silver Oaks International School, Sarjapur, Bengaluru

### ANSWER KEY

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| 1. (a) habitat    | above                                      |
| 2. (d) camouflage | 8. (a) It is a plant that grows in plains. |
| 3. (a) fins       | 9. (b) they are dome shaped.               |
| 4. (b) quills     | 10. (c) submerged aquatic plant            |
| 5. (a) long       |  |
| 6. (c) scent      |  |
| 7. (d) all of the |  |



Times NIE Editorial Powered by students

# INDIA - THE GLOBAL PHARMACY

It is wonderful that India's 'Covaxin' is now being exported. Remember that Yellapragada Subbarow was the first to discover the ATP molecule and develop Aueromycin, a stronger antibiotic than penicillin and streptomycin, which saved millions of lives around the world.

**Varshini Pinapala, class XI, Chaitanya Public School, Visakhapatnam**



India's decision to export the vaccine will strengthen the relations with our neighbouring countries which will benefit us in the longer run and improve the country's image in the global pharmaceutical industry. That we were able to come out with two vaccines proves our prowess in the medical field.

**Kunika Saluja, class XII, PML SD Public School, Chandigarh**



Tagged as the 'Pharmacy of the world', India, with its Covaxin is certainly living up to its name. As a re-emerging force in the world, India is doing a brilliant job with vaccine making and providing it free of cost to our allies. This is a positive gesture, which can improve our relations with other countries.

**Urmila Jithesh, class XI, Bhavan's Vidya Mandir, Elamakkara, Ernakulam**



India is a leading nation in terms of manufacturing vaccines, producing about 60 % of the world's vaccines. The latest is Covaxin. It is a matter of pride that India is sending vaccines to our neighbours and allies free of cost. This is a step towards India becoming the pharmacy giant of the world.

**Preena Sengupta, class IX, Pawar Public school, Hadapsar, Pune**



An indigenous vaccine means that it will be suitable for our body type. It was cleared by the WHO for use in Africa and South America as well as for the climatic conditions similar to India. I couldn't be more proud that my country is fulfilling its motto of 'Vasudaiva Kutumbakam' and helping countries that need it.

**Ramarathinam Iyer VV, class IX, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan's Public School, Hyderabad**



I feel proud that India is leading the effort against the virus. The efforts taken by the government to make available to every nook and corner of our country is commendable! Self-sufficiency is the key and Covaxin development is yet another huge step towards an atmanirbhar Bharat.

**Mithun Meenakshi S, class XII, SBOA Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Coimbatore**



Like every sensible nation, the Indian leadership has the first commitment towards its own citizens. They should ensure all the citizens are vaccinated in the quickest time-frame to ensure their safety against the pandemic. Only then should we start exporting to other countries.

**Naomi Dewicka, class XII, Delhi Public School, RK Puram, Delhi**



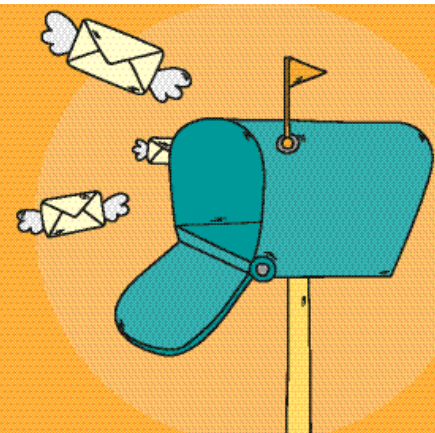
We should celebrate the expertise of our medical fraternity and the people-powered response to the pandemic. Our largest indigenous vaccine drive is the finest example of Make in India, at a scale that is unparalleled. Our vaccine supply to humanity proves our commitment to further global good.

**Asish Singh, class XII, St Augustine's Day School, Barrackpore**



With the two vaccines already rolled out and three more on the way, scientists and researchers in India have proved themselves to be proficient and competent. Our government's philanthropic decision to export the vaccine free of cost will further improve India's already rising international position.

**Ali Badami, class XII, SM Choksey Junior College, Pune**



## WRITE TO US

SEND YOUR REPLIES, CONTRIBUTIONS AND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ON

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You can also post your articles, paintings, sketches, debates, concerns and feedback on **WWW.TOISTUDENT.COM**

**WE ARE WAITING**

## Letter to the editor

### Let's put an end to colourism

India is a huge nation with a tremendous population, making it the second most populated country on the planet. However, discrimination against someone or the other is always present.

This attitude needs to change and fast. We ought to respect unity in diversity and not underestimate anyone due to their colour, status, community or religion among other things.

Our Constitution says, everyone in India has the privilege to be dealt with equally. Nobody can be underestimated on any premise, definitely not due to the colour of their skin.

Dear Editor, we should have more articles here that deal with the sensitive issue of colourism. We need to spread awareness about equality and rights against discrimination. As a society we should name and shame the perpetrators of this kind of behaviour. There should be strict laws to curb this menace.

To conclude, I would like reiterate – we shouldn't treat individuals based on their colour. They are all human beings first and deserve equal respect. Start the change, SAY NO TO RACISM.

**Prerna Thakur, class XI, Darshan Academy, Kingsway Camp, Kirpal Marg Road, Delhi**

# VACCINES FOR THE DEVELOPING WORLD

**Durga Basu, class IX, Vasant Valley School, New Delhi**

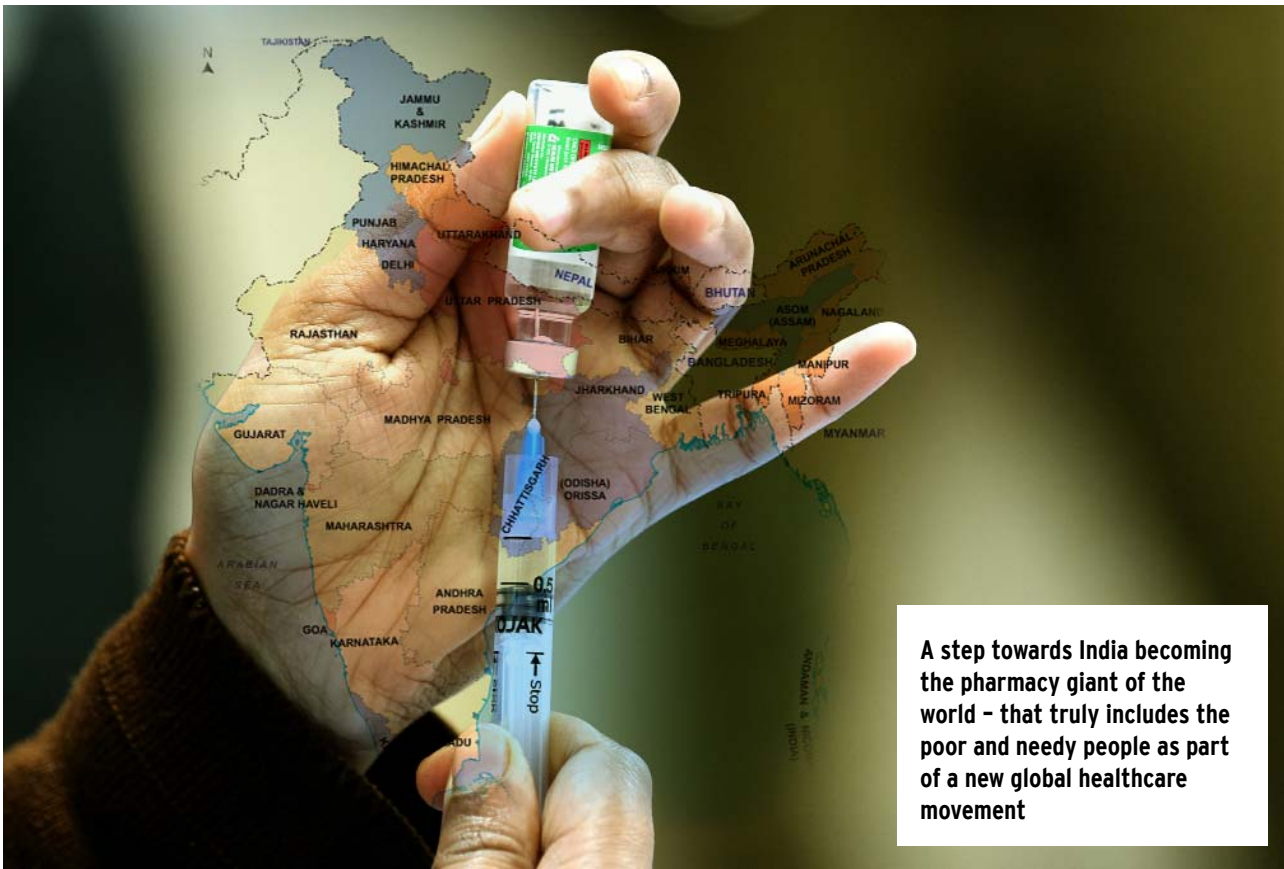
Europe and the UK have already started rolling out the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine, US followed and swiftly approved Moderna too, distribution will start soon. Why? As inoculating people is the way forward in ending the pandemic. How? They are all rich countries who can afford the jabs and have storage facilities. There is no doubt that their citizens and residents will be safely vaccinated in due time. Now that we don't need to fret over them, we can redirect that worry to places that deserve it more.

### Vaccine distribution...

Rich nations represent 14% of the world's population but have hoarded 53% of the most promising vaccines. COVAX, which aims to fairly distribute vaccines to the less moneyed nations is failing too as the richer countries have already claimed a lion's share of the jabs and because of a billion dollar monetary insufficiency. This could have been stopped by giving the WHO more control over vaccine distribution and providing the poorer countries with the resources they need to vaccinate their citizens. But, of course sending long awaited vaccines away to other countries would be politically disadvantageous to foreign leaders.

### The Indian dilemma

Even if rich nations became very generous and secured enough Pfizer or Moderna vaccines for a country like India, we would still have no way to distribute it to our citizens. Pfizer vaccines need to be stored at -70 degrees celsius, Moderna's being a slightly more practicable -20 degrees. Pfizer would probably be unaffordable for middle income countries too as India and South Africa lost a bid to waive intellectual property protections for the drugs. Oxford-Astra Zeneca's vaccine has been seen as the viable option for poor countries and it is significantly cheaper and needs only 2-8 degrees celsius storage which would be easier to transport to rural India. But it is unlikely that one company can vaccinate all of the developing world. As Indian authorities move closer to approving the Oxford-Astra Zeneca vaccine and airports get their cold storage facilities ready, we must keep in mind that our country is much more fortunate than many others when it comes to securing and distributing vaccines; along with China we have secured the most shots in all of Asia.



**A step towards India becoming the pharmacy giant of the world – that truly includes the poor and needy people as part of a new global healthcare movement**

- Rich nations represent 14% of the world's population but have hoarded 53% of the most promising vaccines.
- COVAX, which aims to fairly distribute vaccines to the less moneyed nations is failing too as the richer countries have already claimed a lion's share of the jabs.
- India is much more fortunate than many others when it comes to securing and distributing vaccines.
- Throughout the pandemic, Africa has been pushed to the back of the queue for everything: testing kits, trials and vaccines. The lack of testing has caused record numbers undetected cases in the continent and accelerated the spread.

### Our strategy

This is largely due to India's vaccine manufacturing capabilities and unsurprisingly most of the vaccines we manufacture will be for domestic use, unlike many others in developing countries, our government has a clear roadmap for immunisation. And all of sub-saharan Africa is yet to procure a single vaccine deal!

Throughout the pandemic, Africa has been pushed to the back of the queue for everything: testing kits, trials and vaccines. Even news channels have largely ignored the suffering of the African people. The lack of testing has caused record numbers undetected cases in the continent and accelerated the spread. The already overwhelmed hospitals are on the verge of collapsing. Shocking reports from the WHO also say that less than

half of African countries have laid out plans to reach priority groups. The low African participation in vaccine development and trials is not really surprising.

### The vaccine discrimination

The success of alliances like COVAX depends largely on rich countries' goodwill. This conditional kindness comes only after their population is safe and their economies more stable. Every pandemic tells the same story of poorer states being disproportionately affected and left in the cold until much later. Though of course it is natural (and politically attractive) to want to protect one's own people first; we must remember that Canada's herd immunity will mean nothing if the disease runs rampant in Peru, nobody is safe until we all are. Denying vaccines to countries like ours will only result in economic misery, poverty, malnutrition, lack of sanitation, and a broken healthcare system. Even hard earned gender equality could face a setback.

And in this truly globalised world, when the economies' of developing countries suffer, the world economy is bound to take a hit too. **World unity and looking beyond borders and just seeing each other as humans is absolutely crucial during such a crisis.**

# BIG Q



### WHY BIODIVERSITY?

Every day we read or listen that "this species of Mammals are going to be extinct or that species of birds are in danger." Reading such news makes us unhappy. But are we responsible for it? Many times a question arises in our mind that why should we conserve biodiversity? How will be benefit from it? Here are few reasons that are different from what you generally know about preserving biodiversity.

- 1. Preserves heritage and culture:** Conserving wildlife means conserving heritage and traditional culture of a place. Some places are known for their flora and fauna in relation to the native practices and ways of livelihood. So, failure to conserve the environment, will lead to loss of our land, culture and heritage.
- 2. Medicinal Values:** Although plants are the major sources of medication, some animals are also vital in the production of medicines. For example, the venom of cobra is an important ingredient in making medicine for leprosy.
- 3. Aesthetic benefits:** Watching animals in their natural habitat is great and also fun for all of us.

**Abhishek Kumar, class IX, AKSIPS Smart School, Sector-41, Chandigarh**

### IS A LITTLE CHARITY TOO MUCH?

Betty bought some butter; but the butter was bitter. So Betty bought some more butter to make the bitter butter better. Tricky, huh?

This popular tongue twister depicts our society quite well in a satirical way. We, who are cosy and warm inside thick blankets and surrounded by heaters have 'better butter' in the form of many things in our daily lives. But there are many people who are devoid of all the resources. They have what we can call the 'bitter butter'.

The way Betty made the whole butter better by adding a little 'better butter' to the 'bitter butter', similarly, we can also make this society a better place to live by contributing a bit towards those who have nothing but hope. This way, our smiles won't fade when we look at them trembling by the roadside, and they won't go green with envy, seeing us in thick coats and mufflers. **VEDANGEER RAJ CHOUDHARY, class XI, Carman Day & Residential School**



# SURPRISING PICKS

There were several surprise picks at the IPL 2021 player auction with all teams managing to strengthen their squads by making the best use of the players available in the pool. We take a look at five surprising picks from the IPL 2021 player auction

## LIAM LIVINGSTONE (RR, ₹75 lakh)

Liam Livingstone was a surprise pick at the auction. Rajasthan Royals shelled out ₹75 lakh for his services. Livingstone was part of the RR squad in the 2019 season and scored just 71 runs in 4 games. After he was released by the franchise, he pulled out of IPL 2020 to focus on county cricket. With the likes of Aaron Finch, Jason Roy, and Alex Hales failing to attract bids, Livingstone's purchase came as a surprise for many.

## HARBHAJAN SINGH (KKR, ₹2 crore)

Harbhajan Singh went unsold in the first round of the IPL 2021 player auction as no teams showed an interest in him. However, in the second round, Harbhajan, who is 40 now and has not played any form of cricket since IPL 2019, was signed by Kolkata Knight Riders at his base price of ₹2 crore. Harbhajan was last seen in action for CSK in 2019 and had skipped last season due to personal reasons.

## CHETESHWAR PUJARA (CSK, ₹50 lakh)

When Cheteshwar Pujara's name was announced at the IPL 2021 player auction, little did anyone expect any team to bid for the Test specialist. Pujara, who last played in IPL 2014, had failed to find a new team in subsequent auctions. However, Chennai Super Kings bid for him and their opening bid was enough to secure the veteran batsman's services. Pujara thoroughly deserves his IPL contract but was certainly one of the surprising picks.



Photo: PTI

## ARJUN TENDULKAR (MI, ₹20 lakh)

With just two T20s under his belt and average returns of 2 wickets and 3 runs from them, not many had expected Arjun Tendulkar to attract a bid at the IPL 2021 auction. But the youngster, who is the son of the legendary Sachin Tendulkar, was roped in at his base price of ₹20 lakh by his father's former IPL team Mumbai Indians. Arjun had toured UAE last year with Mumbai Indians as a net bowler during the IPL 2020 season.



Photo: REUTERS

## KEDAR JADHAV (SRH, ₹2 crore)

Not many had expected Kedar Jadhav to find a new team at the IPL 2021 player auction after his disastrous campaign for Chennai Super Kings last season in the UAE. Jadhav managed to score only 62 runs in 8 matches for CSK and was heavily criticised for his woeful show. He went unsold when his name was first announced at the IPL 2021 auction but managed to secure a bid in the second round after Sunrisers roped him in at his base price of ₹2 crore.



Photo: TOI



Photo: TOI

## 'Have to be extra cautious to tackle twilight phase'



Photo: PTI

It's obviously a little challenging, the weather and light suddenly change. You have to be extra cautious and focussed, you need to talk to yourself. All batters are aware of these challenges. We just need to be mindful of the situation and play accordingly.

Yes, of course we want to qualify, we want to be there in the (WTC) final but we still need to do a lot of things right to get there. When we are playing, the focus is only on what we need to do to win the game.

I often stand in the slips so I read the game from behind and it is important for me to pass on the information as to what the batter is trying to do. We try and keep sharing the information with each other so that the team gets what it wants on the field.

ROHIT SHARMA

Set to play in only his second pink ball Test, India opener Rohit Sharma said he will be "extra cautious and focussed" while batting during the twilight phase of the upcoming day-night match against England in Motera, Ahmedabad. Rohit, who scored a dazzling 161 in the second Test in Chennai, had featured in the first day-night Test held in India against Bangladesh in November 2019 but did not bat during the twilight phase. "So far I have only heard that it kind of plays on a batsman's mind. I played just one pink ball Test against Bangladesh but didn't get to bat at that (twilight) time when the sun was about to set but I have to try and understand what exactly happens during that time," he said during a virtual press conference ahead of the third Test against England, starting here on Wednesday.

## Sterling on target as Man City beat Arsenal to race towards EPL title

The Manchester City winning machine ploughed on relentlessly towards the title with a 1-0 Premier League victory over Arsenal courtesy of Raheem Sterling's goal after 75 seconds on Sunday. Sterling's header from Riyad Mahrez's cross caught Arsenal cold and was enough for City to claim an 18th consecutive win in all competitions and preserve their 10-point lead. The visitors dominated possession and created numerous chances but were unable to kill off Arsenal, although City keeper Ederson was rarely called into action. Pep Guardiola's side's 13th successive league victory lifted them to 59 points from 25 games. Arsenal's third defeat in four games left them in 10th spot.

REUTERS



Raheem Sterling

## QUIZ TIME!



**Q1:** During which Olympics did Usain Bolt make his debut as a 17-year-old athlete?

- a) 2016 Rio Olympics ☐  
b) 2012 London Olympics ☐  
c) 2008 Beijing Olympics ☐  
d) 2004 Athens Olympics ☐

**Q2:** In 1975, Muhammad Ali beat which boxer in "the Thriller in Manila"?

- a) Sonny Liston ☐  
b) Joe Frazier ☐  
c) George Foreman ☐  
d) Mike Tyson ☐

**Q3:** Which player has taken the fastest 100 wickets in

Test cricket?

- a) Charlie Turner ☐  
b) George Lohmann ☐  
c) Sydney Barnes ☐  
d) Clarrie Grimmett ☐

**Q4:** How many Premier League titles has Manchester United won since the tournament was given the new name in 1992?

- a) 11 titles ☐  
b) 15 titles ☐  
c) 13 titles ☐  
d) 17 titles ☐

**Q5:** Who has played the most Test matches as captain in Test cricket?

- a) Stephen Fleming ☐  
b) Allan Border ☐  
c) Graeme Smith ☐  
d) Ricky Ponting ☐

**Q6:** Who won the 2014 NBA Defensive Player of

Year award?

- a) Dwight Howard ☐  
b) Tyson Chandler ☐  
c) Kawhi Leonard ☐  
d) Joakim Noah ☐

**Q7:** Michael Phelps had won \_\_\_\_\_ world titles by the

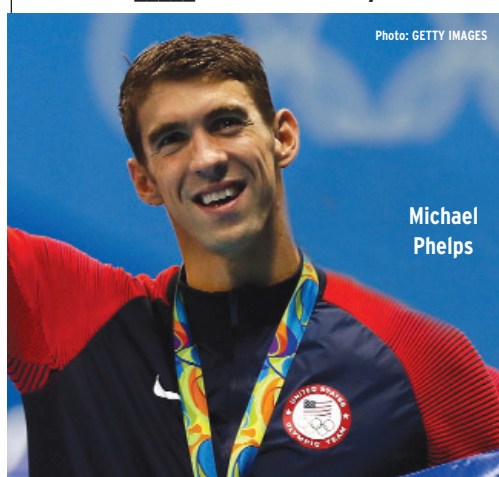


Photo: GETTY IMAGES

Michael Phelps

time he opened his Olympic account at Athens 2004.

- a) Five ☐  
b) Six ☐  
c) Seven ☐  
d) Four ☐

**Q8:** Which of these tennis players won the 2014 US Open singles titles?

- a) Rafael Nadal ☐  
b) Stan Wawrinka ☐  
c) Kei Nishikori ☐  
d) Marin Cilic ☐

**Q9:** Who won the 2014 Women's Wimbledon singles title?

- a) Maria Sharapova ☐  
b) Eugenie Bouchard ☐  
c) Serena Williams ☐  
d) Petra Kvitova ☐

**Q10:** Larisa Latynina claimed a staggering nine golds, five silvers and four bronze medals at the Olympics. In how many

Games did she win them?

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

**Q11:** Serena Williams won 2015 Women's Australian Open after defeating which tennis player?

- a) Eugenie Bouchard ☐  
b) Garbine Muguruza ☐  
c) Maria Sharapova ☐  
d) Caroline Wozniacki ☐

**Q12:** Which player has taken in One Day Internationals?

- a) Brett Lee ☐  
b) Glenn McGrath ☐  
c) Waqar Younis ☐  
d) Muttiah Muralitharan ☐

**ANSWERS:** 1 d) 2004 Athens Olympics  
2 b) Joe Frazier 3 b) George Lohmann  
4 c) 13 titles 5 c) Graeme Smith  
6 d) Joakim Noah 7 a) Five 8 d) Marin Cilic  
9 d) Petra Kvitova 10 b) Three  
11 c) Maria Sharapova 12 a) Brett Lee