BENNETT, COLEMAN & CO. LTD. | ESTABLISHED 1838 | TIMESOFINDIA.COM | NEW DELHI



CLICK HERE: PAGE 1 AND 2



CATCH THE RAIN, SAYS PM MODI; **EMPHASISES ON SAVING WATER**

rime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday launched 'Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain' campaign for conserving water and stressed that every penny of MGNREGA funds be spent on rain water conservation till the monsoon arrives. Addressing an event at the virtual launch of the campaign on the World Water Day, Modi said it is a matter of concern that majority of rain water in India gets wasted. He said the more the rain

water is conserved, the less will be the dependence on groundwater.

OUTRAGE OVER HEBDO'S JOKE ON PALACE-MEGHAN ROW





China's Polar Ambition: World Sees Red How is China occupying key spots in Antarctica?

ith the aim to part of its geopolitical am- Council, in an article for the Arctic and port published in 'The Antarctica re-National Interest.'

gions, China has been pouring investments and aggressively constructing a fleet of polar icebreakers as American Foreign Policy ca remain little-known.

dominate the bitions, according to a re- magazine said that although the western countries have taken note of Chi-Alexander B Gray, a na's designs over the Arc-Senior Fellow in National tic, however, Beijing's Security Affairs at the machinations in Antarcti-

WHO DOES ANTARCTICA BELONG TO?



tary nature" are prohibited. Both the United States and China are signatories to the treaty and its most important

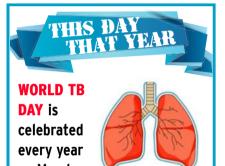
SCIENTIFIC: China has five research stations on Antarctica, said Gray, adding, Beijing has used some of its Antarctic bases for satellite stations and high-powered telescopes, both of which have military applications. Despite the warning signs, none of the bases have been inspected since 2015. MILITARY: Gray said China's construction of a permanent Antarctic airfield in 2018, its growing fleet of icebreakers, and an influx of People's Liberation Army personnel at Beijing's research stations are just a few of

TICKER-TAPE

CHHICHHORE BAGS BEST HINDI FILM AT 67TH NATIONAL FILM AWARDS: After late actor Sushant Singh-starrer film 'Chhichhore' bagged 'Best Hindi Film' accolade at the prestigious 67th National Film Awards, actor Varun Sharma who also featured in the film dedicated the award to the late star. 'Chhichhore' is a movie full of nostalgia and plays on the themes of friendship and college life.

KANGANA BAGS 'BEST ACTRESS'

THE FOURTH TIME, THANKS ALL: Actress Kangana Ranaut won the National Film Award as 'Best Actress' for the fourth time for her performances in 'Manikarnika' and 'Panga.' Shortly after the announcement, she posted a thankyou video on social media for the cast and crew of both films, saying her win would not be possible without them.



Meghan left Buckingham' and a speech bubble from her says: "I couldn't breathe any more." The reference to George Floyd's death in the US last year sparked outrage. Dr Halima Begum, a head of anti-racism think tank, tweeted: "#Charlie-Hebdo, this is wrong on every level. It demeans the issues & causes offence, across the board." Many found it 'bad humour'.





Tesla chief Elon Musk and former Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos have been feuding publicly for years, but not many know that the two once met for a friendly dinner in 2004. A photograph from the meeting is currently going viral on social media and it even captured Elon Musk's attention, who reacted to it on Twitter.

TRUMP ON OWN SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM?

ormer US president Donald Trump is planning to return to social media by launching his own platform after being suspended from Twitter and Facebook, one of Trump's senior advisors told Fox News. "I do think that we're going to see President Trump returning to social media in probably about two or three months here, with his own platform," said Trump's senior adviser Jason Miller.



DRIVING DIVERSITY: HAMILTON READY TO CHASE 8TH F1 TITLE



f Lewis Hamilton wins an eighth Formula One title, he will move one ahead of fellow great Michael Schumacher. Hamilton's decision to pen a one-year contract with Mercedes has sparked speculation he may call it quits when the sun sets on the F1 season at the Abu Dhabi GP in December.

Antarctica is considered a global commons to be preserved "for peaceful purposes only" under the terms of the 1959 Antarctic Treaty and "any measures of a miliaddendum - the 1991 Madrid Protocol, which permanently prohibits extractive mining, protects the unique flora and fauna of the continent.

The enforcement mechanism of the Antarctic Treaty and its pro-U tocols is an inspection system, whereby signatories undertake periodic visits to the stations maintained by 30 countries.

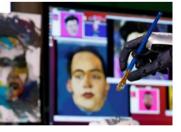
Beijing's military objectives.

RARE EARTH: Also, Chinese experts believe the Madrid Protocol expires in 2048, along with the accompanying ban on mining in the Antarctic. This development has prompted Chinese officials to openly speculate about the Southern Continent as a potential source for rare earth elements.

on March 24 annually to

commemorate the date when Dr Robert Koch announced his discovery of Mycobacterium tuberculosis, the bacillus that causes TB in 1882.

Al Sophia's first digital work up for sale



obot artist Sophia, whose first artwork goes up for nearly \$70 million. auction today, says she draws inspiration for her work from people and is open to future creative partnerships with humans

A digital artwork by the Hong Kong-based Hanson Robotics humanoid, in the form of a Non-Fungible Token (NFT), is to be auc-

tioned in the first sale of such pieces, created jointly with artificial intelligence (AI). NFTs, a digital signature saved

on blockchain ledgers that allows anyone to verify the ownership and authenticity of items, have become the latest investment craze, with



one artwork selling this month for

"I hope the people like my work, and the humans and I can collaborate in new and exciting ways," Sophia said.

The intelligent art

Sophia, who was unveiled in 2016, produced her art in collaboration with Italian digital artist Andrea Bonaceto, known for portraits.

Called 'Sophia Instantiation', the digital work is a 12-second MP4 file showing the evolution of Bonaceto's portrait into Sophia's digital painting, and is accompanied by a physical artwork, painted by Sophia on a printout of her self-portrait.

ARTSPHERE: Know About World Wisdom Map

que project featuring life lessons and stories of people from each one of the 195 countries in the world. The collation and exhibition of human wisdom is showcased on an artistic and interactive digital world map, which combines visual and wisdom anthropology that people have to offer one another, promoting cross-cultural understanding and creating social impact.

Accordin g to Project Fuel India and Singapore International Foundation's Arts For Good Projects, this consciousness project further sparks awareness about the heterogeneity of lifestyles, as well as the myriad coping mecha-



nisms that the people employ to make the most of these strange times of COVID-19. It took the team over 11 months to document a story for each country. In collaboration with 10 Southeast Asian artists, 30 original pieces have been created inspired by the life lessons and impact of each of these stories.

EXAMPLES: The map has exclusively curated life lessons from deep dive segments of Singapore, transgender women of India, influence from across the world including Nobel laureate Jody Williams, Bollywood actors Abhay Deol, Dia Mirza, popular Latvian musician MaraUpmane-Holšteine, Madame Sophie Trudeau (wife of Canadian PM Justin Trudeau), amongst others.

Raising a 'French' toast to Covid chats!

UK students, French seniors team up for lockdown tete-atete to bridge gap between generations and **learn French**

time – 5.30 pm in France – Elliot Bellman, 20, keeps an unlikely appointment with 97-year-old Jacqueline Tolu. "Comment allez-vous?" (how are you?) he asks Tolu over Skype. Tolu, who lives in a retirement home in Bonneuil-sur-Marne, just outside of Paris, tells him she is doing fine. The pair's weekly chats are breaking

Every Monday at 4:30 pm British



up the monotony and solitude of Covid restrictions imposed on both sides of the Channel. Bellman goes on to tell her the latest news from the Warwick University, in England, where he is studying French, Spanish and Japanese. Tolu, in turn, regales him with memories of the 14 years she spent in Africa. Since the inception of the 'Share

Ami' programme last year, there have been 110 pairings of French seniors with French learners. "The online conversations have helped to stop my French from getting rusty - and combat a sense of isolation in lockdown. I think that the two groups most affected by the lockdown are the younger and the older generation," he said, adding, "this helped us bond."

02

"Life is short, but there is always time enough for courtesy." **RALPH WALDO EMERSON, POET**

READ. PLAY. LEARN

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2021

JEE Main Topper Pravar Kataria

There is a lot of scope for COMPUTER **SCIENCE** GRADUATES

For Pravar Kataria, exam stress is serious. "Talk to parents/family members when you see stress building up. Pursue your hobbies too, provided it doesn't consume most of your time," he advises students preparing for JEE Main exams



Deebashree Mohanty

student of Pragati Public School in Dwarka, Pravar Kataria, hopes to secure admission in Computer Science at the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT-B) after qualifying JEE Advanced (to be conducted on July 3). Computer Science, says Pravar, has better future career prospects.

1. Many toppers say if you can manage exam stress, it's half the battle won. Your thoughts? Tips on how students can actually manage stress?

According to me, the root cause of stress is our faulty examination schedule and expectations. The exam structure in our country needs a re-think. We need to focus on "learning" rather than collecting marks to get into further studies. My advise to students: Talk to parents and supportive family members the moment you see the stress built up. Keep pursuing your hobbies, provided it doesn't consume most of your time. I used to watch movies and go out for a walk during my break time.

2. Your thoughts on the current education system and what can be done to better it? I have a lot to speak on this topic. The

Indian education system, in its present avatar, is surely not perfect. We give a lot of weightage to exams and results 5. Tips for other aspiring candirather than focussing on the real benefits of "education". I feel our syllabus and course structure was originally designed to identify machine-type individuals and is not replaced till date (2021). The New Education Policy shows promise but a lot depends on how it is implemented.

3. What is your plan for the future?

At present, I am planning for IIT Advanced. I wish to pursue Computer Science from IIT Bombay and explore a career in the field later. There is a lot of scope for this subject.

4. Your initial reaction on the 100 percentile score? Why is it being said that the 100 percentile club is becoming leaner for **JEE Main?**

I was delighted to see my result as my hard work paid off. I was expecting a good score but 100% percentile still remains a memorable moment. The number of people in this club has reduced remarkably post pandemic. Although, with the study-from-home option, students could focus more on their course work, I feel they lacked the peer-competitive spirit and that slowed them down during the actual test.

dates on how to crack the JEE Main examination? Just a few things: > Plan your time and modify the plan as and when required. > Work hard and work smart! Remember that perseverance gives confidence, so keep at it. 6. Online education was the new normal in 2021; do you see

hybrid classes become a regular feature in our education system? I don't think so. The problem of

"At Pragati Public School, we focus on the holistic development of our students, and believe that humility is the foundation of all virtues. I am very proud of Pravar Kataria's achievement. My advice to him: Keep your eyes on the stars and your feet on the ground." Geeta Kapur, Principal, Pragati Public School, New Delhi

> resources/technology is going to be an issue. If the government can bridge this divide, online education can thrive, but I don't see it happening any time soon.

7. How can students balance studies for Board exams and competitive tests?

According to my seniors, Board examinations shouldn't be a big problem if you study hard for competitive tests.

5 *quick wardrobe* **TIPS TO HFI P** maintenance tips for fresh clothes

Usually we concentrate on cleaning the items placed inside the wardrobe, but not the closet itself. But, maintaining a clean wardrobe is a road map to your clean

YOU DETECT FAKE SCIENCE



clothes. Here are five wardrobe maintenance tips, shared by Roopa Hariharan, cofounder PureCult, an eco-friendly home cleaning products maker

Spot clean the wardrobe with detergent or cleanser to avoid dry and that wardrobes or cupboards have are because of dust accumulation in the corners will help you maintain the shape of the

and crevices. But spills are also another reason to form the spots. Clean them immediately to avoid dry stains

Combat the moths out of the wardrobe to save your woollen wear. Moths are mostly drawn to sweat, hair and body oil left on clothing, particularly those made of natural fibres. Though we clean all the clothes before placing them in the wardrobe, the leftover scents attract also moths

Place dried rose-Ū mary cloves, lavender, or bay leaves into a small cloth bag and hang them in your wardrobe or your drawers. The essential oils form of

these herbs, spread on contaminated areas fragrance of lavender and geranium of the closet, is really helpful in driving essential oils. A fresh and clean closet is away moths. You can use an essential oil everything you need for your clothing and diffuser alongside to eliminate them. This accessories storage. Follow the above easy will also make your wardrobe smell fresh and nice.

Pick good thick wooden hangers to hang your clothes in the wardrobe Not Call the clothes require a smooth iron irremovable stains. Based upon the and fold to place them back. Few require material your closet is made up of, you can a free flow of air. You can hang such deliuse a detergent, soap or cleanser to remove cate pieces with hangers. Ensure you are the stains immediately. The regular stains picking good thick wooden hangers set to hang your clothes. The wooden hangers

> shoulder. Also, maintain an inch between each piece of clothing while hanging them in a wardrobe to let your clothes breathe.

> > Practice wardrobe organisation and storage habits to increase the span of your wardrobe and clothes. Whether you have a cool walk-in closet or just a couple of shelves,

the way you store clothes can make them last for years. Follow the basic principles like folding very heavy sweaters onto the top shelf, buttoning the buttons and zipping the zippers

to maintain

the shape before plac-

ing and so on. Do freshen up the wardrobe with the tips to ensure you have a refreshing closet and super clean clothes always.

TIP 1: SEEK THE PEER REVIEW SEAL OF APPROVAL

Scientists rely on journal papers to share their scientific results. They let the world see what research has been done, and how.

Once researchers are confident of their results, they write up a manuscript and send it to a journal. Editors forward the submitted manuscripts to at least two external referees who have expertise in the topic. These reviewers can suggest the manuscript be rejected, published as is, or sent back to the scientists for more experiments. That process is called 'peer review.'

Research published in peer-reviewed journals has undergone rigorous quality control by experts. Each year, about 2,800 peer-reviewed journals publish roughly 1.8 million scientific papers. The body of scientific knowledge is constantly evolving and updating, but you can trust that the science these journals describe is sound. Retraction policies help correct the record if mistakes are discovered post-publication.

TIP 2: LOOK FOR YOUR Activities BOX **OWN BLIND SPOTS**

Q.1) Changi airport

indoor waterfall. The

A. Hong Kong B. Singapore

Q.2) Who was hon-

Ballabh Pant Award'

has the world's

tallest – 131-ft –

C. Malaysia D. China

oured with the

'Pandit Govind

airport is in...

Beware of biases in your own thinking that might predispose you to fall

for writing

the Indian

Constitution?

B. Sampurnanand

A. Atal Bihari Vajpayee

C. Sunil Kumar Gautam

try that will revive

D. Kailash Nath Katju

and sensible scientists.

facts. The tendency to overestimate

A confirmation bias can be at

the likelihood of vivid occurrences is called the salience bias. It leads people to mistakenly believe overhyped findings and trust confident politicians in place of cautious

news. People give their own memo-

for a particular piece of fake science

ries and experiences more credence than they deserve, making it hard to accept new ideas and theories. Psychologists call this quirk the availability bias. It's a useful built-in shortcut when you need to make quick decisions and don't have time to critically analyse lots of data, but it messes with your factchecking skills.

In the fight for attention, sensational statements beat out unexciting, but more probable,

There are plenty of reasons a science story might not be sound. Quacks and charlatans take advantage of the complexity of science, some content providers can't tell bad science from good and some politicians peddle fake

science to support their positions. If the science sounds too good to be true or conveniently supports a contentious cause, then you might want to check its veracity

work as well. People tend to give credence to news that fits their existing beliefs. This tendency helps climate change denialists and anti-vaccine advocates believe in their causes in spite of the scientific consensus against them. Purveyors of fake news know the weaknesses of human minds and take advantage of these nat-

ural biases. Training helps you recognise and overcome your own natural cognitive biases

TIP 3: CORRELATION IS NOT CAUSATION

Just because you can see a relationship between two things doesn't nec-

essarily mean that one causes the oth-

Even if surveys find that people who live longer drink more red wine, it doesn't mean a daily glug will extend your life span. It could just be that red-wine drinkers are wealthier and have better health care, for instance. Look out for this 'error' in nutrition news

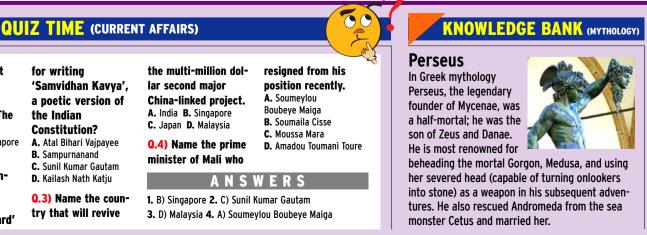
TIP 4: WHO WERE THE STUDY'S SUBJECTS?

If a study used human subjects, check to see whether it was placebocontrolled. That means some participants are randomly assigned to get the treatment, like a new vaccine, and others get a fake version that they believe is real, the placebo. That way researchers can tell whether any effect they see is from the drug being tested.

The best trials are also double blind: To remove any bias or preconceived ideas, neither the researchers nor the volunteers know who is getting the active medication or the placebo.

The size of the trial is important too. When more patients are enrolled, researchers can identify safety issues and beneficial effects sooner, and any differences between subgroups are more obvious.

Also, check if the research was actually done on people. Just because a certain drug works in mice, does not mean it will work for you.



CLICK HERE: FOR PAGE 3 AND 4

SCHOOL IS COOL

It's not just a place where you get to learn Einstein's Theory of Relativity. It's also a place where you can think beyond the classroom. Hence we say, SCHOOL IS COOL!

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2021

FOREIGN LANGUAGE: Engaging with the world

earning foreign language provides us with a key to an unknown culture, unknown world. In an increasingly globalised world, we have to interact with

several countries to further our economic interest. Learning the language of that country opens the possibility of effectively engaging with it.

Language is intimately connected with the culture of a country. If we want to know the culture of a country, the best way is to know its language. Learning the language of a country enables us to read their scholarly literature. Moreover, a language is often common in a group of countries. For

VANDANA SHARMA, French language teacher, Delhi Public School, Nacharam

guage develops the potential of communicating with more than 50 countries from Europe and Africa

Today, geographical mobility is immense, and we can study and work in different corners of the world with our knowledge of language. Translation of scientific literature brings the highly developed knowledge to our country and imaginative literature brings us closer to the humanity in othexample, learning the French lan- er parts of the world. We feel more

integrated with the people around us if we know their language. Translation requires the linguistic expertise in the source language and the target language. With our knowledge of a foreign language we can translate a lot of texts in our mother tongue and enrich our culture. On the other hand, we can make the world aware of our achievements through the translation of indigenous texts. The knowledge of a foreign language doesn't only

give us access to another culture, but it also makes us compare ourselves with other people. We understand ourselves better if we know other cultures because we have a reference point. We discover our linguistic and culture identity only in relation to others. Hence, the knowledge of a foreign language is a valuable asset.

Dealing with the tantrums of Life!!

ne can never enjoy the true essence of life without being punched by the mighty tantrums it throws at us to deal with. The term 'LIFE' itself teaches us how to handle it, facing all sorts of elements which ultimately make us what we desire to be.

We need not necessarily cherish rosy moments and polished flowery paths every day because that is not going to bring out our true self. Hurdles, mighty blows of apprehensions and constant inhibitions and everything else that chain our thoughts and freedom will ultimately expose us to the different hard realities of life, compelling us to be good learners, wise planners,

meticulous executors and finally successful winners. Holding on to conscience

NANDITA ACHARYA. Academic Head, Johnson Grammar School, ICSE, Habsiguda

as our sole guide, we need to sincerely tread various barren, unknown paths to emerge victorious, embracing the golden virtues of life with sheer joy and contentment.

Learning to stay ground- and contented with every mea- may.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

of courage, peace and wisdom.

with proper attitude will help

us sail through any difficult

situation without condemning

ourselves for the flaws that we

might probably take resort in

during our journey in life.

Holding the reins of life

03

ed within our composed self gre possibilities we are blessed while we encounter different with. Reminding ourselves trials and tribulations will constantly of the strengths we help us break the shackles of fear, the force of which holds us back from scaling the zenith problems in life.

Stagnation should never be allowed to creep in during unfavourable circumstances and our will power and determination should never take a backseat. Taking lessons from life might take us to a glorious future. After all,

we are here Trusting our potentials, believing in our conscience to survive will help us live a complete life amidst all with dignity. Making an imodds and pact in our own lives is the be happy, need of the hour to be happy come what

possess will ultimately prevent us from succumbing to all the

FOND MEMORIES OF HAPPY DAYS

now, almost all of us have forgotten the habit and discipline of going to school. It is time to hark back to all the wonderful things that we used to do in school.

We used to spend almost the entire day on the school premises. The classrooms were always buzzing with excitement and the noise would be so loud that we would sometimes forget

to even wish the teacher entering the room. When chocolates are distributed on a classmate's birthday.

we would all crowd around and demand for "one more!". A few days

school is a second home to us. But back, nostalgia struck as I suddenly remembered the white uniform, white socks with a green band on the top and black shoes, our class assemblies and all

the preparations that go before it. I also thought of the soft boards and all our creative work displayed on them.

Going to school is an opportunity to get together with friends. You can talk

and have fun between classes and during free time. School days fill our mind with happiness and nostalgic memories of happy days.

ISHAN KUMAR, class VII B, Delhi Public School, Secunderabad

Proud moment for school

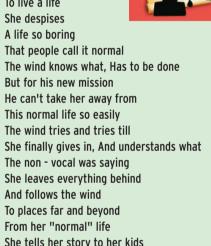


ringing laurels to their school, Shrivatsa

In other sporting achievement, five students

THE GALE





FUN & FROLIC IN GOA



here is no better recreation than trying something new. One summer vacation we

planned a trip to the Fun Capital of India, Goa. I was all ready for our trip. The real essence of Goa

lies in its rich heritage, unique culture and natural beauty. Goa is known for its

beaches. We went to Baga Beach, one of the best beaches there. The weather was pleasant, cool breeze was blowing, there was soft, smooth sand and the waves were moving up and down which seemed

my heart. I collected many sea - shells of different shapes and sizes. We did many water sports like parasailing,

water scooter, surfing which gave me goosebumps. The Basilica of Bom Jesus is a magnificent church of Goa. The Dudhsagar waterfalls was mindblowing. The sandy beaches, coconut trees, waterfalls, lush green fields, Goan houses and roads with the perfect natural view...I

RIDDHI GHURKA,

Goa.

enjoyed wholeheartedly in

class IX A, Gitanjali Devshala, Hyderabad to be dancing along with

Upadhvavula of class IV and Jahnavi Upadhyayula of class VII of Delhi Public School, Mahendra Hills won the second and third position respectively in the 31st Telangana State Chess Ranking Tournament 2021.

egory while Shrivatsa won in the under 9 category in the tournament.

The school appreciated the sincere efforts put in by the students.

from classes IV to VI from Delhi Public School Mahendra Hills have been selected for the 58th Inline National Level Hockey Competition to be held at Chandigarh from April 1 to 10.

Rishika Reddy, Rishika S, Mutupuri Jahnavi bagged the prize in the under 13 cat-Shreyas, Farhaan Khan and Rudraams Reddy Mekala have made the school proud with their exceptional achievements. Principal Sunitha Rao extended her best wishes to these students for their future endeavours.

REVISION IS IMPORTANT

"WHAT WE LEARN WITH PLEASURE WE NEVER FORGET" - ALFRED MERCIER

s the board examinations are approaching the fear of exams in every student is increasing although they have done

L Bhavya, class IX, **Sister Nivedita School**

enough learning. The problem is a lot of students tend to learn everything but not revise it in a proper way. In order to remember what they have learnt, it is better to solve the question papers of last five years. Learning and revising smartly and effectively is better than learning under pressure. This can be applied for any examination not only for board examinations.



Of how the wind is given A mission to guide, Others away from Normal and to adventure How the wind tries to help many But successes very few How the wind tries to Help others find themselves But loses himself on the way

He knows that, But all he wants is Others to find themselves Even if it means he has to Lose himself from time after time.

MAITRI AGARWAL, class X, Jain Heritage A Cambridge School, Kondapur

CORONA



Oh, Corona!, you thought you have won, But you forgot that we are number one. Sure, you have made us suffer a lot, But finally, you are caught. You have killed many innocent people, But you are defeated by a vaccine needle. You have made the world stop, But always remember that we are on top. Oh Corona! you are full of misery, But don't worry, you made history.

LIKHITHA KUSANI, class IX A, The Global Edge School, Kukatpally

AUNT

Aunt is a person who hugs like a mother keeps a secret like a sister and laughs with you like a friend she hangs out with you till the end with an aunt life is sweeter while playing games she is a big cheater I'm as lucky as there can be As my aunt is the best as there can be

This is an advice. I found it funny and nice For everything in life which your parents say you can't don't waste time and ask your aunt

VIJAYA KUMAR ARJUN, class IX D, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavans Public School, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad

Painters' Gallery



ATURE: SAAIMAH KHAN SHOUKATH, class VIII B, CBSE, Madina High School



RISHITA, class VI, FIITJEE World School, Hyderabad

OF ALL HUES: YASASWI SNIGDHA, class V, Little Flower High School, Abids



OGETHER: V KRISHNA SAI GAYATRI, class XI A, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan's Public School (Vidyashram), Jubile<u>e Hills</u>



"I used to think that losing made you more hungry and determined but after my success at the Olympics and the US Open, I realised that winning is the biggest motivation." Andy Murray, British Tennis player

Jos Buttler of England appeals for LBW

TIME TO GET RID OF UMPIRE'S CALL?

Virat Kohli questioned the umpire's call law in the Decision Review System (DRS) and called the rule-makers to abolish the rule

What is the Umpire's Call?

The Umpire's Call primarily comes into the picture if a review has been sought for LBW. It's used when the DRS essentially gives the 'benefit of the doubt' to the on-field decision in case of inconclusive technological evidence. When less than 50% of the ball is hitting the stumps, excluding the bails, as per the ball-tracking technology, it's the umpire's call. So, in a situation where the umpire has ruled not out, even if the ball is shown to be hitting the stumps on review, the TV umpire has no powers to change the decision. The only consolation for the bowling team is that its review remains intact.

Kohli is also unconvinced about another hotly debated decision-making tool, the soft signal, which he said along with the umpire's call was a "serious" issue the game's lawmakers needed to tackle

What is DRS?

DRS was introduced in 2008 to allow teams to refer the decision to the third umpire when asked by the batsman or the bowling team captain. The DRS allows decisions related to LBW or Caught to be referred to the third umpire, who then checks for it using a combination of technolo-

VIRAT, ARE YOU FOR UMPIRE'S CALL OR AGAINST IT?

SIMPLY SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2021

I think it is pretty fair for the game

"The umpire's call bit... everyone should understand that they are the people who are given the job to make decisions and it is respected even in the DRS system. I think that is pretty fair. A lot of people don't understand that. If the on-field umpire has made the call, obviously the benefit has to go to him. DRS just confirms that particular decision. If it is really, really off, DRS corrects it, but if it is marginal, then you got to respect it. It clarifies the decision made on the field and that's absolutely fine."

Umpire's call creating a lot of confusion

"According to me, umpire's call right now is creating a lot of confusion. When you get bowled as a batsman, you don't expect the ball to hit more than 50 per cent into the stumps to consider yourself bowled. So from basic cricket common-sense, I don't think that there should be any debate on that. If the ball is clipping the stumps, that should be out whether you like it or not, you lose the review. That's how simple the game has to be if it hits the stumps, or it misses the stumps. It doesn't matter how much it's hitting, and those kinds of things."

UMPIRE **vs** UMPIRE

WE KNOW THAT TECHNOLOGY IS NOT

100 PERCENT CORRECT See, first of all, Umpire's Call means regarding decisions which are very close. The decisions which are 50-50, which can go either way, go with the call of the on-field umpire. It is not a completely perfect decision that has been overturned, so it is a 50-50 decision which can go either way, to the batting side or the fielding side. We know technology is not itself 100% correct so you need the Umpire's Call. This concept needs to be understood by the general public because they are not aware of why Umpire's Call concept is there in DRS. It is basically because it was a marginal call and 100% technology can't say whether it was hitting the stumps or not. LET'S JUST BAN UMPIRE'S CALL I've had enough of umpire's call. Let's just ban umpire's call. Get rid of the controversy and just go with it. Any contact with ball on stump will dislodge a bail. No 48%, 49%. The fact it's been going for 12 years and the public are still mystified, and the players are still mystified, would suggest that there are some deficiencies in either the communication or the understanding. So there needs to be some serious work done from the ICC's end. Because we shouldn't be talking about umpiring decisions. DARYL HARPER,

gies like Hawkeye, Hotspot and Snickometer, or Ultra edge. NITIN MENON, UMPIRE



WHO CAN REPLACE JOFRA ARCHER?

Image: horizontal state in the state in

Rajasthan Royals (RR) suffered a big blow last week when the ECB confirmed that Jofra Archer would be missing the start of the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2021. Archer has been nursing an elbow issue since 2020 and it also saw him being ruled out of the league last year. Archer, who is missing the ongoing ODI series against India, was only able to take part in IPL 2020 after the league was postponed due to COVID-19. Even as the ECB has confirmed that the pacer will miss only the start of IPL, there is no confirmation that Archer will arrive in India for the IPL 2021 season. Today, we take a look at 3 pacers who can replace Archer at Rajasthan Royals in IPL 2021

Jason Dahranda

Behrendorff The left-arm pacer from Australia, Jason Behrendorff is now fit and running to make his comeback in IPL and might be one of the options that Rajasthan Royals might consider. Behrendorff has 5 scalps in as many matches for Mumbai Indians and bowled at an economy rate of 8.68 in IPL 2019. He is considered one of the best left-arm pacers in Australia, probably the reason why he made it to the 50-over World Cup squad despite making his ODI debut in January 2019. He has experience playing in Indian conditions as well. He went unsold in IPL 2021 auction.



Mitchell 🛆 McClenaghan Despite being a regular wickertaker, Mitchell McClenaghan wasn't a regular for Mumbai Indians in the past couple of seasons and the franchise released him after IPL 2020. This year, none of the teams bid for him and the Kiwi pacer went unsold. A fourtime IPL winner, McClenaghan has ample experience of playing in Indian conditions and scalped 71 wickets in 56 matches. He isn't a pacer with express pace but does have wicket-taking qualities like Archer. Overall, McClenaghan has a strike-rate of 17.94 in IPL and economy rate of 8.49. He is available at a base price of ₹50 lakh.



Oshane 🔾 Thomas Another wicket-taking option, Oshane Thomas was part of Rajasthan Royals in the past two seasons but only played 4 matches in 2019. The franchise released him after 2019 and again bid for him in 2020. Thomas could once again make his comeback at RR, courtesy of his wicket-taking abilities. Thomas has 56 wickets in 42 T20s. In IPL, he has dismissed 5 batsmen.



Photo: GETTY IMAGES

QUIZ TIME!

Q1. Which cricketer recently equalled MS Dhoni's record of most wins as captain in T2OIs? a) Eoin Morgan () b) Asghar Afghan () c) Virat Kohli () d) Daren Sammy ()

Q2. Who became the first ever Indian fencer to qualify for the Olympics? a) Kabita Devi b) Sheetal Dalal c) Bhavani Devi d) Taniksha Khatri

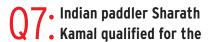
Q3: Manchester United hold the record for most league titles in England. How many times have they been champions? a) 19 b) 13 c) 18 d) 20 d

Q4. Who is the first woman cricketer to complete seven thousand ODI runs? a) Belinda Clark D b) Mithali Raj C c) Charlotte Edwards D d) Smriti Mandhana

Q5. Who won the Italian Open Women's tennis singles title 2019?

a) Karolina Pliskova 🗅 b) Naomi Osaka 🗅 c) Serena Williams 🗅 d) Johanna Konta 🗅

6. Sportsperson Geeta Phogat is associated with which of the following games?a) Shooting b) Boxing c) Weightlifting d) Wrestling





Tokyo Olympics, his fourth, afterbeating_____ in the Asian qualifiers.a) Lee Sangsub) Rameez Muhammedc) Jeon Jiheed) Sathiyan Gnanasekaran

Q8. Who became the first Indian to face 500-plus balls in a test Innings? a) Rahul Dravid b) Cheteshwar Pujara c c) Navjot Singh Sidhu d) Ravi Shastri

Against which team did Harmanpreet Kaur make her debut as captain of the women's cricket team? a) Pakistan () b) England () c) Zimbabwe () d) Australia () Q10. Which Indian player has the record of most wickets in a calendar year? a) Kapil Dev D b) Ravindra Jadeja c) Zaheer Khan D d) Anil Kumble

Q11. Who won the US Open 2020 Men's Singles title? a) Alexander Zverev (D) Dominic Thiem (D) c) Novak Djokovic (D) d) Andy Murray (D)

ANSWERS: 1 b) Asghar Afghan 2 c) Bhavani Devi 3 d) 20 4 b) Mithali Raj 5 a) Karolina Pliskova 6 d) Wrestling 7 b) Rameez Muhammed 8 b) Cheteshwar Pujara 9 a) Pakistan 10 d) Anil Kumble 11 b) Dominic Thiem