



THE TIMES OF INDIA

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STUDENT EDITION

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WEB EDITION

EDUCATION UPDATES

CBSE cancels class X exams, class XII optional

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) on Thursday told the Supreme Court that class X and XII board exams, scheduled for July 1-15, have been cancelled. The results for both would be declared by July 15 based on internal exams. In its report to the SC, the Centre said, class XII students would have the option to appear for the exams at a later date.

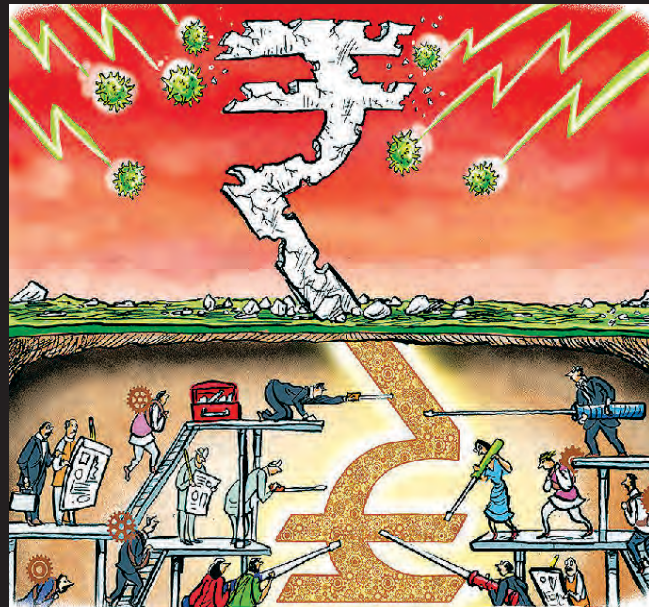
Revisit exam guidelines: HRD to UGC

With the rising cases of Covid-19 across the country, Union human resource development (HRD) minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank has asked the University Grants Commission (UGC) to revisit its guidelines on conducting exams for the next academic calendar.

IIT, Bombay scraps face-to-face lectures

In a first, IIT, Bombay, has become the first major educational institution in the country to let go of all face-to-face lectures in 2020. According to Subhasis Chaudhuri, director, IIT, Bombay, the teaching for the next semester will be "purely in the online mode". The details of the "extensive" online class details will be given to students in due time, Chaudhuri said in a Facebook post.

'INEQUALITY GAP IN INDIA TO NARROW DOWN POST COVID-19'



In a peculiar trend, the inequality gap in India is expected to narrow after the Covid-19 pandemic, even as per capita income (PCI) is projected to decline by 5.4% during the ongoing fiscal to ₹ 1.43 lakh, according to a State Bank of India (SBI) research report. This was attributed to the likely higher PCI decline of around 10-12% in rich states, like Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu compared to a less than 8% decline for relatively poorer states, like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, the report said.

According to the report, it takes an economy longer to recover in PCI terms to normal levels after a crisis, as compared to an average of four years to reach pre-crisis gross domestic product (GDP) levels.

WHAT IS PCI: Per capita income is a measure of the amount of money earned per person in a nation or a geographic region. It can be used to determine the average per-person income for an area or to evaluate the standard of living and quality of life of the population.

HOW IS IT CALCULATED?

PCI for a nation is calculated by dividing the country's national income by its population. It counts each man, woman and child, even new-born babies as a member of the population.

ITS SIGNIFICANCE: The PCI of an economy is an important metric, as it indicates the standard of living and the development status of a country. It is used by most global institutions and rating agencies in their forecasts.

WHAT IS GDP? It is the monetary value of all finished goods and services made within a country during a specific period. GDP provides an economic snapshot of a country that is used to estimate the size of an economy and growth rate.

WHAT IS GDP PER CAPITA?

The Gross Domestic Product per capita is a measure of a country's economic output that accounts for its number of people. It divides the country's gross domestic product by its total population.

HOW THE GDP PER CAPITA WORKS?

A country's GDP is divided among a given country's population to calculate its GDP per capita. It is a measurement of a country's standard of living.



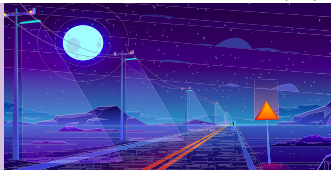
LIGHT POLLUTION FROM CITIES POSES SERIOUS THREAT TO COASTAL SPECIES

The presence of artificial light, also known as artificial skyglow, originating from cities, could be having an impact on species that rely on the moon and stars to find food, a new research suggests.

Photo: Getty Images

THE IMPACT

► Creatures, such as the sand hopper orientate their nightly migrations based on the



ENVIRONMENT

moon's position and brightness of the natural night sky. However, a study shows that artificial lights disrupt the lunar compass they use, when covering long distances. ► In some cases, this can lead them to travel towards the sea and away from food; while in others, it reduces the chance of them venturing out on forays for food ► Researchers say this could pose a threat not just to the health of sand hopper populations but also the wider ecosystem, as they play an important role in breaking down and recycling algae, washed up on strandlines

DISNEY+ TO DEBUT IN EIGHT MORE COUNTRIES IN EUROPE

Walt Disney Co has said that it would launch Disney+ in eight more countries in Europe, as millions of people stuck at home due to coronavirus-induced restrictions turn to streaming services for entertainment.

ENTERTAINMENT

- Disney+ will debut in Portugal, Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Iceland, Belgium and Luxembourg on Sept 15, the home of Mickey Mouse said
- The streaming service that featured the popular series, 'The Mandalorian' is live in eight countries in Europe, including the United Kingdom
- Disney+, which made its debut in November in the United States, attracted more than 50 million paid users, Disney said in April

NEWS IN BRIEF

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)

GOOGLE ADDS FACT-CHECK LABELS TO IMAGES

Google has added fact-check labels to images as part of its efforts to stem visually-misleading information. The new labels will be attached to the underlying web pages of photos and videos, which appear in a Google search. The new labels will be based on the ClaimReview database established by independent fact-checkers.

TECH BUZZ



HOW IT WORKS

- Now, when you search on Google Images, you may see a 'Fact Check' label under the thumbnail image results
- When you tap one of these results to view the image in a larger format, you'll see a summary of the fact check that appears on the underlying web page. These labels may appear both for fact check articles about specific images and for fact check articles that include an image in the story

PADMA LAKSHMI'S FIRST PICTURE BOOK FOR CHILDREN TO RELEASE IN 2021

Model, host and best-selling author Padma Lakshmi is currently working on her first picture book for children.



BOOK

Titled, 'Tomatoes for Neela', the book is 'an intergenerational story about a little girl who likes to cook, and helps prepare her family's savoury tomato sauce. The book is being written by Lakshmi in collaboration with illustrator Juana Martinez-Neal.

FIFA U-17 WOMEN'S WC INDIA 2021 TO BE HELD FROM FEB 17-MAR 7

FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup India 2021 will now take place from February 17 to March 7, after the new



SPORTS

full schedule was released by the Local Organising Committee (LOC) and AIFF. The tournament, which was earlier supposed to take place in November 2020, was pushed ahead due to the coronavirus pandemic.

- This is the second time India is hosting a FIFA tournament, with U-17 Men's World Cup 2017 being the first. However, this is the first big-ticket women's tournament being hosted by India
- The tournament will kickstart at the Indira Gandhi Athletic Stadium in Guwahati and the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar by Group A and B, respectively

WORLD'S FIRST YOGA UNIVERSITY OUTSIDE INDIA LAUNCHED IN US

As part of the 6th International Yoga Day commemorations, the world's first yoga university outside India has been launched in Los Angeles, offering programmes



EAST MEETS WEST

that combine scientific principles and modern research approaches to the ancient Indian practice. The Vivekananda Yoga University (VaYU) will offer online graduate programmes based on scientific principles and modern research approaches to yoga. It will facilitate collaborative research, credit transfers and joint programmes with multiple premier universities across the world. The university will offer online master's programme in yoga.

WORD WATCH

FRATERNISE:

Means to associate or mingle as brothers or on fraternal terms; to associate on close terms with members of a hostile group, especially when contrary to military orders; to be friendly or amiable. Both fraternise and fraternal (meaning "of, relating to, or involving brothers") is derived from a Latin word, frater, meaning "brother."

I RECOMMEND

Humanoid robot makes music video debut



A new humanoid robot has made its first public appearance after starring in a new music video by Italian conceptual artist Alex Braga. You can watch it at <https://reut.rs/3ealbKx>

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROCK BAND QUEEN

Royal Mail postage stamps to HONOUR QUEEN

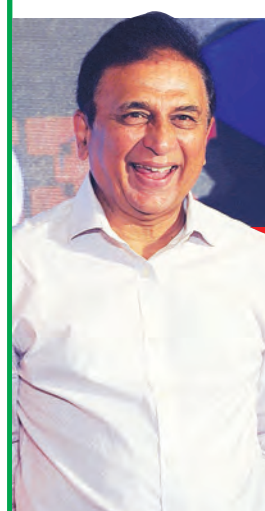


To celebrate legendary rock band, Queen's golden anniversary, Britain's Royal Mail has issued 13 special stamps to honour the group

- The collection is inspired by the group's most popular album covers as well as live performances
- Eight of the stamps will feature images of Queen's most iconic album covers, including 1974 LP, 'Queen II', 'Sheer Heart Attack' (1974), 'A Night At The Opera' (1975), 'News Of The World' (1977), 'The Game' (1980), 'Greatest Hits' (1981), 'The Works' (1984) and the band's final studio album to be released during Freddie's lifetime, 'Innuendo' (1991).
- The special collection also has live shots of each of the four band members: Freddie at Wembley Stadium in 1986, Roger at Hyde Park in 1976, John at Hammersmith Odeon in 1975 and Brian in Budapest in 1986
- The stamps are available to pre-order from Royal Mail's website in a number of different collections, including the complete Presentation Pack for 16 pounds.

■ Formed in 1970, the band, made up of Brian May, Roger Taylor, John Deacon and the late Freddie Mercury, completes 50 years in the music industry this year. ■ Queen is only the third music group to have a dedicated stamp issue, following the Beatles in 2007 and Pink Floyd in 2016

Virat Kohli bats exactly like Viv Richards: Sunil Gavaskar



Former Indian captain Sunil Gavaskar feels that the current Indian skipper Virat Kohli and former West Indies batsman Vivian Richards have similar batting styles that make them stand above their contemporaries.

CELEB TALK

While chatting on a talk show, 'Winning the Cup — 1983', 'The Little Master' recalled what it was like to play against Richards and stated that Kohli also bats like the way the former West Indies talisman used to do.

It was very difficult to keep Viv quiet when he was at the crease. Similarly, if you look at Kohli's batting today, in the same ball and same line, he will use his top hand and score a boundary towards the extra cover region; will use the bottom hand and score a boundary towards the mid-wicket region

SUNIL GAVASKAR



Thriving together

How families can make the most of the extended stay-at-home

By SONALI KHAN

It's been a hundred days since schools closed. Young children who ran down to the park or laughed excitedly while zooming past on bicycles have been indoors for an unimaginably long spell. As anxiety and workload build up and patience wears thin, families across the

board are struggling to keep their chin up. Perhaps this is a good time to pause. Put aside the daily chores for a moment, reassess your resource and energy levels and draw up a fresh plan to bring some sunshine into your home while thunderstorms begin to rage outside.

EASE UP ON YOURSELF

1 Give yourself a pat on the back. It's a tough time and you're trying your best. So is everyone else.

Acknowledging this can also help you de-stress as you continue to care for your little bundles of energy. When you find that an interaction is draining you, step back. Take ten deep breaths. Walk to a quieter room and stretch your body to release the tension. Go up to the window and look at something beautiful. Borrow some calm from the big, blue sky. As you relax, so will your child.

Knowing that children mirror your energy and absorb your anxieties can remind you to take a mini-break for everyone's sanity. It also allows you to help your child calm down. **A hug, a gentle shoulder rub or back massage or a little burst of silliness can bring back the smiles all round.**



THROW OUT A FEW RULES



2 Yes, this is a time to create routines that bring order and structure to the day, but that doesn't mean you have to be rigid about it. The dishes or clothes won't mind if they are picked up a little later, but your children will certainly pull back from an angry parent. There is wisdom in lowering expectations from 'perfect' to 'good enough' right now. Being flexible will help your family manage this tough time.

RETHINK THE POWER OF PLAY

3 Psychologist Dr Shelia Sen says that "fun and joy are non-negotiable". She often advises parents to raise their playfulness quotient to build a stronger connect with children. Children learn best when they are playing under the guidance of



an attentive, caring adult. **While they may find following a math class on Zoom immensely boring, they will be delighted to add and subtract clothes while you dry the laundry or sort vegetables by shape and colour while you cook.** The 'play-way' of learning doesn't need a lot of tools or toys and can be worked around your busy work schedule as well.

TRY SOMETHING YOU'VE NEVER TRIED BEFORE

7 As Sunday blurs into Monday you may find yourself succumbing to the Sameness Syndrome. Similarly, your children may recoil from yet another online Zumba class. Think of ways you can break this up for your family and plan a few boredom busters. A good way to do this is to think of your five senses. Try rearranging the layout of a room or moving a few plants, pictures or cushions for a visual change. Switch to a different soap. Ask your children to pick an ingredient from the kitchen and then Google a new recipe. **As Cookie Monster says, not all cookies have chocolate chips. Our minds perceive through our senses. Use your imagination to create new sensory environments for your family.** This will also go a long way in helping your children build their observation, creativity and problem-solving skills.



TALK ABOUT THE WAY YOU FEEL



6 The blues can get to anyone, even little children. A good way to keep stress and anxiety out of your home is to openly talk about the way you feel and to encourage your children to share. **Don't judge, just listen to their words when they talk and reassure them that this too shall pass.**

INVEST IN WHAT'S REALLY IMPORTANT

5 With a little courage, laughter and smart thinking, you can turn this time at home to the most fun your kids have ever had. **For the togetherness it brought, for the life-skills and resilience it inspired, let this lockdown be a period your children remember with fondness in the years to come.** Use the opportunity to build your bond and build it strong.



FLEXERCISE

4 Exercise is important, especially right now, but you can make indoor movement fun and beneficial by applying the flexibility principle here as well. While you may or may not choose to alternate between yoga, spot-running and weights, your kids will love a variety of movement activities. From tumbling or a spoon-and-lemon run to an obstacle



course or making up funny dance moves, tiny muscles, minds and funny bones can all be given a workout at the same time.

The writer is MD of Sesame Workshop in India

A trick to master a new language

...according to Duolingo CEO LUIS VON AHN

There's one thing that separates the success stories from the failures when it comes to learning a new language. That's good old consistency.

People who practice their language for 15 minutes before bed have a major edge on other Duolingo users, according to founder and CEO of the language learning app - Luis Von Ahn. "Those people we know are going to stick around for a really long



time," von Ahn says. "We see them doing that for a week, we say, 'This person is going to be here for a while.'"

Meanwhile, users who binge - spending hours on the site, cramming in French or German or Chinese language lessons - tend to disappear fast.

That's because, learning a language is a marathon, not a sprint. You cannot hope to master a language in weeks - or even months. So people who start out of the gate at full speed tend to burn out fast.

"If you are able to make it a part of your routine and space it out, that's much better than going nuts and cramming," von Ahn says. "It is not a sprint. If you sprint, you will forget everything." Von Ahn says that he's currently learning Portuguese, and applying the principle of consistent, daily practice to his learning.

GROOMING GYAN

Fight acne with tomato mask



Tomato is good for health but it has more benefits than what meets the eye. Those prone to acne or dealing with post acne marks can put a ripe tomato to great use by making a face mask with it. Here's the recipe.

INGREDIENTS: ● 1 tsp fresh lemon juice ● 1 tbsp tomato pulp ● 2 tbsp oatmeal flour

HOW TO MAKE: Whisk the tomato pulp and lemon juice well. Add oatmeal to the pulp and lemon mix and make a paste. Apply

this mask on your face and neck and let it sit for 15 minutes. Wash off with cool water. This mask will help unclog pores and fade acne scars over a period of time. Try this mask 2-3 times a week for best results. But those with sensitive skin should do a patch test on their hand before using this on the face. Tomato is mildly acidic and may lead to itching in those suffering from rosacea or hyper sensitive skin.

TNN

LOCKDOWN DIY

Try these 15-minute meals

With children busy in online classes and parents working from home, it's tough to always make elaborate meals. It's best on busy days to keep it simple by making quick recipes in which children can also help their parents. Here are three 15-minute recipes that are delicious, healthy and fuss-free.



CORN CAPSICUM

Heat oil in a pan, add chopped onions and saute for 2 minutes. Add chopped capsicum, mix well. Saute for 2 more minutes. Add ginger-garlic paste, turmeric powder, chilli powder, grated tomato, dried fenugreek and mix well. Add corn, cook for a few minutes, and garnish with fresh coriander leaves.



VEGETABLE FRIED RICE

In a pan add some oil, garlic, chilli and saute for 2 minutes. Add carrots, baby corn, green beans and cabbage, and mix well. Add cooked rice (leftover from last night or lunch time). Season with salt, pepper and soy sauce. Cook for a minute and serve hot with chopped spring onion greens.



PANEER BHURJEE

Saute cumin seeds, chopped onion, heeng, green chillies and curry leaves in oil, and add crumbled paneer. Add salt to taste. Keep stirring on low-flame for 7-8 minutes or until it's brown. Season with fresh coriander leaves.

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Quiz time

CURRENT AFFAIRS

Q.1) Which airlines used TaxiBot on an Airbus A320 aircraft?

A. Air India B. Jet airways C. Spice Jet D. Indigo

Q.2) Conference on 'One Nation One Tag - FASTag' was held in which of the following cities?

A. New Delhi B. Tokyo C. Mumbai D. Jakarta

Q.3) What is India's rank in Global Hunger Index?

A. 111 B. 333 C. 102 D. 34



Q.4) Which city has been declared as the most polluted one in the world recently?

A. Bhopal B. Gurugram C. New Delhi D. Kolkata



ANSWERS

1. A) Air India 2. A) New Delhi 3. C) 102 4. B) Gurugram

CHECK YOUR APTITUDE

1) Usha's father was 36 years of age when she was born where-as her mother was 32-year-old when her brother,

four years younger to her was born. What is the difference in the age of her parents?

A. 8 years

B. 6 years C. 10 years D. 12 years

2) If you are running a race and you overtake a person in second place. What position would you

be in? A. Second B. First C. Third

3) If a month starts and ends on a Monday, the number of days in a month will

be?

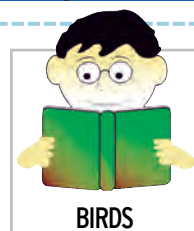
A. 30

B. 29

C. 31

D. 28

ANSWER:
1) 6 years
2) Second
3) 29



BIRDS

KNOWLEDGE BANK

Alor Myzomela

The Alor Myzomela (Myzomela prawiradilaga) is a new species in the Meliphagidae family. Myzomela is the largest genus in the honeyeater family Meliphagidae. It is a colourful, nectar-eating bird living in Eucalyptus woodlands, Australia. Endemic to the Indonesian island of Alor, it is named after Dewi Malia Prawiradilaga, one of the first leading female Indonesian ornithologists. It closely resembles the crimson-hooded myzomela. It has been proposed that the species be classified as Endangered on the IUCN Red List.



Word Wise

stupefaction: (n) the state of being stupefied; stupor. Overwhelming amazement.

Synonymous words: amazement, bewilderment, perplexity, stupor, surprise, wonder, etc. Examples: ■ The

reaction to her selection for the tournament ranged from stupefaction to scorn in the neighbourhood. ■ There was no end to the surprise gifts Angela got from her family when she came first in class. ■ David's bewilderment knew no bounds when his friends stopped talking to him all of a sudden.