



# THE TIMES OF INDIA

[www.toistudent.com](http://www.toistudent.com)
**TODAY'S  
EDITION**

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**STUDENT EDITION**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 2022



Ukraine is a country in Eastern Europe. It is the second-largest country by area in Europe after Russia, which it borders to the east and north-east

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**73rd REPUBLIC DAY**


## India displays its military might and culture

India celebrated the Republic Day on Wednesday with the iconic parade at Delhi's Rajpath, showcasing its military prowess and cultural pageantry. PM Narendra Modi paid homage to the departed soldiers at the newly-built National War Memorial. The parade witnessed many firsts, including India's first woman Rafale fighter jet pilot, Shivangi Singh, as part of the Indian Air Force

tableau. The parade also featured its biggest-yet fly-past, with 75 aircraft from all three services on display. The Army's marching contingents displayed evolution of uniforms, rifles since independence. Meanwhile, swachhagrah, frontline workers, auto rickshaw drivers, construction workers and labourers, who prepared the majestic tableaux were also among the guests invited this year to the parade.



## RUSSIA-UKRAINE CRISIS

The United States and NATO have described the movements and concentrations of troops in and around Ukraine as "unusual." As many as 100,000 Russian troops have remained amassed at the Ukrainian border, despite warnings from the US President Joe Biden and European leaders of serious consequences, should Putin move ahead with an invasion...

**WHAT?** Russia has now deployed more than 127,000 troops near Ukraine, including some 21,000 air and sea personnel, transferred more-operational-tactical missiles to the border, and increased its intelligence activity against the country. The assessment came after three rounds of diplomatic talks, between Russia and the West aimed at de-escalating the crisis, failed to produce a resolution. The US officials have said a Russian invasion of Ukraine could happen at any point in the next month or two.

### HOW BIG IS THE RISK OF INVASION?

Russia says it has no plans to attack Ukraine. But tensions are high and President Vladimir Putin has threatened "appropriate retaliatory military-technical measures" if what he calls the West's aggressive approach continues

### WHY is Russia threatening Ukraine?

Russia denies planning any invasion, but it has seized Ukrainian territory before. Russia has long resisted Ukraine's move towards European institutions, and NATO in particular. Ukraine shares borders with both the EU and Russia, but as a former Soviet republic, it has deep social and cultural ties with Russia, and Russian is widely spoken there. When Ukrainians deposed their pro-Russian president in early 2014, Russia annexed Ukraine's southern Crimean peninsula and backed separatists, who captured large swathes of eastern Ukraine. The rebels have fought the Ukrainian military ever since in a conflict that has claimed over 14,000 lives.

### WHAT does Russia want from NATO?

Moscow accuses NATO countries of



**THE ORIGIN:** Tensions between Ukraine and Russia, both former Soviet states, escalated in late 2013 over a landmark political and trade deal with the European Union. After the pro-Russian then-President, Viktor Yanukovich, suspended the talks — reportedly under pressure from Moscow — weeks of protests in Kyiv erupted into violence. Then, in March 2014, Russia annexed Crimea, an autonomous peninsula in southern Ukraine with strong Russian loyalties, on the pretext that it was defending its interests and those of Russian-speaking citizens. First, thousands of Russian-

"pumping" Ukraine with weapons and the US of stoking tensions. In reality, Russia wants NATO to return to its pre-1997 borders (before the first eastern European countries were invited to join the alliance). It demands no more eastward expansion and an end to NATO military activity in Eastern Europe. That would mean combat units being pulled out of Poland and the Baltic republics of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, and no missiles deployed in countries such as Poland and Romania.

speaking troops, dubbed "little green men" and later acknowledged by Moscow to be Russian soldiers, poured into the Crimean peninsula. Within days, Russia completed its annexation in a referendum that was slammed by Ukraine and most of the world as illegitimate. Shortly afterwards, pro-Russian separatists in Ukraine's Donetsk and Luhansk regions declared their independence from Kyiv, prompting months of heavy fighting. Despite Kyiv and Moscow signing a peace deal in Minsk in 2015, brokered by France and Germany, there have been repeated ceasefire violations.

### WHAT does Russia want with Ukraine?

Russia seized Crimea in 2014 arguing it had a historic claim to it. Ukraine was part of the Soviet Union, which collapsed in December 1991 and Putin said it was the

■ The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation or Atlantic Alliance (NATO) is an international political and military organisation with the aim of guaranteeing the freedom and security of its members through political and military means

■ NATO was founded by 12 countries, signatories of the Washington Treaty: the US, Canada, Belgium, Denmark, France, Holland, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Norway, the UK and Portugal. Subsequently, Greece and Turkey joined in 1952, Germany in 1955; Spain, in 1982; Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic in 1999, these being the first former Communist countries to join NATO

"disintegration of historical Russia".

### HOW far will the West go for Ukraine?

The US has made clear that it has no plans to send combat troops, while being committed to helping Ukraine defend its "sovereign territory". The main tools in the West's armoury appears to be sanctions and military aid in the form of advisers and weapons.

### Is the West united in its response?

Washington has said it is committed to "working in lockstep" with its allies, but there are divisions between the US and Europe. European leaders are adamant that Russia cannot just decide on the future with the US. France has even proposed that Europeans work together with NATO and then conduct their own dialogue with Russia.

(Source: BBC, CNN & agencies)

### Quote unquote



It's true that we will be living with Covid for the foreseeable future and that we will need to learn to manage it through a sustained and integrated system for acute respiratory diseases to help prepare for future pandemics. But learning to live with Covid cannot mean that we give this virus a free ride. It cannot mean that we accept almost 50,000 deaths a week from a preventable and treatable disease. We can end Covid-19 as a global health emergency, and we can do it this year by reaching goals like WHO's target to vaccinate 70 per cent of the population of each country by the middle of this year, with a focus on people who are at the highest risk of Covid-19, and improving testing and sequencing rates to track the virus and its emerging variants more closely.

**TEDROS ADHANOM GHEBREYESUS, SECRETARY GENERAL, WHO**



## TATA CHIEF, NADELLA, PICHAI AMONG PADMA AWARDEES



Tata Sons' chairman N Chandrasekaran, heads of two homegrown vaccine makers Serum Institute of India's Cyrus Poonawalla and the Ellas of Bharat Biotech, and two high-profile Indian origin CEOs leading global tech giants — Satya Nadella and Sundar Pichai — have been awarded the Padma Bhushan.

■ On the list of 128 Padma award winners, there were nine from trade and industry, with business representation in Padma Bhushan — the third-highest civilian award after Bharat Ratna and Padma Vibhushan — being nearly one third

■ The others on the list are homegrown businessmen and entrepreneurs such as hosiery maker Rupa's CMD Prahlad Rai Agarwala, who will be awarded Padma Shri. Similarly, Manipur's Muktamani Devi, who set up Mukta Shoe industry, that makes handcrafted footwear, is also being awarded the Padma Shri

## IMF LOWERS GDP FORECAST FOR FY22 TO 9% FROM 9.5%

India's economy is estimated to grow by 9% in the current fiscal year, a tad slower than the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) earlier forecast of 9.5% due to the impact of the third Covid wave.

■ The IMF, which released its World Economic Outlook, raised India's GDP growth estimate to 9% for 2022-23 from its earlier estimate of 8.5% in October and for 2023-24 it forecast the economy to grow by 7.1%. On a calendar year basis, the IMF said India's growth is projected at 8.7% in 2022 and 6.6% in 2023

## Twitter's upcoming feature could share tweets with up to 150 select users

Micro blogging site Twitter is reportedly developing a feature that will allow users to curate a list of people — up to 150 users — to send certain tweets. If this sounds familiar, it is because Instagram's 'Close Friends' feature lets you do the same thing; but in Twitter's case, you will be limiting your tweets to your 'Flock', The Verge reported. Twitter first gave a glimpse of the feature last July, which it called 'Trusted Friends' at the time.

**1** According to the report, Twitter seems to be working on a page that shows more information on Flock, which explains you can add up to 150 members

**2** Only those 150 users can view or reply to tweets sent out to your Flock. And in case you decide you do not want someone in your Flock anymore, Twitter notes you can remove people from your list at any time, and they won't get a notification

**3** If you are in someone's Flock and they send out a tweet, a label may appear beneath that tweet

**4** To send a tweet to your Flock, Twitter will display an audience option before you send it out, letting you choose between all of Twitter and your selected users



■ Twitter launched invite-only Communities back in September, a similar feature that lets you connect with users with shared interests

■ Just like you can limit your tweets to your Flock, you can send out tweets to a specific Community rather than all your followers

## ADVICE

# POWER of PURPOSE



Imagine that your five-year-old sits down to do an activity such as painting, drawing, craft, or even learning a musical instrument and doesn't want to get up before completing the task. Or that your 8-year-old comes back from school and immediately sits down to complete homework before going to play. Or that two weeks before the exam, your 14-year-old surrenders his phone to you, saying, "Mom, I will take it twice a day to check my messages. But I want you to keep it, since this is too much of a distraction from studies." Utopia? Not really. This is exactly the kind of behaviour you can expect from children brought up by Active Parents. Because one of the three key principles of Active Parenting is bringing up children to take responsibility for their own lives so that parents can progressively give them more and more autonomy and lead their own lives in a stress-free manner, knowing that their children are on the right path. One of the key attributes for success that Active Parenting builds is Purposefulness.



## HERE ARE A FEW WAYS TO BUILD PURPOSEFULNESS IN CHILDREN

**1** In early childhood, DO NOT expose children to the screen – phone, tablet and laptop. TV time should be limited to a maximum of 30-60 minutes a day. Screen addiction reduces attention span and hence the ability to focus on tasks drastically.

**2** Resist the temptation to give in to demands and tantrums from children or to your own need to get them off your back so that you can do other things.

**3** Engage the children in other interesting hands-on activities such as painting, gardening,

crafts, carpentry, pottery, Lego, electronic or robotic kits, etc. from early on so that they get into the habit of focusing.

**4** Tell them loads of stories of purpose driven individuals who showed great determination in achieving goals.

**5** Get them to follow a daily routine of meditation as well as practice of some



**Ram G. Vallath** is an IITian, international life coach, motivational speaker and the best-selling author of 'Active Parenting: How to Raise Children with Boundless Potential'

Purposefulness is essential for success, and parents need to inculcate this from early childhood.

## AWARENESS

# COVID vaccine side-effects:

## WHY KIDS BETWEEN 15-18 YEARS SHOULD NOT BE GIVEN PARACETAMOL AND WHAT TO GIVE THEM FOR RELIEF

**E**xperiencing side-effects such as headache, fever and pain in the arm is common after getting the Covid-19 jab. It is a sign that the Covid vaccine is doing its job of building immunity in the body. For relief from side effects, adults are generally prescribed paracetamol or pain killer, but in case of kids, the prescription differs.

Ever since the vaccination drive for teenagers between 15-18 years started in India, there has been some confusion about taking paracetamol or any painkiller to ease the side effects. Clearing the doubts, the drug manufacturers recently stated that these two types of drugs should not be given to kids.

Reacting to reports as per which some immunisation centers were recommending paracetamol 500 mg tablets after the shot, Bharat Biotech, the vaccine manufacturer of Covaxin released a statement in which they made it clear that "No paracetamol or painkillers are recommended after being vaccinated with Covaxin." They asserted that paracetamol was recommended for some Covid-19 vaccines, but is not recommended for Covaxin. They said the symptoms experienced post vaccinations are mild and generally go away on their own in 2-3 days. Besides, side effects are signs that the vaccine is doing its job and not taking medicines helps to build a strong immune response against Covid-19.



### WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU GIVE PARACETAMOL TO KIDS

According to Dr Neelam Mohan, Director-Paediatric Gastroenterology & Hepatology, Medanta hospital, excessive intake of paracetamol can lead to hepatotoxicity, which is referred to as liver damage caused by drug exposure. She further said that it is crucial to give paracetamol in the right dosage and only when the symptoms appear in contrast to what some vaccination centre officials were recommending. "Since the weight among these children could be varying, we could vary from 10-15 mg/kg with the maximum dose to 500-650 mg tablets of paracetamol. Kids shouldn't have more than 4 tablets in 24 hours as overdose of paracetamol leads to liver toxicity," she said. Regular use of paracetamol can be dangerous for anyone, including kids. Paracetamol should be given in case of an emergency, that too after consulting the doctor.

Experiencing symptoms like mild fever, headaches, pain in the injection site is common after getting the jab. Only a few kids do not experience these symptoms. But it does not mean that the vaccine is not working. If your child experiences any such symptom after getting the jab, instead of reaching out for paracetamol, first try other methods for relief.

Dr Neeta Kejriwal, Consultant Pediatrician, HCMCT Manipal Hospital, Dwarka, suggests applying cold compress or ice packs on the injection site to reduce soreness and pain. For nausea or vomiting, she advises consulting the pediatrician. In case of mild fever, you can give paracetamol, only after consulting the doctor. If your kids experience severe side effects and have a high fever, immediately seek medical help.

Make sure your kids eat nutritionally rich foods, take enough rest and drink a lot of water for quick recovery from the side effects

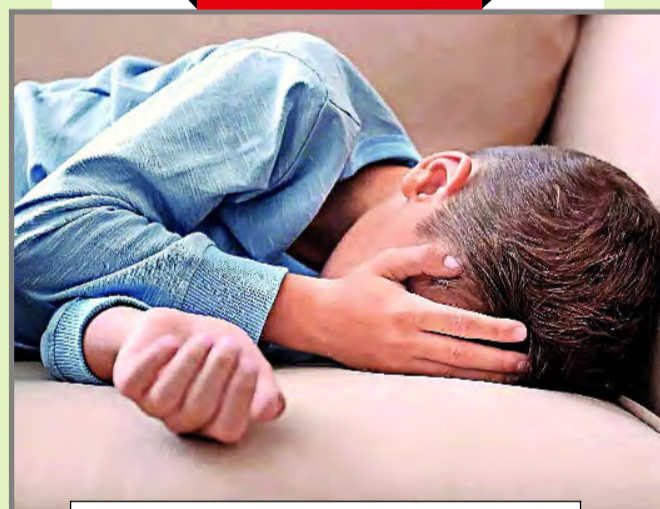


## My son tolerates bullying from his friends

## CONCERN



**QUERY:** My 15-year-old son has a very thick group of friends but I have seen how they all bully him all the time and strangely he is ok with it. Whenever I have tried confronting him why he takes their bullshit, he tells me they are his friends and he will manage. I don't want my boy to be a weak man. He should know how to stand up for himself. Please help.



**DR PREETI PARAKH, MD Psychiatry, Psychiatrist & Head, Mpower The Centre, Kolkata**

**RESPONSE BY DR PREETI PARAKH:** Well, your son is standing up for himself when he tells you not to meddle. Most kids are teased by their friends at some point, and are not hurt by it. But when teasing becomes malicious and constant, it becomes bullying. Children who are being bullied usually try to avoid the situations that bring them in contact with the bullies. Sometimes there also are behavioural changes like appearing anxious or upset. Your son seems to be making no efforts to avoid this particular group of friends. If being with these friends does not upset him, I do not think he feels bullied. Rather than being weak, he appears to be quite strong and confident. I am sure he will be able to stand up to his friends if needed, just like he has stood up to you.

# Four chores to assign to your preschooler to foster initiative

## LIFE SKILLS

## HERE'S HOW TO ASSIGN CHORES TO KIDS

Children deserve all your love, care and pampering while growing up but it is also imperative to inculcate other qualities in your child so that they develop into a well-mannered individual. Like playing activities and group tasks help children learn the importance of teamwork and helping each other out, assigning them tasks at home can help foster values of initiative, responsibility, organisation and working together. Here are five chores that you can trust your preschooler with and have him learn values that will benefit him in the future.



### MAKING BED

Right from the time one wakes up, the first organisational task that one should do is making one's bed. Asking your child to make their bed is the first step towards organisation. This makes the child aware of its surroundings and the need to have cleanliness in the spaces that they inhabit. The child would need some assistance in the beginning and their work might even need finishing for some time until they learn it completely.



### DUSTING

Start with asking them to wipe certain surfaces that are easily reachable and not too difficult to clean. This can later on be expanded to more surfaces, objects and finally to the child's room. It is also recommended to use natural cleansers such as vinegar instead of anything that has harsh cleaning chemicals. Wiping the table after dinner is also a good starter.



### WATERING PLANTS

Watering plants is a simple task that children can perform even at a young age. It develops qualities of nurturing, growth and responsibility in children. Assigning this weekly or bi weekly task to your child is another great way of inculcating responsibility in them.



### ORGANISING TOYS

Once your child starts playing, the room becomes a complete mess. Asking your children to put things in their place will help them learn about the space they live in and will also make it easy for them to find toys the next time they want to play. Initially, you will have to be very specific with your instructions so that they can find their way around a lot of things at once. Once they learn to clean certain spaces, they will be independent enough to know how to proceed.



## Student bags award for innovation



Vishalini NC of class II E of DSE Attapur made her school proud by achieving the title of 'Youngest Patent Holder' by India Book of Records 2022 for inventing "An Automatic Multi-Functional Life Rescue Flood House."

Vishalini is an enthusiastic learner and looks for new

ways to get involved, seeking new challenges and trying to create innovative things.

DSE Group of Institutions conveyed its wishes to Vishalini for receiving Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar for her exceptional abilities and outstanding achievement in the field of innovation on 24th January 2022.



## MEDAL HAUL IN NEPAL



Gitanjali International School, Boys Sports Team, headed by Avinash (GIS Physical Educator) represented Telangana at the 6th Indo-Nepal International Games and Sports 2021 organised by the Nepal government. Eight teams participated from across India and nine teams participated from Nepal.

The GIS boys team competed stupendously in various sports. The team bagged two Golds in basketball (Basketball team: W Shubham, B Sangameshwar, G Sujith,

**Gitanjali International School**  
**Hyderabad**

G Suraj, A Vijay) and Kabaddi (Kabaddi team: S Manikanta, Rajeev Prakash, Y Pranay), one Silver in football (Football team: Shreeyan).

The school congratulated the teams and thanked Chairman Srinivas Rao who made it possible for the students to actively participate in the sports event. The GIS parents were also thanked for their constant encouragement and support.

# A SALUTE TO OUR HISTORY

## LANDMARK EVENT

Republic Day is celebrated on January 26 every year to mark an important day in the history of India.

India became an independent country on August 15, 1947, and then on January 26, 1950, the Constitution of India was established and the country was declared as a Sovereign, Secular, Socialistic, and the Democratic Republic nation. This day reflects all the struggles of the people who fought for Independence.

Republic means "a state where people enjoy supreme power, freedom and choose their own representatives." India got its Constitution on this day. Earlier India had no Constitution. On the same date i.e. on 26th Jan 1950, Dr. Rajendra Prasad became the first President of Republic India.

Republic Day is celebrated with full zeal and enthusiasm all over the country and this day is declared as a gazette public holiday by the government of India. It is a matter of pride and honour to celebrate this significant day. There are cultural programmes in schools, speeches, and other competitions like quizzes, essays related to the Indian freedom movement are organised. All over the nation, people hoist flags and sing the national anthem with



pride. The President of India presides over the parade of the Indian Armed Forces in the capital of the nation, New Delhi. The parade is organised on Rajpath, from Vijay Chowk to India Gate. In this parade, the Armed Forces display their vigour, enthusiasm, and weaponry. It is followed by a cultural presentation by all states and Union Territories. All this display is fittingly preceded by the flag hoisting ceremony which is the most important part. It is accompanied by the singing of the National Anthem.



**VENKATKRISHNA KAMMARI,**  
Vice Principal, Delhi World School,  
Shadnagar

## IN UNITY LIES STRENGTH

Republic Day is a special day indeed, marked with the spirit of patriotism and zeal as all wait to watch the national flag being unfurled by the President at Rajpath in the national capital.

Our country has struggled and faced a lot of problems lately due to the pandemic. The Union and state governments are doing their best to help ease the situation. I would tell people all over the world that power alone, knowledge alone, heart alone is not the solution to a problem but togetherness is, if we all together fight against this Covid 19 pandemic.

Republic Day is a day to remind us about the strength in unity. We have coined the phrase "Unity in Diversity." We Indian will

## BE A TRUE PATRIOT

Patriotism is the love, support, loyalty shown towards our country. It is not only about symbolic things like unfurling of national flag on Republic Day, but we can show our patriotism in other way, for instance using the products made in our country.

Some who unfurl the national flag and shout slogans for the country, boast about products they use that are manufactured in foreign countries and about their children studying abroad. Recently, I heard a person harshly criticize our country and said with much pride that he would send

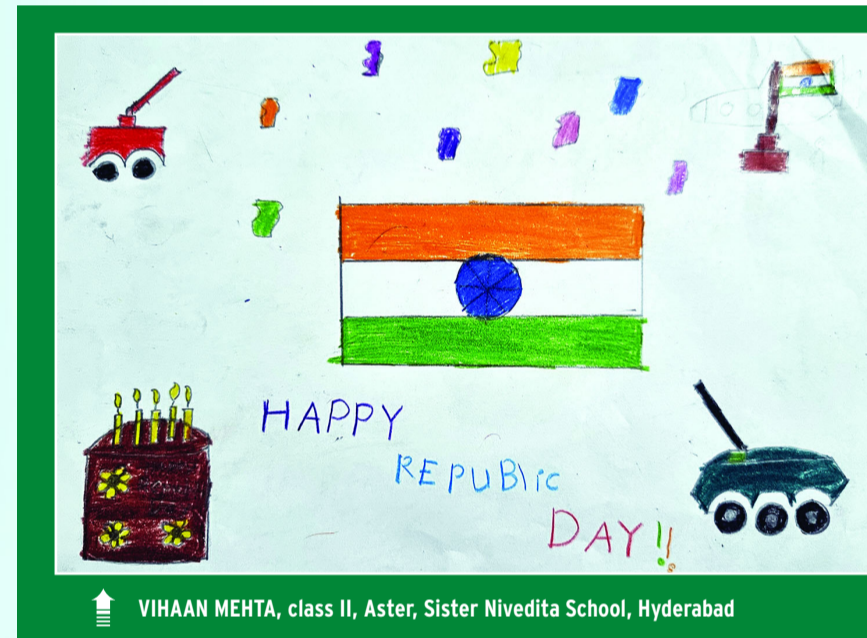
his son abroad for studies soon. I feel that if studying abroad and working there has become a matter of pride, how would our country develop and come out of poverty. We Indians must together use our talent for the betterment of our country.

**BHAVYA LAKKIMSHETTY, class IX, Sister Nivedita School, Hyderabad**



show everyone that we can and will follow it, we will be loyal and serve our country in one or the other. By doing so, we will be more empowered and respected in every single village. Besides, we will never forget our history because the history is our roots and if there are no roots there won't be any purpose in our life.

**BHAAVYA GARG, class VII-D, Delhi Public School, Miyapur, Hyderabad**



**VIHAAN MEHTA, class II, Aster, Sister Nivedita School, Hyderabad**



**P SAI SREE, class IV, Little Flower High School, Abids**

## FEUD BETWEEN THE PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

### MOVIE: TERMINATOR DARK FATE

Terminator Dark Fate is a science fiction movie. It is based on an AI programmed, shape and face shifting robots, called Terminators, made by Legion, a future tech used for making Terminators.

A terminator is sent from Legion in the future to the past to hunt down and terminate a woman called Dani or Danielle Ramose. She is made the target because she made a resistance or a retaliatory team in the future against the terminators because the terminators had killed half of humanity and

had taken over the world. To protect Dani, an augmented super soldier from the future is sent by future Dani. Grace, the super soldier, protects Dani from the terminator called Rev-9 made for tactical killing.

Later Sarah Connor, who knew about the terminators, joins Grace to protect Dani. Each and every time they try to escape, the Rev-9 finds them and tries to kill Dani. Finally they use a terminator to protect Dani. But will they be able to save Dani?

**SOM MUKHERJEE, class VIII, Tulip, Sister Nivedita School, Hyderabad**



## ROCK TO THE BEATS!

The most popular rookies of all time, attaining a huge success in less than a year, Enhypen (EN-) recently released a new studio album called Dimension: Dilemma, which was a super-duper hit with seven jaw-dropping, amazing tracks. Track no. 6, 'Blockbuster', showcased their first ever collaboration with another artist.

Blockbuster is a pop-rock anthem, featuring Enhypen's label mate, Yeonjun of Tomorrow X Together (TXT). This track was produced by LDN Noise and Greg Bonnick. Many parts of the song were written by Yeonjun and he said that he did a lot of imagining while writing. The Korean title of the song translates to "Like an

Action Movie". It mainly focuses on the desire of a boy to live like a protagonist of an action movie where anything and everything is possible. The lyrics...

"A main character born with destiny. The world opens up at my own will."

The song's energetic lyrics deliver the confident and thrilling message of the track. Listening to it makes us want to vibe more and more to it. It is the perfect song to listen to if you want to get all confident and pumped up. So, I absolutely recommend all of you to listen to this 'Blockbuster' song, of our monster rookies with Yeonjun, to feel your heroic selves tearing up the whole world to make your dreams come to life!



**HIMA DEEPSHIKA, class IX A, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavans Public School, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad**

## WALL DECOR



Our homes feel cosy with family as well as the aesthetic appeal we add to it. Without wall decor, the walls seem empty. Wall decors give special look to the walls and make them look beautiful and attractive. Let's make this beautiful Wall Decor using these steps:

- Cover all the bangles by wrapping them with wool yarn 2 times. Use the glue gun to stick the yarn.
- Make a geometric pattern on each bangle using same or different colour yarn and the glue gun.
- Use the wool to tie the bangles in the formation of your choice.

### STEPS:

- To make the pom-poms, string the beads in the wool using needle. Secure them by tying knots on both the ends. Make as many as you want.
- Tie these pom-poms to the bottom of the wall decor formation.

- Stick glittering colourful kundans to amp up the wall decor as per your choice. You can also use bells or ghungroos.
- Make a loop of the yarn and stick/tie it on the top. This will be used to hang the decor.
- Your amazing Wall Decor is ready.



**Materials used:** 8 bangles, coloured wool, kundans, beads, needle, glue gun, scissors



**AAHANA PATEL, class VII, The Stepping Stone School, Pune**

## Memory and Communication Workshop

Boost your child's short-term memory and empower them to become amazing impromptu public speaker.

An eminent participation certificate to all our little champions.



**Book Now for Free!**

# Swiatek makes first AO semis

## Fights early scare and brutal heat to set up meet with American Collins

**F**rench Open winner Iga Swiatek managed to temper her frustrations and rally from a set and a break down in brutal heat to overpower Estonian Kaia Kanepi 4-6 7-6(2) 6-3 on Wednesday to reach her first Australian Open semi-final. Poland's Swiatek will next meet 27th-seeded American Danielle Collins, who earlier defeated Frenchwoman Alize Cornet 7-5 6-1, for a place in Saturday's final at Melbourne Park.

### ANOTHER LENGTHY GAME

In their first career meeting, Swiatek wasted break-point chances in each of Kanepi's first three service games and it was the Estonian who converted her first chance in the seventh game to nose ahead. Swiatek saved four set points in the ninth game that lasted 16 minutes but could not stop Kanepi from taking the opener on her ninth opportunity after another lengthy game. "In the first set I had so many breakpoints, I felt like I missed my chances because she broke me on her first breakpoint," Swiatek said on court.

Kanepi, 36, appeared set to progress beyond the last eight at a Grand Slam for the first time when she broke early in the second, with a frustrated Swiatek slapping herself and slamming her racquet on court. The Estonian did most of the damage with her powerful double-handed backhand, leaving Swiatek rooted to the spot and watching helplessly as the winners screamed past. But the 2020 Roland Garros champion, who committed 12 double faults in the match, regained her composure and raised her level in a second set tiebreaker to level the contest at 1-1. Swiatek suffered two more breaks in the decider but managed to break 115th-ranked Kanepi four times, sealing the three-hour contest on her second match point when the Estonian sent a backhand wide for her 62nd unforced error. "I'm really glad that I have my voice because I was shouting so loud," Swiatek said. "This match was crazy and without the energy in the stadium, I think it would've been really hard to win it." As she left the court, Swiatek wrote on the TV camera lens: "Thank you for the support. (hash) Tired."

Kanepi made her Grand Slam debut in 2006 but was playing in the quarterfinals in Australia for the first time, completing a career set after making it to the last eight twice at each of the sport's three other major tournaments. She was coming off an upset, three-set win over No. 2-ranked Aryna Sabalenka and took the game to Swiatek, who saved nine set points before losing the first set.

### OVERCOMING HEALTH ISSUE

Earlier, Collins shattered French veteran Cornet's dream of making a first Grand Slam semi-final. As temperatures nudged 35 Celsius (95 Fahrenheit), the American 27th seed came through 7-5, 6-1 to continue her resurgence after surgery last year. "It feels incredible, especially after some of the health challenges that I have had," said Collins, 28, who had "scary" surgery for endometriosis in April last year then tore her abdomen at the French Open. For Cornet, the loss ended a career-best run. The quarterfinal was her first in 63 Grand Slam main draw appearances. The WTA predicts that the 32-year-old Cornet should return to the top 50. Cornet had anticipated an aggressive game strategy from Collins, but the power in the ground strokes was "even more than what I expected. I felt out of breath all the time. I couldn't, like, play my game," Cornet said. "She just never let me do it, never gave me the time." AGENCIES



Photo: AFP  
Iga Swiatek

### THE LAST FOUR

After the first three quarterfinals were decided in straight sets \_ Ash Barty beat Jessica Pegula and Madison Keys beat Barbora Krejickova on Tuesday \_ the last one went all the way. Collins' win means there are two Americans in the last four. Keys, the 2017 U.S. Open runner-up, will play reigning Wimbledon and 2019 French Open winner Barty. Swiatek of Poland is the only one of the four in the Australian Open semis for the first time. Collins lost to Petra Kvitova in the semifinals here in 2019, which remains her best run to date at a major. Keys lost to Serena Williams in 2015 and Barty lost a semifinal final in 2020 to eventual champion Sofia Kenin.



Photo: AP

**“** To be able to get back to this level and be able to compete the way I have and be as physical as I have had been so rewarding. I feel pretty good right now. I've had some great matches along the way at this tournament ... really happy about how I'm feeling physically and mentally. **”**

—Danielle Collins

# Tokyo gave para-sports a fillip

**T**hey have been part of the para-sports scene for many, many years but India's medallists at the 2020 Paralympics believe that the Tokyo Games have given sports a big fillip in the country and we will do bet-

Photo: GETTY IMAGES



Suhas Yathiraj

### 2020 PARALYMPICS HEROES SAY PRESENCE IN ALL DISCIPLINES CRUCIAL TO WINNING MEDALS

ter in Paris in 2024 if we give the same kind of attention in the next couple of years.

India came up with its best-ever performance at the Tokyo Paralympic Games in August-September 2021, winning 19 medals – five gold, eight silver, and six bronze medals in all – improving the country's performance from that at Rio de Janeiro five years ago by leaps and bounds.

Paralympians Suhas Yathiraj, Devendra Jhajharia, Pramod Bhagat, Manoj Sarkar, Harvinder Singh, Krishna Nagar, Yogesh Kathunia and Nishad Kumar feel Tokyo Paralympic Games were a watershed moment for sports in the country and now more and more youngsters are taking up para-sports.

### HUGE SPIKE IN PARTICIPATION

Two of the sports that have seen a huge spike in participants at the domestic level are para-badminton and para-archery.

Over 500 participants had gathered in Odisha for the para-badminton nationals last month while the para-archery nationals, which were postponed recently due to the

covid-19 pandemic, had also seen a spike in the number of entries. "If you look at the increase in participation in the national championships that were held in Odisha it was very high. The interest in badminton is extremely high because it is a very easy sport for beginners. So para-badminton is reaching new heights in India and around the world. The BWF is also giving it a lot of attention," said Suhas Yathiraj, Gautam Buddh Nagar's (Noida) District Magistrate. "India should have concentrated on developing the wheelchair category. In Tokyo, we had zero participation in this category."

Shuttler Pramod Bhagat, who won a gold medal in the Men's Singles SL3 event at the Tokyo Paralympics, said he was amazed by the enthusiasm. "This time more than 500 athletes had come for the nationals, we were completely surprised by the number," he said.

He also said that the state units need to be more proactive in raising funds for their events and in identifying talent.

Nishad Kumar, another medallist at Tokyo, said India have to participate in more

categories if the country has to finish among top 10 in the medals tally. "If we manage to have representatives in every discipline, our medals could increase and we can be among the top 10 countries," he added. IANS

Photo: GETTY IMAGES



Pramod Bhagat

# Gujrathi draws with Rapport, in joint 3rd

**I**ndian Grandmaster Vidit Gujrathi drew with Richard Rapport of Hungary in the ninth round to be in joint third place with 5.5 points in the Tata Steel Masters chess tournament at Wijk Aan Zee, in the Netherlands. Rapport tested Gujrathi in the Catalan defence and eventually won a pawn, but the Indian GM put up a stubborn defence and opted for a draw.

However, young Indian GM R Praggnanandhaa's struggles continued as he lost to Sergey Karjakin, for his third straight defeat, on Tuesday night. He remained on 2.5 points and in 13th place in the 14-player field. In the game against Karjakin, Praggnanandhaa boldly sacrificed an exchange as White in the London System and got sufficient compensation to say the least. However, an error on the 40th move proved costly for the Indian.

World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen scored a win over Shakhriyar Mamedyarov to jump into the lead. ■



## QUIZ TIME!

**Q1:** Birdie and Eagle are two terms related to which of the following sports?

- a) Polo
- b) Golf
- c) Chess
- d) Billiards

**Q2:** Who is the president of World Chess Federation?

- a) Alexander Rueb
- b) Max Euwe
- c) Kirsan Ilyumzhinov
- d) Arkady Dvorkovich

**Q3:** Who is the top scorer in the Indian National Football Team?

- a) Sunil Chhetri
- b) Gurpreet Singh Sandhu
- c) Nishu Kumar
- d) Udanta Singh

**Q4:** When was the Fed Cup launched?

- a) 1913
- b) 1963
- c) 1966
- d) 1981

**Q5:** In which city were the first modern National Games of India, on the lines of the Olympics, held?

- a) Bombay
- b) Thiruvananthapuram
- c) Bangalore
- d) New Delhi

**Q6:** How many wickets does Muttiah Mularitharan have in ODIs?

- a) 430
- b) 120
- c) 321
- d) 534

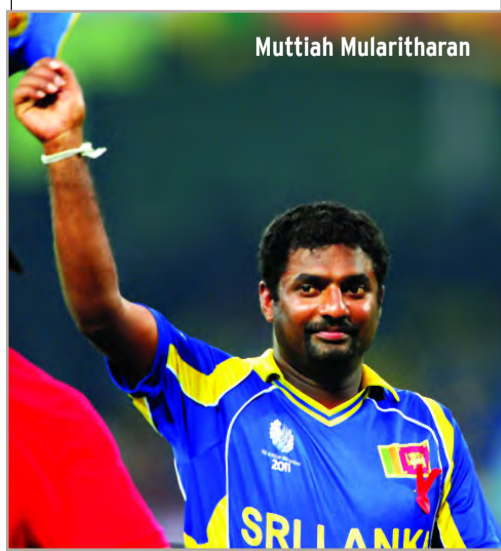


Photo: TOI

**Q7:** Which National Games of India were held in 2015?

- a) 35th
- b) 36th
- c) 37th
- d) 38th

**Q8:** Which cricketer took the most wickets in the first Cricket World Cup of 1975?

- a) Dayle Hadlee
- b) Tony Greig
- c) Syed Abid Ali
- d) Gary Gilmour

**Q9:** Which sport's competition is known as the "Big Bash League"?

- a) Football
- b) Volleyball
- c) Basketball
- d) Cricket

**Q10:** The "Top 14" is a professional club competition of which sport?

- a) Baseball
- b) Softball
- c) Archery
- d) Rugby Union

**ANSWERS:** 1. b. Golf  
2. d. Arkady Dvorkovich  
3. a. Sunil Chhetri 4. b. 1963  
5. d. New Delhi 6. d. 534 7. a. 35th  
8. d. Gary Gilmour 9. d. Cricket  
10. d. Rugby Union