



THE TIMES OF INDIA

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TODAY'S EDITION

➤ As Covid Nat'l Plan ends on March 31, students say don't let the guard down blindly in Your Newsroom

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➤ Take a virtual tour of the beautiful city of Prague dotted with colourful Baroque buildings and Gothic churches

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➤ RCB eye first win as they take on KKR in IPL 2022

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STUDENT EDITION

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2022



➤ Talks between Ukraine and Russia began in Turkey without a handshake. Ukrainian forces are continuing counter attacks to the northwest of Kyiv, and Russia has kept up heavy shelling of Mariupol, British military intelligence said

CLICK HERE: PAGE 1 AND 2
Spotlight

Deepika Padukone CONFERRED WITH TIME 100 Impact Award for contribution to mental health awareness

Actress Deepika Padukone has been awarded the TIME100 Impact Awards for the second time in her career. She was lauded for her outstanding commitment to mental health advocacy. With this honour, the actress joined a list of several influential scientists, politicians, activists, and artistes.



Deepika was diagnosed with depression and not only went on to battle it, but broke all stereotypes by speaking about it, and has constantly been advocating the importance of mental health ever since. She also launched the Live Love Laugh foundation that works towards raising awareness and destigmatise mental health struggles

The world has been through a lot and we continue to go through a lot, but to see the strength and resilience is what truly gives me hope

Deepika Padukone

Quote unquote


Pariksha Pe Charcha is part of the larger movement, 'Exam Warriors', led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, to create a stress-free atmosphere for youngsters. It is a movement that is driven by efforts to bring together students, parents, teachers, and society to foster an environment where the unique individuality of each child is celebrated, encouraged, and allowed to express itself fully

Dharmendra Pradhan, Union education minister



Guterres launches initiative for humanitarian ceasefire in Ukraine

The UN secretary-general, Antonio Guterres, has launched an initiative for a humanitarian ceasefire in the war-torn Ukraine. "Today I am announcing that in the exercise of my good offices, I have asked Martin Griffiths, the coordinator of our humanitarian work worldwide, immediately to explore with the parties involved, the possible agreements and arrangements for a humanitarian ceasefire in

Ukraine," he said. A cessation of hostilities will allow essential humanitarian aid to be delivered and enable civilians to move around safely. It will save lives, prevent suffering, and protect civilians, he added. The UN humanitarian agencies and partners have reached nearly 900,000 people, mainly in eastern Ukraine, with food, shelter, blankets, medicine, bottled water, and hygiene supplies in the past month, the secretary general informed.

The ongoing conflict between Ukraine and Russia has led to the senseless loss of thousands of lives, the displacement of 10 million people, the systematic destruction of essential infrastructure, and skyrocketing food and energy prices worldwide

BIMSTEC

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will attend a virtual summit of the seven-nation BIMSTEC grouping today, which is expected to focus on expanding economic engagement among its member countries

WHAT

The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIM-STEC) is a regional multilateral organisation, which seeks to foster regional and economic cooperation among nations in the littoral and adjacent areas of the Bay of Bengal – India, Thailand, Myanmar, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Bhutan.

admission of Nepal and Bhutan in 2004, the name of the grouping was changed to 'Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation' (BIM-STEC).

WHAT

are its objectives: It aims to accelerate economic growth and social progress among the members across multiple sectors – trade, technology, energy, transport, tourism and fisheries, agriculture, public health, poverty alleviation, counter-terrorism, environment, culture, people to people contact and climate change.

WHEN

it was established: Headquartered in Dhaka, this sub-regional organisation came into being in 1997, through the Bangkok Declaration. Initially, it was formed with four member states and was called 'BIST-EC' (Bangladesh, India, Sri-Lanka and Thailand Economic Cooperation). Following the inclusion of Myanmar, it was renamed as BIMST-EC. With the

HOW

does it work: The group holds annual meetings hosted by member states based on alphabetical rotation. Sri Lanka is the host nation this time.

X-PLAINED



The BIMSTEC region is home to roughly 22 per cent of the global population, with a combined GDP of over \$2.7 trillion



WHY IT IS SIGNIFICANT FOR INDIA

1 Due to setbacks to the South Asian Association of Regional Cooperation (SAARC), particularly when its 2016 summit scheduled to be held in Pakistan was suspended after member countries declined to participate, BIMSTEC has emerged as the "preferred platform" for regional cooperation in South Asia

2 It allows India to pursue its three core policies: Neighborhood First - primacy to the country's immediate periphery; Act East - connect India with Southeast Asia; and economic development of India's northeastern states - by linking them to the Bay of Bengal region via Bangladesh and Myanmar

3 It is a platform for India to counter China's creeping influence in countries around the Bay of Bengal due to the spread of its Belt and Road Initiative

That's the Box Office collection of SS Rajamouli's directorial 'RRR' worldwide on the third day of its release. Set in pre-independence India, 'RRR' is a fictional take on the younger days of celebrated freedom fighters, Komaram Bheem and Alluri Seetharama Raju, portrayed by Jr NTR and Ram Charan. The movie also features Samuthirakani, Olivia Morris, Alison Doody, and Ray Stevenson.


₹ 500 CRORE
FACTOID

The magnum opus also became India's biggest-ever opener with ₹ 223 crore worldwide, after overtaking 'Baahubali 2', which had made ₹ 217 crore worldwide on its opening day

INSTAGRAM MAY ALLOW USERS TO RESPOND TO STORIES WITH VOICE MESSAGES



Meta-owned photo-sharing platform Instagram is reportedly working on a new feature that would allow users to reply to Stories with an image or a voice message. Alessandro Paluzzi, a developer who reverse engineers apps to find upcoming new features, took to Twitter to share a screenshot from Instagram Stories with a microphone icon in the field for story replies. "Instagram is working on the ability to reply to Stories with voice messages," Paluzzi said in the tweet.

- Instagram introduced two new ways, Favourites and Following, to choose what users see in their feed. The company said, it wants users to be able to shape Instagram into the best possible experience and give them ways to quickly see what they are most interested in
- Favourites show users the latest from accounts that they choose, like their best friends and favourite creators. In addition to this view, posts from accounts in Favourites will also show up higher in home feed. Following shows users posts from the people they follow
- Both Favourites and Following will show users posts in chronological order to quickly catch up on recent posts

Who'll buy 'the greatest picture of defeat of colonialism'?



WHAT'S NEW? A 13-ft-tall early 19th century painting of the Battle of Polilur that historian William Dalrymple has described as "arguably the greatest Indian picture of the defeat of colonialism that survives" will go under the hammer at Sotheby's soon.

WHAT ART: The painting, a 10-metre-wide panoramic extending over 10 sheets of paper produced between 1799-1820 by Seringapatam locals, which portrays the battle won by Tipu Sultan against the British, is worth about ₹5-8 crore. This painting, one of the only three, is the second painting of the Second Anglo-Mysore War of 1780 being sold at Sotheby's.

HISTORY LESSON

The battle represents the triumph of Haidar Ali, the ruler of Mysore, and his son Tipu Sultan, against the British troops of the East India Company. Tipu Sultan commissioned a painting of the battle as a mural for his palace, Daria Daulat Bagh in Seringapatam in 1784. This painting focuses on the moment when two of the East India Company's ammunition tumbrils explode. Haidar is seen with Tipu, who is in a tiger-striped shirt and sniffing a rose with sangfroid as he surveys the carnage. An injured Scottish officer, Colonel William Baillie, can be seen carried in a palanquin. The panorama shows all the gore of the battle, "including heads flying off when someone is decapitated"

The World

this week

IS

CUET a good move by UGC?



IN THE NEWS FOR

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has introduced a new format of admitting students in undergraduate courses across central universities. Recently, the UGC announced the scrapping of formula of admissions based on class 12 marks and introducing the Central Universities Entrance Test (CUET) from session 2022-23.

STUDENT ALERT

CUET will be conducted in July this year for the first time. The application process is likely to begin in the month of April.

YOU SPEAK

The CUET is a great initiative by UGC. The main advantage of this format is that students need not appear for various entrance tests offered by different universities. Moreover, the domain-specific questions will create a customised test for students based on the subjects they choose. CUET will also relieve parents of economically-backward students from the burden of paying to appear for different entrance tests. **VARADA SHENDYE**, class X, SSPM's Sri Sri Ravishankar Vidya Mandir, Mumbai



CUET is a common entrance test for all the central universities in the country. It will be mandatory for the students to appear in it to take admissions in the undergraduate programmes offered by 45 central universities of India. While the UGC has not issued a specific syllabus for the test, it has stated that all the questions will be based on NCERT Class 12 syllabus. Academicians believe that this would give an edge to CBSE students rather than those from the state boards. CUET will be conducted in 13 languages.

WE SPEAK

It is a boost to students' morale as UGC has stated that class 12 marks will not be mandatory for admissions to universities and have left it to them if at all, they wish to include it as one of the criteria for admission shortlisting process.

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DO

you think more firms should set up decarbonisation hubs?



IN THE NEWS FOR

Professional services firm KPMG has launched an India Decarbonisation Hub to provide businesses and institutions solutions for climate strategy and implementation, low carbon finance, energy efficiency and decarbonisation digital program, among others.

WE SPEAK

Leaders across sectors have to address several competing imperatives: recover from the Covid-19 crisis, prepare for a world of artificial intelligence (AI) and extreme automation, and grow in increasingly competitive markets, while achieving their net-zero pledges.

What's decarbonisation? 'Decarbonisation' tends to refer to the process of reducing 'carbon intensity', lowering the amount of greenhouse gas emissions produced by the burning of fossil fuels. Generally, this involves decreasing

CO2 output per unit of electricity generated. Reducing the amount of carbon dioxide occurring as a result of transport and power generation is essential to meet global temperature standards set by the Paris Agreement and UK government.

Steps toward low-carbon and net-zero operations:

- Ensure decarbonisation aligns with your overall business strategy;
- Evaluate and develop a common understanding of the non-linear issues of climate change, competi-

HELP FIRMS GO GREEN

"We think that the carbonisation agenda is going to fundamentally change the way that businesses operate. We're thinking about issues such as how do we gather data, how do we prove the verifiability of that data? How do we encourage innovation? We're thinking about this as a global agenda," said Mike Hayes, Global Decarbonization Hub Lead.

tion for renewables and offsets, and the impact of decentralised energy in the marketplace;

- Define the reporting strategy for internal and external stakeholders, including public disclosures;
- Shift your capital structure to account for the increasing role of climate in finance;
- Align executive compensation with environmental performance;
- Demonstrate provable progress through targeted emissions-reduction initiatives that support broader business goals.

YOU SPEAK

We should set up our own climate goals and our own target to reduce carbon footprint. A variety of things can be practiced for the same: reducing the amount of non-renewable sources, eating fewer animal products, shopping locally, reducing and reusing our waste, etc.

RIDHANG JAIN, class X, SGVP Int'l, Ahmedabad

To truly save our world we must work together. We all make small efforts at our home and our neighbourhoods to make people take steps. If everyone starts setting climate targets for themselves then only we can make a change!

RAKSHIT DUBEY, class X, Zebar School for Children, Ahmedabad



CAN

India let its guard down with Covid National Plan ending on Mar 31?



IN THE NEWS FOR

Two years after the Centre imposed a nationwide lockdown in view of the Covid-19 outbreak and followed it up with monthly review of health protocols, the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has decided against invoking provisions of the Disaster Management Act beyond March 31 for management of the pandemic. The shift comes in view of the steep decline in cases across the country in the past few weeks and significant capacity-building at the state and Union Territory levels for dealing with all aspects of Covid containment and control.

YOU SPEAK

As cases in India have now decreased, the public seems to be letting its guard down against the virus. However, the new variant reported in China and other parts of the world are of huge concern and for this reason, the punitive measures shouldn't be done away with totally.

BHOOMIKA CHAWLA, class XII, Bhavan Vidyalaya, Chandigarh



WE SPEAK

■ The Disaster Act Provisions being lifted after almost 2 years may come as a relief, but it's the country's health that is at stake, so until the WHO declares Covid as completely over, the govt and citizens need to be vigilant.

WILL

foldable phones be the next tech trend?

IN THE NEWS FOR

After filing multiple patents showcasing foldable designs ranging from fantastic to slightly crazy, it appears Samsung is finally set to bring a third foldable phone to the market. This device, seemingly codenamed 'Diamond', is expected to launch alongside the Galaxy Z Fold4 and Galaxy Z Flip4. Vivo has officially teased the launch of a new tablet and foldable smartphone in China.



WE SPEAK

■ Since their inception, foldable smartphones are estimated to have reached 11.5 million unit sales by the end of 2021. The fast-growing market is unsurprisingly expected to continue expanding throughout 2022 (and beyond), with Samsung on top slot.

YOU SPEAK

In the recent times, we have seen how gadgets have evolved to be as portable as possible, and sometimes even space efficient. Foldable phones are another step towards that process. A fascinating part about it, is that the fold isn't realised when the screen is fully opened. Some new foldable phones also have another variant which fold outwards and can act as a widescreen tablet in that mode. This adds versatility. Going by how it can transform utility, it certainly seems to be the next 'in' thing.

SIDDHARTH KOTHARI, class X, St Joseph's Boys High School, Bengaluru



SHOULD

Putin

be held guilty of war crimes?

IN THE NEWS FOR

As Russian forces escalate their assault on Ukraine, the prospect that their commander in chief, Russian President Vladimir Putin, will ever stand trial for the crimes they commit may seem far-fetched. But for some international legal scholars, it is all but certain that Putin will one day be indicted for war crimes or crimes against humanity in Ukraine, charges that would turn him into an international pariah, if not a prisoner.



WE SPEAK

- 1 The concept of war crimes is a recent one. Before World War II, it was generally accepted that the horrors of war were part of the nature of war, states BBC
- 2 Before the 20th century, armies behaved brutally to enemy soldiers - and whether there was any punishment for this depended on who eventually won the war
- 3 Commanders and politicians usually escaped any punishment for their role in war - or, if they lost, were summarily executed or imprisoned



4 Attitudes changed during World War II when the murder of several million people - mainly Jews - by Nazi Germany, and the mistreatment of both civilians and prisoners of war by the Japanese, prompted the Allied powers to prosecute the people they believed to be the perpetrators of these crimes

YOU SPEAK

Isolation by world leaders may not stop Putin in his tracks. He must be held guilty as the war perpetuated by him is a grave crime committed against humanity. It has gone beyond aggression and muscle flexing to a systematic attack against innocent and unarmed civilian population. **NAGARJUNA D**, class XI, Meridian School, Banjara Hills, Hyd



For 'uniform'ity on campus

'School uniform shows unity and identity among students of a school.'

A special assembly was conducted at Pallavi Model School, Alwal by students of class IX. The meeting began with Principal Sunir Nagi addressing the gathering on the need to build confidence and share a feeling of oneness by wearing the right uniform.

A prayer was recited following which students conveyed their thoughts about school uniforms which help maintain social equality, instill discipline and thereby students can focus on academics and activities on campus. A speech was delivered and the various reasons for the need of uniform were highlighted through flash cards. A role play was enacted exposing the awkwardness felt when one is not in the right uniform. The programme came to an end with the recital of a short poem.

Pallavi Model School
Alwal, Hyderabad



Primary years programme: Showcasing the learning journey

DRS International School
Hyderabad

Life is a Journey, with Problems to Solve, Lessons to Learn, but most of all, Experiences to Enjoy!

DRS International School conducted Primary Years Programme (PYP) exhibition to highlight the significant event in the lives of class V students. It was a culmination and celebration of their PYP learning journey, bringing together the essential elements of the PYP and sharing them with the whole school community. It is an opportunity for students to exhibit the attributes of the International Baccalaureate (IB) learner profile they have been developing throughout their engagement with the PYP through transdisciplinary learning.



BACK TO SCHOOL!

The first day of school is a mix of excitement and nervousness. It was an emotional day for me, at least. We attended physical school after two whole years. Imagine an ape or tiger being restricted from going to the jungle and locked up in a cage! How would they feel? Terrible, right!

We were also locked up in our houses, attending school online. I'm pretty sure all of us were eager to go to school. Finally that lucky day dawned. The atmosphere on the opening day was as expected - loud and noisy with the honking of vehicles and the chattering of

students. After entering the school campus, we stepped into the sanitisation mat and also sanitised our hands. We entered the class and were curious to know our teachers. We were happy to see some of the teachers who taught us earlier. The whole day was spent on introductions and luckily all my teachers were fun and jolly. It was time to get back home after a wonderful day, a day each kid would like to experience again and again.

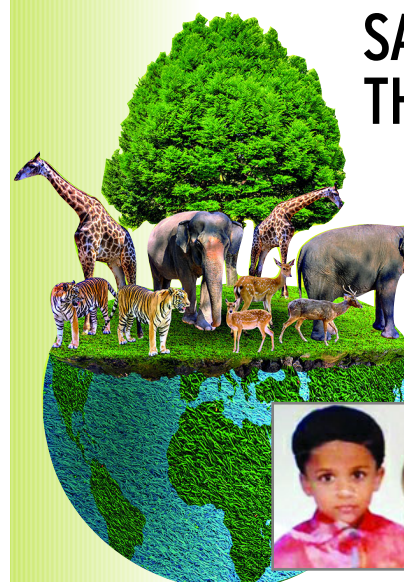
DEV A, class VIII-M, Johnson Grammar School, ICSE, Habsiguda



SAVE ANIMALS BEFORE THEY BECOME EXTINCT

Endangered animals are the animals that face the danger of becoming extinct. This is happening because of global warming, climate change, habitat destruction, human activities, air, water and soil pollution. Pandas, chimpanzees, Axolotls, koala, sloths, rhinos, Yangtze River dolphins and many animals are in the endangered list, so the best we can do to safeguard our environment is by not littering our surroundings and seas, using eco safe and bio-degradable products, planting more trees and safeguarding endangered sea animals. Together we can build a better future for ourselves and the world around us.

LOHIT, class IV, Thailand, Silver Oaks International School, Mighty Oaks Campus



Let our souls blossom

Our souls seek happiness from different things. As for me, it's reading. While I feel happy reading, a friend of mine feels happy when she sings. It doesn't always have to be an activity. It can also be little things too. Like, having a particular favourite perfume with you and having the fragrance of it around you, being in the light breeze under the sun in spring! Even a person, with his or her behaviour can radiate pleasant vibes and energy! And think about money, though people say money can't buy you happiness, having no money does bring you sadness.

In my point of view, happiness shouldn't be a temporary emotion. Happiness should be like a shadow and be with you even in the dark.

Just as happiness should be like a shadow, our happiness should not be someone else's despair. Something awful happening to someone else shouldn't give your heart any pleasure.

Everyone's definition of happiness is different as I mentioned; and people can change their definition of happiness according to their wish! And as a person, I feel like we all should try to be the reason for others' happiness, and most importantly, help someone blossom.

Mukta Karape, class VIII-A, DDMS. P Obul Reddy Public School, Hyderabad



EXPLORING TO LEARN

I love to explore new places and hence crave for family trips to historical monuments, sightseeing and a bunch more.

One of my recent family trips was to Golconda Fort in Hyderabad. Many come and visit the fort for its rich cultural heritage. It was built by the Kakatiya dynasty. As a family we planned this trip and went together.

The view is breathtaking and I was astonished and curious to explore this place. We took few photos at the entrance and then purchased a guide map so we wouldn't get lost. I started climbing the steps to reach the top and was

pretty exhausted as the weather was humid and sunny.

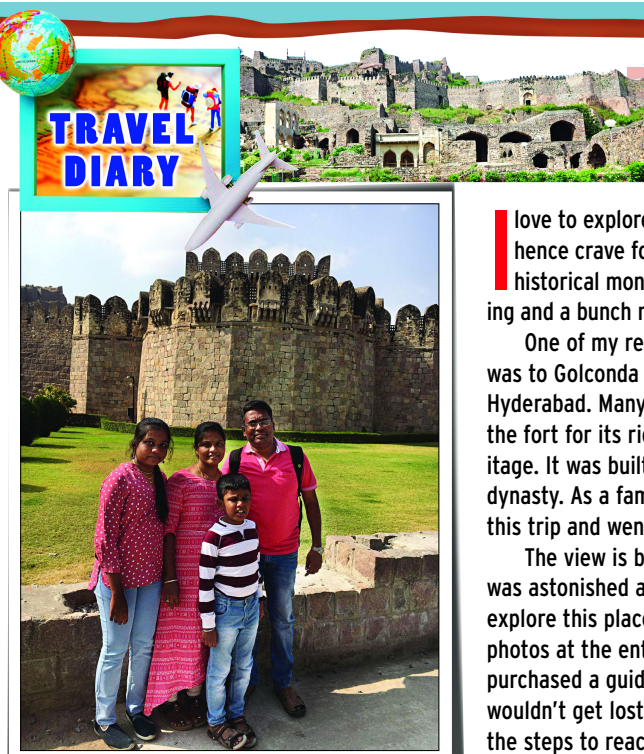
I started exploring the place and observed that huge stones were arranged on top of each other. I saw a place which was especially made for the king and which is said to get cool breeze all day long. Next we headed to the Ramadasu jail and learnt about his struggles, prayers and how he was saved.

My sister helped me explore with a new variety of information and stories. And then the most important and delightful thing which I discovered was the echo transmission at the entrance of the

fort which works in a very unique way. When someone claps at a certain point, the sound echoes through a long distance inside the fort. This was used during war times to alert the king, soldiers and others who had to defend the fort and kingdom.

A day well spent learning and exploring things and we reached home in the evening. This is one of the most memorable trip where I had a chance to discover many interesting and unique things.

AARUSH, class III, Congo, Silver Oaks International School, Mighty Oaks Campus, Hyderabad



COURSES IN INDIA ARE BECOMING IRRELEVANT FOR INDUSTRY NEEDS

We keep running after so many courses assuming it might help in finding a job, but to our own surprise we end up seeing a total mismatch between the content of the courses and requirements of the industry. Industry caters to real world problems which are lacking in the courses. Application of topic in real world or integration of the topic with other topics is what is missing. Also the exams conducted for certification in these courses do not focus on the application of the content rather focuses on testifying rote learning. If this gap is filled then we will find the courses more meaningful and catering to industry standards.

DHRUVIKA, Gitanjali Primary School, Hyderabad



Short term certificate courses seem to be of great use these days. For example, students pursuing electronics and communication stream jump to taking up short term software courses leaving their mainstream. Almost 90% of engineering students choose careers not related to their stream, with most taking up jobs in IT industry. Even BA and BSc students end up in BPO or banks. Hence, long-term courses are becoming irrelevant for industry needs.

UMA MAHESWARI, class VII, Meridian School, Kukatpally



The 21st century demands new skills and inventions. Taking up a professional course is important to improve performance in any career. In order to acquire more advanced and better skills, many people today go for these professional courses. These courses sharpen skills and improve how you handle your work. Youth taking these courses acquire various skills and thus become of part of India's development in industrial field.

R SREE LASYA, class IX, Rose, Sister Nivedita School, Ameerpet



AGAINST

New and relevant courses are being offered to students these days. Biotechnology, Nanotechnology, Business Intelligence, Design, Data Science and many more. People from the industry are helping develop such courses. As a result, the quality of the courses is enhanced and we, students are exposed to the industry and its experts. This in turn ensures the industry's needs are fulfilled with better ideas, innovations and solutions to the problems put out by it. Courses in India are helping build a brighter future.

PIYUSHA BASUTHKAR, class IX-C, Mahar Regiment, Silver Oaks International School, Mighty Oaks Campus



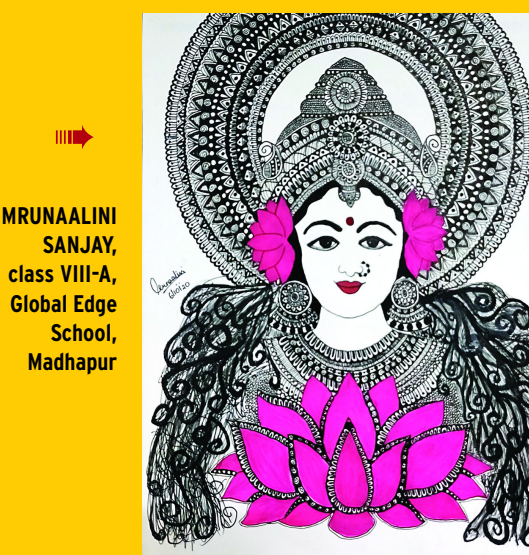
DEBATE

Painters' Gallery

AKSHAYA GOSWAMI, class VI-D, Delhi Public School, Nadergul



SAANVIKA CHITTURI, class II, Global Edge School, Vasanthnagar



MRUNALINI SANJAY, class VIII-A, Global Edge School, Madhapur



M LOUKICK, class VII-B, P Obul Reddy Public School, Hyderabad

RCB EYE FIRST WIN

KKR HAVE TASK CUT OUT AS THEY LOOK TO CONSOLIDATE POSITION AFTER WINNING START

Seeeking to consolidate their position after a winning start, Kolkata Knight Riders will have their task cut out as they take on a determined Royal Challengers Bangalore in the Indian Premier League on Wednesday.

The two outfits head into the game on the back of contrasting results. While the Shreyas Iyer-led KKR humbled defending champions Chennai Super Kings by six wickets, Royal Challengers Bangalore suffered a five-wicket loss to Punjab Kings, despite posting a 200-plus score.

RCB BIG GUNS MUST BE CONSISTENT

For RCB, skipper Faf Du Plessis is in prime form after he made a scintillating 57-ball 88 and would like to continue in the same vein. Opener Anuj Rawat was unable to capitalise on a good start and would be aiming for consistency.

Unburdened by the captaincy pressure, Virat Kohli made a statement and played with more intent against Punjab. He will definitely look to rediscover his glorious touch and continue to torment the opposition bowlers like he did during his prime.

Wicketkeeper Dinesh Karthik also played a significant cameo and his role would be crucial once again, if RCB have to set or chase a big total.

If these four go all guns blazing, then it would be a daunting task for the varied KKR attack.

While the KKR bowling unit will have to be particularly cautious of the six-hitting prowess of Du Plessis, which was on display on Sunday, RCB bowlers would have to quickly forget the hammering they received at the hands of the Punjab batters.

A profligate Mohammed Siraj, who leaked 59 runs, will have to pull up his socks. Another key bowler is death overs specialist and last edition's Purple Cap holder Harshal Patel. Even the role of Sri Lankan spinner Wanindu Hasaranga, who is capable of spinning a web around the batters, could decide the fate of the match.

WILL BE THINKING OF ABD IF WE WIN IPL: KOHLI

Former RCB skipper Virat Kohli has said that he would be "very emotional" thinking about AB de Villiers if the team wins its maiden Indian Premier League title this season.

Kohli and De Villiers shared a 11-year-long bond at RCB before the South African decided to call it a day, announcing his retirement from all forms of cricket late last year. The former SA all-format player moved to RCB in 2011 and remained with the franchise till his retirement. He played 184 IPL games, scoring 5,162 runs at an average of 39.71 and a strike rate of 151.69.



An emotional Kohli said, "The other day, it got me thinking, if we manage to win the title in the coming seasons (2022), I would be very

emotional thinking about him (de Villiers) first.

Rather than what I would experience, I would actually think of him. "It would still mean a lot to him even if he is watching the game from home. He

is a special human being as he has touched everyone. He has been amazing, and I don't think there is one person who can say that AB de Villiers has not contributed to their lives in some way or the other," said Kohli.

MIDDLE ORDER CRUCIAL FOR KKR

For KKR, they ticked all the boxes in their lung-opener against CSK and they would be hoping that they can repeat their performance. The biggest positive for KKR

was Ajinkya Rahane finding his mojo and scoring runs. Although all-rounder Venkatesh Iyer managed only 16 runs in the first game, he is capable of pummeling any attack into submission.

Skipper Shreyas Iyer along with Sam Billings and Sheldon Jackson would need to shoulder responsibility in the middle-order.

On the bowling front, Umesh Yadav was sensational at the Wankhede. But others including Shivam Mavi, spinners Varun Chakravarthy and Sunil Narine would need to put up an improved show. All-rounder Andre Russell's role with the bat and ball could eventually be the difference between the two sides.

KKR are unlikely to tinker with their winning combination. Being an evening game, dew would certainly be a factor and one can expect a high-scoring affair. WNS

Upcoming IPL Match



VS



MARCH 30

7.30 PM

Dr DY Patil Sports Academy, Mumbai



Faf Du Plessis and Virat Kohli of Royal Challengers Bangalore

MEDVEDEV MAKES LAST 16

Osaka into quarters of Miami Open; Swiatek cruises ahead

Top seed Daniil Medvedev moved a step closer to reclaiming the world number one ranking as he beat Spaniard Pedro Martinez 6-3 6-4 to reach the last 16 at the Miami Open.

Medvedev, who can replace Novak Djokovic in the rankings if he reaches the Miami semi-finals, fired down 14 aces and broke Martinez three times to secure victory in 84 minutes. "I just felt like I had to be more consistent, and the more consistent one today would win," Medvedev said. "I managed to just make a few less errors at important moments, serve even better, and it was a small margin but I managed to win and I'm really happy."

Up next for the Russian, who lost the number one ranking after a surprise third-round loss at Indian Wells, will be American Jensen Brooksby, a 6-3 5-7 6-4 winner over Spain's Roberto Bautista Agut.

Spanish 14th seed Carlos Alcaraz will meet Stefanos Tsitsipas after both enjoyed straight-set wins over Marin Cilic and Alex de Minaur respectively. The 18-year-old Alcaraz beat Tsitsipas in their only previous

meeting, a five-set thriller at last year's U.S. Open. "He is a great player," the Greek third seed said of Alcaraz. "For me it will be a great challenge, the ones that I like."

Osaka advances

Japan's Naomi Osaka reached the quarter-finals for a second consecutive year with a 6-3 6-4 win over American Alison Riske, recovering after falling behind 2-0 in the second set. She will face American Danielle Collins for a place in the semi-finals.

Osaka has responded strongly in Florida, advancing to the quarter-finals after leaving Indian Wells in tears earlier this month after being heckled by a fan. The four-time Grand Slam champion, who received a walkover in the previous round, is yet to drop a set and remains one of the favorites to land the title.

Swiatek eases past

Poland's new world number one Iga Swiatek eased past 14th

seed Coco Gauff 6-3 6-1 and will next face Petra Kvitova after the Czech defeated Veronika Kuderमतova 7-6(5) 6-4 to reach the quarters.

Spanish fifth seed Paula Badosa beat 16-year-old wildcard Linda Fruhvirtova 6-2 6-3 and will next meet Jessica Pegula. AGENCIES

"I am definitely happy. Last year I got to the quarters in Miami after winning in Australia and I am winning matches here this year too but I feel more grateful -- this is one of the funnest times of my life. There were a lot of things running through my mind last year. Maybe it was trying to return to number one or other things which aren't that important but at the time was so heavy in my head. I am just happy to be healthy."

NAOMI OSAKA



Photo: AFP

MITHALI, JHULAN RISE IN ODI RANKINGS

India skipper Mithali Raj climbed two places to sixth while veteran pacer Jhulan Goswami also rose a couple of spots to fifth in the latest ICC Women's ODI rankings released on Tuesday, taking into account the ongoing World Cup in New Zealand.

Raj, who struck a half-century in India's final league match against South Africa on Sunday, surpassed Australia's Rachael Haynes and Tammy Beaumont of England. However, the match ended in heartbreak for the Indian skipper as her team crashed out of the World Cup in a last-ball thriller.

Star opener Smriti Mandhana, who played a 71-run knock against South Africa, remained static on 10th.

In the bowlers' chart, Goswami, who missed the match against the Proteas, went past the South African duo of Marizanne Kapp and Ayabonga Khaka to be fifth.



Jhulan Goswami

However, she lost her ninth position in the all-rounders' list to Katherine Brunt of England. Goswami is now 10th with 217 rating points in her kitty.

Her compatriot Deepti Sharma held on to her seventh position. PTI

QUIZ TIME!

Q1: Who was the first cricketer to be given out by the 3rd umpire?

- A. Sachin Tendulkar
- B. M S Dhoni
- C. Ricky Ponting
- D. Chris Gayle

Q2: Who clinched the women's singles title in the Odisha Open Super 100 badminton tournament in January 2022?

- A. Aparna Popat
- B. Ashwini Nachappa
- C. Manasi Joshi
- D. Unnati Hooda

Q3: In which event did Avani Lekhara win a gold medal at the Tokyo Paralympics 2021?

- A. Discus throw
- B. Shooting
- C. Badminton
- D. Shotput

Q4: Which of these trophies is awarded to women badminton players?

- A. Webb Ellis Cup
- B. Uber Cup
- C. Ranji Trophy
- D. Claret Jug

Q5: Kidambi Srikanth became first Indian male shuttler to claim a silver medal in the World

Badminton Championships? Whom did he lose to in the final?



Photo: TOI

- A. Wang Tzu-wei
- B. Lakshya Sen
- C. Loh Kean Yew
- D. Kenta Nishimoto

Q6: Who was the first Indian female wrestler to win a medal at the Olympics?

- A. Geetha Phogat
- B. Babita Kumari
- C. Vinesh Phogat
- D. Sakshi Malik

Q7: When was the first football World Cup held?

- A. 1934
- B. 1930
- C. 1942
- D. 1946s

Q8: Which were the participating countries of the first-ever test cricket match that took place in 1877?

- A. England Vs India
- B. India Vs Australia
- C. England Vs Australia
- D. Australia Vs United States of America

ANSWERS:

- 1 A. Sachin Tendulkar
- 2 D. Unnati Hooda
- 3 B. Shooting
- 4 B. Uber Cup
- 5 C. Loh Kean Yew
- 6 D. Sakshi Malik
- 7 B. 1930
- 8 C. England Vs Australia