



# THE TIMES OF INDIA

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STUDENT EDITION

TUESDAY, JUNE 30, 2020



WEB EDITION

## NEWS IN BRIEF

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### EDUCATION

#### CLASS X STUDENTS MAY OPT FOR TAKING EXAM IF NOT SATISFIED WITH RESULT: HRD MINISTER

Union HRD minister Ramesh Pokhriyal has said that CBSE students of class X may opt for taking the exam, if they are not satisfied by the result. Pokhriyal said, "As the remaining class X and XII CBSE exams, which were earlier rescheduled to be held between July 1 to July 15 have been cancelled, the CBSE has decided to declare the results on July 15." The result will be calculated on the exams which have already been given, but the students who think they could have done better if they had taken the remaining exams, may opt for giving exams again. This option will, however, be open for students who have not taken exams for all the subjects," he added.



■ The CBSE and ICSE on June 25 told the apex court that the remaining class X and XII CBSE exams, which were earlier rescheduled to be held between July 1 to July 15, in view of the Covid-19 pandemic, have been cancelled. ■ ICSE, on the other hand, told the top court that they might give an option to the class X students to write the exams at a later stage

### ENVIRONMENT

#### MELTING OF ANTARCTIC SEA ICE HAS MADE PENGUINS HAPPIER: STUDY



While human beings are anxious about the decreasing level of ice in the Antarctica, there is one species in particular that has been thriving on global warming. According to a latest research, Antarctica-based Adélie penguin is expected to see a population boom in the coming years, thanks to the decrease in sea ice level that has made it easier for these small birds to survive.

1 The researchers, who studied the penguins for four seasons, in a different sea ice conditions during each season, concluded that the result of sea ice melting can have different effects on different species, highlighting the complexity of climate change effects on wildlife

2 It turns out that Adélie penguins are happier with less sea ice, said researchers, as the increase in sea ice can make it difficult for penguins to walk. Less seawater let them dive as and when they wish, making them happier, they added

### SAY NO TO RACISM

#### NO WHITE ACTORS TO VOICE CHARACTERS OF COLOUR: THE SIMPSONS



The Simpsons' will no longer use white actors to dub the ethnic minority characters, the producers of the long-running animated series said. The decision includes a recurring character from the series launched in 1989—Apu Nahasapeemapetilon, a grocer of Indian origin, voiced in the American version of the show by white actor Hank Azaria. The character has long been seen as problematic, conveying racist stereotypes. The announcement came as Mike Henry, the white actor, who voices the black character of Cleveland Brown in Family Guy, another animated series produced by Fox, announced on Twitter that he was giving up the role.

Americans are in the midst of a reckoning on systemic racism and discrimination, ignited by the killing of George Floyd, an African-American man, by a white police officer in Minneapolis on May 25

## RISE IN CYBERATTACKS FROM CHINA. OVER 40,000 CASES IN 5 DAYS

# Is India prepared to cope WITH SUCH THREATS?

Hackers based in China have attempted over 40,000 cyberattacks on India's Information Technology infrastructure and banking sector in the last five days, a top police official in Maharashtra said. The spurt in online attacks from across the border was noticed after tensions rose between the two countries in eastern Ladakh, said Yashasvi Yadav, Special Inspector General of Police, cyber wing. Fraudulent email ID, such as 'ncov2019@gov.in' was found, which sent bogus information about free Covid-19 testing for residents of Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Chennai and Ahmedabad, officials said.

### X-PLAINED: CYBERATTACK

**WHAT** In simple terms, a cyberattack is a type of attack that is launched from one or more than one computer against each other. There are broadly two types of cyberattacks: attacks where the goal is to disable the target computer and knock it offline, or attacks, where the goal is to get access to the target's computer data, and perhaps gain admin privileges on it.

**WHERE** A cyberattack can be employed by sovereign states, individuals, groups, society or organisations; it may originate from an anonymous source as well. Depending on the context, cyberattacks can also be a part of a cyberwarfare or cyberterrorism. A product that facilitates a cyberattack is sometimes called a cyberweapon.

**WHY** In recent years, countries have resorted to cyberwarfare to attack against one other. While conventional weapons are only allowed to be deployed by a country's military, in the realm of cyberwarfare, governments usually deny their association with the hacker outfits. The Chinese government, for instance, has on numerous occasions, denied its role in hacking operations emerging from the mainland.



### INDIA AND CYBERWARFARE

■ According to some analysts, India remains highly vulnerable to cyberattacks, made worse by an inability to conduct any counter-offensive operations

■ While China has ramped up investment into cyberwarfare and cybersecurity over the years, India has lagged behind. In fact, the country still does not have any dedicated laws around data protection and security. In fact, the Defence Cyber Agency was constituted last year ■ Given India's lack of preparedness, some experts have suggested that bolstering defence partnerships with technologically superior allies, like Japan or the United States, or the setup of a defence coalition, may be India's best bet at protecting itself from cyber threats.



### CYBER WORLD TERMINOLOGIES

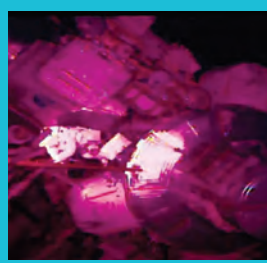
**MALWARE:** According to Microsoft, malware, short for malicious software, refers to any kind of software that "is designed to cause damage to a single computer, server, or computer network." Worms, viruses and trojans are all varieties of malware. They are distinguished from one another by the means by which they reproduce and spread. These attacks may render the computer and network inoperable, or

grant the attacker root access so that they can control the system remotely **PHISHING:** Phishing is a technique by which cybercriminals craft emails to fool a target into taking some harmful action. The recipient might be tricked into downloading malware that's disguised as an important document **RANSOMWARE:** Ransomware is a form of malware that encrypts a victim's files. The attacker then demands a ransom from the victim to restore access to the data upon payment

## ASTRONAUT ACCIDENTALLY LOSES MIRROR DURING SPACEWALK

USpacewalking astronaut added to the millions of pieces of junk orbiting the Earth, losing a small mirror, as soon as he stepped out of the International Space Station for battery work. Commander Chris Cassidy said the mirror floated away at about a foot per second. Mission Control said the mirror detached from Cassidy's spacesuit. The lost item posed no risk to either the spacewalk or the station, NASA said. Spacewalking astronauts wear a wrist mirror on each sleeve to get better views while working. The mirror is just 5 inches by 3 inches, and together with its band has a mass of barely one-tenth of a pound.

While millions of pieces of space debris orbit the Earth, more than 20,000 items, including old rocket parts and busted satellites are big enough to be tracked to safeguard the space station and functional satellites



## Out-of-the-box lunar loos

Proper positioning and precision landings are not only the crux of lunar landings, it is very important for lunar loos as well. A small deviation this way or that can cause anything—from an embarrassment to a catastrophe. NASA has, therefore, intensified its activity on astronauts' excretions. After developing a \$23 million 'Universal Waste Management System'—a hi-tech porta-potty—to be tested on the International Space Station, the premier space agency has now announced a contest for a lunar loo. Given that the first lot of astronauts had to make do with little more than plastic bags taped on their posteriors, this effort being made to ease their ablations now is truly commendable.



The \$35,000 in prize money for the open contest is apparently to tap ideas beyond traditional aerospace engineering concepts, as the toilet will have to function in the microgravity of space as well as lunar gravity, which is one-sixth of what we experience on Earth

## Now, a humanoid is a part of a sci-fi movie

Yes, you heard it right. An artificially-intelligent humanoid robot has grabbed the leading role for an upcoming Hollywood sci-fi movie. Titled, 'b', the \$70 million movie will have 'Erica', the eerily human-like android actress, who will play the role of a genetically-modified superhuman, who goes on the run with the scientists who created her....

➤ Erica, who made her public debut back in 2015, is the brainchild of roboticist Hiroshi Ishiguro of Japan's Osaka University, who calls his creation the world's 'most beautiful and human-like android'

➤ The AI-powered android resembles a 23-year-old woman. While she can't move around by herself, she can tilt her head and blink, sports a sophisticated speech synthesiser, and can use her array of infrared sensors to recognise people

➤ According to 'Daily Mail', her first appearance on the silver screen is the result of a deal with Los Angeles-based Life Productions, a firm that specialises in AI artistes



## THIS DAY THAT YEAR

# JUNE 30

**1908:** Tunguska Fireball. A giant fireball, most likely caused by the air burst of a large meteoroid or comet, flattens 80 million trees near the Stony Tunguska River in Yeniseysk Governorate, Russia, in the largest impact event in recorded history

**1936:** Margaret Mitchell's novel, 'Gone with the Wind' published

**2019:** President Donald Trump becomes the first sitting US president to set foot in North Korea in the Korean Demilitarised Zone meeting Kim Jong Un

## WORD WATCH

**Incontrovertible:** Means not open to question; indisputable. It is derived from a Latin adjective, controversus, which literally means, 'turned against.'

### WOULD YOU TRY

#### Chyawanprash/Haldi ice cream?



A Karnataka-based popular dairy brand has got everyone talking online after launching two new ice-cream flavours, however, not for the reasons they would like. Keeping in mind the health quotient in food products, Dairy Day has launched two new range of ice-cream flavours – Haldi and Chyawanprash – to help boost immunity. The two new ice-cream flavours, which also have the goodness of amla, honey and dates, haven't really whetted people's appetite, at least not on social media.



### Facebook will prompt users when they try to share links

Facebook is tweaking its platform with subtle changes, in response to the public outcry over its decision to not moderate content. One such update will feature prompts that will pop up to let users know if they're about to share the link to an article that was published a while ago.

#### TECH BUZZ

■ The pop-up will be triggered, if the article shared was originally published more than 90 days ago, prompting users to rethink whether the content will be relevant to their friends before it appears on their news feeds ■ The issue of old news had given headaches to online publishers



## FUN-ZONE

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ON THE  
WEB!

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QUIZ



MIND TEASERS

FUN WITH  
RIDDLESJUMBLED  
WORDS...

Find out who tops the chart every day! It could be **YOU!!!!**

## ACTIVITY OF THE DAY

## History Mystery

**1** In January 1962, on the occasion of Swami Vivekananda's birth centenary, a group of people formed the Kanyakumari Committee whose objective was to put up a memorial on the rock and a pedestrian bridge leading to the rock.

However, this news was not taken in good taste by a sizable population of the local Catholic fishermen. They put up a big Cross on the Rock, visible from the shore. This led to protests by the Hindu population who said the Rock was a place of worship for Hindus. The Government realised that the Rock was turning into an area of dispute with Hindus claiming it to be the Vivekananda Rock and

## Vivekananda Rock Memorial, Kanyakumari



Photo: Milind Kudapa

Christians that it was St Xavier's Rock. It decreed that although the rock was Vivekananda Rock, there would be no memorial constructed on it. The then Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, M

Bhaktavatsalam, said that only a tablet declaring that the rock was associated with Swami Vivekananda could be put up, and nothing else. With government permission, the tablet was installed on the Rock on 17 January 1963.

Vivekananda Rock Memorial was inaugurated in 1970 in honour of Swami Vivekananda who is said to have attained enlightenment on the rock.

**2** The biggest monastery of Buddhists in Spiti Valley, Key Monastery is over 1000-year-old. It is the oldest training center for Lamas. It was founded by Dromton, a famous disciple of teacher Atisha in the 11th century. Key Monastery was destroyed by invaders and rebuilt several times. In 1840 it caught fire and in 1975, it suffered extensive damage due to an earthquake. The monastery appears like a fortress. It is famous for its architecture and is known for its ancient murals, rare thangkas (Tibetan Buddhist painting on cotton, silk, usually depicting a Buddhist deity, scene, or mandala), and ancient weapons.

## Key Monastery, Spiti Valley



Photo: Milind Kudapa

Content and pics by 'History Diaries'. Co-founded by IIT-Delhi alumni, it is an initiative to make history interesting, engaging and relevant, transforming the way it is being taught in schools



Want to boost your general knowledge? Take this exciting test. Rest assured, it will really test you!



**Q1.** From which city did Mangal Pandey lead the revolt of 1857?

- A: Delhi ☐  
B: Jhansi ☐  
C: Barrackpore ☐  
D: Kanpur ☐

**Q2.** Who was the governor-general during the Revolt of 1857?

- A: Lord Canning ☐  
B: Lord Irwin ☐  
C: Lord Lytton ☐  
D: Lord Willington ☐

**Q3.** Who was a prominent leader in Lucknow during the Revolt of 1857?

- A: Begum Hazrat Mahal ☐  
B: Rani Laxmibai ☐  
C: Kuar Singh ☐  
D: Bahadur Shah Zafar ☐

**Q4.** Name the poet who wrote the famous poem 'Jhansi Ki Rani' about Rani Laxmibai.

- A: Subhadra Kumari Chauhan ☐  
B: Sarojini Naidu ☐



## HISTORY

Theme: First War of Independence

C: Maithili Sharan Gupta ☐  
D: Toru Dutt ☐

**Q5.** Who among the officials suppressed the Revolt of Jhansi?

- A: Henry Lawrence ☐  
B: Henry Havelock ☐  
C: Colin Campbell ☐  
D: Hugh Rose ☐

**Q6.** In which city did Rani Laxmibai die during the revolt?

- A: Jhansi ☐  
B: Gwalior ☐

C: Indore ☐  
D: Meerut ☐

**Q7.** Which city marked the beginning of the Revolt of 1857?

- A: Jhansi ☐  
B: Barrackpore ☐  
C: Gwalior ☐  
D: Meerut ☐

**Q8.** One of the effects of the Indian Revolt of 1857 on the East India Company was that...

- A: It was strengthened with more administrators ☐  
B: Crown of England recognised it ☐  
C: British Crown surrendered ☐  
D: It was dissolved ☐

ANSWERS: 1. C, 2. A, 3. A, 4. A, 5. D, 6. B, 7. D, 8. D

## Quiz time

## CURRENT AFFAIRS

**Q.1)** Eastern Bridge-V is a joint bilateral exercise between India and which country?

- A. Bhutan  
B. Japan  
C. Burma  
D. Oman

**Q.2)** Which of the following states



Buddha Nullah is a seasonal water stream, which runs through the Malwa region of Punjab and after passing through the highly populated Ludhiana district, drains into Sutlej river. Today it has also become a major source of pollution in the region.

celebrates Shirui Lily Festival?

- A. Assam  
B. Manipur  
C. Andhra Pradesh  
D. Kerala

**Q.3)** What is the Buddha Nullah?

- A. An ancient Buddhist site  
B. Statue of Lord Buddha  
C. A water stream  
D. Image of Buddha

## ANSWERS

1. D) Oman 2. B) Manipur 3. C) A water stream

## KNOWLEDGE BANK



## GEOGRAPHY

## The White Lady

Mont Blanc or the White Mountain is the highest mountain in the Alps and the European Union. This mountain rises 15,781 ft above sea level. Its other names are La Dame Blanche (in French 'the White Lady') or Il Bianco (Italian for 'the White One'). The mountain lies in a range between Italy and France.



Photo: AFP

## IDIOM OF THE DAY

**➤ EVERYTHING BUT THE KITCHEN SINK**  
Meaning: Almost everything and anything has been included.

## WORD WISE



**Rambunctious (adjective):** difficult to control or handle; wildly boisterous

**Synonyms:** Unruly, turbulent, boisterous, raucous, noisy, tumultuous, energetic, unrestrained, etc

## Examples:

- The **unruly** behaviour of the young boys was too much for the old guard to handle.
- The boat tossed and tumbled uncontrollably in the **turbulent** waters.
- The **boisterous** bunch of children brought the whole place alive.
- The disagreement over the result of the match led to a **raucous** debate between the officials of the two teams.

## COMMON GRAMMATICAL MISTAKES

## 1. ABHORRENT/ABERRANT

## THE RULES:

- "Abhorrent" describes something truly horrible
- "Aberrant" is just abnormal.

## HOW NOT TO DO IT:

- She said sanitary conditions in the emergency room were **aberrant**.
- Weeks ago the nation witnessed the culmination of **abhorrent** fan behaviour.

## HOW TO DO IT PROPERLY:

- She said sanitary conditions in the emergency room were **abhorrent**.
- Weeks ago the nation witnessed the culmination of **aberrant** fan behaviour.

## Life during lockdown

Back in 2002, when the SARS virus made its fateful leap from bats to civet cats to humans, global health experts warned that the ensuing outbreak was a harbinger of things to come. Here we are again in 2020, encountering the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic that has ruined economies, shattered lives and played a significant role in modifying the societal dynamics around the globe. When we come to the unique case, being implemented in India, we notice the uniqueness of such a restraint (lockdown) that has been implemented so courageously by our government, applying to a country with a population of 2.1 billion people. The lockdown has had a very classist impact on the citizens of this great nation. The upper class, the middle class and the lower class are experiencing three different forms of the same pandemic. But one principle that is the same for everyone is the need to be *aatmanirbhar* (self-reliant). I, belonging to a middle class family, have experienced certain difficulties during these uncertain times as have many other people. Life right now for a student has set itself into a regular monotonous pattern of eating, studying and watching movies. Although people say that, this free time is a boon in disguise for a student aspiring to do well in any examination, the lockdown has negatively impacted a student's mental frame to completely utilise this time for a purpose. The lockdown has pushed us inside our homes, for a considerable amount of time now. For a teenager, sitting at home is something that he/she shouldn't practice, as a child's routine should be equally distributed between curricular and co-curricular activities. The lockdown has had adverse effect on the earning members of the family with business and employment going for a toss. However, it also gave us time to finally sit down and think about problems and issues that we have neglected owing to our busy routines. But one thing that is for sure is the fact that to fight this pandemic, we need to be united. Unity of belief, faith and action.

—Eshan Bannerjee, Class XII,  
Birla High School



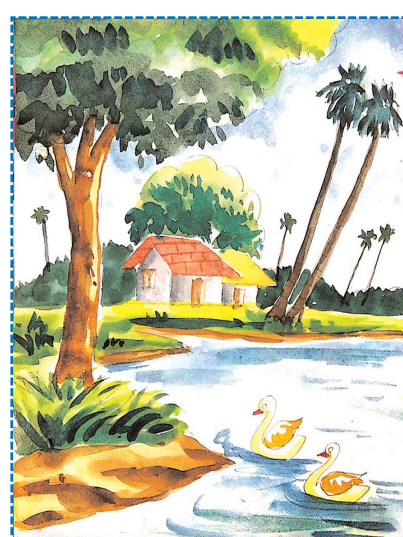
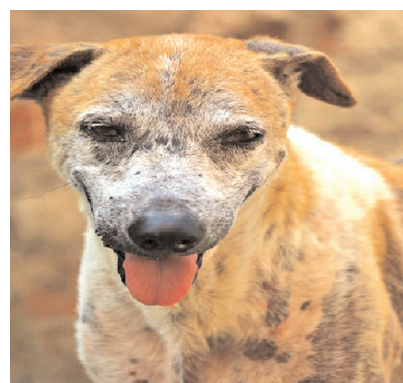
A pan-India lockdown restricting people to their homes was declared to flatten the curve of rising Covid-19 pandemic. Life came to a standstill. Roads were empty, sans hustle of the crowd and vehicles. All of these measures were taken to stop a virus which had caused mayhem in the world.

Like all, I was confined to the boundaries of home. It was a new experience which gradually turned boring. In order to come out of the boredom, I started observing the nature closely. The atmosphere became serene in the absence of vehicular movement. Rhythmic chirping of variety of birds, falling of old leaves from the trees and new ones growing in their place, blooming of flowers, occasional downpours greatly impressed me. I also kept myself engaged with books, articles and music.

After a week, we had the new experience of online classes. Surprisingly, we felt these classes to be more effective and interactive. Ultimately, this crisis showed us the importance of going digital in every possible sphere of life.

Nevertheless we missed our school, playground, discussion among friends, interaction with teachers, lunch break as well as morning assembly. Digitalisation can never replace the joy of meeting friends. Hope the situation will normalise soon and we will be back to school to enjoy the last year of secondary section.

—Adit Arun Nath,  
Class X, Birla High School



Mouli Sarkar, Class V, Adamas World School

## SCHOOL IS COOL

## A GENTLE TOUCH

## CARE N LOVE



steps to spread awareness through social media platform by making videos, photographs, placards making and have been out to serve these animals. Here are a few tips to do your bit for them.

## JUST FOLLOW THESE :

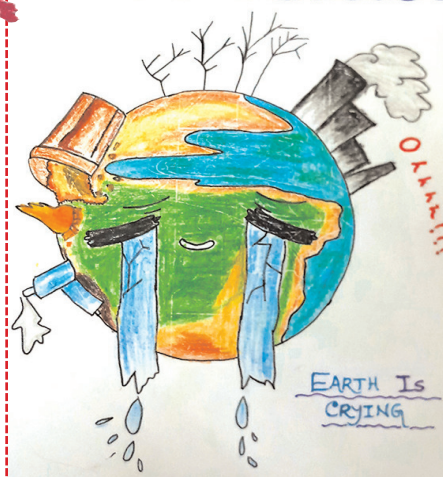
- Spare a couple of rotis or some rice and some milk, even the leftovers. It can make a filling meal for strays who are going hungry, rather than throwing it in dustbins.
- Put out a small bowl of water outside your homes or in your balcony. As summer is in, dogs, cats, and even birds will be able to quench their thirst.

## PAINTERS' GALLERY

Sagnik Mitra, Class V, Adamas World School



## FOR BETTER TOMORROW SAVE ME



Sayak Chakraborty, Class IV, Adamas World School