



# THE TIMES OF INDIA

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STUDENT EDITION

THURSDAY, JULY 30, 2020



WEB EDITION

## FIGHT AGAINST POLLUTION



# DISPOSABLE FACE MASKS PLAY SPOILSPORT

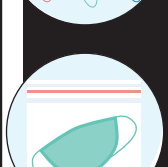
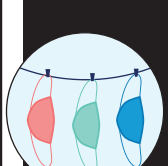
Disposable masks are the 'latest menace' in the fight against plastic pollution, Greenpeace has warned. Stating that the excessive misuse of single-use plastics, especially, the disposable masks and gloves, during this pandemic times have added more pollution to our already over polluted systems, the organisation has urged people to use reusable masks

Experts say a suitable cloth covering, which can be repeatedly washed and reworn, is as effective as a disposable mask, to curb the saliva droplets that may contain the coronavirus

## WHY DISPOSABLE MASKS ARE A THREAT TO OUR PLANET



### HOW TO DISPOSE OFF MASKS AND GLOVES



**1** Put your disposable mask and hand gloves in a bleach solution for 10-15 minutes, as it sanitises them completely. They can then be discarded as a routine waste

outside your house, preferably in a red bin (if available in your locality) that has been marked as 'hazardous waste'

**2** Keep your mask and gloves separately in a bin bag (not along with other waste material); discard it in a public bin

**3** Used masks can be kept in a paper bag for a minimum of 72 hours, prior to their disposal as general waste

(Inputs by Dr Puneet Bedi and Dr Nidhi Dhawan)

As told to PALLAVI SHANKAR



**1** Plastic poses a huge danger to our wildlife and nature, clogging up habitats and often entangling animals

**2** Waste from masks also reach the seas, where they degrade into microplastics, which can contaminate the environment and food chains, Greenpeace said

**3** Recently, microplastics and man-made fibres from disposable face masks were found in

the guts of sharks, off the Cornish coast

**4** Synthetic cellulose, one of the fibres that was collected, is widely used to make clothes and disposable products, such as facemasks

**5** Widely available face masks feature a layer of non-woven bonded fabric, commonly made of polypropylene, which gives them a long afterlife, when they are discarded, and can end up in landfill or oceans

(Source: The Daily Mail)

## BE THE CHANGE

Let's start a campaign on reusable masks. Please share slogans, posters, cartoons, paintings, videos of less than 2min, or anything that can drive this campaign at

[toinie175@gmail.com](mailto:toinie175@gmail.com)/[timesnie175@gmail.com](mailto:timesnie175@gmail.com).

The best entries will be published in Times NIE

## Facebook builds solution to spot harmful behaviour of real people

Facebook has created a machine learning solution to train bots to realistically simulate the behaviour of real people on a social media platform, a move that will improve software testing for complex environments, particularly in product areas related to safety, security and privacy.

According to Mark Harman, a research scientist at FB's AI, people's behaviour evolves and adapts over time, it is different from one geographical location to the other, making it difficult to anticipate the ways an individual or a community might respond to even a small change in their environment. So, to overcome this problem, FB researchers have developed the Web-Enabled Simulation (WES).

### TECH BUZZ

### HOW IT WORKS

- In WES, bots are trained to interact with one other, using the same infrastructure as real users, so that they can send messages to other bots, comment on bots' posts, publish their own, or make friend requests to other bots.
- WES is able to automate interactions between thousands or even millions of bots
- WES deploys these bots on the platform's actual production code base
- The bots can interact with one another, but are isolated from the real users
- This real-infrastructure simulation ensures that the bots' actions are faithful to the effects that would be witnessed by real people using the platform

## NEWS IN BRIEF

CLICK HERE FOR MORE

### SCHOOL GIRLS DISCOVER EARTH-BOUND ASTEROID



GOOD NEWS

Two teenage girls from Surat, Gujarat, have discovered an Earth-bound asteroid by poring through the images from a University of Hawaii telescope, an Indian space education institute said. The asteroid, presently near Mars, is expected to cross the Earth in about a million years' time, said SPACE India, a private institute, where the two 14-year-old girls received their training. The asteroid, currently called HLV2514, may be officially christened only after NASA confirms its orbit, SPACE India, said. "I look forward to... when we will get a chance to name the asteroid," said Vaidehi Vekariya, one of the girls who discovered the asteroid.

Asteroids and comets pose a potential threat to Earth; scientists discover thousands of them each year. In 2013, an asteroid heavier than the Eiffel Tower exploded over central Russia, leaving more than 1,000 people injured from its shockwave

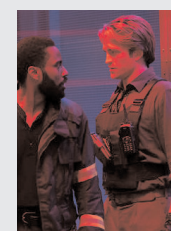


## CHRISTOPHER NOLAN MOVIE 'TENET' TO OPEN IN 70 COUNTRIES

ENTERTAINMENT

Director Christopher Nolan's thriller, 'Tenet', delayed several times by the coronavirus pandemic, will debut in cinemas in over 70 countries on August 26, AT&T Inc's Warner Bros movie studio said. The film will open in selected US cities.

■ 'Tenet' is a science-fiction spy drama, starring John David Washington and Robert Pattinson from the British director of hits, like 'The Dark Knight Rises' and 'Inception' ■ Little has been revealed about the plot. The film had originally been scheduled to debut on July 17



### HEALTH

**Eating foods with green tea extract may reduce norovirus risk**  
Adding green tea extract to prepared foods may lower the chances of catching the highly-contagious norovirus, say researchers. In a study, the research team revealed that adding green tea extract to a film-forming substance created a safe-to-eat barrier that killed norovirus.

➤ Norovirus is a very contagious virus that causes vomiting and diarrhoea; people of all ages can get infected and sick with norovirus  
➤ It's transmitted from person to person, and through consumption of contaminated water and food



### New gas signatures in Martian atmosphere found

SPACE

European Space Agency's, ExoMars Trace Gas Orbiter, has spotted new gas signatures on Mars. According to scientists, the latest revelation will unlock new secrets about the Martian atmosphere, and will enable a more accurate determination of whether there is methane, a gas associated with biological or geological activity on the planet. The Trace Gas Orbiter (TGO) has been studying the Red Planet for over two years.

The spacecraft has now spotted never-seen-before signatures of ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) and CO<sub>2</sub>

➤ The Martian atmosphere is dominated by CO<sub>2</sub>, which scientists observe to gauge temperatures, track seasons, explore air circulation, and more  
➤ Ozone, which forms a layer in the upper atmosphere on both Mars and Earth, helps to keep the atmospheric chemistry stable. The TGO was able to reveal new details about how Ozone and CO<sub>2</sub> gases interact with light

# THE ENDURING BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP

On this friendship day, read books that celebrate our most precious bond

[nitya.shukla@timesgroup.com](mailto:nitya.shukla@timesgroup.com)

### FRIENDSHIPS THAT ARE OTHER-WORLDFLY

JWALA KUMAR AND THE GIFT OF FIRE BY HANSDA SOWVENDRA SHEKHAR

Mohan Chander, a native of Champakbagh, a remote village, rescues a strange creature from a storm, and brings him home. Initially, he and his family are unable to figure out the strange creature, or what it eats, etc. However, soon they realise that this creature, who they name Jwala Kumar, has special powers. Jwala uses his powers to help his human family, but will he stay with them? The book offers an interesting take on extraordinary friendships, the magic and the love shared by Chander and his family with Jwala.



### FRIENDSHIP WITH PETS

THE GOPI DIARIES: COMING HOME BY SUDHA MURTY

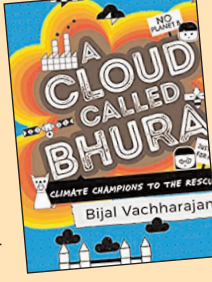
Ever wondered what dogs think about? To know, read the adventures of Gopi, the dog. Told in Gopi's voice (woof!) 'Coming Home' is about this lovable dog going to a new home, learning to settle with his new human family. How Gopi sees the world around him, and what he thinks of the people in his life, gives the story its unique flavour.



### FRIENDSHIPS THAT OFFER A REALITY CHECK

A CLOUD CALLED BHURA: CLIMATE CHAMPIONS TO THE RESCUE BY BIJAL VACHHARAJANI AND ILLUSTRATED BY AINDRI C

mmi, Mithil, Tammy and Andrew wake up one day to find that a huge, and a very angry, brown cloud has taken over the skies of Mumbai city. As the four friends start finding out more, the cloud, named Bhura Cloudus by the media, containing noxious gases, causes scalding rain to fall, makes birds flee the city and suffocates every living thing. Will they get rid of Bhura? The book is an inspiring story about the havoc climate change can cause to humanity, and the power of enduring friendships.



## HAPPY FRIENDSHIP DAY

### FRIENDSHIPS THAT BECOME INSPIRATIONS

KOKI'S SONG BY RUSKIN BOND

As a young lad, Bond had to travel to the UK to meet a publisher. On his return journey, the author met and struck a friendship with Koki, a 12-year-old girl aboard the ship, they were on. Hearing that he had no money for chocolates, Koki shared her chocolates with him. Bond would never see Koki again, but she turns up in his stories. In this book, the author takes us on a wonderful Koki, though she doesn't grow old. In 'Koki's Song', we meet Koki and Somy, who show us friendships are a thing of beauty.



➤ Originally founded by Hallmark in 1919, Friendship Day, was intended to be a day for people to celebrate their friendship by sending cards to one another  
➤ The day is, however, celebrated on different dates in different countries. The first World Friendship Day was proposed for July 30 in 1958 by the World Friendship Crusade. On April 27, 2011, the UN General Assembly declared July 30 as the official International Friendship Day  
➤ Some countries, including India, celebrate it on the first Sunday of August

Who's your Best Friend? Share your friendship stories with us at [toinie175@gmail.com](mailto:toinie175@gmail.com)/[timesnie175@gmail.com](mailto:timesnie175@gmail.com)





# City schools FARE WELL in CBSE CLASS X

**T**he toppers for CBSE Class X from **Lakshmi Pat Singhania Academy** are Subham Agarwal with 99.4% followed by Ishaan Jain and Rishabh Agarwal with 99.2% and Harsh Ghoshal with 99%.

Altogether 133 students appeared for the examination, out of which 80 students scored 90% and above. Thirty-three students secured 100% in various subjects. The school's average is 90.71%.

The toppers from **Khalsa Model Senior Secondary School** are Debjyoti Das with 97.4%, Paramveer Singh Pandher and Nidhi Kejariwal with 95.2% and Karan Sardar with 95%. The overall pass percentage is 100%.

The toppers from **Delhi Public School Ruby Park** are Shuvraneel Mitra with 99%, Srinjani Sen Roy with 99%, Pritesh Srivastava with 98.6% and Kushal Kothari with 98.4%. Around 250 students (55.31%) have secured 90% and above in the aggregate and 387 students (85.62%) have secured 80% and above in the aggregate.

The toppers from **Mount Litera Zee School Howrah** are Mayukh Chakraborty with 94.2%, followed by Banalikh Bhattacharjya with 93.2% and Bishwashri Majumdar with 92.8%. The highest marks in the following subjects are also quite satisfactory with 98 in English, 98 in Bengali, 95 in Maths, 94 in Hindi, 93 in Science, 99 in SSC. In this session school's first batch will appear in CBSE +2 examination and we are sure that the students in class XII will shine brighter.

The toppers from **BBIT Public School** are Mrinal Mahapatra with 96.3%, followed by Biswarup Das with 91.3%, Bishal Bhuniya with 89.5%, Ritama Bag with 89.3%, Rina Bardhan with 87.8%, Priyatam Shaw with 87.5%, Subarna Pal 87.2%, Khushi Shaw with 85.8%, Ayan Pramanick with 84.3%, Aditya Chowdhury with 84.2%.

The students of **Guru Teg Bahadur Public School, Durgapur**, passed the examination with flying colours. Like previous years this year also the school has maintained the con-

## BRAVEHEART NEELESH SETS AN EXAMPLE FOR EVERYONE

**N**eelesh Sarkar had been a bonafide student of Army Public School Barrackpore, since March 27, 2008. His positive and optimistic attitude towards his goals had always set him apart in all fields. He was an enthusiast in football and photography and had a remarkable flair for writing. He also indulged in pencil sketching and playing the guitar. He was also a thinker and a writer. He loved trekking.

Unfortunately, he was detected with high grade osteosarcoma and eventually his right leg was amputated due to metastasis in his knee.

However, his immense will power ushered in him a new vista of life and he appeared for his Class XII Boards in March 2020. He secured 90.40% in the board examination and left everyone speechless. His indomitable spirit and unflinching determination has made him an inspiration for all. He was an epitome of



self-determination and optimistic outlook.

He was compassionate and courteous by nature and always extended love and gratitude towards everyone. His stoic attitude and power of resilience is an inspiration for students. He always had a smile on his face.

It is very unfortunate and disheartening for all of us that Neelesh left for his heavenly abode on April 20, 2020.

In his last writing, he mentioned, "I am Neelesh and I aspire to BE".

His favourite quote that was written by him: "Life can beat me to my knees, it only makes me stronger"

You build the legacy, only if you have been through an absolute zero

And many more, each one is better than the other....."

sistency of achieving 100% pass percentage. Altogether 195 students appeared in the board examination this year, with 50 students scoring 88% and above. Mriganka Khan is the topper with 98%. Debarghya Chowdhury scored 97% and bagged the second position. Akhsay Kumar got the third position with 96%. Mriganka Khan scored 100% in Mathematics and Social Science. Debarghya Chowdhury scored a 100 in Social Science. This year Subham Ghosh, a student with special needs (more than 70% disabilities) scored 64%.

The toppers from **Kendriya Vidyalaya, Maithon Dam**, are Vishal Kumar Singh with 481 marks and 96.2%, Pankaj Kumar and Anjali Sah, both with 463 marks and 92.6%, Dewanshu Ranjan with 459 marks with 91.8%. Altogether 106 students appeared for the examination and all passed.

The toppers from **Techno India Group Public School Garia** are Moupriya Banerjee with 95.8%, Avisha Das with 95.6% and Avik Pradhan with 95.2%.

**DAV Public School, Chandrasekharpur**, maintained its academic excellence with 100 percent success in CBSE Class X examinations. Altogether 322 students appeared in the examination out of which 124 (38.51%) scored more than 95%, 202 (62.73%) more than 90% and 315 (97.83%) scored more than 60% marks. The school average is 89.70%. Tanmana Mishra topped in the school with 495 marks (99%). Shubhangi Nayak and Tarun Kumar Dora jointly bagged 2nd position with 494 marks (98.8%) and Pratham Praetiek Mohanty and Shruti Swain jointly bagged the third position with 492 marks (98.4%). In subjects like Mathematics, Science, Social Science, Odia and Sanskrit many students have obtained full marks. Almost all individual subject averages are around 90%.

The toppers from **Future Campus School AISSE (class X)** are Pramit Sarkar and Rajosree Saha with 98%, Sounak Bhattacharya with 96.8% and Ankit Dutta with 96.6%. Pramit and Rajosree scored a 100 in Mathematics. Pramit and Sounak scored 100 in Information Technology.

The toppers from **Delhi Public School Joka** are Abhirup Chakrabarti with 98.6%, Manish Seth with 98.4%, Agnik Gupta, Abhirup Adhikary and Anuron Dutta with 97%, Riddhi Panja with 96.6% and Shreeraj Chatterjee with 96.2%.

Altogether 114 students appeared for the examination and all of them passed. Forty-one students scored 90% and above, 32 scored 80 to 89.9%, 30 scored 70 to 79.9%, 11 scored 60 to 69%. The highest marks scored in the following subjects are: 99 in English, 100 in Hindi, 99 in Bengali, 100 in mathematics and 100 in social science.

The toppers from **Birla High School CBSE Class X** are Sawastik Mukherjee and Arkaprava Patra with 492 marks and 98.40%, followed by Arjit Roy and Bhaskar Agarwal with 488 marks and 97.60%, Soham Lahiri with 487 marks and 97.40%, Suddhasatta Saha and Devanshu Choudhary with 486 marks and 97.2%. Altogether 168 students appeared for the examination out of which 166 got first division, 57 students got 90% and above and 10 students scored a 100 in mathematics.

The toppers from **Indus Valley World School** are Deepayan Bose with 99%, followed by Niharika Chakravorty with 98.6%, Ayush Raj with 98.2% and Arka Baidya with 98.2%.

Altogether 109 students appeared for the examination out of which 23% of students got 95% and above and 33% got between 91 and 94%.

The toppers from **Techno India Group Public School, Balurghat** are Anuraag Lahiri with 98%, Madhuparni Saha 97.6%, Siddhartha Ram Kundu with 97.4%, Gourab Mandal with 97.2%. Altogether 52 students appeared for the examination out of which 100% passed. Twenty students scored above 90%, 19 above 80%, 11 above 70%, one above 60% and one below 60%. The school's average is 85.12%.

Madhuparni Saha, Nabhonil Sarkar, Siddhartha Ram Kundu, Soham Roy and Souhardya Sarkar scored a 100 in mathematics.

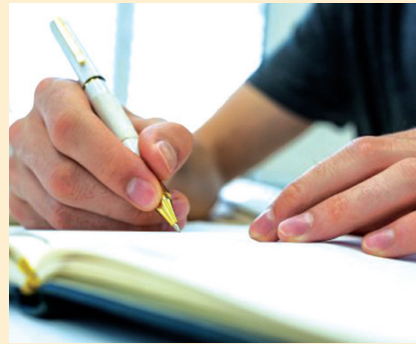
Sandipan Sarkar scored a 100 in Social Science and 99 in English. Anuraag Lahiri, Aranya Mondal and Madhuparni Saha scored 99 in Information Technology. Anurag Lahiri and Siddhartha Ram Kundu scored 98 in Science. Gourab Mandal and Siddhartha Ram Kundu scored 98 in Bengali. Uma Roy scored 98 in Hindi.

The toppers from **Shri Shikshayatan School** are Sanjana Bhattacharjee with 99.2%, Ahana Gayen with 98.8%, Srija Ghosh with 98.6%, Manshi Agarwal, Sakshi Taparia and Medha Mandal with 98.4%. Swagata Chandra and Titithi Dhar scored 98.2%. Sudesna Nandi scored 98%. Atabi Jana, Chandroja Pal, Sulsa Chhajer, Srija Chandra, swastika Mukherjee and Aradhya Roy, all scored 97.8%. Anushka Chatterjee scored a 100 in English. Sanjana Bhattacharjee, Swagata Chandra, Srija Ghosh, Shamayita Dey, Aradhya Roy and Samayita Roy got a 100 in Bengali.

Sanjana Bhattacharjee, Ahana Gayen, Manshi Agarwal, Chandroja Pal, Nidhi Parasrampuria and Medha Mandal got a 100 in mathematics. Manshi Agarwal, Sulsa Chhajer, Srija Chandra and Swastika Mukherjee got a 100 in social science.

Altogether 302 students appeared from Shri Shikshayatan School, out of which all passed with first division. A total of 149 students scored above 90%, 104 scored between 80% to 90%, 45 of

## CLASS XII CBSE



**T**he diligence and commitment of the entire academic year has been forged into the tremendous accomplishments of class XII. **APS Barrackpore** has held itself in high esteem by securing the API of 316.43 in AISSE 2020 among all large category Army Public Schools across India. The 207 students of class XII, who appeared in AISSE 2020, have clinched a stupefying API of 316.43 which has really glorified the school and made proud of the achievers. The toppers of each stream include: Sharmi Das of Humanities (97.8%), Adwitya Kumar Singh of Science (96%) and Madhuri Biswas of Commerce (96%).

Nine students from the Science stream, two from Commerce and two from Humanities got 95% and above.

Forty-three students from science, five from commerce, and 14 from humanities secured 90% and above.

Forty-seven students from science, 11 from commerce, 19 from humanities secured 80% and above.

Altogether 206 students appeared for the examination and all of them passed.

The topper from **DAV Public School Taratala** for CBSE Class XII board examination is Shreya Mukherjee with 98.2% from humanities stream. The other toppers are Atri Guha with 95.4% and Rishabh Pal with 95.4%, both from the Science stream. The topper from the Commerce stream is Debayan Mukherjee with 94.4%.

Altogether 258 students appeared for CBSE Class XII examinations from **Mahadevi Birla World Academy**. In the Science stream 27 got 90% and above, 23 scored between 80% and 89.9%, nine got between 70% and 79.9%. In the Humanities stream 34 students got 90% and above, 33 got between 80% and 89.9%, 18 got between 70% and 79.9%, two got between 60% and 69.9%.

In the Commerce stream 58 students got 90% and above, 39 got between 80% and 89.9%, 12 got between 70 and 79.9% and three got between 60% and 69.9%.

The toppers from the school in the Science stream are Shayna Ganguli with 95.20%, Sahojiya Mahapatra and Ramayani Purkayastha with 95%, Hrishita Goenka 94.40%. The toppers from the Commerce stream are Yamini Chetani with 99%, followed by Eesha Doshi and Devika Jogani with 97.80% and Nikita Choudhary and Vansika Kedia with 97.60%. The toppers from the Humanities stream are Anezka Saraogi with 98%, Ritika Basak with 97.60% and Srishti Bansal with 97.20%.

them scored between 70% and 80% and four scored between 60% and 70%.

The topper from **Army Public School Barrackpore** for CBSE Class X examination is Manisha Kang with 491 marks with 98.2%.

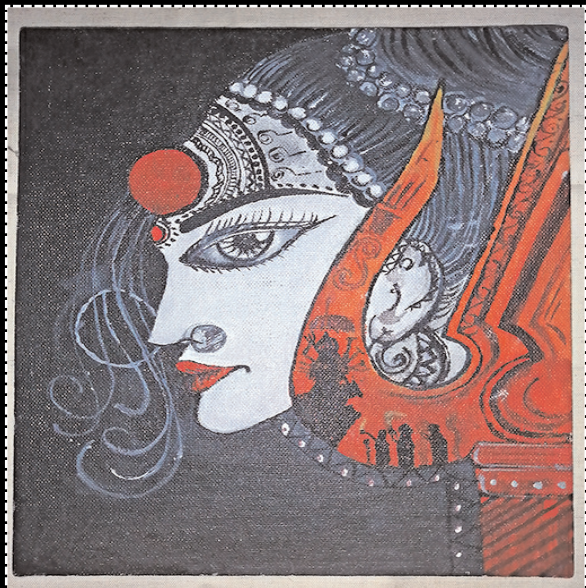
Altogether 324 students appeared for the examinations, out of which 31 students scored 95% and above, 57 scored 90% and above and 105 scored 80% and above.

The topper **DAV Public School Taratala** is Utkarsh Yadav who has scored 98.2%. Over 45 students have scored more than 90%. Twelve students have scored a 100 in Social Studies and a total of 88 students have scored 90 and above. Two students have scored a 100 in Bengali and maths.

## BOARD EXAM



## PAINTERS' GALLERY



Sneha Paul, Class XII, St Augustine's Day School Barrackpore



Both sent in by Pramita Sengupta, Class XII, St Augustine's Day School Barrackpore



Prarthana Saha, Class XII, St Augustine's Day School Barrackpore