



THE TIMES OF INDIA

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PM MODI LAUNCHES VIDEO BLOGGING CONTEST 'MY LIFE, MY YOGA' Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched a video blogging competition, and has invited citizens to participate in it. 'My Life, My Yoga' (Jeevan Yoga) that focuses on the transformative impact of yoga on the lives of individuals, comes as one of the activities related to the observation of the sixth International Day of Yoga on June 21

EDUCATION ALERT Schools, colleges, educational/training/coaching institutions will be opened after consultation with States and UTs during Phase II of #Unlock1. Based on the feedback from parents, teachers and other stakeholders, a decision on the re-opening of these institutions will be taken in the month of July Ministry of Home Affairs

CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK: INDIA BECOMES 7TH WORST-HIT COUNTRY India has now become the world's seventh worst-hit country in terms of coronavirus cases with its tally of 1,82,143, according to the World Health Organisation's COVID-19 tracker. According to the WHO tracker, a total of 59,34,936 cases have been recorded globally

STUDENT EDITION

TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2020



WEB EDITION

FREE CELEBRITY WEBCASTS TO NOT MISS DURING LOCKDOWN



Celebrities like Norfolk-born pianist Mylene Klass are helping keep families fit, healthy and entertained as we grapple with home schooling during coronavirus lockdown. Here are some of the best celebrity webcasts to keep boredom at bay...

MYLENE KLASS:

The Gorleston-born classical pianist, model and pop star is providing both music lessons and lullabies for parents and children during the lockdown period. Apart from hosting an interactive class where kids can play along with a pan and wooden spoon; she also plays a Disney-themed lullaby for babies, and presents Music Klass. **WHERE TO ACCESS:** Join Mylene's Music Klass on YouTube

BEAR GRYLLS:

Bear Grylls has teamed up with the Scouts to produce a Great Indoor Adventure. Together they have dreamed up 100 indoor activities to ward off boredom, while kids are stuck in lockdown for most of the day. Bear has created a weekly live video feed called, 'The Great Indoors' which includes making lolly-stick catapults, origami and designing and making hot-air balloons; all activities can be done in the house or garden. **WHERE TO ACCESS:** The Great Indoors activities can be accessed on the Scouts web page

OTI MABUSE:

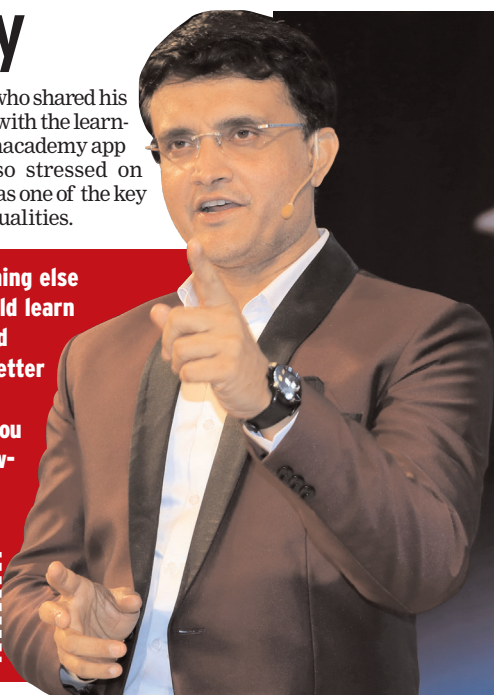
Strictly Come Dancing star Oti Mabuse hosts free online dance classes for children and adults alike, to make sure people remain fit and healthy, and enjoy a quick twirl across the living room despite being in lockdown. **WHERE TO ACCESS:** You access the lessons on Oti Mabuse Official on YouTube

Adaptability is one of the key leadership qualities: Sourav Ganguly

Former Indian captain and Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) chief Sourav Ganguly has asserted that a leader should focus

on the natural talent to bring the best out of any player. One cannot expect Rahul Dravid type of player to play like Yuvraj Singh and vice versa, he said. The former

opener, who shared his experiences with the learners on the Unacademy app recently, also stressed on adaptability as one of the key leadership qualities.



DADA'S MANTRAS ON LEADERSHIP

- 1 The only way to handle pressure is to live with pressure. The more pressure you handle, the better you become at what you do. You should always steer your fears away to get the best results.
- 2 The only way to get better is by learning from your own mistakes.
- 3 The greatest of the leaders make mistakes, but as long as the

intentions are right, everything else will fall into place. You should learn from your own mistakes, and leave them behind to be a better version of yourself.

4 Don't let your losses get you down; that's a part of growing up. Learning from failures will lead you to success

What sets a leader apart from commoners? Share your views at timesnie175@gmail.com

Trump calls G7 outdated, wants India, others to join the group

US President Donald Trump has postponed the "outdated" Group of Seven summit that he planned to hold in June at the White House, seeking inclusion of India and some other countries to the grouping of world's top economies. Trump said he is "postponing it until September" and plans to invite Russia, South Korea, Australia and India. "I don't feel that as a G7, it properly represents what's going on in the world. It's a very outdated group of countries," he added.

VIEWPOINT

➤ G7 is a forum of the seven countries with the world's largest and most advanced economies—France, Germany, Italy, Japan, US, UK and Canada. Heads of States of these countries meet annually on international, economic and monetary issues. ➤ The US holds the presidency of the G7 this year. ➤ During the summit, G7 president normally invites Heads of States of one or two countries to attend the meeting as a special invitee. ➤ Last year, French President Emmanuel Macron had invited PM Narendra Modi to the G7 Summit.



Q Does Trump's plan to invite India to the next G7 summit reflect New Delhi's growing international stature? Share your views at toinie175@gmail.com or timesnie175@gmail.com

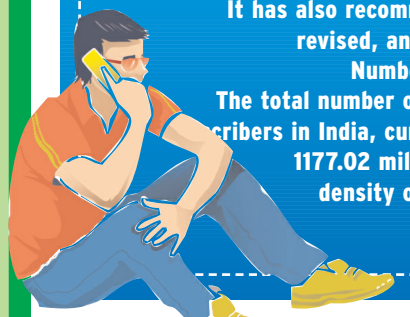
10-DIGIT NUMBERS TO CONTINUE: TRAI

The Telecom regulatory authority of India (TRAI) has refuted claims of shifting to an 11-digit mobile numbering plan, saying that it has only suggested prefixing '0', when mobile numbers are called from landlines. Introduction of a dialling prefix for a particular type of call "is not akin to increasing the number of digits in the telephone number", it stated.

➤ In its report, TRAI said, the migration to a unified or single numbering scheme for fixed line and mobile services is not required for now; sufficient numbering space can be created by various methods, including prefixing '0' for all fixed to mobile calls

TELECOM

It has also recommended an early, revised, and a new National Numbering Plan (NNP). The total number of telephone subscribers in India, currently stands at 1177.02 million, with a tele-density of 87.45% at the end of Jan 2020



Manipur youth creates 'Iron Man' replica out of electronic waste

Enthralled by Hollywood super hero movies, a 20-year-old youth from Manipur has created a replica of Marvel's iconic character, Iron Man, out of electronic waste. Ningombam Prem, who hails from Heirok Part-2 village in Thoubal district, said that he created the suit using discarded scrap materials, emergency lamps, electronic toys, syringes, speaker frames and even IV-fluid tubes. "I always wanted to create a robot since my childhood days. But the craze for Iron Man costume started around 2015," he said. Prem had earlier created demo model of other robotic items, such as mechanism of producing web from the hand like that of Spiderman.



INNOVATOR

NEWS IN BRIEF

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GOOGLE LAUNCHES NEW PROGRAMME TO STOP COVID-19 SCAMMERS

Google has launched a new programme called Scam Spotter to spot and stop scammers who are exploiting the Covid-19 pandemic with alarming speed, and taking advantage of fear and uncertainty

The programme simplifies expert's advice with three rules, when you receive a suspicious phone call or message to figure out if it's a scam. The three rules are: "Slow it down, spot check and stop! Don't send."

TECH BUZZ

- According to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), people reported \$1.9 billion 'lost to scams' in 2019.
- Every minute, more than \$3,600 disappeared from wallets and bank accounts, in response to made-up stories of urgently overdue tax payments, bogus contest winnings, or a smooth-talking online suitor, who suddenly needs some gift cards.
- While people aged 25-40 are most likely to be scammed, research shows it's seniors who stand to lose the most, with their median losses more than double the average.

WORLD'S DEEPEST OCTOPUS NAMED 'DUMBO' AFTER DISNEY ELEPHANT CHARACTER

In an interesting discovery, scientists have filmed the world's deepest-sighted octopus at almost 4.3 miles down in the Indian Ocean. Believed to be a new species of Grimpoteuthis, a genus of deep-sea umbrella octopuses, it has been named 'Dumbo octopus', as its fins resemble the ears of a Disney elephant character. Scientists said the animal was 14-17 inches-long, inhabiting at around 6,900 metres deep in the ocean, and they hopped from place to place on the seabed

NAMESAKE

WORLD TEAM TENNIS PLANS TO ALLOW UP TO 500 FANS TO ITS MATCHES

SPORTS



World Team Tennis (WTT) plans to allow up to 500 spectators at each of its outdoor matches during the season from July 12 to August 2 at a resort in West Virginia. "In accordance with state health guidelines, WTT will allow up to 500 fans (20% capacity) to attend its outdoor matches. Ticket pricing and access points will be announced at a later date," a statement on the official website of WTT, wtt.com read. The likes of 2020 Australian Open champion and World No. 4 Sofia Kenin and US Open champ and 2018 French Open finalist Sloane Stephens will take part in the three-week meet.

All tennis events sanctioned by the ATP, WTA and International Tennis Federation are on hold till at least July due to the Covid-19 crisis

ROGER FEDERER PIPS MESSI TO BECOME WORLD'S HIGHEST-PAID ATHLETE

Swiss marvel and tennis icon Roger Federer has managed to topple the likes of Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi to become the world's highest-paid athlete. Federer has topped the 2020 Forbes magazine list of highest-paid global athletes for the first time, with massive pre-tax earnings of \$106.3 million.



Indian skipper Virat Kohli is the only Indian to enter the Forbes list of 100 richest athletes in the world

UV robot to zap coronavirus

A shopping mall in Singapore has deployed a newly-developed smart robot to fight the novel coronavirus, not with chemicals but with light.

ITS SPECIALTY

While spraying has become the norm in many places around the world, the robot uses



ultraviolet lamps to disinfect not only surfaces, but tricky-to-reach crevices, and even the air.



SMART ROBOT!

UVC can be harmful to the skin and eyes, which is why the robot, which looks like a bunch of fluorescent lights standing up on a moving base, is tested after the mall's closing time. But it is programmed to turn off its UV lights, if it detects a human in close proximity. Once its route has been fully mapped, the robot is expected to perform its cleaning cycle autonomously, and recharge itself afterwards.

THE COST

Each one costs \$570,000 (\$49,500). Some are being leased to clients for \$53,000 (\$2,121) a month, and some will be given to hospitals and isolation centres

*\$S stands for Singaporean Dollar

WHAT IS TWITTER FACT-CHECK?

X-PLAINED

WHAT Twitter's fact-check has gathered a storm, after the new fact-checking label was used to mark one of the tweets of the US President Donald Trump as "potentially misleading."

WHY Twitter had recently added a 'Fact-Checking' label to tweets with potentially-misleading or false claims. Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey declared war on what he calls "spreading misinformation online", by adding that the public platform will go after such news across the world.

WHERE

The labels appear below a tweet that seems to carry harmful misinformation or claim. It links to a page curated by the Twitter staff or "external trusted sources" with more information about the claims made in a tweet. Initially, Twitter rolled out the feature with three categories of labels. Misleading information: not yet confirmed to be false or misleading by experts. Disputed claims: credibility of claims contested and Unverified claims: information that is unconfirmed as yet

HOW Twitter officials say they identify tweets using "internal systems" that aim to ensure that the platform is not amplifying the tweets with these labels, and detecting highly-visible content quickly.

She was 13 when she decided to WRITE A BOOK

Teen Author and TEEd Talk Speaker Neeha Gupta Tells Us About Finding Your Passion

Neeha Gupta decided to write a book when she was 13-years-old. By the time she had turned 17, she had already written two. She debuted with 'Different' – a science fiction story in which an alien navigates through complex life on Earth; and followed it up with 'Swapped' in which two high school students, a reserved Rachel and the free-spirited Harleen find their lives intersecting in a crazy twist of fate. The young author based both books on what she knew best... aka her experience as a teenager. She did not let her young age or inexperience from taking on the herculean task of writing. And that's not all, this teen achiever is also a TedEd Speaker, having given a talk on how age is just a number. Excerpts from an interview:

Q: How old were you when you

first decided that you must write a book?

A: I was 13-14 when I became committed to the idea of writing my own novel. 'Swapped' has been the result of my own real-life experiences. As a teenager, when I was submitting college applications, I was unclear about my future aspirations! I was conflicted between societal expectations and my own thoughts, and that phase made me realise the need for a book like this. I do not have any clear ideas for another story just yet, but if inspiration strikes, a new book is always on the cards.

Q: Would you say voracious readers make for better writers?

A: Definitely! As a youngster, I was an avid reader, and used to devour books over breakfast, lunch and dinner. It is only natural for readers to have a better command over the language, their unique style of writing, and a sense of familiarity with story-

telling. In my childhood I have read Nancy Drew, Wonder, Percy Jackson, St Claire's – mainly all the fiction out there.



Q: Please tell us more about your writing process?

A: With 'Swapped', the writing process was rather unconventional. I wrote the first 10,000 words of the book and then took a 6-month gap due to school, writer's block, etc. However, I got back to it and finished the rest of the 45,000 words of the book in a matter of 10 days!

I did have a blueprint sketched out for the story to serve as a base from the very beginning. However, the finer details and key twists and turns of the plot emerged as I wrote.

Q: How did you respond to people who say 'But you are too young to be an author!'

A: This question always brings a smile to my face, as it allows me to share one of my deepest beliefs. I simply respond by saying – if you want to do something badly enough, you find a way to do it. I really do not have an alternative answer.

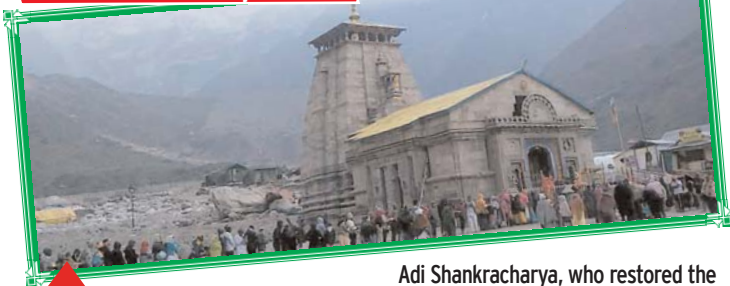
Q: You recommend?

A: 'The 5am Club' by Robin Sharma 'Wonder' by RJ Palacio 'Thank You, Jeeves' by PG Wodehouse 'Heroes of Olympus' – the entire series – by Rick Riordan 'Different' and 'Swapped' by me! nitya.shukla@timesgroup.com

History Mystery

ACTIVITY OF THE DAY

Kedarnath Temple



1 Standing magnificently at an altitude of 3,583mts and enveloped in the mighty Garhwal Himalayas, near the Mandakini river, Kedarnath Temple is one of the twelve Jyotirlingas of Lord Shiva. It is believed to be originally built by the Pandavas after Mahabharata War and was later revived by

Adi Shankracharya, who restored the glory of the shrine in the 8th century A.D. Kedarnath is also the most important among the Panch Kedars.

What are the names of the remaining 4 Kedars?

ANS: Tungnath, Rudranath, Madhyamaheshwar, and Kalpeshwar



Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj

2 This is a portrait from the 1680s depicting Maratha prince Shivaji Bhosale I famously known as Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. Shivaji captured his first fort - Torana as the Chieftain of Marathas at the age of 16. At its peak, the Maratha empire extended from

Attock, which today lies in Pakistan, to Thanjavur in Tamil Nadu.

Source: Rijksmuseum, Museum of the Netherlands, Amsterdam

Who was Shivaji named after?

ANS: Shivaji wasn't named after Lord Shiva but the local deity – goddess Shivai.

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

Quiz time

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

Q.1) Which Indian YouTube star participated in the World Economic Forum 2020 being held at Davos?

- A. Bhuvan Bam
B. Amit Bhadana
C. Gaurav Chaudhary
D. Ashish Chanchlani

Q.2) Who won 2018 Costa Children's Award?

- A. Hilary McKay
B. Chetan Bhagat
C. Aravind Adiga
D. Anita Desai

Q.3) Who won the 7th National Ice Hockey

Championship Women trophy?

- A. Tamil Nadu B. Railways
C. Chandigarh D. Ladakh

Q.4) Which city is the latest to inaugurate a Selfie Museum?

- A. New York B. Dubai
C. Sydney D. Brussels



Jasbinder Bilan, a school teacher who writes in her spare time, has won the 2019 Costa Children's Book Award for 'Asha & The Spirit Bird', a tale set in the Himalayan foothills where the author was born and inspired by her late grandmother.

ANSWERS

1. (A) Bhuvan Bam 2. (A) Hilary McKay 3. (D) Ladakh 4. (B) Dubai

TESTING TIMES

'THE MERCHANT' AND MYTHOLOGY

BY: Suryakumari Dennison, teacher, Aavishkar Academy, Bengaluru

Answer each of these questions on classical allusions in Shakespeare's 'The Merchant of Venice', by choosing correctly from the four options.

1. Who set sail for Colchos in search of the golden fleece?

- A. Bellerophon B. Jason
C. Perseus D. Theseus

2. Which of these is another name for Hercules?

- A. Alcides B. Ajax
C. Achilles D. Abderus

3. How would you describe Thisbe?

- A. Treacherous B. Talented
C. Tiresome D. Timid

4. What did Dido of Carthage have in her hand?

- A. Wand B. Weapon
C. Willow D. Wreath

5. If Troilus is on the Trojan walls, in which tents is Cressid?

- A. Roman B. Grecian
C. Egyptian D. Indian

6. What kind of song, according to Lorenzo, would wake Diana?

- A. Anthem B. Ballad
C. Hymn D. Lyric



ANSWERS:
(1) B. Jason
(2) A. Alcides
(3) D. Timid
(4) C. Willow
(5) B. Grecian
(6) C. Hymn



KNOWLEDGE BANK

Grass Jewel

Or Freyeria trochylus is a small butterfly found in India, Africa, United Arab Emirates, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Bulgaria, Greece and southern Asia. It belongs to the Lycaenids or blues

family. The males have brown upper-side while female uppersides are brown in colour. The markings are similar in both, but in females, they are larger and more clearly defined – the yellow crowning on hindwings and the black spots on the tornal area (the tail portion of a butterfly).

SCHOOL IS COOL

Transcending borders and traversing boundaries

Overcoming the challenges, DAV Public School RK Puram continued operations unabated by scheduling a video conferencing session between the students and the teachers of DAV Public School RK PURAM School and Bright KID-DIE, Surabaya, Indonesia.

During the session, students and teachers interacted with each other and shared their experiences during the lockdown. The conference opened with an introduction between the students and teachers and proceeded to an enriched discussion about the activities individuals across the globe have taken up to stay productive and occupied during the lockdown. We also shared videos and pictures of the activities we've been doing and discussed possibilities of collaborative studies and tasks.

Principals of both the schools acknowledged and were impressed by the presentations shared by the students and thanked each other for agreeing to meet online and collaborating to further education and learning. They also appreciated the efforts shown by the teachers for working out the logistics to make this a successful initiative. Students enjoyed this amazing session and enthusiastically observed how nice a learning experience it was for them. We look forward to such future collaborations and exploring more ideas and activities for our students' progressive development.

Together we save the Earth

Students of Manav Sthali Global School, Double Storey Rajinder Nagar, came together to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Earth Day. The school engaged students from all classes in various activities like sapling plantation, creating Earth Day headgear along with Stick Puppets, Popsicle Fan and posters. To make the celebration special students also sang the song – Let the mountains talk – by famous singer John Denver. All students participated from home and made the celebration worthwhile. These special activities made the children realise the value of keeping the Earth clean, green and pollution free.



STUDENT CORNER

Quarantine Days

We always have days that we have never imagined in our life and I think these quarantine days are one of them. It is hard to imagine that a month ago we all wanted a break from our work and wanted to explore ourselves but I think now we all are done exploring ourselves and want to go to work, schools, meet our friends and colleagues and have fun.

I think this quarantine is helping us to catch up with things that we had left far behind in our hectic lives. According to me it is an opportunity for all of us to cherish our times with parents'. We have always blamed shortage of time for not exploring our other side.

Cooking is not the only thing we can do but I guess there are plenty of things we can do which we used to do when we were kids. Like sketching, dancing, singing, writing poetry and what not. Reading can become our best

way of passing time and will also help in enhancing our knowledge. I think a new year's resolution we all take but are never able to complete is keeping ourselves healthy and fit but this lockdown gives a chance to fulfil it and even continue after lockdown also. The things that I have mentioned are the least we can do. While our doctors, police men are busy fighting the battle against Covid-19 we can help them by doing nothing but staying home safe.

Nandini Negi, XI, Indirapuram Public School, Indirapuram

NATURE OUR PREACHER

Nature truly is the world's best teacher. The ancient scriptures unfold to exhibit how humanity used to love and respect nature as God. The sun, rivers and trees were all treat-

MOTHERHOOD - UNCONDITIONAL LOVE

The sun hasn't risen yet,
But there's someone already
doing your hair.
It's not time to wake up,
Yet someone is on your side
That someone doesn't want
you to wake up,
That someone is waiting for
the time.
The tap hasn't opened yet,
But someone has already
filled the bucket.
The call hasn't come yet,
But someone has already
served the breakfast.
The comb hasn't been

touched yet,
But there's someone already
doing your hair.
Tying a tie hasn't been
learnt yet,
But there's already someone
helping you, around your neck.
That someone hasn't
returned yet,
But lunch is ready at
the table.
The stew isn't ready yet,
But there's someone helping
you write.
The clothes aren't over yet,
There's someone doing the

laundry.
The utensils aren't
cleaned yet,
There's someone washing
them all.
The presentation isn't
over yet,
There's someone
clicking keys.
That someone is only one,
Who cares for everyone.
And we all lovingly call her,
Mom, mom and only mom!

KANISHKA BIDHURI, VII, GD
Goenka Public School, Sarita Vihar



ANANAYA SABHARWAL, X, DAV Public School, Sreshtha Vihar



ADEEB, V, Saiyid Hamid Academy

ed as divine creatures. However, over the years man got so busy with the material world, that he eventually became disillusioned in this fast paced world. Nature selflessly bestowed all its blessings on us, yet ill treated. Nevertheless, sun did not stop shining neither did rain stop to infuse life into the parched earth, trees our ardent helpers kept feeding us, rivers continued flowing endlessly into sea. Nature showered all its wealth ir-

respective of good or evil. Today it seems, Nature is annoyed, with humanity at large. The pandemic we all are facing is actually a clarification call of nature to introspect our follies and correct them. This challenging time has brought the biggest of world powers down on its knees. Thus nature teaching us it is the mightiest of all. After many years of endless greed the world has been brought to a standstill. After ages once again we are

able to listen to the sound of silence, we are able to see revival of blue skies, clean rivers, chirping birds and a night sky full of twinkling stars. Nature has signalled us to rethink and rebuild a world full of hope and faith. Let's together wake up to this call and rediscover the beauty of nature.

Ishita Bindra, XII, Manav Rachna International School, Sector - 14, Faridabad