



THE TIMES OF INDIA

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STUDENT EDITION

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 2020



WEB EDITION

Russia names new COVID-19 vaccine 'Sputnik V'



Russia has named its first approved Covid-19 vaccine, 'Sputnik V' for the foreign markets.

Sputnik V is named after the world's first satellite, Sputnik. It was launched by the Soviet Union in Oct. 4, 1957. It orbited for three weeks, before its batteries died and then silently for two more months, before it fell back into the atmosphere. It was 58 cm in diameter and a polished metal sphere with four external radio antennas to broadcast radio pulses. The name signifies the country's success in being the first to have a vaccine approved.

YOUR CORNER Is the world on the verge of a vaccine war? Share your views at toinie175@gmail.com timesnie175@gmail.com

B PLANETS

WHAT In an interesting discovery, scientists have revealed that there could be thousands of exoplanets swirling around the 'safe zone' of a black hole. Called 'blanets' (black hole planets) by the scientists, they form the grains of dust that circle the black hole.

HOW According to scientists, the birth of blanets takes place from the dust swirling around the massive gravitational monster that clump together when they collide, which is similar to the process of formation of the traditional planets. Traditional planets come into existence, when dust eddies moving around a star bond together to form a disc.

WHERE Researchers believe that the blanets live outside the snow-line, where the compounds can condense into ice, and are likely between 20 and 30,000 times the mass of the Earth.

According to researchers, a black hole with one million solar masses could allow a planet to orbit just 13 light years away



5 facts on black hole

1 As the name suggests, black holes are among the most mysterious objects in the universe. Nothing can escape the massive gravitational pull of a black hole, not even light.

2 In April 2019, a group of international scientists captured the first picture of a black hole. The image was constructed from the data gathered by the observatories all over the globe, which were combined to create a virtual telescope as big as the Earth.

3 According to scientists, every galaxy has a super-massive black hole — a black hole typically millions of times more massive than the sun — at their centre. In fact, the Milky Way's black hole is located in a region known as Sagittarius A*, it lies around 26 000

TEST YOUR BLACK HOLE BRILLIANCE

- Albert Einstein came up with the term 'black hole'. True or false?
a) True b) False
 - What is the centre of a black hole called?
a) Bullseye b) Singularity c) Sauran
 - According to scientists, how many black holes exist?
a) Hundreds b) Thousands c) Billions
 - What is the area surrounding a black hole called?
a) Perimeter b) Event horizon c) Circumference
- Answer: 1. b) 2. b) 3. c) 4. c)

light-years away from the solar system. It's about four million times the mass of the sun, which in turn is about one million times more massive than the Earth.

4 If scientists are to be believed, black holes can keep growing because anything (gas, liquid or solid matter) that enters the event horizon gets sucked in. In other words, theoretically, a black hole can grow indefinitely.

5 Scientists believe that our own universe might have actually been founded by a black hole, and the billions of black holes in the universe might, at their own turn, each spawn their own versions of the universe. (Source: zmescience.com)

ENVIRONMENT

'Geothermal springs in Himalayas release large amount of Co2'

The Himalayas host hundreds of geothermal springs, and they release a huge amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, according to a study. The study suggested that the CO₂ in these thermal springs are sourced from the metamorphic decarbonation of carbonate rocks present deep in the Himalayan core along with the magmatism and oxidation of the graphite. Most of the geothermal water is dominated by evaporation, followed by weathering of silicate rocks. Isotopic analyses further point towards a meteoric source for geothermal water.

- A team of scientists carried out detailed chemical and stable isotope analysis of water samples collected from 20 geothermal springs from major fault zones of Garhwal Himalaya.
- "It shows a significant discharge of Carbon dioxide (CO₂) rich water. The estimated carbon dioxide degassing (removal of dissolved gases from liquids, especially water or aqueous solutions) flux is nearly 7.2 +106 mol/year to the atmosphere," the study said.
- Carbon outflux from the Earth's interior to the exosphere through volcanic eruptions, fault zones, and geothermal systems contribute to the global carbon cycle that affects the short and long term climate of the Earth

The Himalaya hosts about 600 geothermal springs having varied temperature and chemical conditions



NEWS IN BRIEF

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Mount Sinabung erupts, spews thick ash and smoke

Indonesia's Mount Sinabung erupted on Monday, belching a massive column of ash and smoke 5,000 metres into the air and plunging local communities into darkness with a thick layer of debris. The volcano on Sumatra island has been rumbling since 2010, and saw a deadly eruption in 2016. Activity had picked up in recent days, including a pair of smaller eruptions last weekend.



Sinabung had roared back to life in 2010 for the first time in 400 years. After another period of inactivity, it erupted once more in 2013, and has remained highly active since then



Indonesia is home to about 130 active volcanoes due to its position on the "Ring of Fire", a belt of tectonic plate boundaries circling the Pacific Ocean, where frequent seismic activity occurs.

CORONA UPDATE

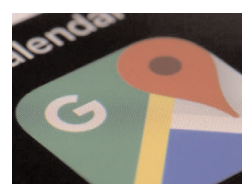
'Gargling with mouthwashes might lower the spread of Covid-19'

The coronavirus can be inactivated using commercially available mouthwashes, according to a study, which says gargling with these products may reduce the quantities of viral particles in the mouth and the throat, and possibly reduce the risk of Covid-19 transmission over the short term. However, the study cautions that the mouthwashes are not suitable for treating Covid-19 infections or protecting oneself against catching the coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2.



Google launches new global Covid-19 map for journalists

Google in collaboration with Stanford University has launched a global Covid-19 map that makes it possible for the journalists to embed upto date visualisations of the pandemic on their sites for the readers. Unlike other coronavirus case maps, the 'Covid-19 Global Case Mapper' allows local reporters to embed a map of their area or even a national case map. The map shows cases in relation to the population. It's coloured by the numbers of cases per 100,000 people over the past 14 days and shows you the severity of outbreak by the number of people in each location, making it easier to compare where you live to the world as a whole.



BE THE CHANGE

SAY 'YES' TO 'REUSABLE MASKS'



PIA KALWANI, class VI, OPG World School, Dwarka, Delhi, talks about the advantages of using a reusable mask

Mahatma Gandhi's glasses to go on sale in UK

A pair of Mahatma Gandhi's glasses will go on sale after a staff at the East Bristol Auctions, the largest auction house in South West England, found them in a plain envelope with a note saying, they were Gandhi's glasses. Auctioneer Andrew Stowe said: "Someone popped them into our letterbox." Upon investigating, it was found that the circular rimmed, gold-plated glasses had been worn by the Mahatma.

The glasses are expected to raise more than \$19,600, and has been the most important find in the company's history



BEST ESSAY WRITING APPS

PRO WRITING AID

Pro Writing Aid is a cloud-based copy-editing tool for the bloggers, copywriters, essay writer, assignment writer, fiction writer, and so on. The primary role of this software is to find issues in your writing, eliminate errors, and edit grammar and punctuation faster. It has both free and paid versions available and runs on all the operating systems.

GRAMMARLY

Grammarly is one of the best writing apps that can help you to improve your quality of writing. Grammarly can save you from mis-spellings, grammatical and punctuation mistakes, and other writing issues on all your favourite websites. Grammarly's online proofreader automatically detects grammar, spelling, punctuation, word choice and style mistakes in your writing. Grammarly detects plagiarism, by comparing your writing to the billions of web pages across the web.

FREEMIND

FreeMind is a free mind-mapping software for creating structured diagrams. It also lets users keep track of the projects, including subtasks, state of subtasks, and time recording. With the help of this software, writers can create an essay and do brainstorming, using colours to show which essay is open, completed or not yet started, using the size of nodes to indicate the size of an essay.

SIMPLENOTE

Simple Notes is a light, clean and free note-taking app. The best essays can start from the smallest of ideas, and SimpleNote is one of the simplest ways to make sure you've got them all jotted down. Plus, all your notes are backed up and the search function means that you can find old notes whenever you want to pull them up again. SimpleNote is free with no upgrades or in-app purchases.

LIBRE OFFICE WRITER

Libre office writer is a powerful essay writing programme that lets users create, review, revise your work, whenever inspiration strikes. With the help of this software, your document looks clean and well-structured, regardless of their purposes. Financial report, master thesis, technical drawing, marketing presentation, and so on. In short, it makes your work look great, while you focus on the content.

A STATION? A MUSEUM? REVISIT MALGUDI DAYS

The South Western Railway (SWR) zone's Mysuru Division has created a museum themed on 'Malgudi Days' at one of its stations, recreating scenes and ambience from the famous television serial, an official said. "The old dilapidated station (Arasulu) building, which is a few metres away from the present station building has been restored and recreated as Museum Malgudi," the official added.



- As part of the museum, the railway zone has created neighbourhoods, similar to the ones featured in the famous serial. One of the houses features an elephant-shaped skeleton gate with a compound wall made out of metal bars salvaged from the railway tracks
- Likewise, another structure in the museum sports paintings of the main characters from the serial, along with the images of a peacock

- A kitchen from the Malgudi Days has been created for the museum, including a street and neighbouring houses
- A makeshift railway coach named as Malgudi Chai has also been arranged, including some more images of animals
- Elements and themes from the Indian Railways have a major influence on the entire museum

Malgudi Days is the screen adaptation of R K Narayan's famous novel by the same name, set in the fictional town of Malgudi in South India
In the 1980s, Shankar Nag and John Devraj made the television serial based on Narayan's novel





Remembering and revering

Capt Vikram Batra, the Kargil war hero, is the cry that finds an echo in every young soldier's heart. In 1999, these young Army officers aged around 22, exulted in the knowledge that they were going to war to safeguard the honour of

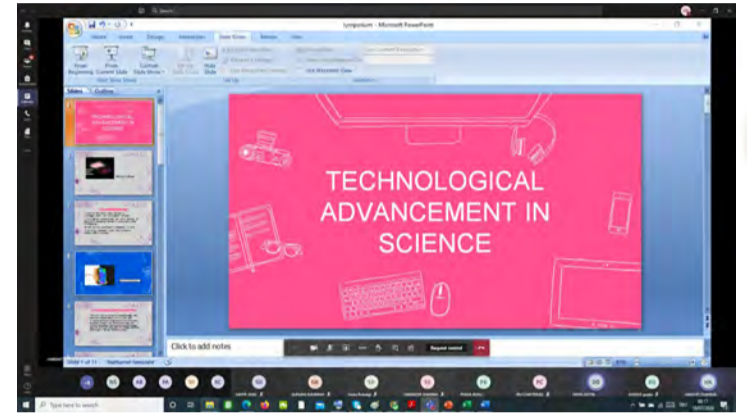


tremely proud of our many Gallantry Award Winners, as also, of all our men and women in the Defence Forces.

This year, the online classes gave us an opportunity to reinvent ourselves to commemorate these bravehearts in a manner befitting their glory. A beautiful video by the Dance Society, Anuranjini, had students and alumni erasing boundaries, as they seamlessly merged and blended music, poetry and dance taking the online performance to a new level. Children from Classes I-X presented songs, poems, paintings, speeches and dance performances in honour of our soldiers. The school Band, Reverb, composed and presented a wonderful song.

their motherland. The Kargil War touches the lives of all the students and teachers of Army Public School, Dhaula Kuan, because many of our alumni immortalised themselves as worthy young officers of the Indian Army who fought in this war and laid down their lives defending their nation. We are ex-

Capt Anuj Nayyar MVC, Capt Vijayant Thapar VrC, Maj Vivek Gupta MVC, Capt Sanjeev Dahiya, Capt Amit Varma, Capt Aditya Mishra are some of our heroic alumni whose names stand out like beacons, inspiring our students. As we remember their sacrifices, Col V N Thapar's poignant words become more meaningful - "Are you worthy of that sacrifice?"



Broadening mental horizons



An online Intra school science symposium for classes VI to XII was organized by Hillwoods Academy. Variety of topics relevant in today's world like COVID 19 Do's and Don't s, techniques of separation of substances, latest

"Science knows no country, because knowledge belongs to humanity, and is the torch which illuminates the world. Science is the highest personification of the nation because that nation will remain the first which carries the furthest the works of thought and intelligence." **LOUIS PASTEUR**

technological advancements and safe use of the internet and cybersecurity were showcased by students in the form of Power point presentations, experiments, charts and videos. The event witnessed enthusiastic performances by students of all classes.

Healthy mind body and soul



An online Yoga programme was initiated for the students of Ryan International School, Noida by PETs who enabled the students to perform various Yog Asanas. The students were informed about the strengthening aspects of Yoga for the physical and mental well being of their body.

School principal Sumita Mukherjee urged the students to make Yoga an integral part of their lives and regard PM's mission of making the nation's youth fit and agile with utmost importance.



TRIUMPHS & GLORIES

Two students of Ganga International School, Hiran Kudna proved their mettle in the Union Public Service Commission Examination 2019. Alumni Sweta Suman and alumni Sapna Kumari cleared UPSC Exam. Both of them cleared the exam in their first attempt only. School Chairman Bharat Gupta, Director Colonel Ashok Kaul, the Principal Swati Joshi and the School Management extended their elated congratulations for their outstanding result and wished them for their future endeavours.



Become the Voice of the Voiceless

The students of ASN International School, Mayur Vihar organised a special assembly. The students attempted to express that we humans have always been considerate about expressing our opinions with the 'voice' as our tool but do not care about those who are 'voiceless' like the animals. Introducing the theme to the audience, the students urged all to come together to visualize the feelings and world of these liv-



ing beings. The students presented some riddles including facts about the habitat and characteristics of dif-

ferent animals following which they spoke on the different wildlife issues and initiatives which are taken globally and at national level also. The assembly was further decorated by the poem recitation, dance performance, and poster presentations by the students. The assembly concluded with the pledge taking ceremony in which all the students, parents and teachers took the pledge to become the voice of the voiceless by being sensitive towards their needs.

Pixie dust knowledge and creativity



Students of Manav Stali Global School, Rajendra Nagar Double Storey celebrated the Virtual Fancy Dress Day during their IEYC online class. The themes chosen by the children clearly reflected their creativity and interests. They were also dressed up as Spiderman, Ironman, mango tree, Radio Jockey, Scare Crow, Soldiers, Parrot and Water.

Every child spoke a few words about the character they were dressed up as. The children had prepared very well and everyone enjoyed seeing their friends in creative dresses.



THINGS THAT I CAN'T EXPRESS

Millions of thoughts and feelings respire inside me everyday. I bound them and give them home... They live and they grow inside me... I am their ground and I am their sky... Some have been stolen from the winds, Some opted from the books, Don't know a single tornado of how many thoughts

Breathe inside me everyday, every minute, every second... Whether I'm walking or I'm sitting They are beside me... Came from an unclaimed world, a stray thought, from touching My eyelids it goes till the walls of my heart... Then it finishes its journey by himself cutting his feathers... Te And respire within my spirit... All my thoughts are caged inside me...



DRONI SAINI, IX, KV sector-8, Rohini

AYESHA, V, Shanti gyan Vidyaapeeth school, Goyalia vihar

All my loud thoughts sometimes cry, sometimes speak, laugh, Talk, some seemed to be staring at me... Just me and just me Is what they breathe inside me... Unable to move while I walk Left unheard while I talk How should I tell you what the problem is? I'm caged up in a room and the keys are lost I'm caged up in a room and the keys

THANKING LIFE

Our life, Sometimes it is a gift But sometimes it's like we are locked up inside a lift Sometimes it's a whole meal But sometimes it's like a car without it's wheels Sometimes we are up in the sky But sometimes it's up but we feel like a irritating fly Sometimes we wanna get down But sometimes down also feels like we are gonna drown Life is always either left or right But it's not always the best and is not always messed Thanking your life is not a regret but there is nothing to get upset. Life is just to be happy and cheerful Without being stressed and never feeling depressed. **ASHMIT DHINGRA, XI, Manav sthali school, rajendra nagar**

are lost But it seems that there is no lock on the room. I am all caged up in an open room This is my only problem MY EACH THOUGHT TELLS ME EVERYDAY THAT YOU'RE CAGED UP AND NOT ME... I'M ALL TIED UP AND CAGED IN MY VERY OWN THOUGHTS... **ISHA SHARMA, XII, Gurusharan convent, Paschim Vihar**

