



# THE TIMES OF INDIA

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STUDENT EDITION

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WEB EDITION

## GREENLAND ICE melting past 'tipping point': Study

The melting of Greenland's ice cap has gone so far that it is now irreversible, with snowfall no longer able to compensate for the loss of ice, even if global warming were to end today, according to researchers.

Eighty-five per cent of the surface of Greenland, an island of two million square kilometres, or four times the size of France, is covered in ice. In the 1980s and 1990s, the ice cap lost around 450 billion tons of ice per year, which was compensated by snowfall, the scientists said, after analysing 40 years of data. But the ice melt has accelerated this century, climbing to 500 billion tons, and it is no longer sufficiently replenished with snow. The Greenland ice sheet is losing mass at accelerated rates in the 21st century, making it the largest single contributor to the rising sea levels.



### THE IMPACT

The melting ice actually causes more ice to melt, as the meltwater that collects on the ice sheet absorbs more of the sun's radiative force than snow and ice do - snow and ice reflect sunlight back into the space. In addition, the loss of ice exposes the permafrost, or frozen soil, which when thawed, releases powerful greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, trapping heat. Therefore, the melting ice is not just a symptom of global warming, it is also becoming a driver of global warming.



### THE IMPACT

A latest study has shown that the ongoing accumulation of toxins associated with plastics poses a risk to our food safety and public health. However, the levels of plastics and associated chemicals we are exposed to in our diet, compared with other everyday activities has not been assessed

Join the campaign

Think big to fight the small

Tell us how you can reduce your plastic use; Please share your views, posters, videos or any other ways that can drive the campaign at [toinie175@gmail.com](mailto:toinie175@gmail.com)

### SHOCKING FACTS

- 1 We have been consuming plastics through our food, water or even breathing
- 2 Studies have shown that people eat, drink and breathe a minimum of 50,000 microplastic particles in a year
- 3 At least 300 million tons of plastic waste is produced every year, as per the data from 'Plastic Oceans'

## Now, microplastics found in HUMAN ORGANS

Researchers have now found microplastic particles and even smaller nanoplastic particles in human organs, in the samples of lungs, spleen, liver and kidneys that were examined. Though the exact impact microplastics have on the human body is not fully-understood, the new findings are cer-

tainly a cause of concern. Studies had established that the particles can be ingested by humans and animals, such as via drinking water, and pass through the gastrointestinal tract. The latest findings, however, are the first to show that they can also ACCUMULATE WITHIN HUMAN ORGANS, INCLUDING THE KIDNEYS, LIVER AND LUNGS.

- Microplastics are typically less than 0.2 inches (5 mm) across, but the so-called nanoplastic particles can be as small as a fiftieth of the width of a human hair
- Microplastics are found in many products, including synthetic clothing, plastic and cosmetics. These products easily enter the environment as waste, and add to the already existing plastic pollution



## Share your thoughts with PM Modi

PM Narendra Modi has invited you to share your ideas on the topics, themes or issues you want him to address on the 68th episode of Mann Ki Baat. You may share your ideas at [www.mygov.in](http://www.mygov.in); or dial the toll-free number 1800-11-7800 and record your message for the Prime Minister in either Hindi or English. You can also give a missed call on 1922, and follow the link received in SMS to directly give your suggestions to the Prime Minister.

The deadline to submit views is August 29, 2020. Mann Ki Baat airs on 11:00 am on August 30, 2020

## WORD WATCH

### BRAGGADOCIO:

Means empty boasting; a person given to arrogant boasting; arrogant pretension

The English poet Edmund Spenser originally created Braggadocio as a personification of boasting in his epic poem, 'The Faerie Queene'. As early as 1594, about four years after the poem was published, English speakers began using the name as a general term for any blustering blowhard.

### BOOK LAUNCH

**WE THE PEOPLE**  
ESTABLISHING RIGHTS AND DEEPENING DEMOCRACY by Nikhil Dey, Aruna Roy and Rakshita Swamy

We the People, the fourth volume in the Rethinking India series, published by Penguin, brings together a collection of essays that explores the process of germination and growth of the undisputed universal rights, enshrined in the Constitution of India.

## PRIYANKA CHOPRA THRILLED TO SEE PRINTED PAGES OF HER MEMOIR 'UNFINISHED'

Actor Priyanka Chopra has announced that her much-anticipated memoir, titled 'Unfinished', has been printed, and will soon be released. 'The Sky is Pink' actor took to Twitter to share the news and expressed her excitement after seeing pages from the memoir printed on paper for the first time. "Finished. What an amazing feeling seeing these pages printed on paper for the first time! #Unfinished... coming soon! @penguinrandom." Chopra tweeted. Earlier, the 38-year-old had noted that every word from it comes from a place of "introspection and reflection" into her life.



BOOK

'Unfinished' will be a collection of personal essays, stories and observations by the actor, producer, singer, and UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador, Chopra

## ZTE TO LAUNCH THE WORLD'S FIRST 5G SMARTPHONE

ZTE Corporation has announced that it will launch ZTE Axon 20 5G in China on September 1, 2020. The device will be the world's first mass-produced 5G smartphone, featuring under-display camera. The so-called 'under-display' camera is concealed entirely behind the phone's screen, with no need for any notches or small round 'hole-punches'. The design increases the amount of space on the smartphone display, which is usually taken up by the black spot at the top that houses the camera.

The new ZTE Axon 20 5G is rumoured to run on Android 10 and will come with a 6.92-inch (1,080x2,460 pixels) OLED display, according to a leak on a Chinese regulatory body, TENAA



Death Valley is no stranger to heat. Sitting 282 feet below sea level in the Mojave Desert in the southeastern California, near the Nevada border, it is the lowest, driest and hottest location in the United States. It is sparsely-populated, with just 576 residents, according to the most recent census.

## Death Valley hits 55 degrees celsius, one of the highest temperatures recorded on Earth

In the popular imagination, Death Valley in Southern California, is the hottest place on the Earth. On Aug 16, it lived up to that reputation, when the temperature at the aptly-named, Furnace Creek reached 131 degrees Fahrenheit (55 degrees C), according to the NOAA weather prediction centre

## NEWS IN BRIEF

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## FACTOID 1.6 Crore

New debit cards have been issued by the banks between April and June of 2020, during the lockdown period. It is the second-highest over a quarter, since banks initiated the replacement exercise in 2018, said a report citing an analysis of the RBI data over the last two years

## 'Aquaman' sequel will have elements of horror, confirms director James Wan



Director James Wan has said that 'Aquaman 2', starring Jason Momoa, will feature a "little bit" of his love for horror. The 43-year-old filmmaker, who made his directorial debut with the horror film, 'Saw', further said, he will save the big scares for the DC film spin-off, 'The Trench'. In an interaction with his fans, ahead of his appearance at the DC FanDome, Wan said, "Just like the first movie had a touch of my horror sensibility in it, for the 'Trench' sequence, I would say, there will be a little bit of that in this one as well."

Introduced in 2018, 'Aquaman, The Trench' are aquatic abominations, who tormented Aquaman and Mera (Amber Heard) during one of the most intense sequences in the film. Wan, also known for 'The Conjuring' franchise, will produce an animated 'Aquaman' mini-series for HBO Max

## A PERMANENT SEAT FOR MS AT WANKHEDE?

Remember the towering six at the Wankhede Stadium in the 2011 World Cup final by MS Dhoni, which eventually made India the World Champions? Well, if reports are to go by, the seat where the famous sixer landed, is all set to be named after the man, who created history. In a letter to the Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA) apex council member Ajinkya Naik said, a permanent seat in the Wankhede stadium would be a "tribute" and an "act of gratitude" to the former captain's contribution to Indian cricket. Naik suggested that the particular spot, where the ball landed, can be identified and dedicated to Dhoni. The former Indian captain announced his retirement from international cricket on August 15.

Several Indian cricketers are commemorated at the stadium, including Sachin Tendulkar, Sunil Gavaskar, Vijay Merchant, who have stands named after them.

Back in 1993, a seat at the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG), was painted yellow to commemorate Simon O'Donnell's 122-metre six for Victoria over New South Wales

In 2018, Ethihad Stadium in Melbourne painted the seat red to honour Brad Hodge, who smashed a 96-metre six, in his last match

New Zealand's Grant Elliot too has a seat named after him, when he hit Dale Steyn for a six, after the Kiwis entered the final of the World Cup in 2015



## Aston Martin unveils 007 Editions of its Vantage and DBS Superleggera

Taking advantage of its close connection to the James Bond franchise, Aston Martin is set to launch two new limited edition cars to celebrate the curtain raiser of the latest 007 movie later this year. According to Daily Mail, Aston Martin's own 'Q' division, named after the famed gadget branch of Britain's secret service in the films, has created 007 Editions of the Vantage and DBS Superleggera to mark the release of 'No Time To Die' in November. Priced between £161,000 (₹1,59,69,307) and £279,025 (₹2,76,74,603) respectively, having a touch of Bond on your Aston Martin comes with a price rise of over 25 per cent.





## UNPRECEDENTED TIMES REQUIRE UNPRECEDENTED MEASURES

The Covid-19 pandemic situation is, no doubt, an unprecedented situation and it has caught us unawares. We were not prepared to handle it but looking at the present scenario, which has stretched for more than four months and will continue to spread its wings for times which can't be gauged, it seems we are prepared to face it in its gravest form.

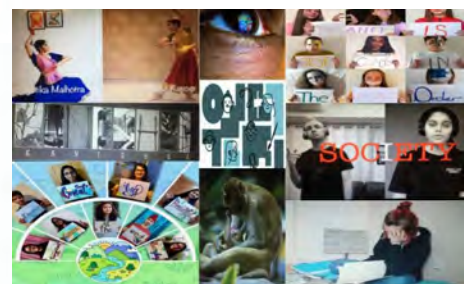
There are many who feel, "Why has it happened in my time?" But that will not yield any results. All we have to do is to decide what can be done at such times. Remember "You may not control all the events that happen to you, but you can decide not to be reduced by them." Resilience, hope and compassion are the need of the hour. In such circumstances, we should count our blessings and spend quality time with our loved ones. Remember, "This too shall pass. Nothing lasts forever. Not even the coronavirus." The consumer may not be able to buy during the lockdown, but it is a great opportunity for them to consume content, so use the time wisely. Nurture your hobbies, read good literature, be creative, give vent to your imagination. Indulge in art and craft, hone your culinary skills, join online yoga or dance sessions and there are a plethora of other options for you to explore. The most important thing in these unprecedented times is to feel lucky if you are hale and hearty, to feel blessed if you are able to manage three meals a day.

**MAMTA BATHEJA, (HOD English), South Delhi Public School, Defence Colony**

## Be Curious, Be Different

Delhi Public School, Sec-45, Gurgaon, organized the first of its kind Online Inter School Cultural Fest- Goonj-2020. The theme of the fest was Parichay...Pehchaan khudh se, keeping in mind the preventive measures regarding COVID-19. Encouraging a blended learning model, the Fest provided a platform to the young creative minds with artistic challenges to empower them to think beyond boundaries. The topics for various categories related to visual art, performing art and movie making, encouraged the participants to think out of the box while maintaining social isolation.

The global fest witnessed participation from twenty-two Indian schools belonging to Delhi NCR and three International Student Cultural Exchange partner schools from Germany, France and Poland.



Literati from the respective fields of the craft judged the online entries. The response for the Fest was heartening as the entries received from the young competitors left an indelible impression on everyone associated with it.

The Letter of Honour was awarded to Lotus Valley International School, Sector- 50, Gurgaon for their remarkable feat in various events of the competition.

## FOSTERING LEADERSHIP SKILLS

JKPS Shalimar Bagh held its Investiture Ceremony on a Virtual Platform. The event began by invoking the blessings of Almighty with a Shabad. Principal Asha Saran Srivastava welcomed the esteemed guests consisting of parents of students and other dignitaries. She addressed the gathering and administered the oath to the newly elected student council. She congratulated all the members of the council and emphasised the importance of discipline and dignity in students' life.

On behalf of the newly elected Student Council, the Head Boy Mohnish Soni and the Head Girl Trishha Lakhotia expressed their gratitude to the school for reposing faith in them and promised to uphold the values and legacy of the school.

The guest L S Bahl addressed the children regarding his past experiences in life and encouraged them to always walk on the correct path. Guest of honour Col. Amit Gupta, an alumnus of the school expressed his gratitude to his alma mater for his success as an Indian Army Officer and motivated the newly elected school cabinet to shoulder the responsibility bestowed on them with utmost sincerity and dedication. The Chairman of the school, Sardar Surjit Singh and the Vice Chairperson Rasna Singh also graced the occasion.

Headmistress Shikha Dhameja proposed the vote of thanks. The ceremony concluded with the national anthem.



The Online Investiture Ceremony for Classes VI-XII of DAVPS, Pushpanjali Enclave was held on MS Teams, the school's official online platform. The event was attended by the to be instituted council members, teachers, supervisory heads from Classes VI to XII. The event began with the DAV Gaan, followed by an address by Principal Rashmi Raj Biswal. Following this, the Captains and Vice House Captains Members and Head Prefects of the council were announced and E - Certificate was presented, displayed on the screen. Karan Gandhi and Karizma Ahmed of class XII were selected as the School Head Boy and Head Girl respectively. Pratham Arora and Rivaa Kikan were chosen as the Deputy Head Boy and Girl respectively. Tulsi Kumari and Madhav Mittal of Class XI were appointed to the post of Head Prefect Girl and Head Prefect Boy respectively. This year we also had the post for, Deputy Head Prefect Girl - Manya Joshi (XI) and Deputy Head Prefect Boy - Utkarsh Garg (XI). The Principal Rashmi Raj Biswal administered the oath for the council reminding them the responsibility on their shoulders and how they need to

## Artistic expressions and explorations



Basava International School, Dwarka conducted a Virtual Art Exhibition for Class VIII which was inaugurated by GM Pournima Ambili and Principal Dr Manimala Roy. A total of 40 students showcased their talent under the aegis of Ritu Singh, the Art teacher. It was an audio-visual treat with students displaying their creativity on the theme 'Life in Lockdown' in the form of art on canvas, using home-made material.

The International Yoga Day with the theme 'Yoga at Home and Yoga with Family' was celebrated. The Sport's Ministry's flagship programme, Fit India movement had organised an online Yoga session as part of Yoga Day celebrations. Young Yoga from Basava International School participated in the virtual session highlighting the benefits of Yoga and also to give out the message of unity and universal brotherhood beyond race, colour, religion and nations.

**The International Yoga Day with the theme 'Yoga at Home and Yoga with Family' was celebrated.**

Around 473 students participated in the preliminary round of BRICSMATH competition out of which an overwhelming total of 194 students (41%) secured 100% marks. The competition, hosted by an educational platform in all five BRICS countries - Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, helps students compete locally and internationally in the field of Maths. The Principal, Dr Manimala Roy congratulated the achievers and encouraged students to set new benchmarks.

uphold the ideals and honour of the school and the job entrusted to them. The nature of responsibility becomes different and equally difficult for them in these testing times. The second phase of the event began with the Investiture Ceremony for the Eco Club of the school. The E - Certificates for various posts were presented. Simran Arora, Simran Gupta and Akshat Shah of Class XII were chosen as the President of the Eco Club. Kanika Kothari and Ansh Singh of Class XI were chosen as the Vice President. The event concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by the Supervisory Incharge (XI - XII) Ajinder Kaur. The national anthem was played at the end.

## SHINE BRIGHT

Himanshu Gupta of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan School, Delhi secured Rank 27 in UPSC Civil Services Exam 2019. The merit list of all the candidates who cleared the Exam was released and young UPSC aspirant Himanshu Gupta discovered that he had secured Rank 7 out of 829 candidates who cleared the exam. Principal Dr Anju Tandon shared that Himanshu was always a studious and humble student.



**AAYUSH RANA, VIII, Shanti gyan Vidyapeeth school, Goyala vihar**



**VIDHI BANSAL, V, Inspire School, Paschim Vihar**



**SIDDHIKA SAINI, XII Rukmini Devi Public School, Pitampura**



**TRIPTI, Manav Sthali Global School, Rajendra Nagar**

**GUNRAJ, Manav Sthali Global School, Rajendra Nagar**



**NEERAJ, XII, Navyug school moti bagh**

## THE VACCINE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

The sick Earth is recovering  
Its medicine it found  
The diseased land started reviving  
When its virus it found  
Humans were the virus  
That infected the planet  
And the only vaccine to this was  
To halt everything that caused the damage  
Yes, this is for real  
Agreed, it is surreal  
But, the lockdown, the seal  
Became the Earth's immunity rejuvenating meal  
The mankind stayed inside  
And the choked air started to breathe  
As the pollution did subside  
With the paused life routine  
When the warnings weren't attended to  
Strict action, the authorities took  
So was this our punishment  
To our negligent and casual outlook  
The cycle of Karma  
Hence, showed its power  
You caused Earth the trauma  
You were thus bound to suffer.

**KANAN SHARMA, XII, RDPS**