THE TIMES OF INDIA

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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 Adelie 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.

LEARNING WITH nie TIMES nie

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 ocasions, denied its role in hacking operations emerging from the mainland.

CYBER WORLD TERMINOLOGIES

MALWARE: According to Microsoft, malware, short for malicious software, refers to any kind of software that "is a 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

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.
■ This would allow the country to benefit from real-time information sharing and improved training

ASTRONAUT ACCIDENTALLY LOSES MIRROR DURING SPACEWALK

US spacewalking 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.

SPACE

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 ablutions 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

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WEB EDITION

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

"Every flower is a soul blossoming in nature."
GÉRARD DE NERVAL, FRENCH WRITER AND POET

ACTIVITY

FUN-ZONE

NEW ON THE WEB!

Have you tried the MCQ section of www.toistudent.com yet?

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QUIZ

MIND TEASERS

FUN WITH RIDDLES

JUMBLED WORDS...

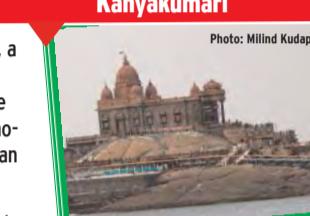Find out who tops the chart every day! It could be YOU!!!!

Rock The Test

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 Gupt ☐
D: Toru Dutt ☐

Q5. Who among the following British 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

ACTIVITY OF THE DAY

History Mystery

Vivekananda Rock Memorial, Kanyakumari
Photo: Milind Kudapa

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 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

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 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
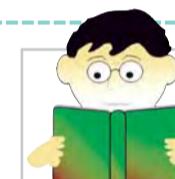C. A water stream
D. Image of Buddha

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.

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

KNOWLEDGE BANK
Photo: AFP

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.

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.

SCHOOL IS COOL

POSITIVE PARENTING TIPS DURING COVID-19

An online workshop was organized by DAV Public School, sec 14 Faridabad. Under the pilotage of Anita Gautam, Principal, the workshop was conducted.

Speaker gave 5R's to Fair and Effective consequences- 'respectful,' 'related',' reasonable in duration', 'revealed in advance' and 'repeat it back to you'. He emphasized on family rules and firmness to evolve children with the changing times. He advocated child-centered parenting organized around the needs and interests of the child. During question-answer session parents actively interacted with the speaker to find out ways for improvement. Ingenious guidance by Gautam made the session efficacious.

Tanuja Anand, Head Mistress, expressed her gratitude to the Speaker, Principal and the parents.

Leading the yoga life

Seth Anandram Jaipuria School celebrated International Yoga Day through online medium for the staff.

The theme for this year's International Yoga Day was 'Yoga from Home'.

The event was graced by President's award recipient Principal cum Director of SAJS Manju Rana, who emphasized the importance of physical and mental well being for all and motivated everyone to follow yogic practices regularly for a healthy lifestyle. She emphasized that yoga helps in controlling an individual's mind, body and soul, brings together physical and mental disciplines to achieve a peaceful body and mind, and will prove to be a very helpful tool to manage stress and anxiety in the current situation.

The session commenced with the demonstration of various yogic practices by Nandini Rawat, sports faculty at SAJS and an expert in the field. She explained the various postures and their benefits while demonstrating them.

The session was concluded by Rajeev Kumar, sports faculty at SAJS, who emphasized on the inclusion of yogic practices in our daily routine for a healthy lifestyle.

Students win the International School Enterprise Challenge 2019

SR DAV Public School, Dayanand Vihar has been declared the winner of School Enterprise Challenge 2019. It is an international business programme for schools run by the educational charity Teach A Man To Fish.The team has received the Best Silver Business Plan in the Asia Pacific Region with a value of US$1000.

More than 11,000 students from 100 countries round the globe came together for this international challenge. A well designed business plan combined with hard work and commitment to a cause opened the doors of success.

Team Sambhav comprises 600 students from classes VI-XII. The Students and the teacher mentors Mrs. Vineeta Garg, Head of the Department (I.T.), Neeru Mittal, Malini Sharma and Sonia Nagpal, faculty members (Computers and IT Department) conceptualised and designed the plan under the guidance and support of Renu Laroiya, Principal and Vinita Kapoor, Senior Supervisory Head.

The Principal expressed her gladness over the win and shared that the school students' commendation at the international platform is a manifestation of their hard work, dedication and thinking and organisational skills.

'Travel the world from the comfort of your home'

Undeterred by the covid-19 pandemic, D.A.V Public School, R.K. Puram, organised a 'Virtual Excursion' for students.
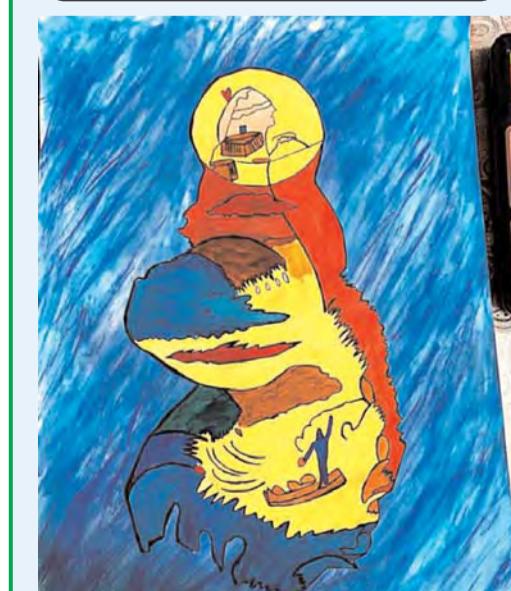
Students went to a virtual excursion to London, Dubai and Paris, and visited and discovered places virtually. They were shown monuments, beaches, shopping malls, mosque, church, theme parks and other popular tourist spots. Children were astonished to see the beautiful light and musical fountain in Dubai. They were eager to know more about the history of Buckingham Palace of London. The view of Eiffel Tower in Paris was breathtaking.

Children were happy to see the popular places and monuments that they had only heard of. It helped in engaging children in experiences that they wouldn't get to see otherwise.

The virtual excursion organised by DAV was a great way to take a break from their day – to - day grind.

STUDENT CONTRIBUTION

AARUSHI THUKRAL, XII, MANAV STHALI SCHOOL

Addressing issues of relevance

The 2020 edition of the DAV Sreshtha Vihar Model United Nations concluded in DAV Public School Srestha Vihar. The two day conference was conducted virtually.

Suhasini Khushinder Nath (Teacher in-charge) spoke about the resilience shown by students towards their online education. She further added that expecting students to have the same resilience in their co-scholastic activities, the Virtual DAV Sreshtha MUN was organized.

The various United Nations comitttees that were stimulated during the conference included the United Nations General Assembly,United Nations Human Rights Commission,and the World Health Organization.Two Indian committees were stimulated as well,the Indian National Congress and the Niti Aayog.The journalists and the caricaturists of the International Press covered the two-day conference.

Delegates from across the world participated in the conference. Students from Nigeria, Japan, Russia, Georgia and Egypt, and India deliberated and discussed on the agenda in their respective committees. More than 200 students participated in the conference.

The agenda ranged from planning on saving and rejuvenating the Indian economy (Niti Aayog), providing a roadmap for universal health recovery post the current pandemic(WHO), and combating the defamation of religion(UNHRC).

It is important to stress on the fact that the entire conference was conducted virtually. In the current situation, with the COVID-19 pandemic raging worldwide, the event was a grand success with positive feedback from the Executive Board members as well as the national and international participants.