



THE TIMES OF INDIA

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**TODAY'S
EDITION**

➤ As teens get vaccinated in India, know all about the dos and don'ts recommended by health experts

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Alka Mittal becomes FIRST WOMAN TO HEAD ONGC

Spotlight


Oil and natural gas corporation (ONGC) director of human resources Alka Mittal on January 3 took over additional charge of Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of the company, becoming the first woman to hold the post at the Maharatna company. She took charge from Subhash Kumar.

She is also the first woman to hold the charge of a full-time director at ONGC. Mittal is said to be the brain behind the company's 'People's Connect' initiative to facilitate knowledge sharing from superannuating employees to young professionals in the organisation

Do children's books encourage gender stereotypes?

Books designed for children may be perpetuating gender stereotypes, a new study warns. According to researchers, who studied around 200 books, including the Harry Potter series, concluded that books with a male main character were more often about professions, whereas those with a female protagonist were about affection. 'Some of the stereotypes that have been studied in a social psychology literature are present in these books, like girls being good at reading and boys being good at math,' said Molly Lewis, lead author on the study.

1 The authors believe that gendered books read to children in early education 'could play an integral role in solidifying gendered perceptions in young children'

2 Books with a strong male or female protagonist were more likely to have gen-

dered language specifically targeted to their main character. Female-associated words focused on affection, school-related words and communication verbs, like 'explained' and 'listened'

3 Male-associated words focused more on profes-



sions, transportation and tools, with less of a focus on emotional needs. These books may be a vehicle for communicating information about gender, they added (Source: Daily Mail)

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CBSE CAUTIONS STUDENTS AGAINST MISINFORMATION, ISSUES ADVISORY



Cautions class X and XII students of misinformation being spread online, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) issued a public advisory on Tuesday, stating that the CBSE Term 2 Board Exam 2022 pattern has not been changed and will be the same as announced earlier by the Board. "It has been noticed that a few online media platforms are circulating incorrect information and confusing audiences, using expressions such as 'Breaking News' about major exam pattern changes in class X and XII Term 2 Board exams," the official notice read. The CBSE also clarified that the format for the term 2 exams will remain the same, as mentioned in circular number 51, dated July 5, 2021.

■ The Board has advised students and other stakeholders to only believe information that is available on its official website, cbse.gov.in

■ CBSE Term 2 Board Exams 2022 for classes X and XII are scheduled to be held in March-April, 2022

SOARING OMICRON COULD LEAD TO MORE DANGEROUS VARIANTS, WHO WARNS



Soaring Omicron cases around the world could increase the risk of a newer, more dangerous variant emerging, the World Health Organisation warned on Tuesday. Meanwhile, the Centre has issued revised guidelines for home isolation of mild and asymptomatic patients, amid the surge in Covid-19 cases nationwide. As per the new guidelines, the patient under home isolation will stand discharged and end isolation after at least 7 days have passed from testing positive and no fever for 3 successive days, and they shall continue wearing masks. There is no need for re-testing after the home isolation period is over.

NEWS IN CLUES

MIKE LAZARIDIS & DOUGLAS FREGIN FOUNDED WHICH FAMOUS SMARTPHONE MAKER IN 1984?

CLUE 1: John S Chen is its current chairman and CEO.

CLUE 2: Count 957, Pearl 8100, Curve 8300, Bold 9000, Storm and Z10 among its many phone models.

CLUE 3: Headquartered in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, it was originally known as Research In Motion.

Answer: BLACKBERRY. Tuesday marked the final end of the road for the storied device that catapulted work into the mobile era, with the company shutting off basic smartphone functionality

Forget about batteries! Now, a new TV remote that is powered through solar energy

Samsung may have the answer to bashing your TV remote against the coffee table to get the last remaining drop of power from the batteries. The tech giant has unveiled a new TV remote, called Eco Remote that harvests radio waves from nearby home routers as its energy source. It's also equipped with solar panels on the back, which can be charged by indoor and outdoor lighting, as well as USB-C as an additional charging option. Samsung said, its new Eco Remote will be included with all of its 2022 TVs, available in either black or white. (Source: Daily Mail)

Eco Remote will help prevent waste from about 99 million batteries over seven years, the firm said



HOW DOES IT WORK?

1. TV remote converts radio waves from WiFi routers into energy
2. Solar panels on the back also keep the remote charged
3. The device eliminates the need for replaceable batteries

Source: Daily Mail

Board aspirants should be jabbed before start of exams, says CISCE

Coinciding with the vaccination roll-out for 15-18-year-olds in several private schools, the Council for Indian School Certificate Examinations (CISCE) on Tuesday said all the ISC and ICSE examinees for 2022 "should be vaccinated before the start of the examinations". Several CBSE schools also started their vaccination drive for students from Tuesday. The pre-board vaccination mandate finds mention in a circular issued by CISCE chief executive Gerry Arathoon while saying vaccination is the "best protection" at this stage and it will ensure children's safety and protection when they attend classes, do practical work and appear for their semester 2 examinations. The examinations are likely to be in March.



ISRO targeting Gaganyaan launch before Independence Day: Sivan

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), India's space agency, is targeting the launch of first of the two planned uncrewed flights under the Gaganyaan mission before Independence Day this year and the third lunar mission Chandrayaan-3 by "middle of the next year", said the chairperson Dr K Sivan. There is a directive to launch the first unmanned mission before the 75th anniversary of India's independence (August 15, 2022) and all the stakeholders are putting their best effort to meet the schedule. I am sure that we will be able to meet this target, Sivan said.



OMICRON AND THE SILVER LINING

As one more year starts with the fear of an imminent even worse wave of Covid-19, the biggest opportunity for parents is in building optimism and hope in their children. Hope and optimism are powerful drivers of resilience. Resilience is one of the key attributes for success in life. This is why hope and optimism are critical traits that need to be instilled in children from an early age.



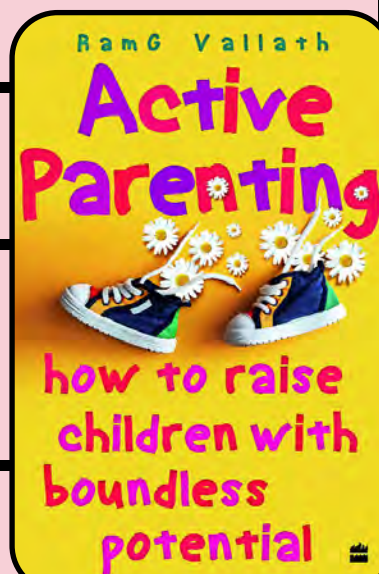
Active Parenting is about a) knowing what attributes and traits make children into successful adults and building them proactively and b) using every opportunity to build these attributes and traits. What can be a better opportunity to instill optimism and hope than the third wave of the Covid pandemic – Omicron wave – that is about to hit us. So what can all parents do to make this happen?

Parents need to role-model optimism. They need to learn to look at all the blessings they have – starting with the fact that even after two years of the pandemic, they are alive and so are the children – and be cheerful and optimistic in their interaction with their children.

They need to then help children count all the blessings they have and help them focus on the present and what they can do to improve the present.

They need to take the children through data available in trustworthy sites such as WHO, government sites of both India and others such as the UK and make them understand that Covid is by and large a mild disease. Also, every year, far more people die of other diseases than with Covid. Thinking of a problem rationally helps in improving optimism.

BOOKS



4 Focus the children on what is within their control and what they can do, such as wearing masks, sticking to Covid protocols, etc.

5 Recount to them stories that highlight the power of human spirit. How an indomitable spirit and courage can conquer any difficulty in life.

6 Explain to them that it is OK to be scared of the unknown, that true courage is in conquering fear; not in being without fear to begin with.



Ram G. Vallath is an IITian, international life coach, motivational speaker and the best-selling author of 'Active Parenting: how to raise children with boundless potential'.

BOOK LOVERS

A book a day keeps pesky kids at bay, says Twinkle Khanna



Actress-entrepreneur-author Twinkle Khanna often posts about the books she likes reading. Twinkle, who recently returned from her Maldives vacation with family, posted a cute picture of herself and her daughter Nitara spending some quality time reading together. Along with this picture from their vacation, Twinkle also shared a quick tip for parents to keep 'pesky kids' at bay!

Commenting about Nitara's love for reading, just like hers, Twinkle wrote, "She swats me down with that tongue that could double up as an electric mosquito racket and always has more questions than I have answers. My only respite is to thrust

a book in her hand so that her mind is occupied and her mouth is zipped up. Yet another reason to get them to read-A book a day keeps pesky kids at bay! #Fing #davidwalliams". Do you agree?

In the picture, Nitara can be seen reading best-selling author David Walliams' book 'Fing', which was published in 2019. 'Fing' is a funny story of "two perfectly nice parents and their unbelievably monstrous daughter", according to the book's blurb.

Twinkle has published three books so far, namely – a collection of her columns titled 'Mrs Funnybones', a short story collection 'The Legend of Lakshmi Prasad', and her debut novel 'Pyjamas Are Forgiving'.

AWARENESS

What parents need to know about COVID-19 vaccine for kids

Almost a year ago, coronavirus vaccination drive began in full swing for people aged 65 and above. Over time, adults 18 and beyond were prioritised for the same and many have received one or both the doses of Covid-19 vaccines.

Finally now, after a year of worry and anxiety, parents breathe a sigh

of relief as their children are set to receive their first dose of vaccine shot. Teens falling in the 15-17 age groups are eligible for vaccination in the country from today (January 3). As per the guidelines issued by the Union Health Ministry, "all those whose birth year is 2007" or before, shall be eligible for the vaccines.



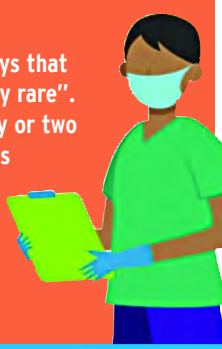
Which coronavirus vaccine is available for kids?

Health officials have announced that for now, the only vaccine option available for kids is Bharat Biotech's Covaxin. It has been granted approval for restricted use in an emergency situation in the age group between 12 and 18 years.

However, CoWIN chief Dr RS Sharma had earlier said that children will have an option to choose between Bharat Biotech's Covaxin and Zydus Cadila's jab. Even though Zydus Cadila's Covid-19 vaccine ZyCoV-D received the Emergency Use Authorisation (EUA) from the drug regulator on August 20, it is yet to be launched in the country. It was

SIDE EFFECTS

■ Dr Vikas Taneja, HOD - Pediatrics, HCMCT Manipal Hospital, Dwarka, says that "extreme side effects or reactions from COVID-19 vaccines are extremely rare".
■ "Some children might experience low grade fever, body aches for a day or two but it is really self resolving and as far as treatment, only paracetamol is required," he says.
■ "In case, a child has a medical or family history of reaction to any vaccine in the past, then the parents should be more cautious and must inform this to the medical facility before the vaccination," the doctor adds further.



IS 15-MINUTE OBSERVATION REQUIRED?

■ Post Covid-19 vaccination, medical professionals recommend waiting at the vaccination centre for at least 15 minutes. This is to ensure the safety of people who may develop adverse reactions from the coronavirus vaccine. The waiting period allows the medical team to observe vaccinated individuals and treat them immediately, in case of any complications.
■ The same applies to children, who will be receiving their Covid-19 vaccines. On being asked about the same, Dr Taneja says, "Yes, by the rules 30 minutes is the minimum time to observe if there are any side effects. So it should not worry the kids and their parents."

TWO POSSIBLE WAYS TO PREDICT YOUR CHILD'S HEIGHT

HEALTH



A person's height plays a very important role in the way he/she looks. Having a good height makes one look good and enhances the personality of an individual. Tall people have several advantages in life apart from their attractiveness. They are

preferred in several lines of work and meet eligibility criteria easily. In professions of defence and glamour, height plays an important role. Even though it is not possible to get to know what height your child will attain after he/she grows completely, it can always be approximated

FORMULA 1

Applying a simple formula to approximate the height of an individual is a great way to determine the height of an individual. This isn't a proven way but it can be tried to see if one gets the desired results.

Add the mother's height and the father's height. Make sure that both the heights are in the same units of measurement, either in inches or in centimetres. Now add five inches to the sum if the child is a boy. If the child whose height you're calculating is a girl, subtract five inches from the sum. Divide the resultant number by two.

FORMULA 2

Another popularly used method whose accuracy is not scientifically proven is to double the measurement of the height of the girl at the age of eighteen months. This can provide a rough idea of the height that the child can attain. For boys, doubling the height that they attain at the age of two years of age is used.



REVELATION

ACTIVE MINDS CAN DELAY DEMENTIA

Reading, writing or doing puzzles later in life may delay dementia by up to five years, a study found. It could be even beneficial to those in their 80s.

Scientists at Rush University Medical centre in Chicago, US, studies pensioners with dementia. They found those with the lowest amount of cognitive activity had developed it by age 89. But patients who had regularly played games or read books did not suffer the disease until 94.

Researcher Robert Wilson said, "Our findings suggest it may be beneficial to start doing these things, even in your 80s, to delay the onset of Alzheimer's."

DAILY MIRROR

GOOD FOOD

4 FOUR REASONS TO EAT SWEET CORN



A popular veggie available almost all year round and especially in winter, it has great health benefits in case you are unaware of its prowess

1 It is a good source of minerals such as magnesium, phosphorus and potassium, which are all essential for a healthy body.

2 Sweet corn contains vitamin A, which is necessary for the health of your eyes.

3 It's rich in powerful antioxidants such as zeaxanthin, lutein and beta-carotene, which may help to lower the risk of cancer.

4 You will get a fibre fix, which is needed for a healthy digestive system and regular bowel movements.



DAILY MIRROR

Curiosity leads to discovery

We live in a world full of doubts. Turn your head in any direction, look up and yikes! it is a doubt. From securing ropes with double knots to the way we turn on the television, doubt has infiltrated every aspect of our lives. Whether it's our relationship with someone next to us or our ability to trust ourselves. Doubt is an eternal fact.

In this doubtful world, we often hear things like, 'doubts are deadly', 'self-doubting is a disgrace'. I am not saying that these suggestions are wrong, what I am saying is that these assertions are unreasonable. There limitedly revolve around the sphere of security versus insecurity. These statements ignore some fascinating inter-



pretations of doubt.

For instance, a 'healthy doubt'. Healthy doubting is simply checking your progress

every step of the way.

In the same way that 10 to 40 per cent of alcohol is essential in your regular cough

syrup, a little bit of 'doubt' is also necessary for the drive of your life.

Let's take an example

Imagine you are in your Math test and you get a problem. Considering the complexity of the problem, it will require a lot of revisions. In the end, the kind of uncertainty 'what if there's a mistake' proves to be very beneficial. After all, accuracy is always better than immediacy.

The indecision before submitting the test which makes you revise the answers all over again is always better than losing a couple of points over 'silly mistakes'.

"Point a finger at yourself so no one else does".

The practice of doubt is often discouraged and criticised



AKANKSHA CHAUDHARY, class XI, Air Force Golden Jubilee Institute, Subroto Park

when it should be empowered. Having doubts generates curiosity, curiosity spurs questions, and questions bring about revolutions.

Doubt manifests itself in many ways, including curiosity, scepticism, querying, and hesitation. Encourage them like any other endeavour so that whenever you put your foot down, you know it is the best foot forward.

Spreading Christmas cheer

St. Martin's Diocesan School brought in much cheer to the little community of Delhi's less privileged children of the slums of Pandhavi Nagar and Budh Nagar that they continue to nurture, hand in hand with the Delhi Government's project, Slum to Harvard.

The Martiners experienced the joy of sharing as they endeavoured to spread the joy of Christmas to the little children, expressing their love through thoughtful ways and meaningful gifts in the presence of Dr. Nitin Shakyra, the Sub Divisional Magistrate, New Delhi District. The little children reciprocated the warmth, making the school proud as they showcased what they have learnt through the year through passionate displays of love and emotion.

Thus, the Martiners had an



extremely rewarding experience as they rallied behind their Principal K. Sudha who relentlessly sought ways to ensure the progress of the less fortunate in the society. The astute leadership ensured that each Martiner came back grateful for what they are blessed with, richly sensitized to value the trivial things they have overlooked thus far. True to the School Motto Light begets Light, the Light of Christmas has certainly spread on.

Revelry with reverberation

KIT World School organised its annual care and share program with pomp and splendour - 'Spandan 2021', an occasion marked by online festivities and merry-making to celebrate Christmas and herald the New Year with new hope and aspirations.

The theme of the academic year 2021-2022 was 'Revelry with Reverberations' where all the stakeholders came forward and supported the noble cause of helping the underprivileged sections of society. The care and share program was not just confined to the walls of the school



but was shared with the community as well.

Apart from the distribution of dry ration, goodie bags loaded with love and warmth, teachers and parents donated blankets to the needy. The program began with a soul-soothing welcome dance. Aligned with the vision of KIT, students presented their

harmonious choir performance which was a melody to the ears and a warm welcome to mark Christmas festivities. Addressing the audience across various digital platforms, Dr. Sangeeta Bhatia, Principal, wished them season's greetings and endless joy.

Christmas, festival of happiness

Christmas reminds us of gratitude. It teaches us to be thankful for what we have and that we should share, give to the ones who are a little less fortunate than us. It reminds us that true happiness lies with spending time with our loved ones and keeping a positive outlook towards life.

Siddharth International Public School, Wazirabad Road, Delhi celebrated Christmas with their tiny tots with great enthusiasm. Fun filled activities such as story-telling, frog race, relay race, snow-dance, magic-show, tattoo corner, chalk art, memory games, talent hunt and the likes were organised.

The joint effort of the school management, teachers, support staff, parents and the lovely children made the event a grand success and a joyful event.



BELLS OF GAIETY CHIME AT ASN

A perfect example of secularism is set at ASN Int'l School, Mayur Vihar. Christmas celebrations were in full swing as the school marked the day with a special assembly. One could easily notice the excitement of Christmas in the students' eyes.

They were eagerly waiting for the Christmas messages from their 'Secret Santa' through a virtual activity conducted in classes, by the concerned facilitators. Not only the students sent mesmerising Christmas wishes for their besties, but also the teachers celebrated it in school.

The celebration commenced by seeking the blessings of the Almighty



followed by a special prayer through candle lighting. A student dressed as Santa Claus caught everyone's attention by cheering and singing songs of Christmas, handing out gifts, candies, and virtual hand-

shakes. School heads Shivani Khanna and Priyanka concluded the celebration by triggering the true meaning of Christmas. They also invoked the spirit of giving, which is more rewarding than receiving.

Student Corner

Student's life

The best part of one's life
Yes, it is school life!
Starting with school as a little kid
I remember it all, Oh! Yes I do...
All the tensions and worries fade away
as I reach my school every day.
The pressure of studies is always on
but with the friends.
It fades away and is gone...
The scolding of the teachers, Oh my!
Makes us jump out of the seats and cry.
The bunking, the PT periods and all the fun
Life without school is just not done.
I wonder what will happen,
when from the school I'll pass out
the memories will stay with me throughout.

VANSH SINGHANIA, class IX-D
Maharaja Agrasen School, Pitampura



MAAZUL HASAN, class XII-B1,
Hamdard public school

DPSG holds 'Festinobeats, Baby Show'



DPSG International hosted the virtual Closing Ceremony of the Annual 'Festinobeats and Baby Show 2021' on December 11, 2021.

The vibrant and fun-filled event gave enormous opportunities to parents and children from all across India to participate and showcase their talents and creativity in a host of competitions.

The chief guest for the event was Dimpy Mishra, an alumnus of Bhartiendu Natya Academy, a Sangeet Natak Academy awardee as well as an eminent film and theatre artist and director.

Extending a warm

welcome, school principal Meera Mathur emphasised the importance of fine and performing arts as children learn perseverance, creative problem-solving and the ability to focus which aids in their cognitive abilities and enhances their academic performance.

Children participated in a host of exciting competitions and stole the show with their lively performances. Winners were awarded e-certificates. Guests were shown a montage video of highlights of various performances.

The vote of thanks was proposed by the head mistress Soma Singh.

MAKE YOUR OWN MINI BOOK

THINGS REQUIRED

- A4 size paper
- Scissors
- Sketchpens
- Stencils



HOW TO GO ABOUT IT :

- STEP 1 :** Take an A4 size paper
- STEP 2 :** Fold it from the centre
- STEP 3 :** Fold it again as shown in the pic
- STEP 4 :** Using a scissors cut the paper as shown in the pic
- STEP 5 :** Gently fold the paper in equal parts
- STEP 6 :** The second half of the paper can be easily folded in the opposite direction
- STEP 7 :** The folds have to be equal to ensure that it looks like a book.
- STEP 8 :** Decorate the first page of the book. Your book is ready.

RIDDHIMA BISWAS, Class III,
Udgam School For Children, Ahmedabad



GUDDU THE GREAT

Guddu is a majestic Lion, the king of the jungle. He cares for all his fellow animals and considers them to be friends. Guddu also heads a City Circus in Falana Nagar to bring joy and happiness to the animal's lives. The solo motive of Guddu's life is to entertain everyone. His team included Veeru: The Rhino; Ballu: the Elephant; Bunty, and Bubl: the flamingo couple; 3 monkeys: Chugli, Gugli, and Ugli; Jeeru: the giraffe; Honey aunty: the bear. The Billauri cat and The Goon Buffalo Kallu have enmity with Guddu, but he always defeated him. There are 26 episodes, I like 'Yaaron Ka Yaar' the most. In that episode, Guddu's friends are disappointed with him because now he is not fulfilling their needs. Billauri separates Guddu from his friends and starts her circus.



She steals Guddu's act, and her team performs the same, Guddu applauds his friends' performance. He prepares an act depicting his memories with his friends. Billauri gets frustrated and sends his goons to spoil the act. Watch the series to know what happens finally and know whether friends unite or not... They all are very funny and entertaining episodes, full of action and fun.

The show is vibrant and a

visual delight, which is also one reason it seems to be very popular with children. The voice-over for Guddu has been given by versatile actor Javed Jaffery and he skillfully modulates his voice and tone to keep you riveted.

AAROHI TRIVEDI,
Class V Udgam
School For
Children,
Ahmedabad



ATAL TINKERING LABORATORY AT RED ROSES

Red Roses Public School stands for learning through exploration, experimentation, and experience to realise the school motto of arise, awake, aspire and achieve. Hence the inauguration of ATL held on December 24, 2021 was a momentous event for the school. Setting up of the Atal Tinkering Laboratory, with the grant received by Government of India shall foster scientific temperament, enhance their innovative thinking and creativity.

The chief guest for the event was Renu Sharma,

ex regional director, and Director of Education & member of School Managing Committee. The occasion was graced by the presence of president of the trust S K Nayyar and director of the school Krishna Nayyar.

The dignitaries went round the lab where students explained to them models created by them within few days. 3D printer, telescope, space rover, hovercraft, blinking lights, scroll matrix and many more projects drew everybody's attention.

Renu Sharma interacted enthusiastically



with participants expressing her thoughts on creativity and innovation. She encouraged the students to think out of the box. Principal also ap-

prised the audience about the true objective and mission of tinkering lab and encouraged student to make the best of this opportunity.

BANGLADESH STUN NEW ZEALAND

Ebadot takes six as poorest Test performers beat World Test Champions by eight wickets



◀ Ebadot Hossain celebrates his six wickets with teammates

Seamer Ebadot Hossain took 6-46 as Bangladesh beat New Zealand for the first time in a test match at the 16th attempt with a stunning eight-wicket victory over the world test champions on Wednesday.

SHOCK VICTORY

The victory at Mount Maunganui was among the biggest shocks in the history of test cricket as one of the poorest performers in the longest format of the game snapped New Zealand's 17-match unbeaten streak on home soil. While New Zealand had beaten all-comers at home since their last loss to South Africa in March 2017, Bangladesh had lost all 21 of their matches in New Zealand, Australia, South Africa and England since they started playing test cricket in 2000.

Ebadot, who had taken 11 wickets in his 10 previous tests, led the way as the tourists dismissed the 'Black Caps' for 169 early on day five to leave them requiring 40 runs for a famous victory. After losing both openers in the

chase, it was left to captain Mominul Haque and experienced batsman Mushfiqur Rahim to usher Bangladesh to their first victory outside Asia, giving them a 1-0 lead in the two-match series.

"I can't describe it. It is unbelievable. I couldn't sleep yesterday because of pressure and not knowing what would happen today. It was very important to win this test match. If you see two years back, we didn't play much



Ebadot Hossain, right, shakes hands with Blackcaps captain Tom Latham after play

test cricket. We are keen to improve in test cricket and everyone knows we have to improve," said Mominul Haque after the game ended.

New Zealand had resumed on 147-5 with a slender lead of 17, hoping to bat out the day but were quickly on the back foot when Ebadot clean bowled Ross Taylor for 40 and removed Kyle Jamieson for a duck in his first two overs. Taskin Ahmed (3-36) chipped in with his second wicket in the fifth over of the morning when he had all-rounder Rachin Ravindra caught behind for 16. Tim Southee had his middle stump removed in Taskin's next over and Trent Boult departed for eight when he holed out in the deep to end the innings.

Shadman Islam scored the first runs of the chase but was caught behind for three before his fellow opener Najmul Hossain Shanto departed for 17 with victory in sight. Mominul, who scored 13 not out, and Rahim resisted one of the world's finest seam attacks to get across the line, the latter scoring the winning runs with a boundary through backward point.

FULL RESPECT FOR TEAM

Bangladesh had lost all nine of their previous tests in New Zealand but were put into a winning position on day four when four of their top six batsmen struck fifties to earn them a first-innings lead of 130. Man of the Match Ebadot drove home the advantage with a match-changing late spell in which he removed three batsmen at the cost of no runs soon after New Zealand had wiped out the deficit.

New Zealand, winners of the inaugural World Test Championship after beating India last year, are without regular skipper Kane Williamson for the series because of an elbow injury but were still expected to comfortably beat a young Bangladesh side.

"It was obviously a disappointing performance, we weren't at our best," said stand-in captain Tom Latham. "Full respect to (Bangladesh), they certainly outplayed us throughout the five days."

The second match starts in Christchurch on Sunday. REUTERS

FROM VOLLEYBALL TO CRICKET

He used to play volleyball and is in the air force, but Ebadot Hossain announced himself as a world-class cricketer on Wednesday with a scintillating six wickets that set up Bangladesh's historic Test win over New Zealand.

After each wicket, the raw but charismatic 27-year-old fast bowler saluted as the fallen batsman, a nod to his services background. His journey into Bangladesh cricket folklore has been swift, starting as recently as 2016, when he took part in a bowling competition. He was selected as one of three to attend a training camp in Dhaka and by 2019 he was in the Test squad. He was picked several years ago as a volleyball player by the Bangladesh Air Force. "I am a soldier of Bangladesh Air Force so I know how to do the salute. It was a long story, from volleyball to cricket. I am enjoying cricket, representing Bangladesh and the Air Force."



Ebadot Hossain celebrates the wicket of New Zealand's Will Young (not in picture)

SABALENKA FACES SHOCK DEFEAT

Shelby Rogers fights back to upset Sakkari in a repeat of Wimbledon showing

Second seed Aryna Sabalenka suffered a shock exit at the Adelaide International on Wednesday after a 7-6(6) 6-1 defeat to world number 100 Kaja Juvan of Slovenia in the second round, while Shelby Rogers stunned Maria Sakkari 7-6(5) 2-6 6-4.

Sabalenka struggles

World number two Sabalenka, a semi-finalist at last year's Wimbledon and US Open, struggled with her serve, racking up 18 double faults, and committed 49 unforced errors in the shock loss to the 21-year-old at the Australian Open warm-up event.

Juvan won a tight first set after trailing 2-0 and saved a set point at 6-5 in the tiebreak, before racing ahead 3-0 in the second to storm to victory in an hour and a half. "I really enjoyed the first set. I love when matches get tight, when it's competitive and when it's a really tight fight," Juvan said after sealing her place in the quarter-finals. "I was feeling a little bit

DJOKOVIC EXEMPTION SPARKS BACKLASH

Australians reacted with fury on Wednesday after world number one Novak Djokovic received a medical exemption from having a Covid vaccine to play at the Australian Open.

Tournament chief Craig Tiley said the defending champion had been given "no special favour" but urged the Serb to reveal why he got the exemption to soothe public anger.

Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison said that if the reasons for Djokovic's exemption were "insufficient" then the Serb would be "on the next plane home". "We await his presentation and what evidence he provides us to support (his exemption)," Morrison told a press conference. "If that evidence is insufficient, then he won't be treated any different to anyone else and will be on the next plane home. There should be no special rules for Novak Djokovic at all. None whatsoever."

sorry at some points because I ... knew she's not doing the best with the serve and we all know how that feels at one point. I know she can do it better."

Rogers fights back

Rogers beat Sakkari in straight sets in the second round at Wimbledon last year and looked on course for a repeat in Adelaide but lost seven straight games after being 2-0 up in the second set. World number six Sakkari forced the decider but Shelby fought her way back to close out the win in two hours and 18 minutes.

"It's nice to start with a big win like that. I knew it was going to be really tough today," Rogers said. "She's coming off an incredible season last year and she's such a great competitor, so I knew I had to bring my best tennis, whatever that looks like at the beginning of the year." AGENCIES



Aryna Sabalenka

RAMKUMAR-BOPANNA ENTER QUARTERFINALS IN ADELAIDE

India's Ramkumar Ramanathan and Rohan Bopanna entered the men's doubles quarterfinals of the Adelaide International 1 ATP tournament with a hard fought win over their rivals here on Wednesday.

In the ATP 250 men's event, the Indian combination of Ramkumar and veteran Bopanna, pairing up together for the first time on the ATP tour, had to dig deep to stun the eighth seed Amer-

ican duo of Nathaniel Lammons and Jackson Withrow 6-7(4) 7-6(3) 10-4 in a super tie-breaker in the second round.

The Indians will face the winner of the pre-quarterfinal between the French-Monégasque duo of Benjamin Bonzi and Hugo Nys and the Belgian combination of Sander Gille Joran Vliegen.

The Adelaide event is a tune up tournament for the Australian Open, starting January 17 in Melbourne. PH



Rohan Bopanna



Ramkumar Ramanathan

QUIZ TIME!

Q1: What is the national sport of Bhutan?

- a) Volleyball
- b) Tennis
- c) Archery
- d) Badminton

Q2: Thomas Cup is related to

- a) Cricket
- b) Basketball
- c) Badminton
- d) Tennis

Q3: Which sport does the Wimbledon Championship deal with?

- a) Tennis
- b) Table Tennis
- c) Golf
- d) Archery

Q4: When was the first Commonwealth Games held?

- a) 1930
- b) 2002
- c) 1997
- d) 1814

Q5: Dhyan Chand was a legendary ____?

- a) Kabaddi player
- b) Hockey player
- c) Cricketer
- d) Chess Grandmaster



Dhyan Chand

Q6: Which is the largest stadium in India?

- a) Eden Gardens
- b) Narendra Modi Stadium
- c) Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium
- d) Kalinga Stadium

Q7: Where were the first Commonwealth Games held?

- a) Canada
- b) USA
- c) Mexico
- d) Chile

Q8: Who invented the penalty kick in football?

- a) Pelé
- b) Diego Maradona
- c) William McCrum
- d) David Beckham

Q9: The sport "Jallikattu" originates from _____

- a) China
- b) India
- c) Sri Lanka
- d) Bangladesh

ANSWERS: 1. c. Archery 2. c. Badminton
3. a. Tennis 4. a. 1930 5. c. Hockey player
6. b. Narendra Modi Stadium 7. a. Canada
8. c. William McCrum 9. b. India