



# THE TIMES OF INDIA

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STUDENT EDITION

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2022



## BLACK THURSDAY

# PUTIN DECLARES WAR ON UKRAINE

■ Big explosions were heard before dawn in Kyiv, Kharkiv and Odesa as world leaders decried the start of Russia's invasion that could cause massive casualties and topple Ukraine's democratically-elected government

■ Russia says it has neutralised Ukrainian air defences, while Ukraine claims to have destroyed five Russian planes

and a helicopter, when reports last came in

■ More than 40 Ukrainian soldiers and around 10 civilians died in the first hours of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, an aide to President Volodymyr Zelensky informed

■ Residents in Kiev appeared to be filling up on petrol and trying to exit the city via car and rail

■ Ukraine cut diplomatic ties

with Russia after it was attacked

■ Russian forces take control of 2 towns in Luhansk

■ Indian Embassy in Ukraine issues advisory asking Indians to stay where they are and avoid travel to Kyiv

■ Putin ally says Ukraine's demilitarisation only way to prevent war in Europe

\* At the time of going to the press



Russian President Vladimir Putin on Thursday ordered a military operation in eastern Ukraine. Putin made the announcement in a televised speech at the same time as the UN Security Council was urging him to give peace a chance. Putin warned other countries that any attempt to interfere with the Russian action would lead to "consequences they have never seen." He said the order was the consequence of the threats coming from Ukraine, adding that Russia doesn't have a goal to occupy Ukraine. Putin accused the US and its allies of ignoring Russia's demand to prevent Ukraine from joining NATO and offer Moscow security guarantees, adding that all Ukrainian servicemen who lay down arms will be able to safely leave the zone of combat. Minutes after the speech, gunfire was heard in the Ukrainian capital.

Putin's move rebukes months of talks to de-escalate a crisis triggered by the presence of nearly 200,000 Russian troops on Ukraine's border. His orders, West fears, could spark the largest land war in Europe since World War II

## PUTIN'S MARCH SHAKES THE WORLD

► **UKRAINIAN GOVT WEBSITES HIT BY CYBERATTACKS:** The websites of the Ukrainian ministers, and those of the ministries of foreign affairs, infrastructure, education and others, were down

► **OIL PRICES SOARED PAST \$100 FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MORE THAN SEVEN YEARS:** Brent surged to \$100.04 a barrel after the announcement, as concerns grew about a full-scale conflict in eastern Europe. WTI hit \$95.54

► **MOSCOW STOPS TRADING:** The Central Bank of Russia suspended trading in the foreign-exchange markets on Thursday. The ruble plunged to a record low

► **EUROPE WARNS OF AIRSPACE RISKS AROUND UKRAINE:** The European Union

### UKRAINE'S INDIA ENVOY SEEKS PM MODI'S INTERVENTION

Ukraine's envoy to India Dr Igor Polikha on Thursday urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to activate dialogue with Russia amid the ongoing crisis. Polikha said that India has a special relationship with Russia and New Delhi can play a more active role in controlling the situation.

Meanwhile, at the UNSC meeting, India called for an immediate de-escalation of tensions between Russia and Ukraine and cautioned that the situation is in danger of spiralling into a major crisis

Aviation Safety Agency has told air operators of a high risk to civilian aircraft over Ukraine, reminding air operators that "this is now an active conflict zone".

► **GOLD PRICES JUMPED OVER 2%:** A highest in more than a year as investors rushed to safe havens

► **PARIS WHEAT HITS RECORD HIGHS:** Paris wheat futures hit record highs. Russia and Ukraine account for 29% of global wheat exports, 19% of world maize (corn) supplies and 80% of world sunflower oil exports

► **SENSEX CRASHES 2,702 POINTS:** Modi and finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman to discuss economic impact of Russia-Ukraine crisis

## TODAY'S EDITION



Page 2

► The social media dilemma: How to introduce kids to social media and keep them safe



Page 3

► As schools get ready for full-time offline classes, a student relives the good old days



Page 4

► Liverpool narrow gap with Man City in EPL after win over Leeds

PAGE 4

## VIEWPOINT

### Drive to protect mother tongue should become a people's movement: Vice President

Observing that 'language' is a fundamental bond that unites people, Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu on Tuesday said that the drive to protect and preserve the mother tongue should become a people's movement in the country. "If we lose our mother tongue, we will lose our identity," Naidu said. Addressing an event organised by the ministry of earth science on the occasion of International Mother Languages Day on February 21, the Vice President called for tailoring languages to the changing needs of "our times and finding creative and innovative ways to promote them among younger generations." The Vice President also suggested referring to them as 'Indian languages' instead of 'regional languages' signifying their equal status and distinct identities.



NEP-2020 encourages the use of mother tongue in schools and colleges, and seeks to 'Indianise' the education system by making it holistic, value-based and inclusive

A language is the vital, unseen thread that links the past with the present. Our languages are a repository of our collective knowledge and wisdom, which we have amassed over thousands of years. Children should be encouraged to learn the nuances of language through games and activities



M VENKAIAH NAIDU, Vice President

Q: ARE WE MOVING AWAY FROM OUR MOTHER LANGUAGE? SHARE YOUR VIEWS AT [TOINIE@GMAIL.COM](mailto:TOINIE@GMAIL.COM)

### James Mangold to helm biopic on Hollywood legend Buster Keaton

Filmmaker James Mangold is set to direct a biographical drama film based on the life of Hollywood legend Buster Keaton. According to Deadline, Mangold is collaborating with 20th Century Studios to develop the project. Mangold's team is meeting with writers to adapt author Marian Meade's 1995 biography 'Buster Keaton: Cut To The Chase'. The book explores Keaton's often brutal childhood acting experiences, the making of his masterpieces, and his shame at his own lack of education.

■ Often remembered as the Silent Star, Keaton was an actor, comedian and filmmaker, who made many critically-acclaimed silent films, including 'Sherlock Jr', 'The General' and 'The Cameraman' ■ He was famous for his physical comedy with a consistently stoic, deadpan expression that earned him the nickname 'The Great Stone Face'



Entertainment

### Meta bets on short video format, launches Reels globally

Facebook, now Meta, is all set to launch the short video feature - Reels to more than 150 countries, betting big on what its parent company Meta Platform calls the 'Fastest growing content format'. Inspired by the explosive growth of TikTok, Meta launched Reels on Instagram in 2020 and next year on Facebook. The social media giant, which recently lost a third of its market value after a dismal earnings report, has highlighted Reels as a key priority.

■ Facebook has also announced new ways for creators to make money through the Reels features. The company plans to expand its programme to pay creators bonuses to more countries and is testing overlay ads using banners and stickers providing monetisation options for creators



Facebook would also roll out full-screen advertisements between the Reels soon

■ Meta also said it would roll out updates for users to make and see Facebook Reels at the top of the news feed, along with the Watch tab and stories features

### MOODY'S UPS INDIA'S GROWTH FORECAST TO 9.5% FOR 2022

Moody's Investors Service on Thursday raised India's growth forecast to 9.5 per cent for the calendar year 2022 and to 8.4 per cent for the coming fiscal beginning April 1, even as it flagged high oil prices and supply distortions as a drag on growth.

■ In November last year, Moody's had forecast India's economy to expand 7.9 per cent in the 2022-23 fiscal beginning April 1. As per official estimates, the Indian economy is estimated to grow at 9.2 per cent in the current fiscal ending March 31

■ The speed of the recovery from the first lockdown-led contraction in the June quarter of 2020 and subsequently in the June quarter of 2021 during the Delta wave was stronger than expected



## THE TIMES OF INDIA

NATIONAL SCIENCE DAY

Learn how science teaches us some of the most critical life skills.

Your Weekender

FASHION

We celebrate the birthday of the inventor of modern day denim, Levi Strauss, with some amazing facts and trivia on the evolution of 'blue jeans'.

BEAUTY

Why is acne no more just a teen but an adult phenomena too? Find answers at the end of your fork.

MIND MATTERS

What is brain fog and what can you do to clear

STUDENT EDITION

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2022



it up? PLUS: Ever tried distanced self-talk? Apparently it is the most efficient tool to thrive at whatever you do.

BOOKS &amp; MOVIES

Check out some hot new book releases. PLUS: Who is Moon Knight? Let's assess the character and powers of the new superhero who will feature in the new Marvel series.

SPORTS

Cricketers who made a mark in U 19 and eventually made it to team India.





## THE HIJAB CONTROVERSY

### Dress code for girls

XX chromosome comes with its own wardrobe, which schools soberly monitor



SHINIE ANTONY

The devil may wear Prada, but schoolgirls in India don't. Female fashion in classrooms is set by moth-eaten school manuals and high-fiving parents and principals. It all begins at the school gate, where a snitch is stationed to look you up and down, and culminates on the assembly ground where you are called out by name. The walk of shame is to the principal's room for a) skirt too short, b) shirt too tight, c) lack of a slip ... Modesty has always been a woman's job; no rapist should be able to stand in a court and say, 'but her collar button was undone, milord.' The XX chromosome comes with its own wardrobe.

The big bully in the school playground is the uniform seller. He measures you two sizes larger so you can wear it till the day you die and also leaves ample cloth to be let out. Schools gladly swapped skirts for salwar suits when the latter went national. Dupattas were primly pinned to the shoulder or unsightly vests added. An all-female college in Kerala where students had to wear saris suspended whoever wore anything else. A Bangalore college used to employ a dress inspector who personally pulled out tops tucked into waistbands; girls got around by wearing untucked tops just an inch past the belt. In another college where pre-university teenagers must don salwar-kameez, parents are urgently summoned if pants reveal ankle, kurta is kurti and dupatta a stole or scarf. College is not willing to accept that it all shrank in the wash.

There are stray parents who exult in the micro-mini a daughter wears, which is code for 'we are modern western type ji'. But mostly young girls must dash into the mall loo to shed their sartorial sobriety. Some pin their skirts up to keep it cool, some flick the tie askew. By the time daddy comes to pick up, they are back in baggy jeans and T-shirts loose enough to hide a full-term pregnancy.

There is no rest though for those in charge of hemlines and necklines. In this guarding of virtue 24/7, women become each other's unsolicited chaperones. They will suddenly pat your bra strap into place, though it's costlier than the blouse and deserves a little red carpet of its own. Or bend with a tut-tut to tug your sari over your heels. This is India — your morality is directly proportionate to your morality.

Source: TOI Edit



## ONE WORLD, DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES

Explore diversity in vision and figure out how the same topic may be viewed differently by different folks. This is a mirror to society and life

**BAPPI LAHIRI 1952-2022: He banished discontent with disco, another word for achhe din**

# THE MAN WHO LIBERALISED INDIA

INDRAJIT  
HAZRA

India was liberalised a decade before it economically followed suit. If 1991 is considered as Point Zero for economic liberalisation, with PV Narasimha Rao-Manmohan Singh unveiling the Great Reformist Budget, it was 1982 — bookended by the release of 'Namak Halaal' in February and of 'Disco Dancer' in December — that unleashed a brash, unapologetic, in-your-face India. The architect of that India was Bappi Lahiri.

Even his name — from the staid Alokesh Lahiri to the 'daaknaam' Bappi, — is redolent with a rhythm that upends any tradition of treating understatement as a virtue. His music simply enforced the belief, already prevalent but still lacking the confidence, that over-the-top is a taste that one must embrace both to attain as well as to celebrate success in the 'Only Vimal' polyester 1980s that was moving away from elite (Nehru) Gandhian cotton aesthetics.

Kishore Kumar, his mama, was a great influence in this aspect of Bappi's appetite for pulling out all stops both in music and in spirit. The trajectory for Bappi's 1982 was set in the 1970s, an era in which India Inc was still clad in licence-raj era safari suits, angry young men were scowling while delivering lines from 'Deewar'.

In 1976, Bappi's songs for 'Chalte Chalte' got him noticed, with the title



Disco-Verly of India: Bappi Lahiri with Amitabh Bachchan, 1982

song with the words, 'Kabhi alvida na kehna', apparently being one of Kishore's favourite songs. But there was nothing really that made the 24-year-old music director's music stand out in terms of a break from the prevalent R D Burman rollicking sound. 'Namak Halaal' changed all that — 32 minutes 7 seconds into the film and 2 minutes 7 seconds into the song, 'Pag Ghunghroo Baandh', to be precise.

Amitabh Bachchan as the country bumpkin applying for the job of a waiter in a 5-star hotel restaurant being forced to sing and join the dance floor. He starts with a traditional 'Meera bhajan' with filmi dhol, violins and tabla. And then, with the suddenness of an '80s customs dockyard raid, we find Amitabh's pink pagdi and sherwani wearing figure bracketed by a pair of shimmering chains, and hear what we now know as Bappi Lahiri — gui-



**'I went to America in 1979 and there was a big hit film, 'Saturday Night Fever'.... I came back and signed a film called 'Suraksha'.... From this movie, disco music started'**



tar twangs, cardiac-arresting conga drums, and the 'Sa sa sa re ga re ga pa ni ni sa sa sa' sequence (sung by Pandit Satyanarayan Mishra) hitched to an itchy disco beat. By the time we reach Asha Bhonsle singing 'Raat Baaki, Baat Baaki' later in the film, Bappi pulled out the trainer wheels.

#### Kitschy Khichdi

But it was the Babbar Subhash-directed and Mithun Chakraborty-starring 'Disco Dancer' that clinched the deal — unleashing, in Manmohan Singh's words in a not-so-different context, India's 'animal spirits'. All songs from the film — Vijay Benedict singing 'I am a Disco Dancer', Parvati Khan 'Jimmy Jimmy Jimmy Aaja' (stolen from French pop duo Ot-tawan's 1980 'You're OK'), Usha Uthup 'Koi Yahan Nache Nache' (lifted from the English band The Buggles' 1980 hit 'Video Killed the Radio Star') — hit like a massive series of diastolic-systolic beats across the country.

Replying to how he 'created' disco music in India, Bappi told the play-

wright-comedian (and ET on Sunday columnist) Anuvab Pal in the 2011 book, 'Disco Dancer: A Comedy in Five Acts', 'What is the meaning of disco? There is a disc. A big disc. When you play it and it rotates, when they play in nightclubs, that's disco. I went to America in 1979 and there was a big hit film, 'Saturday Night Fever', John Travolta. I came back and signed a film called 'Suraksha'. From this movie, disco music started... well, then 'Disco Dancer' was a massive hit. So that was the birth of disco.'

But Bappi was much more than just about going music-shopping abroad, coming back with an imported style, and then unleashing it on a listenership that couldn't relate to the Bee Gees but could relate to the disco sound of groups like Boney M and Osibisa retrofitted to Hindi filmi gaana.

#### Blingy Basso

Bappi's song from the 1981 film 'Jyoti', Kishore's 'Chidiya Choon Choon', was lifted wholesale from Trinidadian musician Roaring Lion's 1945 hit, 'Mary Ann'. Bappi loved the tune so much that he even used it (without credits) in the song 'Whole Day Whole Night' in the 1991 film 'Yodha'. The original Calypso song even bore the line, 'All day, all night, Miss Mary Ann'. No one knew, no one cared. It was another Bappi Lahiri hit.

Bappi's India paved the way for post-liberalisation India, its celebration of bling — kitsch being trotted out confidently as mirrors to popular taste — its pride in OTT culture where every utterance is exclaimed, and its appropriation culture whether of apps or public figures. Bappi Lahiri liberated India with a happy, infectious flashiness we now take for granted. He banished discontent with disco, another word for achhe din.

Indrajit.Hazra@timesgroup.com | Source: ET Edit

#### THE SOCIAL MEDIA DILEMMA

### How to introduce kids to social media

A few weeks before a TikTok spat between Kanye West and Kim Kardashian had all parents bothered about their children's use of social media. But looking on the positive side, like most controversies, there's always a lesson for every party — even if they are on two polar opposite sides of a debate. The West-

Kardashian case is a useful reminder that, like it or not, all parents must accept that children have digital presences. So, how does a parent guide the child to navigate a space that's so full of dangers? There's no escaping it when some children have social media accounts, some don't. Here are 3 books that could help you tread a difficult path softly...



#### Dot (Age 5+)

Dot, like a lot of little kids, is good with tech, from swiping an iPad to FaceTiming with friends. But when she gets burned out from being plugged in too long, her mom urges her to go play outside. There, she rediscovers the joys of running, painting, and being with friends.



#### Blackout

It's a typical hot, noisy night in the city. A child wants to play a board game, but everyone else in the family is too busy. Then the lights go out — all across the city.



#### Me, Myselfie & I: A Cautionary Tale

For Mom's birthday, her kids are excited to teach her how to take selfies. At first, it's fun for the whole family. Soon, driven to take the perfect selfie, Mom gets obsessed.



books which did not sell even a hundred copies. And therefore the Big Bust. Except, an intelligent man like Bhagat knows very well that publishers are businessmen and businesswomen, they know that they need to stay afloat.

And therefore they cast their net far and wide, they publish all kinds of books; literary fiction is but a small slice of a large loaf.

Westland was run by experienced, professional and committed people at the top, with other enthusiastic and competent people supporting them. That such a firm could be 'seduced' into publishing books which they knew were bound to fail is a bizarre theory. In any case, there never is any guarantee that a book, or any form of art, will be a success.

Movies show the chanciness of success most clearly. A movie which has everything needed to make it a hit, flops. Whereas, the Marathi film 'Sairat', with the usual tired theme of rich girl, poor boy, upper caste, lower caste, and with totally new actors, was a stupendous hit. Truly, you never know.

Literary fiction is hard to define, Bhagat rightly says. And then goes on to define it as a "self-indulgent expression of IIDE gibberish ... [which] nobody wants to buy or read". IIDEs mocked and shamed popular fiction, instead of encouraging it, he adds. How can those who can't sell even a hundred books of their own have any power to encourage others? More confusion, more hatred.

I am saddened that a fellow writer who has done so well for himself exhibits so much hatred for literary fiction, or for any writing. Writers do not compete with one another; each book, I have learnt through the years, has its own readers.

The writer is a novelist | Source: TOI Edit

## WORDPLAY

This week, we focus on another term associated with opinion or opinion building: **conjecture (noun)**

#### Synonyms for conjecture

calculate, call, estimate, figure, gauge (also gage), guess, judge, make, place, put, reckon, suppose

#### Words Related to conjecture

conclude, deduce, extrapolate, gather, infer, reason, understand

#### Etymology

Conjecture derives via Middle English and Middle French from the Latin verb *conicere* ("to throw together"), a combination of *com-* ("together") and *jacere* ("to throw")

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

It's important to make your voice heard.

Send Letters to the Editor  
at [toinie175@gmail.com](mailto:toinie175@gmail.com)



## A case for returning to office this March



HARSH GOENKA

Work-office routine as we knew it consisted of a series of daily rituals. Dress codes, the commute, the exchange of pleasantries at the workplace, informal banter, meetings, bonding with colleagues over tea and coffee, the list is endless. The Covid-19 pandemic abruptly brought this typical work routine to a halt, forcing us to experiment with novel concepts of remote working. Work from home became the new norm. Once the pandemic is over there could be many tempted with the idea that WFH could provide the perfect work-life balance. But the question is, is that the best way forward? And the answer is a resounding NO.

#### 'Culture eats strategy for breakfast'

An important reason for this is a fundamental facet of organisational functioning — work culture. At the root of every organisation is its cul-

Human interaction is the key fuel for every organisation, and we are running short on it...



ture or ethos. The oft-quoted Peter Drucker phrase "culture eats strategy for breakfast" is a testimony to the importance of this all-pervading facet of every organisation. Within its ecosystem, human interaction remains the most significant fuel. The prolonged persistence of the pandemic is beginning to erode this capital and threaten its very existence. How do we prevent this erosion?

One of the recent developments affecting organisations has been the

extremely unusual and high rate of attrition. While there may be many reasons for this, one of the driving forces is the lack of personal interaction and the eventual loss of a sense of belonging. Being together in a common workplace builds unity and helps remove the sense of isolation and makes us feel we are part of something much bigger, having a larger purpose.

In the wake of the third wave, local administrations in cities called

for a partial shutdown and reduced commercial and social activity. At this juncture, it was an unavoidable necessity in order to stem the rapid flare-up in infections. Once we pass this wave, it is important that organisations educate people on the subjective benefits of in-office working because that aspect in spite of being so vital is least understood.

There are some solutions that are worth exploring. One is a hybrid model option where people work remotely for part of the week and at the workplace for the other part. This will help alleviate some of the downsides of WFH. Also, it will help shake off the inertia developed with remote working in the last two years. Another option is to categorise people into those that mandatorily need to work from office and those that can have a more flexible schedule. The advantage of this model is that the core group that are critical to driving the business and are those that come face to face with customers are able to engage in the physical workplace.

A third option, which I personally do not advocate, would be to make it mandatory for all to attend all the time.

The writer is chairman of RPG Enterprises

## ON LITERARY FICTION VS BESTSELLING BOOKS

Each book has its readers, every small slice of the large loaf needs to be published

SHASHI  
DESHPANDE

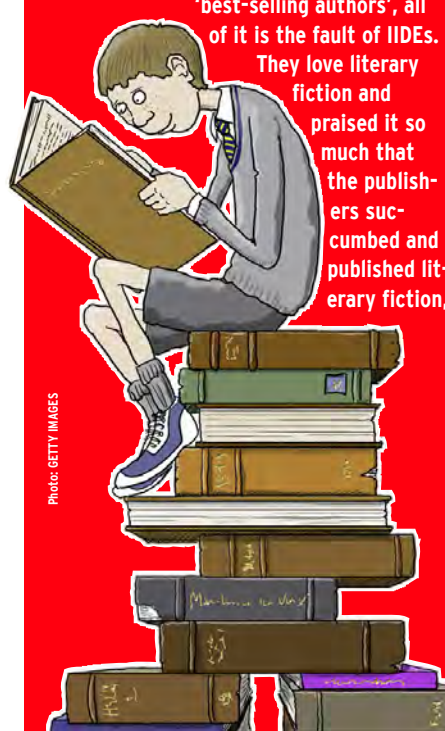
In Chetan Bhagat's recent article in TOI, 'Little Do They Know Us', the 'us' is Bhagat and people like him while 'they' come with an acronym, IIDE (India's Intellectual and Discerning Elite). He goes on to describe IIDEs as people who read newspapers, magazines and books in English, see English films, and have read the classics. So far so good.

Even I can call myself an IIDE because these are the things I have done. But then Bhagat says that IIDEs, in spite of their good English, do not know India, Indians and how Indians think. This is, as Mark Antony said, "the most unkindest cut of all". If I am an IIDE, I need to apologise to my readers for having cheated them, making them think I was writing of the society I lived in and the people I lived among, when I knew nothing about them.

We are further told that IIDEs have a lethal quality, they can destroy anyone whom they seduce. One example that's provided is the recent shutdown of an Indian publishing house, Westland, by its American parent company. We have read many reports about how and why this happened. One of the theories about 'why' is that Westland paid a few bestselling authors such big amounts that it sank.

But according to Bhagat, who has been named by almost everyone as one of these 'best-selling authors', all of it is the fault of IIDEs.

They love literary fiction and praised it so much that the publishers succumbed and published literary fiction,



books which did not sell even a hundred copies. And therefore the Big Bust. Except, an intelligent man like Bhagat knows very well that publishers are businessmen and businesswomen, they know that they need to stay afloat.

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The writer is a novelist | Source: TOI Edit



## FOSTERING strong bonds

**D**elhi Public School Ghaziabad, Meerut Road organised 'Alumni Connect 2022' with an aim to foster strong bonds between alumni, students and the school. RP Sharma, father of the late Major Mohit Sharma graced the occasion as the chief guest.

Principal, Sangeeta Mukherjee Roy welcomed the guests and the alumni and encouraged them to create a network enabling them to remain engaged with their alma mater and help shape its future through myriad programmes and service. The programme commenced with the rendition of 'Ae mere



watan ke logon' as a tribute to the late singer, Lata Mangeshkar, nightingale of India and our defence forces.

Martyr Major Mohit Sharma, an alumnus of 1995 was martyred in action on March 21, 2009 while leading his Bravo Assault team during a count-

er-terrorism operation in Kupwara district. He is the proud recipient of India's highest peace time gallantry award Ashok Chakra. To commemorate his memory and as a tribute to his supreme sacrifice in the line of duty for the honour of the motherland, DPSG has instituted Martyr Major Mohit Sharma Memorial Inter School Football Tournament. Shri RP Sharma declared the tournament open. A friendly cricket match was also played between the alumni and school cricket team.

DPSG in collaboration with Mayank Chaudhary (an alumnus), founder of Youth Network launched the S3 project to address the goal of cleanliness and sanitation in the city and nearby areas. Through active involvement in the project, the school contributes towards making a change in the society and taking the legacy of community outreach and social wellbeing.

## ZONAL ATHLETIC MEET 2021-22

**P**erseverance and tenacity are often the foundational traits of success. When these are combined with dedication and teamwork, the result is outstanding. The students of Mount St Mary's School, Anuj Rana and Aarav Tiwari, wear these very traits on their sleeves as they bagged the first and the second position respectively in the shot put competition of Athletic Zonal Meet organised by Army Public School, Dhaura Kuan from February 21 to February 22.



## Parental love is truly selfless

**D**ayanand Vidya Mandir virtually observed auspicious occasion of Parents' worship day on 14th February.

On this special occasion various activities like greeting parents with self-made creative gifts and cards, writing special message and thoughts, short videos to pay gratitude to the parents were the special attraction of the day.

Special assemblies were held in all classes where students conveyed their respect for the parents by reciting poems, small message in form of their thought and Sanskrit shlokas.

The teachers made the students realise the commitment and sacrifice their parents put in everyday towards



bringing them up in a safe environment and in nurturing their lives. The event culminated with both the parents and children promising to be there always for one another, followed by National Anthem.

## Ryan observes Social Justice Day

**R**yan International School, Sector-40, Gurugram celebrated the Social Justice Day, which includes efforts to tackle issues such as poverty, exclusion, gender inequality, unemployment, human rights, and social protections.

Ryanites of Class V expressed their views on Indian judiciary through declamation competition on the topic 'Importance of social justice in the society'. Social Justice is an underlying principle for peaceful and prosperous coexistence within and among nations.



The theme upholds the principles by promoting gender equality and rights of indigenous people and

migrants. Students mentioned the Indian Judiciary system in detail. They also discussed methods to support social justice. Students gave ideas like; to educate yourself on a particular movement, take action in your community, use proper social media for promotion and support and also volunteering your time for the betterment of the society.

School head Shivali Sharma appreciated the students for their performance and also highlighted the importance of social justice.

## Talent hunt and baby show

**K**DB Public School, Ghaziabad organised the most exciting virtual talent hunt and baby show on February 12 for kids of age group 1.5 to 2.5 years and 2.5 to 5 years for baby show and talent hunt respectively. A number of children participated in the grand event from the city of Ghaziabad

and other states as well.

The talent hunt was grouped into six different categories like show and tell, dancing, singing, shloka/mantra chanting, fancy dress and best out of waste. The school provided the toddlers an online platform to unleash their inherent talent, unique skills, creativity and their imagination.

The virtual tour presented by the school was an amazing experience for the students as well as parents which gave them a sense of connectivity with the school and its environment at the time of this pandemic. The performance of the students in both the events was mesmerising and was appreciated by everyone present there virtually. The results will be declared on February 18 and the children will be awarded on February 19.

## Cambridge school celebrates National Girl Child Day

**C**ambridge School Srinivasapuri in collaboration with District Legal Services Authority, South-East celebrated the National Girl Child Day and International Education Day in the month of January by organising a Panel Discussion and an awareness session on menstrual hygiene for girls.

Gautam Manan, special secretary, Kanwal Jeet Arora, member secretary



and Namrita Aggarwal, additional secretary with District Legal Services Authority South graced the panel discussion as chief guests. The awareness

session was facilitated by Namita, general secretary, Sachhi Saheli.

Students of classes VI-VIII spoke on gender inequality, female infanticide etc. They were inspired by the panelists towards women's emancipation.

Kanwal Jeet motivated the students by sharing his thoughts about the implementation of laws for women's safety. He pointed out that it is imperative to stand as a society to change the mindset of people.

The events culminated with an interactive session wherein the children discussed baseless myths and beliefs. The principal encouraged all to utilise their strengths in achieving the success they deserve.

## A notification that is still a mystery

**I** remember an incident in school in 2019 that left us perplexed and anxious.

A normal class was going on and suddenly we all heard an iPhone notification sound.

We weren't allowed to bring our phones to school in class VIII. And so a search for the phone was launched.

It took totally two periods for the teachers to check every bag and every student's pocket. Everyone had to stand at the edge of the class and then the bags were

checked. The teacher found a button phone in a student's bag, but it had been switched off. Obviously the notification sound did not come from that phone. All the

same, it was confiscated.

But still, everyone was curious to know where the iPhone notification sound had come from?

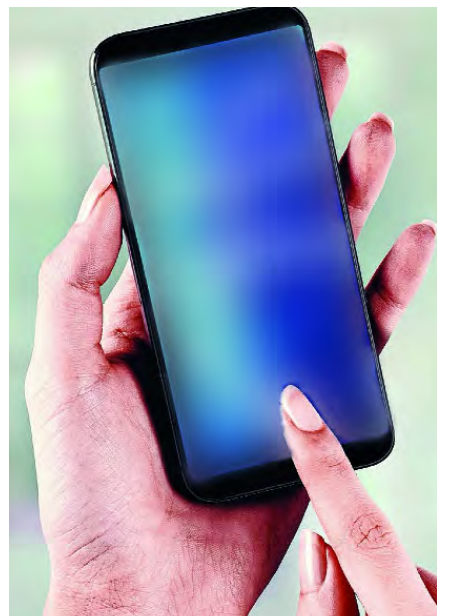
While the search was on, the murmur going around was that someone from our class had done a mimic of the notification sound, in order to disrupt the class. Sadly, another person's button phone was sacrificed for the cause.

I was totally confused. Did someone really fake a notification sound, over which we lost two periods? Or maybe someone

did have an iPhone but wasn't caught? This question still remains unanswered.

But this is a memory I will never forget.

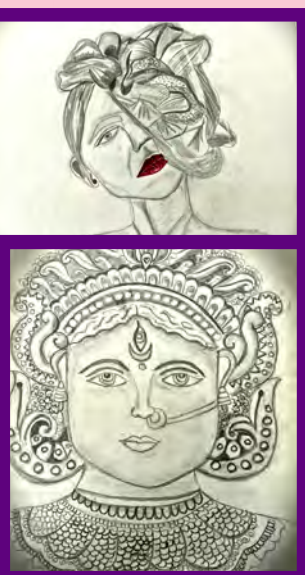
Siddharth Kothari, class X, St Joseph's Boys High School, Bengaluru



## Student Corner



KRITIKA, class XI A, Shaheed Bishan Singh Memorial Sr Sec School, Mansarovar Garden



## Joy returns to Saplings

**T**he children at Saplings International Pre-Primary School, Paschim Vihar breathed fresh air as they resume school adhering to the guidelines of Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA). The silent hallways and empty classrooms reverberated as children returned back to their happy place with hearty laughs and enthusiastic talks.

Learning and fun that had been missing for nearly 24 months surrounded children from all directions as the students took a taste of hands-on



activities with their pupils and teachers in Hybrid mode of learning. Watching shiny eyes peeking over the top of masks, reacclimatising to the building, reengaging positive connections,

was indeed gratifying. The school made all the efforts to confirm the pupils learning in the blended mode is up to speed with their progression so that their growth is not hampered.

The school ensured a safe and healthy environment for the students to thrive by following Covid appropriate behaviour. With physical distancing in every classroom to sanitising stations, all safety protocols adopted by the school worked well for the children. Having a return to in-person learning was a perfect reunion which the students, school and parents were looking for, a step closer to normality.

## Of fond memories and moments gone forever

**A** part of me filled with odd thoughts 'What if I were a photo album', and it sounded like an incredulous idea.

Being pulled out of dusty corners after a long time, as someone flips through (photo album), reminiscing the stories with each picture. People passing me around at gatherings gazing at me, they sat pondering, memories flooding their minds.

Laughter over childhood photos, tears at the sight of someone who will forever remain as pictures or memories.

Kids who find childhood pictures of their mom and dad, would be in for some pleasant surprises and gulfs. For parents whose children

have long grown up, I am a collection of fond memories, of moments when everything was so much simpler. For almost everyone, the thought of me implies a trip down memory lane. Pictures left on the table as mute spectators, as traditions and tales were shared, legacies were passed on. When everything seems awful, I would be a remembrance of



happier times. On blissful days, I would be a place to savour memories.

Karl Lagerfeld once said, "What I like about photographs is that they capture a moment that's gone forever, impossible to reproduce." and that is exactly why I am treasured.

Yes, I will be shoved back into my corner, forgotten once more. But I will be brought out again; on nostalgic days, good days and sometimes just so. I would be encrusted with memories of laughter and tears and long-lost times. And I think sitting in dusty corners is worth all these.

Mydhili Kallemuchikal, class VIII, Delhi Public School, East, Bengaluru



# LIVERPOOL THRASH LEEDS

## TEAM GO WITHIN 3 POINTS OF CITY IN EPL AFTER 6-0 ROUTING



Liverpool's Mohamed Salah, center, celebrates with his teammates after scoring against Leeds United

**L**iverpool hasn't been this close to Manchester City since Christmas Day. The gap is now down to three points in the Premier League title race - which once looked heavily in favour of City - after Liverpool demolished Leeds 6-0 on Wednesday.

### CITY IN GAMES

Liverpool has finally caught up to City in games - they've both played 26 in the 38-

6th goal:  
90th min. (+3)

Photo: GETTY IMAGES

Photo: REUTERS

game season - and nearly on points. With Liverpool still to visit City's Etihad Stadium on April 10, there's little to choose between the top two - the last two winners of English football's biggest prize.

### SIX STRAIGHT WINS

On a run of six straight victories, Jurgen Klopp's team has done just that and looks in prime shape heading into Sunday's League Cup final against Chelsea. "I think for people outside, it is better to have three or six-point gap than to have a 20 or 30-



Anthony Elanga

Photo: AP



Photo: REUTERS

Mohamed Salah



Sadio Mane

Photo: REUTERS

4th goal:  
80th min.  
5th goal:  
90th min.

1st goal:  
15th min.  
3rd goal:  
35th min.

### PENALTY GIFT

Salah's league-high goal total is up to 19 after being gifted two penalty chances by Leeds' frail defense that has now conceded 16 goals. Dallas blocked Robertson's cross with his hand to give away the first spot kick that was dispatched by Salah in the 15th minute. Salah slipped in Joel Matip, marauding forward from center

2nd goal:  
30th min.



Joel Matip

Photo: GETTY IMAGES

back, for the second goal in the 30th and then converted a second penalty five minutes later after Luke Ayling tripped Sadio Mane, who was bearing down on goal.

### TWO LATE GOALS

Mane added two late goals while there was also time for Virgil van Dijk to head home a corner in the third minute of stoppage time. "It can happen, but I didn't expect it," Klopp said of the big win. "It's really difficult to defend man-marking against us for 90 minutes."

### MAN-U, ATLETICO PULL OUT DRAW

■ Manchester United and Atletico Madrid played out a draw in the first-leg of their round of 16 clash in the ongoing UEFA Champions League here at the Estadio Wanda Metropolitano. United and Atletico Madrid played out a 1-1 draw. For The latter, Joao Felix opened the scoring in

the seventh minute of the game. ■ However, United managed to get an equaliser in the 80th minute of the game through Anthony Elanga. ■ On the other hand, Ajax and Benfica also played out a 2-2 draw in their round of 16 clash in the Champions League.

■ Tottenham followed up a win at City on Saturday with a 1-0 loss at next-to-last Burnley four days later in a result that shakes up the relegation fight. Ben Mee headed home a free kick in the 71st minute to earn Burnley a second straight win that moved the team up one place to 18th and to within two points of safety.

# INDIA BEAT NEW ZEALAND

## Harmanpreet gets much needed runs as India avoid whitewash against NZ in 5th WODI

**H**armanpreet Kaur struck a much-needed half-century to get back among the runs as the Indian women's cricket team finally managed to beat New Zealand in the series-ending fifth ODI for a consolatory six-wicket win here on Thursday.

The Indian bowlers, who under-performed prior to the game, finally got their act together to limit New Zealand to 251 for nine in 50 overs.

India chased down the target in 46 overs courtesy Harmanpreet's 63 off 66 balls and Smriti Mandhana's 71 off 84 balls. Skipper

Mithali Raj remained unbeaten on 57 off 66 balls.

### Needed a win

Having lost the one off T20 and first four ODIs, India badly needed a win to gain some momentum going into the ODI World Cup next month.

The spinners, who struggled to provide the breakthroughs, shared seven wickets among themselves on Thursday.

### Valuable time in middle

Star batter Mandhana, who had missed the first three ODIs and the T20 due to an extended stay in quarantine, also got some valuable time in the middle.

The ICC Women's Cricketer of the Year collected nine fours in her 84-ball effort.

### First fifty

Harmanpreet must be relieved after scoring her first fifty in close to 12 months.

She was dropped from the previous game after a prolonged lean patch and came un-

der heavy criticism from former players including ex captain Diana Edulji.

She used the sweep shot effectively to collect a bunch of boundaries before using a pull shot to reach the half-century.

### Need consistent performance

The Indian team needs to be consistent with performances like they put on Thursday if it is to challenge for the world title.

"We have improved over the last few games we have played, that's a good sign before the World Cup. Was important to have the right preparation before the big tournament. Unfortunately, we couldn't get the camps in India due to the rising Omicron cases," said Mithali in the post-match presentation.

"The wicket seemed batting friendly, but the bowlers did well today. Something that we need to work more on is our fielding. When I retire after this tournament, I will see that the squad is far stronger with the upcoming new talent," she added.



Harmanpreet Kaur

Photo: GETTY IMAGES

# INDIANS ENDURE LOSSES AT STRANDJA MEMORIAL BOXING

**I**ndian boxers endured a disappointing day at the 73rd Strandja Memorial Tournament in Sofia, Bulgaria with Sumit Kundu (75kg) and Anamika (50kg) losing their respective preliminary stage bouts.

While Sumit went down 0-5 to the reigning world and European champion Oleksandr Khlyzhniak of Ukraine in the pre-quarters, Anamika lost 1-4 to Algeria's Roumaysa Boualem in the last-eight stage on Wednesday.

So far, Nandini (+81kg) assured India of its first medal by advancing to the semifinals with a dominating win over Kazakhstan's Valeriya Axenova in the last-eight stage on Tuesday.

The tournament features over 450 boxers from 36 countries, including traditional



Sumit Kundu

Photo: TWITTER

powerhouses such as Kazakhstan, Italy, Russia, France and Ukraine, where Russia launched a military operation on Thursday despite global appeal for restraint.

"So far, we have not noticed any impact of the conflict here. Ukrainian boxers competed yesterday and they are competing even today, the weigh-ins have been completed this morning," a member of the Indian contingent told.

## QUIZ TIME!

**Q1:** Who won the first NBA All-Star Most Valuable Player award named after Kobe Bryant?

- a) Anthony Davis
- b) LeBron James
- c) Kawhi Leonard
- d) Kevin Durant

**Q2:** Which club has the most Premier League title wins?

- a) Inter Milan
- b) Manchester United
- c) Tottenham FC
- d) FC Barcelona

**Q3:** Verona is one of just two teams that did not lose any game in 2020 in the top 5 European leagues. Which is the other?

- a. Arsenal
- b. Manchester United
- c. Everton
- d. Manchester city

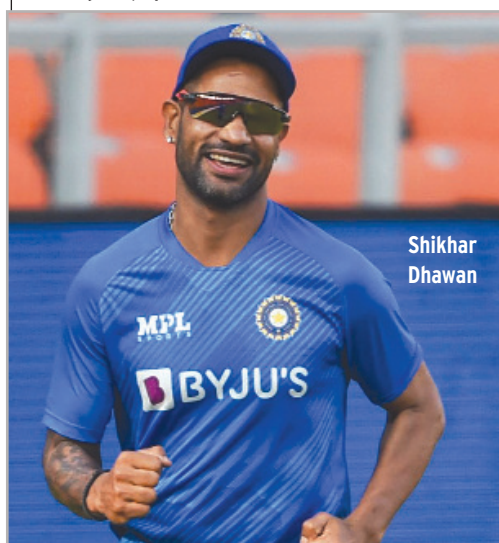
**Q4:** Which player holds the record for most Manchester United goals?

- a. Ryan Giggs
- b. Denis Law
- c. Wayne Rooney
- d. Jack Rowley

**Q5:** Shikhar Dhawan was named Player of the Tournament

for scoring 505 runs at 84.16 with three centuries in the 2003-04 \_\_\_\_

- a) Under-19 World Cup
- b) T-20 World Cup
- c) Ranji Trophy
- d) None of the above



Shikhar Dhawan

Photo: AFP

**Q6:** Former Australian wicketkeeper Rod Marsh retired in 1984 with a then-world record tally of \_\_\_\_ dismissals.

- a. 255
- b. 355
- c. 416
- d. 395

**Q7:** How many IPL matches has Sachin Tendulkar played in his career?

- a. 98
- b. 78
- c. 20
- d. 102

**Q8:** In which year did Jürgen Klopp become Liverpool manager?

- a. 2012
- b. 2017
- c. 2015
- d. 2020

**Q9:** With which team did Glen Maxwell make his IPL debut in 2012?

- a. Mumbai Indians
- b. Delhi Daredevils
- c. Chennai Super Kings
- d. Rajasthan Royals

**ANSWERS:** 1 c) Kawhi Leonard

2 b) Manchester United

3 a) Arsenal

4 c) Wayne Rooney

5 a) Under-19 World Cup

6 b) 355

7 b) 78

8 c) 2015

9 b) Delhi Daredevils