



# THE TIMES OF INDIA

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STUDENT EDITION  
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WEB EDITION

**SPORTS**

## Lionel Messi remains ahead of Cristiano Ronaldo as world's richest footballer

Lionel Messi was denied a potentially money-spinning move away from Barcelona this month after a contract-dispute but the Argentine maestro remains the world's richest soccer player. According to a list compiled by Forbes, Messi's total earnings this year are \$126 million — \$92 million from his salary and \$34 million from endorsements. Cristiano Ronaldo comes in second with earnings of \$117 million.

- Neymar comes in third on the Forbes list (\$96 million with his Paris St Germain teammate, 21-year-old Kylian Mbappe, up in fourth spot (\$42 million)
- The Premier League remains the world's richest domestic soccer league but only two of its outfield players feature in the top 10 of the wealth table—Liverpool's title-winning striker Mohamed Salah in the fifth spot (\$37 million) and Manchester United's midfielder, Paul Pogba (\$34 million) in sixth. Pogba's team mate, keeper David de Gea (\$27 mn) is placed 10th on the list



Lionel Messi

## Lok Sabha passes bill to cut salaries of MPs by 30 per cent

The Lok Sabha on Tuesday passed a bill to reduce the salaries of the MPs for a year by 30 per cent "to meet the exigencies arising out of Covid-19 pandemic". These include the constituency allowance and office expenses allowance. The Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 2020 was introduced in the Lower House on Monday. It will replace the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020.



- On April 5, the Union Cabinet had approved an ordinance to amend the salaries of parliamentarians and ministers, reducing allowances and pension by 30 per cent.
- The Cabinet had also decided to suspend the MP Local Area Development

- (MPLAD) scheme for two years and transfer the amount into the government's consolidated fund
- President Ram Nath Kovind, Vice-president Venkaiah Naidu and Governors too had offered to take the 30 per cent cut in their salaries

According to PRS Legislative research, the reduction of the salaries and allowances of MPs and ministers amounts to savings of around ₹ 55 crore, and the suspension of the MPLAD scheme is expected to save ₹ 7,800 crore

## Apple launches new watches and linked virtual fitness service

Apple Inc On Tuesday introduced a new Apple Watch Series 6 that monitors blood oxygen for \$399 (₹29,320 approx) and a lower-cost Apple Watch SE for \$279 (₹20,502 approx). Apple said both the watches can be pre-ordered, starting Tuesday and will be available on Friday. Apple also introduced a service called Apple Fitness+ powered by its watches that will deliver virtual workouts.



The Series 6 is packed with new capabilities— You can measure blood oxygen levels directly by using the watch, in just 15 seconds ■ Apple said the Series 6 watch's new ability to monitor the blood oxygen level by using infrared light should be used for fitness and wellness purposes. Doctors in India and other countries have used pulse oximeters to remotely check on Covid-19 patients and ensure that their oxygen saturation level does not fall too low. ■ It will come in a new Blue Aluminum, new Graphite, and new Product Red.

The new iPhone series is expected to be announced next month after the company said that its launch will be delayed by several weeks because of the pandemic-related disruptions

**CORONA UPDATE**

## LOUD SINGING CAN spread Covid droplets!



In the fight against novel coronavirus, researchers have found that singing, particularly loud and consonant-rich singing, spreads a lot of aerosol particles and droplets into the surrounding air, increasing the spread of covid.

■ According to researchers, some droplets are so large that they only move a few decimetres from the mouth before they fall, whereas others are smaller and may continue to hover for minutes. In particular, the enunciation of consonants release very large droplets— the letters B and P— stand out as the biggest aerosol spreaders, they say

■ There are reports about the spreading of Covid-19 through choirs singing. Therefore, restrictions have been introduced all over the world to make singing safer. However, there has been no scientific investigation on the amount of aerosol particles and the larger droplets that we actually exhale when we sing

■ While further studies may be undertaken to know more about the validity and the connect between singing and the spread of the virus, perhaps silence is golden in the era of Covid-19

## Now, YouTube takes on TikTok, unveils Shorts Beta in India

Taking on TikTok and a barrage of short-video making apps, Google-owned YouTube has announced YouTube Shorts in Beta version in India.

**TECH BUZZ**

- Shorts will be a new short-form video experience on the YouTube for creators and artists, who want to shoot short, catchy videos, using their mobile phones
- The feature will allow users, initially in India, to upload a 15-second or less short-form video, using a new set of creator tools, including a multi-segment camera, similar to TikTok, speed controls, a timer and a countdown feature.
- The multi-segment camera allows the users to string together multiple video clips into a short clip
- The videos can also be set to music, thanks to YouTube's access to a large library of songs

**NEWS IN BRIEF**

## 'Wonder Woman 1984' release now pushed to Christmas this yr

Warner Bros has once again decided to push back Gal Gadot-starrer, 'Wonder Woman 1984' due to continued uncertainty over the reopening of theatres. A follow-up to the 2017 blockbuster, 'Wonder Woman', the Patty Jenkins-directed superhero feature was set to release on October 2 in the US. It will now hit the theatres on December 25 this year.

The film, which also features Chris Pine, Kristen Wiig and Pedro Pascal, was originally scheduled to release on June 14 but was pushed to August and later to October due to the coronavirus pandemic



ENTERTAINMENT

## FACTOID \$33 MILLION

Price of a rare, flawless 102-carat oval diamond that is likely to fetch at an auction in Hong Kong at Sotheby's on October 5. The egg-shaped stone has the highest colour grade, D, for a white diamond, and is rated Type IIA for its chemical purity and exceptional transparency. The gem was cut from a 271-carat rough stone discovered in Ontario's Victor Mine, in Canada, where production ceased last year



## FACEBOOK FOR CAMPUS!

Facebook Inc will soon let college students create special profiles specifically for connecting with classmates and joining campus events and groups — a return of sorts to the company's early days, when Facebook was exclusive to college students, after Chief Executive Officer Mark Zuckerberg founded the social network in his Harvard dorm.



**BUZZ**

►The product, called Facebook Campus, will be a part of the company's existing service, but users must create a special profile, using their university email address. The profile will be visible only to other students at their college, and students will be able to join groups, find campus events and participate in classroom discussions. ►The idea is to give students a "private, dedicated space to interact with their college life," said Charmaine Hung, a FB product manager. Profiles can include information like a student's major, the dorm they live in, and the classes they're taking ►Hung said, Campus will help students, who aren't actually living at school dorms to stay connected with their classmates and others during these pandemic times

## Quote unquote

India will play a major role in the manufacturing of Covid-19 vaccines in high numbers, as several vaccine companies in the country have the capacity to ramp up the production. The progress on reducing poverty across the world may suffer a set back by a few years due to the pandemic, and if all countries cooperate, and the world is lucky to have some good vaccines, health systems could recover fast

**BILL GATES**, co-founder, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation



Lockdown may have been lifted but things are far from normal. So, if you are planning to meet your friends and family members during these times, keep these five things in mind, while socialising...

### ASK YOURSELF, "IS IT REALLY NECESSARY?"

1 No matter how much you are craving to meet your loved ones, you do need to weigh the risks associated with these interactions. Remember, when you decide to come in contact with someone you are not quarantined with, you always put yourself at the risk of contracting the illness. Before you step out of your house, it is advisable to measure the pros and cons of the meeting, especially if someone belongs to the high-risk category of developing illness from Covid-19.

### DO NOT TAKE OFF THE FACE MASK

2 While wearing a mask or a face cover is certainly non-negotiable at this point of time, it's even more important if you are meeting people, who do not stay in your home. While keeping a distance of at least six feet is probably your safest bet, it is equally important to wear face masks, if you are not able to maintain that distance.



### MEET OUTDOORS, WHENEVER POSSIBLE

3 For starters, it is important to understand that now is not the time for late-night partying and chilling in air-conditioned coffee shops. So, if you are planning to meet your friends, choose a place outdoors, as the wind may help the viral particles to disperse more quickly. Since, being outdoors lowers the risk of contracting the infection, make sure to choose a well-ventilated place to meet your near ones.

### DON'T SHARE FOOD, DRINKS OR UTENSILS

4 The risk here lies in touching your friend's plate or drink and then touching your face afterwards. There may be no major risk in sharing snacks but it is crucial to keep hands clean.

### NO MORE HUGS OR HAND-SHAKES

5 It's best to go for elbow shakes or foot shakes. Always carry a hand sanitizer with you, and avoid touching high-touch areas as much as possible. While there is no foolproof way of completely avoiding the infection, taking these measures will help you minimise the risk.

