



# THE TIMES OF INDIA

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**TODAY'S EDITION**

➤ Know more about 'Soprano' as we trace its origin, categories, sub-categories, and much more  
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➤ Have you ever been embarrassed for any of your acts in front of your classmates? Hear it out from a student  
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➤ Liverpool at the top in CL race after win against Inter Milan  
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**STUDENT EDITION**

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2022



**Matter of a few degrees... but the impact will be DISASTROUS**

**CLICK HERE: PAGE 1 AND 2**

## Ukraine-Russia conflict: Latest developments



**1 MOSCOW DEPLOYS 7,000 MORE TROOPS:** The tensions over a possible Russian invasion of Ukraine continues to simmer as a senior White House official claimed that Moscow's announcement of a troop withdrawal is "false", and the country has added around 7,000 troops at the Ukrainian border.

Europe's worst security risk since the Cold War.

**2 NATO NOT CONVINCED:** The United States of America and NATO also said that there was no sign of Russian troops withdrawing. The Russian military buildup at the Ukrainian border is being described as

**3 US HOPES INDIA TO STAND BY ITS SIDE IF RUSSIA INVADES UKRAINE:** The United States has pinned hope on India that it would stand by its side in case Russia invades Ukraine. "There was a strong consensus in the QUAD meeting that there needs to be a diplomatic – a peaceful resolution to this. One of the core tenants of the QUAD is to reinforce the rules based on international order," US state department spokesperson Ned Price said.

**Indian govt establishes control room, helpline desk**  
The ministry of external affairs (MEA) has established a control room and a 24-hour helpline at the Embassy of India in Ukraine

Time and again, world leaders have stressed the need to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius

## What's the difference between 1.5°C and 2°C of global warming?

**WHAT** The 2015 Paris Agreement commits countries to limit the global average temperature rise to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels, and to aim for 1.5°C. Scientists have said crossing the 1.5°C threshold risks unleashing far more severe climate change effects on people, wildlife and ecosystems. Preventing it requires almost halving global CO2 emissions by 2030 from 2010 levels and cutting them to net-zero by 2050 – an ambitious task that scientists, financiers, negotiators and activists are debating how to achieve and pay for.

**WHERE** ARE WE NOW? Already, the world has heated to around 1.1°C above pre-industrial levels. Each of the last four decades was hotter than any decade since 1850. According to scientists, half a degree means much more extreme weather, and it can be more often, more intense, or extended in duration.

### 1. HEAT, RAIN, DROUGHT

More warming to 1.5°C and beyond will worsen global climate. For example, heat-waves would become both more frequent and more severe. An extreme heat event that occurred once per decade in a climate without human influence, would happen 4.1 times a decade at 1.5°C of warming, and 5.6 times at 2°C, according to the UN climate science panel (IPCC).  
A warmer atmosphere can also hold more moisture, resulting in more extreme rainfall that raises flood risks. It also increases evaporation, leading to more intense droughts.

### 2. ICE, SEAS, CORAL REEFS

The difference between 1.5°C and 2°C is critical for Earth's oceans and frozen regions. At 1.5°C, there's a good chance that we can prevent most of the Greenland and west Antarctic ice sheet from collapsing. That would help limit sea level rise to a few feet by the end of the century – still a big change that would erode coastlines and inundate some small island states and coastal cities.  
But below 2°C and the ice sheets could collapse, with sea levels rising up to 10 metres (30 feet) – though how quickly that could happen is uncertain.  
Warming of 1.5°C would destroy at least



70% of coral reefs, but at 2°C more than 99% would be lost. That would destroy fish habitats and communities that rely on reefs for their food and livelihoods.

### 3. FOOD, FORESTS, DISEASE

Warming of 2°C versus 1.5°C would also increase the impact on food production. "If you have crop failures in a couple of the bread-baskets of the world at the same time, then you could see extreme food price spikes and hunger and famine across wide swathes of the world," said climate scientist Simon Lewis at University College London. A warmer world could see the mosquitoes that carry diseases such as malaria and dengue fever expand across a wider range. But 2°C would also see a bigger share of insects and animals lose most of their habitat range, compared with 1.5°C, and increase the risk of forest fires – another risk to wildlife.

### WHAT IS A PRE-INDUSTRIAL CLIMATE?

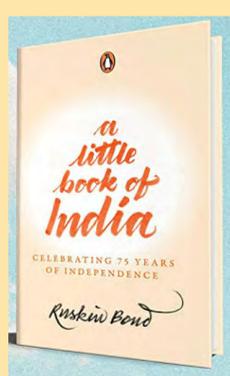
**1** The Industrial Revolution began in the late 1700s in Britain, and spread around the world. But this only marked the beginning of a gradual rise in our greenhouse gas emissions. Various studies have found climate change signals appearing on a global scale as early as the 1830s, or as recently as the 1930s. So, scientists in order to measure global temperature gave a new baseline – a time when fossil-fuel burning had

yet to change the climate – the period 1850-1900, and this is described as "pre-industrial"  
**2** Global temperatures likely increased by more than 0.6°C from the pre-industrial period up to 1986-2005. This means that the year 2015 was at least 1°C warmer than the pre-industrial era and 2016 was more than 1.1°C warmer  
**3** Interestingly, 2015 was likely the first time in recorded history when global temperatures were more than 1°C above pre-industrial levels

## Ruskin 'Bonds' with India in his new book

Jawaharlal Nehru was a man of the people and of many gifts and achievements, says veteran author Ruskin Bond in his new book, and describes Prime Minister Narendra Modi as a man of humble beginnings, whose political acumen and yogic willpower have brought him to the top. In 'A Little Book of India: Celebrating 75 Years of Independence', Ruskin Bond draws on his own memories and impressions to pay homage to the country that has been his home for 84 years. "We have had many outstanding prime ministers – Nehru, Shastri, Indira Gandhi, A B Vajpayee, Manmohan Singh, many others – and now Narendra Modi, a man of humble beginnings, whose political acumen, natural sagacity, and yogic willpower have brought him to the top and kept him there through two general elections," he writes.

**1** Ruskin Bond, who was a schoolboy when India attained independence, recalls how the Tricolour was hoisted and the Union Jack came down at his boarding school in Shimla  
**2** He also talks about Nehru's iconic speech, saying it was a "reflection of his knowledge of world affairs and his familiarity with the English language".



**3** Nehru, for Ruskin Bond, was a "dapper individual, almost always to be seen with a red rose in his buttonhole. He had been to an English public school and University, and spoke and wrote fluently in English. He was a westernised Indian, but also a man of the people. He loved the crowd and addressed them with enthusiasm"

**BOOK**

## France's Claire Denis wins best director at Berlin film festival for 'Both Sides of the Blade'



France's Claire Denis won best director at the 72nd Berlin film festival on Wednesday for 'Both Sides of the Blade', starring Juliette Binoche as a woman torn between two lovers in pandemic-era Paris. Denis, 75, was one of the seven women in competition at the festival, which ranks with Cannes and Venice among Europe's top cinema showcases.

The Berlinale is now the third major European film festival in a row to award its top prize to a woman director, following Cannes and Venice, which did so last year

**Entertainment**

## Now crash helmet, safety harness to be mandatory for children below 4 yrs on motorcycles

The road transport ministry on Wednesday notified new rules to make the use of safety harness and crash helmet mandatory for children below the age of four years on motorcycles. The new rules state that the speed of a motorcycle with a child up to the age of four years being carried on the pillion will not be more than 40 kmph.

These rules will come into force after one year from the date of publication of the Central Motor Vehicles (Second Amendment) Rules, 2022. For children below four years, safety harnesses shall be used for attaching the child to the driver of the motorcycle, the ministry said

### VIEWPOINT



Safety harness is a vest to be worn by the child, which shall be adjustable, with a pair of straps attached to the vest and forming shoulder loops to be worn by the driver. This way, the upper torso of the child is securely attached to the driver

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## River Ravi the most-polluted in the world

Not just the air but also the river flowing through Lahore has been found to be the world's most-polluted, with active pharmaceutical ingredients posing a 'threat to environment and human health', Dawn reported. A study on pharmaceutical pollution of the world's rivers conducted at the University of York detected pharmaceutical particles, including paracetamol, nicotine, caffeine and epilepsy and diabetes drugs in the river.



The study placed waterways in Lahore, Bolivia and Ethiopia among the most-polluted while rivers in Iceland, Norway and the Amazon rainforest fared the best

## THE TIMES OF INDIA

### TRAVEL

There will be two supermoons this year. We tell you the best spots in India to witness the moon in all its glory

### TRIVIA TIME

All you need to know about The Battle of Iwo Jima, a major battle in which the United States Marine Corps and United States Navy landed on and eventually captured the island of Iwo Jima from the Imperial Japanese Army (IJA) during World War II.

### FITNESS

Things to remember before signing up for any form of martial arts.

### ENVIRONMENT

Why we must create butterfly gardens this

### STUDENT EDITION

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2022



**Your Weekender**

spring season. We also tell you how to do it. PLUS: Find out how to green your skincare routine. We get you a starter pack!

### BOOKS & MOVIES

Are you indistractable? With the exam season on in full swing, we explore a few strategies that may help you stay consistent with studies. PLUS: Best Cold War Movies.

### SPORTS

Everything to learn about the fast-paced yet simple game of Kho Kho.



LET'S TALK ABOUT...

## Scream Like a Mother!

## US MOMS GATHER IN FIELD TO SCREAM AND RELEASE STRESS

## WHY WERE THEY SCREAMING? DID SOMEONE HURT THEM?

The pandemic did, actually. These are mothers of young children, many under the age of five years, in the US who gathered in a field to scream because they were just so fed up.

## SOUNDS LIKE A TERRIFIC IDEA!

Right? It was organised by a woman who was a therapist, yoga teacher and mom herself, after some of her clients suggested it, so that they could vent.



## WHAT HAPPENS AT THESE 'SCREAMATHONS'?

It is fairly simple – a few rounds of some regular, loud screaming, then a round of good ol' fashioned swearing, another of screams or shouts and then a last yell in honour of those moms who were too busy to attend.

## PRETTY COMPREHENSIVE! WHY MOMS OF JUST YOUNG KIDS THOUGH?

In the US, the under-five are not eligible for vaccination yet so that was one reason life seemed to be full of uncertainty for their mothers, more so than other age groups. Then all the general anxiety around the pandemic, the sense that it seems to be lasting forever – all those familiar feelings.

## WHAT DID THE ATTENDEES THINK?

They were elated, according to reports. They said it felt very liberating to just let it all out and not care, for once.

## IT'S AN IDEA WHOSE TIME HAS COME

Indeed. It could be added to our new ambitious mental health programme, along with the tele counselling centres announced in the Budget recently. I'm sure the moms here are no less fed up!

TEXT: INDULEKHA ARAVIND; SOURCE: ET 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

READ FULL STORIES ON T.OI WEBSITE

LATA MANGESHKAR 1929-2022

## The Voice That Moved India



ANIRUDHA BHATTACHARJEE

There was a time when music in India was identified with a host of singers. Favourites would change with region, language, economic status and demographic profiles, even religion. Then came Lata Mangeshkar.

Even the doyens of classical music were unanimous in their praise for Lata. Bade Ghulam Ali's much-quoted words, 'Kambakth kabhi besuri nahi hoti... kya Allah ki den hai' (Bloody hell, she's never out of tune... what a gift from Allah), were not apocryphal. It is something the Hindustani classical fraternity of-



ten fighting internecine wars, agreed on unwaveringly.

Lata never sang in the 'pure' classical style. Hers was a genre considered 'cheap' by the people who mattered. They would have to eat their words – which information and broadcasting minister BV Keskar also had to do after he banned Hindi film songs (along with cricket commentary) on All India Radio in 1952, leading to the birth of Radio Ceylon's 'Binaca Geetmala,' a programme dedicated to Hindi film songs every Wednesday, the same year, and to the formation of AIR's Vividh Bharati in 1957.

Mangeshkar started singing onstage from age 9, going on to record songs till she was 89, an incredible stretch of 80 years. One mustn't for-



A few songs by Lata would act as a security blanket for a film producer. Heroines would insist on her being their playback singer, some even including it in their contracts

get that at 20, she was possibly India's most familiar singing voice, with listeners sending postcards to AIR asking for the name of the singer of 'Aayega Aane Wala' from the 1949 film 'Mahal'. By the time she was in her mid-20s, Lata was a favourite. Composers would consider themselves blessed to record with her. Even OP Nayyar, the only famous composer of the golden age of film music who never sought her musical services, would mention that Lata and composer Madan Mohan were a combination like no other.

A few songs by Lata would act as a security blanket for a film producer. Heroines would insist on her being their playback singer, some even including it in their contracts. It was not just because she had a wonderful voice, but also because she created a style that was completely her own – modern, yet bearing a traditional touch.

With Lata behind the microphone, nasal twangs and over-the-top emotional style became a thing of the past. She was no longer the 'desi Noor Jehan', referring to the iconic pre-Independence Indian and Pakistani playback singer. Lata became the voice of a new India, where melancholy could be embodied in soft but bold notes, and where high notes need not be weepy or screechy.

Lata was perhaps the first female singer in Hindi cinema who made a habit of hitting notes in a straight-

adage 'form is temporary, class is permanent'.

While the 1970s-80s witnessed batons changing hands, Lata remained the singer of choice. There are stories of her involvement in broken relationships and acrimony-laden fights. Her personal life was often scrutinised threadbare, people forgetting that navigating through the Cretan maze that is the Hindi film industry was no mean task. This was expounded best by her favourite fellow singer, Kishore Kumar, whose admiration for her dedication was profound.

There is little to demarcate between a Lata Mangeshkar recording and her singing at a live event. She would replicate the notes and nuances of the former precisely in the latter. Her expertise at singing in multiple languages with unfailingly good diction spoke volumes of the student in her, underlining her eagerness to internalise emotions in dialects that were not her native Marathi, Konkani, and Hindi.

Over the last few years, there were more than a few premature Lata Mangeshkar obituaries written and kept ready. It was perhaps divine intervention that Goddess Saraswati chose her favourite disciple to come along with her on the day of heravisarjan. Call it poetic justice.

The writer is co-author of 'RD Burman: The Man The Music' Source: ET EDIT



Mangeshkar (second from right in the picture, seated with her mother, Shevanti, and her brothers and sisters) started singing onstage from age 9, going on to record songs till she was 89, an incredible stretch of 80 years

## RAHUL BAJAJ 1938-2022 An intimate salute to a brave, industrious, larger-than-life presence



OMKAR GOSWAMI

On Saturday, India lost a corporate colossus, and I a long-standing guru, friend and elder brother. A supremely independent man with a powerful, larger-than-life physical presence, Rahul Bajaj was suffering from rapidly declining health over the last few months. We prayed that a man such as he not be subjected to the indignities of artificial life support. He passed away – regrettably not at home, but with as much dignity as possible at Ruby Hospital in Pune.

I have known Rahul since 1978, worked very closely with him since 1997, served on boards of some of the companies he chaired, often argued till the cows came home, confidentially shared details about many things under the sun and, all the while, learned so many different things from him over the years. Here are some memories.

## Well Read, Read Well

In 1996, Tarun Das, director general of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), asked me to join a committee headed by Rahul to draft a code on corporate governance. I prepared one at par with best international standards and presented it for discussions with a gnawing concern that an industry association would have little

## THE LION HAS DEPARTED

truck with most of these. That's when Rahul came into play.

Over three consecutive days at his office in Akurdi, Pune, from early afternoon till late evening, he meticulously went through the document inserting several scores of corrections scribbled in his tiny hand writing, running helter-skelter over the pages. Some we agreed upon instantly, others we argued about. But at the end of it, the draft was far superior to what I had originally written – inform, structure and content. Thanks to Rahul.

At the end of it, when I asked him, 'So, how will you sell these 'revolutionary' ideas to your membership?' he answered, 'Leave that to me, young man.'

And he did so with such presence and panache that the document became India's first comprehensive corporate governance code, almost all of which was subsequently incorporated by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi).

Three years later, when I was in CII, Rahul, by a curious quirk of fate, was elected for the second time around as its president. It never happened before, nor since. During that year, I had to interact with him very closely and often accompany CII delegations with him. That's when I got to know him better, and when he began to tutor me on many things under the sun. Here are some less-known vignettes of Rahul.

## TOLL LINE OF NO CONTROL

SANDEEP ADHWARYU

GANDHI REUNITES WITH A GANDHIAN



Rahul, now who will take care of my two wheeler down there?

First, the speed and meticulousness with which he read and corrected drafts was second to none. Having interacted with Rahul on hundreds of such drafts covering various topics, I concluded that he must have been a great copy editor in his previous life. With neither spectacles nor reading glasses, he is the only man I know who would speed-read any page typed in 10-points single space and unerringly mark all the typos as well as grammatical and syntactical errors in a trice.

Second, all who knew Rahul can vouch for his unquenched curiosity, love for facts and debates. There is nothing he loved more than an argument. And if the debate went against him, Rahul would be first to acknowledge it with grace.

## No Dieting for Body, Copy

Third, a joke that he and I often shared was that Rahul must have failed the precis question in Class 7. Remember the one where you had to rewrite 200 words to 100 or 50? With great gusto, Rahul could dictate something that, with all the qualifiers that went through his mind, could turn 200 words to 400. Without even trying.

He never carried an iota of malice. Towards anyone. In the last 30-odd years, I had never heard him speak spitefully of any person – though he was observant enough to be uproariously catty in private company. Rahul also had friends across society, not just businessmen. On the one hand, he was the Indian delegation's hero at Davos. On the other, he got the driver, who was always at his service in Davos to accompany him, to spend time as his guest in Pune.

I will forever remember Rahul's broad smile, his open laugh, his embarrassing inability to go on any diet worth the name, and his knack to take a joke on himself, with genuine appreciation. He was loath to praise his family. But, in the privacy of his living room at Akurdi, he was incredibly proud of his two boys – for Rajiv with Bajaj Auto and Sanjiv with Bajaj Finance and the insurance companies. And what a dancer he was! I have not seen anyone doing a close dance as well as Rahul. With a style and swing that was, and is, bereft of most Indians of his time, and after.

Tarun Das and I spoke when the news of Rahul's death reached us. He was very close to Rahul, and began by saying, 'The lion has departed.' That's the most fitting tribute to Rahul Bajaj. There will never be another like him. In every way.

The writer is chairperson, Corporate and Economic Research Group (CERG) Advisory Source: ET EDIT

## JUST IN JEST

An 8-year-old writer's 'book' being a 'library hit' has a lesson for publishers

## Horse Before Cart, Readers Before Books



Over the last week, a certain section of the English-language publishing and books – talking (not necessarily books-reading) world expressed anguish over the shutdown of a publishing house. Theories about its closure continue to be in the air like spring pollen. But one fact went relatively unspoken about: the fact that not enough people bought its books for it to break even, never mind turn a profit – not under the Tatas that owned it since 2008, not under Amazon that owned it since 2017. The challenge, not just for the soon-to-be-defunct publisher but all other existing ones (especially in English language) in India, is whether there are enough people who buy books, who have a book-reading habit?

If nothing else, here's an inspirational tale from faraway Idaho, US, if it helps. The 8-year-old Dillon Helbig wrote a Christmas adventure story in his notebook

and during a visit to the local library – yes, libraries still exist in book-reading cultures – he slipped in his 81-page 'book' in one of the shelves. This was not a famous writer, or even a published one. And, yet, days after its surreptitious entry into the library, 'The Adventures of Dillon Helbig's Crismis' has a 56-person waitlist of readers at the library. Moral of the story? First ensure there are enough readers, then produce books. The other way round gets very tricky.



PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES

## Piya Bina, Piya Bina Basiya Baaje Na...



It was always a high-pitched voice – or, as producer Sashadhar Mukherjee, to whom Lata Mangeshkar's guru, music director Ghulam Haider first introduced her, described as a 'too thin' a voice – that enthralled not just a nation, but anyone with a taste in music. If Noor Jehan was her vocal role model at the start of her career as a singer in the cage-free India of the 1940s, Mangeshkar came into her own over the decades that followed. Her soprano and style of singing straddled both the 'traditional' and 'modern,' making her the darling of Hindi movie 'playback' songs as cinema in this country also matured with her. That her first hit, 'Dil Mera Toda, O Mujhe Kahin Ka Na Chhoda' was from a different era – the 1948 Nazir Ajmeri-directed 'Majboor' – only shows the power and the duration of the spell she cast on the very notion of the song for over 70 years.

'Filmi geet' being synched to films, it took 'Aayega Aanewaala' in the 1949 Kamal Amrohi-directed film, 'Mahal', for Mangeshkar to be 'listened to' and noticed for the talent she was via Madhubala. The rest, as they say, was sheer melody. The Naushad-composed 'Pyar Kiya To Darna Kiya' from K Asif's 1960 'Mughal-e-Azam', again with Madhubala on screen, sealed her reputation as the 'Nightingale'. In the 1960s and 1970s, Mangeshkar was Hindi song, perhaps most potentially, magically in the 1973 Hrishikesh Mukherjee film 'Abhimaan'. With her silence, music is now bereft of a beloved, piya bina...

## WORDPLAY

Considering, we are paying a tribute to the Nightingale of India, Lata Mangeshkar, what could be more befitting than to learn about a term or a word that's related to music?

## SO, THIS WEEK'S WORD IS SOPRANO

What does it mean?

Soprano, plural sopranos is defined as: a) the highest singing voice. Examples in sentences are... "a piece composed for soprano, flute, and continuo" "a female or boy singer with a soprano voice." "a part written for a soprano voice." b) an instrument of a high or the highest pitch in its family. Example... "a soprano saxophone"

## Etymology

The word 'soprano' comes from the Italian word sopra (above, over, on top of), as the soprano is the highest pitch human voice, often given to the leading female roles in operas. The term 'soprano' is also based on the Latin word 'superius' which, like 'soprano', referred to the highest pitch vocal range of all human voice types. The word 'superius' was especially used in choral and other multi-part vocal music between the 13th and 16th centuries.

## Did you know?

Within the soprano voice type category are five generally recognised subcategories: coloratura soprano, soubrette, lyric soprano, spinto soprano, and dramatic soprano.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

It's important to make your voice heard.

Send Letters to the Editor

at [toiinlet75@gmail.com](mailto:toiinlet75@gmail.com)

