



# THE TIMES OF INDIA

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**TODAY'S EDITION**

➤ As the race for the Rashtrapati Bhavan begins, find out how the President of India is elected

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➤ Here's a simple DIY hanging pot for those with a green thumb. Use it to beautify your balcony or that favourite corner of your home

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➤ India defeat Ireland by 4 runs in last T20I to register victory

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**STUDENT EDITION**  
THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 2022



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## CBSE, UNICEF to equip teens with new-age skills

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), UNICEF and YuWaah are collaborating to make 21st century skills accessible to school students, according to officials.

Generation Unlimited or YuWaah, supported by the UNICEF, is a platform to bring young people together with the private sector, governments, and international and local organisations to turn them into active and engaged citizens.

In continuation of the ongoing collaborations on life skills, CBSE, UNICEF and YuWaah will work together on career guidance as well as enabling access and engagement of students in volunteering opportunities.

According to officials, the meeting also marked agreement on the roll-out of the Passport to Earning (P2E) initiative for CBSE students, wherein they shall be up-skilled with key 21st century skills mapped to CBSE's employability skills curriculum. Based on the pilot, the initiative will be

"The National Education Policy (NEP) has laid a lot of stress on moving from rote learning to skilling. It also recommends instilling skills in students, right from the school level. **Passport to Earning** is one of the initiatives supported by the Board towards achieving this goal. In time, we may explore integrating P2E with the Skill Hubs Initiative of the Central government."

reach all students, including scaling teacher training and capacity building to enable the same. According to Yasumasa Kimura, UNICEF Representative in India, CBSE is one of the most important stakeholders to deliver 21st century skills to young people at scale.

## CUET SYLLABUS UNCERTAINTY haunts aspirants

Mayur Bansal enrolled himself in a coaching institute to prepare for the Common University Entrance Test (CUET) as soon as the requirement for passing the test for admission to university was announced in December last year. Still, the 17-year-old is not very confident about the exam, which he has to sit for in another few weeks. His worries are about the sort of questions he will have to answer and the topics he might not have studied in classes XI and XII. Bansal's concerns are shared by students from both private and government schools.

Bansal himself appeared for his Class XII commerce CBSE exams as a student of MM Public School in Pitampura. "I am taking coaching only for the general aptitude test. One really doesn't know about the stream-specific subjects as certain

"We don't study NCERT, so I am in panic about whether that will put me at a disadvantage. Also, with multiple-choice model, I wonder if there will be negative marking," **AYUSHMAN TALUKDAR, GRADE 12**

portions were omitted due to the shortened syllabus caused by Covid-19," said Bansal, who wants to study in Delhi University.

Navya Seth, humanities student at TIL Public School, Dwarka, sought help in this regard from her teachers. "They told me I should first be thorough with the topics I had studied in Class XII. But I feel that the National Testing Agency should have at

least provided us with sample papers," said Seth, who will write the exams for four arts subjects in CUET. Since she plans to seek admission in DU, Ambedkar University, Delhi and Agra University, she will not appear for the general aptitude test since these universities do not require a score for this.

Like Seth, Aryan Singh, a science student of Birla Vidya Niketan, too hopes NTA will allow mock tests and provide sample questionnaires. Most students want NTA to release the detailed schedule for CUET, the announcement having only said that the exams would be held between July 15 and August 10. **TNN**



## Akash Ambani takes charge at Reliance Jio



Mukesh Ambani resigned from the board of his group's telecom arm, Reliance Jio and handed over the reins of the company to elder son Akash, a step seen as succession planning by the 65-year-old billionaire.

In a stock exchange filing, Reliance Jio Infocomm said the company's board at a meeting on June 27, "approved the appointment of Akash M Ambani, non-executive director, as chairman of the board of directors of the company."

This comes after his father resigned with effect from close of working hours on June 27, it said.



## Roman-era mosaic back at Tel Aviv

➤ Israel dedicated a new museum near Tel Aviv to a magnificent Roman-era mosaic returning to its original home after years of touring the world's top museums.

➤ A series of 1,700-year-old Roman mosaics have returned home to Israel, where it went on display for the first time.

➤ The mosaics were first discovered in the central city of Lod in 1996 but the Israel Antiquities Authority only fully unearthed the well-preserved artworks in 2009.

➤ The collection stretches 17 metres by nine metres. The mosaics feature a menagerie of animals, from fish and fowl to beasts that would have been exotic to ancient residents of Lod: an African elephant, rhinoceros and giraffe.

➤ Archaeologists believe the mosaics adorned an affluent villa in the 3rd or 4th centuries, after Lod was rebuilt as the Roman city of Diopolis.

## JUNE 30

### INTERNATIONAL ASTEROID DAY

In December 2016, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution, declaring June 30 International Asteroid Day in order to "observe each year at the international level the anniversary of the Tunguska impact over Siberia, Russian Federation, on June 30, 1908, and to raise public awareness about the asteroid impact hazard."



The day aims to raise public awareness about the asteroid impact hazard and inform the public about the crisis communication actions to be taken at the global level in case of a credible near-Earth object threat.

- 1** Near-Earth objects (NEOs) represent potentially catastrophic threats to our planet. NEO is an asteroid or comet, which passes close to the Earth's orbit.
- 2** According to NASA's Center for NEO Studies, there are over 16000 Near Earth Asteroids discovered.
- 3** The Tunguska asteroid event in Siberia, Russian Federation, on 30 June 1908, was the Earth's largest asteroid impact in recorded history.

## #WHAT'S TRENDING

### HISTORY

#### Heil Humbug! Hitler, X'mas grinch?

Adolf Hitler hated Christmas, according to a letter he sent to composer Wagner's daughter-in-law. The candid letter from the Nazi leader is expected to fetch £17,000 at an auction in Spain on July 13. Hitler told his British-born friend Winifred Wagner the festive period was "a season of sorrow". Weeks later, he was appointed Chancellor of Germany. Once in power, the Nazis tried to change the lyrics of Christmas carols - so they praised Hitler instead.



### PETS

#### 'World's Ugliest Dog' is Mr Happy Face

After a close competition, a 17-year-old rescue dog named Mr Happy Face has been named the World's Ugliest Dog. Mr Happy Face, a Chinese crested-chihuahua mix, won the annual title at the 2022 World's Ugliest Dog contest in Petaluma, California. Mr Happy Face was adopted from an animal shelter by Jeneda Benally, a musician from Arizona in August 2021. According to Benally, she decided to adopt a dog during the pandemic. When she visited the animal shelter, the staff told her about an old dog who was rescued from a hoarder's house. The dog was a survivor of neglect and had health problems.



### MOVIES

#### Top Gun: Maverick 'Cruises' to \$1bn

Top Gun: Maverick passed \$1 billion in global ticket sales, according to Paramount Pictures, becoming the highest-grossing film ever for actor Tom Cruise and marking the best year for the studio since 2014. The film has grossed more than \$520 million in North America and more than \$486 million internationally, Paramount said Monday in an email. It's the biggest movie for the studio, part of Paramount Global, since 'Transformers: Age of Extinction' in 2014.



#### 'ARCHAIC MINDSETS ABOUT COLOUR MUST CHANGE'

Formula One great Lewis Hamilton said "archaic mindsets" have to change after retired champion Nelson Piquet reportedly used a racial slur against him. Hamilton's comments came after F1 and FIA condemned racist language. "It's more than language. These archaic mindsets need to change and have no place in our sport. I've been surrounded by these attitudes and targeted my whole life," Hamilton tweeted. The only Black driver in F1, Hamilton is a seven-time world champion.

## Civics

## Race On For RASHTRAPATI BHAVAN as Prez Kovind tenure ends



## TALKING POINTS IN CLASSROOM

### WHAT ARE THE QUALITIES THAT YOU WISH TO SEE IN PRESIDENT OF INDIA

- Students have to write down the qualities of leadership needed to become the President. For this, ask them to study 14 Presidents of India over 70 years and who made the maximum impact and why.
- Students have to make a chart of each one's tenure, highlighting their landmark achievements and qualities
- Also, discuss with students about Presidential powers and which President used them effectively

**TEACHER PROMPT:** Take students to this link: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/presidential-election-apj-abdul-kalam-prefers-teaching-to-becoming-president/articleshow/14333906.cms>

Now ask students out of all Indian Presidents, who inspired them most?

**ACTIVITY:** Write a goodbye note to President Ram Nath Kovind whose tenure ends on July 25, 2022



**B** JP candidate Draupadi Murmu will take on opposition nominee Yashwant Sinha for the upcoming 15th presidential election which is scheduled to happen on 18 July. While Murmu started her political career as a councillor, and later, became the first woman Governor of Jharkhand, Yashwant Sinha, former IAS officer, joined active politics in 1984. He was appointed All-India General Secretary of Janata Party in 1988 and was elected a Member of the Rajya Sabha in 1988.

The polls will be held on July 18 and the result will be declared on July 21, the Election Commission has announced

## How President is elected

- The President is elected by an electoral college comprising elected members of both Houses of Parliament and Legislative Assemblies of state and UTs of Delhi and Puducherry.
- So the electoral college has 776 members of Parliament (543 from Lok Sabha and 233 from Rajya Sabha, as well as 4,809 members of state legislative assemblies. The value of electoral college is 10,86,431 votes. The value of the vote of each elector (MP/MLA) is pre-determined. For each MP, the value is fixed at 708. For an MLA, the value is determined by a formula involving the population (based on the 1971 Census) of the state he or she represents. Hence, the value differs from state to state.
- Being the most populous state, each MLA of Uttar Pradesh carries the highest value of 208 among all states. So the 403 MLAs from UP have a value of 83,824 in total. The 80 MPs from the state have a value of 56,640. This means that the overall value of votes from UP is 1.4 lakh, giving them 12.4 per cent weightage

## When a picture speaks...



Visitors view 'Spot', a quadruped robot developed by Boston Robotics, during a presentation to the media at the Archaeological Park of Pompeii, near Naples, southern Italy, recently. Spot is one of the latest monitoring operations of the archaeological structures, capable of inspecting the smallest of spaces in complete safety, gathering and recording data useful for the study and planning of interventions, to improve both the quality of monitoring of the existing areas, and to further our knowledge of the state of progress of the works in those areas undergoing recovery or restoration, and thereby to manage the safety of the site, as well as that of workers.

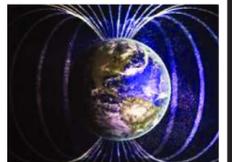
Think of a caption kicker and send it to [toinie175@gmail.com](mailto:toinie175@gmail.com)

## Geography

## 'Earth's magnetic poles not flipping'

The Earth's magnetic poles are not heading towards a reversal, as speculated, scientists have found. During the past 180 years, Earth's magnetic field strength has decreased by about 10 per cent. **SIMULTANEOUSLY, AN AREA WITH AN UNUSUALLY WEAK MAGNETIC FIELD HAS GROWN IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC OFF THE COAST OF SOUTH AMERICA. THIS AREA, WHERE SATELLITES HAVE MALFUNCTIONED SEVERAL TIMES DUE TO EXPOSURE TO HIGHLY CHARGED PARTICLES FROM THE SUN, IS CALLED THE SOUTH ATLANTIC ANOMALY.**

These developments have led to speculation that we may be heading for a polarity reversal. However, the new study, suggests this may not be the case. Geologists from Lund University in Sweden stitched together evidence stretching back 9,000 years that suggests the current changes aren't unique, and that a reversal may not be in the cards after all. The Earth's magnetic field acts as an invisible shield against the life-threatening environment in space, and solar winds that would otherwise sweep away the atmosphere. But, the magnetic field is not stable, and at irregular intervals at an average of every 200,000 years polarity reversals happen. This means that the magnetic North and South poles swap places. "We have mapped changes in the Earth's magnetic field over the past 9,000 years, and anomalies like the one in the South Atlantic are probably recurring phenomena linked to corresponding variations in the strength of the Earth's magnetic field," said Andreas Nilsson, geologist at Lund University in Sweden. The results are based on analyses of burnt archaeological artefacts, volcanic samples and sediment drill cores, all of which carry information about the Earth's magnetic field.



# LESSONS FROM THE WORLD

As students, while it is important to know about what's happening around the world, what is more essential is to have an in-depth perspective of events that will help you build your skill sets. Be it political, social, economic, climatic events, Times NIE presents you handpicked, curated news that will be of help to you in the classroom and give you an edge over others

## Film Studies

## Meet Ms MARVEL and what makes her a sensation



**M**s Marvel comes to our screens via Disney+ today with lofty fan expectations, following other critically acclaimed Marvel shows such as WandaVision and Loki. The online buzz around the series and glowing reviews from critics ahead of its release point to Disney having another hit on their hands. However, success for this hero wasn't always guaranteed.

### HOW MS MARVEL IS CELEBRATION OF DIASPORA

**A FIRST:** In 2013, when Marvel announced that they were reimagining the comic book character of Ms Marvel – originally a

blonde superpowered military hero – as a Muslim Pakistani-US teenager called Kamala Khan, it was considered a controversial and risky proposition. Especially so, when comic books had male superheroes.

**2 HOW IT WAS DEVELOPED:** Yet the performance of the Ms Marvel comic books demonstrated otherwise. "Ms Marvel almost immediately became a hit comic and one of the biggest sellers online," says Dr Mel Gibson, an associate professor at Northumbria University and a comics scholar. "It absolutely leapt in sales to what could be considered non-traditional comic book readers – such as females, Muslims, or Pakistani Americans for ex-

ample. The idea of who reads comics and how they read them was changing. It helped draw in new folk and diversify the fan base."

**3 TEEN DRAMAS:** While the comics never shy away from her religion or culture, these aspects don't define Kamala's whole identity. She is your everyday, regular teenager – who happens to be Muslim, who happens to be Pakistani American, and who happens to be a superhero. She deals with school bullies and inappropriate crushes. She has her own hopes, dreams and passions; her own adversities, insecurities, and obstacles to overcome – things many of us can relate with.

Text source: Mohammad Zaheer, BBC Culture

### NEWSMAKER of the week



### LESSON PLAN

- List 10 movies that you think are culturally inclusive
- Build a superhero character and write a screenplay. Ensure that there is enough inclusivity in the script



## TEACHER PROMPT



### LESSON PLAN

- Do you know? Geologists studied magnetic changes using clay pots that have been heated up to over 580 degrees Celsius, volcanic lava that has solidified, and sediments that have been deposited in lakes or in the sea.