



# THE TIMES OF INDIA

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**TODAY'S EDITION**

➤ Biodegradable is not what you think it is  
➤ Try your number skills with Mathdoku  
**PAGE 2**



➤ Students share their travel diaries  
➤ Missing school? Relive your school days  
**PAGE 3**



➤ A look at some high profile players, who are struggling to find form  
**PAGE 4**


**STUDENT EDITION**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2020

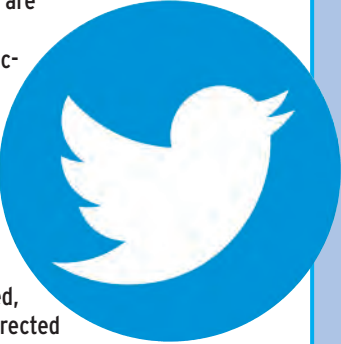

**WEB EDITION**
[CLICK HERE: PAGE 1 AND 2](#)

## #BIRDWATCH

Well, it's not about watching birds. Twitter is all set to launch a feature called 'Birdwatch,' which according to the company is an attempt to address misinformation across its platform by providing more context for the tweets in the form of notes.

### TRENDING

- According to a report by TechCrunch, now tweets can be added to Birdwatch, meaning flagged for moderation, from the tweet's drop-down menu, where other blocking and reporting tools are found
- A small binocular icon will also appear on the tweets published to the Twitter timeline
- When the button is clicked, users will be directed to a screen, where they can view the tweet's history of notes
- Based on the screenshots of Birdwatch, a new tab called 'Birdwatch Notes' will be added to the Twitter's sidebar navigation, alongside other existing features, like lists, topics, bookmarks and moments



## SOPs FOR SCHOOLS' REOPENING: Cleanliness, security, social distancing

The education ministry has released guidelines for the reopening of schools from October 15, which include thorough cleaning and disinfection of premises, flexibility in attendance, no assessment for up to three weeks, and ensuring smooth transition from home-based schooling during the Covid-19 lockdown to formal schooling. It has also asked states and union territories to frame their own Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for health and safety precautions based on their local requirements.

Schools can implement re-adjusted school calendar and redesigned Annual Curriculum Plan (ACP), remedial classes or conduct back to school campaign, among other steps



### THE GUIDELINES

- Schools must arrange and implement thorough cleaning and disinfecting of all areas, furniture, equipment, stationery, storage places, water tanks, kitchens, canteen, washroom, laboratories and libraries on school campus, and ensure air flow in indoor space, the ministry said
- Students may attend schools only with the written consent of parents
- Students may opt for online classes rather than physically attend school
- There shall be no assessment up to 2-3 weeks of school reopening, and use of online learning will continue

## QUAD

**WHAT:** Foreign ministers from four Indo-Pacific nations — India, US, Japan and Australia — known as the 'Quad group', held talks in Tokyo on Tuesday to counter China's growing assertiveness in the region.

**WHY:** All the four Quad members have an ongoing tiff with Chi-



na. Tensions between the US and China have escalated over issues like the coronavirus, trade, technology, Hong Kong, Taiwan and human rights. India and China are locked in a tense military stand-off in eastern Ladakh. Relations between Australia and China have also deteriorated in recent months. Japan is concerned about China's claim to the Japanese-controlled Senkaku Islands.

Also known as the quadrilateral security dialogue, Quad was first mooted by the former Japanese PM Shinzo Abe in 2007. The first meeting was held on November 12, 2017

## Spotlight

### 3 SCIENTISTS SHARE NOBEL PHYSICS PRIZE FOR COSMOLOGY FINDS

**THE 2020 NOBEL PRIZE FOR PHYSICS** has been awarded to Roger Penrose for black hole discovery, and Reinhard Genzel and Andrea Ghez for discovering "a supermassive compact object at the centre of our galaxy".



### NOVAK DJOKOVIC

Top seed and World No. 1 Novak Djokovic continued his bid to become the first man in half a century to win all four Grand Slam titles twice, dispatching 15th seed Karen Khachanov in straight sets 6-4, 6-3, 6-3. The Serb has reached the French Open quarterfinals for the 11th consecutive year, dropping just 25 games en route.



## Quote unquote

We want India to become a global hub for Artificial Intelligence. Many Indians are already working on this. I hope many more do so in the times to come. In today's age of IT, India is making outstanding contributions. Some of the brightest tech leaders belong to India. India has also proved to be the power-house of the global IT services industry. We will continue to digitally excel and delight the world  
**Narendra Modi, PM at the RAISE 2020 virtual summit**

### UNRAVELLED

## Choosing to handwrite over keyboard use yields best learning, memory: Study

When writing by hand, both children and adults learn more and remember better, suggest the results of several studies. However, a new study has revealed that choosing to handwrite over keyboard use yields the best learning and memory.



- According to researchers, the brain produces electrical impulses, when it is active. The sensors in the electrodes are very sensitive and picks up the electrical activity that takes place in the brain
- Handwriting gives the brain more hooks to hang on to the memories
- Writing by hand creates much more activity in the sensorimotor parts of the brain
- A lot of senses are activated by pressing the pen on paper, seeing the letters you write and hearing the sound you make while writing. These sensory experiences create contact between different parts of the brain and open the brain up for learning, thus helping us to learn better and remember better

## NEW NASA PROJECT ALLOWS PUBLIC TO SEARCH FOR NEW WORLDS



You can now help discover new worlds beyond our solar system from the comfort of your home, thanks to a new citizen science platform called Planet Patrol launched by NASA. The Planet Patrol platform allows members of the public to collaborate with professional astronomers as they sort through a stockpile of star-studded images collected by NASA's Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS). Volunteers will help determine which TESS snapshots include signals from potential planets and which ones show planet impersonators, NASA said.

- TESS uses its four cameras to take full images of one patch of sky, called a sector, every 10 minutes for a month at a time
- This long stare allows TESS to see when planets pass in front of their stars, or transit, and dim their light

## NEWS IN BRIEF

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)

### NIGHTS WARMING FASTER THAN DAYS, SHOWS RESEARCH

Global warming is affecting daytime and night-time temperatures differently, and greater night-time warming is becoming more common than greater daytime warming worldwide, shows a new research.



### THE IMPACT

- Species that are only active at night (nocturnal) or during the day will be particularly affected, scientists have warned
- Besides, scientists have said that increased night-time warming has led to less vegetation growth, where it rained more, likely due to the increased cloud cover blocking the sun. Whereas, vegetation growth was limited by water availability due to less rainfall, where the days warmed more

## NEW BATMAN STORY TO DEBUT ON SPOTIFY PODCAST IN 2021

An original story about Batman's alter-ego Bruce Wayne will debut next year as a podcast series on the Spotify streaming service, the producers have announced. Called 'Batman Unburied,' the series is the first being developed to bring DC Comics' superheroes to the world of narrative podcasts.

### ENTERTAINMENT

- The Batman series will explore "the darker aspects of Bruce Wayne's psychology," according to Spotify and Warner Bros
- David S Goyer, co-writer of the 2005 movie, 'Batman Begins' and 2016's 'Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice,' has developed the story



## 10 YEARS OF INSTAGRAM

As the world's most-loved photo-sharing app turned 10 recently, here's some interesting facts on it...

Instagram, which was created by Kevin Systrom and Mike Krieger, was originally launched on iOS in 2010. It came to Android two years later. There's a Windows and Fire OS version of Instagram too.

Initially, Instagram allowed content to be framed in a square (1:1) aspect ratio with 640 pixels to match the display width of the iPhone. Only in 2015, Instagram

eased the restrictions and allowed 1080p images.

Mike Krieger uploaded the first picture on Instagram. It was reportedly taken from Dogpatch Labs incubator, a cheap rented office space. Krieger posted the picture of South Beach Harbour at Pier 38

on July 16, 2010, much before the app's official release on October 6, later that year.

Facebook bought Instagram at \$1 billion in 2012. At that time, Instagram had just 13 employees. Now, Instagram is valued well over \$100 billion, and is about one-fifth of Facebook's market cap.

As of October 5, 2020, the most-liked photo on Instagram is a picture of an egg, posted by the account @world\_record\_egg. It was reportedly created to beat the previous record of a Kylie Jenner post. The picture currently has over 54 million likes



## FACTOID \$59

That's the price of a 50ml perfume, inspired by the planet Jupiter! All set to launch on October 26, 2020 by perfume brand Toli, the scent sports subtle notes of a rotten egg and cleaning products on a heady base of bitter almonds—hints of hydrogen sulphide and ammonia, that give way to the fragrance of hydrogen cyanide. The scent, according to the company, will allow wearers to be transported to a planet that no human has directly experienced – or likely ever will, given its inhospitable nature

- THESE COMPOUNDS ARE ALL FOUND IN SMALL AMOUNTS WITHIN THE ATMOSPHERE OF JUPITER, WHICH IS MAINLY MADE OF ODOURLESS MOLECULAR HYDROGEN AND HELIUM
- THE GAS GIANT'S ATMOSPHERE HAS THREE DISTINCT 'CLOUD LAYERS', COMPRISING AMMONIA ICE AT THE TOP, AMMONIUM HYDROSULPHIDE CRYSTALS IN THE MIDDLE AND WATER VAPOUR BELOW
- JUPITER'S COLOURFUL BANDS ARE FORMED DUE TO THE EMERGENCE OF SULPHUR AND PHOSPHORUS FROM THE PLANET'S WARMER INTERIOR



### PAPER (When It's Just Paper)

It's what's on the inside that counts. Similar to the push from some restaurants to replace plastic straws with paper ones, paper bottles are seen as a possible option to replace plastic ones. Because they can be made of sustainable, renewable materials (from trees!), paper bottles are getting the attention of major companies.

Paper, of course, is recyclable—as long as it is just paper. However, paper-based bottles and containers tend to be made with several layers of

materials other than paper, including plastic or foil, to form barriers. One paper bottle maker's website calls 100% biodegradability a "goal."

Hypothetically, you could strip away the layers and recycle the paper, but who's actually going to do that?

# Biodegradable isn't what you think

**Y**ou care about the planet, and would like to avoid bottles and other goods made of single-use plastic. But it's complicated. Choosing products with packaging that claims to be "biodegradable" or "compostable" might mean that they degrade only under special conditions, and could complicate recycling efforts, said Jason Locklin, director of the New Materials Institute at the University of Georgia. "It's tremendously confusing, not just to the consumer, but even to many scientists," he said.

Here are four examples of the kinds of products you might see on shelves or at the takeout counter.

### BACTERIA-PRODUCED BIOPLASTIC

Promising, but economically challenging. PHA, or polyhydroxyalkanoate, has been the next big thing in biodegradability for years. This bioplastic, which can be produced by bacteria, has promising properties: Research suggests it can break down in conventional landfills. In ocean water, it will degrade within a few years, a fraction of the 450 years that it takes standard plastic. Producing the material economically, however, has been a technical challenge. Cove, a bottled water company, says it is about to bring out its product in containers made from PHA. RWDC Industries, introduced drinking straws made from the material last year in Singapore, where the company is based.



### CORN-BASED PLASTIC

It isn't petroleum-based. But in a landfill, it may be just as bad. Food service items made from polylactic acid, or PLA, include bottles, disposable cutlery, plastic films, some grocery bags and other products. They look like plastic made from petroleum, but PLA is usually made from corn, though it can come from other plants, including beets, cassava and sugar cane. The labels on PLA products often describe them as compostable. But that doesn't mean you can just throw the stuff into your backyard compost pile, if you have one. To properly degrade, they have to be sent to commercial compost facilities. The process of industrial composting involves high heat and precisely controlled moisture, among other conditions, and it isn't available in many parts of the country. Worse, PLA products look enough like regular recyclable plastic bottles, that they can get mixed in at the recycling plant, and can clog the recycling stream.



### FIBER BOWLS

Looks compostable, but may end up in the landfill anyway. Some fast-casual restaurants use bowls designed and marketed to be compostable. They are made from bagasse, a fiber produced as a byproduct from sugar cane mills. Sweetgreen, for instance, put the message in a slogan: "Nothing from inside Sweetgreen goes to the landfill." But getting to current levels of compostability has been a struggle for Sweetgreen and Chipotle, whose previous bowls turned out to contain PFAS, a family of chemicals linked to cancer that can remain in the environment even after the bowl has been composted. They fixed that problem. But while your bowl may be compostable, if you don't compost at home you have to throw it into a dedicated composting bin in the restaurant, or use a composting service. Don't put it in the recycling bin: Materials that come contaminated with food get rejected by recyclers. And throwing the bowl into a trash can at the office or at home means it's likely to go to a landfill anyway.

## BOOK LAUNCH

### PUNCHING THE AIR

by Yusef Salaam

Written in verse, 'Punching the Air' is a collaboration between Yusef Salaam, a member of "The Exonerated Five" (formerly known as "The Central Park Five") and Ibi Zoboi, author of 'Pride' and the US National Book Award finalist, 'American Street'. 'Punching The Air' follows Amal Shahid, a teenager, who has always been an



artist and a poet. But even in a diverse art school, he's seen as disruptive and unmotivated by a biased system. Then, one fateful night, an altercation in a neighbourhood escalates into a tragedy. "Boys just being boys" turns out to be true, only when those boys are white. Suddenly, at just sixteen years, Amal's bright future is upended: he is convicted of a crime he didn't commit, and sent to prison. Despair and rage almost sink him, until he turns to the refuge of his words: his art

## MANE MANAGEMENT

# 7 tips to prevent hairfall

**H**airfall is one of the most common hair issues. Thankfully there are ways to arrest hairfall. Follow these tips and keep your mane strong and thick, come snow or sunshine.

### 1 Protect your hair

Excessive exposure to the sun, pollution, rainwater, and dust without proper protection makes the hair dry, brittle and limp. Try to protect hair as much as possible and if exposed to rain or dust, wash it the same day.

### 2 Don't skip the conditioner

While shampooing, always condition your hair with a nourishing and hydrating conditioner. Also, try to use cold water to wash off the conditioner. This can help to close the pores and keep the scalp cleaner for a longer time.

### 3 Regular trimming

Trimming and cutting your hair regularly not just gives good shape and style but also helps get rid of the annoying split ends and dryness. It may also boost hair growth.

### 4 Control frizz

High humidity levels can make the hair frizzy, which may lead to hairfall. An easy way to tame the unruly mane is the application of serum on towel-dried hair.

### 5 Change your hairstyles

Keep your hairstyle fuss-free, that will help in preventing tangling and frizziness. During harsh weather conditions, keep hair covered with a cap or a scarf.

### 6 Detangle to avoid breakage

Use wide-toothed combs to detangle hair while wet. To avoid breakage, comb your hair at the bottom and then start combing from the roots.

### 7 Eat right

Have a good diet to boost hair growth and maintain the quality of the hair. Intake of proper nutrients, including proteins, fats, vitamins, and minerals are especially essential for strong & healthy hair and may help to reduce hairloss.



## BE A DETECTIVE!

### 4 by 4 MathDoku Puzzles

Fill in the numbers 1 to 4 in such that each number appears only once in each row and column. The grid is divided in so called cages with operators and target numbers. The numbers in each cages must produce the target number by using the operator of that cage.

12×	6×		
4÷	3+		1-
		7+	
1-			

18×	4÷		
		1-	24×
8×			
	1-		

5+	4÷		7+
		5+	
12×	4+		8×

4÷		5+	8+
2÷			
72×			
	7+		

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## PUZZLES and BRAINS

### 6 BY 6 NUMBRICKS (EASY NO. 1 AND 2)

FILL THE GRID WITH THE NUMBERS 1 TO 36 TO MAKE A PATH IN SEQUENTIAL ORDER, GOING HORIZONTALLY OR VERTICALLY. YOU MAY NOT CONNECT THE NUMBERS DIAGONALLY.

	15	10	9	8	
17				6	
18		12	3	1	
19		25	26	30	
20				31	
	22	35	34	33	

0606 EASY 1

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28	25	22	19		
27	26	21	20		
34	35	12	13		
3	36	11	10		

0606 EASY 2

## QUIZ TIME (MIXED BAG)

- Q.1) Who is the author of 'Anandamath'?**  
A. Rabindranath Tagore  
B. Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay  
C. Sarojini Nayadu D. Jyotiba Phule
- Q.2) Who is the author of the book "The Judgement"?**  
A. Kuldip Nayyar B. Mathili Saran Gupta C. Amitabh Ghosh D. None
- Q.3) Who said, "I therefore, want freedom immediately, this very night, before dawn, if it can be had"?**  
A. Mahatma Gandhi B. Edwina Mounbatten C. Jawaharlal Nehru D. Taslima Nasreen
- Q.4) 'Asian Drama' by Gunnar Karl Myrdal, is a book on which of the following subjects?**  
A. Theatre Movement in Asia  
B. Economics C. International Politics D. Look East Policy of India



Gunnar Karl Myrdal was a Swedish economist and sociologist. In 1974, he received the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences with Friedrich Hayek for "pioneering work in the theory of money and economic fluctuations and penetrating analysis of the interdependence of economic, social and institutional phenomena."

## ANSWERS

1. B) Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay, 2. A) Kuldip Nayyar, 3. A) Mahatma Gandhi, 4. D) Economics