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STUDENT EDITION

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WEB EDITION

TECHNOLOGY



Five things TO KNOW

It promises a new era of technology, but super-fast 5G networking is one of the factors that has put Sino-US relations into a tailspin. Recently, in response to the US sanctions on Huawei, Britain too ordered the staged dismantling of the equipment made by the Chinese telecom giant from its 5G network. Here are five things to know about the next generation of telecommunications...

1 It is the fifth-generation successor to 4G technology, which is a decade old, and struggling to keep pace with global broadband demand. The rollout of 5G promises radically quicker transfers of data, heralding major changes to an array of products and services—from self-driving cars to remote surgery. On the entertainment front, users will be able to download a high-definition movie in a few minutes, compared to an hour or two

2 It's not just about speed of downloads and uploads; 5G brings much lower "latency" than the 4G. In other words, the time lag between a command being sent by a user and a device acting on it will be reduced. It will help surgeons operating on patients from afar, using augmented reality glasses. Besides, the most visible gain from lower latency could be with the widespread advent of autonomous cars. But, these will need 5G networks to cover huge areas

3 The technology is already in wide use in South Korea and for fixed internet lines in some US cities. It is also available in parts of Europe and Asia.

4 According to mobile communications industry body, GSMA, only one in five mobile connections, will be running on 5G networks by 2025, globally. South Korea's Samsung and China's Huawei has already offered 5G-enabled smartphones; Apple is yet to launch a compatible model with 5G technology

5 To bring the promised speeds to the masses, 5G requires a whole new infrastructure of masts, base stations and receivers. Among the networking companies in the race are: Huawei, Sweden's Ericsson, Nokia of Finland, Samsung and NEC of Japan. Mobile operators are expected to spend \$1.1 trillion worldwide by 2025 in investment, 80 per cent of which will be on 5G networks, according to the GSMA.

Why have some governments banned the Huawei equipment? US intelligence agencies allege that Huawei has links with the Chinese government, and that its equipment could contain "backdoors" for use by government spies. However, no evidence has been produced publicly, and the firm has repeatedly denied the claims



THE CHALLENGES

According to experts, the forecasts highlight the huge challenges to the economic growth of a shrinking workforce, the high burden on health and social support

India's population may peak to 1.6 billion in 2048

Scientists have predicted that India's population may peak at about 1.6 billion in 2048, and decline by 32 per cent to around 1.09 billion in 2100, when it is also expected to be the world's most populous country

■ According to researchers, there may be dramatic declines in working age-populations in countries, such as India and China, which may hamper economic growth and lead to shifts in global powers

■ According to the study, the number of working-age adults in India is projected to fall from 762 million in 2017 to around 578 million in 2100, compared to that of China, where number of workers are estimated to decline from 950 million in 2017 to 357 million in 2100

■ It said that India may be one of the few major powers in Asia

The research also predicted huge shifts in the global age structure, with an estimated 2.37 billion individuals over 65 years globally in 2100, compared with 1.7 billion under 20 years

to protect its working-age population over the century

■ The world could be multi-polar at the end of this century, with India, Nigeria, China, and the US, emerging as the dominant powers, it added

According to the study, the world population will peak much earlier than previously estimated. It projects the peak at 9.73 billion in 2064, which is 36 years earlier than the 11 billion peak projected for 2100 by the UN report World Population Prospects last year

POINTS TO REMEMBER BEFORE YOU START BLOGGING



BLOGGING TAKES A LOT OF EFFORT: Do not be fooled into thinking for a moment that it's as easy as it looks. You need to put in time and energy into writing, rewriting, editing, researching, sourcing images, etc. Once published, you also have to spend time promoting your blog on various networks. Be prepared to work hard. Also, be prepared to not have much of an audience in the beginning

CHOOSE A NICHE: There are millions of blogs out there, and the only way to stand out in the noise is to have a niche and stick to it. You should write about something you are knowledgeable as well as passionate about, because that's the only way you will be able to produce good and engaging content

THERE IS NO HARM IN STARTING SMALL: If you are starting a blog for the first time, it is possible that you are not entirely sure how things will go. You might love it, or you might decide after a few weeks or months that blogging isn't really your thing. Hence start small with a free site.

NOTHING BEATS GREAT CONTENT: Your audience will come to you for what you write, not because you have a killer blog theme or a funny blog name. The best way to build an audience is to put up well-written and engaging content, and to do so consistently. Interesting content gets shared, and gradually expands your reach

YOU WILL NEED TO LEARN NEW THINGS: Unless you are already in a technical field, chances are that you will have to pick up a lot of new skills as you get serious about blogging. Every blogger needs to understand basic SEO and analytics, and keep abreast of the changes that keep happening courtesy Google. The good news is that there are a ton of resources out there offering tips and guidance

ALWAYS BE YOURSELF: Develop your own style and voice, and don't be afraid to say what you feel

FEEL GOOD

Israelis are hugging trees instead of humans to beat pandemic blues



Can't embrace friends and family these days? Hug a tree instead. That is the message Israel's Nature and Parks Authority is spreading on social media to try to help people overcome the sense of detachment that coronavirus social-distancing rules can bring. "In this unpleasant corona period, we recommend people around the world to go out to nature, take a deep breath, hug a tree, express your love and get love," Orit Steinfeld, the authority's marketing director, said. At the Apollonia National Park, about 15 km north of Tel Aviv, tree-huggers are availing it gleefully.

Israel's tree-hugging campaign follows a similar endeavour launched in April by Iceland's forestry service

FASHION



Fashion week goes digital

The digital Paris Haute Couture Week in early July saw collections showcased through films, computer-generated imagery (CGI) models and socially-distanced boat rides.

■ It featured designers, such as Christian Dior, Giambattista Valli, Chanel, Maison Margiela and Valentino.

■ Before this, British Fashion Council's digital London Fashion Week featured interviews, podcasts, webinars and digital showrooms.

■ Digital fashion weeks are being hailed as an eco-friendlier alternative to the traditional shows that have a massive carbon footprint

NEWS IN BRIEF

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Canon, Epson and Nikon—three kids—live in a house called Click

The newly-built house of a photographer couple Ravi and Krupa Hongal in Belgaum, Karnataka, which resembles a giant DSLR camera, has become a sensation on social media. Named Click, the house is also home to three kids, Canon, Epson and Nikon.

■ The three-storeyed camera-shaped house located in Shastri Nagar is an expression of passion and love for the art of photography of the couple, whose children, three boys, have been named after the iconic camera brands.

■ Their names, 'Canon', 'Epson' and 'Nikon' feature prominently on the house, whose exterior resembles a camera. Just like a camera, the building has a glass window shaped as a viewfinder and another as a lens. It sports a wide film strip, a flash and even a memory card.



ODDLY-ENOUGH

■ The walls of the house walls and its interior have graphics related to photography

Roshni Nadar Malhotra is the new HCL Tech chairperson

India's third-largest software exporter HCL Tech has appointed Roshni Nadar Malhotra as its chairperson. HCL founder Shiv Nadar steps down as the chairman, but will continue to be the managing director and chief strategy officer of the company.



■ In 2013, Roshni Nadar was inducted as an additional director on the HCL Tech's board. This came four years after she was appointed on the board of HCL Corp, which is the holding company of HCL Technologies and HCL Infosystems

■ She graduated with a Masters in Business Administration from Kellogg, and has been closely involved with philanthropic works over the last decade.

'Star Wars: The Bad Batch' is coming to Disney Plus in 2021

A brand new animated series, 'Star Wars: The Bad Batch', will be coming to Disney Plus in 2021. The upcoming series will be a spinoff of the animated series, 'Star Wars: The Clone Wars,' which concluded its run on the streaming platform earlier in 2020. The series will be executive produced by Dave Filoni, who did the same for the 'The Clone Wars,' along with 'Star Wars: Rebels' and the live-action, 'The Mandalorian.'



ENTERTAINMENT

\$1.5 MILLION



The price of the original handwritten lyrics of Don McLean's song, 'Vincent', a tribute to the painter Vincent van Gogh, which is likely to fetch at an auction, according to Los Angeles-based rare documents dealer, Moments in Time. The lyrics, scrawled in pencil over 14 pages with deletions and additions, are being sold by a person who acquired them directly from the American singer-songwriter.

■ First released in 1971, 'Vincent' opens with the words, 'Starry, starry night'; it was inspired by the painter's famous work, 'The Starry Night.' McLean, now 74, has said that he was inspired to write it after reading a biography of van Gogh

■ 'Vincent' is McLean's most famous song after 'American Pie,' whose lyrics sold for \$1.2 million at an auction in 2015

■ The 'Vincent' lyrics were most recently seen in public, when McLean lent them to the Country Music Hall of Fame in Nashville for a 2018 exhibit

FACTOID

170-metre tall asteroid to fly by Earth on July 24



A huge asteroid is making its way towards our planet. According to NASA, the asteroid, dubbed as 2020ND, is believed to be one- and-a-half times larger than the London Eye (443-feet-high). It will come within 0.034 astronomical units (AU) of Earth. An astronomical unit is equal to about 150 million kilometres, or roughly the distance from the Earth to the sun

➤ The asteroid measures 170 metres, and will make a flyby next week on July 24, 2020

➤ Although gigantic, it is not going to hit our planet or cause any serious harm to us, claim scientists. It is simply going to fly near the Earth at a fast speed, they add

1 Name the largest asteroid to be discovered, till date

a) Ceres b) Vesta c) Pallas

2 Most of the asteroids are located between the orbits of-----

a) Venus and Earth



b) Earth and Mars c) Mars and Jupiter

3 What is the most common type of asteroid?

a) Metallic b) Carbon c) Rocky

ANSWERS: 1 (a) 2 (c) 3 (b)