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STUDENT EDITION

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WEB EDITION

NOT 'PANDEMIC', 'CORONA' OR 'COVID-19', BUT '2020' COULD BE THE WORD OF THE YEAR

It is admittedly too early to guess what will be declared as the word or phrase of the year, with Covid-19, social distancing, pandemic, corona, PPE, WFH, quarantine, isolation, super-spreader, asymptomatic, herd immunity, and other such words gone viral. Well, that is only one part of the story of this year. The profusion of calamitous events—floods, bushfires, supercyclones, landslides, earthquakes, locust attacks, plane crashes, protests and sit-in, deadly gas leaks, chemical blasts, economic downturn, layoffs and many more, have given enough reasons to the experts to propose the numeronym, '2020' as a possible word of the year. Any why not? argue many netizens across the globe.

- 2020 is not a neologism (a newly-coined word or expression), like hashtag (American Dialect Society's choice for 2012) or Brexit (Collins dictionary's 2016 laureate), and when pronounced as twenty-twenty, it is currently defined as "meeting a standard of normal visual acuity" or "marked by facilely accurate discernment"
- There is no single word yet for "unending series of disastrous events", but 2020 should fit the bill – across languages, feel many

What's your take? Share your views at toinie175@gmail.com

India is ready to ring the SCHOOL BELL



The Centre has framed a plan to re-open the schools and other educational institutions in a phase-wise manner between September 1 and November 14. The modalities of the plan have been discussed by the group of secretaries attached to the Group of Ministers on Covid-19 management, headed by the Union health minister Harsh Vardhan. The decision is likely to be notified as part of the final unlock guidelines to be issued later this month, which would guide the states on unlocking the remaining activities after August 31. Sources said the final decision would be left to the state governments on how and when to bring back students to the classrooms.

Broad standard operating procedures (SOPs) would be issued for the schools and educational institutions. This follows a quick survey conducted earlier in July by the department of school education. Though the survey had indicated that parents are not in favour of sending their children to schools, the state governments have argued before the Centre that the students of economically-weaker sections are suffering

UNLOCKING SCHOOLS



HOW IT WILL WORK

- 1 The guidelines, which have been vetted by the ministry of human resource development and the health ministry, recommend the opening of schools, and running them in a phased manner
- 2 For the first 15 days, students of classes X to XII, would be asked to attend school. Different sections of a class would get particular days to attend school
- 3 In a school, if class X has four sections, half the students of sections A and C would come on particular days, and the remaining on the other days
- 4 The number of school hours would be restricted from 5-6 to 2-3 hours of physical attendance
- 4 All schools are likely to run in shifts – 8 am to 11 am and 12 to 3 pm, with a one-hour break in between for sanitisation
- 5 The schools would be advised to run on 33% capacity of teaching staff and students
- 6 The government is not in favour of calling pre-primary or primary school students to school, and is likely to continue with the online classes

SOURCES INDICATED THAT THE CENTRE WOULD RECOMMEND IT AND STATE GOVERNMENTS MAY TAKE A FINAL DECISION SEEING THE COVID-19 CASELOAD, AND THE POPULAR OPINION OF SCHOOL MANagements AND PARENTS

NIA DACOSTA TO DIRECT 'CAPTAIN MARVEL' SEQUEL FOR MARVEL STUDIOS

ENTERTAINMENT

The sequel to Brie Larson's, 'Captain Marvel' is moving forward at the Marvel Studios with the hiring of filmmaker Nia DaCosta. According to The Hollywood Reporter, the director will helm the project with a script by Megan McDonnell, who is currently a writer on the upcoming Disney Plus Marvel series, 'WandaVision'.



■ DaCosta made a promising debut with her 2018 feature, 'Little Woods', starring Tessa Thompson, and is currently making waves with her upcoming supernatural slasher film, 'Candyman'

■ DaCosta will be the first Black woman to direct a Marvel Studios film. She is also the fourth woman, after Boden, Cate Shortland ('Black Widow') and Chloe Zhao ('Eternals'), to take on the directing job at the studio

Larson will reprise her superhero character of Carol Danvers aka Captain Marvel in the sequel. In 'Captain Marvel', Carol Danvers was a human, who became involved in the war between two alien races—the Kree and shape-shifting Skrulls. Surviving an explosion tied to an alien engine imbued her with incredible power, turning her into Captain Marvel, and making her one of the most powerful heroes in the Marvel Universe

'Captain Marvel 2' will be released on July 8, 2022

MUKESH AMBANI ECLIPSES RICHEST EUROPEAN TO BECOME WORLD'S NO 4

Reliance Industries chairman, Mukesh Ambani has surged past France's Bernard Arnault, Europe's wealthiest man, to cement his place in the top 5 richest club

IN THE NEWS

- Ambani is now worth \$80.6 billion, after amassing \$22 billion this year, according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index. That gives him a bigger wealth pile than Arnault, whose LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton SE has suffered from customers curbing high-end fashion purchases faster than the company can cut costs.
- India's richest person has already surpassed some of the biggest tycoons in the recent weeks, including Silicon Valley titans, such as Elon Musk and Alphabet Inc co-founders Sergey Brin and Larry Page, as well as the Oracle of Omaha, Warren Buffett



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 - If you want to easily create stand out social media content with Adobe Spark Post, just type Create.new into the browser, and you are immediately taken into Spark, where you can unleash your creative potential
 - One can start designing from thousands of templates, and choose from millions of images, icons, and stickers, in addition to your own logos, colours and fonts
 - In addition to the new shortcuts, Adobe is launching a plethora of free PDF actions this year – giving everyone access to 20 free, super simple Acrobat online tools in 2020

NEWS IN BRIEF

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'Vaccine nationalism' not good for the world: WHO

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has warned against vaccine nationalism, cautioning rich nations that if they keep treatments to themselves, they cannot expect to remain safe, if poor countries remain exposed. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, the director general of the WHO said, it would be in the interest of the wealthier nations to help every country protect itself against the disease.



VIEWPOINT

Several countries are racing to find a vaccine for the coronavirus, which has killed more than 7,00,000 people globally

For the world to recover faster, it has to recover together, because it's a globalised world: the economies are inter-twined. Part of the world or a few countries cannot be a safe haven and recover. Covid-19 could be less when countries, who have the funding, generously help other countries. Covid-19 pandemic can not be defeated in a divided world

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, director general, WHO



LET'S DEBATE

Has the pandemic widened the gap between the rich and the poor nations? Share your views at toinie175@gmail.com

Meet the winners of 'AatmaNirbhar' app innovation challenge

The winners of a challenge envisaged to showcase India as one of the leading app developing countries globally were announced in nine categories on Friday that saw short video app, Chingari, news app, Logically, and health app, StepSetGo emerge as the top players in their categories, among others.

➤ The 'AatmaNirbhar Bharat App Innovation Challenge' was launched by PM Narendra Modi on July 4, which saw participation from 6,940 tech entrepreneurs and start-ups across the country.

➤ The challenge had entries for nine different categories, namely business, eLearning, entertainment, games, health, news, office and work from home, others and social.



■ In the social category, Chingari emerged as the top winner, followed by writing app, Your Quote and Koo, which allows people to follow top Indians, and news in Indian languages

■ In the business category, the top three winners were Zoho Invoice, Books and Expense, Mail 91, and GimBooks – Easy Invoice Manager, respectively.

■ The e-Learning category also had three winners with Disprz, Kutuki Kids Learning app, and Hello English: Learn English, taking the first, second and third positions, respectively.

■ In the news category, Logically was followed by IsEqualTo, which offers daily news, quiz and general knowledge for students.

■ In the entertainment category, the top three winners were CaptionPlus, Meme Chat, and FTC Talent, respectively.

■ In the games category, the top three winners were Hitwicket Superstars - 3D cricket Strategy Game; ScarFall – The Royale Combat; and World Cricket Championship 2a"WC2C, respectively.

2021 WOMEN'S CRICKET WORLD CUP IN NZ MOVED TO 2022



SPORTS

The Women's Cricket World Cup in February in New Zealand has been postponed for a year. Also, the men's Twenty20 World Cup in Australia that had been pushed from October-November this year to the same time in 2021, was delayed by another year to 2022. India, which was to host the T20 World Cup in 2021, will stage it as planned, with all the 16 teams, which qualified for the 2020 edition participating in India.

- There will be a new qualifying process for the 2022 T20 WC, the International Cricket Council said.
- The Women's WC will be played in Feb-March, 2022
- The qualifying event for the remaining three places will be held next year