



THE TIMES OF INDIA

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STUDENT EDITION

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2020



WEB EDITION

Copypasta tweets

WHAT

In a bid to halt 'copypasta', the microblogging site, Twitter has decided to hide the tweets that contain texts that has been copied and pasted without any modifications from the source text. In the internet world, copypasta is used for the text that has been copied, pasted, and tweeted by multiple accounts at the same time.

WHY

Copypasta is used by the supporters of a party, or a

movement to share the same piece of information via several accounts. Experts say, copypasta tweets are commonly-used for spamming purposes, using thousands of fake accounts. Copypasta goes viral, when thousands of tweets with the same hashtags are posted on the site at the same time, which then starts trending on the social media, creating an impression among the public that many people are talking about a particular issue. This technique is often utilised by groups of people to defame a particular individual or an organisation.

HOW TWITTER PLANS TO STOP IT

1 According to Twitter, the copypasta tweets will be hidden from the general public, once it comes to the notice of the Twitter officials

2 Copypasta tweets will not appear on the Twitter feeds of the people

3 The move comes in the wake of Twitter's recent efforts to curb the spread of fake news, ahead of the November 3, 2020, US Presidential Election

4 Recently, Twitter had added another feature to their mobile app, which would allow the users to lock their tweets, so that no other user can copy their tweet. Earlier, the company had also launched the 'Retweet with quote' feature on their mobile app

PM pitches for taking farm education to middle school level



Prime Minister Narendra Modi has pitched for taking farm education to the middle school level, saying necessary reforms have been made in this regard in the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

The NEP approved by the Union Cabinet last month replaces the 34-year-old National Policy on Education, and is aimed at paving the way for transformational reforms in schools and higher education systems to make India a global knowledge superpower

PM'S VISION

This will develop agriculture-related understanding among the students and enable them to give information about agriculture, its modern farming techniques, and marketing to their family members, he said, adding that this will promote agro-entrepreneurship in the country.


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SMART-TRACKER UNIFORM: THE CHILDREN'S 'BODYGUARD'

Amid the rising cases of kidnapping of children, three B Tech students of Ashoka Institute of Varanasi have created a smart-tracker uniform to locate the missing children. According to Aarti Yadav, Pooja and Sangeeta, who have come out with this novel innovation, the uniform is equipped with a nano-GPS technology, which in turn will help in keeping the parents informed about their kids' location.



INNOVATION

HOW IT WORKS

■ As soon as the child comes out of the house, this device connected to a phone, will inform the parents about their ward's whereabouts. Its range is unlimited, and will be able to track the child even from a distance of a few kilometres
■ A GPS and a SIM card, installed in the kid's uniform, will lead to the correct location of the child
■ If a child is kidnapped, the police can nab the kidnappers with the

help of a bar code

■ Moreover, by applying the bar code, the complete profile of the child would be known, which in turn, will help the rescuers to send the child home safely
■ Equipped with a battery, which can function for six or seven hours, the device, concealed in the pants, has a transmitter and a buzzer as well
■ It will cost around ₹1,000 approx, and act as a child's bodyguard

MOVIES



Disney pushes theatrical release of 'The King's Man' to 2021

The theatrical release of the action-comedy, 'The King's Man' has been pushed back to next year, reported Variety. A prequel in the 'Kingsman' spy series, the flick was expected to hit the theatres on September 18, 2020, and will now be unveiled five months later on February 26, 2021. The release date of the movie has been postponed several times earlier.

■ The film, originally set up at the 20th Century Fox, serves as an origin story for the private British intelligence service that's

portrayed in 2014 released, 'Kingsman: The Secret Service' and 2017's, 'Kingsman: The Golden Circle'

■ The prequel, set in the early 1900s, depicts historical tyrants and criminal masterminds as they devise a war that could wipe out millions

SCHOOLS, COLLEGES TO REMAIN SHUT: MHA

Are we denying our students the RIGHT TO EDUCATION?

The Supreme Court has sought response from the Centre and the states on a PIL, saying the closure of schools due to the pandemic has violated the children's fundamental right to education. The petition says that online classes are unlikely to help, given the rich-poor divide, and the poor's access to the digital tools and connectivity...

VIEWPOINT

A REALITY CHECK

1 According to a report by the UNICEF, in India, over 15 lakh schools have been closed due to the pandemic, affecting 286 million children (49% are girls). This adds to the six million, who were already out of schools

2 Just 24% of the Indian households have internet connections to access e-education, and there is a large rural-urban and gender divide, it says



3 The learning gap is likely to widen, as children from economically-disadvantaged families cannot access remote learning, the report warned

4 The report also stated that many may also not be able to learn remotely due to competing factors at home, including pressure to do the chores, being forced to work, a poor environment for learning, and lack of support in using the online or broadcast curriculum

Share your views at toinie175@gmail.com

NEWS IN BRIEF

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CIRCUS BACK IN ACTION NOW, RAMBO CIRCUS TO PITCH TENT ONLINE, IN YOUR HOME!

No more yearning for the good old days of the exciting, traditional, family circus outing. Funnily-dressed clowns, trapeze artists doing their jaw-dropping acts in mid-air or stunt-men showing off their dare-devil tricks—all a dying breed in India—will now come alive on your living room television sets in an online 'avatar'. In what is billed as a global first, India's only surviving troupe, Rambo Circus, will launch a ticketed-show in a digital format, which will be shown live at specific hours for the audiences from the friendly neighbourhood to the global arena.



■ The first specially-designed ticketed performance will go online from Sept 26 to Oct 6
■ Named, 'Life Is A Circus', it will be an ode to the great showmanship of mesmerising acrobatic stunts, trapeze acts, and clownish laughter, promising 'clean fun and complete family enjoyment'

Former President Pranab Mukherjee PASSES AWAY



Former President and Congress stalwart, Pranab Mukherjee has passed away, after undergoing treatment for nearly three weeks. In a career spanning five decades, Pranab Mukherjee donned many hats, from being an election campaign manager to becoming the President of India. Here is a look at his political journey over the years...

■ Born on December 11, 1935, in Mirati, a village in the Bengal Presidency of British India, Pranab Mukherjee, fondly called as Pranab Da, worked as an upper-division clerk, an assistant professor of political science, and a journalist, before joining politics.

■ He joined politics in 1969, when he organised the by-election campaign of VK Krishna Menon, who was contesting as an independent candidate from Midnapore. Impressed by Mukherjee's skills, the then Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, recruited him in the Congress party, and the same year, he became a member of the Rajya Sabha.

■ Mukherjee had a meteoric rise in the Congress party. By 1973, he was a Cabinet minister, and one of Indira Gandhi's most-trusted lieutenants.

■ He became India's youngest finance minister in 1982 at the age of 47.

■ In 2004, Mukherjee won a Lok Sabha seat, when the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance (UPA) came to power. Under PM Manmohan Singh, he held a number of key Cabinet portfolios—defence (2004-06), external affairs (2006-09) and finance (2009-12)

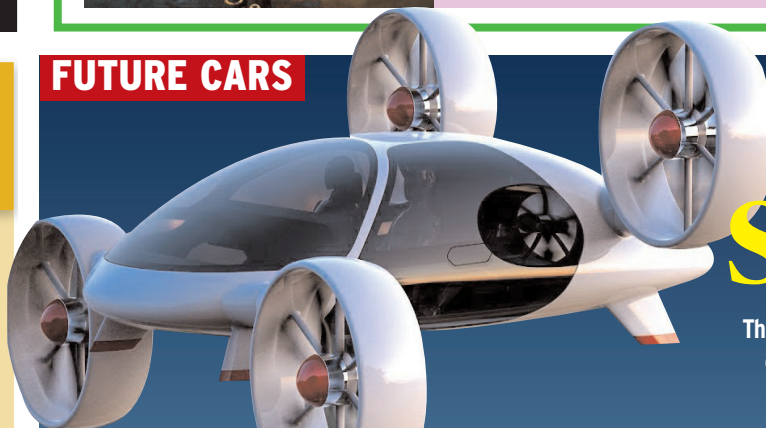
■ Mukherjee served as India's President till 2017, and retired from politics the same year, citing health reasons. TNN

FACTOID

\$75,000

Price of a lock of former US president, Abraham Lincoln's hair, wrapped in a bloodstained telegram about his 1865 assassination, which is likely to fetch at an auction. Measuring roughly 2 inches-long, the bushy lock of hair was removed during Lincoln's postmortem examination, after he was fatally shot at the Ford's Theatre in Washington, DC, by John Wilkes Booth

FUTURE CARS



FLYING CAR MAY SOON BE A REALITY

The dream of a flying car could soon be a reality as Japan's SkyDrive Inc has successfully conducted a test flight with one person aboard. What looks like a motorcycle with propellers, the contraption lifts in the air several feet off the ground, and hovers in the air for sometime. The machine, as of now, flies for just a few minutes, but if that were to improve, then this might be a major headway, and could then be exported to other markets as well...



FEATURES

The aircraft has one seat and operates with eight motors and two propellers on each corner. It lifts about 10 feet into the air. It is operated by a pilot, the company said

CHALLENGES

■ Apart from safety issues, the project faces many challenges, like battery sizes, air traffic control, and infrastructural hurdles
■ The other challenge is design: The vehicles should be powerful enough to carry any necessary weight, yet quiet enough to fly at undetermined low altitudes