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STUDENT EDITION

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WEB EDITION

Quote unquote

The coronavirus has taught us a certain lesson— it has taught us that there has to be a new normal; we need to be more diligent about it, and more cautious about our lifestyle. We are not lagging behind anyone in our efforts to contribute towards the vaccine against Covid... By the end of this year, we hope to be able to get a vaccine against Covid

HARSH YARDHAN,
Union minister, health and family welfare



SCIENTISTS FIND GAS LINKED TO EARTH ON VENUS

Is there LIFE on VENUS?

A study has revealed that a gas found on Earth has been detected in the atmosphere of Venus, raising hopes that the planet could play host to certain life forms. A team of experts, who used telescopes in Hawaii and Chile's Atacama Desert to observe Venus' upper cloud deck, around 60 kilometres from the surface, detected a chemical — phosphine — in the thick Venus atmosphere. Scientists, however, been unable to offer any explanation about the presence of phosphine in Venus' atmosphere, which ideally shouldn't have survived, given the planet's surface temperature of 900 degrees Fahrenheit, along with the clouds that are highly acidic.

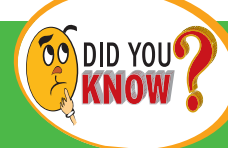
WHAT IS PHOSPHINE

■ Phosphine, an inflammable and toxic gas, with a smell akin to that of a decaying fish or garlic, is usually produced by bacteria, which don't require oxygen, such as those living in swamps, wetlands, sludge or even animal gut



THE PLANET

- Venus, which rotates in the opposite direction (the sun rises in the west and sets in the east), and where a day lasts 243 times longer, is a subject of intense interest among the astronomers
- Compared to our Earth, it's a hellhole. With 96% of the atmosphere made up of carbon dioxide, it has experienced a runaway greenhouse effect. Surface temperatures are like those in a pizza oven, over 400 degrees Celsius
- Space probes that have landed on the planet have survived just minutes before breaking down
- Previous studies have unearthed clues suggesting that Venus has active volcanoes, including signs of recent lava flows



Earth and Venus are very similar in size, with only a 638 km difference in diameter, and Venus having 81.5% of the Earth's mass. Both also have a central core, a molten mantle and a crust

FOR A CAUSE

SACHIN TENDULKAR LENDS SUPPORT TO CHILDREN FROM ECONOMICALLY-WEAKER BACKGROUND

Cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar has joined hands with an NGO to support 560 tribal children from economically-backward sections. Tendulkar has partnered with 'NGO Parivaar', which has built Seva Kutirs in remote villages in the Sehore district of Madhya Pradesh. Children from villages, Sewaniya, Beelpati, Khapa, Nayapura and Jamun Jheel in Sehore district are now getting nourished meals and education with the help of Tendulkar's foundation. The children are predominantly from Barela Bhil and Gond tribes.

➤ As a goodwill ambassador for the UNICEF, Tendulkar has regularly spoken about interventions like 'Early Childhood Development'. He has been associated with several initiatives for children. Recent among these include financial assistance provided by him towards the treatment of children from low economic backgrounds at the SRCC Children's Hospital in Mumbai.

➤ In December 2019, Tendulkar through the 'Spreading Happiness In Diya Foundation', set up solar lighting systems to provide green energy to run digital classroom at Shri Gadge Maharaj Ashram School, Bhivali, Mumbai.



'NOMADLAND' WINS TOP PRIZE AT VENICE FILM FESTIVAL

Nomadland by director Chloe Zhao has scooped the top prize at the Venice film festival, the first woman to win the Golden Lion in a decade. The film, an ode to American wanderlust and the highs and lows of the open road, won the top honour in a competition, billed as a relaunch of global cinema bruised by the coronavirus crisis.

Starring Frances McDormand, it is set among a motley tribe of ageing van dwellers, down on their luck and roaming the West. The double-Oscar winner plays a widow, who takes to the road after losing her home.



FLYERS CAN'T USE RECORDING GADGETS THAT CREATE CHAOS: DGCA

Aviation regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has "clarified" that passengers can take photos and videos inside flights but can't use any recording equipment that creates chaos, disrupts flight operations, violates safety norms or is banned by the crew members.

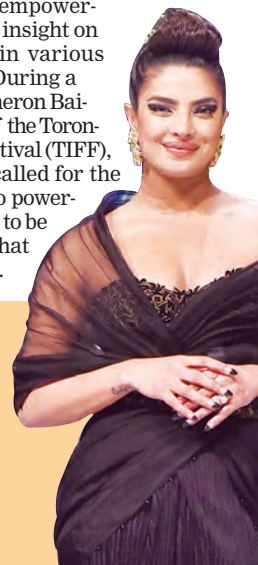
NEWS IN BRIEF

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)

WOMEN NEED TO BE PUSHED INTO POWERFUL ROLES: PRIYANKA CHOPRA

Actress Priyanka Chopra Jonas, who is also known as an ambassador of women empowerment, has an interesting insight on female representation in various fields across the world. During a live interaction with Cameron Bailey, director and co-head of the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF), the 38-year-old actress called for the need to push women into powerful roles. It's the only way to be able to get to the place that we want to be, she added.

Chopra stressed that people need to recognise that women are a part of the world and need to be represented in every industry. "Feminism needs men," she emphasised



CELEB TALK

NASA WANTS TO BUY MOON RESOURCES FROM PRIVATE FIRMS

NASA is looking for private companies from around the world that can grab lunar dirt and rocks, setting off the process of creating a new marketplace for space resources. Outlining its goal, the US space agency has said that it aims to complete the retrieval and transfer of ownership of the resources before 2024. NASA has set the goal of landing the first American woman and next man on the Moon by 2024.



SPACE

➤ As per the requirements outlined by NASA, a company will collect a small amount of Moon "dirt" or rocks from any location on the lunar surface, provide imagery to the agency of the collection and the collected material, along with the data that identifies the collection location ➤ They will then have to conduct an "in-place" transfer of ownership of the lunar regolith or rocks to NASA

AVIATION



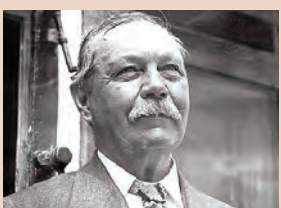
➤ On Sept 12, the regulator had said that a scheduled flight will be suspended for a period of two weeks, if anyone is found taking photographs inside the plane ➤ In fact, the DG of Civil Aviation had asked IndiGo to take "appropriate action" after it found alleged violation of safety and social-distancing protocols by media persons in the airline's Chandigarh-Mumbai flight that had actor Kangana Ranaut as a passenger ➤ According to a video of the incident that took place inside the flight on Sept 9, reporters were seen jostling and bunching up to get a comment from Ranaut

ANNE FRANK



The famous teenage diarist wrote a lot of entries with a fountain pen. In "The Diary of a Young Girl", there is a chapter, where she mourns the loss of her pen after it gets accidentally burnt in a fire. It was a gift from her grandmother, and came in a red leather case, when she was nine. She was upset to lose it. It is rumoured to be a Montblanc Meisterstück, as that was a popular and common pen of that era.

SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE



The much-loved Sherlock Holmes author was known for writing with a Parker Duo-fold fountain pen. The pen, much like the Sherlock Holmes tales, is still popular.

TOP AUTHORS AND THEIR ICONIC WRITING INSTRUMENTS

ERNEST HEMINGWAY



Hemingway used to write in pencil. In his Paris memoir, 'A Moveable Feast' he said, "The blue-backed notebooks, the two pencils and the pencil sharpener; the marble-topped tables, the smell of cafe cremes, the smell of early morning sweeping out and mopping, and luck were all you needed."

STEPHEN KING



Stephen King often advises new writers to forgo digital distractions by writing with pen, as according to him, it forces the writer to slow down and focus on the writing process. He has admitted that many of his novels, including 'Carrie' and 'It' were written with a Waterman Hemisphere pen.

HARUKI MURAKAMI



Murakami has time and again admitted his love for fountain pens. It is believed that he bought his first one for approximately \$5, along with some manuscript paper. In fact, he loves pens so much that he even specifies the brand of the fountain pen some of the characters in his novels use!

Yoshihide Suga set to be Japan's PM, succeeding Abe

Japanese chief cabinet secretary Yoshihide Suga, a loyal aide to the outgoing PM Shinzo Abe, won a landslide victory in a ruling party leadership election on Monday, paving the way for Japan's first change of leader in nearly eight years. Suga, 71, who has promised to continue Abe's main policies, said his big win would give him the backing to pursue Abe's reform goals, including containing the coronavirus.

PEOPLE



➤ The son of a strawberry farmer from northern Japan, Suga, faces geopolitical challenges, such as building ties with the winner of the US presidential election, and balancing concern over China's maritime aggressiveness with bilateral economic interdependence