



THE TIMES OF INDIA

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TODAY'S EDITION

➤ Why historians call Alexander, the Great, a megalomaniac? Find out on 'i Opener'

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➤ If I were the Prime Minister of India... a student steps into the shoes of PM, and lays down the steps towards making India a strong and vibrant country

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➤ IPL 2022: KKR promise bold play against Punjab Kings

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STUDENT EDITION

FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2022



NASA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration predict the CME may generate G2 or G3 (moderate) geomagnetic storms

CLICK HERE: PAGE 1 AND 2

Nykaa among TIME's 100 most-influential firms

Falguni Nayar's Nykaa has made it to TIME100 most-influential companies in the world. This comes days after Nayar strode into the top 10 list of self-made women billionaires with a massive \$7.6 billion wealth. She is the newest entrant in the women billionaires list, according to a compilation released by the Hurun Research Institute.

Spotlight
"Ten years after being founded by entrepreneur Falguni Nayar with the goal of inspiring Indian women, Nykaa has evolved into one of India's largest cosmetics and lifestyle brands," stated TIME

Falguni Nayar has been the talk of the town since Nykaa's recent stock exchange listing. She is one of only 24 women whose companies have reached the IPO (Initial public offering stage, offering stocks to public) Nayar's entrepreneurial journey began in 2012, when she decided to leave her job as MD at Kotak Mahindra Capital and pursue a career in the online beauty industry. Nine years later, not only was Nykaa's ₹5,352 crore IPO nearly 82.5 times oversubscribed, but its shares debuted at ₹ 2,001. Nykaa is also India's first unicorn startup headed by a woman



Sun erupts with 17 flares, solar storms to hit Earth

X-PLAINED

At least 17 solar eruptions from a single sunspot on the sun have blasted into space in recent days, and may reach Earth as moderate geomagnetic storms soon. The sun eruptions originated from an over-active sunspot, called AR2975, which has been firing off flares since Monday. The stellar event may also cause some moderate sky storms on Earth, warned scientists.

According to scientists, the year 2022 is expected to be relatively quiet for the sun overall, as we are still towards the beginning of the 11-year solar cycle of activity that began in December 2019. Cycle beginnings usually have fewer sunspots and fewer eruptions. Activity should increase as we approach the peak, forecasted to be in mid-2025

WHAT ARE SUNSPOTS?

Sunspots are darker, cooler areas on the surface of the sun in a region called the photosphere. The photosphere has a temperature of 5,800 degrees Kelvin. Sunspots have temperatures of about 3,800 degrees K. They look dark only in comparison with the brighter and hotter regions of the photosphere around them.

WHAT CAUSES SUNSPOTS?

Sunspots are caused by disturbances in the sun's magnetic field lining up to the photosphere, the sun's visible surface. Sunspots occur over regions of intense magnetic activity, and when that energy is released, solar flares and big storms called coronal mass ejections erupt from sunspots

WHY ARE SUNSPOTS RELATIVELY COOL?

According to scientists, sunspots are relatively cool because they form at areas where magnetic fields are very strong. These magnetic fields are so strong that they keep some of the heat within the sun from reaching the surface. In other words, it inhibits the flow of hot gases from the sun's interior to its surface

WHAT IS THE DURATION OF SUNSPOTS?

Sunspots form over periods lasting from days to weeks, and can persist for weeks or even months before dissipating. The average number of spots visible on the face of the sun is not constant, but varies in a multi-year cycle

WHAT ARE SOLAR FLARES

The magnetic field lines near sunspots often tangle, cross, and reorganise. This can cause a sudden explosion of energy called a solar flare. Solar flares release a lot of radiation into space. If a solar flare is very intense, the radiation it releases can interfere with the radio communications on Earth. Solar flares are sometimes accompanied by a coronal mass ejection (CME). CMEs are huge bubbles of radiation and particles from the sun. They explode into space at very high speed when the sun's magnetic field lines suddenly reorganise

WHAT ARE THE EFFECTS OF SOLAR ACTIVITY ON EARTH

When charged particles from a CME reach areas near the Earth, they can trigger intense lights in the sky, called auroras. When particularly strong, a CME can also interfere in power utility grids, which at their worst can cause electricity shortages and power outages. Solar flares and CMEs are the most powerful explosions in our solar system

Maths not must for 1/3rd of engineering courses

Maths in class XII is no more mandatory to apply for one-third of engineering courses, including architecture, bio-technology and fashion technology, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) announced on Tuesday. In its new guidelines for 2022-23, the AICTE also made chemistry in class XII optional for studying computer science, electrical engineering and electronics engineering.

Maths has been made optional for 10 out of 29 diploma/UG courses. Instead students who studied any of 14 subjects, including computer science, electronics, information technology, biology, bio-technology, technical vocational subject, agriculture, engineering graphics, informatics practices, business studies and entrepreneurship, can now pursue engineering courses



Education
As per the National Education Policy 2020, the school education system is divided into 5+3+3+4. The last four years are not going to be arts, science and commerce streams. They will be studying a liberal arts type of stream where they can take maths, physics and psychology or chemistry and computer science. It will help students join any other new programme when they complete class XII. This window of opportunity or programme is being allowed with proper bridge courses in the first two semesters," AICTE chairman Anil D Sahasrabudhe told principals in an online meeting.

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It's 007 end for Mendes



Director Sam Mendes has revealed that he won't be working on any more Bond movies after completing 'Spectre', which opens in London on October 26. Mendes, 49, whose only previous 007 film was 'Skyfall' in 2012, said he plans to return to theatre work. In an interview, Mendes said: "I said 'No' to the last one and then ended up doing it and was pilloried by all my friends. "It was a fantastic life-changing thing, but I don't think I could go down that road again."

MOVIES

THIS DAY THAT YEAR

APRIL 1

Dedicated to unlimited fun, laughter, jokes and pranks, April 1 is celebrated as April Fools' Day across the world. Usually, people pull each other's legs and play pranks...

HISTORY AND ORIGIN

➤ Though the exact origin of April Fools' Day remains unknown, it is said that the day was first marked in Europe.
➤ Historians speculate that it dates back to 1582 when France switched to the Gregorian calendar from the Julian calendar
➤ It is believed that the day was celebrated after Pope Gregory XIII introduced the Gregorian calendar, and declared that the new calendar would start on Jan 1
➤ In ancient times, calendars were based on the vernal equinox. The new year was celebrated on or around April 1, and in many places in Europe, the beginning of the new year was celebrated around March 25

➤ When Gregory shifted the new year to January 1, it is believed that many people refused to accept the drastic change and followed the old calendar. That's one of the reasons why people, in general, started mocking the ones who followed the traditional calendar and celebrated this day. Also, some were even tagged as 'Poisson d'avril' (April fish, this means a person who is gullible like a fish)

In the Netherlands, the origin of April Fools' Day is credited to the Dutch victory in 1572 in the Capture of Brielle, in which the Spanish Duke Álvarez de Toledo was defeated
➤ The first mention of April Fools' Day in Britain was in 1686, when biographer John Aubrey described April 1 as a "Fools holy day"



THE TIMES OF INDIA

HEALTH

Have you heard of grounding or earthing? Well we tell you what it is and how it can help you sleep better and feel your best

FOOD

Cool it with cold brews as the summer months are all set to roll in

FITNESS

How to tackle muscle cramps

SELF-CARE

Learn from your grandma's beauty closet as we round up hacks they swear by

ETIQUETTE

Are you aware of the morning manners for

STUDENT EDITION

SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2022



Your Weekender

early risers?

PLUS: Signs that your child is a bully; Help a friend with body odour; Lessons from British Royals

BOOKS & MOVIES

We look at Michael Schur's witty guide to moral ethics and try to answer: "Should you be a good person (also why)?"
PLUS: Youngest Oscar winner & nominees

SPORTS

Aware of the F1 rule changes? We got you covered



JUST IN JEST

The Rock-scissors-Smith thappad at the Academy Awards deserves applause

Clap to the Slap, In a Droopy Oscar Show

If the 94th Academy Awards needed one tight slap to wake it up from its post-Covid torpor – quick, which film won the 2021 Best Film Oscar? Best Actor? – it was neatly orchestrated by this year's host and the winner of this year's Best Actor Oscar. After establishing the fact that Will Smith had slapped, and not punched, Chris Rock for cracking a joke about his wife Jada Pinkett Smith, for a brief moment in another dull ceremonial show, viewers were entertained by a TikTokish display of old-style husband-standing-up-for-his



wife that would have raised hackles in a film or TV show. We were back when Hollywood power couples existed, and alpha male badla, just like a Ranjeet being shown his place with a Vinod Khanna upper-cut, was SOP spousal practice. The Rock-Smith thappad chemistry was delightfully choreographed and certainly Filmfare Award-worthy.

The Rock-scissors-Smith show may or may not have been scripted. But it did what one good scene in a dull film does – become the sole conversation of the movie. Rock may have come out of the Oscars as the bad guy, cracking a joke at Mrs Smith's expense. But what does one expect Rock to have played except the ratty-voiced chap that everyone loves to smack. Great interlude, guys, in an otherwise anachronistic show. Clap to the slap.

Source: ET Edit

Aheartwarming story of a 260,000 ₹1 coins-collector (and a query)

Move Over Bitcoin For Bit-By-Bit Coin

You want a mid-week heartwarming opinion on a heartwarming story? Well, then you've got yourself a mid-week heartwarming opinion on the story of V Boobathi, computer operator and YouTube content provider from Ammapet in Tamil Nadu. The young man finally bought a Hero Dominar 200 motorcycle with the money he had patiently saved over the last three years from his YouTube channel. But that's not the wunderbar part. Boobathi paid for his dream bike in one rupee coins – all 260,000 of them.



If there is an architect of demonetisation, it would be fair to call Boobathi a remonetiser. Initially, the mobile showroom was understandably reluctant to be paid ₹2.6 lakh in rupee coins. But Boobathi and friends transported the amount in gunny bags on a minivan. That Kubler-like act earned enough respect for Boobathi paying by his own coin to be accepted. Quick maths tells us that he was making about ₹237 a day with his YouTube channel. This bit-by-bit coin accumulation required patience – and physical space. The counting of the coin mountain by even more patient showroom staff reportedly took 10 hours. In the end, we salute the coin collector from Ammapet. But a question lingers: why didn't he get the coins converted to currency in a bank? That, of course, would have been a less heartwarming story than one about jugaad-flavoured perseverance.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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ONE WORLD, DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES

Explore diversity in vision and figure out how the same topic may be viewed differently by different folks. This is a mirror to society and life

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A MUST-WATCH, OR WHY I CANCELLED THE OSCARS

To not watch this movie and deny oneself from being covered with goosebumps is (not) just a sin, but also treachery against Bharat



INDRAJIT HAZRA

The Oscars start at a bleary-eyed hour. As does shameful scandal. A movie that everyone must watch – a movie that everyone is watching – is not up for any award. Not a single one.

Well, you know what? Who needs the Oscars? It's nothing other than a prize distribution ceremony of People of No Colour Americans, by People of No Colour Americans, for People of No Colour Americans. Come to think of it, I'm glad that the greatest cinematic experience ever does not even find mention at the Academy Awards. If it doesn't sweep the National Film and Filmfare Awards, I'll change my name to Umar Khalid. Take that, Harvey Weinstein. Which is why I cancelled watching the Oscars. I've never been into cancel culture. All I have ever cancelled is a lunch because I got omicron, and an Apple TV subscription after I realised that 'Dune' was available on Amazon Prime Video from Friday. In any case, I refuse to watch an overlong movie about emotional cowboys called The Power of the Cumberbitch.

The film that redefines cinema does not need Oscar approval. Some smart alec critics have said that it manipulates the viewer's emotions. Er, what do you think movies do? When Kate Winslet spreads her arms



(L-R) Ariana DeBose, Troy Kotsur and Jessica Chastain at the 94th Academy Awards

with Leo Di Caprio holding her from behind at the bowsprit of the Titanic and exclaims, 'I'm flying!' I was in tears. And I'm a man who tears tandoori chicken legs with my bare hands without flinching.

Some smarter alec baldwins have even called this glorious movie propaganda. What do you think Sergei Eisenstein did with Battleship Potemkin? The film was so propagandist that it was banned till 1954 and X-rated till 1987 in Britain. Or Mehboob Khan with 'Mother India', which clearly gave Congressman DK Barooah ideas about repositioning Indira Gandhi's gungi giyua image? And you really think that a film about seven Aryan kids set in late 1930s Austria

the glory of one's country, bring people together against a common cause – which, in this case, is not only giving every ounce of our loyalty to India, but also to ensure that those planning to defeat us one tukda at a time are shown their place, in the rear stall, or by having their WiFi's chopped off in analogisation camps.

Perhaps, many people are too young to remember the events that have been shown with wonderful nuance and emotion in this movie. Perhaps sports movies are not everyone's cup of tea. But living on this planet and not watching – and being blown away – by 83 is criminal, seditious and shameful. It takes courage to show a film that instead of glorifying countries like the West Indies, Australia and England, finally puts the spotlight on our harried, historically neglected Men in Brown (Skin). What Kabir Khan's astounding movie does is bring us memories of pain, humiliation and then triumph for our country, with Kapil Dev as the leader who made India a great nation.

In the scene where Kapil played with aplomb by Ranveer Singh, a Hindu Sindhi whose grandparents were forced to migrate out of Karachi during Partition – is killing the ball against Zimbabwe at Tunbridge Wells on June 18, 1983 to singlehandedly take India to the Prudential World Cup semi-final, I burst into tears that I could never have tasted of the Ganga. As for the Oscars, which understands neither cricket nor hard-earned glory, I cancel you. Jai Hindi cinema!

Source: ET Edit

Some smart alec critics have said that it manipulates the viewer's emotions. Er, what do you think movies do?

WIT & WISDOM

"Stuff your eyes with wonder, live as if you'd drop dead in ten seconds."

Ray Bradbury
Writer

Delhi Most Polluted Capital

Delhi was found to be the most polluted capital in the world for the fourth consecutive year in 2021, according to a report by Swiss organization IQAir. As many as 35 of 50 Indian cities with the worst air quality were in India. The report's country wise listing ranked the air in Bangladesh as the world's most polluted in 2021, with PM2.5 concentrations of 76.9 (µg/m³)

2021 Capital city ranking (top 10*)	Average annual PM2.5 concentration (µg/m ³)	2021 Country/region ranking (top 10**)	Population weighted, 2021 avg. PM2.5 concentration (µg/m ³)
New Delhi (India)	95.0	Bangladesh	76.9
Dhaka (Bangladesh)	73.4	Chad	63.9
N'Djamena (Chad)	71.4	Pakistan	63.8
Dushanbe (Tajikistan)	59.8	Tajikistan	59.4
Muscat (Oman)	53.9	India	58.1
Kathmandu (Nepal)	50.9	Oman	53.9
Manama (Bahrain)	49.8	Kyrgyzstan	50.8
Baghdad (Iraq)	49.7	Bahrain	49.8
Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan)	48.3	Iraq	49.7
Tashkent (Uzbekistan)	42.8	Nepal	46.0

*Total 107; **Total 117 country/regions. *Based on PM2.5 air quality data from 6,475 cities in 117 countries. **micograms per cubic meter

Note: In September 2021, WHO guidelines cut acceptable annual exposure to PM2.5 in half, to 5µg/cum per cubic meter of air. No country achieved that standard in 2021. Only 222 cities met the WHO target, and exposure in 93 cities was 10 times the guideline

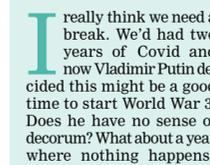
Source: IQAir World Air Quality Report 2021, Agencies

Bell Curves — R Prasad

Are you ready to face the economic consequences of universal peace?

Never Mind Giving Peace a Chance, All We Are Saying Is We Need a Break

With people taking their Covid masks off and stepping out, why are they fighting a war in Ukraine or over a 'must-watch' film instead of taking holidays or funky food photos?



or isn't a literal must-watch, or whether headscarves should be allowed in colleges. Why isn't everyone post-Covid just out on holiday, posting photos of funky food or a waterfall? Why is our first reaction once we take off our masks is to fight? Post-Covid everyone was expecting air travel and revenge dining, not random invasions that make the Sensex wobble.

I really think we need a break. We'd had two years of Covid and now Vladimir Putin decided this might be a good time to start World War 3. Does he have no sense of decorum? What about a year where nothing happens? Where the worst thing we discuss is whether Indian cricketers should dance on Instagram or not.

I grew up in an era after the Berlin Wall fell. For young people, it's called the '90s. The worst thing that happened all decade was Bill Clinton trying to justify that he did not have an affair under his table. That was the worst thing. I'd love to go back to that.

How come the 'new normal' has come to mean either the whole world dies of Covid or the whole world dies of a world war? How is that normal? Of course, we've got our own crises to fight over. Whether a particular film is

I'm done with the Chinese proverb, 'May you live in interesting times'. The times have been too interesting. I'd like to live in boring times. I thought that was the whole point of Joseph

The biggest WhatsApp fight was which wedding photo made which relative look fat, not left vs rightwing India

Robinette Biden becoming president. The idea of a 78-year-old leading the free world meant we could all take a long nap like any Bengali and Spaniard on any afternoon. But now we're on the verge of possible nuclear



WHEN YOU NEED TO TAKE A BREAK... FROM TAKING A BREAK

to come out (sort of), is our first reaction, bombing, inflation and religious conflict? Who needs that? Why is our first reaction not, 'Let's all go swimming'?

People might say this is a silly suggestion when so much is wrong with the world. But maybe if we were a bit silly, a lot less would be wrong with the world. Maybe if Mr Putin watched a little Tom and Jerry, or danced to Harry Sandhu's 'Bijlee Bijlee' right after Omicron ended, he'd want to kill fewer people.

The best thing to happen lately has been a news anchor on a channel shouting at a panelist about the Ukraine war calling him Mr McAdams. This resulted in the real Mr McAdams, an American security analyst, saying, 'Dear host, I have not said a word. Why are you yelling at me?' That feels like where the world is today. We are all Mr McAdams. Sorry, I mean #WeAreAllMrMcAdams.

conflict and still have to take RTPCR tests. Take me back to a time when the biggest fight on a WhatsApp group was which wedding photo made which relative look fat, and not leftwing vs rightwing India – and whether Nehru was to blame for my first girlfriend leaving me.

I'd like to go back to a time when the biggest worry entering an airport was how much excess baggage you have, and not whether you'd kill everybody just by breathing or die by breathing in someone else. I'd also like to go back to a time where our movies were about Shah

Rukh or Hrithik Roshan dancing for no reason, dressed like they are in a chewing tobacco ad, in a castle in Britain that passed off as Amitabh Bachchan's house. Much better than now when movies are about the authenticity of massacres. Also, it would be really nice for commercial planes to fly over Central Asia without the pilots having to look out for missiles from their windows.

We'd all like a break. For two years, everyone's lost work or a relative. Everyone's gone mad staying at home or driven someone mad. We're exhausted. Now that we get

LET'S TALK ABOUT...

Goldman's DJ CEO David Solomon

SET TO PERFORM AT THE LOLLAPALOOZA MUSIC FESTIVAL



Now those are three words you don't expect to hear together. Right? But this is David Solomon, who's been moonlighting regularly as a DJ at clubs in his spare time as head of the global investment banking giant – and now he's going to perform at the Lollapalooza music festival, alongside legends like Metallica, Green Day and the more recent Dua Lipa.

Photo: ISTOCKPHOTO.COM



Whoa! So Solomon's not just spinning tracks for friends at a neighbourhood club. You can bet not. This is the big league. Lollapalooza saw some 400,000 folks attending back in 2019.

What's his DJ name? It can't be David Solomon. He was using the alias D-Sol, coined by his daughters, during sets in clubs at New York and Miami. But last year, he switched to using his given name and even released a single under it.

And how old is he? Solomon's 60 years old, and he's been doing this since around 2015.

Does he charge for his performances? He donates it to charity. He obviously doesn't need the money from this side hustle – he's helped Goldman rake in record profits and is expected to earn about \$35 million a year (over Rs 267 crore) as his salary and his stake in Goldman is worth over \$180 million (Rs 1377 crore).

Pheew. Well, a 60-year-old CEO spinning tunes in his spare time sounds like a good look for an investment bank. Yup, it sure beats golf!

Text: Indulekha Aravind | Source: ET Edit

WORDPLAY

MEGALOMANIAC
[noun] Someone who has an unnaturally strong wish for power and control, or thinks that they are much more important and powerful than they really are

Synonyms
egocentric, egoist, egomaniac, ego-tist, ego-tripper, narcissist.

Origin
Megalomania comes from the Greek word 'megas' ('great') and 'mania' ('madness'). It is a madness of greatness, but not a great kind of madness. Megalomaniacs in history include Alexander the Great, Genghis Khan, and Napoleon Bonaparte. People with megalomania tend to exaggerate their virtues and never see their faults.



Picture right: French military and political leader Napoleon Bonaparte