

# THE TIMES OF INDIA

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**TODAY'S EDITION**

A Times NIE reporter talks on 'new normal' experiences, on returning to school, in Lessons From The World  
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Take a virtual tour of Orchha, a city in Madhya Pradesh, which is famous for its palaces, forts, 'havelis' and 'chhatris', through the lens of a young traveller  
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IPL 2022: Mumbai Indians hoping to win against KKR after back-to-back defeats  
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**STUDENT EDITION**  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 2022

**Nearly entire global population breathing polluted air: WHO**



A full 99 per cent of people on the Earth breathe air containing too many pollutants, the World Health Organisation said, blaming poor air quality for millions of deaths each year. Fresh data from the UN health agency showed that every corner of the globe is dealing with air pollution, although the problem is much worse in poorer countries.

The poorest air quality was found in the eastern Mediterranean and Southeast Asia regions, and Africa. The findings were alarming, the organisation said, and highlighted the importance of rapidly curbing fossil fuel use

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## Civil unrest, political crisis, Covid: What's ailing India's neighbourhood

**E**xternal affairs minister S Jaishankar on Monday held a crucial meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi to discuss the prevailing situation in India's neighbourhood. Jaishankar is believed to have apprised PM Modi of the situation in Sri Lanka and Pakistan. A detailed look at what's troubling India's neighbours, and how it can affect India...



### PAKISTAN

Islamabad is no stranger to political upheaval. Ever since its independence in 1947, no prime minister in Pakistan has managed to complete a full five-year term. This says a lot about the history of Pakistan politics. Currently, PM Imran Khan is embroiled in a fierce tug of war with the opposition, which has united to overthrow him. On Sunday, Imran sent Pakistan into a state of limbo after engineering the dissolution of the National Assembly, which was set to vote on the no-confidence motion that he would have lost. Imran then recommended early elections in the country, which was later approved by President Arif Alvi.



### SRI LANKA

While Pakistan makes its way through a political mess, Sri Lanka is in the grip of a crippling economic crisis. The debt-laden country is struggling to pay for imports of fuel and other goods due to a foreign exchange crisis, leading to hours-long power cuts and a shortage of essentials. The economic situation has triggered widespread street protests across the island nation, which have continued despite a weekend curfew.

### CHINA

China's woes are not as profound as that of Sri Lanka and Pakistan but a raging Covid outbreak – the worst since Wuhan in 2020 – is now pushing the country to the brink. China's Covid-19 situation remains on a knife edge, with a lockdown of its financial hub Shanghai intensifying over the weekend amid a surge in new cases.

### AFGHANISTAN AND MYANMAR

In both Afghanistan and Myanmar, civilian unrest is building against the hardline rulers, who are tightening their grip on power. In Afghanistan, Taliban hard-liners are turning back the clock with a flurry of repressive edicts over the past days that hark back to their harsh rule from the late 1990s. Girls have been banned from going to school beyond the sixth grade, women are barred from boarding planes if they travel unaccompanied by a male relative. Meanwhile, a military rule in Myanmar has plunged the country into a civil war-like situation. More than a year since the junta took power, it's facing hurdles to restore stability in some provinces as pro-democracy activists take up arms against the dictatorship.



### What's the impact on India?

India is expected to closely monitor the developments in Pakistan given its long history of issues with its neighbour. While Imran had been a critic of the Indian dispensation for long, he recently switched to applauding New Delhi for its independent foreign policy. Meanwhile, there is an observable peace along the LoC since the ceasefire pact between the militaries of the two countries. From India's perspective though, Khan's ouster will make little difference to overall bilateral ties. There is no evidence to suggest that the Pakistan army has changed its view on using terrorism as an instrument of state policy against India and Afghanistan. The unfolding crisis also shows that Pakistan's all-powerful military still pulls the strings in the country's political corridors. Hence, the peace along the border and the situation in Kashmir is likely to remain fragile for now.

**INDIA'S ROLE IN THE CRISIS:** New Delhi has been a long-standing ally of Colombo. It has often extended help - monetary and otherwise - to its southern neighbour, which also serves as a strategic partner in the Indo-Pacific region. India has several investments in Sri Lanka. Nearly, 60 per cent of India's container traffic transits through the Colombo port. Separately, Sri Lanka and India had also signed a \$1 billion credit line for importing essentials, including food and medicine, and the Rajapaksa government has sought at least another \$1 billion from New Delhi

## The Criminal Procedure (Identification) Bill, 2022

The Criminal Procedure (Identification) Bill, 2022, was passed in Lok Sabha on Monday by a voice vote, even as the opposition demanded that it be sent to the parliamentary standing or select committee for scrutiny.



**What** The Criminal Procedure (Identification) Bill, 2022, makes it mandatory for certain individuals, convicted and accused of offences, to share biological personal data. The bill also authorises police to record signatures, handwriting or other behavioural attributes referred to in Section 53 or section 53A of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, for the purposes of analysis.

**How** It seeks to define "measurements" to include finger impressions, palm-print and footprint impressions, photographs, iris and retina scan, physical, and biological samples and their analysis. It will empower the National Crime

**WHY THE OPPOSITION IS AGAINST IT:** The Opposition fears it will lead to misuse of the law by police forces and other law enforcement agencies. They have also dubbed it as "illegal" and "unconstitutional" and an infringement of the Fundamental Right to Privacy

record of measurements and for sharing, dissemination, destruction and disposal of records. It empowers a magistrate to direct any person to give his measurements; a magistrate can also direct law enforcement officials to collect fingerprints, footprint impressions and photographs in the case of a specified category of convicted and unconvicted persons; Empowers police or prison officers to take measurements of a person who refuses to give measurements.

Records Bureau (NCRB) to collect, store and preserve the  
**Share your views at toinie175@gmail.com**

## Miniature books created by Charlotte Brontë, lost for a century, may fetch \$1.25 mn at NY auction

The miniature books created by Charlotte Brontë and her siblings as children, have long been objects of fascination for fans and deep-pocketed collectors. Initially created to entertain their toy soldiers, the tiny volumes reflected the rich imaginary world they created in the isolation of the family home on the moors of northern England, which fed into novels like Charlotte's 'Jane Eyre' and Emily's 'Wuthering Heights'. Now, the last of the more than two dozen created by Charlotte to remain in private hands has surfaced and will be coming up for sale next month.



'A Book of Rhymes', a 15-page volume smaller than a playing card, was last seen at an auction in 1916 in New York, where it sold for \$520 before disappearing - its whereabouts, and even its survival, unknown. It will be unveiled on April 21, the opening night of the New York International Antiquarian Book Fair on Brontë's birthday at \$1.25 million approximately.

## Koons on the Moon: Sculptures to be placed on LUNAR SURFACE

American pop artist Jeff Koons is to send sculptures to the Moon later this year on a spacecraft blasting off from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida, his gallery said. The sculptures will travel on the 'Nova-C Lunar Lander', designed by private company Intuitive Machines, and will be placed on the surface of the Moon in the Oceanus Procellarum.

Koons, one of the most celebrated and expensive living artists, is famed for kitsch pieces, such as 'Ballon Dog' and 'Rabbit', and his work is exhibited in galleries around the world  
His latest project 'Moon Phases' consists of physical sculptures that will be left permanently on the lunar surface in a transparent, thermally

coated miniature satellite, the Pace Gallery in New York said  
Koons will also make unique digital versions of the sculptures, marking his entry into the lucrative new world of NFTs (non-fungible tokens)



NASA is targeting May for a test flight of Artemis-1, an uncrewed lunar mission, ahead of an eventual crewed landing, likely no sooner than 2026





Biology

# The Fight to Save the Embattled Monarch Butterfly



# LESSONS FROM THE WORLD

As students, while it is important to know about what's happening around the world, what is more essential is to have an in-depth perspective of events that will help you build your skill sets. Be it political, social, economic, climatic events, Times NIE presents you handpicked, curated news that will be of help to you in the classroom and give you an edge over others

Current Affairs

## Pak PM Imran's Innings Over?

**1** Pakistan's beleaguered Prime Minister Imran Khan bowled a yorker at his rivals by getting the presidential nod for the dissolution of Parliament, a move dubbed as "unconstitutional" by the Opposition parties, which approached the apex court to legally challenge the decision, which has pushed the coup-prone country into further political and constitutional crisis.

**2** Khan was expected to lose the no-confidence motion moved by an alliance of Opposition politicians in the National Assembly, including from more than a dozen defectors from his own political party members, who announced on Monday that they had "accepted the Opposition's invitation" to vote against him.

**3** Khan's party had 155 members in the 342-member National Assembly and needed at least 172 lawmakers to retain power.

### What is no-confidence motion?

A motion of no-confidence is a statement or vote about whether a person in a position of responsibility (government, management etc.) is



NEWSMAKER of the week

still deemed fit to hold that position. The motion is passed when the person is found to be inadequate in some aspect, fails to carry out their obligations, or makes decisions that other members feel as being detrimental.

DID YOU KNOW?

No prime minister in Pakistan's history has ever been ousted through a no-confidence motion and Khan is the third premier to face the challenge

LEARNING IN THE CLASSROOM

TEACHER PROMPT TO STUDENTS:

- Divide a class to groups of 4 and let each group select a leader (play Pakistan PM Imran Khan)
- Prompt the student to think as Pakistan Prime Minister and need to convince the Assembly (fellow classmates) why you should stay in power

POINTS TO BE INCLUDED IN SPEECH:

- Indo-Pak relations
- China-Pak relations
- New gas pipeline
- Economic condition of Pakistan
- Corruption in Pakistan

Step 2: After 4 students present, make the class vote Aye or Nay against each of them. The best Imran wins!

**TIMES NIE INVITES TEACHERS AND STUDENTS:** Times NIE invites you to share unique ways in which concepts are being taught in classrooms. Write to us [toinie175@gmail.com](mailto:toinie175@gmail.com)



The Butterfly effect

Back in 1972, Edward Lorenz presented a speech entitled 'Predictability: Does the Flap of a Butterfly's Wings in Brazil' set off a Tornado in Texas? It is meant to explain how small and seemingly insignificant changes can sometimes lead to much bigger changes. The theory gained popularity and thus, came to be known as the Butterfly Effect. The unusual analogy is not unusual if we see it today.

Indicators of healthy ecosystem

Butterflies are sensitive to climate change and depend on a clean environment for their survival. Nectar from flowers provides butterflies with carbohydrates and amino acids for survival. In return, butterflies pollinate the plants. This pollination, also known as psychophily, results in the production of seeds, meaning more plants in the future. No wonder butterflies are also called the first botanists. Butterflies take the daytime shift while the moths get active by night as pollinators.

**T**he annual mass migration of the orange and black butterflies to the coast of California, as well as a separate odyssey to the mountains of central Mexico, is among the grandest of spectacles in the natural world. But the gatherings are becoming more spotty. In the 1980s, the horde in California could be estimated to be four or five million strong. Recent years have seen a worrying slide.

TALKING POINTS IN CLASSROOM

SO WHERE DID THE PHRASE LIKE A MOTH TO A FLAME COME FROM, ONE MAY ASK?

- Moths are predominantly nocturnal beings. They instinctively depend on the natural source of light, that is, the moon, for their navigation. This dependence on the moon is also called transverse orientation.
- When we speak of the Butterfly Effect, we can also look into the fact that but-

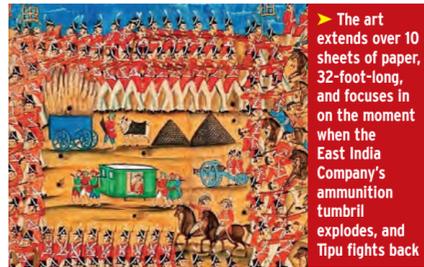


terflies support other organisms too. For example, birds and insects. The decline in the number of butterflies and moths will directly impact the number of birds and insects, which in turn will affect the ecosystem. Well, the flap of butterfly wings will not cause a tornado somewhere, but a rapid decline in the number of butterflies will lead to the extinction of certain plant species that depend solely on these critters for their survival. We are in the middle of the sixth extinction!

History

## Tipu Painting Sold: £630,000!

**A**vividly illustrated painting depicting a historic victory of Mysore ruler Haider Ali and his son Tipu Sultan over the East India Company in 1780 went under the hammer in London recently for whopping £630,000.



The art extends over 10 sheets of paper, 32-foot-long, and focuses in on the moment when the East India Company's ammunition tumbrel explodes, and Tipu fights back

"The Battle of Pollilur" took place on September 10, 1780 as part of the Second Anglo-Mysore War. As a visual record of the battle and to commemorate his victory, Tipu Sultan had commissioned a painting of the battle as part of a large mural for the newly-built Daria Daulat Bagh in Seringapatam in 1784. "Tipu Sultan was probably the most effective opponent that the East India Company ever faced. Tipu showed that the Indians could fight back, that they could win... the first time that a European army is defeated in India is this Battle of Pollilur," said historian William Dalrymple.

LEARNING IN THE CLASSROOM



Get children to enact the scene of auction. Let them play a bidding game of the painting. And amid the bidding, ask them to state why they really want to buy the painting. This will help teacher to better students' communication skills, history and put current affairs to use.