



THE TIMES OF INDIA

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TODAY'S EDITION

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STUDENT EDITION

THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 2022



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RACE TO RAISINA BEGINS

NDA PICKS Droupadi Murmu, Opposition goes with Yashwant Sinha



I am surprised, I was not able to believe it. I am thankful. Whatever powers are there of President in Constitution, I will work accordingly
DROUPADI MURMU

■ Murmu, who hails from Odisha, becomes the first woman tribal leader to contest for the country's highest constitutional post. Before this, she also holds the record of being the first tribal woman governor in the country

■ Her tenure as the governor of Jharkhand for more than six years was non-controversial. After the completion of her tenure, she left the Jharkhand Raj Bhavan for her village in Odisha's Rairangpur on July 12, 2021, and is living there since then

■ Murmu had served twice as an MLA and once as a minister in Odisha, before being sworn in as the governor of Jharkhand on May 18, 2015

■ Her five-year term as governor was to end on May 18, 2020, but was automatically extended due to non-appointment of a new governor due to the ongoing Covid pandemic

■ Born on June 20, 1958 in Odisha in a simple Santhal tribal family,

Murmu started her political career in 1997. She was elected as a councillor of the district board in Rairangpur in 1997

■ Prior to joining politics, Murmu worked as an honorary assistant teacher at Sri Aurobindo Integral Education and Research, Rairangpur, and as a junior assistant in the irrigation department

■ She was also awarded the Neelkanth Award for 'Best Legislator' by the Odisha Legislative Assembly

If she wins the presidential race, Murmu will become India's first tribal woman President after a Dalit and a Muslim President

The NDA on Tuesday chose former Jharkhand governor and tribal leader Droupadi Murmu as its candidate for the post of President, against opposition candidate Yashwant Sinha for the election to be held on July 18. The last date for filing nomination for the presidential poll is June 29, while voting will take place on July 18. Counting of votes will take place on July 21

With both the names now out, the NDA has an advantage over the UPA, not just in terms of numbers, but also in terms of the candidate, as the idea of the first tribal to ever be the President of India will be a powerful inducement to get support from different fence sitting political parties like the Biju Janata Dal (BJD), the YSRCP, and others. Based on the current numbers, the NDA has about 5.26 lakh votes in total, which is roughly about 49 per cent of the total vote. This means that the NDA needs one per cent more votes to get its candidate elected for the President

■ Former Union minister Yashwant Sinha has been declared as a joint nominee by major opposition parties, including the Congress, the National Congress Party (NCP) and the Trinamool Congress party (TMC)

■ The veteran politician, who has been an MP from Jharkhand, "stepped aside" from the Trinamool Congress before the announcement of his name, and will file his nomination papers on June 27

■ Sinha's political career, which began in 1986, took a great leap when he was appointed the finance minister (November 1990 to June 1991) in the Chandra Shekhar Cabinet. He later served as the finance and external affairs minister in the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government

■ According to reports, Sinha is the

Now, a time has come when for a larger national cause, I must step aside from the party to work for greater opposition unity
YASHWANT SINHA

man responsible for breaking the tradition of presenting Budgets in the evening

■ Sinha's 1998-99 Budget was the first to have been presented in the morning, a practice that has been followed since

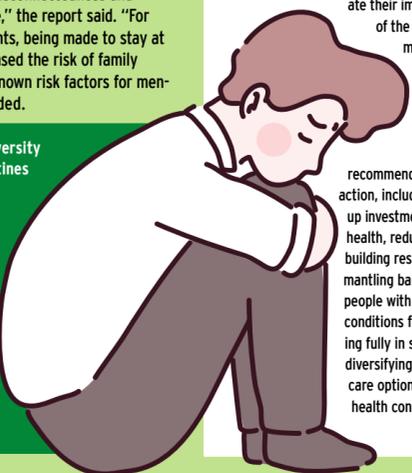
Sinha's name came up after Pawar, Gopalkrishna Gandhi and Farooq Abdullah declined the opposition's offer to be their joint candidate for the top post

■ In the later years of the BJP, he found himself on the margins, and in 2018 he finally stepped away from the BJP, and later joined TMC in 2021

School closures during Covid spiked mental health crisis in kids: WHO

Closure of schools during Covid-induced lockdowns across the world had a "deep impact" and spiked "global mental health crisis" in young children, according to a recent report by the World Health Organisation (WHO). The report said that globally there was a greater change in prevalence of major depressive disorders and anxiety disorders, among younger age groups than older ones, potentially reflecting the "deep impact of school closures and social restrictions on youth mental health". "Restrictions imposed during the Covid pandemic, for example, had significant mental health consequences for many, including stress, anxiety or depression stemming from social isolation, disconnectedness and uncertainty about the future," the report said. "For some children and adolescents, being made to stay at home is likely to have increased the risk of family stress or abuse, which are known risk factors for mental health problems," it added.

Extended school and university closures interrupted routines and social connections, meaning that young people missed out on learning and experiences expected for healthy development. The disruption and isolation fuelled feelings of anxiety, uncertainty and loneliness, and led to affective and behavioural problems



1 The WHO report estimates more than one billion people are living with a mental health condition, after increasing by more than 25 per cent during the first year of the pandemic

2 While before the pandemic, the WHO estimated as many as one in seven (14 per cent) of children had a mental health disorder. The rise in the condition post pandemic in children could be significant

3 The WHO has called for urgent action on transforming mental healthcare. The report also urged all countries to accelerate their implementation of the Comprehensive mental health action plan 2013-2030

4 It also makes several recommendations for action, including stepping up investments in mental health, reducing risks, building resilience and dismantling barriers that stop people with mental health conditions from participating fully in society, and diversifying and scaling up care options for all mental health conditions

The functioning of Enforcement Directorate



The Enforcement Directorate (ED) questioned Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for over 10 hours on Tuesday in an alleged money-laundering case linked to the National Herald newspaper. The ED is investigating Gandhi family's role in the ownership transfer of the National Herald - the company that runs the newspaper - to Young Indian Ltd.

WHAT IS ED: X-PLAINED

It is a multi-dimensional agency that investigates economic offences under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, Foreign Exchange Management Act and Foreign Exchange Regulation Act. It was set up in May 1956 as an 'enforcement unit' in the department of economic affairs under the Union finance ministry.

POWERS AND PROBE:

■ The ED draws its powers from the PMLA 2002 and probes cases of financial irregularity exceeding ₹1 crore.
■ The ED cases come mostly from the police or the CBI.
■ The ED does not register an FIR, rather Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR) for its investigation.
■ The ED can conduct raids, seize money or documents, call a suspect for questioning, demand documents for financial transactions and arrest an accused for alleged money laundering.

Beyoncé makes a comeback, releases first song 'Break My Soul'

Beyoncé launched 'Break My Soul', the very first track from her next seventh solo record, 'Renaissance'. The first track was published three hours in advance on TIDAL, her husband Jay-streaming Z's service. This is the most awaited album that her fans have been yearning for. An album with fantastic dance music, a plinking, aggressive melody, a scorching rhythm; and occasional exhortations from Big Freedia, co-produced by the 'Single Ladies' group of The-Dream and Tricky Stewart. According to reports, the record will feature songs focused on dance and nationalism and works by renowned songwriter Ryan Tedder.



NEWS IN CLUES

WHICH IS THE LATEST ENTRANT IN INDIA'S AVIATION SPACE?

CLUE 1: The man often called India's Warren Buffett is its chief promoter.

CLUE 2: The company's brand slogan is "it's your sky".

CLUE 3: The airline's CEO was earlier the CEO of Jet Airways and Go First.

Answer: AKASA AIR. The airline received its first aircraft, a Boeing 737 MAX at Delhi's Indra Gandhi International Airport on Tuesday. Its largest shareholder is Rakesh Jhunjhunwala, often called Big Bull or India's Warren Buffett for his acumen in investing in stocks, and who owns 40% of the airline. Its CEO is Vinay Dube, who earlier headed Jet Airways and Go First

Everything you need to know about all that matters..

DEAD STAR CAUGHT RIPPING UP PLANETARY SYSTEM

Florida, USA: A star's death throes have so violently disrupted its planetary system that the dead star left behind, called a white dwarf, is siphoning off debris from both the system's inner and outer reaches. This is the first time astronomers have observed such a phenomenon. AGENCIES



This illustrated diagram of the planetary system G238-44 traces its destruction

- The findings help describe the violent nature of evolved planetary systems and can tell astronomers about the makeup of newly forming systems.
- The findings are based on analysing material captured by the atmosphere of the nearby white dwarf star G238-44.

WTO NATIONS AGREE ON TRADE TIES DESPITE POLITICAL DISAGREEMENTS

Geneva, Switzerland: The 164 member countries of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) finally sealed a package of trade agreements in the wee hours on June 17 in Geneva, with India leading the course. The WTO negotiations were noteworthy because they proved the world's governments can navigate huge political disagreements -- such as the West's opposition to Russia's war with Ukraine -- to reach outcomes that advance the cause of economic cooperation. AGENCIES



WESTERN EUROPEANS WILT IN EARLY SUMMER HEATWAVE

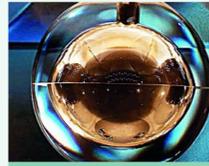
Madrid, Spain: Spain witnessed its hottest early summer temperatures in four decades on June 17. A city in France banned outdoor events, and drought stalked Italian farmers as a heatwave sent the Europeans hunting for shade and fretting over climate change. REUTERS



- The soaring temperatures were in line with scientists' predictions that such phenomena will now strike earlier in the year thanks to global warming.

SCIENTISTS IN CHINA FIND SIGNS OF WATER FROM LUNAR LAVA PLAIN

Beijing, China: Chinese scientists have found signs of water in samples retrieved by China from a lava plain on the moon, bringing them closer to understanding its origin there - a crucial question for future lunar exploration. In a paper published in *Nature Communications* last week, the scientists said they had analysed remnants of solidified lava retrieved by an uncrewed Chinese mission from the plain known as the "Ocean of Storms" and found evidence of water in the form of hydroxyl encased in a crystalline mineral known as apatite. AGENCIES



Moon samples from China's lunar exploration program Chang'e-5 Mission are displayed during an exhibition at the National Museum in Beijing, China



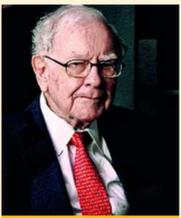
AFTER GOLD, NEERAJ EYES 'DIAMOND'

After clinching a gold medal in the 2022 Kuortane Games on Saturday, Tokyo Olympics champion Neeraj Chopra said he is looking forward to Kicking off his Diamond League season in Stockholm on June 30 despite enduring a nasty fall during his third attempt in the competition.

SPORTSMAN OF THE WEEK

WARREN BUFFETT CHARITY LUNCH FETCHES WINNING BID OF \$19 MLN

San Francisco, USA: A lucky, and likely wealthy, person bid more than \$19 million to dine with Warren Buffett, in the 21st and final time that the billionaire businessman auctioned a private lunch to benefit a San Francisco charity. The winning bid in the eBay auction that ended on June 17 surpassed the previous record of \$4.57 million, although the new winner's identity could not immediately be determined. REUTERS



Warren Buffett, CEO of Berkshire Hathaway Inc

CHINA BLOCKS INDIA-US JOINT BID TO LABEL MAKKI AS 'GLOBAL TERRORIST'

Beijing, China: China once again provided support to Islamabad's state-sponsored terror on June 16 as it blocked a proposal by India and the US to list Pakistan-based terrorist Abdul Rehman Makki as a 'Global Terrorist' under the ISIS and Al Qaeda Sanctions Committee of the UN Security Council. AGENCIES



Abdul Rehman Makki

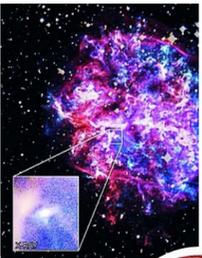
JAPANESE CHILDREN ALLOWED TO TALK AGAIN OVER LUNCH AS COVID CASES FALL

Tokyo, Japan: After two years of eating in near-monastic silence, children in Japan have been given permission to chat with their classmates over lunch, as Covid cases have started to fall. AGENCIES



A VERY HIGH SPEED YOUNG PULSAR IS BLAZING THROUGH OUR GALAXY

Florida, USA: Recently, NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory spotted a young pulsar blazing through the Milky Way at a speed of around a million miles per hour. This pulsar is one of the fastest objects of its kind ever seen. AGENCIES



- Pulsars are rapidly spinning neutron stars, highly dense stars composed almost entirely of neutrons. They are formed when massive stars run out of fuel, collapse, and explode.



METaverse: THE FUTURE OF VIRTUAL REALITY

Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh: What started as a fictional concept in 1992 is slowly becoming a reality - albeit in the virtual world. From healthcare to virtual offices and real estate to retail, the Metaverse is set to change the way we live. AGENCIES



- Metaverse, which was first coined by Neal Stephenson in his fictional book Snow Crash has over the past few years gained prominence - thanks to Facebook which has transformed into Meta.



AGNIPATH IGNITES IRE AMONGST YOUTH



Protests against 'Agnipathi' scheme

Patna, Bihar: 12 trains burnt, stations vandalised in 'Agnipath' protest amidst similar acts of violence across the nation. AGENCIES

- period of four years.
- **WHY ARE ASPIRANTS PROTESTING?** They are agitating against the four-year service provision of the scheme. The protesting army aspirants said neither job seekers nor the country will benefit from the scheme. As this youth will be rendered jobless after four years.

'PRICES OF EV TO BE ON PAR WITH COST OF PETROL VEHICLES IN A YEAR'

Delhi, India: Union Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari on 17 June said the prices of all electric vehicles (EVs) will be equal to the cost of petrol vehicles in the country within one year. "I am trying...within one year, the cost of electric vehicles will be equivalent to the cost of petrol vehicles," Gadkari said.



Nitin Gadkari

- An electric vehicle (EV) is one that operates on an electric motor, instead of an internal-combustion engine that generates power by burning a mix of fuel and gases.



AUSTRALIA MAY BE PLUNGED INTO DARKNESS

Sydney, Australia: If things continue as they are, there's a huge chance that Australia will be plunged into darkness. The country is battling an energy crisis and the situation turned grave last week with Australia's energy minister Chris Bowen saying people should not use electricity for two hours every evening if they "have a choice". Bowen asked people living in New South Wales to conserve as much power as possible. AGENCIES



FIRE IN THE MOUNTAIN



The Pipeline Fire leaves the mountains northeast of the San Francisco Peaks glowing with thousands of spot fires north of Flagstaff, Arizona on June 13. REUTERS

PICTURE OF THE WEEK



HOW WELL DO YOU READ THE TIMES OF INDIA STUDENT EDITION, LET'S FIND OUT: NAME THE INDIAN CRICKETER WHO HAS BEEN NAMED AS CAPTAIN FOR IRELAND T20IS.

- A. Virat Kohli B. Ajinkya Rahane C. Hardik Pandya D. Rohit Sharma

Ans: C

Did you know: India's T20I squad: Hardik Pandya (Captain), Bhuvneshwar Kumar (vice-captain), Ishan Kishan, Ruturaj Gaikwad, Sanju Samson, Suryakumar Yadav, Venkatesh Iyer, Deepak Hooda, Rahul Tripathi, Dinesh Karthik (wicket-keeper), Yuzvendra Chahal, Axar Patel, Ravi Bishnoi, Harshal Patel, Avesh Khan, Arshdeep Singh, Umran Malik

1. India ranked at which spot in the top recipients of FDI in the last calendar year (2021), according to the UNCTAD World Investment Report?
A. 12th B. 7th C. 13th D. 5th

2. Scholarship for PMCAES Children' scheme

was launched under which Ministry?

- A. Ministry of Home Affairs
B. Ministry of Law and Justice
C. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
D. Ministry of Women and Children

3. Which country has recently released a new geological map of the moon?
A. China B. Russia C. India D. USA



ANSWERS

1. B. 7th 2. C. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment 3. A. China