



SWAMI VIVEKANANDA

WISE WORDS >>

Truth can be stated in a thousand different ways, yet each one can be true.



Hindustan Times

FIRST VOICE. LAST WORD.



Helede, Belgium: A student sanitises her hands



Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan: Distancing rule being followed

AT SCHOOLS, MASKS OUTNUMBER BOOKS

Schools in many countries, including Britain, France, Russia, Spain and China, reopened this week after over six months. The ubiquitous sight of children wearing masks brought to the fore the current reality of a world caught in the vice-like grip of Covid-19.

AGENCIES



Seville, Spain: Students arrive for pending exams

Nice, France: A class in progress at the Henri Matisse School



Illinois, US: Temperature check at an elementary school



Wuhan, China: Student at an elementary school



Use this QR code with the photos/story related to children returning to school.

TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION RANKING

63 Indian univs listed, the highest so far; IISc retains top spot

Prasun Sonwalkar

LONDON: The Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, has retained its position as the highest-rated Indian university while the country recorded the highest tally of 63 universities in the Times Higher Education University Ranking 2021 released on Wednesday.

The 63 universities in the 2021 ranking is an increase of 14 from last year.

The University of Oxford retains the top spot in the ranking based on assessment of over 1,500 universities' quality of teaching, international outlook, research and knowledge transfer.

Of the debutant Indian institutions to qualify in this year's rankings, Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology Delhi, King George's Medical University, and Mahatma Gandhi University rank highest (601-800 band).

Overall, the Indian Institute of Science (301-350) maintains its position as the highest-ranked Indian university in the rankings since it first qualified for the rankings in 2015, organisers of the ranking said.

Phil Baty of Times Higher Education said: "The news that India sees a record number of its universities qualify for the rankings is a fantastic accolade for the country.

"Open only to the best researched institutions in the world, quali-

THE PRESENCE OF 63 INDIAN UNIVERSITIES IN THE RANKING IS AN INCREASE OF 14 FROM LAST YEAR. A TOTAL OF 1,527 INSTITUTIONS QUALIFIED TO FIGURE IN THE RANKING.

fication alone is a huge achievement.

"But India's record participation clearly highlights India's desire to compete with the very best on the world stage. Not only does participation in the rankings allow universities to be visible to the rest of the world, but also helps to monitor their progress against the global benchmarks in higher education", he added.

This year 1,527 institutions qualified to figure in the ranking, a 9% increase from 2020, when 1,397 institutions qualified.

Baty added: "India has recently suffered from a lack of internationalisation within its institutions. The recent announcement of the New Education Policy, the first of its kind since 1986, could be a great step in the right direction for India".

"With proposed comprehensive changes to Indian higher education, such as the approval for foreign universities to open campuses in India, the policy is an incredibly exciting turning point for the country", he said.



The IISc, Bengaluru, (in the pic) maintains its position as the highest-ranked Indian university since it first qualified for the rankings in 2015

IN THE NEWS



This is the third time India has banned China-linked apps in a stepped-up backlash over an increasingly bitter border showdown between the neighbours

Govt bans 118 China-linked mobile apps, including PUBG, for stealing users' data

NEW DELHI: Amid rising tension with China at the Line of Actual Control (LAC), the Centre on Wednesday banned 118 more mobile applications, including the wildly popular gaming platform PUBG, for "stealing and surreptitiously transmitting users' data in an unauthorised manner".

This is the third time India has banned China-linked apps in a stepped-up backlash over an increasingly bitter border showdown between the neighbours. In the first round of bans on June 29, the ministry of electronics and information technology (MeitY) took down short-video-sharing app TikTok and 59 other China-linked applications. In the second round on July 23, the IT ministry banned mirror applications that

were functioning even after the previous ban. The IT ministry on Wednesday said the 118 apps — including the mobile version of PUBG that has been downloaded over 175 million times in India and other services provided by China internet giant Tencent — promoted activities "prejudicial to sovereignty and integrity of India, defence of India, security of state and public order".

The list of 118 mostly Chinese apps also includes applications from Baidu and Xiaomi's ShareSave. These "apps collect and share data in a surreptitious manner and compromise personal data and information of users that can have a severe threat to the security of the State," the IT ministry said in a statement.

Chinese bus offers new evidence of airborne coronavirus spread, says study

WASHINGTON: A person on a poorly ventilated Chinese bus infected nearly two dozen other passengers with coronavirus even though many weren't sitting close by, according to research published on Tuesday that offers fresh evidence the disease can spread in the air.

Health authorities had initially discounted the possibility that simply breathing could send infectious micro-droplets into the air, but did a U-turn as experts piled on pressure and evidence mounted.

The article published on Tuesday in JAMA Internal Medicine probes the threat of airborne infection by taking a close look at passengers who made a 50-minute trip to a Buddhist event in the eastern Chinese city of Ningbo aboard two buses in January before face masks became routine against the virus.

Researchers believe a passenger, whose gender was not identified, was likely patient zero because the person had been in contact with people from Wuhan, where the contagion emerged last year. (See also pg2) AFP



Sumit Nagal, who beat American Bradley Klahn, will face world no. 3 Dominic Thiem at the US Open on Thursday

Nagal is first Indian to win a round at Grand Slam in 7 yrs

NEW YORK: Sumit Nagal became the first Indian tennis player to win a round at a Grand Slam in seven years when he dethroned American Bradley Klahn in his US Open first round, setting up a contest against world number three Dominic Thiem.

Returning to the Flushing Meadows where he took a set off Roger Federer last year, the Indian got past the local rival, ranked just a rung above the Indian at 126th in the world, 6-1 6-3 6-1 in two hours and 12 minutes on Tuesday night.

Somdev Devvarman was the last Indian to win a main draw match at a major and incidentally, it was at the US Open in 2013 when he beat Slovakia's Lukas Lacko after coming through qualifiers.

"I qualified for a junior Slam in 2013 here and then the men's and now to win my first round here means a lot. I enjoy playing here and it was worked out in my favour few times," Nagal said.

Chinese university criticised for asking female students to follow dress code

BEIJING: A Chinese university sparked widespread outrage at the start of the academic year this week as female students discovered that they were asked to follow a dress code.

The Guangxi University on August 1 published a safety guide for incoming first-year female students, including a dress code that suggested that women were not supposed to wear anything deemed overly revealing on grounds that it could arouse "temptation" and will be held responsible for harassment or even assault. Reuters confirmed on Wednesday that spaghetti-strap tops had been banned in the university library.

The university also advised girls to avoid high heels in some circumstances. China's nascent #MeToo movement scored a small victory this year after the country's parlia-



The dress code for first-year female students was part of the varsity safety guide

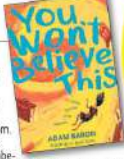
ment enacted legislation that for the first time defined what constitutes sexual harassment. It also holds schools and other organisations responsible for preventing and handling such harassment.

The hashtag "Guangxi University female students' security guide" garnered 200 million views on the Chinese Weibo social media platform.

HARPERCOLLINS BOOKS LIST

YOU WON'T BELIEVE THIS

Author: Adam Baron
This is a hilarious novel of friendship and family secrets which shows that people are people, no matter where they are from. Someone is doing terrible things to Mrs Martin, Cymbeline Igloo's favourite teacher of all time. Cymbeline has to find the culprit (he has learned what the word 'culprit' means). He also has to help his friend Veronique, whose grandma is very ill. It seems Nana has a secret, connected to her arrival in the UK as a boat person from Vietnam, a traumatic figure in which she lost her twin sister. Can Cymbeline figure out the mystery in time? You will enjoy reading this tale.



FANTASY, FUN AND FRIENDSHIP: ALL FOR YOUNG READERS

If you love reading tales about friendship, fantasy and fun, the books listed here would interest you. These include a hilarious novel of friendship and family secrets, a heart-warming story about learning love that is never lost, and a true one of sacrificing everything for family. In addition, there are also a magical fantasy and an extraordinarily interesting novel for you.



MY NAME IS TANI

Author: Tanitoluwa Adebunmi, Craig Borlase
This is a true story of sacrificing everything for family, living with nothing but hope, then sharing generously all they received to discover the greatest riches of all. At the age of 8, Tani Adebunmi, a Nigerian refugee, won the 2019 New York State Chess Championship after playing the game for only a year while he was homeless. The amazing story of Tani and his family began amid Boko Haram's reign of terror in Nigeria. They fled their home to the United States, where they lived in a shelter for the homeless in New York City as they waited to be granted religious asylum. To know what happened next, pick up the book.

STORM

Author: Nicola Skinner
It is a new extraordinarily moving novel from the author of the highly acclaimed Bloom. Frances's parents were not prepared for her birth. They had a blanket, an easel and some paint, but nothing useful like a car or a phone. It's no wonder Frankie has always had a temper. She was born on a beach in a storm. What Frances was not prepared for was dying in a freak natural disaster that wiped out her whole town. Waking up 100 years later, Frances finds a whole load of new things to be angry about. And that's before the visitors start turning up, treating her home like a tourist attraction. There are worse people out there than tourists... and they are coming for Frankie who is about to discover that there are things more important than herself - and that anger has its uses. Because when you have a storm inside you - sometimes the only thing to do is let it out...



STARFELLO: WILLOW MOSS AND THE FORGOTTEN TALE

Author: Dominique Valente
Illustrated beautifully by Sarah Warburton, this fantasy is ideal for young readers. Willow Moss, the youngest and least powerful sister in a family of witches, recently saved the world. The problem is that nobody can remember it. To make matters worse, her magical ability seems broken. Instead of finding lost things, objects keep disappearing against her will... which is troubling now that her friend Sometimes needs her help! Sometimes has discovered how to see 10 minutes into the future. Unfortunately that time is only enough to find out that his kidnap papers are on their way! Find out whether Moss could help Sometimes.



THE GIRL WITH SPACE IN HER HEART

Author: Lara Williamson
This is a heart-warming, laugh-out-loud story about learning that love is never lost and change doesn't have to be scary. Mabel Myer knows a lot about space... like how we feel connected to the stars because we are all made of stardust. And that mum's new boyfriend, Galactic Gavin, has eyes that twinkle like Sirius, the brightest star in the night sky. And that sometimes the perfect place for her sister Terrence Topaz will be a black hole. But Mabel doesn't know how to fill the space in her heart that dad left when he walked out. And so she sets out on a mission of discovery.



WHAT'S COOKING

KHAMAN DHOKLA

INGREDIENTS
Gram flour (besan) sieved - 2 cups; yogurt (beaten) - 1 cup; salt to taste; turmeric powder - 1/2 tsp; green chilli-ginger paste - 1 tsp; oil - 2 tsp; lemon juice - 1 tsp; soda bicarbonate - 1 tsp; mustard seeds - 1 tsp; fresh coriander leaves (chopped) - 2 tsp; coconut (strapped) - 1/2 cup



METHOD
Take gram flour in a bowl. Add yogurt and approximately one cup of warm water and mix. Avoid lumps. Add salt to it and mix again. Leave it aside to ferment for three to four hours. When gram flour mixture is fermented, add turmeric powder and green chilli-ginger paste. Mix. Heat the steamer. Grease a thali. In a small bowl, take lemon juice, soda bicarbonate, one teaspoon of oil and mix. Add it to the batter and what's left. Pour batter into the greased thali and place it in the steamer. Cover with the lid and steam for 10 minutes. When a little

cool, cut into squares and keep in a serving bowl or plate. Heat the remaining oil in a small pan. Add mustard seeds. When the seeds begin to crackle, remove and pour over the dhoklas. Garnish it with chopped coriander leaves and scaped coconut. It is ready now.

SEMIYA UPMA

INGREDIENTS
Rice vermicelli (semiya) - 2 cups; oil - 2 1/2 tsp; mustard seeds - 1 tsp; urad dal (split black lentils) - 2 tsp; onion (finely chopped) - 1/2 cup; green chillies (chopped) - 2 tsp; green coriander (chopped) - 2 tsp; lemon juice - 1 tsp; salt to taste

METHOD
Put rice vermicelli, salt, 1/2 tsp oil and two cups of hot water in a bowl and mix well. Cover and keep it aside for 8 to 10 minutes or till the vermicelli turns soft. Drain and keep aside. Heat the remaining 2 tsp of oil in a pan and add mustard seeds and urad dal. When the seeds crackle, add onion and green chillies and saute on a medium flame for 1 to 2 minutes. Add vermicelli, coriander, lemon juice and little salt. Mix well and cook on a medium flame for 1 to 2 minutes, while stirring occasionally. Serve the semiya upma hot with coconut chutney.



EFFORTS TO REIN IN COVID-19

Regular masks better at curbing spread of aerosol droplets than valved ones

Press Trust of India
WASHINGTON: Face masks with exhale valves and face shields may not be as effective as regular masks in restricting the spread of aerosol droplets, and could potentially hamper Covid-19 mitigation efforts, researchers have found. The scientists from Florida Atlantic University in the US used qualitative visualisations to test how face shields and masks with valves perform in impeding the spread of aerosol-sized droplets. They found that widespread public use of these alternatives to regular masks could potentially have an adverse effect on mitigation efforts. For the study, published in the journal Physics of Fluids, the researchers employed flow visualisation in a laboratory setting using a laser light sheet, and a mixture of distilled water and glycerin to generate the synthetic fog that made up the content of a cough jet. They visualised droplets expelled from a mannequin's mouth while simulating coughing and sneezing. By placing a plastic face shield and an N95-rated face mask with a valve, the researchers including Siddhartha

Verma, lead author and an assistant professor at Florida Atlantic University, were able to map out the paths of droplets and demonstrate how they performed. Results of the study show that although face shields block the initial forward motion of the jet, the expelled droplets move around the visor with relative ease and spread out over a large area depending on light ambient disturbances, the researchers said. "From this latest study, we were able to observe that face shields are able to block the initial forward motion of the exhaled jet, however, aerosolised droplets expelled with the jet are able to move around the visor with relative ease," said Manhar Dhanak, professor and co-author of the paper. To demonstrate the performance of the face shield, the researchers used a horizontal laser sheet in addition to a vertical laser sheet revealing how the droplets cross the horizontal plane. Not only did the researchers observe forward spread of the droplets, but also found that the droplets also spread in the reverse direction. The researchers noted that face shields impede forward motion of the exhaled droplets to some extent, and masks with valves do so to an even lesser extent. However, once released into the environment, the aerosolised droplets get dispersed widely depending on light ambient disturbances, they said. Like the N95-rated face mask used in this study, other types of masks such as certain cloth-based masks that are available commercially also come equipped with one or two exhale ports, located on either side of the facemask. The N95-rated face mask with the exhale valve used in this study had a small amount of exhaled droplets that escaped from the gap between the top of the mask and the bridge of the nose, the researchers said. The exhalation port significantly reduced the effectiveness of the mask as a means of source control, as a large number of droplets passed through the valve unfiltered and unhindered, the researchers said.

MIND GAME

SUDOKU

	2	3		5	1	9		
			2				7	
	9							
3					2			9
8	5				6		2	
			5		7			3
		9	8			7		
6		1			4	5		

SCRAMBLE

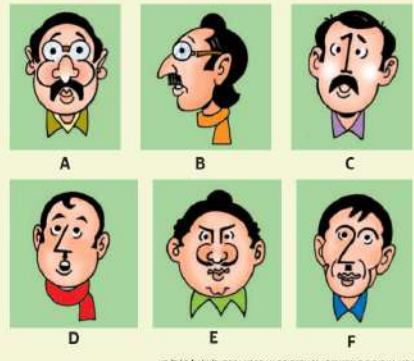
Solve the four anagrams and move one letter to each square to form four ordinary words.

CGLIO	*	*	*
MUTON	*	*	*
CITZHN	*	*	*
FILNRY	*	*	*

Now arrange the letters marked with an asterisk (*) to form the answer to the riddle or to fill in the missing words as indicated. When you have given ask for Albatran proverb (7, 7) (Same word twice)

HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

Put these six heads in the correct order. You should be able to spot the clue in a minute!



Amna Shariq Rezales

HANDS ON

WOVEN CRAFT STICK BASKETS

SUPPLIES
• Paper snack cup
• Craft sticks
• Glue
• Scissors
• Yarns of different colours



INSTRUCTIONS

Use a pair of scissors to cut the top section off of a 3.5" wide paper snack cup, leaving about two inches left on the base of the cup. Add around 15 large craft sticks around the base of the cup with a dab of hot glue, leaving just a small space between them. You'll need to add an odd number for the weaving to work. To begin weaving, tie a knot of yarn around one of the craft sticks and trim any excess yarn. Push the loop down to the top of the cup line.



This is where the weaving will begin. To weave the yarn between the craft sticks, alternate in front and behind each craft stick as you work around the cup. Continue this process to create rows of yarn. You can push down the rows as you go to make them even and close together. To add another colour of yarn, trim the previous colour and tie the end to a new colour of yarn with a double knot. Trim any excess yarn and hide the knot on the backside of one of the craft sticks. Continue weaving with the new colour. Once you have reached the top of the cup, trim the yarn and secure to the back of a craft stick with glue. You can turn your woven baskets into planters by filling them with faux plants or flowers.

EMOTION CHANGING PAPER CUP OCTOPUS



SUPPLIES

- 2 paper cups (white preferable)
- Black permanent marker
- Colourful permanent marker or acrylic paint
- Craft knife
- Pencil

INSTRUCTIONS

Take one of the paper cups and draw an octopus on it. You can sketch it with a pencil first so that you can 'fix' things if necessary. Draw the final design with permanent marker. Colour the octopus with a colourful permanent marker or acrylic paint. Cut out a rectangle in the head region with a knife. Now you have one cup with a hole, take another cup and push it inside the one with the hole. Take a regular pencil and trace the rectangle (though the rectangle hole) to make a rectangle outline on the cup inside. Take the cup out. Draw different facial expressions inside rectangle outlines. Happy, angry, sad, whatever you like. Colour around expressions with the same colour as you did the octopus body. Let it dry. Place the cup with the octopus body on top of the cup with faces. Rotate the paper cups and have fun watching this paper cup octopus craft change its face.

MATHDOKU

9+		7=	2+	
4x			10+	1-
	7,			
9+		9+	7+	

Place numbers into the puzzle cells so that each row and column contains each of the digits from 1 to 5. No number is to be repeated in any row or column. Each bold-outlined cell contains a hint of a number and one of the mathematical symbols +, x, -, /. The number is the result of the operation represented by the symbol to the digits contained.

GEARING UP FOR MERRYMAKING



A man puts finishing touches to a fish lantern installation to light up the compound of a public building ahead of the Mid-Autumn Festival in Singapore on Wednesday. The festival celebrates the end of the autumn harvest. AFP

Solutions

2	5	7	6	1	8	9	4
9	4	2	8	5	1	7	3
1	6	3	4	5	2	7	8
7	2	3	4	5	2	1	6
4	2	1	9	6	7	5	8
6	8	5	2	1	7	4	3
5	1	2	7	8	4	2	6
7	4	6	2	1	9	8	3
8	9	6	1	7	3	2	4

SCRAMBLE SOLUTION WORDS:
MATHS, MOUNT, CHINA, FLYING
FOUR, NINE, TWO, FIVE, NINE
MATHS SOLUTION WORDS:
3 4 2 5 1
2 5 1 4 3
1 2 6 3 4
4 1 3 2 5
5 3 4 1 2



The exhalation port significantly reduced the effectiveness of the mask as a means of source control, as a large number of droplets passed through the valve unfiltered and unhindered, the researchers said. (REPRESENTATIONAL IMAGE) PPTFE