



Sports:

Lewis Hamilton wins his 100th as Russian GP comes to a thrilling conclusion



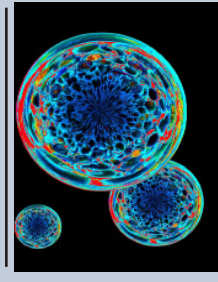
International :

IMF Chief Accused of Data Manipulation



National :

Celebrating 152 Years Of Mahatma Gandhi: The Father Of Our Nation



Local :

Ground breaking Anti-Cancer invention in Mangalore Uni gets patented

"Exploit the Full Potential of Tourism, Develop More Destinations": Udupi MLA

Sriteja T

Udupi: The Udupi district administration celebrated World Tourism Day on Monday. After launching the World Tourism Day celebrations in Udupi, K Raghupathi Bhat, MLA, pointed out that the pandemic had severely harmed the tourism sector. Not only was it the ideal time to get things back on track, but it was also the right time to take them to new heights. The MLA advocated that the full potential of the tourism sector should be exploited as the industry is opening up after the pandemic. "The district admin



Inauguration by MLA Raghupati B (Source: Twitter - @ragupathibhat)

istration should send its report on various tourism-related projects and seek funds from the government. Udupi can attract more tourists if the element of attraction is added to tourist destina

tions," he added. M Kurma Rao, Deputy Commissioner, said that since rules are being relaxed, the conditions for homestays would be simplified to stimulate tourism and increase

people's income in the district. The Deputy Commissioner further said, "Udupi district is known for hospitality, and every effort will be made to ensure tourists return with pleasant memories."

Y. Naveen Bhat, the Zilla Panchayat CEO, said, "Cleanliness is important to attract tourists, and Zilla Panchayat has worked towards making Udupi a garbage-free district." M Kurma Rao, who also spoke during an export conclave on the same day, mentioned that the district administration would soon be preparing a blueprint to export unique cultural products. It will include art crafts and food items, which will help enhance the income of people while also making the local products gain popularity and attract people towards it.

Sources: The Hindu

Bhujanga Park: A Tourism Hotspot in Udupi District



Gandhi Katte (boulder) at Bhujanga Park (Source: Indian Express)

Akshay Nayak

Udupi: Bhujanga is one of the many sculptural depictions of the temple city's beauty. Mahatma Gandhi on his visit to Udupi, blessed the soil of the park. The park's history is associated with the nation's father as he rested upon a golden 'Katte' (boulder). It is now known as 'Gandhi's Katte'. The municipality does the park's maintenance as the boulder is an integral part of the park. The district tourism office has also supported the initiative. The estimation of the initiative is around Rs 1.35 crores.

M Kurma Rao, Deputy Commissioner said that promoting tourism in Bhu-

janga Park is an example of development. Clifford Lobo, the deputy director in charge of the district tourism department, said, "Rs 35 lakh had already been released by Udupi CMC, while the tourism department will invest Rs 1 crore. The rest of the money will be released as quickly as possible." According to *DH News*, the children's park, which forms the more significant part of the enormous park, is currently revamped with hi-tech innovation. A children's gymnasium is another notable attraction in the park that encourages exercise in an exciting way for children. The Amrith Yojana foundation funds the construction of this gymna-

sium at Rs 15 million. Many new concepts, such as an outdoor gym, are being planned, and basic infrastructure facilities are part of it. The park is a recreational area for the elderly. The outdoor gym allows them to exercise and socialise with other seniors. The Butterfly Park is another major attraction. It will have trees and plants that will attract butterflies. In addition to the real butterflies that visit the park, their pictorial and architectural representations are exhibited. In the evenings, the pond is illuminated with dazzling lights. While promoting the city tourism M Kurma Rao said, "The park's major attraction is its location and is also mindful of COVID-appropriate behaviour. There are also initiatives to promote religious and beach tourism in the district shortly."

Source : *DH News Service*

Kargil Fish, Unwelcomed by Fishermen in Malpe



Fisherman's catch of the day (Source: Indian Express)

Patricia R Matthew

Malpe fishermen face a strange problem of catching an unwanted species of fish known as 'Red-toothed Triggerfish', a.k.a *Kargil* fish. Roopesh, a fisherman, told the *Indian Express*, "We venture into the sea expecting prawns, squid, and sardines, and if *Kargil* fish fall into our net, they will dent our business prospects." Sathish Kunder, Former President of Malpe Fishermen Association, told *Deccan Herald*, "Fish meal industries purchase this fish for Rs. 12 per kg. If it is cut and sold, then fishermen get 16 per kg."

The origin of its name

dates back to the 1999 *Kargil* War, when a fisherman from Karnataka first caught this fish. It has thick, problematic skin and is disapproved of for its foul odour. Fisherman Ashok to the *Indian Express*, "The catch of other fish varieties is comparatively better this season as good catch of squid and prawns is also helping them supply frozen fish varieties to importing countries." This is good news but the fishermen are disheartened when they spot the unwanted *Kargil* fish among the other types of fish in their net.

Sources: *Indian Express* and *Deccan Herald*

Kannada Language Learning Act Challenged by 10 Year-Old-Boy



10 year old files a petition against State Government at HC Bangalore (Source: Deccan Herald)

Bhakti Shetty

Keerthan Suresh, a student of Class 4 at Bishop Cotton Boys School from Bangalore, filed a petition challenging the Kannada Language Learning Act, 2015, before the Karnataka High Court on 23rd September 2021.

Under Section 2 of the Act, Kannada must be taught as a mandatory subject from Class 1 to 10 as either a first language or a second language in every school in Karnataka.

The 10-year-old, represented by his mother N Sujatha, a child rights activist, solicited the court to proclaim the Act as unconstitutional, illegal as it does not favour institutions affiliated with CBSE/ICSE boards. The petitioner said, "Coercion to study a regional language as a first or second language transgresses rights under Articles 14, 19, and

21. It sets a significant load on the student's shoulder." The plea stated, "The law imposes unreasonable restrictions and violates Article 19 and 30 of the Constitution. It does not take into account the students being resettled in the state after the transfer of parents."

As per the order from the education department under the Kannada Language Learning Rules 2017, the petitioner's school's principal has informed the students that Kannada will be taught as a second language. On the other hand, preferred languages will be pursued as a third language from 2020-2021 for classes 1 to 4. The bench, led by Justice R. Devdas ordered the notice to be sent to the Karnataka government.

Source: *The Times of India, Deccan Herald*

Groundbreaking Anti-Cancer Invention in Mangalore University Gets Patented



Mangalore University obtains first patent for anti-cancer invention (Source: Mangaloreuniversity.ac.in)

Patricia R Matthew

Mangalore: K.R. Chandrashekar and Bhagya Nekrakalaya have made Mangalore University proud by obtaining its first patent for an invention that helps with the extraction and purification of tetrandrine, an anti-cancer compound from methanol extract of *Cyclea peltata*, known in Kannada as *Haade Balli*. Nekrakalaya is a UGC Women Scientist Post-Doctoral Fellow at Yenepoya Deemed to be University, Mangaluru and Chandrashekar, an advisor, Internal Quality Assurance Cell, and a professor of Botany at Yenepoya Deemed to be University.

The Patent Office issued the patent (No. 369124) to the researchers on June 11, 2021, valid for 20 years from May 8, 2017. Chandrashekar told *The Hindu*, "Cyclea pel-

tata is an ethno medicinal-ly important plant used for various health problems and is reported to have anti-toxin function, including playing a role in improving skin-related diabetic disorders, such as boils or carbuncle, and the treatment of smallpox". Chandrashekar further stated, "Tetrandrine was previously isolated from *Stephania tetrandra*, an ethnomedicinal plant in China that was reported to show anti-cancer, antimicrobial, anti-inflammatory, antidiabetic, antioxidant, immunosuppressive, cardiovascular, and calcium channel blocking effects". The two researchers discovered the presence of tetrandrine in *Haade balli* and then, using cancer cells, tested its anticancer potential.

Further, using a simple glass column chromatogra-

phy technique, they created a simple process for its plant's extraction and purification into a single molecule from a complex mixture.

"Recrystallised fractions yielded tetrandrine with a purity of 98.63%. Further work on this molecule for increasing its solubility in aqueous medium and clinical trials may lead to the development of a potent anti-cancer drug from a local plant," the researchers said, as reported by *The Hindu*.

Speaking to *ETV Bharat*, "Chandrashekar said, "Mangalore University got a patent but funds are needed to carry out further research. Therefore, if any pharmaceutical company joins hands with the university, anti-cancer medicine will be out."

Sources: *The Hindu, ETV Bharath*

MAHE: The Symbol of Support

Sarthak Suman Gupta

MAHE revealed its intent for students to return to the campus earlier in August, with preparations underway to ensure a smooth transition from online classrooms. Since then, it has called back students in a phased manner, starting from the KMC Campus.

While students worldwide suffered a loss of their education, MAHE ensured its goals were in the students' best interests. As per the National Education Policy 2020, there are



Manipal University Campus, Manipal. (Source: Manipal.edu)

requirements that have to be met regarding courses, and MAHE seems to have aligned all courses throughout its colleges to the requisites. The University wants the best for its students, from COVID-19 immunisation to financial aid for

the COVID-affected. After it announced the plans, there was a lot of speculation amongst students as to when they will return to college and resume what they left behind.

Recently, the students of Manipal Institute of Tech-

nology (MIT), currently in their 5th and 7th semesters, received a notification concerning the reopening — a guiding document was sent, with mandatory norms to be followed to ensure their safety.

Regarding students re-

turn, a 5th semester MIT student said, "It is very important to have practical knowledge." To which he added, "We have been told to come to Manipal between 5th and 10th October". "It is good to be travelling back. We all need to follow the norms to stay safe." he concluded.

MAHE has made provisions for hybrid classes and quarantine because even though many students are double vaccinated, prevention is better than cure.

Sources: *The Hindu*

The Multivalence of an Epic: Retelling the Ramayana

Rashi Singh

Ambassador Nirupama Rao conducted a press conference on September 27, 2021 in Bangalore to announce the publication of the book, 'The Multivalence of an Epic, Retelling the Ramayana' in South India and Southeast Asia, edited by Prof Parul Pandya Dhar.

The book is a significant work of research that investigates the Ramayana's numerous voyages across the subcontinent's southern reaches, as well as in the trans-oceanic region beyond the Bay of Bengal - in Myanmar, Malaysia, and Thailand. Ambassador



Ambassador Nirupama Rao announcing the book (Source: Manipal Press)

Nirupama Rao mentioned that "Through inscriptions, commercial relationships, cultural diplomacy, and political give-and-take, this book serves as a record and interpretation of history."

Ramayana is discussed in this volume in three parts, they are grouped as visual, literary, and performance cultures. The Ramayana's travel and localization are examined in a variety of

forms, from classical to folk, temples to theatres, and from ancient to current periods. Regional Ramayanas from various areas of South India and Southeast Asia are deliberately juxtaposed

to allow for a historically informed examination of their intertwined pasts over land and water.

The book covers the travel of Ramayana along with land and sea and has been reinvented in various parts of Southeast Asia. Prof Neeta Inamdar expressed her joy at the publication of the book, saying that "Putting out this outstanding book in MUP's 10th year is a source of pleasure and satisfaction and that MUP will endeavour to publish many more academic works in the future."

Source: Manipal Press Release

MAHE: Collaborates with Dalhousie University on Cancer Immunotherapy Research Workshop



Cancer Immunotherapy Online Research Workshop (Source: Manipal Press)

Akshay Nayak

Manipal Academy of Higher Education and Dalhousie University signed a pact to expand India and Canada's academic and research aspirations.

The first workshop, in a planned series of online workshops, was held with an emphasis on 'Cancer Immunotherapy.' Researchers from the two leading institutions had roundtable discussions related to their research areas and expertise in a lineup with this agreement.

In recent years, Cancer Immunotherapy has witnessed exceptional advances, and critical work is now underway to bring its benefits to patients at an afford-

able cost around the world. A small group of Dalhousie and MAHE researchers with shared interests and expertise have been brought together by this workshop to stimulate discussions and new synergies. It will lead to more significant joint research and advancement opportunities at both institutions.

MAHE, based in Manipal, prioritizes the internationalization of research and aims to be a leading research hub at a global scale. They recognize the enormous potential in joint research and publications with leading universities throughout the world.

Dalhousie, a member of the U-15 group of leading

research-intensive universities in Canada, is a place for world-class researchers focused on the strategic research clusters of the university in crucial areas, including healthy populations, communities, and people.

Its' approach to health research is set to understand that the health of individuals, communities and folks are interconnected and interdependent from world-leading vaccine research to the investigation of the cultural, social, and environmental determinants of health and wellness.

Source: Manipal Press Release

Student's Buzz on "Kanyadaan" vs "Kanyamaan"



Alia Bhatt in Mohey Advertisement (Source: Entertainment Tonight)

Rashi Singh

The new advertisement for 'Mohey', featuring Bollywood actress Alia Bhatt, didn't go well with some netizens. The Manyavar brand debuted a new ad that advocated re-branding Hindu wedding customs from 'Kanyadaan' to 'Kanyamaan'.

In the ad, Alia Bhatt questions the conventional beliefs. The ritual of 'Kanyadaan,' - the tradition where the bride's father has to 'give away' his

daughter at her wedding - is something we should still be doing in this modern day or not, the truth is that daughters are not property.

The brand's promotion of negative ideas against customs has enraged many, who have taken to social media with the hashtag - #boycott-manyavar to express their displeasure.

Here are a few opinions of MAHE students on this advertisement.

- 

Nilabha.Das@MIT
What might be seen as a clever marketing strategy, Manyavar tries to play around a most sensitive topic by selectively saturating particular unpleasant customs, which has, in the past set off rage within a greater community online.
24 118 141
- 

Shraddha.Jagdish@MIT
Sending a girl away usually means having someone to look after and being financially dependent on them, but this isn't always the case. Taking the girl's preferences into consideration should be top priority, which is what Kanyamaan is all about.
50 164 556
- 

Kanishtha.Jain@MCODS
I feel our society is patriarchal and even if people try to be progressive, there are many problematic rituals apart from Kanyadaan that exist and also need to change.

Graphics by Rashi Singh

Facial Recognition Systems in India: Our Biggest Invasion of Privacy

Dimple Parmar

SQ Masood after being wrongfully stopped and photographed by Telangana police, the Internet Freedom Foundation (IFF) served a legal notice to the Commissioner on May 31 on Masoods' behalf – pointing out that the incidents that took place are illegal and violate our constitutional Right to Privacy. The identification of Prisoners Act, 1920 only allows the police to photograph people arrested or convicted of a crime.

The IFF explained that this technology uses algorithms to extract data points from a person's face to create a digital signature of it. This digital signature is then compared to mapped faces in existing databases to find facial matches. This technology is highly inaccurate and poses a massive threat to Privacy and Freedom of Speech and Expression. Usage of this technology has increased as multiple government facial recognition projects are developed and



Facial Recognition Technology (Source: Shutterstock)

deployed across the country. The most dangerous issue is the system's inherent bias; computers and AI can't be biased, but the people who develop the databases to facilitate machine learning can, and plenty of studies prove this. The IFF has continued to campaign for India's Right to Privacy.

Most databases are developed in Western countries, so, inevitably their databases aren't built for India's vast range of races. Those that

can't be correctly identified will be put at risk of being falsely implicated in crimes they never committed. In many cases, minorities are usually the testing grounds for tech experiments, and in our country that means lower socio-economic classes and religious minorities.

The Business Insider reported that many researchers fear the uninformed enthusiasm that Indians have for introducing FRT in our country, as the legislature

surrounding the use of this technology is vague and can easily be manipulated to fall in line with the interests of any individual or group, which is scary considering the anti-Muslim sentiment that is becoming more prevalent in India day by day.

In December last year, *The Hindu* reported that the Delhi police was comparing the details of people involved in violence during the Anti-Citizenship Act protests in Jamia Millia Is-

lamia with a data bank of more than two lakh anti-social elements. The police may also be able to use FRT to identify and penalize people at protests. This infringes upon an individual's Freedom of Speech and Expression and might lead to the government tracking us all the time - especially targeted groups.

The high detection failure rates of FRT are even grimmer as the Delhi Police told the courts in 2018 that its FRT had an accuracy of only 2%, and only one in seven FRT queries were accurate. This puts a vast majority of innocent people at risk, especially in India, where a marginal error of 1% is still 1.3 crore people.

Democracies around the world guarantee liberty to their citizens, especially people like Masood, who work hard to stand up for Muslims in our country. To be free within society from oppressive restrictions imposed by authority on one's religion or political opinions.

Turning a Blind Eye To Safety Protocols

Vibha Ramachandran

Do you know what is the first thing that people do when they hear the fire alarm ring? They ignore it and continue their work. We Indians ignore life safety protocols and only understand the gravity of its importance when the situation arises.

Safety is essential when dealing with fire, and instructions should be taken seriously from a young age. Awareness about the dangers, instilling habits and following the protocols will ensure that safety at home, workplace and schools are followed. Despite how educated one is, we still take safety for granted. Awareness about safety is not prioritized, nor is it being emphasized, but we realize its importance at the time of the accident. The major causes of fires in India are primarily due to violations of safety norms and standardization of protocols, poor storage of

goods in storage units, and faulty building construction structures. There is a lack of fire stations in densely populated cities, which is dangerous because they need to reach the location as soon as possible to control the damage. Sadly, our country's fire-fighting infrastructure and fire services are lacking in resources. According to the Ministry of Home Affairs, more than 140 towns with over one lakh populations have insufficient fire safety resources.

To be prepared for future situations, fire drills and preventive measures need to be taken when children are in schools itself. Nevertheless, these drills are not taken seriously anywhere in our schools, offices, and building complexes. During fire drills, people ignore the alarms thinking it is a mistake and respond only if it prolongs for a long time. They slowly move downstairs, taking their sweet

time to assemble at the safety area. We need to be alert and scan our surroundings for immediate danger and help those unaware of the situation. There needs to be awareness of handling the safety equipment, but hardly anyone knows how to use fire extinguishers in a dire situation. If a serious situation arises, the incident will stay in people's minds for two days and then it all vanishes. According to the National Crimes Record Bureau, annually, 25,000 people die due to fire accidents in India.

We need to start valuing human lives and ensure that appropriate systems and measures are kept to avoid such casualties. Why is it that the same Indians who don't follow the rules in our country become diligent and law-abiding in a foreign land? As a society, we need to be proactive instead of reactive and prepare in advance for such situations

and not think about safety as we face adversity as it happens. We can begin discussing safety in schools as part of their curriculum until higher education, ensuring annual mock drills that cover fire, road safety, natural disasters, and shootings. As India develops itself to create 'smart cities', we still fail to implement safety rules at grassroots levels. With a population of 1.3 billion people, we need to begin educating the masses about safety and precaution. The government authorities and protection agencies need to coordinate to implement these awareness drills from the smallest villages to the big cities.

As long as we ensure that safety education is prioritized, any action to prioritize human lives will lead India to become a better version of itself. So, when does this change *really* begin?

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US Holds Summit with Indo-Pacific Leaders



Quad leaders participate in a virtual summit (Sources: Evelyn Hockstein, Reuters)

Sriteja T and Sharani M

Biden and his fellow Democrats (including Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga) are all dealing with growing China issues and meeting the main agenda of the 'Free Indo-Pacific' movement.

Following the construction of military structures on reclaimed islands in the South China Sea that function as critical global waterway and trade routes, Biden has accused the Republic of coercing economic tactics and disturbing military activity

as reported by *The Hindu*. Members of the Quad regard this as a possible danger to free trade and travel. According to *Japan Today*, they did not mention China as they met for the group's first-ever offline gathering, but China was a significant topic in private discussions. The leaders released a joint statement following the summit, promising to "respond to challenges to the rule-based maritime order, notably in the East and South China Seas."

The Quad leaders also announced that Japan and India would collaborate on a \$100 million COVID-19

vaccine and treatment medication investment. They have started a project to improve semiconductor supply chains and announce a new fellowship program for graduate students in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics who want to study at premier colleges in the United States. Biden said that the US and like-minded allies must work together on dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change, and other fundamental issues. Modi described the grouping as a 'force for global good' and said it would ensure global peace and prosperity.

The Quad is an informal alliance formed in the aftermath of the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, which claimed the lives of almost 230,000 people. Biden has tried to reunite the partnership by focusing on a key foreign policy goal: 'Paying more attention to the Pacific and a rising China.' The alliance also met virtually earlier this year and announced plans to increase vaccine manufacture in India.

Sources: *Japan Today and The Hindu*

The US Approves \$1 Billion to Fund Israel's Missile Defence System 'Iron Dome'

Sriteja T

The US House of Representatives on September 23rd approved \$1 billion as funds to resupply Israel's missile defence system 'Iron Dome'. The controversial bill was passed just two days after it was removed from an emergency funding bill after objections from the progressive Democrats.

The Iron Dome funds bill exposes the difference between Democrats towards its close ally, Israel. The progressive Democrats of the House have accused Israel of human rights violations. "We cannot be talking only about Israelis need for safety when Palestinians are living under a violent apartheid system and are dying from



Missile interceptors to be replaced using \$1 billion funds. (Source: *Business Insider*)

war crimes," said Representative Rashida Tlaib, Democrat of Michigan. The Liberals defended the funding of the Iron Dome as they noted that Iron Dome protected more than 90% of rockets launched from Palestine as it saved many civilian lives.

The US Congress has always maintained bipar-

tisan support from both Democrats and Republicans towards Israel. In an official statement, the Prime Minister of Israel, Naftali Bennett, thanked both parties for their support. He further mentioned that "Those who try to challenge this support got a resounding response today."

According to *The New York Times*, the \$1 billion funds are intended to replace missile interceptors in the Iron Dome defence system, which were used to destroy rockets fired from Gaza during the conflict in May. Israel's Iron Dome missile defence system intercepted more than 90% of the rockets launched from Hamas.

Sources: *The New York Times, Reuters*

Vaccine Apartheid: Africa Cries, West Plays Deaf?

Sarthak Suman Gupta

African countries with limited or no access to life-saving COVID-19 vaccines have sent their urgent requests directly to state leaders of wealthier nations at the United Nations' Annual General Assembly. The recurring theme was, "No one is secure unless we are all safe."

"The virus knows no continents, borders, nations, or social statuses," Chad's President Mahamat Idriss Déby Itno said at a summit in New York for country leaders. "The countries and regions that are not vaccinated will be a source of propagating and developing new variants of the virus. In this regard, we welcome the repeated appeals of the United Nations Secretary-General and the Director-General of the World Health Organisation in favour of access to the

vaccine for all. The salvation of humanity depends on it."

The South African President Cyril Ramaphosa pointed to vaccines as the greatest weapon against such pandemics, while also pointing fingers at the world he taunted, "It is, therefore, a great concern that the global community has not sustained the principles of solidarity and cooperation."

Many African countries require vaccines. At the UNGA, many countries stood resolute to another era of 'Apartheid'. The African countries stand in solidarity against this discrimination bringing history to the present yet again. Furthermore, while a significant part of the world cries in despair, pain and loss, the appeal for vaccines continues to roar on the western grounds.

Sources: *The Hindu, UN News and Times of India*

IMF Chief Accused of Data Manipulation.

Chitra B & Akshay N

Kristalina Georgieva, the President of the International Monetary Fund, has been accused of encouraging her staff to alter statistics while heading the World Bank. According to law firm WilmerHale, she has pressured her team to distort data to make China's business climate appear more favourable.

The Bulgarian economist slammed the report's conclusions as being misleading. She has accused Jim Kong Kim, the former World Bank President, of manipulation. She claimed she intervened to prevent a suggestion from one of his colleagues to include Hong Kong statistics in China's ranking in the World Bank's Doing Business 2018 report, which would have improved the country's standing. Even

though Georgieva has denounced the investigation publicly, she went into deeper detail in her statement to the IMF EB, a copy of which was obtained by *Reuters* on Friday. "My colleagues and I at the World Bank were accused of an incorrect and spurious allegation of inflating a country's Doing Business ranking in exchange for capital commitments," she reported to the *UK Times*.

"To be clear: no such thing happened and would never happen under my leadership," Georgieva said, adding that her efforts to prevent Hong Kong's data from being included in China's Doing Business ranking highlighted her care for the World Bank's data quality.

Source: *Reuters, UK Times, NDTV*

Celebrating 152 Years Of Mahatma Gandhi: The Father of Our Nation.



Chitra Bakshi

Walking on the path of non-violence with his head held high, and determined to face any obstacle that comes his countrymen's way, Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi is not a name unknown to the world. Considered to be one of the greatest spiritual leaders that India has ever seen, his contributions and sacrifices played a vital role in helping India get Independence.

In India, October 2nd - Mahatma Gandhi's birthday - is celebrated as Gandhi Jayanti, it is also designated as the International Day of Non-Violence. A firm believer in the philosophy of *Ahimsa*, he believed that



Gandhi walks in Kent, South East London (Source: George Rinhart/Corbis via Getty Images)

any battle or change can be fought by hurting no one and following the path of non-violence.

A lawyer by profession and a change maker by choice, Gandhi witnessed and experienced the stark inequalities existing in soci-

ety during his stay in South Africa. He then decided that he would return to his homeland and not stay quiet about similar instances that he would witness.

Gandhi fought the British Raj with non-violent, peaceful demonstrations.

He launched the Civil Disobedience Movement, Non-Cooperation Movement and even organized the Dandi March to show his contempt towards their rule and policies. He was the only one who could do the impossible task of unit-

ing the people of our country to fight for the common goal of attaining freedom.

Mahatma Gandhi was a people's leader - he believed in listening and speaking to the masses and considered their opinion to be crucial. His ideologies were unique as he started a revolution against the British Raj, without using violent mediums to win, no matter what. Gandhi was not always the way he was. It was only when he saw people suffer; he knew what had to be done. His dedication towards his goal and his belief in his values made him the influential man we all remember and admire today.

Sources: *First Post* & *blog.loc.gov*

Gangsters Killed In Courtroom Shootout in Delhi



Several injured during Delhi Courtroom shootout (Source: *The Hindustan Times*)

Patricia R Matthew

Gunmen dressed as lawyers killed notorious Delhi gangster Jitender 'Gogi' Mann in a Delhi courtroom. Special force personnel escorting the gangster killed both attackers on the spot. The shootout left several people injured. The gunmen were identified as members of a rival gang named 'Tillu Gang'. They were plotting to kill Gogi when he was brought for his court hearing today, said the police.

"Two from a rival gang opened fire at Jitender Gogi inside the court. The

police acted swiftly and killed both the assailants," said Rakesh Asthana, Deputy Commissioner to NDTV. Lalit Kumar, a lawyer, told the *Siliguri Observer*: "The judge was in court, lawyers were present and Jitender Gogi was there. These two shooters, who looked like 'lawyers', started shooting. A woman intern was also hit by a bullet."

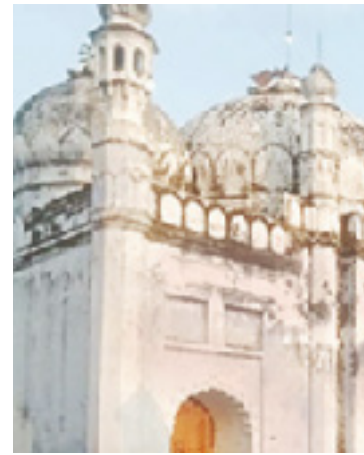
The two gangs have had a long-standing enmity for years that initially began as a friendship between Gogi and Tillu Tajpuria, which later deteriorated, and re-

sulted in the death of over 25 people. The police considered the arrest of Gogi in March 2020 as a colossal achievement. A month before his arrest, Gogi and his associates ambushed a man they thought was supporting his rivals - shooting him 48 times.

The incident has brought questions regarding the tampering of the metal detectors at the court to light. "The question of whether the metal detectors were not working in the court premises is a matter of investigation and I cannot comment on that at the moment. We are already investigating the case and we shall not spare anyone who is involved in this shootout. No one will be spared. Delhi Police is doing its job seriously. We were effective and focused, and that is why the shooter was successfully neutralized. We will say more after a detailed investigation is carried out." Asthana told NDTV.

Sources: NDTV, *The Siliguri Observer*, *The Guardian*, and *The Hindu*

200-Year-Old Mosque Run by Hindu Village in Bihar



200 year old mosque in Bihar (Source: *Times of India*)

Chitra Bakshi

India is a country where many cultures, languages and religions coexist. Despite an increase in communal riots and tensions in the country, the story of Bihar's Nalanda district is a rare and beautiful example of liberalism and trust amongst religions.

The last Muslim family left the village in 1981, Hindus in the Madi village in Bihar have been taking care of a 200-year-old mosque. People have been raising funds for the mosque's upkeep and have maintained its cleanliness and well-being diligently for all these years. Although there are no Muslims left in the area and

there is no one to teach the Hindus about *Azaan*, they manage to offer prayer at the mosque five times a day with the help of technology. While speaking to *TOI*, one of the residents, "The mosque is essential to the villagers, and they make sure to come and seek blessings from the all-mighty before any critical event like a wedding or starting a new venture."

According to the locals, the area had a decent Muslim population at one point in time, but after the 1981 communal riots, most families decided to leave the village and migrate. Gautam, the mosque's caretaker, explained, "There was no one to look after the mosque after all the Muslims left, so Hindus had to step forward and do it." He also added "No one knows when or how the mosque was built, but the villagers consider it very important. Every morning and evening, people visit the mosque to pray and view it as auspicious."

Sources: *The New Indian Express*, *Outlook India*, and *Times of India*

Japan Taking a Positive Turn Towards LGBTQ+ Rights: Campaigners



A participant takes part in the rally in the Shibuya district of Tokyo (Source: The Japan Times)

Sharani M

Japan: Campaigners said Japan is at a 'tipping point' for LGBTQ rights, vowing to use the Tokyo Olympics as a catalyst for change and urging lawmakers to pass an anti-discrimination bill. With opinion polls showing increased support for LGBTQ-friendly policies, especially among younger people, the country has seen a new drive for legislation protecting the rights of sexual minorities.

Yuri Igarashi, director of the LGBTQ rights group J-ALL, told The Japan Times that the proposed law could yet be passed before the parliament session ends next week. "We want

them to keep their promise to the people of this country," she said, referring to the LDP's pledge during the 2019 election to "promote understanding" of LGBTQ problems. The Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games are drawing worldwide attention to how this country will deal with LGBTQ issues.

While Japan provides some rights for sexual minorities, it is still the only G7 country that does not recognise same-sex marriages. Many couples say they have difficulty renting apartments together and are even prevented from visiting hospitals. A former athlete Fumino Sugiyama, who competed on the

national women's fencing team before coming out as a transgender man said "Athletes are afraid they will disappointing their fans and families, or that they will face discrimination from their sports association, that could hinder their careers".

According to the Olympic Charter, "Every individual must have the opportunity to participate in sports, without discrimination of any sort". The Japanese society is moving from its conservative beliefs with the proposed anti-discrimination bill, which has gained traction after being stagnant for six years.

Sources: First Post, Japan Times and Breaking Asia

What Does Research Say About Gender Equity Literacy Rate?

Bhakti S and Sarthak SG

Patriarchal and pious practices have influenced women's rights tremendously throughout India's long history. The repercussions of maternal-son preference and context on the gender distinctions in education are still prevalent. The primary education system continues to suffer from many shortcomings, including a severe lack of financial resources to build a nationwide school web.

Despite the fact that girls in India are more educated today than ever, the educational disparity shown in the average school year appears



(Source: Getty Images)

to be widening. Girls' conventional school years have nearly quadrupled in the last two decades, from 1.7 years in 1990 to 4.7 years in 2018. Within the same period, men's average educational qualification increased from 4.1 to 8.2 years. Surprisingly, this demonstrates India's potential departure from global trends; where most

countries in the world have perceived uniform improvements for both genders. We see that the number of girls going to school and getting higher education has increased, there is also the reality that the percentage altogether is incredibly low.

The sad part is that it's right in front of our eyes, yet we are oblivious to it. Imagine a world where there are no barriers to equality or equity based on gender. We may not be able to bring the revolution worldwide, but picture the ripple effect if just one person changes their perspective. Source: NGO Right to Education (Newsletter)

SSAB Trailblazes in Manufacturing the World's First Fossil-Free Steel

Patricia R Matthew

Sweden: One of the major contributors to greenhouse emissions is the steel industry - accounting for up to 8% of global greenhouse gas emissions. A Swedish company called SSAB has taken the first step in countering the deadly impact of greenhouse gas emissions by introducing the world's first fossil-free steel. HYBRIT, a joint initiative of SSAB, switches steel production away from fossil fuels with the delivery of green steel.

HYBRIT aims to replace coking coal - traditionally needed for ore-based steel making - with fossil-free electricity and hydrogen. The SSAB site in Luleå, Sweden, was the pilot plant in which work began in 2018. Direct Reduced Iron (DRI), also known as sponge iron, is the virgin material that is used together with recycled scrap for steelmaking. Substitution of coking

coal with hydrogen is said to reduce emissions from steelmaking by at least 90%. Constructions are on to build a pilot hydrogen storage facility around 25-35 meters below the ground, with operations set to begin from 2022 to 2024.

Volvo sets out to begin the manufacturing of prototype vehicles using green steel by the end of 2021. The full-scale production of the material will start in 2026. Mercedes-Benz has also entered a partnership with SSAB to manufacture vehicles with fossil-free steel as soon as possible, with the prototype parts for body shells planned for next year.

The company has broadened its horizons and partnered with Cargotec to begin coordinated development, introducing fossil-free steel in its cargo handling equipment.

Sources: India Today, Forbes, Current affairs, SSAB

LET'S START A CONVERSATION

Wimbledon Initiates Uni-Sex Towels



Wimbledon sets aside gender rules by initiating unisex towels for all participating players- a positive step in the direction of expelling gender inequality. The Wimbledon website shared the news that all the players, male or female, will be conferred with a towel in All England Club colours- green and purple and golden yellow and blue seasonal towels, both in the classic versions of the official towels.

What do you think about sports taking a step towards eliminating gender rules?

Graphics by Sharani Moosana

Sir Lewis Wins His 100th as Russian GP Comes to a Thrilling Conclusion



The Centurion was joined by Max Verstappen and Carlos Sainz on the podium. (Source: Jiri Krenek/Mercedes-AMG F1)

Puya Singh

Sir Lewis Hamilton clinched a century of wins as he won a chaotic Russian Grand Prix from his championship rival, Max Verstappen, taking the lead in this year's championship. The Briton now has 9 more race wins than Schumacher, who is second on the list, and more than Senna, Fangio and Lauda managed combined - winning 9.6% of all races ever.

After a wet qualifying session in which Hamilton crashed embarrassingly at the treacherous pit entry,

Lando Norris started from pole with Carlos Sainz alongside him, and future Mercedes driver George Russell started from third. Verstappen, Bottas and Leclerc started from the back - serving engine penalties. The race starting in idyllic conditions, though, meant that there was a free tyre choice.

Hamilton got a poor getaway on lights out but gained some ground after picking up a tow, only to get boxed in and lose positions. Sainz took the lead of the race, though tyre deg-

radation allowed Norris to overtake him back later. Cunning strategy calls and brilliant race management enabled Sir Lewis and Mercedes to fight for victory on the hards.

The scene was set for McLaren's second win in a row - and Norris's maiden - until disaster struck with 5 laps to go. The heavens opened on the seafront side at Sochi. Norris chose to stay out on slicks whilst his compatriot, Hamilton, pitted for intermediates. The rain started lashing down harder, meaning Lando was careening, and Sir Lewis could swoop past him with exemplary ease. Verstappen, who was running in seventh, found himself in second following the chaos.

With seven rounds to go and a two-point gap between the title contenders, "every single race is a cup final" Christian Horner, team-principal Red-Bull Racing Honda told F1 Media.

Source: F1 Media

Global Citizen Live, a 24hr Concert to Tackle Worldwide Issues



(Source: Global Citizen Live)

Sharani M

The Global Citizen festival features over 60 artists from New York, London, Seoul, and Mumbai. A lot of people attended the festival, with millions more watching on television. The K-Pop group BTS kickstarted the festival, followed by Sir Elton John performing in front of the Eiffel Tower on Saturday. Global Citizen, a charity seeking to end extreme poverty by 2030, is one of the largest-ever international charity events.

Unlike most events, the

organizers are not looking to make money; instead, they aim to use the participation as proof to world leaders that people support aggressive action on global concerns.

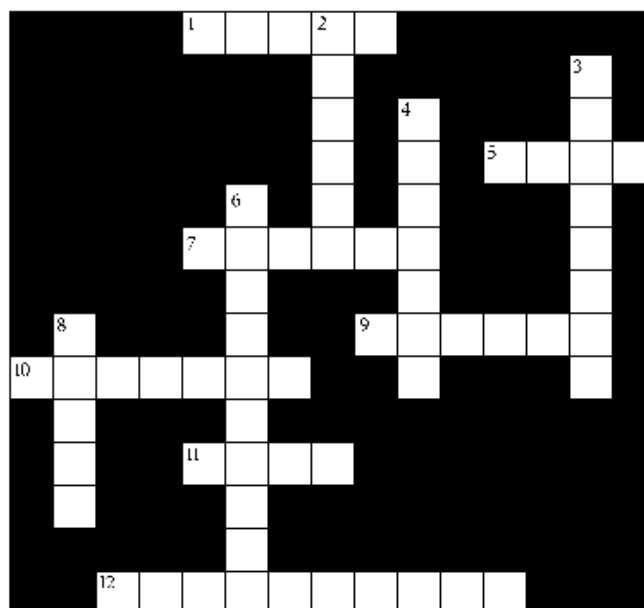
Global Citizen claimed in a statement to BBC, "Across six continents, artists will help unite citizens in demanding that governments, businesses and charities work together to safeguard the planet and eliminate poverty."

The organisers of the event aimed to urge world leaders to plant a billion trees, distribute one billion immunizations to the world's poorest countries, and donate food to 41 million people on the verge of starvation.

Sources: Global Citizen and The BBC

CROSSWORD

Written and designed by Dimple Parmar



Key: 1. Bally, 2. TMA, 3. End Point, 4. Pegasus, 5. Modli, 6. Hardscore, 7. Hardtop, 8. Tiger, 9. Zuhra, 10. Fifties, 11. Kapur, 12. Roscoe

WHAT'S NEW???



Image Source: Netflix

SQUID GAME

The nine-episode South Korean survival drama, released on 17th September, hit the No.1 spot on Netflix's Top 10. A group of people from diverse backgrounds are deep in debt and are duped into a dangerous children's game competition. 45.6 billion Won is on the line, and only the last one standing gains it all.



Image Source: IMDb

NO TIME TO DIE

The James Bond series starring Daniel Craig (one last time) is releasing on September 30, in theatres. James Bond is tasked with rescuing an abducted scientist. He finds himself on a trail of strange adversaries wielding terrifying new technology. The movie has already managed to grab 175,000 tickets in the UK.

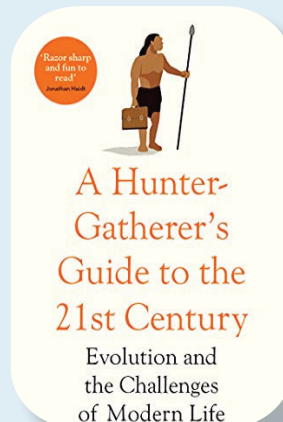


Image Source: Amazon

BY HEATHER HEYING AND BRET WEINSTEIN

A HUNTER-GATHERER'S GUIDE TO THE 21ST CENTURY

Breaking through the politically charged debate over sex, gender, parenting, education, and other topics, this book presents a science-based worldview that will enable you to live a better, smarter life. They distil more than two decades of study and first-hand stories from the world's most biodiverse ecosystems into simple concepts and guidelines for dealing with our hyper-novelty society. The reason for our problems is apparent: the modern environment is out of sync with our old minds and bodies.

Read all the articles & use your General & Manipal knowledge to solve this Puzzle!

Across

1. Latest women's singles winner at the Wimbledon (5)
5. Biden's Democratic Best Friend and most recent guest (4)
7. Manipal's Factory of eggs is now called? (6)
9. The Mars Society was founded by (6)
10. What age was Shefali Verma when she became the youngest Indian Cricketer to debut at a women's T20 in India? (7)
11. 'The Homing Beacon Beach' (4)

Down

2. Founder of Manipal University (1,1,1,3)
3. Place where you can run, play football and enjoy the sunset all at once (3,5)
4. Israeli Spyware developed by NSO (7)
6. Methanol extract of the Cycloc Peltata plant (5,5)
8. _____ Circle, Everyone's first destination at Manipal (5)
12. Hamilton's Best Friend Forever (9)