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STUDENT EDITION
 MONDAY, MAY 11, 2020
 WEB EDITION

EDUCATION

SCHOOLS MAY GO FOR ODD-EVEN PLAN

► To address concerns over a digital divide between schools as well as students, the Council is set to create material and live interaction. The content will be aired through TV channels, through an 'each class, one channel' strategy

It could be 'odd-even' time for classrooms in schools, post the national lockdown— there will be only 50 per cent students on campus on any given day. As per the school reopening plan that is being considered by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), social distancing and more individualistic assessment and teaching-learning will be the guiding principles. The ministry of human resource development (MHRD) is likely to come up with a broad plan next week.



- Apart from an 'odd-even' system to maintain social distancing, another option being deliberated upon is alternate week arrangements, in line with the same concept
- The govt is also planning 12 educational channels dedicated to each class - from class I to class XII

HRD minister to hold a webinar exclusively for teachers on May 14

Union minister for Human Resource Development Ramesh Pokhriyal would be conducting a webinar or a live discussion with the teachers across the nation, on May 14, 2020. The minister would be using the hashtag #EducationMinister Goes Live. Teachers can post their queries to him. This is the third webinar that is going to be hosted by the HRD minister. Teachers across India have been urged to participate in the webinar and address issues on education and learning of children.



Meanwhile, the pending CBSE class X, XII board exams, which were postponed due to the COVID-19-induced lockdown, will now be conducted from July 1 to 15, according to the HRD ministry

APP-LIFICATION

5 MULTIPLICATION APPS

- 1 CRAZY TIMES TABLE:** Offered by Madebyeducators (free with option for upgrades) This app integrates a photo of the learner into graphics. For eg, in one game, kids feed themselves a hamburger with the correct answer
- 2 MY MATH FLASH CARDS APP:** Offered by Pankaj Humad: As the name suggests, this is the simplest and most flashcard-type. The upside is that it's easy to use and the timer and keypad makes it feel more game-like
- 3 KEEP ON JUMPING:** Offered by Hikari Nakashima (free): Learners complete problems, as they climb towering cliffs with the goal of reaching the top



- 4 MATH BLASTER:** Offered by Knowledge Adventure Learners race through levels, shooting and dodging fast-flying obstacles, to reach and defeat the Alien Boss
- 5 THINKING BLOCKS:** Offered by Math Playground This app teaches children on how to model and solve word problems that involves multiplication and division

IRECOMMEND

'The Girl Who Drank the Moon' by Kelly Barnhill

Kelly Barnhill's 'The Girl Who Drank The Moon' has a highly imaginative premise and is full of whimsical elements to delight you. It revolves around 'Xan' (a kind witch) and her ward Luna, who is accidentally fed on a diet of moonlight, instead of the starlight. As Luna's 13th birthday approaches, the magic of moonlight starts showing itself through weird happenings. This is a magical read. ADITI BHOSLE, class IX, Girton High School, Mumbai

Which book are you reading these days? Send us a 75-word review at timesnie175@gmail.com

NEWS IN BRIEF

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STIMULUS PACKAGE

WHAT: The government is giving shape to a stimulus package that will be followed by a series of reforms to create opportunities for different sectors in the post-covid world.
WHY: Stimulus is a package of tax rebates and incentives given by the governments of various countries to boost their economy during financial crisis.
HOW: It is given by providing tax rebates to various sectors, which in turn can boost spending. With the increase in spending, the employment rate increases, thereby spurring income. This cycle continues until the economy recovers from collapse.



- During the 2008 global recession, US had given stimulus package to increase employment and recover the dwindling economy
- India too used its first stimulus package in 2008 to ensure the safety of bank deposits and stability of the financial system

'PHYSICAL LITERACY KEY TO TIDE TOUGH TIMES'

Legendary badminton coach Pullela Gopichand has emphasised on the importance of physical literacy, as people around the world fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. Addressing a webinar by ELMS Sports Foundation, Gopichand said physical literacy is a



CELEB TALK

key pillar for national development. He also highlighted the importance of support from the top leadership to promote the need for physical literacy.

VIRTUAL SAFARIS IN SOUTH AFRICA SEE AN UPSURGE

- Twice a day, viewers can watch the animals spotted by the guides, as they zoom around game reserves
- You can also watch it for free on www.wildearth.tv

It's boom time for South African company Wild Earth, thanks to the virtual safaris, that can be watched via a camera through their guides, who drive around in an open top vehicle. According to Graham Wallington, founder, Wild Earth, there has been a dramatic rise in viewership of their live safari. In fact, WildEarth is currently attracting up to three mil-



ENVIRONMENT

STARS AND SCIENTISTS CALL FOR WORLD NOT TO 'GO BACK TO NORMAL'

A host of celebrities and scientists, including Madonna, Robert de Niro and a clutch of Nobel Prize winners, have called for a radical change in the world rather than "a return to normal", after the coronavirus lockdown. In an open letter that was published in the French daily 'Le Monde', the stars pleaded for an end to unbridled consumerism and a "radical transformation" of economies to help save the planet. "We believe it is unthinkable to 'go back to normal,'" said the letter.



CLARION CALL

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FASHION

DECODED: REVENGE BUYING

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Revenge buying has become a much discussed topic in the luxury fashion world, especially when Hermes in China, recorded a \$2.7 million in sales on the day, it reopened recently. But revenge against whom or what? Is it due to the restrictions of lockdown and living a forced austere life or is it just missing your high of good old retail therapy?

What is revenge buying

'Revenge buying' or rather 'revenge spending' is the overindulgence in retail therapy by consumers, who have missed shopping at their favourite outlets, thanks to the lockdown.

THE BIG Q: WILL THIS HAPPEN IN INDIA?

Fashion pundits feel Indians are going to hold on to their money - at least for this year. Sunil Sethi, chairman, Fashion Design Council of India says, "If I think from the head and the heart, my heart says that there should be revenge buying in India, and I know fashion world would welcome this move. But the head says that this will not be the case for India, because we as Indians, in times of crisis, move away from what we would call wasteful expenditure." What will definitely happen is more conscious buying after careful thought, as people are not in the mood to let go of their money, he adds.

Share your views at timesnie175@gmail.com

GET INSPIRED

Banksy's latest artwork introduces a new superhero - a nurse

A young boy has chosen a nurse as the superhero— he wants to play with, over Batman and Spiderman—in a new artwork by Banksy. The artwork encapsulates the gratitude Britons have felt towards the country's National Health Service (NHS), during the coronavirus crisis. The painting by the secretive street artist was unveiled at the University Hospital Southampton, south England, recently. The new painting will be on display at the hospital, until after the lockdown and it will then be auctioned for NHS charities.



It is not the first Banksy work inspired by Covid-19. He posted scenes of his trademark stencilled rats running amok in a bathroom last month, accompanied by the comment: "My wife hates it, when I work from home." His existing, 'Girl with a Pierced Eardrum' mural was also updated with the addition of a blue surgical mask, although the update was not confirmed to be his work on Instagram.



