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STUDENT EDITION

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WEB EDITION

X-PLAINED



Why Pangong lake is the centre of Indo-China border dispute

WHAT The situation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the Ladakh region remains tense as thousands of troops remain deployed at the front, after a series of Chinese transgressions in the Galwan and Pangong Tso areas of Ladakh, since early this month.

WHERE The conflict between India and China in Ladakh centres around the Pangong Tso lake, making it a very important aspect of the border dispute between the two countries.

WHY India's dispute with China is over the demarcation of the border between the countries. The Chinese believe that the border is 2,000 kilometres long, while India sets the border closer to 3,500 kilometres. The issue with the Tso lake is that the disputed border goes right through the middle of the lake, with both nations disputing how much of the lake the other gets.

PATH OF ATTACK

According to experts, the lake lies in the path of the Chinese attack. If a Chinese offensive comes in the future, it will flow across both the north and south of the lake, they say. In fact, during the 1962 war, this was the location where China launched its main offensive. Ever since, there have been tussles along the banks of the Pangong Tso, with both countries facing off on the motorable roads on either side of the lake



ECONOMY

India looks to store cheap oil in US: Dharmendra Pradhan



With its local storage full, India is looking at storing some low-priced US oil in facilities there, petroleum and natural oil and gas minister Dharmendra Pradhan said. India's plan could be similar to a move by Australia, which last month said, it would build up an emergency oil stockpile initially by buying crude to store in the US Strategic Petroleum Reserve to take advantage of low oil prices.

Oil prices have dropped more than 40% so far in 2020. However, it picked up in the past few weeks, partly due to the efforts by the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) and allies to reduce supply

THE NEED

1 India, which is the world's third biggest oil consumer and importer, had already filled its 5.33 million tons of strategic storage and parked about 8.5-9 million tons of oil on ships in different parts of the world, primarily in the Gulf

2 Indian refiners have also filled their commercial tanks and

pipelines with refined fuel and oil

3 Interestingly, stored oil and products amounted to about 20% of India's annual needs. India imports more than 80% of its oil requirements



CLIMATE CHANGE COULD TRIGGER A TSUNAMI IN ALASKA

Climate change has increased the risk of a huge landslide in an Alaskan fjord that could cause a catastrophic tsunami, scientists said. Warming temperatures have caused the retreat of a glacier that helps support a steep, mile-long slope along one flank of a fjord in Prince William Sound, an inlet of the gulf of Alaska. With only a third of the slope now supported by ice, scientists said, a landslide could be triggered by an earthquake, heavy rain or even a heatwave that could cause extensive melting of surface snow resulting in a tsunami that would start out at several hundred-foot-high.



ENVIRONMENT

Tsunami-inducing landslides are rare but have occurred in Alaska and elsewhere. Perhaps the most famous occurred on July 9, 1958, in Lituya Bay on Alaska's southeast coast, when a nearby earthquake caused 40 million cubic yards of rock to slide 2,000 feet into the narrow bay

Playing in bio-secure environment is unrealistic: Dravid

Former India captain Rahul Dravid feels the ambition to resume cricket in a bio-secure environment is "unrealistic", giving a thumbs down to the concept primarily floated by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB). Seeking to restart its cricket season after weeks of inactivity owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, the ECB recently announced that it would have in place bio-secure venues to host Pakistan and the West Indies, later this summer. "Even if they are potentially able to create a bubble, it will be impossible for everyone to do it with the kind of calendar that we have, with the travelling that you do on tours and the number of people involved," he said.



Celeb talk

ECB has proposed matches behind closed doors at grounds which have hotels inside the ground

NEWS IN BRIEF

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New Facebook Messenger tool to protect minor users from harmful chats

In a bid to make Messenger safer, Facebook has introduced a feature that will help millions of people, especially minors, avoid potentially harmful interactions, and possible scams without compromising their privacy. The Messenger users will now see safety notices popping up in a chat, and provide tips to help them spot suspicious activity, and take action to block or ignore someone when something doesn't seem right.



TECH BUZZ

The new safety feature educates people under the age of 18 to be cautious while interacting with an adult they may not know, and empowers them to take action before responding to a message. The safety notices also explain people on ways to spot scams or imposters, and help them take action

JK Rowling to release new novel, 'The Ickabog' online for free for children



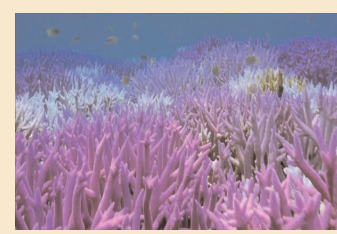
Author JK Rowling is all set to publish a new children's book, 'The Ickabog'. A fairy tale "about truth and the abuse of power", the book will be free of cost and can be read online. Rowling said it is unrelated to any of her earlier books.

The story, set in an imaginary land was serialised online from Tuesday afternoon in 34 daily, free installments. The story will be published as a complete book, ebook and audiobook in November. Rowling's royalties will go to the projects assisting groups, impacted by the pandemic

BOOKS

Corals emit their own 'sunscreen' in a colourful form to attract algae

Scientists have claimed that some corals emit a 'sunscreen' in the form of a dazzling colourful display, in a fight for survival against rising sea temperatures.



Coral bleaching – the process of coral expelling algae triggered by hotter waters – usually turns coral into a ghostly shade of white. But some bleaching corals undergo a mysterious transformation by emitting bright neon colours. Scientists say internal light levels as a result of the bleaching triggers the production of colourful, 'photoprotective' pigments. This funky display is a way of encouraging the algae, which provide coral with a crucial energy source, to return to the corals. The relationship between corals and the tiny algae embedded in coral cells is a mutually-beneficial 'symbiosis'



Joyce Carol Oates wins France's \$218,000 Cino del Duca World Prize

US writer Joyce Carol Oates, so often a bridesmaid for the Nobel literature prize, won France's richest books prize on Monday.

The Cino del Duca World Prize, which is worth \$218,000, is often seen as a stepping stone to the Nobel. Five of Oates' books, including her novel, 'Blonde', which chronicled the inner life of Marilyn Monroe, have been finalists for the Pulitzer Prize, without ever winning

The prize is named after an Italian-born businessman, film producer and philanthropist. It is run by the Institut de France, which includes the Academie Francaise, the guardian of the French language



AWARDS

DIY

HOW TO MAKE AN ENVELOPE FROM A NEWSPAPER

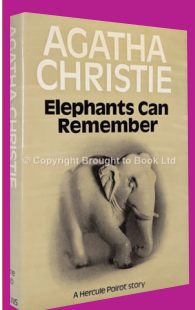


You may not be able to embrace your friends and family for a while, but letter writing is a great (and screenless) way of letting them know you care from afar. So, give your penpals a real treat by dressing up your letter in all the news that's fit to print. Here's how...

- 1 Start with a double sheet of a newspaper. Use the cover (and back page) of any colourful section
- 2 Open it up and tear along the centerfold, so you're left with a single newspaper page
- 3 Fold your new single sheet in half. You'll want the most decorative art to be facing down on the table
- 4 Position the letter or card you're planning to send slightly above the middle of the sheet
- 5 Take the sides of the folded sheet; make two equally sized flaps. (These will be the sides of your envelope.)
- 6 Dog-ear each corner and tape down
- 7 Fold the bottom of your sheet up so it covers about three-quarters of your letter or card
- 8 Tape the bottom two dog ears down to the vertical sides of the envelope
- 9 Once your card is finished, fold the remaining top flap of the envelope down and secure it shut with a sticker, tape or a wax envelope seal

iRecommend

ELEPHANTS CAN REMEMBER BY AGATHA CHRISTIE



Agatha Christie's crime novel is breathtaking! It features the fictional Belgian detective Hercule Poirot and Ariadne Oliver. Together they must solve an old crime. The

title, 'Elephants Can Remember' talks about how people/characters remember things. Enjoy this exceptional story; the climax will shock you!
Geet Malika, class XI, NSN Memorial Senior Secondary School, Chennai

GET YOUR 'SKY TIME'

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Are you missing your sky time – your eyes not getting the opportunity to gaze at the vast expanse of the blue sky – in these pandemic times? With experts claiming that it is one of the reasons why people are feeling gloomy without realising it, here's how you can enjoy your sky time during these challenging times....

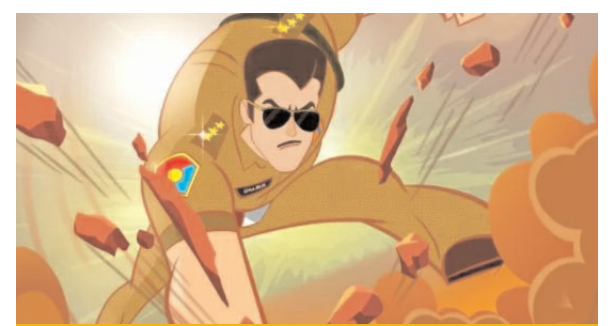


HOW TO GET IT

- Mental health experts suggest around 30 minutes of sky time every day
- Open your window and sip your lemonade, and gaze at the sky; spend some time in the balcony to watch the sunset – this connect with the blueness of the universe with its myriad shades of other colours when the sun rises and sets will drive away your mood blues
- Jog in your balcony in the morning and get your share of sky. Connect with the sky and feel energised, positive and upbeat

Now, Salman's Chulbul Pandey IN ANIMATED AVATAR

Salman Khan's popular film franchise, 'Dabangg' is all set to get a run as an animated series. The series will chronicle the life and capers of supercop Chulbul Pandey (played by Salman Khan in the films), and will also feature the animated avatars of all popular characters of the franchise, including Chhedi Singh (played by Sonu Sood in the films), Rajjo (Sonakshi Sinha) and Prajapatiji (played by the late Vinod Khanna). The animation studio Cosmos - Maya has been given the rights to produce the upcoming animated project.



Chulbul's persona is larger than life, and in animation, his adventures will be showcased as never seen before," said Salman's brother Arbaaz Khan, producer of the original, 'Dabangg' series

