

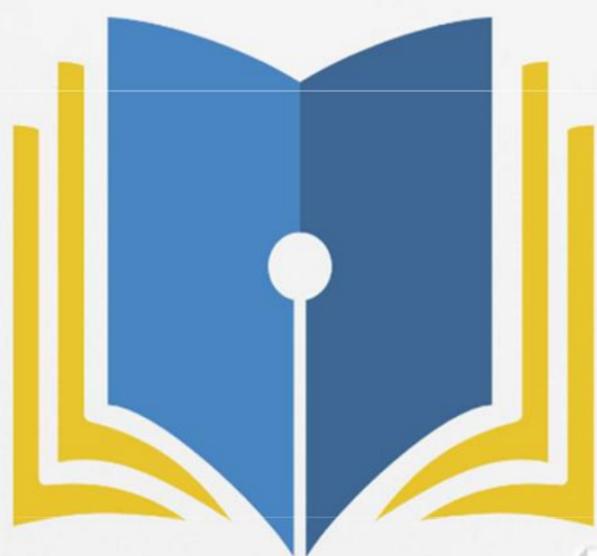


Chikitsak Samuha's  
Sir Sitaram & Lady Shantabai Patkar College of Arts & Science  
AND V.P.Varde College of Commerce & Economics  
S. V. ROAD, GOREGAON (WEST), MUMBAI-400 104  
(AN AUTONOMOUS COLLEGE AFFILIATED TO  
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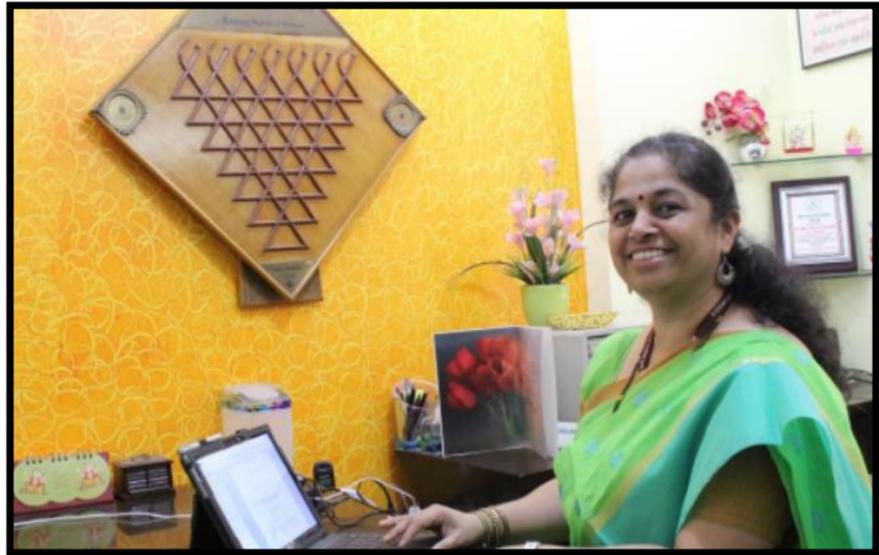
# WEEKEND CHRONICLE

WINDOW TO YOUR  
KNOWLEDGE



AN INITIATIVE BY  
B.M.S DEPARTMENT

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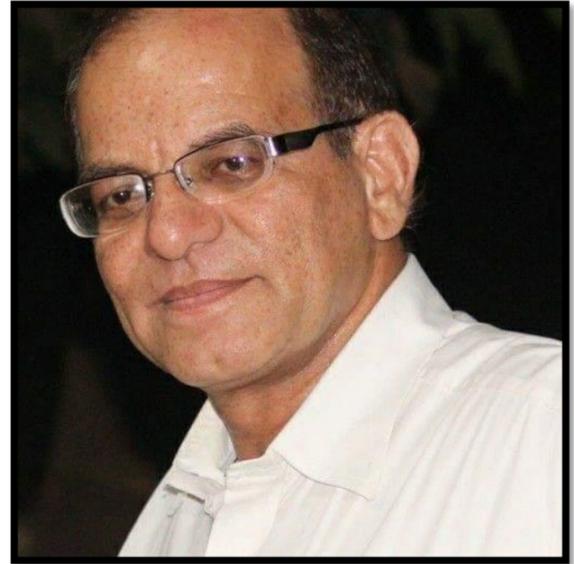
## A MESSAGE FROM CHIEF EDUCATION OFFICER'S DESK

**Dear Readers,**

**“Develop a passion for learning. If you do, you will never cease to grow.” We live today in a world that is so very different from the one we grew up in, the one we were educated in. The world today is moving at such an enhanced rate and we as educationalists need to cause and reflect on the entire system of education. On-line learning provides new age technology to widen the educational scope. It prepares students to succeed in an increasing technology driven global economy. Technology makes life much easier, most of all it saves time and energy. It is one of the fastest growing field right now and there is no sign of stopping anytime soon.**

**It is indeed a great moment for all of us to bring forth this weekly E-Periodical “Weekend Chronicle”. We are sure this E-Periodical will help to acquire knowledge and skills, build build character and enhance employability of our young talented students to become globally competent. There is something for everyone here, right from the fields of Business, Academics, Travel and Tourism, Science and technology, Media and lot more. The variety and creativity of the articles in E-Periodical will surely add on to the knowledge of the readers. I am sure that the positive attitude, hard work, continued efforts and innovative ideas exhibited by our students will surely stir the mind of the readers and take them to the fantastic world of joy and pleasure.**

**Dr. Mala Kharkar  
Chief Education Officer  
(Patkar-Varde College)**



## **A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK**

**Dear Readers,**

**As we know, "An Investment in knowledge pays the best interest."**

**Hence in this regard the E-Periodical Weekend Chronicle is playing a vital role in providing a platform to enhance the creative minds of our students of BMS Department.**

**The E-Periodical i.e online magazine drives us through varied genres containing- News related to Global affairs under departments like Business, Advertisement, IT and Science & Nature to intellectual news articles under Academics, Media and Library Departments. It also covers articles related to Food & Health care, Culture & Cuisine and Travel & Tourism which usually tops our "bucket lists" including article which address societal problems under Department of Social Issues. Lastly covering words and vision of our talented students as budding poets, writers and thinkers under Student's section Department.**

**Over all this vision of constructing E-Periodical by students will engage today's youth and the crafters of the youth (teachers) in their communities which is the necessity to over come hurdles of present reality. We will strive to make a better world through our acts and thoughts. Rather it is a challenge to be met!!!**

**Dr. Shrikant B Sawant  
Principal  
(Patkar-Varde College)**

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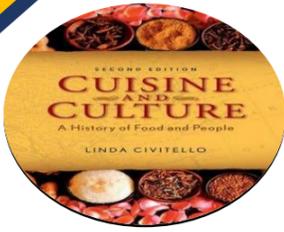
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**BUSINESS****COVID-19 IMPACT: US ECONOMY CONTRACTS AT 3.5% IN 2020; SHARPEST SINCE WORLD WAR 2**

The US economy contracted 3.5% in 2020, the worst performance since 1946; Commerce Department's snapshot of fourth-quarter gross domestic product on Thursday also showed the recovery from the pandemic losing steam



The US economy contracted at its sharpest pace since World War Two in 2020 as COVID-19 ravaged services businesses like restaurants and airlines, throwing millions of Americans out of work and into poverty.

The Commerce Department's snapshot of fourth-quarter gross domestic product on Thursday also showed the recovery from the pandemic losing steam as the year wound down amid a resurgence in coronavirus infections and exhaustion of nearly \$3 trillion in relief money from the government. The Federal Reserve on Wednesday left its benchmark overnight interest rate near zero and pledged to continue injecting money into the economy through bond purchases, noting that "the pace of the recovery in economic activity and employment has moderated in recent months."

President Joe Biden has unveiled a recovery plan worth \$1.9 trillion, and could use the GDP report to lean on some lawmakers who have balked at the price tag soon after the government provided nearly \$900 billion in additional stimulus at the end of December.

The economy contracted 3.5% in 2020, the worst performance since 1946. That followed 2.2% growth in 2019 and was the first annual decline in GDP since the 2007-09 Great Recession. The economy plunged into recession last February

In the fourth quarter, GDP increased at a 4.0% annualized rate as the virus and lack of another spending package curtailed consumer spending, and partially overshadowed robust manufacturing and the housing market. GDP growth for the last quarter was in line with forecasts in a Reuters poll of economists.

The big step-back after a historic 33.4% growth pace in the July-September period left GDP well below its level at the end of 2019. With the virus not yet under control, economists are expecting growth to further slow down in the first quarter of 2021, before regaining speed by summer as the additional stimulus kicks in and more Americans get vaccinated.

The services sector has borne the brunt of the coronavirus recession, disproportionately impacting lower-wage earners, who tend to be women and minorities. That has led to a so-called K-shaped recovery, where better-paid workers are doing well while lower-paid workers are losing out.

The stars of the recovery have been the housing market and manufacturing as those who are still employed seek larger homes away from city centers, and buy electronics for home offices and schooling. Manufacturing's share of GDP has increased to 11.9% from 11.6% at the end of 2019.

A survey last week by professors at the University of Chicago and the University of Notre Dame showed poverty increased by 2.4 percentage points to 11.8% in the second half of 2020, boosting the ranks of the poor by 8.1 million people.

Rising poverty was underscored by persistent labor market weakness. In a separate report on Thursday, the Labor Department said 847,000 more people filed new claims for state unemployment benefits last week. The economy shed jobs in December for the first time in eight months. Only 12.4 million of the 22.2 million jobs lost in March and April have been recovered.

## ADVERTIMENT

### JOS ALUKKAS URGES TO CHANGE THE STATUS QUO FOR WOMEN IN INDIA.

Updated: January 22, 2021, 00:16 IST



The film features South Indian actress Trisha.

Through the film, the brand pays homage to women who face struggles in all walks of life... The film through its multiple protagonists from all walks of life demonstrates the various hurdles faced by women. It conveys that women are the ones who are taught to be silent, naïve, and even afraid and their opinions go unheard and voices are usually stifled. In each of their struggles, there lies a deeper story of the same hurdles that generations of women had to bear. The film covers different barriers for women, from body shaming to 'not safe' times, to stifle voices and prejudices. It gives out the message that the world is theirs for the taking and it always opens doors for a brave heart. It features the South Indian actress and the brand ambassador, Trisha. The 'shine' of the jewels is metaphorically compared to the shine of the women who face numerous obstacles on a daily basis.

John Alukka, managing director, Jos Alukkas, said, "We hope that we can inspire real change with this film.

**Shruti Amin.**  
(Newscaster)

Sources: Brandequity.com

(Link: <https://brandequity.economicstimes.indiatimes.com/news/advertising/jos-alukkas-urges-to-change-the-status-quo-for-women-in-india/80393295>)

### FLIPKART'S NEW CAMPAIGN URGES CONSUMERS TO UNLOCK TRIPLE POWER SAVINGS.

The e-commerce platform says the campaign has been curated after extensive research to understand factors that affect consumers' decisions...

- [ETBrandEquity](#)



[Flipkart](#) has unveiled its latest pan-India campaign for its [grocery](#) business. It focuses on how Flipkart Grocery offers consumers great value through the promise of Triple Power Savings - a potent combination of cumulative savings.

The campaign has been curated after extensive research to understand factors that affect consumers' decisions and pain points when purchasing their daily groceries, the company said in a press statement.

It showcases a married couple sitting in front of a lifesize grocery bag, with the bag gorging on their savings. The couple looks betrayed by this act and aims to reconsider their purchases and shopping behaviour. The intent is to establish the current ways of grocery shopping by giving consumers a 're-evaluation jolt' to break through the clutter of varied offerings across this category.

**Tushant Gupta.**

(Newscaster)

(Link: <https://Brandequity.Economicstimes.Indiatimes.Com/News/Advertising/Flipkarts-New-Campaign-Urges-Consumers-To-Unlock-Triple-Power-Savings/80418114>)

### WEIKFIELD INVITES INDIA TO "WEIK UP" LIFE'S LITTLE MOMENTS.

January 23, 2021, 19:05 ISIST

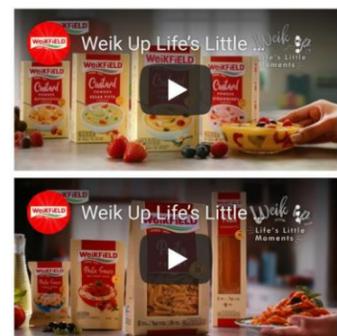


Weikfield invites India to 'Weik up' life's little moments

Weikfield Foods has unveiled a new brand campaign in a bid to revitalise and strengthen its brand equity.

The new campaign encourages its consumers to celebrate the little moments of life and tries to establish Weikfield as a partner to enliven these moments.

The campaign has been conceived and executed by GREY & Autumn GREY and includes two commercials; one for Custard and another for Pasta. They focus on spontaneous little moments that people experience in their life. These moments are then made more cheerful and memorable with Weikfield products. The real and relatable, TVCs try to strike an emotional chord with the consumers.



- <https://youtu.be/bCJQpHrQf-4>
- <https://youtu.be/2YUB8B4YBKI>

D S Sachdeva, chief executive officer, Weikfield, said, "We want to increase the frequency of consumption. So, what better way than associating the brand with everyday celebration. This campaign is a message to consumers that when they chance upon celebratory little moments of life, they should celebrate the same and live them to the fullest."

**ABHISHEK KANOJIYA.**  
(NEWSCASTER)

(Link: <https://brandequity.economicstimes.indiatimes.com/news/advertising/weikfield-invites-india-to-weik-up-lifes-little-moments/80424253>)

## INFORMATION & TECHNOLOGY

### WHATSAPP TREATING INDIAN USERS DIFFERENTLY FROM EUROPEANS MATTER OF CONCERN: GOVERNMENT TELLS DELHI HIGH COURT

WhatsApp is treating Indian users differently from Europeans over opting out of its new privacy policy which is a matter of concern for the government and it is looking into the issue, the Centre informed the Delhi High Court on Monday. The central government told the high court that it was also a matter of concern that Indian users were being "unilaterally" subjected to the change in privacy policy by the instant messaging platform. The submissions were made before Justice Sanjeev Sachdeva by Additional Solicitor General (ASG) Chetan Sharma during hearing of a petition by a lawyer against the new privacy policy of WhatsApp which is owned by Facebook. At the start of the hearing, the court reiterated what it had said on January 18 that WhatsApp was a private app and it was optional whether to download it or not. "It is not mandatory to download it.

Every other app has similar terms and conditions regarding sharing of user information with others," the court said and asked why the petitioner was challenging the policy of WhatsApp. During the hearing, ASG Sharma told the court that by not giving Indian users the option to opt out of sharing their data with other companies of Facebook, WhatsApp prima facie appears to be treating users with an "all or nothing approach". "Insofar the government is concerned, while the privacy policy offered by WhatsApp to its European users specifically prohibits use of any information shared with Facebook companies for the companies' purposes, this clause is not found in the privacy policy offered to Indian citizens who form a very very substantial part of WhatsApp's user base.

"This leverages the social significance of WhatsApp to force users into a bargain which may infringe on their interests in information privacy and information security," he further said.



*Ajay Lovekar*

(Newscaster)

(Ref:<https://gadgets.ndtv.com/social-networking/news/whatsapp-privacy-policy-update-india-users-facebook-data-sharing-delhi-high-court-case-2357786>)

### FAU-G LAUNCHING IN INDIA ON JANUARY 26: HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



FAU-G is debuting in the country tomorrow (January 26). The game is developed by nCore Games in collaboration with Bollywood actor Akshay Kumar. Pre-registrations for the game went live back in November, with over a million users signing up on the Play Store within three days of the announcement. However, that number recently surpassed four million. FAU-G or Fearless and United Guards is a first-person shooter game for mobile. The game was developed by Bangalore-based company nCore Games in collaboration with Akshay Kumar, who announced the game back in September, soon after the ban on PUBG Mobile. He also announced that 20 percent of the revenue generated by the game would be donated to Bharat Ke Veer trust. nCore Games co-founder Vishal Gondal also confirmed that the first level of the game is based on the Galwan Valley skirmish that the Indian Army engaged with Chinese troops.

Yes, the game will get a battle royale mode at a future date, it won't be available at launch. IGN reported that both the battle royale and multiplayer modes would come at a later date. If you are an Android user, you can download FAU-G on the Google Play Store on January 26. If you've pre-registered for the game, you will receive a notification when the game is available for download when the game launches. FAU-G is only playable on Android (All phones running on Android 8 and above). Although iOS support for the game is expected to arrive soon, there is no confirmation about iPad and iPhone support. FAU-G will initially target high-end and mid-range devices, with support for low-end devices coming later. Call of Duty: Mobile, Fortnite, and Garena Free Fire are some of the best alternatives to FAU-G or PUBG Mobile. Unlike FAU-G, these titles also feature multiplayer and battle royale modes.

*Ajay Lovekar*

(Newscaster)

(Ref:<https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/business/youtube-can-now-be-installed-as-a-progressive-web-app-heres-all-you-need-to-know-6394191.html> )

## SCIENCE & SPACE

### HOW CAN WE SOLVE THE PROBLEM OF SPACE JUNK?



#### All You Need To Know About Space Junk

What comes to your mind when you hear the word, ‘Space Junk’? It is not a rock music band or a candy bar. It does not sound pleasant to the ears. Millions of pieces of space debris or space junk are floating above the surface of Earth. If you would be on another planet and Earth was your neighbor, you would complain to the cops that your neighbors are not being responsible and they are throwing all the debris in the atmosphere and polluting the solar system. Fortunately, your planet is responsible for causing space junk.

Australian scientists found out that there are a lot of artificial objects around the orbit of Earth. You are probably wondering what space junk is. Here is a quick article for you to understand the meaning of space junk, the implications and the way we can solve it.

#### What is space junk?

Space junk is the debris or trash which left behind when human exploration is done on the orbit. The debris includes the waste materials from the astronaut suits, old satellites, pieces of rocket and other artificial objects which do not belong on the orbit.

How can we solve the problem?

Satellites and spacecrafts are expensive. It takes a lot of investment to build them and launch them in the sky. It is not a small problem and it has to be addressed. The good news is that the problem of space junk can be solved. Space junk is dangerous and there are some ways to deal with the problem.

Economists proposed a space tax called Pigovian tax which discourages the launch of a number of satellites. A tax would be levied to launch a satellite and that will be used for cleaning the debris.

Recycling old satellites would be a noble idea. If satellites are moving in space as debris, one can recycle them and use them again.

Astrium is a British Firm, who is building a harpoon which could drag the debris back to the atmosphere.

The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency is creating a type of fishing net that captures all the debris. It is such a unique idea! A satellite would be launched and it would have a net. It will magnetically attract all the orbital junk. Now that sounds like a plan!

We cannot see the trash which is floating around because we are just a small part of the Universe. However, it is important to address the problem of space junk. The above mentioned ways can be followed for reducing the space junk in the orbit. Why pollute the orbit? It would be such a big disaster for mankind! It is time to do get rid of the space junk.

**Fun Facts:**Envisat is the biggest piece of space junk, especially in low Earth orbit. It can reach up to 30 feet long with 16 feet wide.

*Mansi Sikchi*  
(Newscaster)

(Link:<https://einsty.com/solve-problem-space-junk/>)

## NATURE

### PLANTS PRODUCE DEFENSIVE TOXINS WITHOUT HARMING THEMSELVES



Many plants produce chemical defenses to protect themselves against being eaten. Still little is known about what makes these substances toxic to their consumers. Researchers at the Max Planck Institute for Chemical Ecology and the University of Münster have now investigated how plants produce toxins and store them in their tissues without harming themselves. In particular, they wanted to know whether the mechanisms of autotoxicity and its prevention share similar mechanisms as the toxic characteristics that provide defense against herbivores. For their experiments, they chose diterpene glycosides from *Nicotiana attenuata* plants, a wild tobacco species. "These substances occur at very high concentrations in the leaves of tobacco plants. But we had no idea why they were such effective defenses or why they could be so toxic to produce. So the situation was completely different from the other very abundant toxin that this plant produces, namely, nicotine. Nicotine is a specific neurotoxin. Since plants lack nerves and muscles, they offer no target for the toxin. So producing and storing nicotine does not harm plants," says Ian Baldwin from the Department of Molecular Ecology at the Jena Max Planck Institute, where the study was carried out. To their surprise, the researchers found that tobacco plants which had been transformed so they could no longer produce two proteins involved in the biosynthesis of the diterpene glycosides and thus also not form the defensive substances otherwise stored in the leaves in large amounts, showed conspicuous symptoms of self-poisoning: they were sick, unable to grow normally, and could no longer reproduce. Further experiments revealed that certain components of the cell membrane, so-called sphingolipids, had been attacked.

#### Targeting the cell membrane

Sphingolipids are substances found in all animals and plants, including the enemies of wild tobacco, the larvae of the tobacco hawkmoth *Manduca sexta*. The researchers therefore asked whether the sphingolipid metabolism could be the target of the diterpene glycosides. In fact, *Manduca sexta* caterpillars, which had fed on plants without diterpene glycosides, grew significantly better than larvae, which had fed on controls that contained the defensive chemicals. Analyses of the frass of *Manduca sexta* larvae, which had ingested diterpene glycosides with their food, provided further insights, as the degradation of the plant toxins during larval digestion is more or less in reverse order to the synthesis of the substances in the plant. Plants prevent self-harm by storing the defensive substances in a non-toxic form. However, when insects feed on the plant, a part of the non-toxic molecule is cleaved off and the chemical becomes activated or "armed." "Interestingly, in both cases, in plants with incomplete diterpene glycoside biosynthesis and in feeding caterpillars, the target of the toxins is the sphingolipid metabolism. Sphingolipids are mediators in many physiological processes. This makes the effect of diterpene glycosides on sphingolipid metabolism so intriguing. "Diterpene glycosides and their derivatives can have broad defensive functions against many agricultural pests and pathogenic fungi. At the same time, many human diseases, such as diabetes, cancers and some neurodegenerative diseases are also associated with elevated sphingolipid metabolisms," says Shuqing Xu from the Institute for Evolution and Biodiversity at the University of Münster, who is one of the senior authors of the study. Physicians have been searching for effective substances to treat these diseases by inhibiting the sphingolipid metabolism. The diterpene glycosides studied here could be potential candidates for further investigations. "Frassomics" -- a new powerful tool to study interactions between organisms

The analysis of larval frass proved to be the key to success in this study. The scientists call this new approach "frassomics": a combination of frass (larval droppings) and metabolomics -- the analysis of all metabolites in an organism. The scientists plan to gain more insights into the "digestive duets" that occur between plants and insects, in order to better understand ecological interactions between plants, insects and microorganisms.

**Facts:** You might not be able to see the defense mechanisms of dieffenbachia, or the dumb cane, but they're there. Inside the plant's leaves are calcium oxalate crystals. When released, the crystals deliver a venomous enzyme called raphides, which, when ingested, can cause everything from paralysis to speech impairment. These symptoms are where the houseplant gets its common name from. It's also why the dieffenbachia is hilariously referred to as mother-in-law's tongue.

**Rishil Shetty**  
(Newscaster)

(Link: [Www.Hindustantimes.Com](http://www.Hindustantimes.Com))

## RESEARCH

### **A REVIEW OF THE EMPIRICAL RESEARCH ON PSYCHOLOGICAL RESPONSES TO HORROR FILMS**

Why do we watch and like horror films? Despite a century of horror film making and entertainment, little research has examined the human motivation to watch fictional horror and how horror film influences individuals' behavioral, cognitive, and emotional responses. This review provides the first synthesis of the empirical literature on the psychology of horror film using multi-disciplinary research from psychology, psychotherapy, communication studies, development studies, clinical psychology, and media studies.



The paper considers the motivations for people's decision to watch horror, why people enjoy horror, how individual differences influence responses to, and preference for, horror film, how exposure to horror film changes behavior, how horror film is designed to achieve its effects, why we fear and why we fear specific classes of stimuli, and how liking for horror develops during childhood and adolescence. The literature suggests that (1) low empathy and fearfulness are associated with more enjoyment and desire to watch horror film but that specific dimensions of empathy are better predictors of people's responses than are others; (2) there is a positive relationship between sensation-seeking and horror enjoyment/preference, but this relationship is not consistent; (3) men and boys prefer to watch, enjoy, and seek out horror more than do women and girls; (4) women are more prone to disgust sensitivity or anxiety than are men, and this may mediate the sex difference in the enjoyment of horror; (5) younger children are afraid of symbolic stimuli, whereas older children become afraid of concrete or realistic stimuli; and (6) in terms of coping with horror, physical coping strategies are more successful in younger children; priming with information about the feared object reduces fear and increases children's enjoyment of frightening television and film. A number of limitations in the literature is identified, including the multifarious range of horror stimuli used in studies, disparities in methods, small sample sizes, and a lack of research on cross-cultural differences and similarities. Ideas for future research are explored.

(Link: <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpsyg.2019.02298/full>)

### **New Media as a Change Agent of Indian Television and Cinema: A study of over the top Platforms**

New media is creating a new world and changing our daily lives. Internet is changing Indian cinema very rapidly. There are several new technologies, which are used by audience to watch movies and documentaries on their personal gadgets. Netflix, Amazon Prime, Hotstar, Zee5 and ALT Balaji, Jio tv are some examples, which are providing movies and other video content through internet. These platforms are a new convergence of television and cinema. Some new ventures are producing video content for these Internet platforms only. Now audience can watch new movies, web series, documentaries, news and short films on their convenient timing at a reasonable price on these new media platforms. These new ventures are changing Indian television and cinema in many ways. Objectives of this study are to know how Indian Television and Cinema are changing due to new online platforms and how youth is using these new digital platforms for video content watching. This study analyzes the video content watching habits of the youth and tries to find out the changes in television and cinema watching trends in youth. This study is based on a survey method to know the video content watching habits of youths through online platforms. Study reveals that Hotstar, Netflix and Jio are the major players in the Indian OTT service market. Indian audience uses these applications without paying any money. Most of the viewers watch content through these applications up to 2 hours daily. Most of the audience watch content on streaming media at night. Most preferred content on Over the top applications is web series. Indian population loves to watch web series on these platforms. Second preferred program is movie. Hindi is the preferred language of Indian viewers. Entertainment is the biggest reason behind the use of Over the top applications. Most of the Indian users watch movies on these applications. Action and comedy are the favorite genres of movie. Indian audience loves to watch latest movies on these applications. Almost all respondents agree that Over the top applications are changing television and film watching habits in India. Reasons behind the change are convenience of service, personal medium and availability of international content. Study reveals that the future of Over the top applications is bright in India and the reasons for this are smartphone penetration, international collaborations between media moguls, cost effectiveness and digital quality of the medium.

(Link: [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/335526353\\_New\\_Media\\_as\\_a\\_Change\\_Agent\\_of\\_Indian\\_Television\\_and\\_Cinema\\_A\\_study\\_of\\_over\\_the\\_top\\_Platforms](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/335526353_New_Media_as_a_Change_Agent_of_Indian_Television_and_Cinema_A_study_of_over_the_top_Platforms))

# MEDIA

## STUDENT PERSPECTIVES ON LEARNING WITH CELL PHONES, SMART PHONES & SOCIAL MEDIA

Abstract:

The purpose of this research was to explore teaching and learning when mobile computing devices, such as cell phones and smart phones, were implemented in higher education. This paper presents a portion of the findings on students' perceptions of learning with mobile computing devices and the roles social media played.

The students' teachers had been integrating mobile computing devices, such as cell phones and smart phones, into their courses for at least two semesters. Data were collected through student focus group interviews. Two specific themes emerged from the interview data: (a) advantages of mobile computing devices for student learning and (b) frustrations from learning with mobile computing devices. Mobile computing devices and the use of social media created opportunities for interaction, provided opportunities for collaboration, as well as allowed students to engage in content creation and communication using social media and Web 2.0 tools with the assistance of constant connectivity.

### Highlights:

Mobile devices offer a variety of ways to learn, communicate and collaborate.

Frustrations arise when there is a lack of institutional support or training.

Students "blur the lines" between social networking tools and mobile devices.

- Using portable computing devices (such as I Pads, laptops, tablet PCs, PDAs and smart phones) with wireless networks enables mobility and mobile variation related to instructional approaches, disciplines, learning goals and technological tools." But they still struggled to define for themselves the parameters of their investigation.
- One professor they interviewed helped them accept the ambiguity of their research subject. His students use I Pads in the classroom because, unlike computers, they allow students to interact while working on assignments without a bulky desktop or laptop screen blocking their view of those around them.
- Some instructors ask students to answer poll questions during face-to-face class sessions. Social media platforms like Twitter and Facebook can serve as hubs of information and dialogue among students and instructors. Smart phones and tablets can also be used as platforms for creating projects integral to the learning objectives of a course -- graphic design on an I Pad or journalistic interviews on a smart phone recorder.



- Professors and administrators at recent conferences report that some students write entire essays on their smart phones or complete homework assignments on the bus commute to campus. Increasingly, students expect course materials to be accessible to them on their mobile devices just as they would be on a laptop.
- Beyond its function as a classroom tool, mobile technology is the primary conduit for some students' learning experiences. Broad data on the different permutations of mobile learning are hard to come by.

-Akansha Bhardwaj  
(Newscaster)

(Ref: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1096751613000262>)

## FAKE NEWS AND FACT-CHECKING



What better way to start the new year than by learning new things about how best to battle fake news and other forms of online misinformation?

Because getting good news is also a great way to start 2020, I included a study that suggests President Donald Trump's "fake news" tweets aimed at discrediting news coverage could actually help journalists.

**"Real solutions for fake news? Measuring the effectiveness of general warnings and fact-check tags in reducing belief in false stories on social media"**

- From Dartmouth College and the University of Michigan

This study provides several new insights about the most effective ways to counter fake news on social media. Researchers found that when fake news headlines were flagged with a tag that says "Rated false," people were less likely to accept the headline as accurate than when headlines carried a "Disputed" tag. They also found that posting a general warning telling readers to beware of misleading content could backfire. After seeing a general warning, study participants were less likely to believe true headlines and false ones.

The authors note that the feedback they got demonstrates that online fake news can be countered "with some degree of success." "The findings suggest that the specific warnings were more effective because they reduced belief solely for false headlines and did not create spill over effects on perceived accuracy of true news," they write.

**"All the president's tweets: Effects of exposure to Trump's 'fake news' accusations on perceptions of journalists, news stories, and issue evaluation"**

From Virginia Tech and EAB

When Trump turns to Twitter to accuse legitimate news outlets of being "fake news," does the public's view of journalists change? Are people who read his tweets less likely to believe news coverage? To investigate such questions, researchers conducted two studies, during which they showed some participants a sampling of the president's "fake news" tweets and asked them to read a news story.

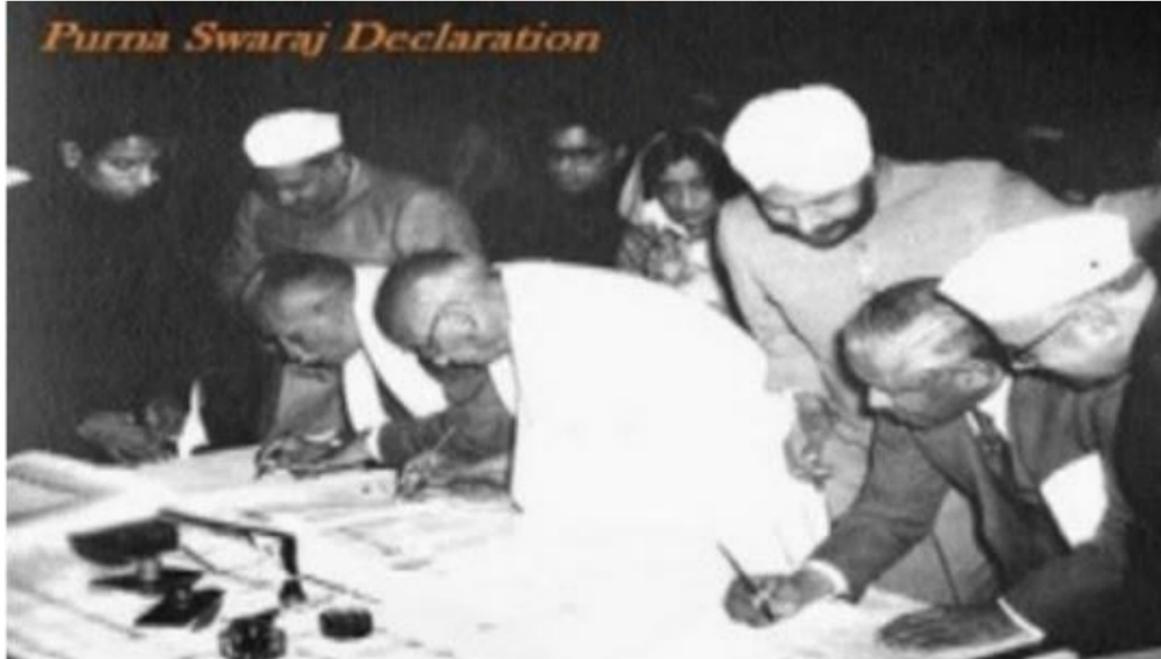
Here's what the researchers learned: The more tweets people chose to read, the greater their intent to read more news in the future. As participants read more tweets, their assessments of news stories' and journalists' credibility also rose. "If anything, we can conclude that Trump's tweets about fake news drive greater interest in news more generally," the authors write. Based on their findings, the researchers offer a few suggestions for journalists. "In the short term," they write, "if journalists can push out stories to social media feeds immediately after Trump or others tweet about legitimate news as being 'fake news,' then practitioners may disarm Trump's toxic rhetoric and even enhance the perceived credibility of and demand for their own work.

~ Vedang Khopkar

(Ref: [Journalistsresource.Org](https://www.journalistsresource.org))

## ARTS & HISTORY

### PURNA SWARAJ



The Purna Swaraj declaration, or Declaration of the Independence of India, was promulgated by the Indian National Congress on 26 January 1930, resolving the Congress and Indian nationalists to fight for Purna Swaraj, or complete self-rule independent of the British Empire.

The flag of India was hoisted by Jawaharlal Nehru on 31 December 1929 on the banks of Ravi river, in Lahore, modern-day Pakistan. The Congress asked the people of India to observe 26 January as Independence Day (see Legacy). The flag of India was hoisted publicly across India by Congress volunteers, nationalists and the public.

Before 1930, Indian political parties had openly embraced the goal of political independence from the United Kingdom. The All India Home Rule League had been advocating Home Rule for India: dominion status within the British Empire, as granted to Australia, Canada, the Irish Free State, Newfoundland, New Zealand, and South Africa. The All India Muslim League favoured dominion status as well, and opposed calls for outright Indian independence. The Indian Liberal Party, by far the most pro-British party, explicitly opposed India's independence and even dominion status if it weakened India's links with the British Empire. The Indian National Congress, the largest Indian political party of the time, was at the head of the national debate. Congress leader and famous poet Hasrat Mohani was the first activist to demand complete independence (Poorna Swaraj) from the British in 1921 from an All-India Congress Forum. Veteran Congress leaders such as Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Sri Aurobindo and Bipin Chandra Pal had also advocated explicit Indian independence from the Empire.

**Kartik Bordekar**  
(Newscaster)

(Ref:-[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Purna\\_Swaraj](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Purna_Swaraj))

### STREET PAINTING



Street painting, also known as screeving, pavement art, street art, and sidewalk art, is the performance art of rendering artistic designs on pavement such as streets, sidewalks, and town squares with impermanent and semi-permanent materials such as chalk.

The first recorded street-painting competition and 'festival' was held in London in 1906.

In 1972 the first 'Italian' International Street Painting Competition was held in Grazie di Curtatone, Italy. It is part of festival celebrating the Assumption with the streets of the city being turned over to the festival.

In 1987, Wenner and Manfred Stader introduced street painting to Old Mission Santa Barbara, California.

One of the largest events in the United States is the Lake Worth Street Painting Festival, held in Lake Worth Florida. Started in 1994, it attracts 100,000 visitors over the weekend to see 250 works of art by over 400 artists.

The origins of modern street painting can be traced to Britain. Pavement artists were found all over the United Kingdom and by 1890 it was estimated that more than 500 artists were making a full-time living from pavement art in London alone.

The British term for a pavement artist is a "screever". The term is derived from the writing style, often Copperplate, that typically accompanied the works of pavement artists since the 1700s. The term screever is most commonly cited as Shakespearean slang dating from around 1500.

In 2012, A company called We Talk Chalk, led by Creative Director Melanie Stimmell, and Remco Van Latum, introduced the art of 3-D street painting to countries such as Israel and Thailand. The city of Chiang Mai hosted their first street painting festival in March 2012.

**Kartik Bordekar**  
(Newscaster)

(Ref:[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Street\\_Painting](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Street_Painting))

## LIBRARY

SWAMI VIVEKANAND ROLE MODEL FOR YOUTH

Swami Vivekananda is a great inspiration for the youth of the nation, Born as Narendranath Dutta into an affluent Bengali family in Calcutta[now Kolkata], Vivekananda was one of the children of Vishwanath Dutta and Bhuvaneshwari Devi. Swami Vivekananda, wearing a turban, at the Parliament of the world's Religions in 1893.

“ Arise! Awake! And stop not till the goal is reached.”

Swami Vivekananda popularised this slogan in the late 19th century, taking inspiration from the Katha Upanishad. This message of his was an exhortation the world to shake off all hypnosis and sloth.

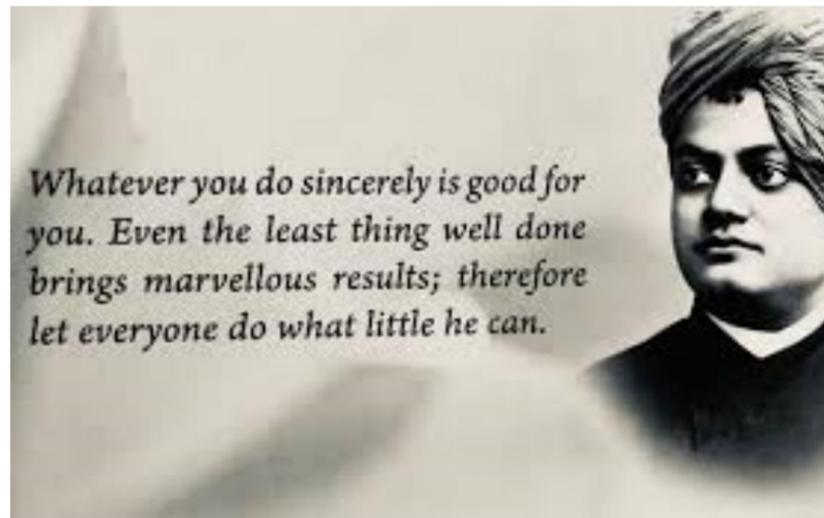
He was born on January 12, 1863, on the occasion of Makar Sankranti. His father Vishwanath was a successful attorney with considerable influence in the society. His mother was a woman endowed with a strong, God-fearing mind and had a great impact on her son. Swami Vivekananda grew up as the symbol of youth power, who hoisted the flag of Indian culture overseas.

Those who have known him, read him and follow him will vouch for the fact that his entire life was an immense source of inspiration.

He fostered new enthusiasm for progress among the youth, so much so that the whole country celebrates his birth anniversary as ‘National Youth Day’.

A very practical man, Swami Vivekananda believed that the service to mankind should be selfless as service to mankind was service to God. He worked tirelessly towards betterment of the society, in servitude of the poor and the needy, dedicating his all for his country. He was responsible for the revival of Hindu spirituality and established Hinduism as a revered religion on the world stage. He has inspired countless generations of Indians since he made his famous speech September 11, 1893 in Chicago at the parliament of the world's Religion.

He is credited with making the Western countries realise that India was not a country of illiterates. With his light of wisdom, he proved that India was actually a world guru. He revealed to the western world the spiritual aspects of Indian civilisation. Before the propagation of Hinduism in the Western countries, he toured India from Kashmir to Kanyakumari and from Bengal to Punjab because he used to say that “unless I myself see the people of my country, how would I tell the world about them?” Given the current state of our country, his teachings are most relevant today. While our country witnessed immense progress after independence and became self-reliant in many areas, we are still divided in the name of caste and religions.



The youth of the country seems lost.

He is too engrossed utilising the quota of 2GB data on his cell phone, oblivious to his duties to the nation and the humanity.

Swami Vivekananda had sent a message from Osaka (Japan) to the youth of the country —let's be human. He also dwelt on the capabilities of the youth; he wanted the youth to train itself in order to serve humanity.

What he wanted from the youth were ‘muscles of iron’ and ‘nerves of steel’. Today, the youth are exceptionally responsive and they just need to be encouraged. Swami Vivekananda was only the medium; he is himself the message as well for the youth of India. His teachings will always stay relevant.

*Siddhi Karekar*  
(Newscaster)

(Ref - <https://www.hindustantimes.com/education/swami-vivekananda-and-his-message-to-the-youth/story-2e4u0kooy91dxdmh1ampi.html>)

## FOOD & HEALTHCARE

### SMELLS MAKE YOU WELL!

People have used the scents of plants, trees, herbs and fruits since ancient times to fight inflammation, depression and induce sleep. “Smells act on the brain like a drug,” says neurologist Dr Alan Hirsch, founder of the Smell and Taste Treatment and Research Foundation in Chicago.

“In the future there will be new treatments based on smell.”

Smells stimulate nerves in the nose that send impulses to the brain. These impulses usually go to the brain’s limbic system which controls heart rate, blood pressure, breathing, memory, stress levels and hormone balance.

#### LAVENDER



Lavender pillows may help you sleep. Dr Mark Moss of Newcastle’s Northumbria University found that lavender has a consistent sedative effect. It slows reactions, reduces attention and impairs working memory, the part of the brain that puts facts on hold before storing them.

Lavender may also help the elderly avoid falls and be less agitated.

#### JASMINE



Tests showed jasmine dramatically calmed mice when their cage was filled with it. Brain scans confirmed this. By changing the chemical structure of the scent molecules researchers hope to achieve even stronger effects. Jasmine soothes, promotes high quality sleep and relieves anxiety.

Dr Hirsh says jasmine also helps to improve hand-eye coordination in cases as diverse as classical violinists and doctors performing micro-neurosurgery.

#### ROSEMARY



A rosemary plant on your desk could improve your work performance and how you feel about it. The old saying “rosemary is for remembrance” seems true. Smelling the herb produces beta brain waves which demonstrate alertness.

The link between smelling rosemary and scoring higher on mental tests was established by Dr Moss in 2003. However, more surprising news was to come.

Dr Moss has now demonstrated that after inhalation of the herb one of its main compounds, 1.8-cineole, could be detected in the bloodstream. The more of the compound in the bloodstream the more cognitive performance was improved.

Dr Moss believes the aroma which entered the bloodstream via the nasal membranes and lungs acts like a traditional drug.

#### APPLE

Sniffing green apples may control blood pressure, lessen migraine pain and help you lose weight.

Dr Gary E Schwartz, found that in particular the smell of spiced apples can control blood pressure as well as meditation.

In studies of healthy volunteers under stress it has brought systolic blood pressure, the peak pressure during heart beats, down by an average of three to five points and sometimes lowered diastolic blood pressure, the resting pressure in between beats.

Apples may also reduce migraine pain. In the knowledge that research suggested some smells can trigger migraine Dr Hirsch theorised the opposite could also be true. Dr Hirsch also found that the smell of apples might curb appetite.

#### LEMON

Several studies demonstrate that the smell of lemons can reduce stress at least in rodents.

In one investigation the technical research center at the Japanese flavour and fragrance company T Hasegawa gave stressed lab rats linalool, a component of lemons.

The linalool returned their stress-elevated levels of neutrophils and lymphocytes, key parts of the immune system, to near-normal levels.

#### PEPPERMINT

Getting pumped up with peppermint may improve workouts and accuracy in the workplace.



Dr Bryan Raudenbush at Wheeling Jesuit University, West Virginia, found that athletes who sniffed peppermint during exercise ran faster, had greater grip strength and could do more push-ups than those who did not.

He also found smelling peppermint improves clerical work, including typing accuracy and speeds and may make drivers more alert. He says peppermint and cinnamon both fight driving fatigue.

*Seema Samanta*  
(Newscaster)

Reference-

<https://www.express.co.uk/life-style/health/362320/smells-to-make-you-well>

## CULTURE & CUISINE

### FUN FACTS ABOUT SUSHI

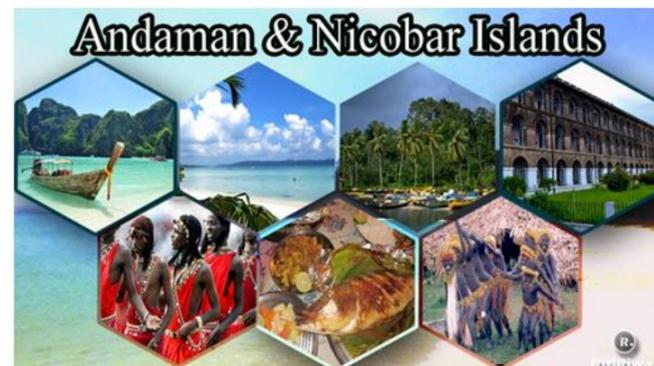


- 1) Sushi is swimming in health benefits.  
Sushi is an awesome source of omega-3 fatty acids (heart-healthy fat). Nori (seaweed) provides iodine (boosts thyroid health), and is a good source of vitamin A – vital to a healthy immune system and skin.
  - 2) Chopsticks OR Hands are okay to eat sushi with.  
Traditionally, sushi is eaten with hands. “There is beauty in the process of the sushi experience where it’s made by hands, served by hands, and eaten by hands, so go ahead and use your hands,” says renowned sushi Chef Masaharu Morimoto in an interview with The Feast.
  - 3) may not have originated in Japan.  
While Japan widely gets recognition for creating sushi the way we see it today, we have Southeast Asia to thank for inspiring modern sushi.
- It is believed that “narezushi” (fermented fish wrapped in sour rice) emerged somewhere along the Mekong River before it reached China and eventually Japan, reports Trip Savvy. Sushi we’re more familiar with today comes from Hanaya Yohei in Japan during the end of the Edo period around the mid 1800s.
- 4) Wasting soy sauce is disrespectful.  
Excessively using soy sauce with sushi and having to throw out valuable soy sauce is highly discouraged. The proper way to enjoy your sushi is to pour the tiniest amount and only replenish as needed, according to Trip Savvy.
  - 5) People were able to use sushi as a form of currency.  
Sushi was once highly prized that people were allowed to use it to pay taxes in AD 8th century Japan, says Shimbo.
  - 6) Initially, sushi rice wasn’t eaten.  
In the early days of sushi making, the rice used consisted of sour, fermenting rice that wrapped around aged fish – only to help in creating umami, a distinct sour taste. After the fermentation finished, the rice was thrown out and only the fish was eaten.
  - 7) Japanese sushi should evoke a strong sense of the seasons.  
Traditionally, sushi in Japan should offer diners a feeling of spring, summer, fall, and winter. As a result, sushi chefs stateside and in Japan steer clear of out-of-season fish. Fish are in season when they’re the tastiest and fattest – normally as they’re getting ready to spawn, Shimbo says.
  - 8) Nigiri is meant to be eaten upside down.  
It is suggested that nigiri (a slice of fish on top of rice) be eaten upside down – for the best sushi dining experience. Nigiri is also normally eaten with your hands, reports Trip Savvy.

**-Rashi Walinjar**  
(Newscaster)

Ref: <https://www.eatatbento.com/15-Fun-Facts-Su>

### ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS – CULTURE AND TRADITION



**Origin:** The Andaman islands have been inhabited for several thousand years, at the very least. The earliest archaeological evidence yet documented goes back some 2,200 years, however, the indications from genetic, cultural, and isolation studies suggest that the islands may have been inhabited as early as the Middle Paleolithic.

**Culture:** The Andaman Islands are home to four ‘Negrito’ tribes – the Great Andamanese, Onge, Jarawa and Sentinelese. The Nicobar Islands are home to two ‘Mongoloid’ tribes – the Shompen and Nicobarese. People of Andaman and Nicobar speak many language. Each prevails all over the Island with no political or communal riots. Not only the beauty of nature and the various enticing features but also the peace-loving people have made the Andaman and Nicobar Islands a tourist spot for visitors overseas. The people are given quality education. Quality medical facilities are available. The people are very much aware of their rights and concessions and so do they abide and maintain their standards. People enjoy a lot of freedom. They do not have any limitations. They live in harmony. This is a rare sight that one finds in India, which is unusual as there are constraints, political and communal riots, and calmness situations in the other parts of India.

**Festivals:** Subhash Mela and Island Tourism Festival in January, Beach Festival in April, Monsoon festival in August, Food festival and world tourism day celebration in September and film festival in November are some of the visible festivals that are celebrated here. The people of these Islands celebrate special occasions like Durga Puja, Dipawali, Christmas, Janmashtami, and the colorful Holi festival. Even Onam and Pongal are celebrated with equal enthusiasm.

**Cuisines:** Andaman & Nicobar Islands is a melting pot of Indian Culture. Andaman cuisine is heavily influenced by all the cultures that came into contact with the region. Like many other aspects of Andaman culture, the influence of the Hindu, Christian, Muslim, and Sikh religions in traditional food is very strong. You can observe this deep impact on the truly tasty and spicy cuisine of The Andamans. The Andaman and Nicobar Island food is basically Non-vegetarian, it is completely a coastal region fish is eaten with rice. Vegetables and most of the food items are imported from other states and the nearest countries.

**-Bhavna Sayekar**  
(Newscaster)

(Ref: <https://www.ritirivaz.com/Andaman-And-Nicobar-Islands-Culture-And-Tradition/>)

## TRAVEL & TOURISM

### "KALSUBAI TREK" – IGATPURI



#### Introduction:

Kalsubai is a mountain in the Western Ghats, located in the Indian state of Maharashtra. Its summit, situated at an elevation of 1,646 metres (5,400 ft.), is the highest point in Maharashtra. The mountain range lies within the Kalsubai Harishchandragad Wildlife Sanctuary. It is visited throughout the year by avid trekkers, Kalsubai temple devotees and wildlife enthusiasts alike. The peak attracts many trekkers and devotees determined to scale the mountain. A short distance away from the stream a Hanuman temple has been built. The route from behind this temple takes the hiker straight to the summit.

#### How To Reach There:

- Reach Kasara Railway Station.
- Take local Taxi till base village Bari.
- By Road Mumbai - Kasara - Igatpuri - Ghoti - Bari Village.
- Kalsubai Trek from Pune By Road Pune - Sangamner - Rajur - Bhandardara - Bari
- Kalsubai Trek route is well marked.
- Local guides often accompany climbers to the summit.
- Local Villagers offer homestay and food option.
- Many restaurants are available till Bari Village.

#### Why To Go There:

Kalsubai Peak is a very popular trek in the Sahyadri region. It is the highest peak in Maharashtra at 5,400 ft and is easily accessible both from Mumbai and Pune. The views from the summit of Kalsubai Peak is astounding. Most of the famous peaks of the Sahyadris like Alang, Madan, Kulang, Ratangad, Ajoba are visible from here. Trekkers combine two or more treks for more adventure and challenge.

**Tanvi Kendule**  
(Newscaster)  
(Ref: [www.holidify.com](http://www.holidify.com))

### "BACKWATERS, BEACHES AND LAGOONS - VENICE OF THE EAST"



#### Alleppey Tourism:

Officially called Alappuzha, Alleppey is a city in the South Indian state of Kerala. Bordering the Laccadive Sea, it is known for its wide network of interlinking, palm-fringed canals called backwaters and rejuvenating Ayurvedic resorts. Allepey is also popular for its Houseboat cruises that pass through the serene backwaters, where you can catch glimpses of green paddy fields, choir making activities, beautiful avifauna and witness the life of locals in Kerala.

**How to Reach Alleppey:** Alleppey is reachable via airways, railways and roadways. The Cochin International Airport is the nearest airport. Located about 80 to 100 km from Alleppey city, a 2 to 3-hour drive would suffice to cover the distance from the airport. There are a couple of railway stations in town, the Kalavur Halt being one of the major rail heads. There is also a KSRTC Bus Station situated right at the city centre, about a km away. Another bus stop is at the Valicherry Ward, approximately a 6-minute walk to the city.

#### Food of Alleppey:

Alleppey's cuisine has a number of must-haves. Your taste buds haven't experienced Alleppey if you haven't tried the Ghee Roast Dosa and Malayalee Paratha. While Appams and Idlis form the essentials, you can also try "Toddy" which is a locally fermented alcohol beverage made from palm tree and coconut palms. Rice wine can be also tried in Alleppey. One of the most essential things to do in Alleppey is trying the local cuisine. Apart from the very famous Puttu Kadala, Appam, Vada, curry and other traditional Kerala food; you can also try the homemade fish and seafood. All of these dishes have a very strong coconut flavour.

The top 4 activities and experiences in Alleppey:

Heritage & Cultural Trails of Alleppey.

Backwaters Boat Ride in Alleppey.

Alleppey Backwaters Day Tour.

Food Walk Tour of Alleppey



**Rhea Devadiga**  
(Newscaster)

(Ref: [www.holidify.com](http://www.holidify.com))

## SPORTS

### DEEPIKA KUMARI – THE SUPER ARCHER

Deepika Kumari (born 13 June 1994) is an Indian athlete who competes in the event of archery, is currently ranked World No. 9, and is a former world number one. She won a gold medal in the 2010 Commonwealth games in the women's individual recurve event. She also won a gold medal in the same competition in the women's team recurve event along with Dola Banerjee and Bombayala Devi.

Kumari qualified for the 2012 Summer Olympics in London, where she competed in the Women's Individual and Women's team events, finishing in eighth place in the latter.

She was conferred the Arjuna Award, India's second highest sporting award, in the year 2012 by President of India Pranab Mukherjee. In February 2014, she was honored with FICCI Sports person of the Year Award. The Government of India awarded her the civilian honour of the Padma Shri in 2016.

#### Career

Deepika made her first breakthrough in 2005 when she entered Arjun Archery Academy, an institute set up by Meera Munda, wife of chief minister of the state Shri. Arjun Munda at Kharsawan. But her professional archery journey began in the year 2006 when she joined the Tata Archery Academy in Jamshedpur. It was here that she started her training with both the proper equipment as well as a uniform. She also received Rs 500 as a stipend. Deepika returned home once in her first three years there, only after having won the Cadet World Championship title in November 2009.

#### Achievements

Deepika became the second Indian to win the title after Palton Hansda won the junior compound competition at the 2006 Archery World Cup in Mérida, Mexico.

She won the 11th Youth World Archery Championship held in Ogden, Utah, United States in 2009, at the age of fifteen. She also won a gold medal in the same competition in the women's team recurve event, alongside Dola Banerjee and Bombayala Devi.

*Gayatri Kelkar  
(Newscaster)*

*Ref: - <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki>*

### LAXMIRANI MAJHI PROFILE: ARCHERY

Laxmirani Majhi hails from a small village in Jharkhand. 27 year old archer's talent got recognition when the archery academy selectors visited her government college. Daughter of a coal-mine worker, Majhi knew nothing of archery but had seen many from her village take that route to earn a living. She now has a job in the Indian Railways.

Manjhi along with Deepika Kumari, Bombayala were named for the 2016 Rio Games. Majhi will compete in the individual events as well as team event at the Rio Games in August. Majhi is the least experienced among the three women archers representing India in Rio. Laxmirani has performed well under pressure. Known to score 10s frequently, Majhi will be a key in the team event, if the archery team hopes to finish on the podium.

Career highlights: The 27-year-old shot into the lime light in the year 2015 when she managed to win the silver medal in the World Archery Championships.

Qualifying event: Laxmirani Majhi qualified by making it to the quarters of the World Championship in Copenhagen in May.

Record: She won a silver medal at 2015 World Archery Championship.

*Gayatri Kelkar  
(Newscaster)*

*Ref: - <https://indianexpress.com/>*

**SOCIAL ISSUES****THE REAL SIDE OF THE INDIAN JUDICIARY**

The narrative of decline comes from the fact that arbitrary use of judicial power was largely coded as a good thing earlier. Some has taken advantage of that. Has the Indian judiciary suddenly stopped doing its job of acting as a check on the government and upholding the rights of Indians? Much of the media over the last few weeks has featured laments that rely on a narrative of sudden judicial collapse.

While most of the concerns raised about lack of judicial oversight are accurate, what is not is a picture of a sudden change. The uncomfortable truth is that the Indian judiciary largely always functioned in an arbitrary manner.

One of the first court judgements, passed by the Madras High Court in 1950 and upheld by the Supreme Court, after the new Constitution came into force was in fact to strike down the policy of caste-based reservations in socially progressive Madras Province based on the complaint of a Brahmin woman, Chamapakam Dorairajan, claiming she had been unable to secure a medical seat due to quotas.

Faced with socially progressive law-making in the legislatures, courts fell back upon increasingly arbitrary pronouncements in order to dilute reservations. In 1992, the Supreme Court, while hearing a case on the validity of Other Backward Class reservations, not only made sure to cap them using an income criterion – which was not the basis of the law in Parliament and which went against the social justice logic of reservations – but also went on to arbitrarily take up the issue of Dalit and Adivasi reservations, ruling that affirmative action could not be applied to promotions.

This sudden, arbitrary law-making from the bench – where the court made policy on SC/ST reservations in a case pertaining to OBC reservations – typifies judicial attitudes towards caste equity. Ironically, even as courts strictly scrutinise SC/ST and OBC reservation, the upper caste quota introduced by the government in 2019 as reservations for ‘economically weaker sections’ sailed through. Since the judiciary has – unlike with almost all other new quotas – chosen not to put a stay on it, it would be practically impossible for any future court to roll it back.

Many legal commentators paint a picture of courts as a guarantor of rights against government excess. But in the case of caste-based social justice, the ground situation stands largely reversed. “Much of this flow from the fact that courts in India are not representative,” explained G Karunanidhy, General Secretary of the All-India Federation of OBC Employees’ Welfare Association. The data backs him up: As of 1999, out of 136 Supreme Court judges, only two were from Dalit or Adivasi communities – the lowest by far of any arm of government.

A similar picture emerges from the research of law scholar Anuj Bhunia, in his study of Public Interest Litigations in the early 2000s in Delhi. An Indian invention, the PIL allows the court to become a parallel governance mechanism. The lack of any checks and balances allows judges, as per Bhunia, “to act on their biases (aesthetic, anti-poor or otherwise) and that too with a free hand in a most expansive manner”.



Rather than subjectively praise or criticise this judicial populism depending on its temporary outcomes, commentators must make sure to decry the idea of an activist, unchecked court itself and recognise that this has always harmed Indian democracy. The court didn’t suddenly decline in these years. It just so happened that the people who think so weren’t keeping a critical enough eye out earlier.

*Sdashiv Shringare*  
(Newscaster)

Ref: - <https://Scroll.In/Article/979369/The-Indian-Judiciary-Didnt-Suddenly-Decline-In-The-Modi-Years-It-Was-Always-Broken>

***STUDENT'S SECTION***

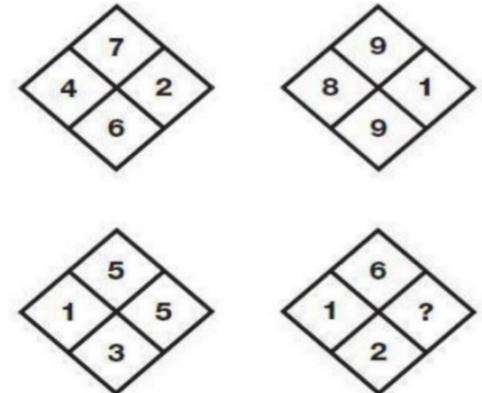
**RIDDLES!!**

1. What 4-letter word can be written forward, backward or upside down, and can still be read from left to right?
2. What can run but never walks, has a mouth but never talks, has a head but never weeps, has a bed but never sleeps?
3. What can fill a room but takes up no space?
4. With pointed fangs I sit and wait; with piercing force I crunch out fate; grabbing victims, proclaiming might; physically joining with a single bite. What am I?
5. I have lakes with no water, mountains with no stone and cities with no buildings. What am I?

**VARAD PAWAR**  
(NEWCASTER)

REF: <https://parade.com/947956/parade/riddles/>

**FIND THE NUMBER**



**RADHIKA MISTRY**  
(NEWCASTER)  
REF: [www.sawaal.com](http://www.sawaal.com)

**FUN FACT**

1. North Korea and Cuba are the only places you can't buy Coca-Cola.
2. The entire world's population could fit inside Los Angeles.
3. The world's quietest room is located at Microsoft's headquarters in Washington state.
4. There are only three countries in the world that don't use the metric system.
5. Nearly half of the world's population watched both the 2010 and 2014 FIFA World Cup games.

**VARAD PAWAR**  
(NEWCASTER)

REF: <https://bestlifeonline.com/world-facts/>

**CROSSWORD**

Fill in the blanks with the words provided.

<b>3 letter words</b>	TENNYSON	GIBRALTAR	<b>17 letter word</b>
AIR	TROPICAL	KILOJOULE	LABRADOR
COD	<b>9 letter words</b>	<b>11 letter words</b>	RETRIEVER
<b>4 letter words</b>	ACCORDION	CANADA GOOSE	
PAGE	BRILLIANT	CONNECTICUT	
SOUP			
<b>5 letter words</b>			
AMEBA			
AMUSE			
BEANS			
BERYL			
CHAIR			
COINS			
ESSAY			
GLYPH			
SAUNA			
STICK			
<b>6 letter words</b>			
GIBBON			
LESSON			
PLAINS			
RHUMBA			
<b>8 letter words</b>			
CONTOURS			
FEBRUARY			
MAILLART			
SEMINOLE			

**RADHIKA MISTRY**  
(NEWCASTER)  
REF: [www.shutterstock.com](http://www.shutterstock.com)

**ART BY STUDENT**



**Neha Jadhav**

**TYBMS**

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